



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1974.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1974.

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GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO BRIDGE COMMUNICATION GAP

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THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION, MR. DENIS BRAY, TODAY SPOKE ABOUT GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING EFFORTS IN BRIDGING THE COMMUNICATION GAP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE Y'S MEN'S CLUB THIS EVENING, HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS VERY CONSCIOUS OF THIS PROBLEM.

+IN THE LATE SIXTIES WE STARTED TO GIVE MUCH MORE ATTENTION TO COMMUNICATION AND CAN NOW SEE EMERGING A USEFUL TREND IN CITY GOVERNMENT,+ HE ADDED.

MR. BRAY SAID: +IN SPITE OF WESTERN DEMOCRATIC CONCEPTS, YOUR AMERICAN AND BRITISH FRIENDS WILL PROBABLY TELL YOU THAT MANY OF THEM HAVE NEVER MET, LET ALONE TALKED TO, THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN GOVERNMENT.

+THESE REPRESENTATIVES ARE MOSTLY TOO BUSY WITH IMPORTANT AFFAIRS AT WESTMINSTER OR CAPITOL HILL. TO YOUR FRIENDS, 'GOVERNMENT' IS STILL AN IMPERSONAL THING, A MONSTER WHICH IS AT ONCE EVERYWHERE AND NOWHERE, A CREATURE WHICH CAN BE ONLY GLIMPSED AT BY ITS OWN SHADOW, BUT SELDOM, IF EVER, GRASPED BY ITS SUBSTANCE.+

IN HONG KONG, HE SAID, IT WAS THE AIM OF THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICER SCHEME TO PERSONALIZE GOVERNMENT AT THE GRASS ROOTS LEVEL, AND IT HAD TURNED OUT TO BE THE PREDECESSOR OF OTHER SIMILAR EFFORTS TO MAKE +GOVERNMENT HUMAN+.

THE SECRETARY RECALLED THAT THE SCHEME FOLLOWED VERY CLOSELY THE ORGANISATION OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

AS THE TEN CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS DID NOT HAVE ANY EXECUTIVE POWER, CRITICS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THIS SHOWS A LACK OF SINCERITY ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENT AND THAT THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICER SCHEME IS NOTHING MORE THAN WINDOW-DRESSING.

COMMENTING ON THIS CRITICISM, MR. BRAY SAID: +THERE ARE ALREADY PLENTY OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND NO NEW ONES ARE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE WORK OF GOVERNMENT. THE THING THAT WAS MISSING WAS NOT ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY BUT HUMAN CONTACT. THIS WAS SUPPLIED.+

/HE

HE THEN NAMED A NUMBER OF SIMILAR SCHEMES WHICH WERE ALL SET UP WITH THE SAME AIM -- TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT MACHINERY AND TO BRING THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE CLOSER TOGETHER.

THESE INCLUDED THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICERS SCHEME, THE DISTRICT URBAN SERVICES OFFICERS SCHEME, THE POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICERS SCHEME AND THE RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICERS SCHEME.

MR. BRAY SAID THAT THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THESE GOVERNMENT DISTRICT AGENCIES THERE WAS A GROWING SENSE OF BELONGING AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING WAS FOSTERED.

HE CONCLUDED: +THROUGH THIS UNDERSTANDING, IT IS NOT TOO EXTRAVAGANT TO HOPE THAT ONE DAY THE SILENCE BARRIERS WILL BE BROKEN DOWN.+

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ABERDEEN FLOATING RESTAURANT CONTINUES BUSINESS
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THE TAI PAK FLOATING RESTAURANT HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO CONTINUE OPERATION ON A RESTRICTED LICENCE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

THIS WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS, UNTIL JANUARY 14 NEXT YEAR, DURING WHICH TIME THE OTHER FLOATING RESTAURANT, THE SEA PALACE, WILL INSTALL CERTAIN MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

THE SEA PALACE WILL CLOSE DOWN TOMORROW (OCTOBER 15) FOR THIS WORK AND BEFORE THE END OF THE THREE MONTH PERIOD, SHE SHOULD BE READY TO GO BACK INTO OPERATION.

THE TAI PAK WILL THEN BE TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE IN TURN TO BE MODERNISED.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE DUE TO THE AGREEMENT OF THE OWNERS OF BOTH FLOATING RESTAURANTS TO COME TOGETHER, AND MAKING USE OF ALL THE MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT WHICH THEY HAVE IN HONG KONG, TO MAKE ALTERATIONS TO ONE RESTAURANT FIRST.

+THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS ACCEPTED THIS AS BEING A REASONABLE SOLUTION,+ HE SAID.

THE TAI PAK IS OPERATING ON A RESTRICTED LICENCE WHICH MEANS THAT, BESIDES OTHER RESTRICTIONS, SHE CAN ONLY CARRY 240 PEOPLE INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL NUMBER OF 430.

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**WORKING PARTY ON UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS
SEEKING ASSISTANCE FROM PUBLIC**

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THE WORKING PARTY WHICH WAS SET UP BY THE GOVERNMENT TO LOOK INTO THE PROBLEM OF NON-COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL GRADUATES IS SEEKING ASSISTANCE FROM THE PUBLIC.

IN AN ADVERTISEMENT PUBLISHED IN SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS TODAY (MONDAY), THE SECRETARY TO THE WORKING PARTY ON UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS, MR. MARCUS MAK, ASKED FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM ANY ORGANISATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN THE MATTER.

MR. MAK SAID THE WORKING PARTY IS AWARE THAT A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WISH TO PUT FORWARD SUGGESTIONS, AND AT THE SAME TIME, IT WANTS TO OBTAIN AS MUCH MATERIAL AS POSSIBLE TO HELP IN FORMULATING ITS PROPOSALS.

+THE MATTER AFFECTS NOT ONLY UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS, BUT THE PUBLIC AS A WHOLE AND WE ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING THE OVERALL PUBLIC REACTION AS WELL,+ MR. MAK SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE WORKING PARTY HAS BEEN ASKED TO REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND IT IS HOPED THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS WILL REACH HIM BY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26. CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY TO THE WORKING PARTY ON UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, FOURTH FLOOR, HONG KONG.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING PARTY ARE TO CONSIDER WHETHER ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO ENABLE SOME DOCTORS, WHOSE QUALIFICATIONS ARE NOT RECOGNISED BY THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, TO PRACTISE IN HONG KONG.

IF SO, THE WORKING PARTY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVISING WHAT METHODS SHOULD BE USED TO ENSURE A PROPER LEVEL OF COMPETENCE AMONG UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS BEFORE THEY ARE LICENSED TO PRACTISE, AND WHETHER ANY CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS SHOULD BE APPLIED TO SUCH PRACTICE.

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SEPTEMBER WEATHER DRIER AND WARMER THAN USUAL
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A TOTAL OF 131.2 MM OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED IN SEPTEMBER, WHICH AMOUNTED TO ONLY ABOUT 47 PER CENT OF THE AVERAGE RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH.

THE MONTHLY WEATHER ROUNDUP ISSUED TODAY BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SHOWED THAT LAST MONTH'S WEATHER WAS, LIKE THE PREVIOUS FOUR MONTHS, AGAIN DRIER AND WARMER THAN USUAL.

UP TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER, THE ACCUMULATED RAINFALL FOR THIS YEAR WAS 1,372.7 MM, WHICH IS ABOUT 69 PER CENT OF THE AVERAGE FIGURE FOR THE SAME PERIOD, AND THE LOWEST SINCE 1963.

FIVE TROPICAL CYCLONES WERE REPORTED IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC IN THE MONTH BUT ONLY TROPICAL STORM 'TRIX' AND SEVERE TROPICAL STORM 'WENDY' NECESSITATED THE HOISTING OF TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS IN HONG KONG.

DURING THE MONTH, NO AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS AND NO FIRE DANGER WARNINGS WERE ISSUED.

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON TWO OCCASIONS -- ON SEPTEMBER 3 AND SEPTEMBER 16.

THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH OF 32.7 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON SEPTEMBER 30 AND THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 24.2 DEGREES CELSIUS WAS RECORDED ON SEPTEMBER 1.

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INDOOR DRIVING TRAINING COURSES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL START ENROLLING 168 CANDIDATES FROM TOMORROW (OCTOBER 15) FOR THE NEXT SERIES OF INDOOR DRIVING TRAINING COURSES DUE TO BEGIN IN MID-NOVEMBER.

SINCE ITS OPENING IN JUNE, THE INDOOR DRIVING INSTRUCTION CENTRE AT PUI CHING ROAD, KOWLOON, WHICH IS EQUIPPED WITH 16 DRIVING SIMULATORS, HAS PROVIDED BASIC TRAINING FOR MORE THAN 1,200 CANDIDATES.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE COURSES HAD PROVED VERY POPULAR AND CLASSES WERE NORMALLY FULLY BOOKED.

HE SAID CANDIDATES WERE TAUGHT THE USE OF VARIOUS CONTROLS, RECOGNITION OF TRAFFIC SIGNS AND NORMAL REACTIONS TO DIFFERENT TRAFFIC SITUATION. TRAINING WAS SUPPLEMENTED BY FILMS AND LECTURES TOO, HE ADDED.

THOSE WISHING TO APPLY MUST HAVE PASSED THE PART A (WRITTEN) TEST FOR PRIVATE CARS. THEY SHOULD BRING WITH THEM THEIR PROVISIONAL DRIVING LICENCE, HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD AND TWO RECENT COPIES OF THEIR PHOTOGRAPH.

CLASSES, EACH COMPRISING 15 ONE-HOUR LESSONS, ARE HELD BETWEEN 7 A.M. AND 11 P.M. EACH DAY. THE FEE IS \$200.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +AT THE END OF THE COURSE, CANDIDATES WILL SIT FOR A SIMULATOR TEST. THOSE WHO PASS THE TEST WILL BE PLACED ON A SEPARATE WAITING LIST FOR THE COMBINED ROAD TEST, AND ONCE THEY HAVE FINISHED THEIR OWN ON-ROAD DRIVING LESSONS, THEY WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE COMBINED DRIVING TEST. THE FINAL TEST CAN NORMALLY BE TAKEN ABOUT THREE MONTHS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE INDOOR DRIVING TRAINING COURSE.+

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EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

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ABOUT 130 PEOPLE WHOSE HOMES WERE FLOODED DURING ABNORMAL HIGH TIDE ON LANTAU ISLAND YESTERDAY (SUNDAY), HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WITH EMERGENCY RELIEF BY THE TAI O AND TUNG CHUNG RURAL COMMITTEES.

MEANWHILE, STAFF OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAVE STARTED REGISTRATION WORK WITH A VIEW TO GIVE FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO THOSE AFFECTED WHILE THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS ASSESSING THE DAMAGE TO CROPS AND FISHES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SAID TODAY THAT THE OVERALL SITUATION WAS NOT AS SERIOUS AS HAD BEEN REPORTED. +NO REPORT OF SERIOUS DAMAGE TO HOUSES WAS RECEIVED AND THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES,+ HE ADDED.

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WATER SITUATION REPORT

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THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 32,949 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 49 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR THERE WERE 63,755 MILLION GALLONS IN STORE.

THIS MORNING'S STORAGE AT PLOVER COVE WAS 25,182 MILLION GALLONS, COMPARED WITH 49,057 MILLION GALLONS ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR. PLOVER COVE'S PRESENT STORAGE REPRESENTS 49.9 PER CENT OF ITS FULL CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS.

A TRACE OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS ENDING AT 9 A.M. TODAY. TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 1,395.6 MM (54.94 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 STANDS AT 2,060.4 MM (81.12 IN), REPRESENTING A SHORTFALL OF 32.3 PER CENT.

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RECONSTRUCTION OF HANG HAU ROAD

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THE SECTION OF HANG HAU ROAD BETWEEN CLEARWATER BAY ROAD AND THE TIN HAU TEMPLE IN HANG HAU, SAI KUNG, IS TO BE RECONSTRUCTED SHORTLY

MEASURING ABOUT 1,300 METRES IN LENGTH, THIS SECTION OF ROAD IS DETERIORATING RAPIDLY.

RECONSTRUCTION WORK WILL INCLUDE THE WIDENING OF THE CARRIAGEWAY FROM THREE METRES TO OVER SEVEN METRES. THERE WILL BE A FOOTPATH ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD.

THE WORK, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO START IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR, WILL TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

ON COMPLETION, THE NEW ROAD WILL PROVIDE DIRECT ACCESS FROM CLEARWATER BAY ROAD TO THE INDUSTRIAL LOTS IN THE AREA.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE HIGHWAYS (NEW TERRITORIES) DIVISION OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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BUS-ONLY LANE IN LEIGHTON ROAD

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THE BUS-ONLY LANE IN LEIGHTON ROAD ON HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE OPENED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC BETWEEN 11 P.M. AND 7 A.M. STARTING ON WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 16).

THE NIGHT-TIME RELAXATION, SIMILAR TO THAT EFFECTED IN JUNE FOR THE MID-LEVELS BUS-ONLY LANE, IS TO ENABLE ALL OTHER VEHICLES TO USE THE LANE AT A TIME WHEN FEWER BUSES ARE USING IT.

DURING THE SPECIFIED HOURS, ALL TRAFFIC WILL BE ALLOWED TO USE THE WESTBOUND LANE OF LEIGHTON ROAD BETWEEN MATHESON STREET AND CANAL ROAD EAST.

OUTSIDE THESE HOURS, HOWEVER, WESTBOUND TRAFFIC IN LEIGHTON ROAD, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FRANCHISED BUSES, ON APPROACHING THE WONGNEICHONG ROAD JUNCTION, WILL CONTINUE TO TURN LEFT INTO WONGNEICHONG ROAD.

THE LEIGHTON ROAD BUS-ONLY LANE WAS INTRODUCED IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE
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THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (MONDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) AVERAGE</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE MEW	GOOD	2.02
S.C.JIEN	GOOD	1.86
PO NGAI	GOOD	-
CHU CHO	GOOD	-
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.82
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.75
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.70
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.75
<u>U.S. RICE</u>		
	GOOD	1.92
<u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u>		
	GOOD	1.74
<u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>		
	GOOD	-
<u>TAIWAN RICE</u>		
	GOOD	-

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(CALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY - GOOD
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT) - 320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(FMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	LIMITED	3.50	1.60	2.50
BIG-EYES	NORMAL	2.40	1.10	1.80
SQUID	LIMITED	4.30	0.60	2.70
HAIR-TAILS	GOOD	1.45	0.50	0.80
LIZARD FISHES	NORMAL	3.40	0.50	1.70
CROAKERS	NORMAL	1.60	0.60	1.20
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	NORMAL	2.80	2.20	2.50
MELON COAT	SCARCE	1.80	1.20	1.60
BREAMS	SCARCE	5.00	3.00	4.70
YELLOW BELLY	LIMITED	1.50	0.70	1.00
MACKERELS	LIMITED	3.50	1.60	2.40
RED GOAT FISH	LIMITED	2.10	0.35	0.60
FORK-TAIL	GOOD	0.70	0.40	0.55
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	3.00	1.30	1.80
MELON SEED	NORMAL	2.00	0.90	1.40
POMFRETS	LIMITED	8.00	6.00	7.00
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	10.50	5.50	8.50
YELLOW CROAKER	NORMAL	7.00	4.80	5.70

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	2.20	0.80	1.60
WHITE CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.80	0.60	1.40
CHINESE LETTUCE	LIMITED	1.40	0.50	1.00
WATER SPINACH	SCARCE	1.00	0.30	0.60
CHINESE KALE	LIMITED	2.20	0.80	1.50
STRING BEANS	SCARCE	3.00	0.80	1.80
SPRING ONION	LIMITED	2.60	0.60	1.80
SPINACH	SCARCE	3.00	1.00	2.20
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	5.00	3.00	4.00
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	LIMITED	2.20	0.60	1.60
CHINESE SPINACH	LIMITED	1.20	0.40	0.80
TOMATO	SCARCE	4.50	2.00	3.20

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