

# Student Conference

## “Media and Politics in Europe, East Asia, and the United States”

University of Bologna & 東洋大学 (Tōyō University)

16-17 November 2023



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



ASIA INSTITUTE



An underwater scene with several fish swimming in clear blue water. The fish are of various sizes and colors, including silvery and blue. The background is a deep blue, suggesting a large body of water.

# REEL TO REAL:

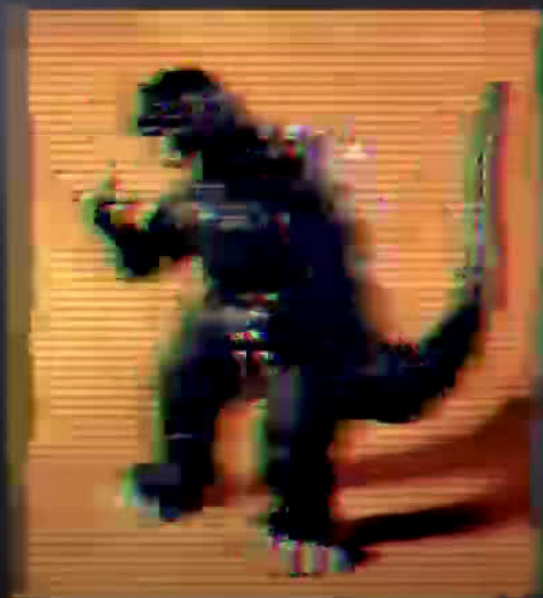
How Fukushima's Fish Has  
Become a Political Tool

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BAULEO FRANCESCA, GRIMALDI EDOARDO, OGURI YURA

CGTN

REALITY  
CHECK



**This is Godzilla, a fictional monster,  
这是哥斯拉 一个虚构的怪兽**

Watch the video [HERE](#)

CHINA / DIPLOMACY

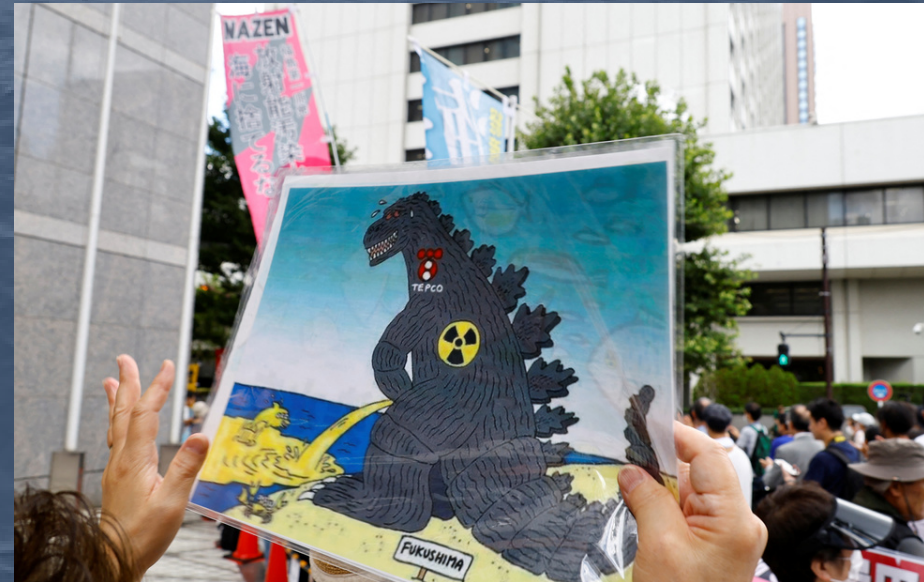
# Real-life 'Godzilla fears' creep after Kishida to dump nuclear-contaminated wastewater in 48 hours

China vows to take measures to safeguard food safety, urging Japan to withdraw decision

By Xu Keyue, Zhang Yuying and Xing Xiaojing

Published: Aug 22, 2023 10:48 PM Updated: Aug 23, 2023 12:11 AM

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1296772.shtml>





### Kishida samples sashimi from Fukushima

43.035 visualizzazioni 2 mesi fa #scmp #Asia ... altro

 South China Morning Post 3,69 Mln

**Iscriviti**

 471 |  |  Condividi |  Remix |  Scarica

Watch the video [HERE](#)



This very public meal is part of an effort to calm concerns and show the public that seafood from the area is fully safe to eat.

TikTok video interface showing a cartoon of a man eating fish and a real photo of a man eating fish. The video is from @VICE News and has 568.5K likes and 7036 comments. The caption reads: "Japan's Prime Minister Eats Fish From Treated Radioactive Waters." The video is titled "Japan's Prime Minister Eats Fish From Treated Radioactive Waters." and is from the account @VICE News. The video description says: "Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and other officials had Fukushima fish for lunch in what seems to be an attempt to show how safe the fish is to eat. It comes after the rel... Vedi altro". The video is titled "Japan's Prime Minister Eats Fish From Treated Radioactive Waters." and is from the account @VICE News. The video description says: "Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and other officials had Fukushima fish for lunch in what seems to be an attempt to show how safe the fish is to eat. It comes after the rel... Vedi altro".



Watch the video [HERE](#)

7036 Commenti

Zzzzzz  
Oh yeah. For sure they did.  
9-1 Rispondi  
Visualizza altre risposte (124) ▾

15.2K

# CULTURAL IMPORTANCE OF FISH & GODZILLA



- historically important
- geography & climate

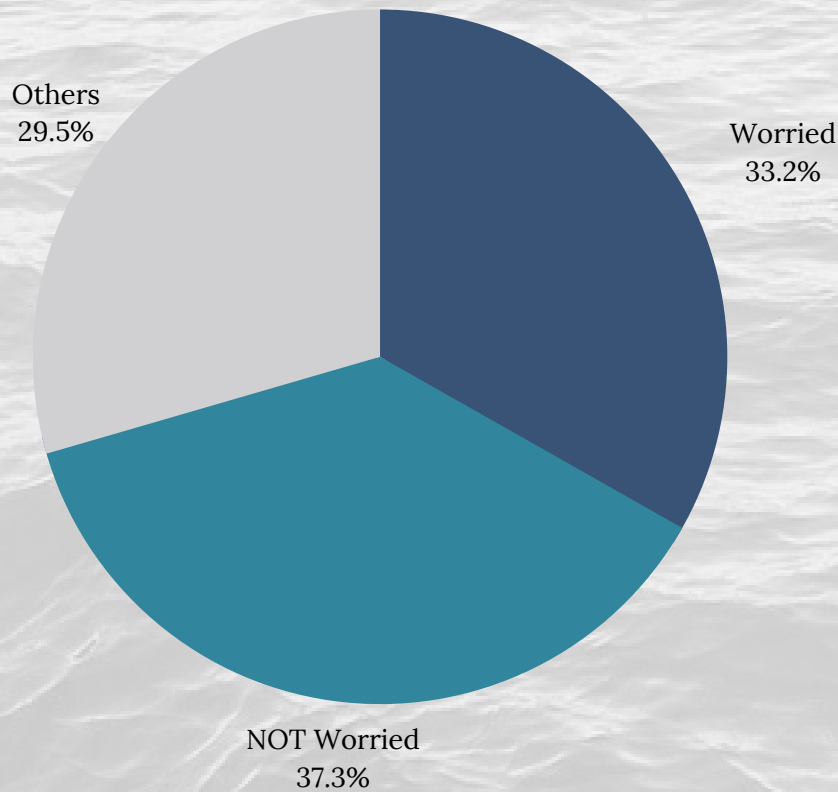
↗ fish



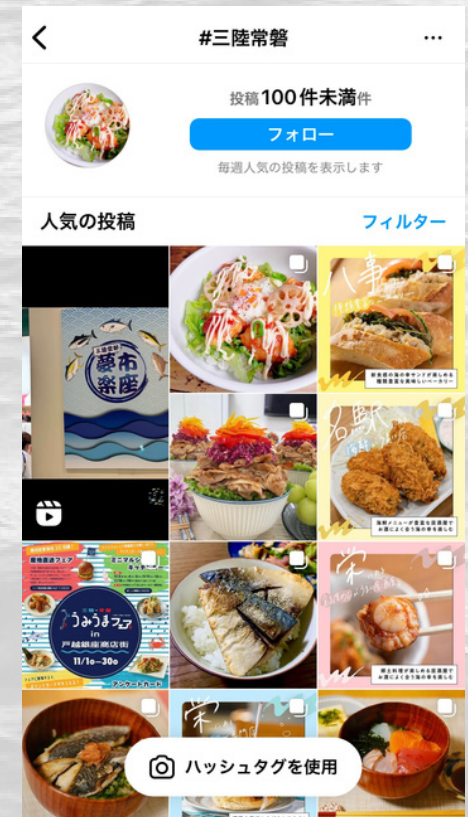
- represents atomic & hydrogen bombs
- still famous

# HOW DID THE JAPANESE REACT?

## Japanese Perceptions towards Release of Radioactive Treated Water



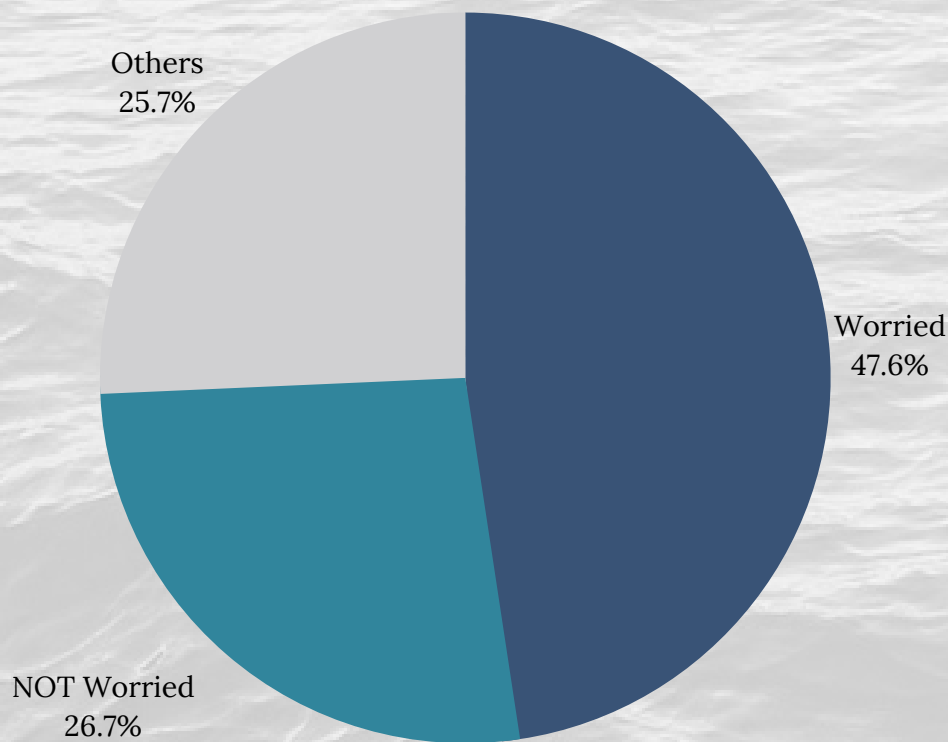
NIKKEI  
<https://www.nikkei.com>





# HOW DID THE CHINESE REACT?

## Chinese Perceptions towards Release of Radioactive Treated Water



NIKKEI  
<https://www.nikkei.com>




# POLITICAL BACKGROUND

The New York Times

## *China's Disinformation Fuels Anger Over Fukushima Water Release*

By exaggerating the risks from Japan's discharge of treated wastewater, Beijing hopes to cast Japan and its allies as conspirators in malfeasance, analysts say.

 Share full article

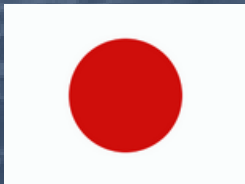
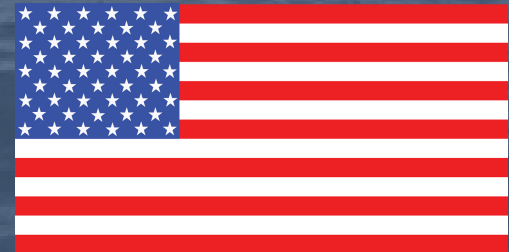


 106

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/31/world/asia/china-fukushima-water-protest>



V S



Release of radioactive treated water

# FISH ECONOMY IN JAPAN:

74.8%

*increase in the exports of fishery and aquaculture products from Japan*



Export value of commodities from the fisheries and aquaculture industry from Japan from 2013 to 2022 (in billion Japanese yen)

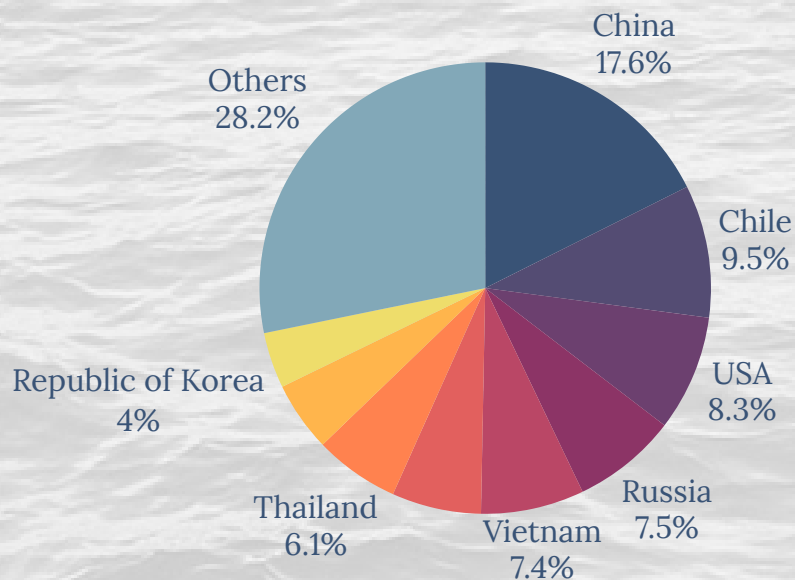
<https://www.statista.com/statistics/750719/japan-export-value-of-fishery-products>

# IMPORT-EXPORT

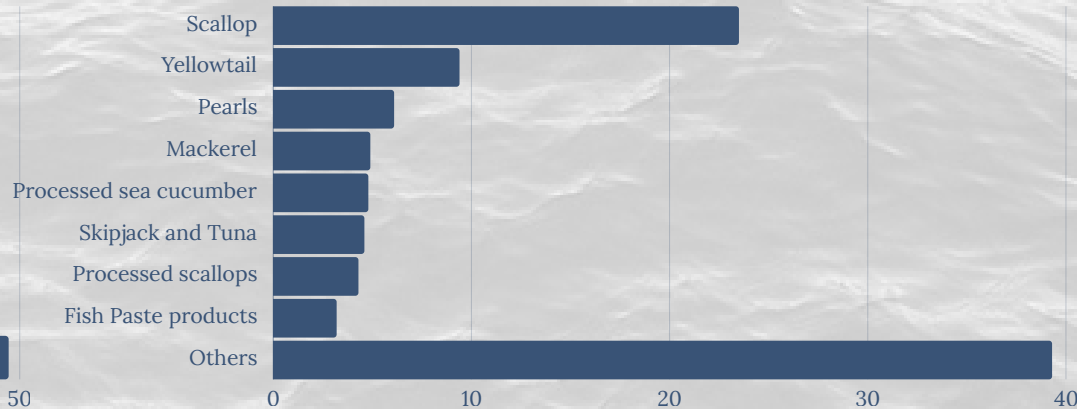
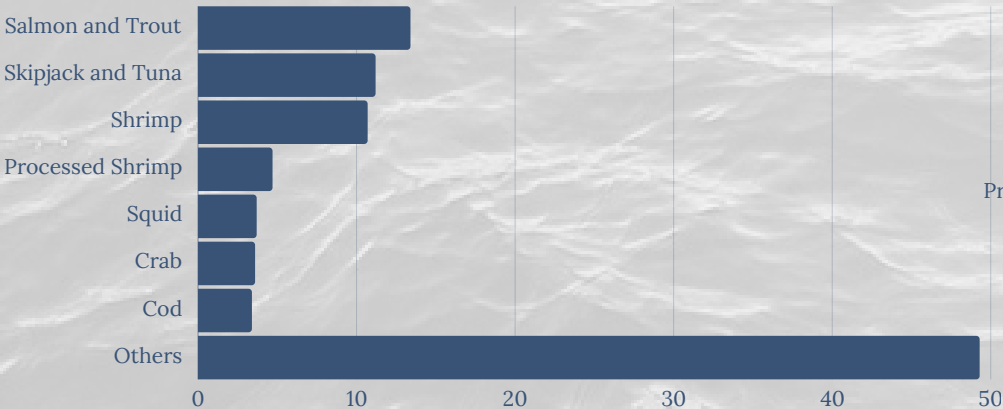
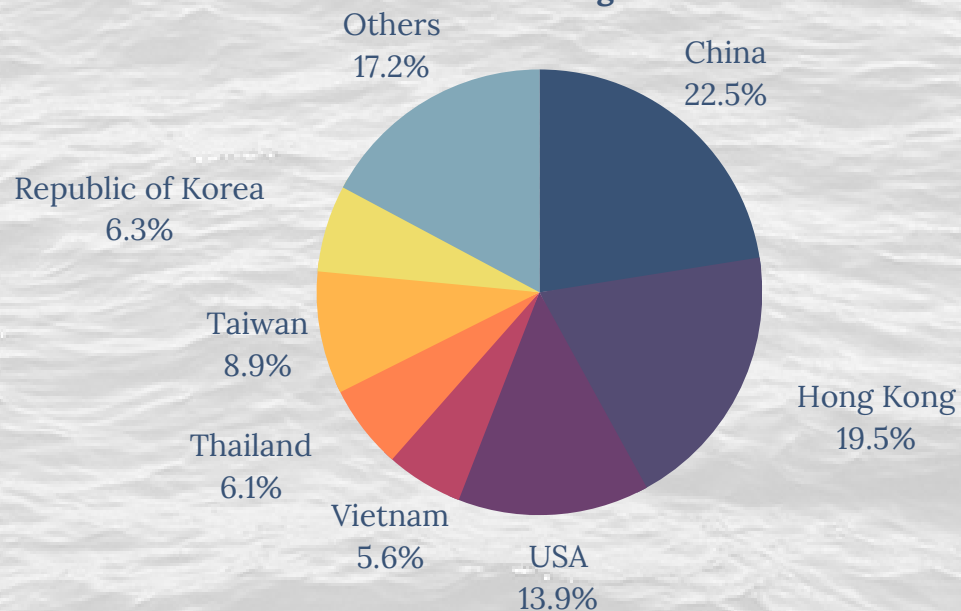
of fishery and aquaculture products from Japan

(<https://www.nippon.com/en/japan-data>)

### Import source countries and regions

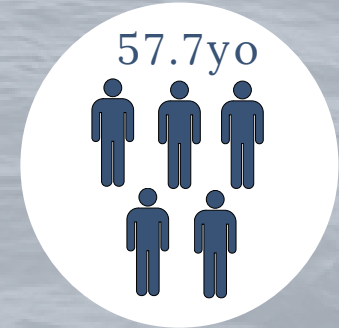


### Export destination countries and regions



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# CHALLENGES FACING THE FISH ECONOMY IN JAPAN:



OVERFISHING

CLIMATE CHANGE

AGING WORKFORCE

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# SUSHI: A WORLDWIDE PHENOMENON



Market Size



Market Drivers



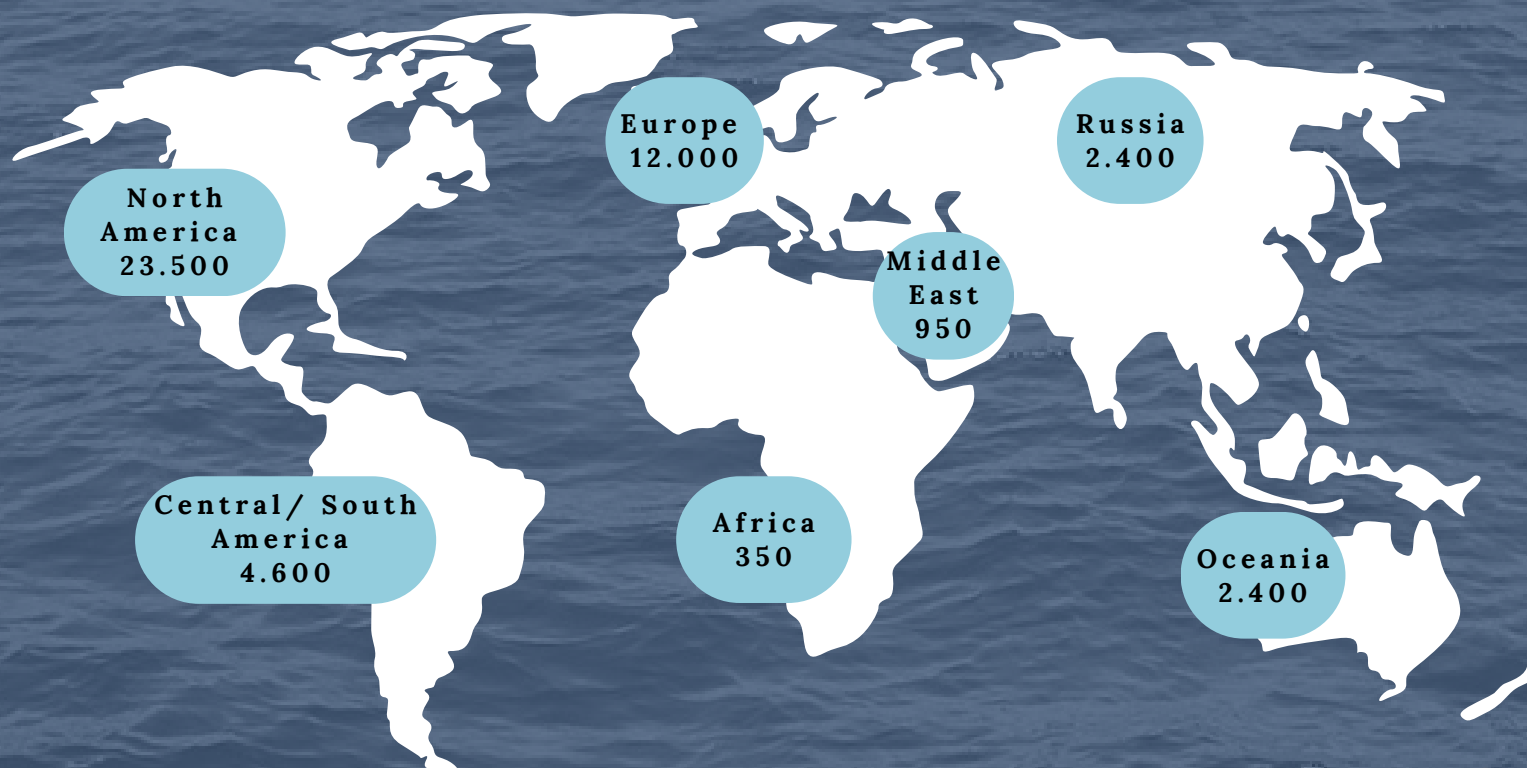
Market Trends



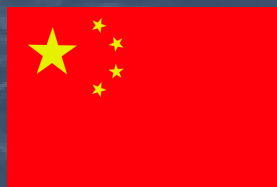
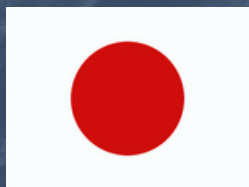
Market  
Opportunities

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# JAPANESE RESTAURANTS OVERSEAS



growth of sushi restaurants overseas, research Ministry of Foreign Affairs and data compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. (2017)



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**“All cultural sites are powerful arenas in which political struggles take place. Culture is not opposed to politics.**

**Culture is political, and politics is cultural”**

-Weber, C. (2005) International Relations Theory: A Critical Introduction, London: Routledge.



A top-down view of a school of fish swimming in clear, light blue water. The fish are silvery and their movements create a sense of fluid motion. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION

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