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Arsenal launched by Chipman

CHIPMAN Limited have launched their new herbicide, Arsenal XL. Which contains Imazapyr and Atrazine for total weed control in a wide variety of situations, Imazapyr is the first new total herbicide in the UK for over twenty years. Its unique chemistry only effects amino acids found in plants and not in humans or animals. Arsenal XL is approved for use on an extremely wide range of weeds, many of which are becoming resistant to conventional herbicides. Arsenal XL is available for conventional application and a special CDA formulation has also been developed. Contact Chipman on Horsham (0403) 60341 or Harrogate (0423) 68658 for your free information pack.

New reps

SUPATURF PRODUCTS have appointed three additional field sales representatives. Clare Atkinson has joined the Supaturf southern branch covering the counties of Surrey and Berkshire. Robert Bone, a widely respected figure in the north east of England has joined Supaturf north as local authority manager and, Michael Heath has taken up the position of area rep in the north west, covering the counties of Cheshire, Merseyside and North Wales.

Award

CHRIS SMITH and his team from Jacobsen/Textron Ltd., Kings Lynn, Norfolk, won an outstanding achievement award from Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc. for exceptional performance in their first full year of UK branch operation.

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**Workshop at National Turf Council**

THE recreational use of farmland is an attractive alternative to agricultural production, but a new sports development requires skilful planning, construction and management if it is not to be an expensive failure. The National Turfgrass Council, the National Farmers' Union and the Sports Council are arranging a workshop on the "Recreational diversification of farmland" at the NAC, Stoneleigh on Tuesday 24 May. This will be the first major workshop at which turfgrass experts and experienced amenity grass managers will explain some of the pitfalls and plus-points in constructing golf courses and other specialized sports facilities. The principal speaker will be the Rt Hon John Gummer, MP, Minister of State for Agriculture. Supporting speakers from the Sports Council, NFU and banking will set the scene, followed by turfgrass construction and management experts. Further information of the workshop from The Secretary, NTC, 3, Ferrands Park Way, Harden, Bingley, West Yorkshire. BD16 1BZ Tel: (0274) 565131 or (0535) 273188 (eve).

**New man**

JOHN ARLETT has been appointed sales and marketing director of Victa (UK) Ltd. John comes to Victa from Wilkinson Sword and has a background of engineering, sales, marketing, design and public relations. He can be contacted at Victa's head office at Basingstoke.

THERMAY STA-BRITE Products Ltd. are pleased to welcome Chris Sharp as their new sales manager. A RENOVATION service has been launched to help extend the life of flags. The idea comes from manufacturers Flags & Pennants, London, who believe that many flags damaged in winter storms can be refurbished, thus saving considerable replacement costs. F & P say they can save between one half and two-thirds of the price of a new flag. Under the scheme, F & P provide damage repair, re-hemming, replacement rope and toggle and dry-clean, all within a fixed price. Flags up to 4ft, 6in long cost £10 each; up to 6ft long cost £12.50; and over 6ft long cost £15. These figures exclude VAT and return postage. A quantity discount will be quoted for five or more flags. The service is being provided by F & P's production unit based at Grenestede House, Coombe Hill Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex.
South Wales Section

Mike Wilson, Head Greenkeeper at Ashburnham Golf Club won the West of Wales Alliance on his home course with a one over par score of 73 to win the title by two strokes. Mike got to the turn in 35 but for a disappointing finish would have captured the crown by a much bigger margin. If anybody needs any item of uniform, please can they let me know so that I can order it.

Regional Iseki Tournament.

Qualifiers will have qualified at Rolls of Monmouth on 13th April and will be notified of arrangements at a date nearer the Tournament.

October 5th St. Pierre South Wales v South West, 12.30 pm.

Devon and Cornwall Section

The Section's last meeting was held at Yelverton Golf Club on 1st March. We arrived to be met with a thin covering of snow on the heathland of Dartmoor and a keen North-Westerly wind. A few of our hardier members attempted to play golf after receiving assurances from Steve Redman, the Head Greenkeeper, that the snow would soon go. About twenty of our less hardy members, after warming up with gallons of coffee and well wrapped against the elements, walked around the course with Steve as our guide. En route we discussed a variety of topics ranging from problems specific to heathland through to observations and suggestions on how our playing members were trying to hit the ball in the strong wind. Back at the Clubhouse, the bar was opened and circulation duly restored. Cards for the morning's golf were checked and results were as follows:

May & Baker Assistants Shield - 1st A. Woolnough (Teignmouth GC) 2nd J. Breyley (Churston GC) 3rd W. Potter (East Devon GC) Supaturf Cup - Head Greenkeepers and Trade Members 1st T. Pipe (Horiton GC) 2nd M. Pike (Ellordleigh GC) 3rd K. Stuart (Stanley AF West Ltd)

Fifty-two members sat down to a good meal. Our thanks also go to Steve for the very good condition of the course and to the inside staff for looking after us.

B. J. Summers

Best wishes for the future go from our Section to Ken Luxton who has recently retired after being Head Greenkeeper of the prestigious East Devon Golf Club for the past eighteen years. Ken, a popular and active member of our Section from its foundation, began as a caddy at the East Devon Golf Club in 1938. He went on to join the RAF as a Flight Mechanic for the next seven and a half years, managing to put in over 2,000 flying hours. The Sunderland flying boats were Ken's main charges during his career. On leaving the Services he returned to Devon to work as a Groundsman and Gardener at the Bicton College for the following five years. His next move was to become Groundsman at the Exmouth Grammar School from where he left to start as Assistant Greenkeeper at East Devon Golf Club.

After gaining valuable greenkeeping experience, Sidmouth Golf Club were to benefit from Ken's expertise for the next five years. However, Ken's heart was at Budleigh Salterton where he accepted the Head Greenkeeper's position on November 5th 1970 until his retirement in 1988. During his time at East Devon, Ken built or enlarged tees at every hole, adding a total of 3,000 square yards of new teeing area, certainly a bonus for the ever increasing traffic which all clubs are experiencing. He also built new twelfth and sixteenth greens. As with all greenkeepers, Ken has had many amusing incidents over the years, two of which his staff mentioned to me.

I am sure most people will have heard of the seven bore, the tidal wave that enables people to surf many miles inland on the River Severn at certain times of the year. Well, Ken created his own when his water tank gave up after many years of service and 12,000 gallons surged down a right of way by the course before making a spectacular leap from the cliffs onto Budleigh beach many feet below!!!

The second incident occurred when Ken, playing in a fourball, watchedaghast as having driven a young lad appeared from the gorse beside the fairway and proceeded to collect the balls, which were also the best drives of the round, only to disappear from whence he came. Ken, still a man of action, rapidly disappeared hot on the trail of the youngster only to re-emerge some minutes later hat askew, bleeding from gorse scratches to inform his startled and by now much amused partners that he came within arms length of grabbing 'the young gentleman' when he could follow no further through a small hole in the boundary fence!!!!

I am sure Ken won't mind me relating these incidents and concluding by reminding him not to forget us but to continue to join us at our meetings where he will be very welcome. Perhaps it might be a quirk of fate, but it leaves me to finish these Section notes on Ken's retirement by welcoming Ralph Moore, who is at the other end of his career, to our Section. Ralph, Jack Moore's son, is leaving Fulwell Golf Club to take up the Head Greenkeeper's position at Stover Golf Club where I am sure he will make his mark.

B. Pile

SOUTH EAST REGION

London Section

For various reasons there has not been an article for the London Section here lately, but I shall try to make it a regular feature in future.
We have been relying on the local newsletter to keep our members informed. It is most unfortunate that the first paragraph of the second letter did not read as well as it might have done and we will try to see that it does not happen again.

The Spring Meeting will have been played by now at Moor Park. This proved to be a most popular venue and thanks go to John Edwards and his staff, also the Club for their hospitality.

Next month, we have Summer Meeting at Bush Hill Park with a starting time of 4.00 pm. This is on the 1st June. Also the Grand Summer Ball will be held at Aldenham Golf Club 7.00 pm start on 10th June. Please contact me now if you would like to go to either of these - there might be a vacancy. I am now taking names for our Summer Meeting at Pinner Hill on 23rd August at 4.00pm. The Summer League should be in progress now and I can take this opportunity to ask those playing to watch the 'play by dates' in order that the League runs smoothly. It would be unfair if Nick and Jes have to start chasing people as they have put in so much work already.

M. Peters
Kent Section

The Kent Section's Seminar on 23rd March was well attended and delegates were treated to a wide and varied coverage of topics related to greenkeeping. Thanks go to the speakers for their time and effort. It was nice to see so many Golf Clubs represented at the Seminar, not only from Kent but also several delegates travelled from East Sussex. It was also good to see other officials apart from greenkeepers at the event, though those who attended as members of Greens Committees were hopefully not offended by Brian Pierson's remark that 'A camel is a horse designed by a Greens Committee'. They seemed to take it in good part anyway!! Now that this appears in print, hopefully I will not get the blame of his business suddenly goes into decline!!

Thanks go to the Catering Staff for the lovely dinner at West Malling and also for looking after us so well. Also thanks to the members of the Trade for their support at the event.

On 6th July at 3.00 pm there will be an informal afternoon's golf at Sene Valley. There will, however, be a slightly competitive edge to the proceedings as the winner and runner-up from this event qualify to play in the Jacobsen Tournament at Hunstanton on 11th October. Dates for the diary:
29th June Wentworth Golf Club 18 holes, Iseki Regional Final.
6th July Sene Valley Golf Club 3.00 pm, Jacobsen Qualifier (2 to qualify)
14-17th July Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club British Open, raking bunkers
2nd August Hankley Common Golf Club 36 holes, Management Trophy (entries to Hankley Common please)
25-30 September Ayr, Scotland National Tournament and International Conference
11th October Hunstanton Golf Club 18 holes, Jacobsen Tournament
19th October Wilderness Golf Club 36 holes
10th Nov STRI Regional Seminar 9.00-4.00
13th December Christmas Turkey Trot and AGM 11.00 am - 6.00 pm
Please book early with Secretary P. Copsey

Surrey Section

Jim Russell has left Hankley Common Golf Club to take up the post of Course Manager at Lingfield Park Golf Club and, therefore, has given up the job of Secretary for the Section. He goes with our best wishes and thanks for all he has done for the Surrey Section. We also wish both him and Debbie, his fiancee, many happy years together as they are to be married next year.

Mr. D. Johnston has taken on the post of Secretary and we are sure he will fill the post admirably. Please give David your support by returning entry forms promptly to allow him to make the appropriate arrangements for forthcoming events.

Clothing - we apologise for the delay in clothing, but the Headquarters Office is doing all it can to resolve the situation for outstanding items. If you have any queries, please contact J. Russell on (0342) 833099.

Turf to Ransomes - There will be a trip to Ransomes this year and the date will be advised later.

Section Funds - We are purchasing a BIGGA flag which we can use at our functions throughout the year. We are also purchasing a word processor and printer for administration purposes, together with a projector and screen for use at winter lectures.

Seminar - because of other events that will be taking place throughout the year, we intend to hold our Seminar early next year so as not to clash with other organised events. At this moment in time, we are open to any suggestions as to possible speakers and venues, remembering that we want greenkeeper participation in our Seminar - all offers will be appreciated.

Saxons and Celts - This is an addition to the calender and will take place on 25th July at the RAC Country Club. The Team Captains are S. McMillan and B. Turner.

I. McMillan

SCOTTISH REGION
North Section

The Section outings for this year are:-
19th May Craigiehill, Perth and 15th September Strathpeffer. Entries on official forms only.

The Section, together with the North of Scotland College of Agriculture, are trying to fix up spraying courses around the North for our members. As everyone should know, new pesticide laws are coming into effect in January next year and everyone must have a certificate before they will be allowed to spray. These courses will be at Nairn, Tain and Fraserburgh and will be held in November/December. Members will receive more details later. For those in the south of the Section, courses are available at Elmwood College, Cupar - dates on request. Would members please note that a course on tractor mounted sprayers allows them to use a knapsack, but the opposite does not apply.

Play around with

ISEKI

Word processor and printer for administration purposes, together with a projector and screen for use at winter lectures.
Congratulations to two of our members, C. McDonald, First Assistant at Deeside Golf Club, who recently got married and to W. Forsyth, Duff House Royal, who has been invited by Russells on an all-expenses-paid week long trip to Minneapolis to see the Toro factory. Willie is one of two Scottish greenkeepers invited; he has dealt exclusively with Russells and Toro since they came on the market.

G. Moir

MIDLAND AND NORTH WALES REGION

This year we held our AGM at Goring and Streatley Golf Club where Steve Schmitz was elected as our Chairman. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Chairman, Billy McMillan, for all his time and effort as Past Chairman.

The Spring Meeting will be held at Beaconsfield Golf Club on Wednesday, 1st June. The cost will be £12 inclusive of morning coffee, lunch and an evening meal. Those who wish to play, please contact Bill Paterson, Beaconsfield Golf Club, Seer Green, Bucks. D. Murtagh

East Midlands Section

Our Spring Golf Tournament takes place on Thursday, 12th May at Cosby Golf Club, Chapel Lane, Cosby. Tees have been reserved from 12.30 to 2.30 pm. Singles and Pairs Knockout competitions - entry forms have been sent out and the draw for these competitions will be made at the Spring Golf Tournament. If you have not received an entry form, please contact me immediately. The Autumn Golf Tournament is to take place at Kettering Golf Club on a provisional date of September 29th but as this date coincides with the Association's National Golf Tournament at Ayr, the date is yet to be confirmed. The Rigby Taylor Match against the Midland Section is to be held at Moor Hall on 7th October, first match off at 8.15 am. Qualifiers for this match are decided from the Spring and Autumn Golf Tournament. R. W. Willars

Midland Section

By the time you read this we will be well into Spring and hopefully it will continue to be better than the last few years even if it has been slightly wetter!! A busy golfing schedule awaits us and I hope to see you at one or more of the competitions in the year ahead. May I extend a hearty welcome to all new members. Those of you who have not been mailed entry forms for this year's competitions and would like one may ring Peter Richmond on 021-354-5616 and he will gladly put one in the post. If anyone is interested in playing in any of the inter-Section matches or other team competitions then ring Tom Kellsall on Tamworth 248732. If you know of any member who is not receiving his magazine, please let me know at once so that it may be rectified, or if any member has a grievance or helpful suggestion also to get in touch so it may be discussed at Committee level. Our lecture at Telford Golf and Country Club was very poorly supported but Toro Irrigation of Sandbach gave a very interesting talk. We also had the opportunity to view some of their underground hardware and other pieces of equipment which help to make up their systems. Let us hope that future visits and lectures receive a better response. Several members from the Midlands, myself

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included, recently attended open days at Breakwells and Leicester Horticultural Engineers where we were able to keep abreast of new machinery and also avail ourselves of the refreshments provided. Both these days proved informative but unfortunately the most memorable moments were the drunken greenkeepers 'throwing up' in the middle of the afternoon.

Wishing you green grass and blue skies!

I. Toon

NORTHERN REGION
North East Section

There will be a match against Northern Secretaries at South Shields Golf Club on July 4th. The Autumn Tournament has yet to be fixed.

There will be a match against South East Scotland, probably in October - to be arranged. I would like to welcome the following new members to the North East Section:

- G. Arnott - Heworth GC
- A. Baxter - Newbiggin GC
- J. Storey - Hexham GC
- B. Hughes - Whickham GC
- J. Richardson

North West Section

The Spring Tournament will take place at Tytherington Golf Club, Macclesfield on 12th May and names of people wishing to participate in this event should be given to Bert Cross on 051-724-5412 as soon as possible. There are still places left for bunker rakers accommodation please contact Dave Golding on 061-748-8592 as early as possible as we have to confirm numbers very soon.

Your Section Committee attended the AGM at York on 23rd March and all agreed it was a very successful day despite the pathetic show of North West members. There should have been a show of support for the new Association by the Section, considering the Scots and South lads made a concerted effort to attend and we didn't have one non-Committee member there.

There is a wide selection of uniforms now available from ties to blazers, so if any member wishes to obtain these items, please get in touch.

Bert Cross has been appointed as the new Secretary and I would like to conclude by thanking all concerned in helping me in my capacity as Secretary and I wish the North-West Section all the best for the future.

M. Lewis

Northern Section

There certainly has been no shortage of piquancy about our evening meetings this Spring. On 10th March we were taken down to ground level on a spectacular expedition, observing and examining at ultra-close quarters the wonder of wild flower kingdom. Names like Sanphire, Asphodel, Bird's Nest Orchid came off the tongue of our speaker, Mr. Gell, like smooth running water bringing identity to the exquisite floral studies on the screen.

With quiet enthusiasm Mr. Gell showed pictures of the flowers he had encountered on his travels. Surprisingly enough, most of the examples were resident very close to his home town, Harrogate - they are there, all about you, waiting to be noticed. Another delightful interlude was provided by our good friend Mr. Arthur Gilpin, the well known Yorkshire naturalist. Birds this time, shown with the usual degree of knowledge and aplomb.

Flowers do not move and therefore the photographs need only by bothered by the wind. Birds conversely are keen, sensitive creatures, easily disturbed and certainly to not hang around to pose and say cheese - or do they? The quality, clarity and candidness of Mr. Gilpin's pictures almost lead you to believe the subjects were auditioning. Truly lovely shots highly indicative of the photographers art and patience.

The BIGGA AGM held at York on 23rd March certainly proved that the infant BIGGA is alive, kicking and exercising its lungs. 135 interested parties attended the meeting.

The Northern Greenkeepers Training Liaison Committee met at Askham Bryan on 15th March. A plan was set in motion to arrange a Greenkeeper Education Awareness Meeting at Askham Bryan College on 12th July, 1988. The aims of the meeting are to set out the greenkeeper training facilities obtaining at Askham Bryan, the Northern centre for greenkeeper education, with the objective of bringing together Head Greenkeepers and Golf Club Officers by invitation. More details will appear later.

Those greenkeepers willing to avail themselves of a certificate of competence to spray pesticides should enquire immediately with either Askham Bryan College of Agriculture or Shipley College. Both these teaching establishments are offering foundation modules and certification courses on the usage/storage of pesticides.

All spray operatives under 25 or those above concerned with direct supervision of spraying activities must hold a certificate of competence before January 1st 1989. The exercise is not cheap but in the long-run would be wise.

We welcome to the Section Stephen Earl who has moved from Prestwick to Strensall as Head Greenkeeper. Philip Taylor is now well-installed at Alwoodley as Head Greenkeeper at Rawdon, Formerly First Assistant at Bradford Golf Club as too is Philip Palmer now at Branshe Golf Club from Woodsome Hall. Mel Guy has opted for the commercial side of life leaving South Leeds Golf Club to join the sales team of W. Mountain and Son, Morley, Limited. On show, for all to see, these days in Moor Allerton Golf Club House is a ceramic replica of the Ryder Cup handed over to the Club for permanent display by Howard Clark, 1987 Ryder Cup Team member and tournament professional at Moor Allerton.

Do you wish to play for your Section against the Cleveland Section at Keighley on 27th July? All you have to do is ring 0943-72008 for instant booking. A 12-man team is required; but first come, first served. The same applies to the Roses Match at Blackburn on 11th August; team of 16 for this one.

16th August Invitation Day at Pannal - now booking.

D. Hannam

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Ransomes man goes on tour

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Last year, following a series of successful demonstrations in Britain, Julian was selected to carry out tours of West Germany, Belgium and Holland in support of Ransomes dealers.

New sprinklers

CAMERON staff were recently introduced to Rainbird's new products for 1988 by Rainbird's Northern European representative Frits Gripstra and technical manager Eric Tortelier.

Developed specifically for the landscape market, the new 'Hybird' range of pop-up sprinklers has been designed for inclusion in systems where sprinklers are required to rise above surrounding shrubs or plants and to retract to become inconspicuous after the irrigation cycle.

Consisting of six models, three of which lift to a height of 15cm and three to 30cm, the range includes low angle trajectory units, designed to combat excessive wind conditions.

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### Labels warn of danger

The Ministry of Agriculture has announced, following the recommendations of the advisory committee on pesticides to ministers, a series of restrictions on the way in which herbicides containing ioxynil and bromoxynil may be used. The changed conditions of approval are intended to reduce the potential of exposure to spray operators who do not wear appropriate clothing, to reduce the risk of residues in food and to warn of dangers to fish. In the professional amenity area the key change relates to use of hand-held and knapsack sprayers. This is now prohibited, and although use through powered sprayers is permitted, the minimum dilution rates stated on labels must be adhered to. May & Baker are issuing labels to their main distributors to be placed on existing stocks of Iotox & Actrilawn 10.

### Maxicrop's foliar sprays subject of special video

Astute action by Maxicrop International in anticipation of the unusual climatic conditions and problems presently besetting farmers, horticulturists and groundsman, has resulted in a dramatic increase in demand for Maxicrop foliar sprays.

On the one hand, growing conditions have been such that shallow rooting has occurred and, on the other, excessive rain has resulted in much of the nitrates being washed down too deep for perennial plants to benefit - a situation which could spell disaster, especially if, as history suggests, it is followed by a period of drought.

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The company has produced a special merchants video that explains exactly how Maxicrop encourages the development of roots and, as demonstrated by trial results, more efficient use of fertilizer to achieve the same or even better returns even under stress conditions.

For more information contact Sonia Cooper, Maxicrop International, Bridge House, 97-101 High Street, Tonbridge, Kent.

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Gleneagles plump for Iseki tractors

THE Gleneagles Hotel and Golf Course, Auchterarder, Perthshire, has recently taken delivery of three Iseki tractors to work on their world famous courses.

Over recent years, the Gleneagles Hotel has grown both in stature and diversity with seventeen sports being available on the estate. The Iseki tractors, two 30 horsepower TE 4270’s and a 40 horsepower TE 4370, are now hard at work on the estate’s four championship 18 hole courses in preparation for such events as the Bell’s Scottish Open Championship, plus a whole host of company and pro celebrity events planned for the year.

Gleneagles’ estates and golf courses manager, James Kidd, leaves the choice of machinery open to each of his respective head greenkeepers and it is they who decide on the machinery most suitable for their own course. According to Mr. Kidd: "To have all three courses decide on the same make was rare indeed".

The three tractors will be involved in a wide variety of work, but more especially for Vertidraining and Power Gang Mowing, as they prepare the courses for the many prestigious tournaments Gleneagles hosts each year.

Iseki is the greenkeepers choice at Gleneagles, where three tractors have recently been delivered by Reekie Plant.

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Hydrowet® is an advanced product which modifies the surface tension of water and enhances its ability to penetrate hard soil and dense thatch. It allows water to percolate down to grass roots. It also disperses rainfall more evenly through the soil and helps to avoid problems of standing water.

Hydrowet® is available from Rigby Taylor in 9.5 litre containers to cover 3,800 sq.m.

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FUMIGATION TABLETS

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The Turf-Doctor is a powered scarifier especially designed for restoring tired turf. Available with a choice of engines — Honda, Tecumseh or Briggs & Stratton, the Turf-Doctor can tend the largest area of turf swiftly and effectively, ridding it of dead and unwanted growths and gently opening up the soil surface to let essential moisture nutriment and air reach the grass roots. Designed for ease of use and durability, the Turf-Doctor features a unique height-adjustment control which ensures the best possible effect on any type of turf and takes up tine wear. A very effective Slitter Kit is available as an optional extra.

Maximum benefit for minimum effort . . . just what the doctor ordered!

For smaller grass areas and private lawns, take a look at Lawn-Doctor. Manoeuvrable and easy to use, Lawn-Doctor allows you to tend even the largest lawn quickly and easily. Available with or without debris collector.

Bob Andrews Ltd's products already serve regularly with many local authorities and leisure organisations, so when you need reinforcements, call in at your local stockist, or send for full details to:—

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