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Effect of Management Accounting Techniques in Improving the Quality of Financial Reports

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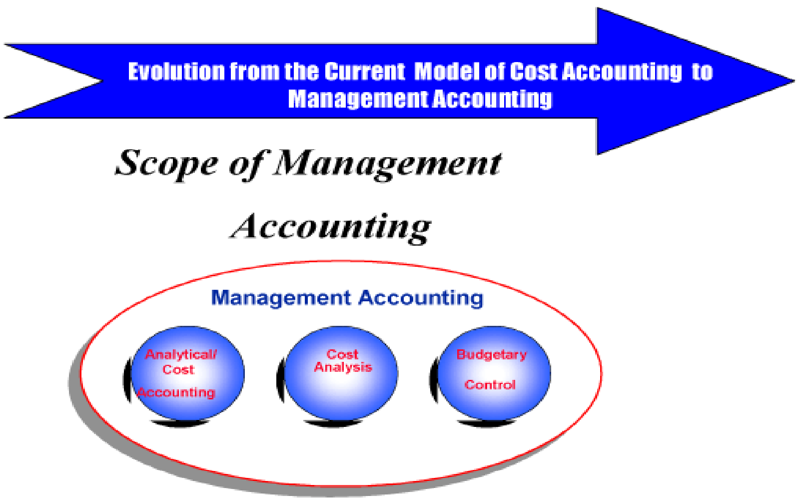
ABSTRACT

The concept of management accounting has, in the last two decades, been concerned with the collection and presentation of internal financial data in order to facilitate decision-making. Since management accounting is not required to comply with a national accounting standard, the company can customize management accounting methods according to company requests. To accommodate this, a series of advanced quantitative and qualitative approaches have been initiated in conjunction with the traditional approach to address the information need during the decision making process. The Concept management accounting is a new subject that is still evolving. It is also facing the same obstacles as a relatively new field, sharpening theoretical methods and technology progress to make the application uncertainty.

Figure 1.0. The scope of management accounting



There is always a temptation to make decisions by intuition easy rather than taking the difficulty of scientific decision-making. It derives its data from financial accounting, cost accounting and other documents. Management accounts will not replace management and management. It is only a tool of management. In this respect, the conventional approach to management accountability reveals an opposition between strategic management, management control and operational control processes. One of the aims of this study is to provide the company with management accounting information systems, which will help the company to use its management accounting instruments to gain competitive advantage. Many organizations combine their strategic and priorities formally or informally with management accounting information in order to manage operational functions and participate in long-term decision making. Since the concept of strategy management accounting is distinctive to the level that it refers to the inclusion of external with internal financial and non-financial information, the umbrella is often used to include cost management approaches such as activity-based management (ABM), target costing (TC), reengineering of business processes (BPR),just in time (JIT) total quality management (TQM), costing-based activities (ABC).Given that these methods to controlling costs have very particular origins when they are seen to be present, it does not come as a surprise that SMA is deployed in certain organizations in forms that are particularly business relevant. Diverse notions of SMA remain. While management accounting approaches such as traditional costing, cost–volume–profit review, responsibility accounting and operation related accounting may be accorded very detailed meanings, their deployment and the functions they perform within organizations appear to be contextually defined. SMA can likewise not be required to evidence a degree of organizational rigor that is common across structures or organizations because it serves a number of diverse management possibilities.

Problem Statement

Banks aim to incorporate into their operations and objectives the idea of management accounting techniques, as the company bank obligation concept evolved significantly at the beginning of the new century. Through collaborating with staff, customers, shareholders and the community as a whole, the banks are dedicated to contributing to sustained growth to meet the aspirations of the stakeholders and serve sustainable development at the same time. Business banks are under tremendous pressure from customers to increase the content and the information they contain, because they need facts and evidence to support them make their decisions. As a result, the poor consistency of these banks' financial accounts provides misleading and unclear facts, which affects the probity of decisions by stakeholders. In order to improve the accuracy of financial reporting, the importance in revealing the aspects of management accounting techniques and other financial and non-financial disclosures is significant. The objective of this analysis was to measure the impact on the content of financial reporting in Iraqi commercial banks of the management accounting techniques.

Research Objectives

This research aims to validate and produce the following results on the content of financial reporting through management accounting techniques in Iraqi commercial banks:

1. Awareness of financial report consistency principles, concepts and controls.
2. Knowing the effects of Iraqi commercial banks' management accounting techniques.

Hypotheses

The test hypotheses have been proposed as follows in order to accomplish the objectives of the thesis and to address the above questions of research:

1. There is a statistically important impact on the consistency of financial reporting by Iraqi commercial banks of effects of management accounting techniques.
2. There is a statistically important impact on the standard of financial reporting in Iraqi commercial banks by revealing the economic component.

Literature ReviewIntroduction

This chapter explains the concept of management accounting techniques and their significance for the business by assessing the effects of management accounting techniques on the quality improvement of financial reports.

Definition of Management Accounting techniques

Management accounting techniques have equipped corporate administrators with the essential knowledge to take judgment and deal with daily timely and constantly evolving company dealings such as the order issued, order backlog, power usage, and sales. Other analytical studies are designed to reduce profitability, market share shrinkage, consumer satisfaction disruption against the company. In all scenarios, it is normally achieved by matching real outcomes with the expected results or benchmarks. Management accounting techniques are about "the method of defining, calculating and distributing financial details to permit educated assessments and decisions by consumers of the information (Nielsen, 2018, 44). Management accounting strategies typically play a shaping function for preparing, coordinating, guiding, and managing managers of the enterprise. Planning operation is achieved mainly by budgeting, regular costing, goal costing, cost-volume-profit analysis, and leading or organizing by process reengineering, just in time (JIT), task-driven costing (ABC), flow path, benefit proposition. Leading and monitoring by overall quality management (TQM), balanced scorecard (BSC), real and budgeted results compare, and benchmark review.

Management accounting techniques are renowned for being valuable accounting tools that extensively help companies combine cost accounting details and financial and non-financial info. This knowledge is imperative for effective financial performance. In the present day today, organizations require growth and continuous change in their success for sustaining their operation and surviving in complex, competitive environments (Ayedh and Houssem, 2015, 5). The skills and capacities by productive and successful utilization of the organization's resources are implemented as the essential instruments for enhancement of corporate efficiency that gaining from it demands aware management. Therefore, gathering and supplying related details to the results is indispensable for companies where the need may be fulfilled using management accounting techniques.

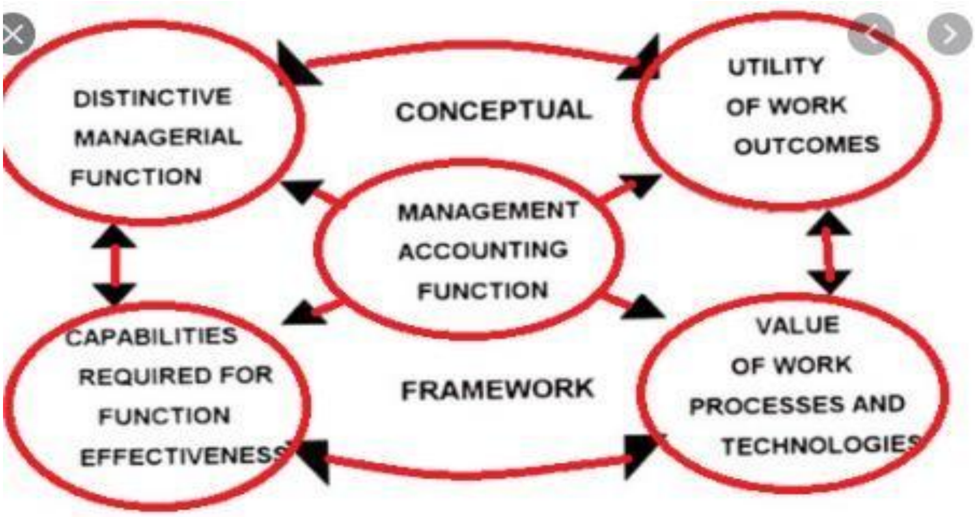
Furthermore, management for accomplishing the organizational goals includes concrete plans that management accounting may employ various solutions in the plans by effective operational approaches and assist managers in attaining the objectives. The modern advancement of researchers in competitive industry proposes that companies require management accounting to increase their efficiency according to the changing competitive conditions.

Quality of Financial Reports

Accounting information represents the actual state of the company correctly and reasonably. With the concern in the quality of financial reporting, the consistency and importance of accounting details presented to its consumers is becoming quite relevant. Various research analyzed the implications of the consistency and the accounting facts of the financial accounts. The discretion of the internal auditor has a beneficial effect on the accuracy of financial reporting, a major aspect of internal regulation. One of the main reasons for reforms in internal management is the extensive practices of gross business corruption. In addition, the impact of the release of these facts on stakeholders with an involvement in the company changing the potential expectations. The accuracy of financial reporting can be measured in a number of ways. Qualitative knowledge characteristic was used by Ayedh and Houssem (2015, 8) as a measure of income efficiency although this measure is problematic to use since these are difficult to measure. As a measure of the quality of financial reporting, Al-Khasawneh, Endut and Rashid (2020, 215) used benefit quality as a measurement of the quality of financial reporting by management earnings. Studies of Fisher and Krumwiede (2012, 45) depended on the accounting reserve level to assess the consistency of financial reporting by examining the position of the reservation in knowledge improvement by decreasing the level of no identical information. Depending on the multiplicity of metrics by means of accounting retention measures, the accuracy of the financial reporting would be based on the utilization of the market-value-to-book (MTB) ratio since it represents a company's overall reserve and realistic application ability.

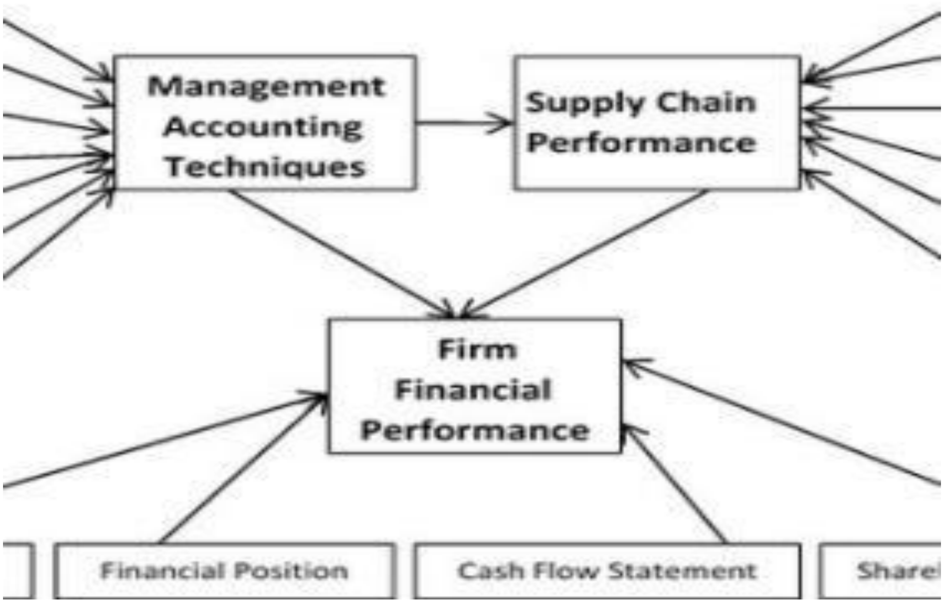
The Components of the Management of Quality of the Accounting Services

Figure 1.2. Management accounting framework



To maintain the best functioning of an economic entity, the accounts department represents financial and economic decisions. It may be seen as a facility for the processing and communication of accounting material. The quality of accounting services is determined by the nature of the processes used to produce and disclose accounting information and the accuracy of the accounts, their adherence to fact, and current rules (Ali, 2010, 118). A qualitative accounting methodology involves skilled procedures, processes, operating approaches, and staff as these facts guarantee the trust of accounting knowledge consumers. The accounting services would continue to generate information that reacts to the needs of the different customers and otherwise confidence in the approaches utilized and the accounting practitioners that generated it. The role of the accounts department is to provide details sufficient to handle the economic institutions and compile the decisions; thus, timely information is of particular significance to the top managers and to establish the decisions they take to exercise a corresponding managerial power (Sunarni, 2013, 620). Understanding the customer or the recipient of accounting details as to the degree to which the service they access fulfills their requests is an integral element of the Satisfaction standard. Therefore, the economic agency must expand its customer's happiness with the goods it sells among its strategic goals. The preparation and introduction of a customized quality assurance scheme for accounting services and quality control are necessary conditions for the stability and growth of the economic institutions in the current economic crisis (Abdel Al and McLellan, 2013, 4). The economic theory suggests that the worth of a commercial good or service is calculated by the usefulness, that is, the consumer's happiness, which is relevant to the manufacture and communication of accounting products. Regardless of the intent and contact means, customer satisfaction needs must be calculated and consistently ensured (Ameen, Ahmed, and Abd Hafez, 2018, 2). In addition to the chronological registration of accountability, the service, i.e., the Financial Accounting Department, must be able to provide the preparation of financial accounts, reports, budget statements, financial and fiscal advisory services, and assistance for annual checking of auditing facilities, solutions to increase taxation and decrease taxes. The objective of the economic entities' accounting quality should be geared towards meeting the needs and expectations of the users of the accounting information for professional ethics and compliance with actual legislation, constant improvement of the accounting information, including the means of communication that has been made public (Ayedh and Houssem, 2015, 5). To meet their goals, accounting practitioners need to adhere to those fundamental standards: honesty, objectivity, professionalism, professional competence and goodwill, confidentiality, professional responsibility, and technological and legal legislation. The consistency of the accounting procedure should be considered to provide customers with accounting services, reliable accounting reports, and fair prices. The provision sees the accounting method of detailed, reliable, and reasonably priced accounting services for the users (Nielsen, 2018, 34). The quality may relate to the efficiency, corroborated by the time component, of accounts and services. The failures in accounting could, on the other hand, include time charges, false records, unsatisfied customers, unskilled personnel and negligence for accounting practitioners, inaccurate financial statements, and breaches of existing law (Hajjawi, 2012, 3). The basic issue with the organization of an accounting method is how the accounting information is compiled and reported. Accounting must register, assess, supply, search, provide and transmit a full spectrum of records, continue by financial and management accounting to shape and report transactions.

Figure 1.2. Management accounting cycle



A multi-situation model was proposed by Cleary (2015, 13) to analyze the consequences of the combination of dependency between departments and cooperate structure within the financial management framework. The model has been validated using the real data gathered by 160 production managers on a questionnaire. The share of communications was 82.5%. These findings reinforce the view that organizations respond to the situation management accounting framework architecture and assess the effect of two internal variables on MA model organization. The hierarchical framework and the dependence between divisions are two internal considerations.

The study by Ali (2010, 115) found that the manager should evaluate the role of divisions for cost management by using the traditional costing approach and descriptive reports for costs variance and identify reasons for cost variance. From there on, the boss identifies systemic and proper cost-saving solutions.

Fullerton, Kennedy, and Widener (2013, 60) discussed possibilities for green accounting to apply business-based costing and explained the costs and variations in this method and conventional approaches for activities. In the ABC system, direct costs are clustered. Whereas, indirect costs are assigned to the artifacts that create such operations, to each good and service. It also poses green accounting advantages and drawbacks in an ABC business. The ABC approach allows the accountant to calculate the true manufacturing costs and environmental effects of each operation in Romania more accurately. Different cost classification and identification approaches are provided by the complicated cost calculation and assignment processes, the capacity of the accountant, and the usage of modern technologies (Scapens, 2006, 19). Based on his analysis of sugar companies, he suggested a cost identification approach in any phase of the development process

McLellan and Moustafa (2011, 23) analyzed the Gulf Cooperation Board member nations, namely Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, on production companies. In the Gulf Cooperatives, administration accounting activities are the title of the report. Orthodox cost management and control tools such as budgeting, task-dependent costing, and cost standard identification, along with changes measurement, are the most often used in these countries. Cost management accounting practices

Munsif, Raghunandan, and Rama (2012, 204) believed budgeting for companies to be an MA process, the budgeting efficiency depends not just on the budgeting methodology but on the cost estimator composability and cost estimates should be linked to the goals of the company. To meet particular goals for each organization, coordination between departments of the company must be strengthened (Nassereddine, 2019, 99). According to these authors, there are three expenditure estimates: bottom-up estimate, top-down estimate, and agreement model. They also said that cost estimation helps to monitor expenses and evaluate the efficiency of each agency by establishing the discrepancy between actuality and inspection cost estimates. However, the report only referred to public-sector cost estimates and did not address cost estimates in industrial-production industries and scalable estimates.

Vizgunov and Trifonov (2017, 33) discussed the function of analyzes and the basic and very critical methods for short-term decision-making in the cost-quantity-profit relationship. The authors considered that the cost-quantity-profit relationship study depended on accounting estimates, considering short-term costs, primarily contingent costs, according to activity. Costs, incomes, and quantities have almost the right relationship in a proper range, and costs are split into varying costs and fixed costs. The complete cost has a straight line equation for a limited proper range (Cadez and Guilding (2012, 34). Therefore, the proposal for a theory on the direct relationship between short-term costs leads to some benefits: The rapid determination of net costs at different stages of production and variable costs was the same with each unit of quantity of activity. Furthermore, the research indicated the drawbacks of analyzing the cost-quantity-profits relationship centered on variable costs and the disadvantages of detail. However, the report only referred to theoretical issues and the example model and did not analyze the current implementation in a specific area or company.

Legaspi (2014, 356, 254) carried out an analysis in Philippine Industries to assess the effect of Management Accounts and concluded the following. The current managers' position as management accountants cannot be ignored as competition is progressively driving mandate for quality goods and services. Secondly, Legaspi (2014, 356) identified that the managers prioritized for any industry involved in the research. To do this, administrators decided they required a solid management and management accounting structure as the key instrument for directing them to achieve the specified objectives (Legaspi, 2014, 286). Finally, the study showed that management accounts become more valuable and applicable to industrial companies because they actively need to track output prices, administer pricing, budget their resources to maximize the current situation and the potential sustainability and make efficient decisions. These results of Legaspi (2014, 286) summarize observations and findings of other researchers that managers will better grasp their existing activities by means of management accounting and plan for the potential. It directs the vision, strategic goals, and preparedness of the company for potential risks.

Managers used to rely on management experience and theories that inspired management practices such as scientific management, which focused on achieving economic growth by enriching workers by their work (Kaplan, 2001, 287). Others, such as Theory X and Y, demanded that administrators always inspire their staff, claiming that only highly motivated employees would achieve better performance (Pavlatos and Paggios, 2009, 23). Although these ideas established the standards for an efficient organization, they mostly focused on the interaction between employees and the organization. With ongoing global trading and demand for a wide range of goods and services, and research and technological developments, it was no longer successful merely to concentrate on the employees, as the company has many resources that impact organizations' results. The science management strategy sought to consider the devices and their impact on productivity by noting that machinery would contribute to quicker service distribution with improved technology as long as the employees would still optimize their stations. This and other methodology is nevertheless based on the philosophy of mass manufacturing, where most companies only worked to increase productivity. Pavlatos and Paggios (2009, 23) report that this has negative consequences, such as overwork, failure to satisfy the dynamic demand demands, and high waste levels. However, MA will contribute to the cost of output and activities in relation to skills, resources, and consumer demands, as defined by this publication. Management accounting reflects how the manufacturing inputs used by the organization impact chosen technology, ways to selected innovations impact personnel's productivity, how employee output affects finished items, and how certain items or services influence the customer and limit management to the impact of employees. Therefore, it is a broad decision-making approach that would guide short- term objectives while influencing long-term objectives for the enterprise's growth. MA maintains thatthe products and services are diversified as markets get more dynamic.

According to Wegmann (2019, 167), American executives have been more inclined to use German-based GPK costing systems to manage American businesses in recent years. According to Ossimitz, Wieder, and Chapman (2016, 78), this is partially attributed to the GPK's particular arrangement, which allows the German management team to accept all contingent and fixed costs. Wegmann (2019, 169) found that the GPK provided businesses with passable evidence for management decision-making and an IT system that sustain the organization's whole operation. This cost accounting approach has favored ABC as GPK provided additional instruments such as SAP, which provide the plant and organizational managers with essential operating and output details in sectors. However, studies carried out by Wegmann (2019, 167) found that, amid preference for GPK in the United States, organizations that only used GPK cannot be identified. This is support for Weaver, Rutledge, and Karim (2010, 95), who developed that a company cannot optimize the position of an MA in its industry by implementing only one method of MA. Ostensibly, Munsif, Raghunandan, and Rama (2012, 210) urged it to be important to recognize at least two or three approaches and optimize them to ensure that the MA's position is completely realized based on organizational capital. GPK is a long-term solution, while ABC is a shorter-term approach. In the United States, it was also decided that all approaches should be used with greater inclinations towards GPK, as the ABC was not sufficient. In contrast, GPKresulted in comprehensive costing and analysis.

GPK's main benefits in a company include segment data to enable management and plant management to review their IT programs in detail. This encompasses increased corporate efficiency and cost reduction, effective short-term decision-making, reliable estimates, smoother indirect costs, stronger organizational systems, employee motivation, enhanced operational practices, and support for the decision-making process. With these two benefits in mind, effective service and cost controls will contribute to waste elimination and ensuring activities remain within the organization's budget, improve organizational mechanisms to ensure successful accountability, inspire staff to improve their efficiency and develop business processes to ensure improved profitability. Certain transparent internal processes within organizations add to the organizations' overall external specifications. For example, efficient cost accounting by MA can mean that FA analyses are reliable, consistent, and informative, that consumers can get the market value of goods. That management would keep company processes running for clients for a longer period.

Weaver, Rutledge, and Karim (2010, 95) note that it has often been a significant drawback to its implementation and application to evaluate different MA methodologies and techniques effectively. This means that companies expend a great deal on the MA campaigns despite being poorly served in decision-making (Ward, 2012, 223). According to Cadez and Guilding (2012, 112), one of the main ways to ensure an organization may profit from integrating methods and the adoption of emerging technology helps to restrict the various cost centers in organizations that continue to be enhanced. Cost centers in the management accounting organization contribute to the number of causes increasing or reducing operating expenses within organizations. Brandau et al. (2013, 453) say that smaller companies would see a rise in cost centers as their organizations grow, whereas big organizations assume that they would likely decline with time. Suppose the costing centers increase or decrease within the organization.

Legaspi (2014, 23) has shown continued preparation in Philippine and US organizations to apply management accounts. Although the current execution requirements are at best satisfactory, Germany's companies are optimistic about integrating processes, implementing flexible methods, and implementing new software such as the SAP Platform in the GPK. Moreover, ERP's roles are limited to administration accounts, as seen by the IFAC, tax planning, and financial accounting. In this sense, if the Corporation adopts an MA operations ERP scheme, the chances of complying with all other rules on financial statements, such as taxation and financial planning, as laid down in the ERP schemes, would be improved. Whereas different vendors sell certain services according to certain features, the whole operation explains these cost factors, like taxation and other forms of accounts. The use of MA increases total financial management and helps the company achieve the advantages mentioned above, such as efficient management, capital productivity, increased personnel, and consumer loyalty.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research study is based on the analytical method of the data obtained. It often depended upon the scientific approach to provide findings and recommendations by analyzing data and evaluating hypotheses. The methodology of research includes presenting the research population, sample, and the study model.

Research Sample

The analysis included all commercial Iraqi banks mentioned on the Baghdad stock exchange. The study analyzes the annual financial reports released between 2012 and 2018 by thirteen Iraqi banks.

Study Model

Based on the above presented of the study problem, its goals, and its assumptions, the study model was developed to measure the effects of management accounting techniques (dependent variable) on the quality of financial reports (independent variable).

Figure 1.3. Study Model

Management Accounting Techniques Activity-based management (ABM) target costing (TC)reengineering of business processes (BPR) just in time (JIT) Total quality management (TQM), Costing-based activities (ABC).
The quality of financial reports

Research Finding and AnalysisConclusion

In issuing management accounting techniques, the impact of transparency has been measured on the output of the banks. The findings revealed that Iraqi commercial banks are interested in disclosing economic and financial performance details as banks are trying to achieve economic prosperity, economic well-being and market position. In addition, this study finds that there is a low application of management accounting techniques in Iraqi business banks in view, yet there is the effect on the content of the financial reporting of these two components. The findings show that revealing the aspects of management accounting as a whole has a beneficial effect on the content of financial reports in Iraqi commercial banks. It proposes more study and research into the aspects of management accounting techniques for other industries such as the manufacturing and service sectors in future, tying it to other factors such as capital expenditure, or knowledge inconsistency.

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