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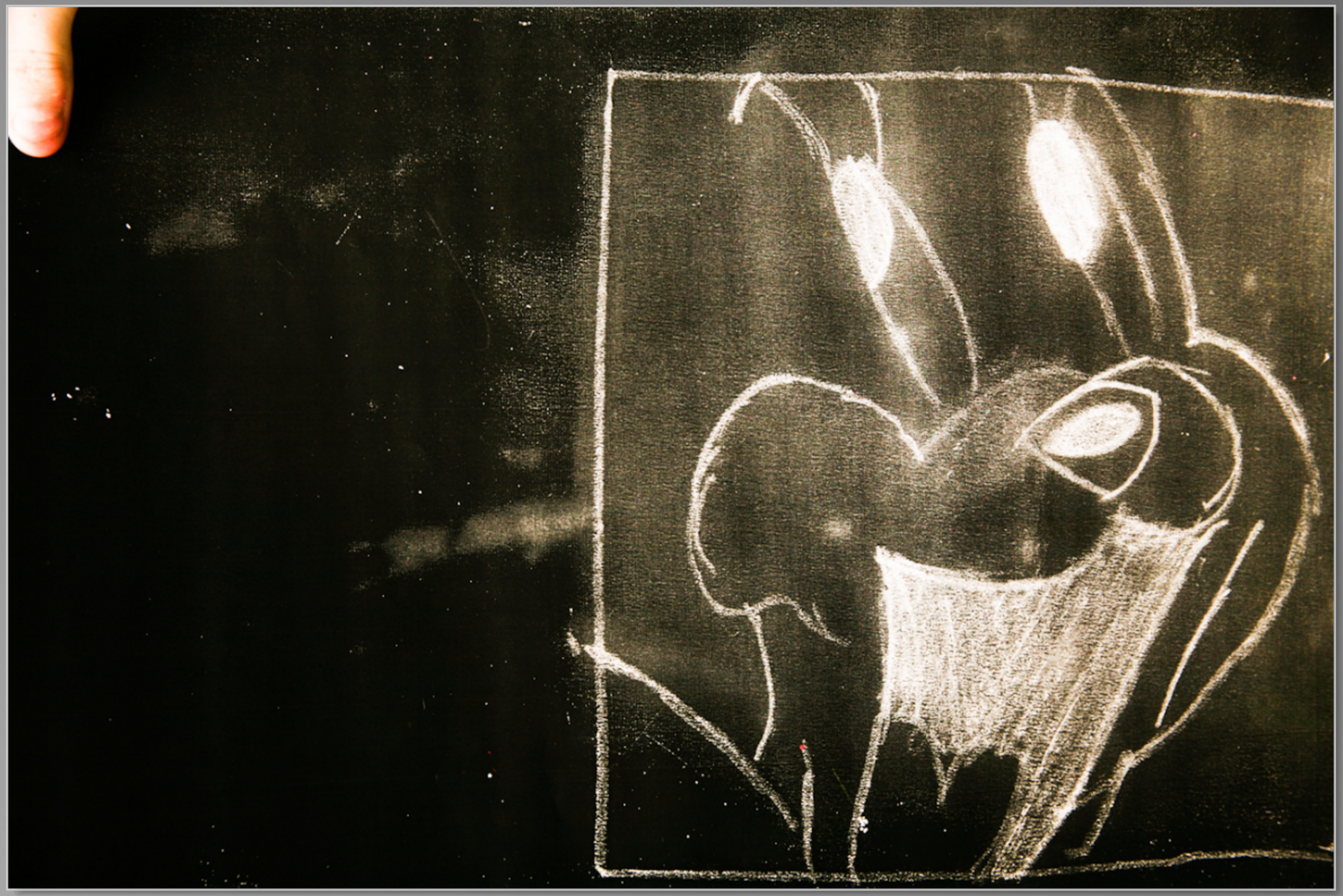

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Having worked as a reporter in Moscow, Washington and indeed London, I have learnt only two lessons from the periodic eruption of espionage dramas. The first is that, however seductive and meticulous the detail, things are seldom completely as they seem. The second is that, despite the end of the Cold War, pretty much everyone is still at it: note the terse "no comment" given by Britain's former ambassador in Moscow Tony Brenton when asked on the BBC *Today* programme yesterday whether Britain was still in the Russia spying game.

By any standards, though, the outlines of this story, as disclosed by the US authorities, are bizarre. A dozen individuals, some paired up, were "embedded" in the Land of the Free with the apparent aim of infiltrating the upper echelons of US decision-making. They assumed American names and American identities and, judging by their neighbours' accounts, they managed that part pretty well, even though they appear to have got no further in their work working than would be expected of a moderately competent graduate student, and – a crucial weakness – they were tracked almost every way by the CIA.

There are odd lin[illegible] that pose ethical ques[illegible] beyond the moral issue raised by the case of the accused who were brought up in the US, who are cultural[illegible] apparently [illegible] parents' other [illegible] assimilation [illegible] individuals.

But the [illegible] relate to the [illegible] their misdeed[illegible] ed into the U[illegible] 1990s, that is [illegible] was officially [illegible] was oriented [illegible] direction the [illegible] the US fig[illegible] mission [illegible] tenure, [illegible] prise can [illegible] ing cold [illegible] on the ide[illegible] the state [illegible] always a [illegible]

How fa[illegible] sponsored [illegible]

SPYING

- In 1994, [illegible] CIA counter[illegible] cial, admit[illegible] Moscow a[illegible] for life.
- In 1996, [illegible] Nicholson [illegible] for Russia.
- In 1996, [illegible] Earl Pitts fo[illegible] got 27 year[illegible]
- In 1996, [illegible] a Russian for[illegible] official, was tha[illegible] selling documen[illegible] He was convicted [illegible]
- In 1998, the retired US army intelligence analyst David Boone was arrested at a Washington hotel and charged with selling secrets after an FBI sting.
- In 1999, US military officials charged the US Navy code breaker Daniel King with selling data to Moscow.

[illegible] technique employ[illegible] British authorities in [illegible] when Moscow accused MI6 agents of using diplomatic cover and a high-tech stone to obtain Russian secrets.

The Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov, also suggested – another standard response – that someone had an interest in sabotaging the improvement in bilateral relations. Doubtless, there are those for whom the latest US-Russia rap[illegible] welcome.

David Villa fires Spain to victory against Portugal in Cape Town last night DANIEL OCHOA DE OLZA/AP

Blue [illegible] Eng[illegible] pride [illegible] hurt

James Lawton
Chief Sports Writer

JAPAN ARE still in the margins of world football's elite. Indeed, between the Blue Samurai and the big yellow machine of Brazil [illegible] remains a vast gulf of [illegible] technique.

However [illegible] departure [illegible] gap [illegible] who we [illegible] France [illegible] pair of their [illegible]

[illegible] claim, though, to have [illegible] plenty of turbulence [illegible] Many fans argued that [illegible] too many Argentine-born [illegible] their squad but Martino [illegible] the policy with some vigour. [illegible] not an easy problem. I see it less [illegible] consequence of nationalism, more [illegible] matter of football taste. The discussion usually centres on whether the player is good enough, and in my mind there is no argument. The Argentine-born players qualify as Paraguayans – they are blood descendents of families who moved from their homes for economic reasons. So [illegible] tion for [illegible] [illegible] Cruz. He [illegible]

[illegible] while France and England [illegible] of their [illegible] go [illegible]

[illegible] Argentina. The [illegible] crumbling start which their [illegible] Sudweder [illegible] Paraguay, was [illegible] in a Mexico City eighties [illegible] team.

[illegible] back of his [illegible] Mexican [illegible] for some time to do [illegible] matter as the Blue [illegible] Their last change for [illegible] World Cup glory. It [illegible] and [illegible] move [illegible] the state. But it did [illegible] and it did [illegible] you have a mind [illegible] and a seriously competitive heart.

The message was there for anyone inclined to receive it, but perhaps on this matter we should not hold our breath.

Yuichi Komano, a full-back famed for his courage but also the culprit for [illegible]

He had fretted for so long over the failure of his team to claim with more authority the few chances that came in action that was relentlessly pursued but without too much creative [illegible]

[illegible] gap [illegible] Who we [illegible] France [illegible] pair of their [illegible]

[illegible] as no se[illegible] ated from a [illegible] commitment.

[illegible] had been unfil[illegible] the crumbling world champ[illegible] aly in their opening group [illegible] they made no easy assump[illegible] their ability to contain the [illegible] ball's rising sun. It is not [illegible] ely to blind us with vir[illegible] near future but there [illegible] of resolve and ex[illegible] the very best of [illegible] will not be quick[illegible]

They also [illegible] the inevitability award, perhaps [illegible] by the width of the Seri[illegible] When Komano blazed the wrong side of the woodwork, coach Takeshi Okada didn't move an eye-lid. The player was then helped from the field with a firm hand and an understanding that there is no cruelty in any theatre of sport to compare with the one imposed upon a man who will always know that he was, however arbitrarily, the reason for his team's exit from their finest moments.

For Paraguay's Argentine coach Gerard Martino the moment of suc[illegible]

Webb: Performed well with the whistle during Brazil's defeat of [illegible]

Webb proves the English ca[illegible] shine at the World Cup

By Steve Tongue
in Pretoria

HAVING BEEN made favourite to [illegible] epes [illegible] Cup final, Roth[illegible] [illegible] Webb (above) w[illegible] [illegible] any Fifa app[illegible] [illegible] Sepp Blatt[illegible] [illegible] technology. Never afra[illegible] [illegible] unpopular decision, [illegible] [illegible] other way in cou[illegible] [illegible] any "knee-jerk rea[illegible] [illegible] recent controversies.

[illegible] speaking at a media open da[illegible] here, the morning after takin[illegible] charge of his third match, Brazil[illegible] 4th over Chile, he said: "Video re[illegible] plays? That's for somebody else t[illegible] [illegible] side. We've got to go out onto the [illegible] field of play and make our decisions [illegible] [illegible] time referee I [illegible] [illegible] I went on [illegible] [illegible] the laws [illegible] [illegible] able to [illegible] [illegible] to make the [illegible] [illegible] or to give the police the tools [illegible] to do their job, I was there to do my job on the streets."

[illegible] other concern is that too much technology could halt the flow of the game, which [illegible] found here to be faster than even the most hectic Premier League match: "My only concern about it would be if we introduced a stop-start culture in football. We work closely with officials from other sports like cricket, and rugby but what we have to preserve is the fluidity of football. We need to take care with that. You can be in a game and the ball switches from an incident at one end to the opposite end in eight seconds and that is one of the beauties of the game. The speed of the modern game at this level is unbelievable."

[illegible] has so performed impressively this tournament and the two [illegible] regular team, Durban Cup-fe[illegible] [illegible]rich and Mike Mullarkey fr[illegible] [illegible]outh, also did well [illegible] game – mak[illegible] [illegible] Brazil[illegible] [illegible] disal[illegible] [illegible] English[illegible] [illegible] mock[illegible] [illegible] English[illegible] [illegible] pointed to [illegible] [illegible] which [illegible] [illegible] highly rated by [illegible] committee.

[illegible] assistant, said of the [illegible] of making the final: "Really, the old cliché of one game at a time. We hope last night's performance has earned us one more game but we're trying not [illegible]

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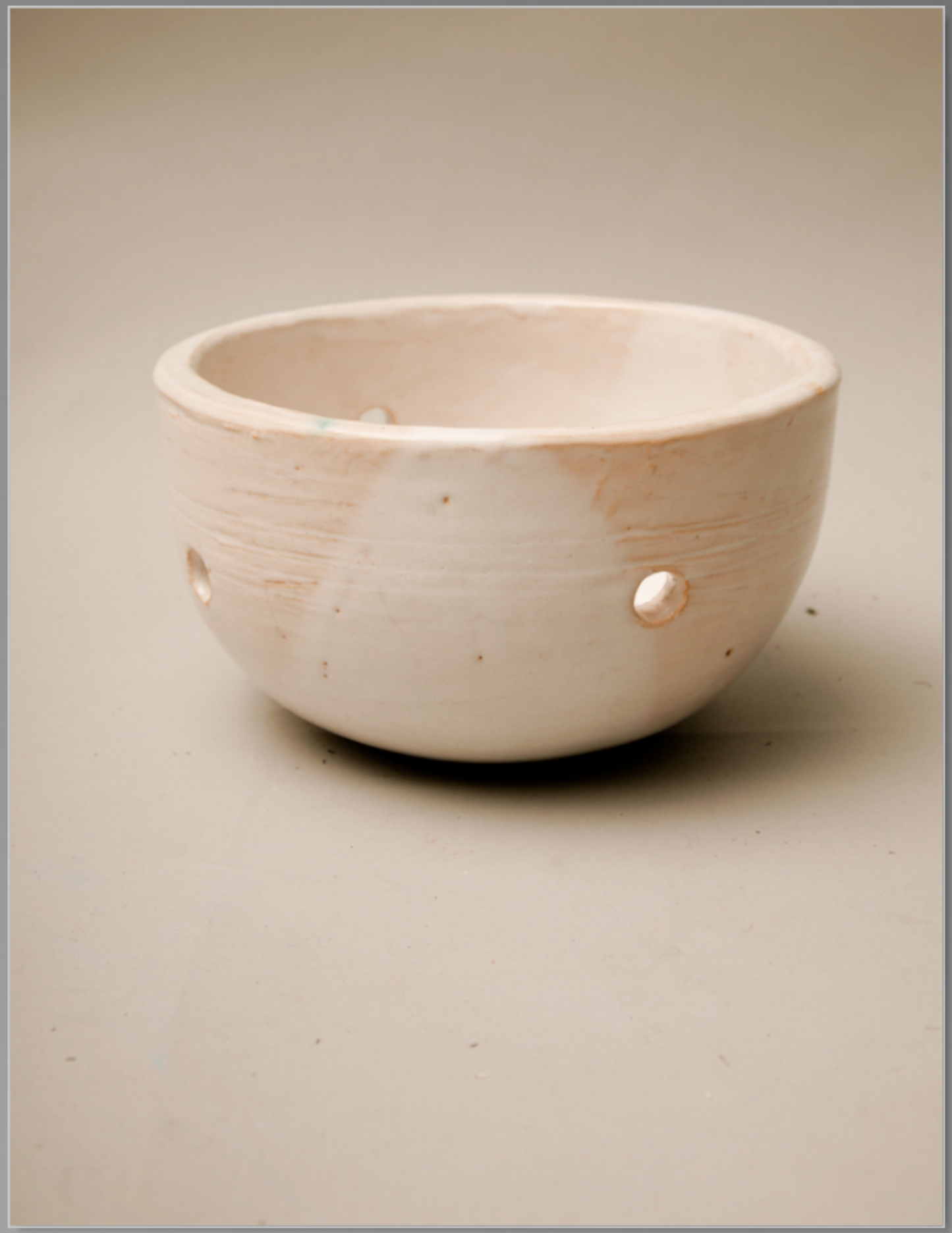
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