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## Ma Bey

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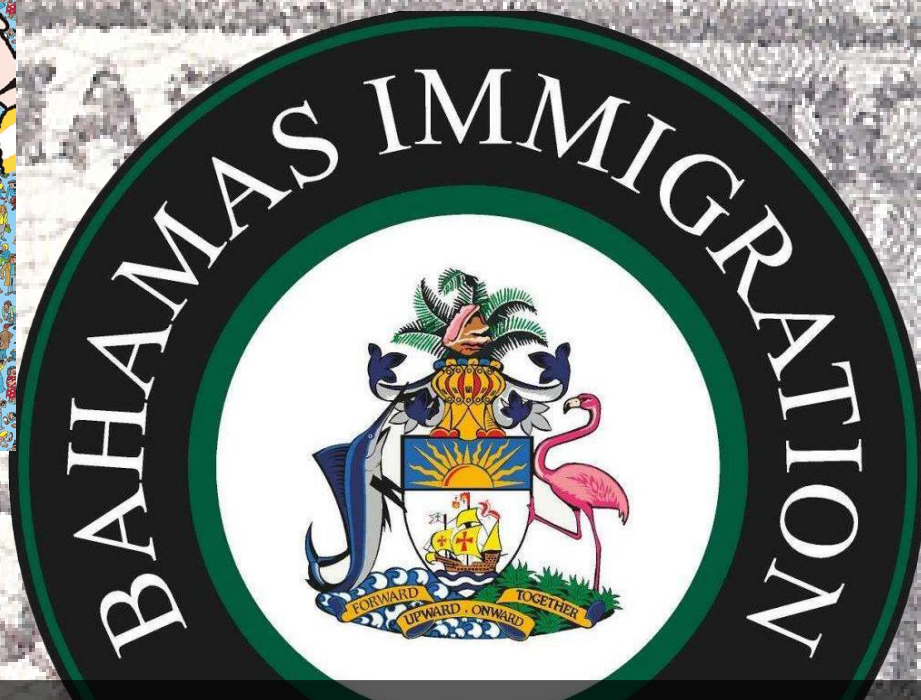
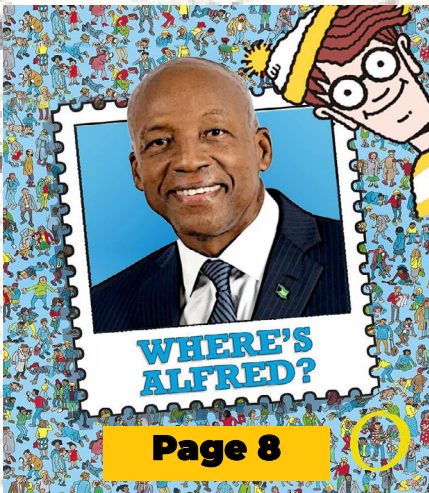
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– THE REAL REASON  
HE WAS SILENTLY  
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**UNDER THE RUG**

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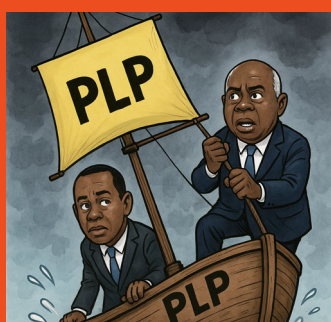


## “PERMIT POLITICS?” – PLP FACES FIRE OVER THOUSANDS OF FOREIGN WORK PERMITS

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DEEPENS: PLP  
SINKING SHIP OR  
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## SUPERYACHT MURDER TRAGEDY IN HARBOUR ISLAND



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IMMIGRATION MESS DEEPENS:  
PLP SINKING SHIP OR STILL IN DENIAL?

BN Agent, X

Well muddoes, look what reach now! Immigration in The Bahamas turning from bad to worse and the PLP driving the bus straight off Clifton Pier.

Since taking office, the PLP promised they had the fix. Brave and Chester say they was ready, but now things more mixed up than conch salad at Potter's Cay. Illegal landings happening faster than fish fry orders on a Friday night. Meanwhile, Bahamians scratching their head trying to figure out who minding the borders?

Remember when the

PLP tell us everything under control? What happen now? Boats sneaking through in broad daylight, and every week we hearing another batch get catch up in Exuma or somewhere off Eleuthera. Brave them quiet like church mouse on this issue, hoping we forget while they busy traveling the world.

Crime going up, illegal immigration swelling, but Brave Davis and crew jet-setting instead of jetting to solve this mess. The country crying out for action, but the PLP more lost than tourists downtown looking for the Straw Market.

What Bahamians really want to know: how much worse it gotta get before somebody step up? Immigration officers stretched thin, resources low, and all the PLP could do is hold press conferences promising "solutions" and "plans." But talk cheap when the country knee-deep in chaos.

It's time the PLP stop playing politics with immigration. Either fix the problem or step aside and let someone else steer the ship. Because right now, under this crew, the Bahamas borders open wider than Saunders Beach on holiday weekend, and the people tired of paying the price.

Y'all better wake up, PLP, or the next boatload sailing right to your front porch. Time to get serious before the country sink under this immigration mess you helped make worse.



"PERMIT POLITICS?" – PLP FACES FIRE OVER THOUSANDS OF FOREIGN WORK PERMITS

BN Agent, X

The Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) is under growing scrutiny over the tens of thousands of work permits issued to foreign nationals over the past four years. Critics say the flood of permits is not only displacing Bahamian workers — but may also be part of a broader political strategy to curry favor with foreign interest groups and influential employers ahead of the next general election.

Permit Numbers on the Rise

Data from the Department of Statistics and Immigration reveal a consistent increase in work permits year over year:

- \*2015:\* 9,208 work permits
- \*2018:\* 10,225 permits

- \*2019:\* 12,501 permits
- \*2023 Q1:\* Over \$20.6 million earned in permit fees, suggesting ~15,000 permits issued annually
- \*Estimate (2021–2024):\* Over 60,000 permits\* issued under the current administration

Despite government promises to prioritize Bahamians, these figures reflect a continued reliance on foreign labor, particularly in the construction, domestic, and hospitality sectors.

Who's Getting the Permits?

Permits are primarily being granted to nationals from:

- Haiti — 36% of all work permits in 2015
- Jamaica — 11%
- Philippines — 11%

A significant portion — 42% — of all permits fall under "elementary occupations" such as domestic workers, gardeners, and laborers. Haitians dominate this category, accounting for 65% of the unskilled jobs filled by foreigners.

Political Motive or Economic Necessity?

Critics argue that the PLP has used the work permit system not only to address skill gaps but as a political tool\* to win favor with large-scale employers and foreign-affiliated interest groups.

"They're not giving these permits because Bahamians don't want to work," said one local contractor. "They're giving them because it benefits people who will return the favor during campaign season."

While foreign nationals cannot vote unless naturalized, some suggest that mass permit approvals create indirect political influence\* through business support, contract kickbacks, or silent alliances.

A 2013 political columnist even accused the PLP of using its "Believe in The Bahamas" mantra to mask foreign favoritism.

Government Pushes Back

Former Immigration Minister Keith Bell attempted to address the backlash during his reign but he was removed due to being a part of the problem, his tactics were:

- Rejecting permit renewals for workers in positions Bahamians can fill
- Ordering enforcement of understudy

requirements for foreigners

- Cracking down on employers who misuse permit classifications

But for many, the response comes too little, too late\*, after years of unchecked approvals.

What the Streets Are Saying

BN spoke to several Bahamians who say the job market has become more frustrating than ever:

"You see a whole job site and barely one Bahamian on it. Construction, security, gardening—all filled with foreigners," one resident told us.

Another shared, "It's not about skills anymore. It's about who can be paid less and stay quiet. We're being shut out of our own economy."

The Verdict?

Whether it's poor immigration oversight or strategic permit politics, one thing is clear—Bahamians are demanding answers\*. With election season looming and the job market tightening, the PLP may soon face the political consequences of its work permit legacy.





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# UNDER THE RUG EXCLUSIVE

## KEITH BELL'S IMMIGRATION MESS – THE REAL REASON HE WAS SILENTLY MOVED TO HOUSING

BN Agent, X

Former Minister of Immigration Keith Bell has been quietly reassigned to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Renewal, but political insiders and members of the public believe the real reason behind the move is rooted in the immigration chaos that unfolded during his time in office.

While the government publicly framed the move as a strategic Cabinet realignment, sources close to the

administration say Bell was removed from Immigration after mounting backlash over his failure to manage a growing crisis — one that has left Bahamians frustrated, communities overwhelmed, and national security stretched thin.

During Bell's tenure, more than 60,000 work permits were reportedly issued to foreign nationals over a four-year period. Critics argue that the approval process was reckless, with many Bahamians losing job opportunities in in-

dustries such as construction, landscaping, domestic care, and hospitality. Meanwhile, unregulated migrant communities continued to expand in areas like Abaco, New Providence, and Grand Bahama — often without proper enforcement or oversight.

"Immigration under Keith Bell wasn't just mismanaged—it was abandoned," said one senior officer in the Department of Immigration who spoke to Bahamas News Ma Bey on condition of anonymity.

Across the country, the public grew increasingly vocal. In Abaco, post-Dorian reconstruction jobs meant for Bahamians were largely filled by undocumented migrant workers. In New Providence, shantytowns remained untouched, despite court rulings demanding their removal. Enforcement raids appeared to be reactive, staged only after media attention or public outrage.

Insiders say Bell's growing unpopularity was starting to weigh

heavily on the PLP's internal polling, particularly in key constituencies. His removal was described by one source as "damage control" ahead of the next general election. "It was causing too much heat. Bell had to go — but they couldn't fire him outright, so they moved him," the source revealed.

Now, Bell is tasked with managing one of the nation's most challenging portfolios — housing. Critics are already questioning the decision, noting that his record in Immigration leaves little hope for effective leadership elsewhere. "How do you move the man who oversaw an immigration disaster to be responsible for fixing our housing crisis?" asked a community activist. "This isn't a reshuffle—it's recycling failure."

Despite recent press conferences and promises of reform, the damage to the country's immigration system has already been done. Bahamians continue to voice concerns about being sidelined in their own country, watching illegal settlements grow while they struggle to find work and affordable housing.

The PLP may hope the public forgets, but the fallout from Keith Bell's time as Immigration Minister remains fresh in the minds of many.

And for those paying attention, it's clear — this was no ordinary Cabinet shuffle. This was a scandal quietly swept under the rug.







THE BIG BANK SLAP

BN Agent, X

A well known bank employee has found himself in hot water after a viral video surfaced showing him slapping a young woman near a gas station in broad daylight. Social media quickly dubbed him “The Big Slapper” — and the backlash has been swift.

In an attempt to do damage control, the banker is now speaking out to share his side of the story. According to him, the altercation started when tensions flared between his group and a group of girls. He claims he was trying to “de-escalate” the situation when one of the girls threw food at him. In response, he threw water back. Things quickly spiraled when, according to him, both girls got aggressive, prompting him to stiff-arm them to defend himself — and that’s when the infamous slap was delivered.

He further alleges that the young women followed him to his car, banging on the glass and demanding the other girls inside come out.

But despite his explanation, the public isn’t buying it.

Moral of the story: As a man, never hit a wom-

an — no matter how heated things get. Some situations are better walked away from before they walk you out of a job.





# SUPERYACHT MURDER TRAGEDY IN HARBOUR ISLAND

BN Agent, X

Harbour Island, renowned globally for its pristine beaches and luxury lifestyle, recently became the scene of a gruesome crime — the murder of South African crew member Paige Bell aboard the superyacht “Far From It.” Bell’s violent death, allegedly at the hands of her colleague, Mexican engineer Brigido Munoz, shocked both the local community and international observers. Details emerging from the investigation depict a tragic sequence of events that unfolded just days before Bell’s 21st

birthday. The incident has sparked significant discussions on maritime safety regulations, crew protection standards, and the effectiveness of local security measures. Bell’s devastated family, who recently arrived in The Bahamas, seek justice as the legal proceedings against Munoz progress. The community demands accountability, improvements in yacht crew management, and enhanced safety protocols to prevent similar tragedies in the future.



## REGISTER TO VOTE YOUR VOTE MATTERS





# FNM LEADER MICHAEL PINTARD UNVEILS FNM'S PLANS FOR IMMIGRATION

**BN Agent X**

With a room packed with standing room only Michael Pintard unveils OPERATION SHIELD an acronym for

**S** - Secure our Land and End Illegal Occupation,  
**H** - Heighten Surveillance,  
**I** - Investigate Political Abuse,  
**E** - End Unfairness,  
**L** - Limit Approvals  
**D** - Disclose Data.

What appeared as a six prong, well thoughtout plan left no stone unturned as he laid into the government on their lacidacile nonchalant approach to all things Immigration.

The room was silent as Pintard said what Bahamians had been waiting to hear. He addressed work permits, citizenship, and the apparent unprecedented amount of breaches being committed. He spoke of

the untold number of complaints by Immigration Officers and Civil servants who are daily seeing an uptick in the number of the newly documented foreigners, with some being unable to speak basic English.

Land security and protecting jobs for Bahamians currently occupied by foreigners and ending those opportunities were of grave concerns for the opposition leader. Speaking as one who had come into his own, Pintard ripped into the government. Pintard argued that the government is empowered to cause the mobilization of all agencies necessary to secure crown lands issued for one purpose that were being used to house illegals to have those living on the land removed and cause crown land owners who were profiting to be made accountable. He called for companies who were employing foreigners to be regulated and

that these employed be regulated with a term limit attached ensuring Bahamians filled those positions.

Pintard spoke of the enforcement of the law as related to first-time applicants, ensuring that those who applied for were out of the country and were not being ap-

plied for after their arrival.

Layer by layer Pintard unveiled the FNMs plan for Immigration and a Party that some thought was not ready to govern and proved they were more ready than given credit for.

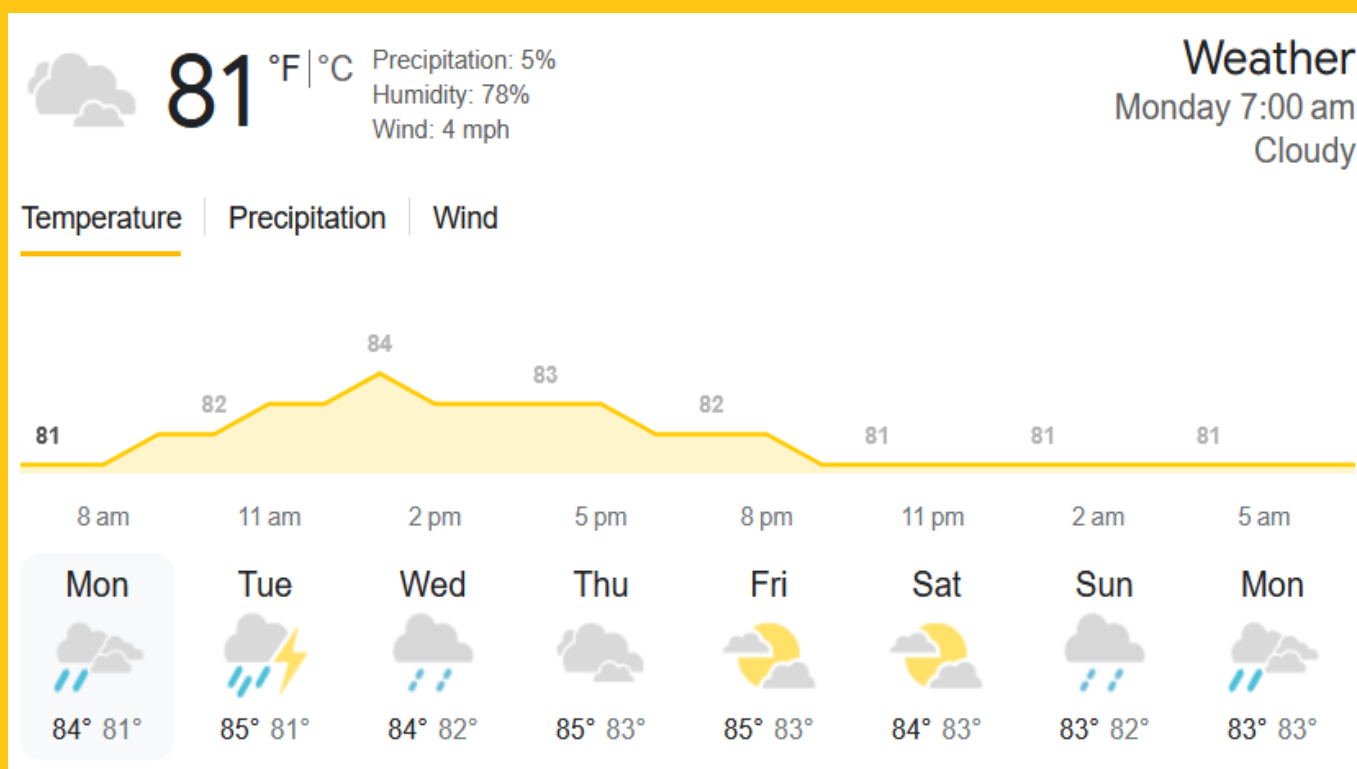
While many are critical of Pintard's leadership

style and believe they have figured him out, one look and listen to-day proved otherwise. Pintard is more than meets the eye. While many think he is playing checkers, a closer look at the board reveals he is, in fact, playing chess with his next move held to his chest.

If the portion of Pintard and the FNM's plan for Immigration revealed today showed their commitment to a Bahamas for Bahamians, then it is safe to say a Pintard led government will be good for Bahamians.



# WEATHER REPORT





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear BN,

Did anyone notice just how quick Wayne Munroe responded to Michael Pintard's press conference on Immigration. Talk about who got hit.

Pintard came out swinging, and the PLP had all gathered in a corner howling because those rocks Pintard was throwing were hitting all of them. They are all guilty from the head, the PM to the least amongst their back benchers ALL are guilty of selling us out.

Things tuff as it is and to think some Bahamians dare to benefit from selling status to foreigners who do not play by the rules or live in peace in your land?

Did any of them think that perhaps their children would have to answer to those they are fast tracking.

I am afraid of what we will learn when the government changes and the amount of work permits and citizenship sold were issued is made known.

I am afraid of the amount we won't find a paper trail on, and I am afraid for the poor Bahamians who will suffer most by the wrongs this government who claims to be for the poor people has done.

Lord, BN pray with me it's not another year cause if it is, we are really in trouble.



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WHERE'S ALFRED?  
WHY USE MUNROE

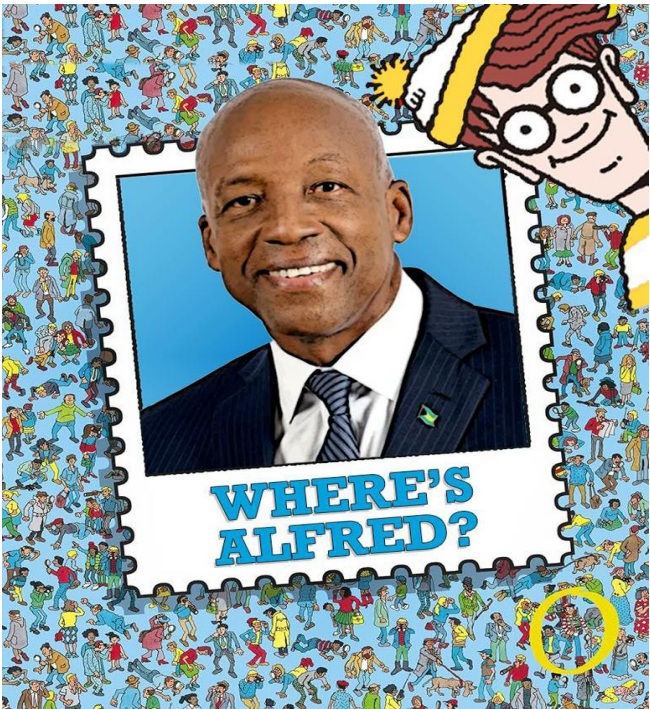
PLAY GAME ON NEXT PAGE

Dear BN,

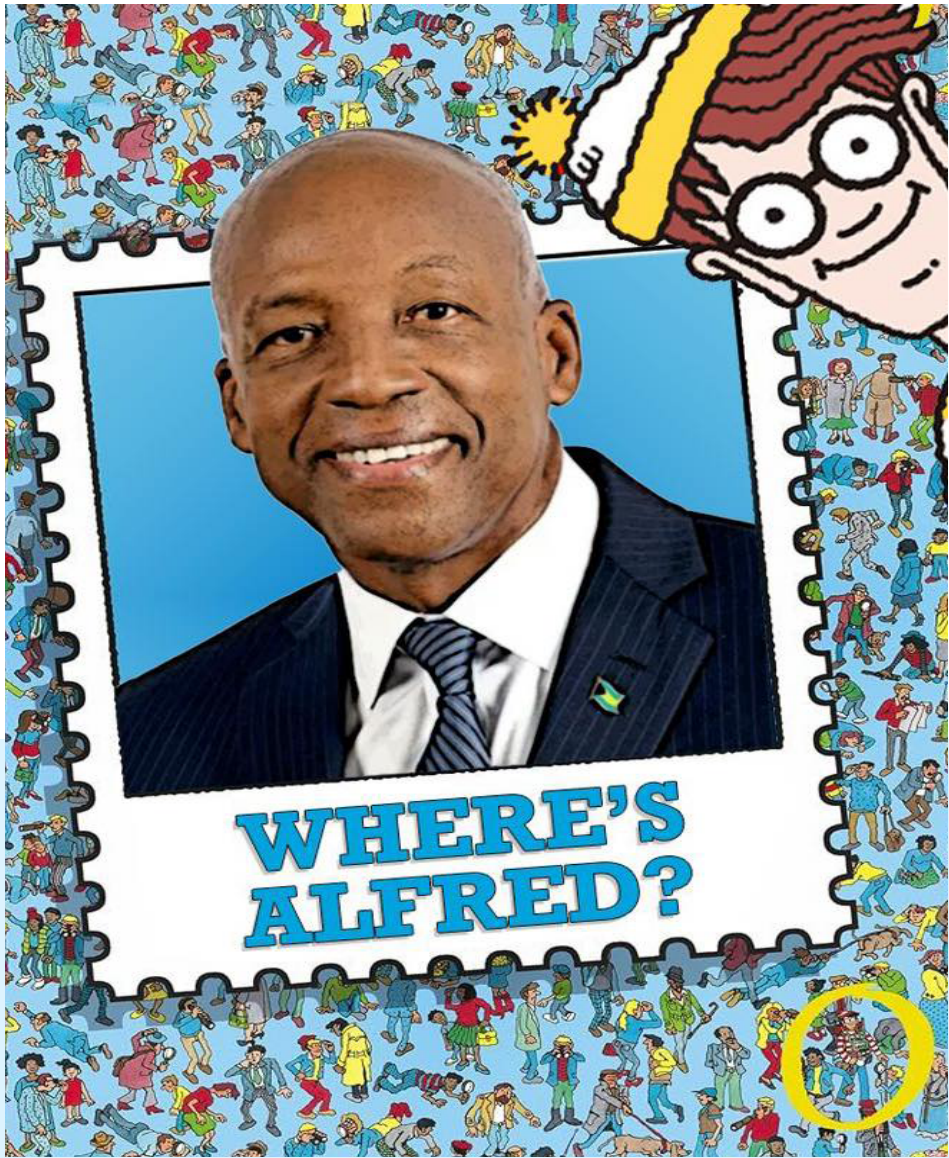
Tell Wayne Munroe sit down cause he was awfully quiet when mess hit the fans with those senior officers in Florida. Not a mumbling word from him. BN tell him for me we all sitting waiting to see if his name will be called.

I just hate when the government follow the Opposition when

they suppose to be leading. If they don't want to lead then get out the chair and let leaders lead. Also where is Alfred Sears the actual Minister of Immigration?

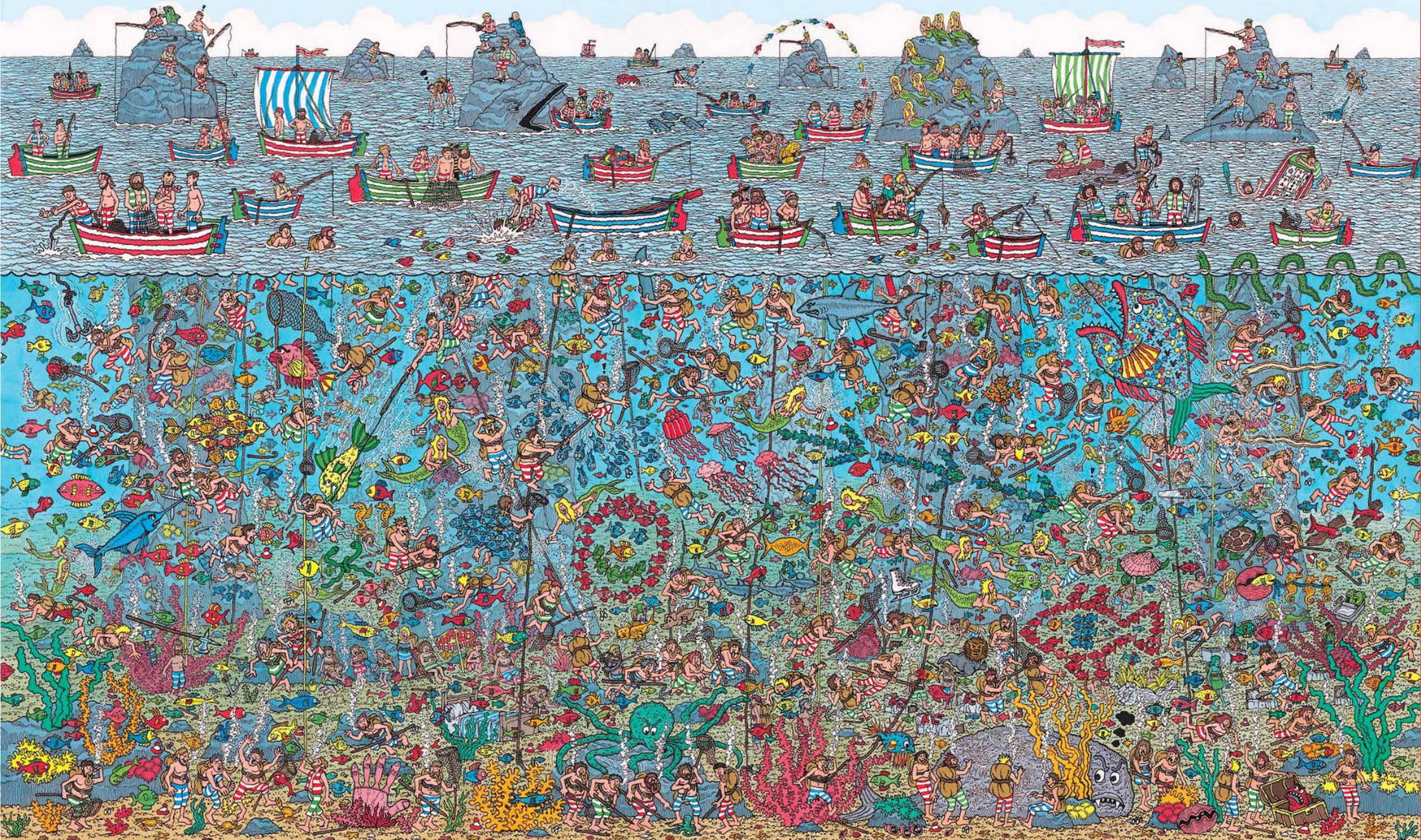






# WHERE'S ALFRED? WHOSE PROTECTING OUR BOARDERS? AND SEAS?

HELP US FIND  
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