

Point-in-time restore reported failed on a replication database

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Issue

Customer reported that the point-in-time restore failed on a replication database.

```
2018-09-13 16:54:58.980 Backup RESTORE DATABASE successfully processed 0 pages in 3.288 seconds (0.000 MB/s
2018-09-13 16:54:58.980 spid361 Restore(1c5cfe8e-96b9-4c1f-ac87-0383b40c61ad): RESTORE DATABASE finis
2018-09-13 16:54:59.000 spid361 Sending the notification action: NotifyRestoreProgress
2018-09-13 16:54:59.080 spid361 Http code after sending the notification for action NotifyRestoreProg
2018-09-13 16:54:59.090 spid13s [FabricDbrSubscriber::RestoreRoutine] Restore FAILED with result: 3 '
```

```
<operationdetails>Non retrievable error occurred while restoring backup with index 69 - 3724 Cannot drop the pro
RESTORE DATABASE successfully processed 0 pages in 3.397 seconds (0.000 MB/sec).</operationdetails>
```

Investigation/Analysis

By default, the restore operation will restore the database, then remove all replication related objects (system tables, SPs, etc) unless WITH KEEP_REPLICATION is specified.

Since Azure SQL MI does not support WITH KEEP_REPLICATION, while the operation tried to drop the objects, the above error was thrown.

More details are explained here: <https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/repltalk/2011/01/02/restore-of-replicated-database-fails-with-cannot-drop-the-table-tablename-because-it-is-being-used-for-replication/>

Mitigation

If the restore process reported above error, the restore itself was most likely already been successful. For now, customer can ignore the restore error and manually drop the objects in the restored database

Internal Reference

ICM <https://icm.ad.msft.net/imp/v3/incidents/details/84070303/home>

Classification

Root cause tree:

How good have you found this content?

