



Vol. LXIV

September, 1986

No. 4

777 BEAT THE ODDS MAKE OKLAHOMA CITY A WINNER

The odds? An Oklahoma heat wave with the thermometer reaching 97 every day and, while not a record was a darn good average. Ice machines that paid off with about as much regularity as a Las Vegas slot machine. An early morning thunderstorm on Friday, July 11th, that backed up sewers and forced a number of Rainbowers to move from the "500" building. A malfunctioning fire alarm that sounded outside the room of newly elected President Fred Goldsmith at 4:30 A.M. Saturday, July 12th. Finally, a water main break just north of I-40 and two blocks from the hotel, causing the water to be shut off in the main building at 1:00 P.M., threatening to curtail or even cancel Saturday night's banquet. We understand it came back on in the wee hours of Sunday morning, allowing all the Rainbowers housed in that section of the complex to make a clean break for home.

But, first things first. All those people in the dining room and waiting to be seated Wednesday evening were treated to an excellent performance by a mime-magician, who visited many of the tables in the dining room and performed his various tricks of magic. There is still some doubt about the lace handkerchief he pulled from Colonel Carlyle Woelfer's pocket.

After dinner all one had to do was take a peek into the room where the "Early Bird" party was in progress and see that a near record crowd was in attendance.

The joint meeting and general session the afternoon of July 10th were well attended.

The Rainbow Dance held in the ballroom the night of July 10th was packed, with the orchestra playing those golden oldies that you could tap your foot to and not go deaf in the process.

Another general session the morning of July 11th with a capacity crowd on hand, including approximately 49 (no actual count available) Rainbow veterans who were attending their first reunion.

The Rainbow luncheon was held at noon that same day, with welcoming remarks by Vice Mayor I. G. Purser of Oklahoma City. A brief ceremony was held, honoring Staff Sergeant Adolfo B. Morales in absentia (Co. K, 222d Infantry) with former Tech Sergeant Sam Platamone acting as surrogate as President Carlyle Woelfer presented the bronze star with an oak leaf cluster; and combat infantryman badge. Sergeant Morales suffered the loss of an arm; had 32 additional bullet wounds as he protected his buddies in a withdrawal at Moder River. A visit or card from former K Company, 222d Infantry members or any other Rainbower would be a nice gesture. His address is 4111 West 102d, Inglewood, CA 90304.

RDVA's Annual Memorial Service was held immediately following the luncheon, led by National Chaplain Rev. Mr. James W. Dunham, with his beautiful "reflections,"



Colonel "Ed" Wheeler, Banquet Speaker

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, the 67th Annual Reunion of the National Association Rainbow Division Veterans is now history. With 777 people attending in Oklahoma City it was one of the largest and best, thanks to Mary and Al Brewer and their Chapter. They went "all out" and we want them to know their efforts were deeply appreciated.

I have never aspired to be a national president and was full of misgivings when I accepted the office of President Elect at the reunion in West Palm Beach, Florida a year ago. Now I'm glad that I went ahead, in spite of my doubts, and in the past year have come up with a number of ideas that have been discussed with others and now hope to implement this year.

A committee of five will be appointed to review our Constitution and bylaws to determine if it should be updated and/or rewritten and retyped, with copies distributed to all chapter secretaries.

The same committee will be asked to review our business meetings format for the reunions and determine if we can get by with one less business session and thereby have more leisure time to attend a local tour or function at future reunions. This committee will be asked to make a preliminary report at the forthcoming mid-year meeting to be held in Phoenix, Arizona in February 1987.

I want to encourage more input to the Reveille as I am confident each of you have stories of your wartime experiences to tell, if you would only take time to put them down on paper.

At the Oklahoma City Reunion it was suggested the Reveille be reduced from six to four issues per year because the Editor was not receiving enough material, photos, etc., to sustain six editions per year. This suggestion was voted down by the membership and the Budget Committee and the membership approved extra funds to continue the publication of six issues. I have requested assistance of the officers and the National Historian, as well as an ex P.O.W. and a holder of the Unit Citation, in providing good material in hopes it will cause each of you to contri-

(continued on page 2)

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REPORT OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee met at 10:30 AM, July 12, 1986, with 12 members and the Chairman present. The following items were discussed and, where action by the Reunion was requested, the required action was asked for as each item was presented.

1. We propose to add to Article 4, Section 13, which provides for the Memorials Officer, the following sentence:

"The Executive Committee will also appoint an Assistant Memorials Officer."

2. In Article 3, Section 6, we propose to delete from the first sentence the words "exclusively" and "of a unit."

3. We propose that the original Preamble to the Constitution be adopted as the Preamble to the present Constitution and Bylaws as follows:

"We, the members of the 42nd Infantry Rainbow Division of World War I and World War II, in order to perpetuate that spirit of comradeship, which was the greatest single factor in the success of the Division, and to keep alive the memory of our departed comrades, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Veterans of the 42nd Infantry Rainbow Division."

4. We propose to accept the July 1987 Reunion dates, to fulfill the mandate to consider the update of the RDVA Constitution and Bylaws. We recommend that the incoming President appoint a committee, consisting of five members, to review a draft of a revision of the Constitution and Bylaws presented to the Committee on this date. We propose that copies of the draft of the proposed revised C & BL and the present updated C & BL be placed in the hands of the Officers of the Association and all Chapter Presidents to review and respond to the draft to the Committee by November 1, 1986 and such responses included in a Committee review to be held prior to the Mid-Year Reunion in February 1987 for presentation to the Committee's draft to the Executive Committee at that session for review.

5. The C & BL Committee was asked to consider the implications, if any, of the "linkage" proposal that was voted on at Windsor. It was further asked to consider whether that vote violated any provisions of the C & BL. The Committee unanimously agreed as follows:

a. Nothing in the C & BL will allow membership or associate membership for any person, except those veterans of WW I and WW II who served in the Rainbow Division during the dates listed in the C & BL and their "sons, etc."

(continued from column 1)

b. Because of the specific requirements in the C & BL for membership, the Committee agreed unanimously that the word "linkage" be forthwith abandoned by the Association because this has led to a misunderstanding on the part of the members of the Association and could lead to a misunderstanding on the part of the members of the existing Rainbow Division.

c. The Committee reviewed the "Draft Linkage Proposal" between RDVA and the 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division. The Committee agrees unanimously that the vote on that proposal was technically done in accordance with proper rules of order. However, it was approved without full understanding of the issues and without a sufficient forewarning of its contents. It further has created a detrimental divisiveness in this Association that must be addressed. Accordingly, the Committee unanimously proposes that that draft proposal be amended to include only the following items:

Item 1. Except delete "formal" and it will now read: "Establish and maintain active communication between the Division and the RDVA to provide for a free flow of information in an effort to develop common interests."

Item 3. "Develop and initiate an awards program in coordination with the Division, to be sponsored by the RDVA, that would recognize outstanding individuals and units of the Division. Such awards could honor famous individuals of the past that identify with the Division, such as General Douglas MacArthur, Secretary of the Army Wilbur Brucker (1st Lt. WW I) and Major General Harry J. Collins."

No other provisions of the draft shall be activated without future specific approval of this Association in Reunion assembled.

Those deleted from the draft proposal are as follows:

Item 2. "The Division will inform the RDVA regarding activities and events that will contribute to the development of support and pride in the Division by the RDVA. A vehicle for such dissemination could be provision of a column in the Rainbow Reveille for use by the Division."

Item 4. "RDVA to offer assistance in further development of the Division Museum with contributions, information, artifacts, historical data with meaning to the Division's history and traditions."

(continued from column 2)

Item 5. "Provide for invitations to RDVA officers to participate in activities with significance to both the veterans and the Division's Organization Day, Division Reviews, etc."

d. Nothing in this report shall be interpreted to be a denial of the RDVA time honored support of the men and women now serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, including present 42nd Infantry Rainbow Division and, further, the Committee recommends that the Association move forward in its purpose of comradeship in perpetuating the memory of the men who served Rainbow and its causes in two World Wars.

Respectfully Submitted

(signed) Theodore A. Johnson,
Chairman,
Constitution & Bylaws Committee

NORTHEAST REUNION

The second annual Northeast Chapter Reunion will be held at the Sheraton Sturbridge Resort and Conference Center in Sturbridge, Massachusetts on Friday, November 7th, and Saturday, November 8th, with the banquet on Saturday night.

Check in time is 3:00 P.M. Check out time 11:00 A.M. Sunday.

Please make reservations with the hotel as soon as possible. The Rainbow rates are \$79.00 per night for single or double occupancy. The address of the hotel is: SHERATON STURBRIDGE RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER, U.S. 20, OPPOSITE OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE, STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 01566. TELEPHONE 617-347-7393.

Advance reunion registrations would be helpful to the Chapter. If you wish to do this, please send \$26.00 per person to: Charles G. Paine, Reunion Chairman, 61 Canfield Drive, Bridgewater, CT 06752. All special requests are to be made through the Reunion Chairman.

To insure hotel reservations, you may send a personal or bank check plus 5% tax or your credit card number.

FR. DUFFY CHAPTER DISBANDS

A few months ago word was received, stating the Father Duffy Chapter was being disbanded, but no subsequent information has been received as to what chapter, if any, would absorb those members still remaining in the Fr. Duffy Chapter. Anyone in possession of all the facts please so advise, in order that our readers may be so informed.

RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

As reported in the May issue of Reveille the Rainbow Scholarship Program of the Memorial Foundation, which was voted on at Windsor in 1984, had its first year of operation during 1985-86. In the first year it awarded two scholarships, which will be reported on in the November issue of Reveille. At the Oklahoma City Reunion the Scholarship Committee awarded six scholarships for 1986-87. Those named as **Rainbow Scholars** were William Clayton, Jr. in Graphic Design at California State University, Chico; Mayland Crosson in Business and Psychology at Pennsylvania State University; Donald M. Downard in Engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona; Tammy Manuel in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno; Morgan Ray-Mulholland in Psychology at Sierra University, California; and Arlene Kemmerer Slater in Nursing at Slippery Rock State University in Pennsylvania. Their work includes communication, ecology, natural resources, justice, social services, critical analysis, teaching and government.

These young people will be acting as our "scouts" in our continuing exploration and engagement to help create a more peaceful world of understanding and brotherhood — that Rainbow Vision. Each of these Rainbow Scholars will explore his/her areas of study and research and report on what has been learned that might help create a better world that will keep the Spirit of Rainbow living and growing.

Significantly, this Rainbow Scholarship Program, in the words of our Preamble, will "perpetuate and honor the spirit of comradeship of RDVA WW I and WW II members and keep alive the memory of our departed comrades." It will also mean that all of our supreme efforts and sacrifices in those conflicts will not have been in vain as our sponsored young people continue that noble search for freedom from war begun by us so long ago.

To support the scholarships we naturally need funds. Significant contributions have been recently received from Kurt Fredrick and Mrs. Walter Wetle. Appreciative recognition was given for these gifts at the Oklahoma City meeting. Kurt Fredrick donated \$1,000 to the Rainbow Scholarship Fund. As a WW I veteran he is showing us the way. With his gift he sent a most poignant poem:

"When the last roll call shall have sounded
When hatred shall have come to an end
Then will the Rainbow of Peace Everlasting
Over this world extend"

Mrs. Walter Wetle gave \$2,000 to the Rainbow Scholarship Fund in remembrance of her son, Corporal Walter Wetle of Battery B, 232nd Field Artillery, who was killed in action in Germany in April 1945. Bob Jecklin and a number of other Battery B members, who knew Corporal Wetle and who were with him at the time his jeep was shelled, were present at Oklahoma City to witness this very important gift by Mrs. Wetle in honor of her son. This is the kind of commitment that can "remember the dead and remind the living." The action by Mrs. Wetle and Kurt Fredrick will go a long way toward keeping Rainbow an important force in the world.

There will be a report in the November Reveille on the status of the scholarship fund and contributions to date. Scholarship application forms and forms for contributions will be included in that issue.

The Scholarship Committee consists of Dee Eberhart (Ellensburg, WA), Fr. Robert Weiss (Kansas City, MO), William McPherson (Napa, CA); Robert Stoudermire (Cayce, SC), Chairman George Jackson (Santa Rosa, CA) and (Ad Hoc) Memorial Foundation Officers Ted Johnson (Ely, IA), Jon Janosik (Youngstown, OH) and Herb Kleindinst (Three Oaks, MI).

We sincerely regret the circumstances that made it necessary for Jim McNicol to resign from the Scholarship Committee. He has been a mainstay in getting it started and supporting it in the early stages. He will be missed.

One of the things needed is for any of you to recommend any of your young people for college scholarships. It will be glad to furnish details. In the meantime, those of you who wish to support the Rainbow Scholarship Program, recognizing that your donations are tax deductible, may direct any comments, questions or gifts to me at:

George Jackson, Chairman
Rainbow Scholarship Committee
5289 Joaquin Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

★★★★★★★★

WATCH YOUR STEP

He was right, dead right, as he strode along. But, he's just as dead as if he'd been dead wrong.

Unknown

LADIES ONLY



Auxiliary President Lora Butt

You can't tell the players without a score card, so here's the Auxiliary lineup for the year 1986-87:

National President: Lora Butt, Independence, MO.
Honorary President: Myrtle Evanoff, Bloomington, MN.
National 1st V.P.: Loretta Schneider, Vergennes, IL.
National 2nd V.P.: Pearl Segel, Pacific Palisades, CA.
National Secretary: Catharine Woods, Warren, MI.
National Recording Secretary: Frances Marshall, Indianapolis, IN.
National Treasurer: Virginia Duhacsek, Sugarland, TX.
National Chaplain: Lorena George, Tulsa, OK.
National Parliamentarian: Oriana Grimm, Lake Sherwood, MO.
National Welfare Chairwoman: Maryette McMillen, Miles, MI.
National Historian: Pearl Emlet, Wrightsville, PA.
National Sergeant-at-Arms: Verna Stubbs, Fort Worth, TX.
Editor, National Auxiliary Bulletin: Ruth Butts, Tulsa, OK.
Chairwoman, Gold Star Mothers: Lilymae Weitzel Johnson, Tempe, AZ.
Patriotic Relations: Joan Koch, Wichita, KS.
Memorial Fund Chairwoman: Winnie Baldock, Cincinnati, OH.
Reunion Chairwoman: Myrtle Evanoff, Bloomington, MN.

CORRECTION

All that detailed information under the heading "LOOKING FOR A BUDDY?" on Page 4 of the June issue, as taken from the March 1985 issue of the Washington State Legionnaire, turned out to be not quite correct as President Elect Dee Eberhart found out, so just disregard the item and don't spend the money for postage. It's a much more complicated process than we reported and we are not sure it would work even then. Hopefully the article didn't inconvenience too many of you.

WEST COAST MINI REUNION

The 42d Infantry Rainbow Division Veterans West Coast Mini Reunion will be held Friday, October 17th, and Saturday, October 18th, at the Royal Las Vegas Hotel and Casino, 99 Convention Center Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Registration: 1 Person, \$110.00. 2 Persons, \$135.00. Extra Person (2 days) add \$11.00. Extra Day (1 or 2 persons) \$42.50.

The above rates include: Room for 2 nights (1 Kingsize or 2 Queensize beds). Bellman fees and room tax. Hospitality room and drinks; snacks. Banquet at Palace Station Hotel and Casino. Prizes, fun, fellowship, good cheer.

Make check or money order payable to: Donald J. Carner, 27150 Dahlia Court, Sun City, California 92381 (714) 672-3029.

Please advise type room desired. **DO NOT SEND MONEY TO THE HOTEL.** All registrations must be received by September 25, 1986.

WELCOME HOME, FR. ERB

Fr. Charles Erb, former Division Artillery (Divarty) Chaplain, attended for the first time since the Reading, PA Reunion in 1981, having just retired from his assignment as a missionary in Africa. (See May 1986 issue.)

At Oklahoma City Fr. Erb was accompanied by Fr. Robert Kocour of Wichita, Kansas. Fr. Kocour, who was Fr. Erb's jeep driver during WW II, stated: "During the war I drove Fr. Erb to the field and he, in turn, drove me to the seminary."

Another pleasant surprise for Fr. Erb was seeing and visiting with Richard Bayles, former First Sergeant of Hq & Hq Battery Division Artillery. Sergeant Bayles escorted Fr. Erb into Dachau. Dick, who was attending his first national reunion, is President of the Colorado Chapter and will host the 1988 national reunion in Denver.

Hopefully, these three gentlemen will attend many future reunions.

These are a few of the things that make Rainbow reunions so great.

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER PICNIC

The St. Louis Chapter held its annual picnic at the American Legion facilities in St. Louis County on June 7, 1986 with eighteen people present.

Rainbower Erwin Radloff, Company F., 166th Infantry, WW I, was again present, accompanied by son-in-law Glen Smith, ex-mayor of Manchester, Missouri. Mr. Radloff's recollection of events in WW I is so vivid and his recounting of happenings in battle is extremely interesting and humorous. He celebrated his 91st birthday in August.

HISTORY OF RAINBOW INSIGNIA

A supply of Rainbow Insignia Books is now in possession of the following individuals. You may obtain a copy by writing to the individual nearest you, making your check for \$3.56, which includes postage, payable to Rainbow Memorial Foundation:

EAST: Phillip F. Trout, 4121 Eighth Avenue, Temple, PA 19560.

WEST: Donald J. Carner, 27150 Dahlia Court, Sun City, CA 92381; Bill Clayton, 819 Piedmont Way, Redwood City, CA 94062.

NORTH: Rube Evanoff, 5101 West 109th St., Minneapolis, MN 55437.

SOUTH: John D. Carr, 1302 E. Timberlane Dr., Plant City, FL 33566.

SOUTHWEST: Roman Bever, 5735 East McDowell Road, Space 254, Mesa, AZ 85205.

CENTRAL: Hugo E. Grimm, P.O. Box 92, Lake Sherwood, MO 63357.

242D GUEST



Lise Pommois and President Fred Goldsmith

The 242d Infantry Chapter entertained a distinguished foreign visitor at Oklahoma City, Madame Lisa Pommois of France, Secretary of the Alsace Historical Society. It was her desire to visit with and obtain first hand information from those who served in the Alsace region during WW II.

Madame Pommois has written and translated several articles concerning Rainbow. She was the prime source in organizing and implementing the very moving and memorable Hatten-Rittershoffen commemorative ceremony in June 1986 and was a gracious hostess to the Rainbowers who attended. She has guided many Rainbowers in visits to that area of France throughout past years and is readily available to those planning future trips.

During her visit to the United States she spent several days at the National Archives in Washington, gathering information for future publications. She added another sparkling facet to a splendid reunion.

METCALF REJOINS RAINBOW



WW I Veteran Rowley M. Metcalf of Estacada, Oregon, is flanked by President Fred Goldsmith and PNP Carlyle Woelfer at Oklahoma City. Rowley, a spry, witty Rainbow Gentleman, is 90 years young. He was unaware of RDVA until a few months ago when he saw an article in his local Oregon newspaper and decided to check it out.

As a teenager, Rowley was with the Oregon National Guard, but he and some buddies slipped off to California and joined Co. E, 117th Engineers when they heard that the unit was to be part of the WW I Rainbow Division. His only injuries were two black eyes when a shell fragment dented his helmet, which was covering his face while sleeping.

As there is no RDVA Oregon Chapter, Rowley is being sponsored by men of Co. E, 222nd Chapter. A good example of the buddy system between WW II and WW I Vets. Welcome back to Rainbow, Rowley.

If you haven't attended a national reunion, don't wait 68 years as did Rowley. You might not be as fortunate.

PICK A NUMBER

A note from Cornelius Keeton, Greenville, SC, advises his P.O. Box number 2221 was selected several years ago, the 222 representing the 222d Infantry and looking at the "1" as an "I," to represent infantry.

While residing in Clemson his P.O. Box was 511. He attempted to get 411, which was the A.P.O. number of Rainbow in WW II.

Going a wee fit farther, Rainbower Keeton was the 2nd man in the 2nd Squad of the 2nd Section of the 2nd Platoon of Company H, 2nd Bn., 222nd Infantry.

Mr. Keeton is an accountant and one might say he has a way with numbers. That figures.



Brigadier General Moffet (center) with WW I Rainbower Kurt Fredrick at Oklahoma City. BG Moffet served as a corporal in the Rainbow Division in WW I.

RAINBOW GIRL

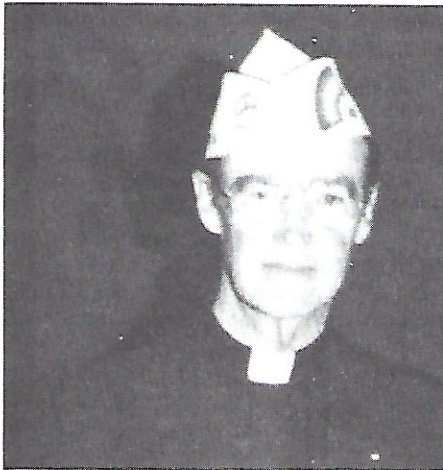


A Rainbow Reunion would not be the same without the presence of the one and only Rainbow Girl, Peggy Fleming, who again attended the reunion in Oklahoma City.

TOP SECRET

A booklet in keepsake form, detailing the story of the biggest projected invasion of all times, the invasion of Japan, with code names, dates, beaches, units; who would have gone, who would have died, and much, much more will be published in September and will be available from Ranger Publications, Box 1355, Dept. RR, Omaha, NE 68101, at a cost of \$6.00. If any Rainbower is interested in the overall military picture of WW II, here's your opportunity.

CHAPLAIN'S REFLECTIONS



National Chaplain, Rev. Mr. James W. Dunham

The Reverend Mr. James W. Dunham's Invocation, which was a part of the annual Memorial Service, is repeated here in order that those who were unable to be present might also have the benefit of these well chosen words.

"Dear Departed Comrades:

"We are gathered here today, your Rainbow Comrades, in your memory as men and soldiers. It seems but a few short years since we stood shoulder to shoulder under that brilliant-hued arc that stretched from the old Province of Lorraine to the tangled forests of the Argonne in WW I and from Strasbourg to Vienna in WW II.

"How well we remember the toil, the sweat, the fears; those days when so many of our comrades were called upon to give the supreme sacrifice. A friendship such as ours could only have been conceived in battle, at a time when our lives depended so much upon one another.

"It has only been through the Grace of God that we have been given the privilege of continuing our comradeship these many years. We are proud to have been your friends. God has given us a fellowship that we in our hearts believe has never been equalled.

"No words could ever mar, no deed could end this comradeship of ours, dear friends.

"Your mission in following the Rainbow to its glorious end was not to find a pot of gold, but, rather, was for the noble purpose of bringing added glory to the Flag of our great Nation. This you have done.

"We salute you!

"You have each answered the call of the celestial bugler. With silent marching feet you have enrolled in that great Spirit Army.

"We pray to god that we, too, may find the way — some day — and assemble with you upon that eternal parade ground. Until then, God rest you, Rainbow Comrades."

RAISINS IN THE SUN

If you have attended a Rainbow Reunion in the past seven or eight years and wondered where those little boxes of California raisins that were always alongside your table setting at the banquet came from, you can thank Rainbower Jake Kizirian for faithfully providing them. In total, Jake headed for the reunion with probably 75 pounds of raisins, in addition to his normal luggage. This year they were Valley Pride, 100% natural seedless California raisins. (Maybe they always are.) Another nice gesture on the part of a loyal Rainbower. Thanks, Jake.

NEXT ISSUE

Several articles, were received just before going to press, but all arrived after the August 1st deadline for the September issue. There is no way we know of to hold a space open, not knowing that material is in the mail. Every effort will be made to incorporate those late items in the November publication. Look for additional reunion photos; a follow-up on the scholarship program by George Jackson; etc.

1987 REUNION

The 1987 reunion will be held in the Radisson Hotel, Bloomington, MN, where Chairman "Rube" Evanoff assures us that the hotel can comfortably accommodate 2,000 people at the banquet. A photo of the hotel and complete details coming your way in November. Start planning early.

Hugo E. Grimm, Publishing Editor
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Lake Sherwood, MO 63357

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