PROTEST U.S. SQUEEZE. Dr. N. M. Peeres, Trotskyist member of parliament and union leader in Colombo, Feb. 16 protesting withdrawal of U.S. aid from Ceylon. U.S. action was repudiated by Ceylon’s nationalization of American and British owned oil companies. Rally was under front action of both the Lanka Sama Samaja Party and the Ceylonese Communist Party. See story page 8.

Challenge to de Gaulle

French Labor Backs Striking Miners

By Pierre Frank

PARIS — France’s coal miners have been on strike since March 1. Other strikes have likewise been called, the iron miners in the east, the natural gas workers of Lyon. The miners’ struggle, by far the most important, has aroused strong feelings of solidarity. In the mine areas not only the workers in other industries, but the mine engineers, small businessmen, even the clergy, immediately supported the demands of the miners as justified.

Particularly significant was the backing of the mine engineers. They are a highly qualified technical who constitute the actual management of the nationalized mines. Their expressions of sympathy with the strikers, including the donation of two days pay, is unprecedented.

Those manifestations of support were followed by 15-minutes solidarity stoppages throughout France. In addition, the gas and electricity workers struck for two hours in token of their sympathy and the railway workers are scheduled to follow with similar action. Expressions of solidarity are now spreading across the entire continent of Europe. Coal has become “hot cargo” and workers in other countries are refusing to handle deliverers for France.

The point of departure for the miners’ movement was the demand to bring their wages back to the level lost through inflation. In recent years, faced with mounting prices, the workers in this country, above all the skilled layers, have been able to maintain their standard of living, primarily because of full employment and a security of labor. But government workers and functionaries, employees of cities and public services and of nationalized enterprises (like the mines) have not received sufficient wage increases to make up for declines in the standard of living.

The miners have felt this particularly acutely. Right after the war, when there was urgent need for their labor, they made gains. Today with the decline of coal as a source of energy, they are working in a sick industry. Statistics show that since 1967 wages of the miners have fallen 11.5 per cent behind those of private industry.

After beating around the bush for a long time, the government decided on a mockery of an increase — two per cent at the beginning of the year, and another increase at the end of 1963 which would have brought wages up a total of 3.7 per cent.

Why such an attitude on the part of the government? If one disregards the traditional red tape (and this has played a certain role), the main reason is that the government wants to hold down inflation, setting an example by limiting wages.

It also appears that at the end of February the government, like the unions themselves, had not clear ideas of what the reaction of the miners might be toward the limited increases that were granted.

The CGT (Confédération Générale de Travailleurs), to which most of the miners belong, did not call for more than a two-day work stoppage before taking a definitive decision. The other unions, the FO (Force Ouvrière) and the CFTC (Confédération Française des Travailleurs Chérisants), called for an unlimited strike.

But the government happened to give an impasse to the struggle as well as to a political tactic to it by deciding to “requisition” the miners, in other words, to mobilize the miners on the job and force them to work like soldiers. In this way the government dealt a blow to the right to strike.

It was not the first time the government has acted in this way. However, up to now it has issued such an order only to small groups of workers (a couple of hundred or so) and the unions limited themselves to registering some timid protests.

Requisitioning the miners was a little too big a hassle to contain. (Continued on Page 6)

Why Printers Vetted Wagner Contract Deal

By Fred Halsted

NEW YORK, March 19 — The Wagner settlement has been rejected. The fighting Big Six printers voted down Wagner’s recommendations, 1,621 to 1,507, at the Manhattan Center, March 17, in the face of violent threats of withdrawal of strike support by a wide combination of labor bureaucrats.

Among those combining against the printers were: ITU President Brucker; BRG President George Massey — acting through his New York representative, Michael Marcus, together the brokers; and the officials of the Newspaper Guild and a number of printing craft unions.

This combination of forces to pressure the printers into accepting a contract they don’t want, was frankly disclosed by Big Six President Halsted. According to an angry stormy Sunday meeting attended by more than 5,000 workers.

Printers said he and the local’s scale committee originally rejected the employers’ proposal, including “‘the factory,” particularly in its economic terms. He fought additional gains were to be had by continuing the strike.

Powers supported the compensation of the scale committee’s proposals not because it was the last-ditch effort to avoid an economic disaster but because if they were obtained after a long, hard battle, they would mean a victory for the Big Six printers found themselves, on the fateful night of the Wagner proposals, alone, with their support falling away.

Among those who accepted the contract, Van Andrade and Massey’s spokesmen, according to Halsted, continued, the printers would be “alone” and the other printing unions were in sympathy.

On March 22 printed 1,000 copies of the “New York Daily News” and the printers were “seized” by the bosses. They’re a 20-year-old movement, support the printers in this battle. Their print. (Continued on Page 8)

Jailed Peruvian
On Hunger Strike

LIMA, Peru — Isaak Fria, a leading Peruvian labor leader, was placed in Carazari Hospital in Lima, March 13, after a 21-day hunger strike to protest his jailing by the El Franton prison. Authorities have made no statement of an improved condition of the hunger striker.

He was arbitrarily arrested Jan. 5, in the nation-wide witch-hunts that followed the recent trial of trade unionists, intellectuals and radical political leaders. Thrown into the concentric camp at El Sepa, Fria was later transferred to the El Franton.

Other Trotskyist leaders, herded under hundreds of men, including other labor movement leaders in the El Sepa camp, included Carlos Herve, Jorge Zegarra and Carlos Altamirano.

Fria has called on the Popular Front to support the hunger striker, and reportedly presented the struggle itself, where the proceedings were secret. George S. Johnson reports from Costa Rica on March 17 news service dispatch.

The six points, said to have the strong support of U.S. military leaders, include: (1) greater control over the movement of Latin Americans to and from Communist bloc nations, especially Cuba. 2) Tighter reigns on the flow of Communist Propaganda jobbers to Peruvian news media; 3) passage on the traditional rights of citizens to demonstrate . . . elimination of the right of asylum for students on the campuses of Latin American universities . . . Judicial reforms preventing strict prison sentences for proved Communist plotters.

Nathanson reports that Jose Figueroa, former president of Costa Rica, commented: “This amacks too much of establishing a police state.” But that won’t bother “wall-of-freedom” Kennedy.
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EDITORIAL

THE MILITANT

Managing Editor: GEORGE HANSEN
Assistant Editor: CAROLYN KERRY

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THE CHINESE CRITICISMS OF CPUSA

Elsewhere in this issue we reprint in full the Chinese Communist document entitled “A Comment on the Statement of the Communist Party of the USA.” In it the Chinese cite part of the force behind the recent national conferences of the Federation of Industrial Labor Party and the United Labor Party as an example of “the phenomenon of the Chinese splinter party.” They also point out that the CPUSA is “in a dilemma” because of its position between the two industrial labor parti

LONDON LETTER

"When the American Economy Sneezes..."

LONDON — Deepening recession, signs of industrial unrest, a call from the British steel workers union for a no-workout holiday, and a general strike called by the Social Democratic Party and a display of ludicrous ineptness in the ruling class are aggravating the 1963 winter of discontent comes to a climax.

Aside from their own domestic troubles, the British capitalists are being kept on the defensive by the labor movement. Signals across the Atlantic. For example, the steel workers’ call for a no-workout holiday in U.S. trade, leaving this year, is expected to send shock waves through the world capitalist system. The reason is obvious. As a wage one says: When the British is prone to catch sneezing so is a host of others.

Anxiety is increased — the situation is dangerous when one begins to see silver lining for some British export — by the plight of American investment below the Rio Grande. The Guardian reports (March 1) “A picture of deep and dangerous recession...” drawn by Sir George Bolton, chairman of the Bank of London中外

The difference between the Bowder and Foster regime is striking in many ways, but not not in its basic thrust back to monopoly capitalism. It is a question not of independent action by the working class, but of the international monopoly capitalists. When they are out of work, in depression, the working class is faced with a question of whether it will continue to be employed, or it will become unemployed. Sir George reminds the British that the British are in a similar position. They are in a panic by the prospect of the loss of their historic role as leaders of the world economy.

This bank president, who knows where he is going, is not going to criticize indirectly the “Alliance for Progress” program which has been in operation for 15 years. His Yankee profitability and their local profits are threatened by the prospects of a new international system, the stability of which the British have helped toORT

The author of that policy of abandoning revolutionary struggle in the United States under the leadership of Joseph Stalin. The roots of the CP’s present policy, of the CP’s degeneration, as well as Korshunov’s current policy trace back to the leadership of the CP under Joseph Stalin. The roots — and the real meaning of the current disputes — cannot be understood without the honest scrutiny of this history. Of course, these spokesmen for Trotsky, and not the Trotskyites but the Trotskyites — the chief defender of the Leninist ideology against the Stalinist degeneration.

...Ceylonese Protest Against U.S. Squeeze

(Continued From Page 8)

made evident. A statement by him said: "...we have to kick the mid already. I do not agree with this..."

The middle-of-the-road government of Madam Sirimavo Bandaranaike has proved to be a thoroughly incompetent in handling the country’s financial and economic problems. Her administration is attempting to postpone old problems such as the rice-inflation. Her policy will surely be unable to tackle the American aid..."

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A Marxist Evaluation of Chinese Stand

By William F. Warde

On Jan. 9 the US Communist party issued a statement denouncing the Soviet invasion of Hungary and attacking Soviet "cowardice" during the recent Korean War. The statement protested the "cowardice" of the Soviet invasion of Hungary and called for a "peaceful solution of all international problems". The statement was signed by the "New York Daily News" and the "New York Post".

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Chinese Leaders Assail U.S. Comi

Chen Shui-bian, the president of Taiwan, was re-elected to a second term on January 14. The election was seen as a victory for the pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party, which has been challenging Beijing's authority on the island.

The Chinese government has repeatedly expressed its opposition to Taiwanese independence, viewing it as a threat to national sovereignty. In recent years, Beijing has ramped up its pressure on Taiwan, including increased military exercises and economic sanctions, in what it calls a "grey zone" campaign.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) conducted a series of exercises and drills in December 2018, which included live ammunition tests near the Taiwan Strait. These exercises were part of a broader campaign aimed at asserting Chinese sovereignty over the island.

On January 21, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement following Chen Shui-bian's re-election, expressing concern about the "instability and unpredictability" of the situation in Taiwan. The statement noted that Taiwan's actions had "seriously undermined the political foundation of the one-China principle".

The statement also warned that Beijing would continue to take measures to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity. It emphasized the importance of peace and stability in the region, and called for all parties to work towards peaceful reunification of the两岸 (China and Taiwan).

China has consistently maintained that Taiwan is an inalienable part of its territory, and has vowed to use all necessary means to oppose any acts of secession. Beijing's resolve to maintain national unity and territorial integrity remains firmly resolved.

The United States has also expressed concern over the situation in Taiwan, with some U.S. officials raising concerns about the potential for miscalculation or miscommunication. However, Washington has steadfastly supported the "one-China policy," which recognizes the government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate representative of China.

Despite this, U.S.-China relations have been strained in recent years due to various issues, including trade tensions, human rights concerns, and disagreements over Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the South China Sea. The U.S. has called for greater transparency and accountability from China, while Beijing has responded by accusing the U.S. of干涉中国内政 (interfering in China's internal affairs).
The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the high command of the People's War on the U.S.-imperialist aggression in the Far East, has issued a decision undersigned by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. The Chinese people are also launching a mass movement in support of the United States Communist Party. But, for reasons beyond us, the media do not report on this. Nevertheless, if people think it worth while to inform their media that the United States of America, the state of the United States of America, has supported the Chinese Communist Party in defense of the Chinese people.

Obligation

The leaders of the CPUSA assert that they are conscious of their obligation to the people of the world, the working class and the labor movement in the heartland of the world's most powerful imperialist country. We will of course be glad if they indeed have a correct understanding of their obligations. In the United States, there is a power of the Communist parties of all countries, and the movement for peace, democracy and social prog-

Y. M. Foster

As a fig leaf to hide your disgraceful performance in the Caribbean, you are now trying to use Taiwan to deflect attention from your real crime. What is right cannot be made to look wrong, nor wrong can be made to look right. To glory in your disgraceful performance will only achieve the opposite effect. Your provocation has served to expose the real nature of your aggression against Taiwan; at the same time, it has also provided the United States and the United Nations with a logical basis to solve the question of establishing the withdrawal of U.S. armed forces and armed forces from Taiwan Strait. Our position as described above accords not only with the interests of the Chinese people, but also with the interests of the people of the socialist camp and the people of the world. In view of the present complex situation, it is the duty of all of us to unite and stand together to strengthen our forces, and to support the U.S. and the U.S. peoples for the cause of peace.

The Chinese Communists' and the Chinese people's position is the same in this regard. We stand by and continue to support the Chinese people in their struggle.

U.S. and China

The U.S. is trying to divert world attention away from the real issue by spreading lies and distortions. It is always the case that those who have something to hide always try to divert the public's attention. The Taiwan issue is not a matter of principle for the Chinese people. They are determined to defend their territory and fight for their national independence. The Chinese people have the right to decide their own destiny. They are not interested in any external interference or manipulation.

We, the Chinese people, will continue to stand up for our national dignity and pursue our national interests. We will not tolerate any external interference in our internal affairs. We will continue to uphold the principles of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and mutual benefit. We will continue to promote the spirit of non-aggression and non-defeat, and we will continue to pursue the path of development and prosperity for all.

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A Little-Publicized Face of America

Khrushchev movement and that sometimes a minority can be corrected against the will of a majority. This is a far cry from the monolithic Stalinism. It can help pave the way for a return to Leninist principles. Leninist principles depend on the organization and expression of minority views and the formation of tendencles and factions among them.

Minority views are the life blood of a political party.

Once again the inconsistency of the Chinese CP shows up. What they talk about and do in the international sphere, they refuse to permit within their national and country. Views dissenting from the official line have not been disapproved of, but if not approved, they are frozen out in recent years.

The contrast of the content against Khrushchevism, the All-Union congress leaders and the awkward posture of calling for inter-party democracy abroad while denying it at home. However, they may work out this particular contradiction; it is plain that the Great Debate has forever pulverized the All-Union congress and opened up new channels of free expression in the international sphere.

This is one of the most important reasons why the dispute, even though it was not expected or intended by its prime participants, for, if all views have the right to be voiced, if all minorities may express their intentions, the expression of differences and the outgrowth of new ideas will expand the state powers and official positions within the international Communist movement.

Next week: Causes of the Sevastopol Revolt.

French Labor Backs Mine Strikers Against De Gaulle

The miners in France have a tradition of long and militant, if rare, strikes. The last big strike was the one in 1947, notable for its battles with the CRS. After it was lost, the trade-union split that occurred grew into a full-fledged struggle for the Forces Ouvrières. This time the strike shows a power of united action among the unions such as has not been witnessed for a long time.

The first big workers' struggle since De Gaulle came to power has been a struggle against the govern- ment's economic policy. The miners had no single voice. They were divided in their debate whether the government made an error, as a big sector of the country feel. In the main, the miners see the government's policy as a "regulation" by a decree from above. "The government has already destroyed the class struggle in our country" (where De Gaulle lives). The miners are determined to prove it.

Error or not, the government must not be allowed to continue to war with the workers. Error or not, it is now committed to a regulation decree, and it is in invoking the authority of the state, that is, denouncing a return to working class discipline, and making new negotiations on wages.

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Letters From Our Readers

Soviet Anti-Semitic Issue

New York, N.Y.

Allow me to respond to your "5 Years Ago" column in the March 4 issue of The Nation. The Soviet Union of anti-Semitism in countries like Poland, Greece, and Hungary is a threat to Stalinist attack against Zionism as an agency of American imperialists.

It seems to me that your position is rather narrow and Panglossian. And I feel that we all should understand the gradual development of a situation threat to Stalinist attack on Jewish-people; this is not the case. The evolution of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union is, if anything, even more dangerous than Jewish anti-Semitism in Europe. The Stalinist propaganda has been consistently aiming at the complete suppression of the Jewish minority in the Soviet Union. This is not just the case in regard to the execution of many Yiddish publications and the suppression of the Yiddish-language press. As much as we have to abolish this barbaric Yiddish language, we cannot tolerate this anti-Semitic violence in Germany, in the Soviet Union, and in the rest of the world. Ben Gorion in Israel declared recently that "the Yiddish language is something more than a language; it is a people's culture and language," and that the Yiddish language should be taught in schools and universities. It is not only a question of academic freedom and intellectual freedom; it is a question of the cultural and spiritual life of the Jewish people.

The purpose of this drive, I am sure, is to eliminate the masses of the American Jews and the Jews of Eastern Europe by a conspiracy of right-wing, reactionary, and totalitarian forces, to prepare the way for the establishment of the new state of the American people.

Clarke Franklin

On the American Indian

Shreve, Nevada

I am very pleased that at long last someone has taken up the cause of the American Indian. The article by Evelyn Scott, "Situ- ation Report," in your issue of February 18, 1960 is a welcome step towards the elimination of the Indian as an inferior race. I am a great admirer of Professor James W. routine, whom you quote, I would like to express my appreciation for the analysis of the problems of the American Indian.

Prof. Thomas relegates the Indians of today to their past tra- ditions and glorifies the present Indian as "the true American." To anyone who has lived on the Pacific slope as long as I have, this is like reading a tale out of the Archives Historic. A people who tried to live today by hunting would starve to death as there are no places left for them to roam. They are a set of very restrictive game laws.

There is more than enough ground for united action between the Indian and the non-Indian. The inter-tribal animosities have disappeared in the common oppression of the tribes, and no one is more thankful that the Indian would choose to live in an ideal soci- ety as Prof. Thomas implies. But again I must agree that the Congress is not doing enough to see to it that every Indian gets a fair deal.

Jack Wright

Churchill, No.

I have just read that the United Nations' Representative has passed a bill extending honorary citizenship to Winston Churchill. I suppose that this is a step in the right direction, and I hope to see more such measures taken to honor our great leader.

It Was Reported in the Press

New Kennedy Plan

The Washington Bureau of the Wall Street Journal has reported the following in regard to this report: "Castro's Assassin- rafo, a Cuban agent, had been hired by the Cuban government to kill Fidel Castro."

That Takes Care of That

"UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. - Admiral David C. Shanks of the United States is being said, special post stamps are being made for World Peace from 25 cents, March 17-28." - Christian Science Monitor.

Deep-Throat Days

-A March 15 Wall Street Journal editorial, which seems to note why anyone can become president of the United States, notes that "the average unemployment rate is about 6% of the labor force, which means that about 4% of the labor force in employed."

Test-Tax, Again?

Will there be about 36,000 cases of death in this country during the next 50 years due to cancer? The National Academy of Sciences has already issued a report on nuclear tests that have already caused cancer deaths. "The test, says the Los Angeles Times, "has caused a rash of cancer deaths" in the New Jersey NAACP. The test is being supported by the Public Health Administration in Washington.

Moral Triumph

Mrs. Cecil Blaffer Hudson, daughter of first Lady of the United States, has just won a record $6.5 million divorce settlement. The settlement includes a $500,000 support grant, a $1 million property, her attorney explained, it's the principle of the thing: "We're saying that if you are a practicing professional, you should not have to pay for your professional services." Sharon, the 5-year-old son of the late President Kennedy, has been adopted by his grandparents.

All-Day Sucker

An English doctor has prepared an anti-radi- ation pill which is being pro- duced commercially and is called "The Rat." The pill is said to contain certain chemicals which, if ingested to a sufficient degree, will forestall a dangerous level of ir- radiation. Dr. Oliver Brown, a former employee of the Atomic Energy Commission, says, "we should not worry about radiation because, after all, we are all radioactive, to some extent."

The Blas-Fear North

Segregated public housing projects are being built in 22 New Jersey cit- ies, charges Dr. Paul Good of the American Civil Liberties Union. "The New Jersey NAACP, he said, the figures are based on information available from the Public Housing Administration in Washington.

INTRODUCTORY OFFER!

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Cleveland, March 18 — This city has been hit by a union strike this 100th day this country has been at war. The strike, which began on Nov. 28, although five of the unions involved have returned to work, is still on. The printers are demanding a $1-a-week package over two years.

According to reports, the Cleveland Press and The Plain Dealer have called the state into their 44th negotiating session this week. In Session No. 33 of the International Typographical Union today, they have not yet settled the points they are arguing realistcally and in good faith.

The local newspaper bosses have worked so hard creating a false image of the labor movement, have listened to exclusively to their own vices' rumors and fabrications, that they have confused the strike in dealing with the printers' union.

Their only way of thinking the "conservative" local members of the oldest internationally union in the country who has "given them any trouble" since the beginning of the war, that they had forgotten they were bonded together as workers to defend their own interests.

Instead of recognizing that Cleveland newspaper men have decided to call a halt to the deterioration of the working conditions of all the publishers and their friends have been their only way of attempting to expedite the political situation. They attempted to question the validity of the unanimous vote at the union meeting which called for a strike, and in the 211 present were a minority of the 211 present were a minority. The Martin-Marcus punctured this phony list of names. At the union meeting, despite the 25 minutes, the personal minimum required by local union law, were those who accepted management's offer of a "democratic" and representative vote.

Another publishers charge — that Cleveland negotiations are being conducted by the "Loyalists" of Cleveland's — was also refuted, Mar-

any 20th, it was between the will reduce situation, it is to be hardly coincidental if a Scrip-

New York Printers Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

since, the strike had only one sick day with pay each year.

The absence of a fourth week of working time. Managements demand was given up too soon. They fully expected that in lieu of this, the industry would suffer bad sick days.

In March, in the 35-hour week on pay only with the men having to give up their 15-minute wash-up in return for 15 minutes of overtime. It averages out to nothing, except for slightly higher overtime rate.

Disagreement that the meager two paid sick days and the 35-hour week do not go into effect in the first year of the contract. As one man-shy in the printing business told his this: we get our next year.

Arbitration of the amount that

Mae Mallory Wins Release

Mrs. Mae Mallory, who is 51, has won a court order framing-kidnap charges to Monroe, North Carolina, was released from the county jail in Cleveland March 14. The Negro mother and civil-rights activist is serving her fifth year over a case. She was arrested by the Monroe Defense Committee. She told TV and newspapermen she was "wonderfully free to be relatively free. It must be wonderful to be liberated," said she.

Cleveland Boys Drag Out

Cleveland's Writers' Strike

The Militant

Monday, March 25, 1963

By Gordon Dunbar

MINNEAPOLIS — On March 9, 15 photographers and 150 newspapermen met at the Lowry Hotel in St. Paul to determine how the Minneapolis News Guild's old contract.

The photo printers, whose composition in the printing of newspapers is more essential, according to top management than the photo composition machines. This was a price paid by the American Newspaper Guild in its 1934 contract with newspapers in New York City. It is a price paid by the newspapers the city are being asked if they are willing to bargain for such a contract.

For the principal reason for the strike was the desire of the union to negotiate its contract, not and not to have to accept a contract as established by a third party.

The three main points of the 1934 contract were: the strike was begun by the other crafts, the photo-engravers struck on March 11 for shorter hours; the Guild agreed to allow them to turn for changing its expiration date from July 1 to December 1; the photo-engravers, the Guild, and the photo-engravers' union then turned to the meeting. They were, however, joined by some 600 Guild members. The New York City News Guild was represented by figures to prove their point. A few members were willing to stand up and be counted for their fellow workers and many more wanted to help the small farmers and work with the photographers. In the 150 members they wanted to help themselves. Many members, the new contract was finally signed. The NPG was revealed to this reporter by some of them. Apparently the government's opposition to this step as the powerful Tropic Skyeler, the Lincoln News Guild, the Milwaukee News Guild, the Minneapolis American, and the Minneapolis News Guild, immediately called upon the government to retaliate by nationalizing the balance of the 1934 contract.

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