



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE.

Founded December 3, 1940



Volume LX, Battlefield Tour Edition

Chicago, Illinois

May 3-7, 2000



COST OF THE TOUR

★★★★★

\$ 399 per person, double occupancy
\$ 525 per person, single occupancy

Non-members add \$25 per person to the above prices. Please indicate on your registration form the person with whom you wish to share a room.

Tour costs include accommodations at the Days Inn-Briley Parkway, *Wednesday evening May 3 through Sunday morning, May 7*; modern motor coach service for all tour activities; lunches and dinners; refreshments on the buses; tour guides; admission fees; tour kits; group service gratuities; and evening programs. *Breakfasts are not included.* A cash bar will be available during the evening Command Posts.

Note: We reserve the right to change scheduled arrangements, if necessary.

Air transportation: *As of October, 1999*, the suggested "best deal" is SouthWest Airlines at \$78.00, round-trip, out of Midway Airport, Chicago. You must book 7-days in advance. This may change at a later date, so *consult your own travel agent.*

Bus boarding policy: Boarding and seating on specific buses will be accommodated on a first-come, day-to-day policy. Once seated for the day on a specific bus and seat, "squatter's rights" will prevail for the remainder of the day to insure a viable *head-count* after each stop. For each subsequent day, the choice of bus and seat selection will continue on a first-come basis.

Shuttle services will be available to/from close-by Nashville International Airport. The Days Inn has a *Courtesy van* (call on the courtesy phone in the baggage area); or a *Lima* service or *taxi* can be arranged, at the baggage area, for an approximate fee of \$15 per person. A tour bus will be available Sunday, after the buffet, to make *one trip only* to the airport.

Motel accommodations are:

Days Inn, Briley Parkway;
#1 International Plaza, Nashville, TN 37217
615-361-7666; FAX 615-399-0283

50TH ANNUAL BATTLEFIELD TOUR—MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Forts Henry and Donelson, Stones River, Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville.

The Round Table's historic *50th Annual Battlefield Tour* will take us to the earthworks of Fort Henry, a tour of Fort Donelson, the battlefields of Stones River, Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville...including Fort Negley, Peach Orchard Hill, the Stone Wall, and the Confederate artillery position atop Shy's Hill.

Wednesday, May 3, we "rendezvous" at the Days Inn-Briley Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee, conveniently near Nashville's International Airport. From that hub, each day we head in a different direction to the battlefield sites.

Thursday, May 4, northwest to Fort Henry, to the earthworks guarding the land approaches to the Fort. This will be the Round Table's *first tour of the Fort Henry area*. Then, over to Fort Donelson to tour the battlefield area and the Dover surrender site.

Friday, May 5, southeast to tour the Stones River Battlefield, including a stop at the newly reconstructed Fortress Rosecrans. We will also cover Forrest's raid when we tour the recently rehabilitated Court House at Murfreesboro.

Saturday, May 6, south to Columbia, and then retrace the "retreat route" northward to Spring Hill. There, we'll discuss the "mystery" and cover the battle action sites from a perspective only recently available. Next, lunch at *Rippavilla*, an antebellum home used as Hood's Headquarters. Then, on to "bloody" Franklin, with stops at Winstead Hill, the *Carter House*, and *Carnton*—the McGavock House, where five dead Confederate generals were placed on the back porch ... *maybe*.

At Franklin, we continue with a stroll through a "Confederate encampment" for a *living-history experience*. We then cross the street to enjoy an outdoor buffet, and our traditional "Fun Night," on the *Bunganut Pig's* veranda ... under a tent.

Sunday, May 7, tour the Nashville sites including Fort Negley, a climb to the summit of Shy's Hill, the Stone Wall, and Peach Orchard Hill. Also offered on Sunday is our *optional tour* to the *Hermitage*, President Andrew Jackson's home.

The *50th Annual Tour* will conclude with a "farewell" buffet lunch, back at the Days Inn, at 1:00 p.m.. *Please schedule your return flights accordingly.*

We have the dean of Civil War Guides, Edwin C. Bearss, "retired" Chief Historian of the National Park Service, as our Chief Tour Guide. In addition, there will be noted author and historian, Wiley Sword, and Thomas Cartwright, Curator of the *Carter House*. Area Guides include: Jim Jobe, Fort Donelson; Gib Backlund, Stones River; Mona Vaughan, Murfreesboro; Dave Stieghan, Spring Hill; and Fred Prouty, Tennessee Historical Commission.

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Founded December 3, 1940
601 South La Salle Building, Suite C-817
Chicago, Illinois 60605
Phone: 847-698-1438
www.thecwrt.org

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FORTS HENRY AND DONELSON

In early 1862, both sides understood the strategic importance of the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers, which provided the North with waterway invasion routes directly into the South's Heartland. To guard against these twin threats, the Confederates built Fort Henry on the Tennessee River and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River.

The Union commanders decided that both forts could best be attacked by a joint naval and land force. General Ulysses S. Grant commanded the 15,000 man army; Flag Officer Andrew H. Foote commanded the river fleet, which was, primarily, the seven recently constructed iron clads. General Lloyd Tilghman commanded the 3,300 Confederate defenders at Fort Henry, the first fort to be attacked.

Realizing that Fort Henry could be dominated by artillery placed on higher ground located on the west bank of the Tennessee, he directed that Fort Heiman (Kentucky) be constructed on that site. Construction on Heiman was incomplete on February 4, 1862 when Grant began landing his forces above the forts. Manned rifle-pits and earthworks protected the forts from land side attacks. Heavy artillery guns, sighted down the Tennessee River, were ready for Foote's ironclads when they approached.

Grant sent General C.F. Smith's division down the west bank to attack Fort Heiman, while General John A. McClernand's division marched down the east bank to attack Fort Henry and block the escape route to Fort Donelson, located eleven miles to the east.

Foote, meanwhile, attacked Fort Henry with great determination, and early in the battle, General Tilghman realized his forces would be overwhelmed. He ordered Fort Heiman to be abandoned and the troops ferried across. He then ordered all his troops, with the exception of fifty artillerymen and himself, to retreat overland and to reinforce Fort Donelson.

Foote pounded Fort Henry into submission and Tilghman surrendered to Foote before Grant's men could march up. Grant hastily organized a pursuit of the fleeing Confederates, but they made it safely into Fort Donelson's entrenchments, which Grant and his army then encircled. Meanwhile, Foote steamed his fleet down the Tennessee River, eastward on the Ohio, then up the Cumberland to co-ordinate with Grant's forces in their strategy of a combined attack.

Defending Fort Donelson were 21,000 troops under the command of political Generals John B. Floyd and Gideon J. Pillow.

Professional soldier General Simon B. Buckner was third in command. Colonel Nathan Bedford Forrest led a brigade of cavalry.

Floyd decided to attempt a break-out and directed Pillow (with help from Buckner's troops) to attack McClernand's infantry with the purpose of opening the Wynn's Ferry Road, the escape route to Nashville. The attack was successful and by 1:00 p.m. the escape route lay wide open. But, due to the ineptness of the Confederate high command, the Confederates were not organized enough to march out. With the aid of General Lew Wallace's division, the Union forces counter-attacked, and by nightfall the Confederates were back in their original trenches.

To the north, General C.F. Smith's division attacked Buckner's weakened position and gained the commanding heights. Meanwhile, Foote bombarded the fort with his gunboats. After a fierce cannonade, with two of his ironclads badly damaged and himself severely wounded, Foote retired down the river. The Confederate gunners cheered at their temporary success. However, later that evening, at a council of war, and knowing the Federals held the commanding heights, Floyd decided their surrender was inevitable.

At this point a "comic opera" took place at Confederate headquarters. Floyd, not wanting to become a prisoner, turned the command over to Pillow. Pillow, in turn, exclaimed, "I pass it" and the command fell to Buckner. Buckner grimly declared, "I assume it; bring on a bugler, pen, ink, and paper." Forrest strode in to learn they were to be surrendered. He stormed out, saddled up and led his troops—from the eastern portion of the Confederate line—across marshes and streams to safety. Floyd and Pillow also escaped, and on February 16th, Buckner requested terms of surrender from Grant. Grant replied with: "Unconditional Surrender," and gained his sobriquet, "Unconditional Surrender Grant." The Confederacy had lost an essential and strategic position. ☆

STONES RIVER (MURFREESBORO)

December 30, 1862, the Union Army of the Cumberland, 44,000 strong, was positioned along the banks of the west fork of the Stones River, near the town of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. General William S. Rosecrans commanded. Opposing was the Confederate Army of Tennessee, 38,000 men, under General Braxton Bragg.

Both commanders adopted similar battle plans, and both assaults were planned for early morning of December 31. The Con-

federates struck first, and the Union right flank rolled back in the hard fight until the line was in the shape of a tight "V," pressed against the river bank. The Union line, however, managed to hold the Nashville Turnpike and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, their main supply lines.

Bragg decided to attack the tip of the "V," a small patch of wooded land known locally as the "Round Forest." However, the attack was made piecemeal, brigade by brigade, and each was decimated in turn by the Union defenders. This hard-fought patch of ground became known as "Hell's Half Acre."

January 2, Bragg ordered General John C. Breckinridge's Division, 5,000 men, to attack the Union left, which was situated across from them on the east bank of the Stones River. Bragg overruled Breckinridge's strong objections to this order. At first, the attack was successful and the Union defenders fell back in hasty retreat. Then the Union's 58-gun artillery battery, positioned along the ridge behind the infantry, opened fire at point-blank range and the Confederate drive was halted. A Union counter-attack caused heavy losses and forced the Confederates back to their original lines.

January 3-4, Bragg withdrew his army through Murfreesboro toward Shelbyville. Rosecrans did not follow until June, when his Tullahoma Campaign set the stage for Chickamauga/Chattanooga. At Stones River, the Confederates failed to either destroy Rosecrans' army or to drive it from the field. Each side lost approximately 12,000 men.

The "victory" left the Federals in control of Mid-Tennessee and earned for Rosecrans Lincoln's personal thanks for bringing a victory after so many disheartening defeats. Bragg's army was forced to retreat, leaving in its wake shattered dreams and a cancerous factional dispute in the Confederate high command that would haunt the Army of Tennessee to the end of the war. ☆

SPRING HILL AND FRANKLIN

After the fall of Atlanta in September of 1864, the Union and Confederate armies, oddly enough, marched *away* from each other. Union General W.T. Sherman marched his victorious army southeast across "howling" Georgia to the Atlantic coast, and left General George H. Thomas to handle Hood in the Nashville area. General J.B. Hood, the physically shattered but combative Confederate commander, led the beleaguered Army of Tennessee northwest in an effort to undo the Atlanta campaign by marching to the Ohio River. Then he could, perhaps, swing

east to unite with R.E. Lee in Virginia, and overcome Grant there. The course of action of each commander was bold and ambitious, but one led to ultimate victory and the other to utter disaster.

Hood had received two severe wounds which left him commanding in the field under *intense pain*, and as a result, *his mind was often clouded by pain-killing drugs and alcohol* ... or so the story goes. We will examine the conflicting arguments on this subject at Spring Hill.

Gathering supplies for his 45,000 men caused weeks of delay before Hood's army crossed the Tennessee River, near Florence, Alabama, into Tennessee. Thomas, meanwhile, sent 22,000 men under General John M. Schofield to delay Hood's advance.

The two forces met at the Duck River, near Columbia, Tennessee. The Columbia-Franklin Pike was Schofield's "escape" route northward, through Spring Hill, to Franklin. It was at Spring Hill that Hood planned to destroy the Union forces, and he sent N.B. Forrest's cavalry by way of back roads to flank them. Realizing his dangerous situation, Schofield sent General G.D. Wagner's and General D.S. Stanley's troops back to hold the vital Pike intersection at Spring Hill. Colonel Emerson Opdycke's brigade successfully repulsed attacks by Forrest's cavalry, but Hood's artillery and infantry were well deployed. Then, the Confederate offensive thrust just bogged down and stopped.

Blame was laid to misunderstood, poorly communicated orders, lost orders, and counter-orders, but the fact remained that the Union forces marched right past the Confederates, who had bivouacked for the night, some campfires within 100 yards of the vital Pike. Schofield then made his way to Franklin. We will discuss this "mystery" at Spring Hill.

The next morning, Hood was described as "wrathful as a rattlesnake," and he ordered his army to go after Schofield's troops. We will also examine some of the "myths" concerning this *breakfast meeting*.

At dawn, November 30, an enraged Hood, his plans having been thwarted by "incompetence," vowed to punish those responsible. A shamed and angry Army of Tennessee made its way toward Franklin, where an exhausted Federal army was entrenching for the expected assault.

At 4:00 p.m., an imposing and perfectly aligned Confederate force advanced on the Union earthworks. The main thrust was against the center, at the Carter House, where the Union line crossed the Pike. There was bloody, hand-to-hand fighting all along the lines, but the Union held and the Confederates were heavily repulsed. By nightfall, the

TOUR SCHEDULE

NOTE: Breakfasts are on-your-own every day. Variations to the schedule are sometimes necessary, and should any occur, announcements will be made.

Day 1 (Wednesday, May 3)

Rendezvous at Days Inn-Briley Parkway, Nashville. For **shuttle service** from the Nashville International Airport, contact: Days Inn Courtesy van (call on Courtesy phone in the baggage area); or Jarmon Limo Service in the baggage area (identify yourself as "CWRT-TOUR"; or use the taxi service outside ... approximate cost for Limo or taxi is \$15 per person. At Days Inn, tour participants will receive their tour kits and room accommodations.

Note: Dinner is *not* provided Wednesday evening.

Day 2 (Thursday, May 4)

Fort Henry and Donelson

8:00 a.m. Buses depart Days Inn. Tour earthworks at Fort Henry. Lunch at *Cindy's*. Tour Fort Donelson and the Dover Surrender site.
7:00 p.m. Return to Days Inn.
7:30 p.m. Command Post, cash bar.
8:00 p.m. Sit-down dinner; Speaker: Ed Bearss.

Day 3 (Friday, May 5)

Stones River Battlefield

8:00 a.m. Buses depart Days Inn. Tour Stones River Battlefield. Lunch at *Uncle Bud's*. Fortress Rosecrans. Tour Murfreesboro Court House.
6:30 p.m. Return from Murfreesboro to Days Inn.
7:00 p.m. Command Post, cash bar.
7:30 p.m. Sit-down dinner; Speaker, Wiley Sword.

Day 4 (Saturday, May 6)

Spring Hill & Franklin Battlefields

8:00 a.m. Buses depart Days Inn. Tour Mt. Pleasant, Columbia, and Spring Hill. Lunch and tour of *Rippavilla* antebellum home (Hood's headquarters). Franklin battle areas, then stroll through the "Confederate encampment" at *Carter House*, Tom Cartwright, Host.
6:00 p.m. Across street for Command Post (cash bar); dinner and *Fun Night* at *Bunganut Pig*, on the veranda (under a tent), Marshall Krolick presiding.
10:00 p.m. Return to Days Inn.

Day 5 (Sunday, May 7)

Nashville Battlefield

8:00 a.m. Buses depart Days Inn. Nashville sites, including Fort Nagley, Shy's Hill, the Stone Wall, and Peach Orchard Hill.

or ... Optional Tour to the "Hermitage"

9:00 a.m. Buses depart Days Inn for Optional Tour of the "Hermitage." Limited to one bus, 45 persons; additional cost of \$25 per person.

1:00 p.m. All return to Days Inn for a "farewell" buffet lunch.

End of the 50th Tour. Shuttle bus available for one run (only) to the Airport. Motel Courtesy van is also available ... you must schedule it on your own.

ARMCHAIR GENERALSHIP

Compiled by Marshall D. Krolick



Bearss, Edwin C., *The Fall of Fort Henry*.

Bearss, Edwin C., *Unconditional Surrender: The Fall of Fort Donelson*.

Bryan, Charles F., Jr., "I Mean to Have Them All—Forest's Murfreesboro Raid," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, January, 1974.

Cist, Henry M., *The Army of the Cumberland* (Vol. VII of Scribner's campaign series).

Connelly, Thomas Lawrence, *Army of the Heartland*.

Connelly, Thomas Lawrence, *Autumn of Glory*.

Cooling, Benjamin Franklin, *Fort Donelson's Legacy*.

Cooling, Benjamin Franklin, *Forts Henry and Donelson*.

Cooling, Benjamin F., "Forts Henry & Donelson," *Blue and Gray Magazine*, February, 1992.

Cox, Jacob D., *The Battle of Franklin*.

Cozzens, Peter, *No Better Place to Die*.

Force, Manning F., *From Fort Henry to Corinth*, (Vol. II of Scribner's campaign series).

Groom, Winston, *Shrouds of Glory*.

Hamilton, James, *The Battle of Fort Donelson*.

Hay, Thomas Robson, *Hood's Tennessee Campaign*.

"Hood's Nashville Campaign," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, December, 1964 (special issue).

Horn, Stanley F., *The Army of Tennessee*.

Horn, Stanley F., "The Battle of Stones River," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, February, 1964.

Horn, Stanley F., *The Decisive Battle of Nashville*.

Horn, Stanley F., "The Spring Hill Legend," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, April, 1969.

Johnson, Robert U. and Clarence C. Buel, *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*.

McDonough, James Lee, "The Battle at Franklin, Tennessee," *Blue and Gray Magazine*, August-September, 1984 (special issue).

McDonough, James Lee, "The Battle of Stones River, Tennessee," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, June, 1986 (special issue).

McDonough, James Lee and Thomas Connelly, *Five Tragic Hours*.

McDonough, James Lee, *Stones River*.

Miles, Jim, *Paths to Victory*.

Miles, Jim, *Piercing the Heartland*.

Roth, David E., "The Mysteries of Spring Hill" *Blue and Gray Magazine*, October, 1984.

Scaife, William R., *Hood's Campaign for Tennessee*.

Spearman, Charles M., "The Battle of Stones River," *Blue and Gray Magazine*, February, 1989.

Stevenson, Alexander F., *The Battle of Stone's River*.

Stockdale, Paul H., *The Death of an Army*.

Sword, Wiley, "The Battle of Nashville," *Blue and Gray Magazine*, December, 1993 (special issue).

Sword, Wiley, *Embrace an Angry Wind*.

Van Horne, Thomas B., *History of the Army of the Cumberland*.

firing sputtered to a halt. During the night, Schofield retired his forces into Nashville.

The Confederates lost 7,250 casualties and the Union 2,325. Six Confederate generals were killed, five others wounded, and one captured. We will discuss the "generals laid out on the porch" at Franklin.

Hood's army was wrecked, and he had no reasonable hope for victory at Nashville ... but, nevertheless, he ordered the advance northward from Franklin. George H. Thomas' Federals would be there to meet them at Nashville. ☆

NASHVILLE

Nashville had been occupied and heavily fortified by the Federals since 1862. The defenses were a network of concentric trenches and forts which ringed the city. Strong earthworks, such as *Fort Negley*, crowned the many hills and provided interlocking fields of fire for artillery. As Hood sat in his lines awaiting an opportunity, Thomas carefully planned for his destruction.

By early December, 1864, Union General George H. Thomas had assembled 70,000 troops in defensive positions around Nashville. Confederate General John B. Hood was marching from Franklin with 23,000 men. With his obvious disadvantage in numbers, Hood planned to build a strong defensive position and wait for Thomas to attack.

U.S. Grant, meanwhile, was pressuring Thomas to seek out and destroy Hood's army. After a planning council with his commanders, Thomas scheduled an attack for December 10. An abrupt change in weather, however, brought sleet, snow, and freezing tem-



peratures, and it was the 15th before the attack could take place. Meantime, frustrated by the delay, an angry Grant had dispatched J.A. Logan to relieve Thomas of command.

Before Logan arrived, Thomas struck. Thomas used his superior numbers to advantage, forcing Hood to stretch his thin lines to the breaking point. Overlapping Hood's flanks, he struck at the Rebel's rear, and the two-day battle saw severe fighting at the redoubts of Hood's line. As the Confederates were driven from their positions, one after the other, they retreated to form a second line along a *stone wall*, nearly two miles to the rear, anchored by *Shy's Hill* on the west and *Peach Orchard Hill* on the east.

On December 16, Union artillery pounded the Confederate positions at close range, while Union infantry and cavalry delivered a sweeping attack. The Confederates, with the Union cavalry at their rear, were being fired upon from three directions. Forcing a retreat, the Union drove the Confederates into a rout, and Hood's invasion of Nashville became a complete failure.

Hood marched into Tennessee with an army of 45,000. He retreated toward Tupelo, Mississippi with 15,000 men. He had lost the very effective Army of Tennessee, but did not gain an inch of ground nor gain any strategic effect on the outcome of the Civil War. ☆

OPTIONAL WALKING TOUR - THE HERMITAGE

Sunday morning, May 7, an optional tour of President Andrew Jackson's home, "The Hermitage," is offered. Tour will depart Days Inn at 9:00 a.m. and will be limited to one bus (45 total). Please reserve your space by indicating *Special Optional Tour* on your Tour Registration Form. Reservations will be accepted until the bus is full. Tour of the Jackson Home is self-guided and an easy-to-follow brochure and headphones are supplied. There is a \$25.00 additional charge per person for this optional tour, which covers the bus, to-and-from; admission fee to the grounds; and tour of the home and gardens. At noon, our shuttle bus will return to Days Inn for a "farewell" buffet lunch at 1:00 p.m.

ON THE TOUR...

☛ Please be prompt. Buses can be boarded from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. for departure at 8:00 sharp. This will allow maximum time for touring, since delays can force us to miss a scheduled stop. Please notify your Bus Marshall if you are making any changes from the group schedule, in order to avoid penalizing the whole group. Thank you for your cooperation.

50TH ANNUAL BATTLEFIELD TOUR MIDDLE TENNESSEE MAY 3-7, 2000



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- ★ *Thursday, May 4*, northwest to *Fort Henry*, to the earthworks guarding the land approaches to the fort ... CWRT's *first tour* of this area. Then, to *Fort Donelson* for a tour of the battlefield and the *Dover* surrender site.
- ★ *Friday, May 5*, southeast to *Stones River*, including a stop at newly reconstructed *Fort Rosecrans*. We will also cover Forrest's raid at *Murfreesboro*.
- ★ *Saturday, May 6*, south to *Columbia*, then retrace the "retreat route" north to *Spring Hill*. Lunch at *Rippavilla*. On to *Franklin*, with stops at Winstead Hill, Carter House, and Carnton. Then a stroll through a Confederate "encampment" and across the street for Fun Night and a buffet dinner.
- ★ *Sunday, May 7*, tour Nashville's sites at *Fort Negley*, *Shy's Hill*, the *Stone Wall*, and *Peach Orchard Hill*. *Optional* tour to the *Hermitage* is available.

50th Annual Battlefield Tour ends with a "farewell" buffet lunch at Days Inn. *Please schedule your flights accordingly.*

Chief Tour Guide, Ed Bearss; Tour Guides, Wiley Sword & Tom Cartwright.

NOTE: See reverse side for costs.

REGISTRATION FORM

**50TH ANNUAL TOUR, MAY 3-7, 2000
MIDDLE TENNESSEE**



Deposit of \$25 per person is due immediately, the balance by March 15, 2000. *Registration cut-off is April 1, 2000.* Payment in full with return of reservation form would be appreciated. Based on transportation and cost requirements, a limited number of reservations are available. CWRT of Chicago members have first priority.

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s).....

Address.....

City/State/Zip.....

Home phone (.....)..... Work phone (.....).....

Plan to share a room? Yes..... No..... Your roommate.....

★ *Special Optional tour:* The Hermitage, Andrew Jackson's home, *Sunday, May 7*: Additional cost of \$25 per person includes transportation and entrance fees: Yes..... Total..... Please include the \$25 per person in your reservation check if you choose to take this optional tour. Space is limited to the *first 45* registered.

NOTE: Send this registration form *with your check* payable to the CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE of Chicago (or just "CWRT of Chicago") to: Carole LeClaire, Tour Registrar, 8417 Johanna, Niles, IL 60714.

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