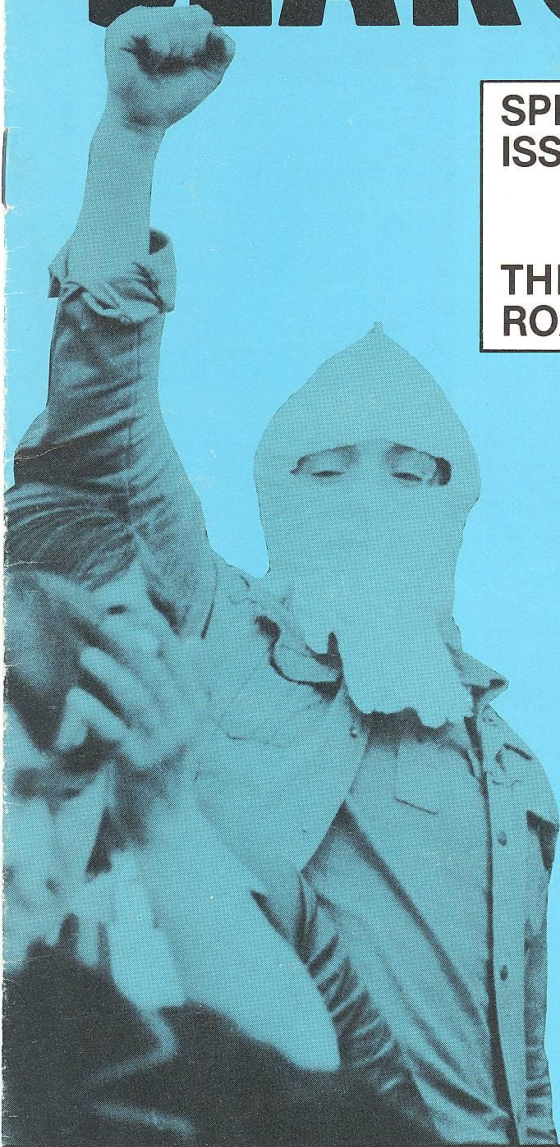


# SEARCHLIGHT

SPECIAL  
ISSUE —

THE VIOLENT  
ROAD TO BRUSSELS



## TERROR ON THE TERRACES

**The National Front thugs  
who foul up football**



# THE TRAIL OF TERROR THAT LED TO BRUSSELS

The tragedy at the Heysel Stadium in Brussels has been in the making for years. But in the past only better policing, ticketing policies to keep rival fans apart, sturdy stadiums and good fortune have prevented fatalities on such a scale resulting from potentially lethal clashes between opposing supporters.

And while it would be premature to attribute all the blame for the Brussels deaths wholly to the National Front, two things are clear:

- Evidence is mounting that NF thugs were amongst the British fans whose charges across the terraces led directly to 38 deaths; and
- The Front has played its full part in whipping up the climate of violence and confrontation which now plagues football grounds across the country, which spills abroad nearly every time a British club or national side plays in another country, and which led directly to the savage scenes at the European Cup Final.

It was Liverpool Club Chairman John Smith who first raised the possibility that the NF had been involved.

He told how six members of Chelsea NF had boasted to him of their part in provoking the violence. They seemed, he added, proud of their handiwork.

Mr Smith, also chairman of the Sports Council, said he would be sending a dossier about NF involvement to Sports Minister Neil MacFarlane.

Former Liverpool manager Bob Paisley, recently appointed as team consultant to new club boss Kenny Dalglish, backed up Mr Smith's



Liverpool fans launch attack.

claim.

He told how he was forced to leave the directors' box at the start of the game as dozens of fans poured over a dividing wall.

"The person next to me told me he was a Chelsea supporter. He was wearing a National Front badge", he said.

Certainly the Front's involvement would come as no surprise: Chelsea NF banners have been seen at England international games as far away as Turkey, and the club's NF supporters pride themselves on being top of "the League of Louts".

Police at the stadium also recovered banners decorated with swastikas — including one from "Liverpool Edge Hill".

And many spectators at the game have told of NF supporters abusing Italian fans and of the terraces being littered with inflammatory NF and British National Party leaflets. Reports also reveal that BNP activists were recruiting members on the ferries carrying British supporters to the game.

Predictably the National Front has denied any involvement in the killings. But as the *Sunday Mirror* said:

"The National Front have displayed sickening hypocrisy by trying to wash their hands of any responsibility for the disaster.

"They would like everyone to ignore the ugly racist propaganda they circulated at the match that could only inflame an already explosive situation".

All over Britain, gangs of NF thugs have latched onto the more aggressive groups of supporters you will find at any football club. Their aim is to recruit members and supporters — and 'inflame the

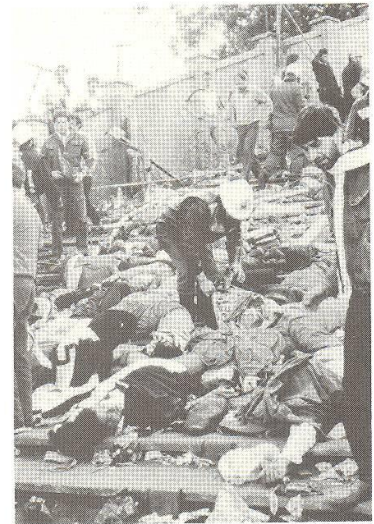


situation'.

They promote the nauseating racist chants and nazi salutes which are now commonplace at our grounds and which give such deep offence to genuine sports fans.

And when the 'aggro' starts, they are spurring it on.

They have played no small part in raising the temperature of confrontation which now seems to dominate British football.



Aftermath at Brussels.

In this special issue we reveal the horrifying picture of the NF's violent influence on the national game.

- We show how they compete with each other to be 'top of the Racist League'.

- We show how their members can often be found in the thick of the fighting.

- And we show how they travel the world smearing the name of real football supporters in this country.

It would be a mistake to claim that wherever there is trouble, you will find the National Front.

**But one thing is true — wherever you find the National Front, there you will find trouble.**

It's time to clean up the game — and the first step is to deal with the Front.



## WHAT IS THE NATIONAL FRONT?

THE National Front is Britain's biggest nazi organisation.

Although its membership is now only about 2,000, it makes up in unbridled hatred and violence what it lacks in public support.

It began in 1967 when several openly nazi groups joined together under the NF name.

- It has made no secret of its admiration for Adolf Hitler.
- It believes that Jews are trying to take over the world and denies that six million Jews died at the hands of the nazis.
- It believes that black people are brought to Britain by "sinister Jews" to destroy the white Aryan race.

A year ago it was taken over by young fanatics in league with wanted Italian terrorists hiding in Britain to avoid gaol in Italy. One of these, their leader Roberto Fiore, was recently sentenced in Rome in his absence to nine years for terrorist offences.

Police are currently investigating NF training camps, organised with their Italian 'comrades', where two ex-SAS officers train hand-picked recruits to form underground armed cells.

NF publications like *National Front News* and *Bulldog* proudly claim responsibility for violent assaults on black people, political opponents and public property.

And they openly incite more attacks by publishing 'hit lists' of names, addresses and 'phone numbers of their intended victims.

NF leaders Joe Pearce and Ian Anderson are currently awaiting trial on charges of inciting racial hatred.

Their main rivals are the British National Party, led by John Tyndall who split from the Front in 1980.

His members too were at the Liverpool-Juventus game, handing out inflammatory leaflets and recruiting young members.

## NF THUGS' CRIMINAL PENALTIES

Leaders of the National Front would have the public believe that the presence of nazi leafleters and newspaper sellers at football matches is in no way connected to the violence and hooliganism which takes place at soccer grounds. It is an argument they find impossible to back up when those very leafleters are brought before the courts.

In a remarkable case in 1981, two men who declined NF leaflets being handed out at a Barnet v. Peterborough match were set upon by a gang of some 20 Front-supporting thugs, one armed with a cosh. Three men arrested by the police admitted threatening behaviour and were fined between £50 and £150.

### Public Order

Even in Scotland the claim of 'peaceful' leafletting collapses. An Edinburgh NF newspaper seller was convicted of a breach of the peace outside Hearts ground during 1983. Grant Alexander was jumping up and down in the middle of the road trying to force the YNF paper *Bulldog* on fans, and was taken away by police "before he started a riot".

And as this report goes to press four Newcastle NF members face charges under the Public Order Act of distributing matter "which was threatening, abusive (and) . . . in which hatred was likely to be stirred up" outside St. James's Park.

With this sort of track record, the Front's attempts to dissociate itself from violence and blatant racism on the terraces becomes meaningless. Little wonder too, with this kind of incitement, that black players have increasingly become the focus for football ground trouble-makers.

Amongst a section of Bristol supporters directing abuse at a black Cardiff City team member in 1983 was one arrested and fined £100 for using abusive or insulting words or behaviour. Craig Douglas Mill was wearing an Adolf Hitler



### YNF Organiser in Football Race Riot

MARK PLAZA, YNF Regional Organiser for the West Midlands, has paid the price for defending himself against vicious Asian attackers. He has been sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

Mark was caught up in a race riot when twenty Pakistanis, brandishing knives and other weapons, attacked a group of Whites. During the fighting that followed Kevin Plant, a 17 year old White youth, was stabbed in the arms, legs and chest. He also suffered a mild heart attack due to the shock of his injuries and was only revived from death at the last minute by an ambulance man.

Not surprisingly the police didn't arrest the Asian attacker because of "lack of evidence", but instead they picked on Mark and another White youth. The police still refused to prosecute even when several eye witnesses made statements against the Pakistani who had stabbed Kevin Plant.

Mark Plaza is quite obviously a victim of racial discrimination: the anti-White discrimination of the Birmingham police, who consider it a crime for a White youth to protect himself in his own country from attacks by knife-wielding Blacks.

However, Mark is undeterred by the prison sentence, and he promises to "fight to the end against the conspiracy of multi-racialism".

Any YNF members who would like to show their support to Mark should write to Mr. Mark Plaza, No. C22050, HM Prison, Birmingham B18 4AS.

NF plead for support for goaled soccer thug — see next page.

mask and making 'Sieg Heil' salutes, infuriating Cardiff and Bristol fans alike.

Even club managers and directors have suffered criminal abuse for buying and choosing to field black players in their teams. Perhaps the most unpleasant example was a

### German football nazi goaled

IT'S not only in Britain that nazis are muscling in on soccer to recruit members and cause trouble.

In Germany recently a court goaled Siegfried Borchardt, leader of a nazi gang, after hearing how it attacked immigrant spectators at Borussia Dortmund matches.

Known as "SS-Sigi", Borchardt led a gang called the Borussia Front which police said was behind a wave of violent assaults on Turkish workers and their children. At games they chanted "Turks out" and "Jews out".

When he was sentenced his followers rampaged through the streets in an orgy of destruction.



## NF THUGS

continued

letter signed "Chelsea NF" sent to Chelsea chairman Ken Bates in 1983. The envelope was laced with razor blades. 17-year-old NF supporter Paul Jones admitted sending the letter, which ranted about the selection of black players, and was fined £200. He had daubed the note with his own blood.

Chelsea has also suffered repeatedly from anti-semitic behaviour from its hooligans, usually directed at Tottenham, which they call a Jewish club. Two Chelsea supporters were fined in 1983 for singing "Spurs are on their way to Auschwitz, Hitler's going to gas them all" (they were turned over to the police by other Chelsea fans), while magistrates narrowly decided against jailing a Chelsea supporter in May this year for wearing a tee-shirt with the slogan "Chelsea Yid-Busters Coming Soon to Rid The World". He boasted to the press that it was a "bit of a laugh" when he was bailed for probation reports.

Manchester police continue to investigate a more openly violent outbreak of anti-semitism in which a gang of Blackburn Rovers supporters left three Jewish youths in need of treatment for head and face injuries earlier this year after attacking them with a bottle and an umbrella. One arrest has been made so far.

### Manslaughter

One football supporter attacked during the Blackburn v. Carlisle game last Christmas was less fortunate and died after two days on a life support machine following a blow to his head. A leading member of the Blackburn National Front, John Ellison, has been committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter. A former British Movement member, Ellison has been branch secretary of Blackburn NF and was previously in the news when his NF branch banner was identified on the terraces at the Parc des Princes in Paris, during a France-England international in 1984.

Death came to the terraces again in May this year when a 15-year-old boy was killed during rioting at St.

Andrews in Birmingham. Before the match, Leeds supporters paraded up and down outside the ground throwing nazi salutes, and it comes as no surprise to find a Birmingham NF activist on the list of those arrested and convicted after the riot. David Gardiner was fined £600 for threatening behaviour after bricks were thrown at police and St John's Ambulance staff.

Although the National Front's leadership continues to attempt to distance the organisation from the criminal activities of individual members, sometimes it simply cannot help giving the game away.

When Young National Front Regional Organiser for the West Midlands, Mark Plaza, was jailed for 18 months in 1980 following fighting at a match, the YNF's newspaper *Bulldog* told its readers that he had been "picked on" by the police, that he was only "defending himself" and was a "victim of racial discrimination". Readers were invited to send messages of support to Plaza in prison.



Plaza was, in fact, convicted of fighting, making an affray and maliciously wounding an Asian man. He told police "It was a bit of Paki-baiting". For a supposedly innocent man picked on by the police, NF official Plaza had picked up a remarkably long list of previous convictions including making an affray, threatening behaviour and two counts of assault.

Front chairman Ian Anderson, after the Brussels tragedy, claimed that "We do not encourage that sort of behaviour. In fact, we openly condemn it".

**IAN ANDERSON IS A LIAR.**

### Italian fascists in Brussels to "kill the Reds"

Did Italian fans go to the European Cup Final in Brussels looking for a confrontation with Liverpool supporters because Liverpool is "a red city"?

This is the intriguing question raised by a chance encounter between *Searchlight* 'mole' Ray Hill and some Italian fans.

Hill, who infiltrated the extreme right for *Searchlight* for several years and whose exploits were revealed in a television documentary last year, was in Belgium a few days before the game to be interviewed by Belgian television.

In the bar of the Holiday Inn he struck up a conversation with some visiting Italians. "We're here to kill the red bastards from Liverpool" they told him bluntly.

Hill pointed out that Liverpool's team colours had no political significance. It wasn't the team colours they were talking about, they replied, "The movement in Italy has told us all about Liverpool. The city is run by communists. We're going to



'Gunman' Umberto Salussoglia flees — behind him, the banner of Ordine Nuovo.

kill the reds".

Sure enough, during the game flags bearing the insignia of the outlawed fascist group New Order were being flown by small groups of Juventus fans.

New Order (Ordine Nuovo) was banned after its members began a terror campaign in Italy several years ago.

Some reports suggest that the Juventus fan, Umberto Salussoglia, arrested after firing a gun at police during the game, is known as a member of a neo-fascist group.



# National Front's sick boast: 'RACIST LOUTS ARE ALIVE AND KICKING'

"White Power rules at many football grounds around this country. More and more football fans are starting to support the National Front".

This is the sick boast of the National Front which delights in its members' role in football violence.

Issue after issue, its magazine *Bulldog* crows about the violent NF gangs which provoke terror on the terraces and whip up racial hatred — helping to destroy Britain's most popular sport.



True to their philosophy of violence they turn on anyone, beating and stabbing opposing fans. Known NF members are regularly hauled before the courts on serious charges after disturbances at football matches.

A teenage fan died and nearly 200 were injured when fans rioted at the Birmingham City-Leeds United game in May. One of those arrested and heavily fined for threatening behaviour was NF member Dave Gardiner.

Before the game Leeds fans paraded outside the Birmingham ground giving nazi salutes.

But their prime targets are black people — especially black players on the pitch.

When you hear the nauseating chants of "Get that nigger off the pitch", or "National Front, National Front", or you see black players being pelted with bananas, or fans giving nazi salutes, you may be sure that NF supporters are there on the terraces stirring it up.

They even run their own perverse "Racist League" where their supporters compete to earn their club's supporters the title of being the most racist in the country.

Latest "Racist League" leaders, according to *Bulldog*, are Newcastle United fans who "have gone to the top of the League knocking arch-racists Chelsea off the top spot".

Four Newcastle NF members — including veteran Tyneside organiser Gordon Stridiron — were arrested at St James Park in January and charged with Public Order Act offences.

One NF leaflet which has been handed out at the ground said: "Proud to be Geordie? Proud to be White? . . . Newcastle are the top NF team . . . Now is the chance to put ourselves at the top of the Racist League".

*Bulldog* earlier boasted that NF supporters "are of course Newcastle United's very own 'Service Squad'." "Racist louts are alive and kicking" it declared.

Some NF football gangs are openly organised through local NF



NF rips off club logo to cash in on soccer violence.

branches. In the West Midlands, Aston Villa and Birmingham City National Front stickers carry the address of the local NF. In Birmingham they call themselves the Birmingham City FC NF Combat Crew.

At Wolverhampton, away trips for the 'South Bank Klan' are organised by Birmingham National Front and advertised in *Bulldog*.

Birmingham NF organiser Norman Tomkinson hires coaches especially to drive teams of NF thugs to football matches all over the country.

Other clubs with racist fans who boast of their activities in *Bulldog* include West Ham, Chelsea, Tottenham Hotspur, Sunderland, Norwich City, Glasgow Rangers, Hearts, Blackburn Rovers, Cardiff City and Rochdale.

One of the worst mobs is the Leeds United 'Service Crew' who "are all proud to be members and

**On the FOOTBALL FRONT**

**Racist 'louts' are alive and kicking**

**'GEORDIES ARE WHITE!'**

"Geordies are White" is one of the favourite slogans among the racist 'louts' at Newcastle. In fact, Newcastle fans believe they should be much higher in the League of Louts than they are at the moment.

came into the pub. The NUFC 'louts' took exception to this and they told the Blacks so in no uncertain terms. One of the Blacks then attacked a Geordie with a glass, just missing him. Outside the pub the Geordie

*Bulldog* — organ of NF's football thugs.







# TERROR ON TOUR AS FRONT FOLLOW ENGLAND

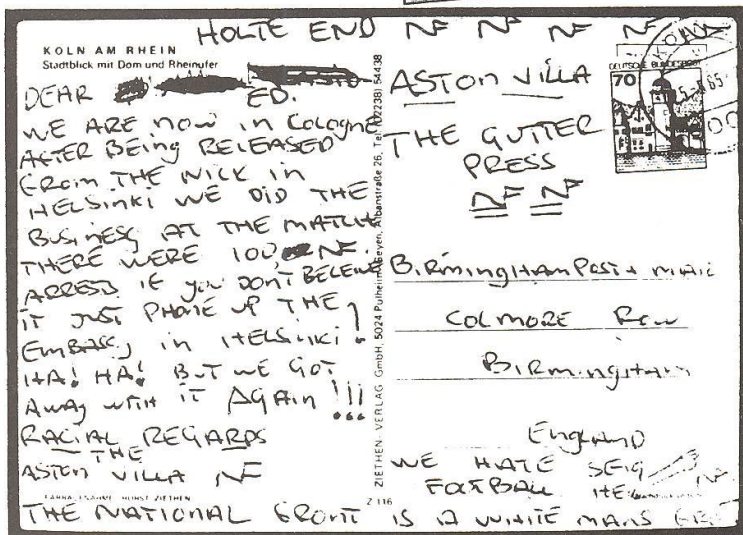


The sickening eagerness of a group of National Front thugs to claim responsibility for the recent tragedy in Brussels has focused public attention more sharply than ever on the involvement of British, and particularly English nazis in exported football violence. But it is far from the first time that the NF has been responsible for serious trouble outside England.

Once again, you need look no further than the Young National Front's paper *Bulldog* to find the Front boasting of its involvement in street violence.

In November 1981, under the headline 'Spurs Fans in Dutch Race Riot', *Bulldog* praises 60 Tottenham followers — all "NF supporters" says the paper — for fighting an hour long battle with black youths in the Zeedyk area of Amsterdam, during which at least two stabbings took place. "Paving stones, bottles and knives were some of the weapons used", says *Bulldog*, "... Spurs supporters showed Dutch Whites how it should be done". 25 Spurs fans were arrested.

Away internationals have a special fascination for the Front. Fighting on English terraces may pass the time, but for NF yobs putting the boot in on 'inferior' foreigners combines violence with



This postcard was received by the *Birmingham Evening Mail* after England's game with Finland. It speaks for itself.

flying the flag — literally. The unfurling of Union Flags defaced with NF symbols has increasingly become a sure sign that any international is about to be marred by on and off-ground violence.

The 1982 World Cup finals in Spain proved a magnet for the National Front and British Movement, with small groups of nazis turning up anywhere and everywhere. Groups of virtually penniless England supporters who turned, on a wide scale, to dosing, shoplifting and petty theft were a fertile ground for NF recruitment, with some Front supporters even joining forces with German hooligans to take on the Spanish. Ironically, a number of England supporters were eventually beaten up by Spanish neo-fascists as well as by the police.

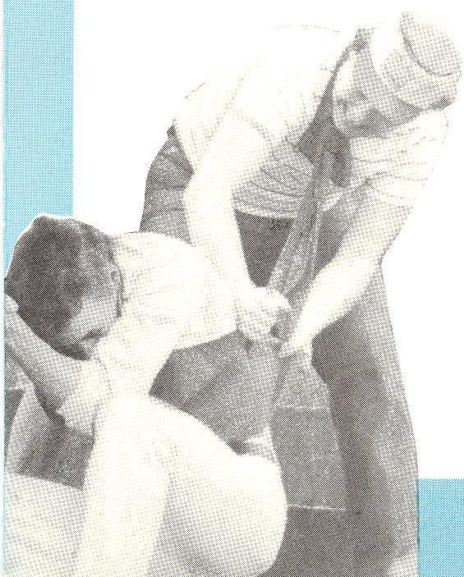
By the end of 1982, in a bizarre new twist, the NF had actually turned its venom in on the England team itself because of the presence of black players in the squad.

The Front and its World Cup recruits turned out in force for the Denmark v. England match in

Left: The ugly face of soccer violence. An England supporter stabs an opposing fan in Switzerland.

Copenhagen — "The National Front seemed to be everywhere", said the *Daily Mail* — and amused itself by harassing its own team. "They booed and jeered every time Black players touched the ball", boasted *Bulldog*. The song for the evening was "When the Whites go marching in". About 50 arrests were made, almost all of England supporters, after post-match fighting on the terraces. Copenhagen walls, street signs and cafes had been plastered with nazi graffiti and swastikas before the match even started.

In a more clearly orchestrated campaign against multi-racial England teams, a group of National Fronters followed the squad on its tour of South America last summer with the express purpose of harassing the team. About 20 NF supporters got themselves onto the same flight into Chile's Santiago Airport used by the England squad and chanted anti-black slogans at players John Barnes and Mark Chamberlain. They told Barnes that "Goals by blacks don't count" after he scored against Brazil in the first match of the tour. On arrival at Santiago, the yobs unfurled a banner saying "Send them home"







Aston Villa NF supporters thrown out of Hampden Park during June's England-Scotland game.



happened at Hampden, the England management must fear that their chances of being allowed to compete in the next World Cup finals in Mexico will grow slimmer by the match.

for the benefit of television cameras recording the team's arrival. Then they all booked into the same hotel that the England team were using. Where these thugs got hold of something like £1,500 a head to follow the tour is anyone's guess.

Turkey, too, suffered the Front's presence in November 1984, both at a preliminary under-21 match and again at the World Cup qualifier, where Sieg Heiling supporters displayed a large Chelsea NF Union Flag for the benefit of the cameras.

At Helsinki, in May this year, it was the turn of the Aston Villa NF to display their banner at the Finland v. England game, as a prelude to over 100 arrests for public order and criminal damage offences.

In the very same week more Aston Villa NF banners were out again at the friendly international

between England and Scotland — a game the government had had moved from Wembley to Hampden to protect London from Scottish hooligans! About 300 England fans, including large numbers of National Front supporters, were thrown out of the ground by Strathclyde police in a match which saw 87 arrests and almost 150 injuries. Once rid of the Front, on this occasion Scotland supporters took up booing and jeering black players on their behalf.

With English clubs now banned indefinitely from international competition, there can be little doubt that the National Front's travelling hooligans will be concentrating all their efforts and numbers into 'supporting' the national side abroad. But if so much violence can break out at a 'friendly' match within the British Isles as

## Front gloats over Brussels deaths

The National Front's response to the Brussels tragedy was sick and predictable. A gang of them turned up to England's game with Italy in Mexico brandishing a banner which proclaimed "England 38 — Italy 0".

In Newcastle, home of one of their most active soccer gangs, they telephoned local Labour councillor Nigel Todd to leave a message on his answering machine: "This is Newcastle United National Front. We were in Brussels. We killed the Italians and we're rather proud of it".

As Nigel Todd says: "Whether or not they were in Brussels is not the point. What matters is that they glory in the massacre".

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