

EVACUEE REPORTS:

GLOVER, DEWITT

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DECLASSIFIED PER JCS LTR OI
20 AUG. 75



INTERROGATION OF CPO DEWITT GLOVER BY LT. E. A. WILLIAMS
November, 1943

CPO Dewitt Glover was a member of the Motor Torpedo Boat Squadron No. 3 in the Philippines and was left on Mindanao after President Quezon's and General MacArthur's parties were brought from Corraidor. Glover did not surrender when the U.S.A.F.F.S. Forces surrendered in May, 1943, but took to the hills in the Province of Lanao. He subsequently joined the guerrilla movement in that province and for about eight months preceding his evacuation was C-3 of the 100th Division in Lanao. A good deal of his time was spent in counter-intelligence work and in dealing with the Moros in the remote parts of the Province. He was evacuated in September, 1943, suffering from chronic malaria. Report of interrogation of CPO Glover follows.

- Q. I believe you are the one who was C-3 in Lanao Province. You should be able to give us the last word on the Japanese there.
- A. In the last few months of my stay in Mindanao, I prepared most of the intelligence messages sent to S.E.P.A. You have received practically everything of importance already. There are just a couple of things however. Agents in Cagayan report the Japs always try a three point attack. After the last warning at Cagayan, there was a landing at Laitas and Suluan Point, and an attack west from Cagayan threatening to re-open the coast road. The bridges are blown out, and would take six weeks altogether to recondition them. From Cagayan to Ft. Suluan the coast is level for about 6 miles from the coast. Then the hills start. The road along the west coast Iligan Bay is in mountainous country, very good for guerrilla fighting. The guerrillas there are aggressive. Cagayan School house well fortified by the Japs.
- Q. Do you ever collect documents or identification tags from these people? Do the Japs wear tags?
- A. No. Japs wear no identification marks whatsoever. You can tell their rank or rating, but not their outfit. They carry no papers, in fact they don't seem to carry any identification when they go out for battle. They go out with the idea of not coming back.
- Q. Never broken in a cleaned up one of their garrisons, have you?
- A. No. Those .30 and .50s won't do the job.
- Q. What kind of equipment do the Japanese have?
- A. In Iligan they had 2 75mm, mortars, .30 cal MG. In Misamis they brought in American Equipment captured at Batuan, also 2 105mm.
- Q. Do they do much aerial attacking on the guerrillas?
- A. In April they used old single engine planes. They would glide in and drop bombs. In June in Misamis, they used dive bombers, and some two engine bombers - not effective. We always had plenty of time to get out. The Filipinos cannot stand up under this or strafing.
- Q. Where are the planes from?
- A. Field in Or. Misamis called _____ (At Cagayan)
- Q. The type of enemy information you are interested in there is mostly movements the Japs are going to make, strengths, etc. as it affects you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is Pangul Bay used for sea planes?
- A. No, not that I know of. Only once I ever saw landed in Lake Lanao.
- Q. Do they get any of the news of the war?
- A. Yes, when Italy surrendered, the Japs made a lot of fuss and were pretty glad. Tokyo news comes out after these Japs get it. They seem to intercept news en route to Japan.

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Q. Do the Japs believe they are in Australia?

A. No.

Q. Do you know of any indications of conditions in Japan?

A. Dr. Montalban went to Manila. Was investigated by a Jap who said he had just returned from Tokyo. Said it was very hard living there. In Japan he said that pants were getting shorter because of the conservation of cloth. The Japs were calling on their people to do without as much as they could.

Any specific facts from him?

A. As far as the ship building was concerned, the Japs intend to use Filipino lumber. He told the Doctor that he figured that Japan would win but said that it would take longer than they thought because they couldn't replace their losses as fast as we could. In Misamis and Oroquieta, the Japs stripped the houses completely. They took out all electrical fixtures, radios, iceboxes, washing machines, metal partitions, etc., and took them to Japan.

Q. Is there much contact between the Japs and the Filipinos?

A. The first Japs that came to Davao would talk to the prisoners. They told them that they (the Japs) wouldn't get home. That is what the average soldier thought. One officer that lead the invasion into Oroquieta said it known that he had been Col. Fertig's classmate in 1933 in the States. Fertig denied there was any Jap in his class. I don't remember the Jap's name. Lots of Jap soldiers were educated in California, they say.

Q. What is your estimate of the total number of guerrillas on Mindanao, about 30,000?

A. I would say less than that. There are 5 divisions in Mindanao but never complete. The 103th is the most complete of the whole works.

Q. Does that number fluctuate?

A. No, it is fairly stable because everybody is organized.

Q. We are trying to get a better picture of the guerrilla organization. Believe you know Lanao pretty well.

A. Yes sir. Our area extended west from the Cagayan River and included all of Lanao. These regiments along the coast about to Maranding are Christian, the rest are Moros. The 120th Regt. covers Misamis Oriental west from Cagayan to about Sta. Filomena, Lanao. Each regiment is composed of 18 companies of 110 men each, not all armed, average by company about 30/40 rifles each. The guerrillas raised a launch sunk near the Agus River about 10 miles from Iligan. This same bunch took a Bron gun carrier from almost inside Iligan. The Japs had brought it from Malaya. The guerrillas took it back near the Maranding River and overhauled it. It works perfectly. They were trying to get .50 cal. MG from the Moros for it.

Q. You don't know if they got them?

A. I don't think they had when I left. There were several in the hills. We buy all the guns the Moros will sell us.

Q. Who was in charge?

A. Regt. Commander, Major Andrews. He was 30 3rd Bn around Sta. Filomena. Is now in command of whole outfit.

Q. Have you any idea where the other Battalions are around there?

A. No, I don't know the set up. They are mostly along the coast and road, though.

Q. Was this regiment under the Bulidnon command previously?

A. Yes.

Q. Why was the command changed?

A. There was some trouble there but I didn't see the report of the investigation by the officers who went in there.

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- Q. Who went to the investigation?
A. Morgan, Capt. Jeral, Major Curwain now C-3 103th Div, Capt. Botavero, now Major. All were there to settle an argument.
- Q. What started the trouble?
A. I never saw the reports but I believe Major Jaldon (Baldron) thought he was being slighted and attacked Lomina's men (Mis. Or.). Lomina's made an attempt to shoot up Jaldon's camp in return. The 103th Regt. patrols from the Agus River to Kolumbugan. The 106th Regt. went from Kolumbugan around to Prov border between Lanao and Zamboanga. Regt. Hq. for 105th at Buray, for 106th at Causuagan, for 107th at Sta. Filomena. Commander 103th Capt. Barro, 106th Major Quojala, 107th Major Andrews. (All Christian Regiments)
- Q. Where is our friend Tate?
A. Was stationed in the 1st En area which covered part of Agus River, GP at Butungoe. He was ordered to the 103th Regt. but refused to move. He is a gambler and brings a lot. When the Japs invaded Misamis, he came to Mis. Occ. He claims a big name as a fighter and he can fight, but he only does it when he has to.
- Q. What do you know about the Moro Regiments?
A. 126th Regt called MIF, Hq at Batal, Commander Major Buaran Palao. 127th Regt, GP Bayang, CO Capt. Maralao Mindalano, one of the worst Moros the Japs have to deal with. 128th Regt at Bubong, CO Major Anonago Maguindali, 125th Regt, Capt. Aruspee. Lt. Maguibgunby has been organizing in this area S of Malabang (under _____). At time of invasion he was Mayor of Malabang.
- Q. Does this come under Col. Helico?
A. Yes.
- Q. These Moros in Lanao, do they fight each other?
A. No. Marano means "Lano." Outside Malabang is airfield. This could be held for 48 hours and we could get an armed force of approximately 1000 men. The garrison can be wiped out easily. The only thing if this were done, there might be civil war with the bandits. They are slightly pro-Japanese now but cause no trouble.
- Q. What would happen if we ever came in there?
A. If they see you and recognize you as an American, You have nothing to worry about. I have been all over that country up there.
- Q. Would you say there are more pro-guerrilla Moros than pro-Japs?
A. Yes. A Marano, if you take him away from his home is not interested in fighting. When their homes are molested, these Moros are as fanatic fighters as the Japs. On 12 Sept. 1942 about 120 Japs went into some Marano homes. Out of these 120, only 1 escaped. The Japs have done too much of this in Lanao.
- Q. Do the pro-Jap Moros cause much trouble?
A. No. They are loyal to themselves only. There is occasional trouble. Palao, a regular officer from the Philippine Army is responsible for killing 1 American, wounding 1 AG man. He attacked our camp when we were in the mountains one day. We beat him off without much trouble, and the neighboring Moros came from some distance to see what the shooting was about. We had no more trouble there. Seventy-five per cent of the MIF are related to Sultan Sa Ramin but owe him no allegiance. He is sitting on the fence with the Japs and tried to get out of trip to Manila to sign the Constitution. He claimed he was sick and asked to be excused. The Japs got wind of the situation and gave him an examination and when they found him normal, they ordered him to Manila. He does not cause any trouble.
- Q. Where is Piang?
A. Cotabato, in Pikit area.
- Q. Is Penatan with this group?
A. Yes.

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- Q. Where is this group to have their Headquarters?
A. Misayap. Ruler could give much more information on this situation. The Moros respect the Americans; many of them are educated. This makes the work easy. Many speak English.
- Q. Arabic?
A. No, the local language is a mixture of Visayan, Bukidnon, Malayan.

In Tigao on Lake Lanao the Moros have machine shops, have made BAR and garand rifles reproduced them completely by hand but have not found a way of putting bore in. Outside of that they are perfect. They are biggest thieves in the world and counterfeit anything. They are doing the guerrilla money now. The people accept anything without looking at it.

- Q. Do you recommend sending special paper to combat this counterfeiting?
A. What we are getting now, this thin white paper (showing sample of 1945 emergency currency), they do not have. Our paper used to come from the Moros and they could counterfeit the money easily. We were trying to teach the people how to make the money last longer. People have been told to keep money in a book. They like to wad the money up and keep it close to the skin. Perpiration from the body rots the paper.
- Q. You don't suppose the Moros will try to counterfeit this new money (series 1945)?
A. No, they counterfeit the old Peso, mostly old emergency currency issued in 1941-42.
- Q. Who were the officers in Fertig's headquarters?
A. The staff officers were almost all Filipinos. The Adjutant was put on inactive status. Lt. Reyes is secretary to Fertig. Ass't Adjutant is Iaguan, who is very familiar with the Japanese language.
- Q. Does he (Iaguan) go over the Japanese documents when they come in?
A. Yes.
- Q. Is Capt. Hipe in Headquarters?
A. He reported to Headquarters about three days before we came down. He's now but has worked up from the bottom, would be jealous if some American were put over him in G-3 work.
- Q. Have they a G-3?
A. They had a G-3. Maj. Arondine was G-3 but is now Chief of Staff, 103th Div. Diva is head of G-4; he was originally a Filipino GI.
- Q. Could we put somebody in there to help them out without causing jealousy?
A. I think you could but Hipe would be difficult.
- Q. Is there a personnel man in that office.
A. No, not right now. The head of G-1 was Lt. Patriciano Garcia. He isn't with that Headquarters right now. Was ordered to stay on the Misamis side when the Hqs moved and they haven't replaced him.
- Q. Is there any civilian liaison with the provincial government in the Hqs?
A. Gen. Fertig usually does that himself. In the Misamis area, Major Fetalves is the representative of the 103th Div. Gen. Fertig was probably using him as a contact when the headquarters was there.
- Q. You think we could and should send some help up to Gen. Fertig?
A. He should have it. The same thing applies to the regimental commanders. Fertig is depending on the 103th Div. I would say that that Div should have an American G-3. Maj. Tukuran is head of G-3 now. Other 103th Div Staff Officers are Maj. Linena, DCS, Capt. Valmoras, G-1, and Maj. Curran, G-2.
- Q. What Americans has he in his Headquarters now? Think he should have a good U.S. staff officer?
A. Yes, very definitely. The Americans he has working for him now do liaison work. There was a marine doing the same work that I was doing (Chamberlain). They have 7 or 8 on the coding board. You can't let Filipinos

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do it. They are not confidential. They had to put a couple in jail because of that. Besides he is often not patient and careful.

- Q. Most of the organization (officers) are people who have started from scratch?
- A. Yes, except for Tukuran. They need someone who would organize the thing down to where the General could rely on having good advice. G-3 men with combat experience are number one priority. All these would have to be Americans. It is necessary to have the Americans in non-combatant jobs because you have to keep politics and bribes out of it.
- Q. What about sending Filipinos who have been trained in the States?
- A. It might be all right. When some of the officers I saw at the PRS camp get up there, it would surprise them. The Filipino officers here are not afraid to work. On Mindanao a commission is often a chance to sit back and get half dozen men to do your work.
- Q. If you sent these men up there (American Filipinos) will they cause any resentment up there?
- A. The Filipinos are the number one show-offs. It might cause resentment if these in Australia took over some officers' jobs, but the desire of most Filipinos is to get to the States. That might help in the adjustment. I would say that the placing of them would have to be done by Fortig. He would probably form an American General Staff and let the Filipino officers remain as a dummy staff. That would be about the easiest way out of it.
- Q. Do you need somebody from the Adjutant General's office to help out?
- A. Yes, he one is sufficiently familiar with Army procedures.
- Q. Do the Filipinos like to use the channels?
- A. Yes, they are sticklers for it.
- Q. About security, when you send reports to Fortig do you send an itemized list along?
- A. Yes, a list is made and a receipt is filed. All letters are sealed. The light Manila paper envelopes sent by S.W.P.A. could be seen through by holding over a light. I think you'll have to send heavier envelopes if security is to be preserved. In the last two or three months more confidential matter has been coming from GHQ and you can't let Filipinos handle it. We have got to send them some more secret envelopes.
- Q. Any suggestions on the organization there?
- A. Nothing, outside of putting officers in there and their staff. The 100th Div has a Filipino Division Commander who is no good (Mortera). He ought to be replaced by an American.
- Q. What was your G-3 job up there?
- A. When I first started in 100th, it consisted of 4 officers - intelligence work etc. With the running down of spies, checking on passes, Provost Marshall etc., it began to become a big job to handle it all.
- Q. Did you have any of the money sent to Fortig for intelligence?
- A. Well, people take the stuff. It's worth double value. Much of the money is used for intelligence work. Money was marked for intelligence but I don't see how they can use it. I never spent a penny of it to get my intelligence. You get better dope just walking around talking to people.
- Q. How much of what you send here do you keep there in file?
- A. I always made out my reports in duplicate. Complete files are kept.
- Q. How much of your work was counter-intelligence?
- A. Because of the way I treated the people there by throwing them in jail, it kept this work down. It got so I could smell a person without a pass. I think I was pretty well controlled with this pass system. There was very little stuff that got out on us. The Provost Marshall was responsible for making the arrests.
- Q. This (along Malabang) is a pretty good sandy beach isn't it?
- A. Yes.

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Q. What else do you know on landing beaches?

A. In this area, along the coast (Initao, Iligan, Basolod) is coral and gravel bottom, the reef extending out in some places 1/2 mile. At high tide you can easily come in over top of this in a landing boat. To the SE coast the hills are close, down to Kolambagan. From there 1 km from the beach is mangrove swamp. The beach is rough all along the N coast because the NW monsoon is so rough.

Q. How about the reefs in this area? (Malabang coast)

A. No reefs, south coast protected and the SW monsoon is gentle here. Panguil Bay is partly sandy and protected.

Q. Does the road to Damsalan from Iligan go through rough country?

A. No. When you come up from Overton, 2 or 3 km are steep, along side of canyon, fairly level from there on. The western alternate route from Overton has been blocked, bridges are out and parts of the road washed away. I've been all over this province and prepared a map of the trails. It was sent to Fortig for S.W.P.A. (Note: This has not been received here.)

We have telephone communications there, too, from the Agus River to Baroy. Before the Jap landing in Misamis, our line used to go under Panguil Bay at Misamis and at Tangub and extended to Sindangan. They still had most of the equipment. They also have the equipment in Ianao to put a line through along the Agus River thru the hills to Madalua and Malabang. We could use field signal officers. Maguibgashay, mayor of Malabang, knows several linemen living south along the coast to Cotabato.

Q. How much equipment have you?

A. We have stolen most of the wires from the Japs. Had two phones at Maralig. We also used mesh wire and barb wire for lines. There is a radio set up near the lake, NE of Dabung, and two automobiles. The cars need a little cleaning up and they will run.

Q. What about the road from the Agus River to the Ianao-Tamboenga border?

A. There are three bridges out, one on the Bolud River and another out at Maranding.

Q. Could you replace those bridges with local facilities?

A. No, we don't have any cement. The Bolud River is about 150 to 200 yards wide and is deep. The Maranding River is narrow and floods fast when the rains come. The old bridges were wooden bridges with a cement base. We blasted these at the first evacuation. There have been three wooden bridges built over the Maranding but floods have taken them all.

Q. Where is that railroad line?

A. The railroad runs along this road from Kolambagan about half way to a place called Higo. Then it comes in here to Liangan and it curves back up in here from the road. It goes up to upper Ioliga (upper Liangan River). The railroad is about 25 km; from Kolambagan to Liangan is 12 km. It is a narrow track.

Q. Is there any equipment there to use?

A. They have some flat cars. The railroad needs some ties. The locomotive there is not used because we couldn't spare the fuel. It burns oil. The rails are there, too. At camp at upper Ioliga, there is an enormous quantity (miles) of steel cable belonging to the Finlay Miller Lumber Company. They are going to use this wire and put in ferries on the rivers. The cases, a type of boat, will hold an automobile for this purpose. The bridges on the road from the Agus River to Kolambagan are in. The road is of coral surface and wide enough for passage of two cars. The bridges are of temporary nature. Any of the bridges can be destroyed in three minutes because no nails were used in their construction. The bridges will not hold more than one truck with capacity of about three tons empty, anyway. This was done so that the Jap tanks, etc., would be fooled if they tried to cross.

Q. Is there a road from Maranding to the south coast?

A. It was started from Maranding and extends to the headwaters of the Maranding River. From there the grades have been made and the base of the road is

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in place but is overgrown with jungle. We are making arrangements to have the Christians clear the road from the coast to the 100th Regt, Camp 1 (that is an out post). That is the border between the Christian and Mohammedan territories. The Mohammedans would do the rest of the road that was in their area so that they could trade from there. Walking down it now is like walking through a funnel. It would take about a month to clean the road out. (See CG Survey, 1934, Island of Mindanao and surrounding waters. It has all the finished roads and will give the track sites easiest to develop.)

Q. What about the road from Dansalan to Malabang?

A. That's pretty well closed by Moro guerrilla activity and landslides. The road south from Zamboanga could be opened by a strong force but the river south of Zamboanga can easily be diverted into the road and wash it out completely. The road north from Zamboanga goes through pretty rough country and is mostly cut into the sides of mountains dropping into Lake Lanao. That's about the only really rough country along the road. There's a bridge near Camp Keithley that would take quite awhile to replace. There is a big bridge at Pantar. We blew that out and did a good job but the Japs fixed it in 2 hours and forty-five minutes and had their tanks across it.

Q. How many tanks up there?

A. Right now they don't have any tanks but have about seven armored cars. They need some anti-tank equipment up there because the Japs bring them in for an operation.

Q. Any American propaganda get into the Maranao district?

A. Yes. When we received supplies from submarine magazines, cigarettes, etc., were taken into the interior.

Q. Anything about radio broadcasts?

A. We got all the California stations, London broadcasts. The London broadcasts (London 9 p.m., Manila War Time 10 p.m.) was the best broadcast. That broadcast gave more details than the American broadcast. The 5 p.m. (6 p.m. Philippine War Time) American broadcast was used for the news bulletins. News was taken down in shorthand. We use WPMI, 8 p.m. (9 p.m. Manila War time) and London for filling in the details for our bulletin.

Q. How many copies of that could you get out?

A. The Colonel's stenographer, Adjutant, and the Div Adjutant would make about five copies a piece, or about 50 copies in all. I would send copies to each Regimental Commander and to some separate unattached commanders. They were read in the public markets in Lanao by the Hadjis.

Q. Any radios around?

A. Had a radio at the Force Headquarters. Gave the 100th Div one. Capt. Piang has a radio near Cotabato.

Q. Do people gather around these radios and listen?

A. Yes, the Director of Civilian Affairs listens all the time and the Filipinos come in and listen. I always carried a copy of our news bulletin with me, and by roaming by myself and stopping and talking the news to people, I can find out more intelligence, and it costs us nothing. Some civilians have radio sets and they get the news. The news is never questioned. The people can take bad news as well as the good news.

Q. What about the programs on the radio?

A. I like them but the people there don't understand some of the programs. The Christians will listen to dance music. One broadcast comes in the Malay language and one in Maranao, which the Moros like very much. You give them a fast English broadcast and they can't keep up with it. The Maranao newscast is only occasional. I think it should be more regular, even daily. The Moros don't really understand English but believe what they hear in Maranao. Incidentally, don't use the word "propaganda" to the Maranaos. We've taught the Maranao Moros that Japanese propaganda is "baloney" and everything labelled propaganda now seems "baloney" to them.

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- Q. What was your counter-propaganda with the Moros?
- A. For propaganda, we would tell the Moros that the U.S. is their one sure way of acquiring an education and that if they joined up and were organized and would go to work and show results, they would probably receive first recognition as to schools. The Christians believe that the U.S. treasury will not run dry and more often the old army people frequently cause more trouble over money than the Filipino graft system.
- Q. How are supplies procured?
- A. Commandeering is not done any in my area. Fertig is trying to control it in the other areas.
- Q. How are supplies paid for?
- A. I never had to pay for anything in Ianao. I went to a Moro and he always brought it to me for nothing. Usually receipts were signed for non-food supplies. The people think that equipment will be paid for, if lost, after the war. Food is paid for at once.
- Q. How wide spread is this?
- A. Throughout the Christians and some Moros.
- Q. Is this receipt business going to come to a big amount?
- A. There are quite a few receipts.
- Q. Are they against the U.S. Government?
- A. As I understand it, they are against the Commonwealth Government. There is full cooperation between the civilians and the Army and between the higher officers of the Army and junior officers.
- Q. Supposing we were to send somebody up there, who else would you send?
- A. A couple of good American doctors.
- Q. Are there any American doctors there at all? Any Filipino doctors with American training?
- A. Yes, one.
- Q. Is he better than the others.
- A. Yes, but we lack the medicine.
- Q. Do they have the equipment if they got the medical supplies?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do they have enough dental equipment to operate?
- A. Yes, some of the doctors are pretty good. (Several of the U.S.A. personnel had had work done there and were very satisfied.)
- Q. How about cleanliness of the hospitals?
- A. Not too bad. Food not so good.
- Q. Can they get enough cinchona powder to do any good?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Are they building up a supply of it?
- A. Gradually building a reserve stock.
- Q. Do you think of anything else needed there?
- A. One of the things that I think would work the best for sending up there would be to send up some sort of uniform made out of some heavy durable cloth, consisting of shorts and short sleeve shirts made without buttons like pajamas. A Filipino loves clothes. When the Japs send men out for propaganda, they dress them up. Send enough uniforms for one company, however all of them wouldn't go to one company but would be distributed around.
- Q. A letter here from Fertig mentions a Capt. Harango. Who was he?
- A. He came to the front in the Misamis invasion and took the Moro Headquarters Hq. and split it up into about five companies and made it the Headquarters Service Mobile Combat Unit. He has done a good job.

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- Q. The letter also mentions Bernard Settlement. Do you know where that is?
- A. To the west and south of Miravia in the hills.
- Q. How far did you go to school in the States?
- A. End your high school, then joined the Navy.
- Q. Where is your home?
- A. California.
- Q. Serial Number?
- A. 3750436.
- Q. Would you like to go back?
- A. Yes, if I could take along 2/300 tablets of atabrine. I would also like to find some way possible to get some training in intelligence work for about 2 or 3 months.



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