

# Nā Leo O Nā Koa

(Voices of Warriors)



Chartered January 27, 2000



2007 Chapter Rating

*Newsletter of the Aloha Chapter,  
An Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America*

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March 2009

## February Luncheon

On Thursday, February 26, approximately 35 members and guests of the Aloha Chapter, MOAA, enjoyed fellowship and a delicious buffet lunch of chicken katsu, beef stroganoff and assorted salads at Hale Ikena, Ft. Shafter.

It was quite a cold day with a brisk north wind. Many of the attendees were wearing sweaters, jackets and even an overcoat. In Hawaii we definitely are not accustomed to temperatures in the upper 60s.

Our guest speaker was **Kate Bepko**, 27, originally from Baltimore, MD, who graduated from Hawaii Pacific University and is now the Executive Assistant of the Institute for Human Services (IHS). She gave an excellent, eloquent talk on the humanitarian mission of the IHS and how our donations of BBQ chickens when we have our annual fundraiser are greatly appreciated. Also, when we serve the chickens to the men and women at the IHS, we help both the staff and the disadvantaged people staying there.

Kate spoke unhesitatingly without notes about how IHS serves a vital purpose in our community. Not only does this mission provide shelter and nourishment, she said, but they help individuals and families stay in their homes, find jobs, and keep off drugs. Instead of emphasizing these points with a bunch of statistics, she made her talk much more interesting by personalizing it with anecdotes about how IHS has helped two families that had fallen into misfortune due to dire circumstances.



**Kate Bepko**, our guest speaker from IHS

## Strategic Studies in March

**Wesley Fong** has arranged for his fellow Aloha Chapter members, spouses and guests quite an interesting event scheduled for 11 AM, Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. We will tour the Asia-Pacific Center for Strategic Studies at the old Army Reserve Center at Ft. DeRussy.

The Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) is a U.S. Department of Defense academic institute that officially opened September 4, 1995. The APCSS addresses regional and global security issues, inviting military and civilian representatives of the United States and Asia-Pacific nations to its comprehensive program of executive education and conferences, both in Hawaii and throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

The Center supports the U.S. Pacific Command's objective of developing professional and personal ties among national security establishments throughout the region. With a non war-fighting  
**See APCSS Page 3**

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## President's Message by Robert Kozuki

The Aloha Chapter program and program planning are an important part of our chapter's overall activities.

The following are several activities that your elected representatives have planned that I wish to bring to your attention and ask that you become participants of these events.

On March 24<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM, we will be touring the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies located adjacent to the Parking Garage on Ft DeRussy. Our member **Wes Fong** was kind enough to make all the tour arrangements as well as reservations at the Todai Restaurant for lunch following our guided tour. Please send in your tour and luncheon reservations; the Reservation Form is on page 7 of this newsletter.

In April we are having the annual Chapter chicken sale. However, please note that we will be at the Kalihi Waena Elementary School. We will continue to offer our members the option of donating their chickens to the Institute for Human Services food kitchen. Those members who attended our Aloha Chapter February Luncheon at Hale Ikena were treated to an excellent speaker from IHS, **Kate Bepko**, who described their function and services.

The Aloha Chapter is making plans for a September 2009 Twinning with the Las Vegas Chapter that will include UH vs. UNLV football game, golf, sightseeing, shopping, etc for our members and spouses. For long range planning purposes, we need to know how many members will be interested in attending and participating in the Twinning event. Please contact our Twinning Program Coordinator, **Les Ihara**, at 239-7947 as soon as possible.

Our annual program planning continues and we need your input as to the type of activities you wish to have us offer you. Please contact me, **Bob Kozuki**, President, 942-4047, or **Norm Fujiwara**, Vice President, 626-4630, with your program suggestions.



## Chairman's Corner

### Meet Curtis Lee Successful Army And Corporate Executive

#### by Allen Ono, Chairman of the Board of Directors



Aloha Chapter life member Curtis Lee and I met 45 years ago when we were Army captains attending our branch advance courses in Indiana, an important milestone in our careers.

You should get to know my friend who suc-

See Chairman's Corner Page 4

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| March 15, '09<br>(Sunday)  | 1:00 PM, Bridge Bunch Party Bridge, Fahrni Realty Classroom, Aiea   |
| March 23, '09<br>(Monday)  | Golf Outing, Mamala Bay Golf Course, Hickam Air Force Base  |
| March 24, '09<br>(Tuesday) | 11:00 AM, Tour of Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies, Ft. DeRussy, then Buffet Luncheon, Todai Restaurant |
| April 26, 2009<br>(Sunday) | Annual Chicken Sale Fundraiser, Kalihi Waena Elementary School  |
| May 15, 2009<br>(Friday)   | Lite Dinner at Hale Ikena followed by attending play Children of Eden at Richardson Theater, Ft. Shafter        |
| June 26, 2009<br>(Friday)  | Hawaii Army Museum Society (HAMS) Golf Tournament, Leilehua Golf Course, Schofield Barracks                     |
| Sept. 17-21, '09           | Twining at Las Vegas Chapter and attending UH-UNLV game   |
| Dec. 9, 2009               | Christmas Dinner, Hale Koa Hotel  |

## HAWAII CHAPTER MARCH EVENT

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| March 26, '09<br>(Thursday) | 11:00 AM, Luncheon at Pohai Nani<br>Guest Speaker: Siegfried Ramler<br>Topic: "Nuremberg and Beyond"<br>Contact: Jim Gebhard, 262-1165 |
|-----------------------------|--|

## Notice

*This Newsletter is published monthly by New Tech Imaging, Mapunapuna, as an official publication of Aloha Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 19267, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96817. Views expressed herein are not necessarily chapter policy.*

# Happy New Year from the Hale Koa Hotel

The Hale Koa Hotel Ohana would like to take the opportunity to wish all our Armed Forces families a safe and Happy New Year.

## We invite you to Experience Our New Paradise

- Come and experience an evening of exciting entertainment in our newly renovated Banyan Tree Showroom  
Magic in Paradise Dinner Show with Mark Mauricio Tuesday Evenings at 6:00 p.m.  
  
Experience Aloha Cocktail Show with Nohelani Cypriano Wednesday Evenings at 6:45 p.m.
- The long awaited reopening of Warriors Lounge is finally here! Enjoy your favorite cocktail with a brand new line up of nightly entertainment



**HALE KOA HOTEL**

Fort DeRussy Armed Forces Recreation Center  
2055 Kalia Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815  
(808) 955 - 0555 • www.halekoa.com

## Hawaiian Missionary Life

The *Merrie Ladies* will visit the Mission Houses Museum on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. This special tour into the history of the Hawaiian Kingdom will begin at 10 AM; participants should plan to be there early!

Guests will tour the Frame House (the oldest such in Hawaii), the Printing House, and the gallery in the Chamberlain House, which is currently host to "Alphabet Soup: Literacy, Language, & Learning" an exhibit which highlights the role of these American pioneers in making Hawaii the most literate nation on the face of the earth in the mid-19th century.

Cost of the tour is \$8/person; lunch will be offered afterwards for an additional \$15. Lunch orders will be taken in mid-April. Parking in the area is limited so carpooling is strongly recommended. A map is available.

Eighteen people are already signed up; family members are welcome. However, the tour is limited to 30, so interested persons should get in touch with Anna Blackwell (739-9164; [anna-gram2@aol.com](mailto:anna-gram2@aol.com)) as soon as possible. Anna 

## Asia-Pacific Center for Strategic Studies Continued from Page 1

mission, the Center focuses on a multilateral and multi-dimensional approach to defining and addressing regional security issues and concerns. The most beneficial result is building relationships of trust and confidence among future leaders and decision-makers within the region.

APCSS provides a focal point where national officials, decision makers and policy makers can gather to exchange ideas, explore pressing issues and achieve a greater understanding of the challenges that shape the security environment of the Asia-Pacific region. As well, the Center gives attention to the increasingly complex interrelationships of military, economic, political and diplomatic policies relevant to regional security issues through its three academic components: executive education, conferences and research and publications efforts.

Wes 

### Chairman's Corner (Continued from Page 2)

ceeded in his Army career with a series of assignments with increasing responsibilities and settled in Hawaii upon retirement and climbed the business ladder to become a top executive of a huge, important corporation.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR EARLY YEARS.** I grew up on a farm in Minnesota, near the North Dakota border; the closest large town is Fargo. Life was hard. I had farm chores from age 9. No electricity until I was 14 years old. No running water until age 20. No after school activities; too much to do on the farm. Yes, the winters were very cold. Social center was our church. Sunday service attendance was mandatory. Population was mainly Northern European immigrants. We didn't know much about other cultures.

**LEARNING VALUES.** Farmers cooperated and helped each other with heavy work during harvest season. Most business was done on a "handshake" basis. Hard work, honesty and integrity were core values. Character was paramount. Your word was your bond. People were very careful not to bring shame on the family. Work was completed with pride and lots of common sense.

**E D U C A T I O N .** Graduated from Ada High School and University of North Dakota with a degree in marketing.

**ARMY MILITARY SERVICE.** Served 3 years with Infantry, 2 more with artillery and final 19 years with Finance Corps. Operated the new military pay system in combat zone with the 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam. Served as 4th Infantry Division Finance Officer and Comptroller at Fort Carson, Colorado, and as Director of Resource Management at the Army Recruiting Command.

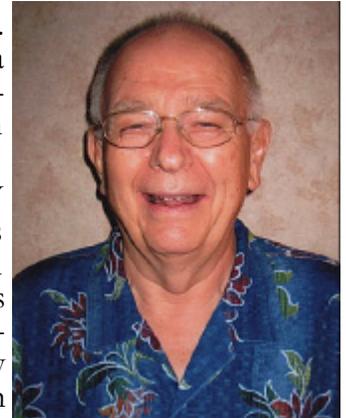
**SECOND CAREER.** Joined Servco Pacific in Hawaii in 1980 as a staff manager, an entry level management position with no supervisory responsibilities and given projects to complete on my own. I was expected to learn about the company, the automotive industry, the employees and business in Hawaii from the bottom up. I never turned down an opportunity or challenge. My career moved upward steadily, broadly and patiently. I handled automotive parts, wholesale and retail tire sales, automotive fleet sales, industrial equipment sales and numerous other areas of the company. In the last 7 years before retirement in 2006, I headed all Automotive Operations in this company that gave me a chance and took care of me. In return I gave Servco my complete loyalty and my best efforts every minute, day and year.

**SECRETS OF SUCCESS.** I did not play it safe. I offered professional assessments based on what was best for the organization. I steered away from company politics. From my military service, I brought leadership skills, teamwork, ability to work with people, computer knowledge, understanding of financial statements including cost benefit analysis, ability to prepare plans, an action orientation, emphasis on getting results and flexibility to change course.

**HOBBIES.** Reading and travel. Last book read was *Big Russ and Me* by Tim Russert. Last long trip was a tour of China in 2007.

**FAVORITE FANCY RESTAURANT.** Orchids at Halekulani Hotel. For Japanese food I like Maguro Ya in Kaimuki.

**WHAT MANY DON'T KNOW.** I started milking cows by hand at age 9 and learned to drive a tractor the same age. 



**Curtis Lee,**  
*COL, USA Ret.*

**Leaving the Military?**

Continue to Make a Difference

**Become a Teacher**

- Go to "[doe-jobs.k12.hi.us](http://doe-jobs.k12.hi.us)"
- Click on: Troops to Teachers icon
- You may be qualified to receive a  
\*\$5,000 Stipend or \*\$10,000 Bonus  
\*Pending availability of funds

Contact: Troops to Teachers at 586-4054  
Neighbor Islands call 1-800-420-3688  
E-mail: [hawaiiitt@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:hawaiiitt@notes.k12.hi.us)  
Or go to [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com)



Troops to Teachers



## Aloha Chapter Party Bridge

The February Party Bridge session was held in the Fahrni Realty Classroom on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup>. The session, consisting of 5 tables with 20 players, was coordinated and hosted by **Bill & Trudi Ernst** who offered participants an array of drinks and snacks before and during play which began at 1 PM.

The high scorer and the only one with over 5,000 points was the only guest player, **Hazel Theodore**. Known for her accomplished bridge playing, **Hazel** is a “regular” substitute who enjoys playing with this group. Other high scorers honored were, in descending order: **Bev Jensen**, **Harriet Weissman**, **Phyllis Williams**, **Jane Miller**, and **John Kim**. Honored also were those who bid and made small slams - **Les & Shirley Ihara**, and **Jane Miller** and **Barbara Chong**. Other participants were: **Mitzi Austin**, **Dayle & Bobbi Carlson**, **Bill & Trudi Ernst**, **Dave & Lois Luehring**, **Mary Ellen Reed**, **Coralie Vellis**, and **Vernon & Marion Von**.



*Seated, left to right are: Jane Miller, Bev Jensen, Hazel Theodore, Harriet Weissman, and Phyllis Williams. Standing are host Bill Ernst and John Kim.*

The next party bridge session will be held on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, in the Fahrni Realty Classroom, beginning at 1 PM. Coordinating and hosting the session will be **Jane Miller** and **Coralie Vellis**, so those desiring to play on that date are requested to contact either **Jane** at 484-1928 or **Coralie** at 373-2815 not later than Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Shirley**



**KILAUEA VOLCANO**  
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for details and to download the coupon flyer.  
(Expires March 20, 2009)

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dining, tours, and recreation right in the heart of Hawaii  
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booking. Call 438-6707 direct from Oahu or (808) 967-8333.  
Also, e-mail [reservations@kmc-volcano.com](mailto:reservations@kmc-volcano.com) or book on-line  
at [www.kmc-volcano.com](http://www.kmc-volcano.com).

\*Rates are subject to change without notice.

## Sign-Up For Twinning 2009 Now!

The February newsletter included an article on Twinning 2009 when our chapter members and spouses are scheduled to visit Las Vegas, Nevada and those of the Southern Nevada Chapter, MOAA during the period 17-21 September. The article included the activities concept of that visit which, although not a twinning activity, highlighted the UH-UNLV Football Game on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, which many locals are already scheduled to attend.

Nearing the deadline in preparing for this annual event, Twinning Coordinator **Les Ihara** states that if a “sufficient number” of chapter members and spouses do not commit to participating in Twinning 2009 by the end of March, he will initiate a recommendation to the chapter’s Board of Directors that it be cancelled. There have been few responses to the article in the February newsletter. He believes that a “fair amount” of our chapter members and spouses need to participate for twinning to be successful and meaningful, and that in fairness to the host chapter, we need to commit early, one way or another. Therefore, chapter members who plan to participate in Twinning 2009 are again asked to contact **Les** or **Shirley**, this time by the end of March so that a timely decision can be made soon thereafter. **Les**





*Norm Fujiwara*

## February Golf Report

This month we had one last-minute problem causing one player to be excused from today's golf outing; however, thanks to Walter Kinoshita, we were able to recruit a replacement.

We had twenty-three players signing up and we had twenty-three players at the Navy-Marine Golf Course by 8:45AM. Our leading group led by **Allen Ono**, **Walter Kinoshita**, **Mel Soong** and **Kerry Kiyabu** teed off promptly at 9:00AM. They were followed by the foursome of **Gordon Cho**, **Paul Yamnashige**, **John Holmes** and **Dick Towne**, followed by the **Katsarsky** bunch, **Len**, **Honeyjean** and son **Mark** joined by **Howard Okada**, then a threesome of **Kelly Lau**, **Larry Enomoto**, and **Jack Bohman**. In the fifth

group were **Ken Munechika**, **Leroy Perry**, **Ken Yamada**, and **Vernon Von** and bringing up the rear were **Alice Fujiwara** and yours truly with our guests **Kathy Uyeno** and **Stan Wong**.

It was just a perfect day for golf, the weather was excellent and the course was excellent perhaps with the exception of the greens. We all had a good time and the score cards reflected some excellent scores.

The lucky blind partners who shared the mega jackpots for the day were, in fourth place, the pair of **Leroy Perry** and **Alice Fujiwara**; in third place were the pair of **Mel Soong** and, believe it or not, **Norm Fujiwara**; in second place was **John Holmes**, who selected the odd number so he was his own partner and shared the jackpot with himself; and, for the number one pair, the grand prize went to **Mark Katsarsky** and **Jack Bohman**. Today's honorable mention without any financial rewards goes to **Gordon Cho** for his gross score of 75 and a net score of 63. Congratulations to all the winners and a pat on the back to **Gordon**.

Heard some good news from **Walter Kinoshita**, who reported that his wife, **Janis**, will be retiring in April. We are counting on her to be a regular player with the Aloha Chapter golfing group.

Now thought of the day: "Life is like an onion; you peel off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep."

Our next golf outing will be on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Mamala Bay GC. Hope we continue to have excellent attendance at our golf outings.



## Recruit A New Member!

Your Aloha Chapter is always looking for new members—active duty, retirees, and auxiliary members—all are welcome and will enjoy the camaraderie of the Aloha Chapter. Make it your goal to recruit at least one new member in 2009. Cut out the Membership Application on Page 7 of this newsletter to give to a prospective member.

## Welcome to Our New Life Members

**Cedric D. O. Chong**, LTCOL, USAF, Ret.,  
**Tom T. Kimura**, LTC, USA, Ret., and  
**Charles H. Moriyama**, COL, USA, Ret.

**You're smart.  
You know how to  
find the best deal.**

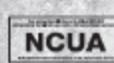



Pentagon Federal Credit Union (PenFed) is MOAA's preferred financial provider. **As a MOAA member, you and your family are automatically eligible to join PenFed.** When you join, you'll have access to the same low loan rates and high savings yields that all PenFed members enjoy. Join Today!



*If you can find a better deal, take it!*

Find us online at [PenFed.org/MOAA](http://PenFed.org/MOAA), or call 800-616-6600. Visit our branch on Ft. Shafter, Building 553



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## AARP Tax Aide Program

Through April 15, the AARP Tax-Aide program offers free tax service, regardless of the taxpayer's income or age, at numerous locations in Hawaii. Call the local AARP office at 808-843-1908 or go to [www.aarp.org/money/tax-aide/](http://www.aarp.org/money/tax-aide/) to find locations, dates and hours of these sites. Most sites operate on a first come, first served basis but a few require reservations. Before going to a site, assemble your prior year's federal and state returns, photo ID for the person going, SS cards for spouse and dependents, all W-2 and 1099 forms, 1098 for mortgage interest paid, and all Deduction (medical, taxes, interest paid, gifts to charity, etc). Assemble these reduction items by placing like deductions together with a paper clip and a total amount. For instance if you had 20 receipts for health care, bundle them together and place the total dollar amount in the bundle.

The AARP Tax Aide program files your return electronically. Before a "married joint return" is filed both spouses must sign a document. One way this can be done is to have one of the spouses go to the site with all necessary papers. Once the returns are prepared, the spouse can take the package home and have the other spouse sign, then return to the site with the signed documents. No need to wait at this second visit.

Go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) to download federal forms. Forms can be typed on line and e-filed from this web site. Further Pub 17, which can answer most of your tax questions, can be read or downloaded. You can do the same for State of Hawaii tax returns at [www.state.hi.us/tax](http://www.state.hi.us/tax)

Jerry Lesperance 

### Aloha Chapter, MOAA RESERVATION FORM

**Tour of Asia-Pacific Center for Strategic Studies  
Old Army Reserve Center, Ft. DeRussy, Honolulu  
11:00, Tuesday, March 24, 2009  
Followed by a Buffet Luncheon at Todai Restaurant  
Across the Street at 1910 Ala Moana Blvd.**

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation \_\_ (Check if needed)

Parking available at the nearby Hale Koa Hotel Parking Lot

**Group Discount Must Be Paid in Advance. Make Appropriate Certification:**

Cost = \$16.50 per person **UNDER 65**. \_\_\_\_\_ x \$16.50 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cost = \$14.75 per person **65 AND OVER**. \_\_\_\_\_ x \$14.75 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Includes Tax & Tip; No Payments at the Restaurant; Only Prior Reservations Accepted**

**A Definite & Final Number of Expected Attendees Must Be Submitted to the Restaurant  
Please send in your reservation ASAP to be received NLT **Tuesday, March 10, 2009****  
to:

Checks Payable to: Aloha Chapter, MOAA  
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 19267  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Call Wes Fong at 220-5266 for more information, if needed

### Aloha Chapter, MOAA, Membership/Application Form

Enroll me as a Regular Member:  Each year of membership = \$15.  Five Years = \$60. (One year FREE!)

Enroll me as a Life Member:  Membership rates: Age 71 & older=\$85.; 61-70=\$135.; 51-60=\$185.; 50 & under=\$235.

Enroll me as an Auxiliary Member  (i.e., spouse of a U. S. military officer, surviving spouse of a deceased officer)

AUX:  Each year of membership = \$10.  Life Membership = \$75

Name Last, First/Middle/Initial(s) (PLEASE PRINT) DOB MM/DD/YYYY

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

H B C

Telephone Numbers H=Home/B=Business/C=Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter/Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail Application Form and  
Membership Dues Check to  
Aloha Chapter, MOAA  
P. O. Box 19267  
Honolulu, HI 96817-0267*

#### CHECK APPLICABLE BOXES

STATUS	RANK	SERVICE
<input type="checkbox"/> Active	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> US Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> USAF
<input type="checkbox"/> National Guard	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> US Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired from AD	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> USCG
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired from Res.	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> USMC
<input type="checkbox"/> Former Officer	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> USPHS
<input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary (indicate Rank and Service of Spouse)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NOAA

National MOAA Member:

MOAA No. \_\_\_\_\_

Revised: January 2007. All prior forms obsolete.

Aloha Chapter  
 Military Officers Association  
 Of America  
 P.O. Box 19267  
 Honolulu HI 96817



**Aloha Chapter**



**Awards**

- \* 2002 5-Star Chapter
- \* 2003 4-Star Chapter
- \* 2004 Winner Best Website
- \* 2004 2nd Runner-Up Electronic Newsletter
- \* 2004 4-Star Chapter
- \* 2005 Winner-Cat VII "Give Me 10" Recruitment Campaign
- \* 2005 5-Star Chapter
- \* 2006 4-Star Chapter
- \* **2007 2nd Runner-Up Print Newsletter**
- \* **2007 5-Star Chapter**

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## 2009 Aloha Chapter Leadership

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**Vice Pres.—Norman Fujiwara, USA**  
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