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 SECURITY INFORMATION  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 INFORMATION FROM  
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT   
 CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY Yugoslavia  
 SUBJECT Political - Government

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950 - 1951

HOW PUBLISHED Handbook

DATE DIST. 12 Nov 1952

WHERE PUBLISHED Belgrade

NO. OF PAGES 17

DATE PUBLISHED May - Jun 1951

LANGUAGE Serbian

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Informativni prirucnik o Jugoslaviji, Book 1, Section 14,15, 1951.

ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE SECOND SESSION  
 OF THE REPUBLIC PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLIES OF YUGOSLAVIA

The following report is one of several taken from Informativni prirucnik o Jugoslaviji, a handbook published irregularly since late 1948 by the Yugoslav Directorate for Information.

Election Laws

In the autumn of 1946, the Yugoslav republics elected their constituent assemblies to enact their constitutions. In December 1946 - January 1947, the constitutions were enacted, and the constituent assemblies were transformed into People's Assemblies. Since the republic constitutions stipulated a 4-year term for the assemblies, the terms of the first assemblies expired either at the end of 1950 or at the beginning of 1951, depending on the republic.

Before concluding their first session, the People's Assembly of each republic examined the existing suffrage law under which the constituent assemblies were elected. The enactment of the federal suffrage law of 21 January 1950, the experience acquired during previous elections, and the general desire to develop Yugoslavia and its republics as socialist democracies were influential in making changes in and amendments to the suffrage law.

These changes and amendments have not altered the general principles of Yugoslav suffrage rights, such as universal, equal, and direct suffrage, secret voting, freedom of choice for voters, the uninominal [one-party?] election system, and participation in and supervision of elections and election procedures by the people and their organizations.

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The new laws for election of the republic People's Assemblies differ from previous election laws as follows:

1. In most republics the per-capita ratio per assembly member has been reduced. The new law in Croatia provides for one assembly member to represent 15,000 citizens, instead of 21,000 as formerly; in Bosnia-Herzegovina for one assembly member per 10,000 instead of 15,000; in Montenegro for one assembly member per 2,500 instead of 3,500; and in Slovenia for one assembly member per 5,000 instead of 7,500. In Serbia and Macedonia there was no change in the ratio of representation since it was already satisfactory.
  2. While previous election laws applied the principle of relative majority, the new law considers a candidate elected if he receives an absolute majority [more than 50 percent of the total number of votes cast]. In computing this majority, ballots which are cast against the candidates whose names are on the official slate are not considered. The absolute majority principle was introduced in accordance with the federal Law on Election of Members to the People's Assembly of Yugoslavia. The application of this principle requires a new election if no candidate gets an absolute majority. All candidates have the right to run in the second election. The absolute majority principle also applies here. However, if no candidate gets an absolute majority in this new election, the candidate with the largest number of votes is considered elected.
  3. The new election laws stipulate that a fixed number of citizens are entitled to propose a candidate. Previous laws accorded this right alternately to political and social organizations on the one hand and to a fixed number of citizens on the other. Although this does not mean that political organizations are eliminated from organizing elections or proposing candidates, the new laws enable citizens to have their own candidates so that political and social organizations cannot monopolize the appointment of candidates.
- The new laws do not permit an association of candidates in an electoral srez to run as a unit. Such an association of candidates does not conform to the absolute majority principle, because it might mean the election of a candidate whose unit had received an absolute majority of votes although he himself might not have received an absolute majority if he had run by himself.
4. Among the measures aimed at democratizing the suffrage system is provision of a box in which votes may be cast against official candidates. This box has become a general institution in the Yugoslav election system, and has been permitted at all elections except those for the republic constituent assemblies. It was allowed at elections for the second term of the republic assemblies, making it possible for voters dissatisfied with the official slate to cast their vote against official candidates.
  5. Except in Croatia, the new suffrage laws stipulate that all citizens of Yugoslavia who are registered as voters in a particular republic have the right to vote. Previous laws gave suffrage rights only to residents with a permanent job in the republic concerned.
  6. In agreement with the federal suffrage law, the republic election laws contain several additional new regulations. They emphasize the principle that voters have the right of recall of assembly members before they finish their term of office. The new laws also stipulate the right of the Presidium of the republic People's Assembly to determine the number of assembly members to be elected and to divide the territory of the republic into equal electoral srezes. The republic election commissions formerly had this right. The new laws contain more definite guarantees regarding suffrage rights, and a number of regulations for perfecting election procedures.

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Elections

After the liberation, the second regular elections for the highest republic offices were held in accordance with the decrees of the presidiums of the republic People's Assemblies. Elections for the People's Assembly of Serbia were held on 18 March 1951, for the People's Assembly of Croatia on 5 November 1950, for the People's Assembly of Slovenia on 18 March 1951, for the People's Assembly of Bosnia-Herzegovina and for the People's Assembly of Macedonia on 3 December 1950, and for the People's Assembly of Montenegro on 8 October 1950.

The territories of all republics were divided into electoral srezes on the basis of population. Serbia was divided into 338 electoral srezes, 214 of which were in Serbia, 85 in the Autonomous Province of the Vojvodina, and 39 in Kosovo-Methohija Oblast. Croatia was divided into 250 electoral srezes; Slovenia, 283; Bosnia-Herzegovina, 270; Macedonia, 245; and Montenegro, 161.

By a special decree, the presidiums of the republic People's Assemblies appointed republic election commissions, consisting of a president, secretary, and five members. The election commissions appointed srez election commissions, consisting of a president and two members. Election councils were the third agency for conducting elections, directing the voting in polling places. Each council consisted of three members, three alternates, and representatives of the candidates.

The voting rights of citizens are established through their registration in voters' registers. According to the law on voters' registers, every citizen has the right to examine the voters' register, and to demand that his name be entered if it was erroneously or illegally omitted. Voting rights are taken away only from those citizens over 18 years of age who have been deprived of their citizenship rights by court sentence, or have been declared mentally ill and put in charge of a guardian by decision of the competent state authority.

After a survey of voters' registers, the republic election commissions have announced that the following number of voters have the right to vote: in Serbia, 4,396,816; in Croatia, 2,565,800; in Slovenia, 949,680; in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1,447,358; in Macedonia, 700,279; and in Montenegro, 220,205. In comparing these totals with the number of voters registered in each republic for the election of members to the federal People's Assembly on 26 March 1950, the following increases are noted: in Serbia, 179,490 voters; in Croatia, 116,113; in Slovenia, 22,064; in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 64,899; in Macedonia, 39,956; and in Montenegro, 3,310. These increases are the result of the addition of individuals who completed their 18th year and acquired the right to vote.

The proportion of men to women in the electorate shows a preponderance of women in all republics except Macedonia. The total number of registered male voters in Serbia was 2,163,530 and the number of female voters was 2,233,286; in Croatia, 1,222,711 male and 1,343,089 female; in Slovenia, 447,509 male and 502,183 female; in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 688,223 male and 759,065 female; in Montenegro, 99,481 male and 120,734 female; and in Macedonia, 336,994 female, and 363,285 male. This proportion is the result of the huge number of male fatalities in World War II.

Each electoral srez elected one candidate and an alternate. The People's Front of each republic, as a component part of the People's Front of Yugoslavia, entered candidates in all elections, who were selected after discussions about candidates at local political meetings, and meetings in factories, enterprises, establishments, and farm work cooperatives. The People's Front of each republic issued an election proclamation inviting citizens to vote for the unified program of the People's Front and the Communist Party of Yugoslavia. This

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program was based on the activity and struggle for the development of socialism and a socialist democracy, for the protection of the independence and sovereignty of Yugoslavia, and for cooperation with all other countries to preserve peace and security in the world.

Election Results

A large majority of the registered voters participated in the elections in each republic. Ninety-six percent of the voters in the republics voted for candidates of the People's Front.

The election results in the individual republics are shown in the following tables.

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## Election Results of 18 March 1951 in Serbia

Oblast (except when Indicated otherwise)	No of Registered Voters				No Who Voted for People's Front Candidates		No Who Voted Against Official Candidates	
	Men	Women	Total	Total Voting	Number	%	Number	%
Autonomous Province of the Vojvodina	543,667	580,845	1,124,512	987,977	902,255	91.3	85,664	8.7
Autonomous Oblast of Kosovo-Methohija	280,071	196,638	406,709/sic/	353,344	348,619	98.7	4,718	1.3
Belgrade (City)	191,868	168,169	360,037/sic/	317,040	301,251	95	15,773	5.0
Belgrade	358,275	380,349	738,624	644,926	618,472	95.9	26,445	4.1
Kragujevac	295,804	313,460	609,264	530,345	514,550	97	15,802	3.0
Nis	326,586	340,329	666,915	584,627	564,575	96.6	20,043	3.4
Timok	110,178	111,177	221,355	193,049	186,096	96.4	6,953	3.6
Titov Uzice	129,081	140,319	269,400	242,734	239,697	98.7	3,036	1.3
Total	2,163,230 /sic/	2,233,286	4,396,816	3,854,042	3,675,515	95.4	178,434	4.6

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Election Results of 5 November 1950 in Croatia

Oblast (except when indicated otherwise)	No of Registered Voters			Total Voting	No Who Voted for People's Front Candidates		No Who Voted Against Official Candidates	
	Men	Women	Total		Number	%	Number	%
Bjelovar	149,789	165,103	314,892	290,706	284,952	98.02	5,750	1.98
Dalmatia	210,819	229,847	440,666	387,940	385,988	99.50	1,952	0.50
Zagreb	273,599	300,298	573,897	518,812	503,622	97.07	15,186	2.93
Karlovac	107,655	134,907	242,562	211,704	208,165	98.33	3,539	1.67
Osijek	221,637	249,135	470,772	412,705	398,007	96.44	14,696	3.56
Rijeka	137,703	136,005	273,708	258,379	253,539	98.13	4,834	1.87
Zagreb (City)	121,509	127,794	249,303	241,534	237,865	98.40	3,668	1.52
Total	1,222,711	1,343,089	2,565,800	2,321,780	2,272,138	97.86	49,625	2.14

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## Election Results of 18 March 1951 in Slovenia

Srez (except when indicated otherwise)	No of Registered Voters				No Who Voted for People's Front Candidates		No Who Voted Against Official Candidates	
	Men	Women	Total	Total Voting	Number	%	Number	%
Celje (City)	84,461	8,823	17,284	15,834	15,324	96.78	510	3.22
Celje	25,279	30,908	56,187	49,094	46,420	94.55	2,674	5.45
Crnomelj	7,397	8,304	15,701	13,601	13,106	96.36	495	3.64
Gorica	23,117	22,722	45,839	40,652	39,629	97.48	1,023	2.52
Grosuplje	7,448	10,302	17,750	13,420	12,602	93.90	818	6.10
Idrija	5,399	7,112	12,511	11,161	10,796	96.73	365	3.27
Ilirska Bistrica	7,269	6,829	14,098	12,086	11,613	96.09	473	3.91
Jesinice	4,897	4,558	9,455	8,706	8,540	98.09	166	1.91
Kamnik	12,128	15,349	27,477	23,888	22,886	95.81	1,002	4.19
Kocevje	7,035	8,030	15,065	12,521	12,045	96.20	476	3.80
Kranj (City)	5,695	5,668	11,363	10,902	10,388	95.29	514	4.71
Kranj	18,267	21,736	40,003	35,155	33,565	95.48	1,590	4.52
Krsko	20,570	22,885	43,455	38,247	36,514	95.47	1,733	4.53

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Lendava	10,035	10,739	20,774	18,180	17,443	95.95	737	4.05
Ljutomer	7,403	9,753	17,156	15,057	14,536	96.54	521	3.46
Ljubljana (City)	46,237	50,688	96,925	93,866	91,082	97.03	2,784	2.98
Ljubljana	18,533	22,826	41,359	36,383	34,583	95.05	1,800	4.95
Maribor (City)	25,049	25,384	50,439 [sic]	48,382	47,367	97.90	1,015	2.10
Maribor	20,768	24,265	45,033	38,342	36,307	94.59	2,035	5.31
Murska Sobota	19,265	20,967	40,232	35,417	34,121	96.34	1,296	3.66
Novo Mesto	13,945	15,509	29,454	25,234	23,679	93.84	1,555	6.16
Poljcane	17,307	20,316	37,623	30,557	28,314	92.66	2,243	7.34
Postojna	14,030	11,995	26,025	22,314	21,831	97.84	483	2.16
Ptuj	21,182	25,797	46,979	40,181	38,096	94.81	2,085	5.19
Radgona	7,699	9,860	17,559	15,231	14,861	97.57	370	2.43
Radovljica	10,940	11,321	22,261	19,968	19,053	95.42	915	4.58
Sezana	8,938	9,115	18,053	16,535	16,110	97.43	425	2.57
Slovenj Gradec	13,812	14,941	28,753	25,864	25,047	96.84	817	3.16
Sostanj	9,026	10,877	19,903	17,478	16,934	96.89	544	3.11

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Tolmin	9,077	9,037	18,114	16,821	16,135	95.91	688	4.09
Trbovlje	14,412	15,991	30,403	27,937	26,955	96.48	982	3.52
Trebnje	6,889	9,564	16,453	14,209	13,754	96.80	455	3.20
Total	<u>447,509</u> <u>[523,509]</u>	502,171	<u>949,680</u> <u>[949,686]</u>	843,223	<u>809,634</u> <u>[809,636]</u>	96.02	33,589	3.98

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Election Results of 3 December 1950 in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Onlast (except when indicated otherwise)	No of Registered Voters				No Who Voted for People's Front Candidates		No Who Voted Against Officials Candidates	
	Men	Women	Total	Total Voting	Number	%	Number	%
Banja Luka	179,368	214,395	393,763	328,185	322,818	98.36	5,361	1.64
Mostar	105,862	124,211	250,073 <u>[sic]</u>	195,746	193,705	98.95	2,037	1.04
Sarajevo	156,940	155,017	311,957	276,920	272,001	98.23	4,918	1.77
Tuzla	200,217	224,610	424,827	371,206	365,091	98.35	6,115	1.65
Sarajevo (City)	45,906	40,832	86,738	81,996	81,399	99.28	596	0.72
Total	688,293	759,065	1,447,358 <u>1,467,358</u>	1,254,053	1,235,014	98.48	19,027	1.54

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Election Results of 8 October 1950 in Montenegro

Srez (except when indicated otherwise)	No of Registered Voters			Total Voting	No Who Voted for People's Front Candidates		No Who Voted Against Official Candidates	
	Men	Women	Total		Number	%	Number	%
Andrijevica	6,307	7,989	14,296	13,302	13,164	99.71	38	0.29
Bar	11,508	12,331	23,839	20,565	20,394	98.18	171	0.84
Bijelo Polje	8,620	10,933	19,553	17,744	17,687	99.67	57	0.33
Danilovgrad	4,001	6,053	10,054	8,977	8,958	99.78	19	0.22
Zabljak	4,920	6,376	11,296	10,389	10,358	99.70	31	0.30
Ivangrad	8,804	10,743	19,547	17,466	17,380	99.50	86	0.50
Kolasin	3,221	5,260	8,481	7,880	7,868	99.84	12	0.16
Kotcr	6,845	6,940	13,785	12,616	12,535	99.35	81	0.65
Niksic	7,551	10,273	17,824	16,043	15,997	99.71	46	0.29
Pljevlja	7,244	8,519	15,763	14,898	14,864	99.77	34	0.23
Titograd	8,958	11,818	20,776	10,022	18,999	99.87	23	0.13
Hercegnovi	7,238	5,887	13,125	12,114	12,065	99.59	59	0.41
Cetinje	4,089	5,913	10,002	8,646	8,611	99.59	35	0.41

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Njksic (City)	1,417	2,013	3,430	3,878	3,868	99.74	10	0.26
Pljevlja (City)	1,584	1,950	3,534	3,308	3,294	99.57	14	0.45
Titograd (City)	4,288	4,233	8,521	8,206	8,189	99.79	17	0.21
Cetinje (City)	2,876	3,503	6,379	5,722	5,714	99.86	8	0.14
Total	99,471	120,734	220,205	200,676	199,945	99.63	731	0.37

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## Election Results of 3 December 1950 in Macedonia

Srez or City	No of Registered Voters			Total Voting	No Who Voted for People's Front Candidates		No Who Voted Against Official Candidates	
	Men	Women	Total		Number	%	Number	%
Skoplje, I Raion	11,280	9,670	20,950	19,809	19,677	99.3	132	0.7
Skoplje, II "	11,030	8,347	19,377	18,109	17,881	98.7	228	1.3
Skoplje, III "	11,525	6,058	17,583	16,529	16,284	98.5	245	1.5
Skoplje, IV "	10,086	6,900	16,986	15,765	15,653	99.3	112	0.7
Bitolj (City)	9,229	9,571	18,800	19,152	18,857	99.4	295	1.6
Kumanovo "	8,050	6,189	14,239	12,810	12,418	96.9	392	3.1
Ohrid "	4,649	3,577	8,226	7,742	7,690	99.3	52	0.7
Prilep "	9,871	8,491	18,362	17,177	16,915	98.5	262	1.5
Strumica "	3,532	3,476	7,008	6,696	6,634	99.1	62	0.9
Titov Veles "	5,930	4,997	10,927	10,603	10,503	99.0	100	1.0
Tetovo "	7,790	5,551	13,341	11,410	11,217	98.3	193	1.7
Stip "	6,495	3,730	10,225	9,764	9,670	99.0	94	1.0

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Berovo	Srez	5,294	5,346	10,640	10,093	9,041	89.6	1,052	10.4
Bitolj	"	17,119	17,049	34,168	31,348	30,793	98.2	555	1.8
Brod	"	5,415	5,855	11,270	9,460	9,220	97.5	240	2.5
Djevdjelija	"	9,010	8,940	17,950	16,902	16,547	97.9	355	2.1
Gostivar	"	14,883	16,047	30,930	25,453	26,360	99.6	93	0.4
Debar	"	7,911	7,228	15,139	13,323	13,250	99.4	73	0.6
Demir Kapija	"	5,354	5,448	10,802	9,573	9,357	97.7	216	2.3
Delcevc	"	5,897	5,601	11,498	11,068	10,439	94.3	629	5.7
Gorce Petrov	"	6,748	6,019	12,767	12,451	12,362	99.3	89	0.7
Kavadar	"	12,925	11,124	24,049	22,702	22,247	98.0	455	2.0
Kicevo	"	12,776	11,806	24,582	21,345	20,634	96.7	711	3.3
Kocane	"	12,888	11,680	24,568	22,845	20,237	88.6	2,608	11.4
Kratovo	"	7,228	6,783	14,011	13,194	13,039	98.8	155	1.2
Kratovo Palanka	"	8,598	8,326	16,924	13,764	12,994	94.4	770	5.6
Krusovo	"	3,058	3,098	6,156	5,465	5,437	99.5	28	0.5

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Kumanovo	Srez	16,112	16,300	32,412	28,781	26,476	92.0	2,305	8.0
Ohrid	"	7,861	8,299	16,160	14,910	14,828	99.4	82	0.6
Prilep	"	13,423	13,288	26,711	23,272	21,810	93.7	1,462	6.3
Radovis	"	7,021	6,962	13,983	12,873	12,611	98.0	262	2.0
Resen	"	6,911	7,179	14,090	13,026	12,803	98.3	223	1.7
Sveti Nikole	"	8,236	7,968	16,204	14,585	12,659	87.0	1,926	13.7
Skoplje	"	16,993	16,184	33,177	29,932	28,979	96.8	953	3.2
Strumica	"	10,732	11,039	21,771	20,500	19,914	97.1	586	2.9
Struga	"	8,857	10,138	18,995	17,203	17,114	99.5	89	0.5
Tetovo	"	17,737	17,996	35,733	30,909	30,707	99.3	202	0.7
Titov Veles	"	9,704	9,593	19,297	17,474	17,087	97.8	387	2.2
Stip	"	5,127	5,141	10,268	9,631	9,433	97.9	198	2.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>363,285</b>	<b>336,994</b>	<b>700,279</b>	<b>638,648</b>	<b>619,777</b>	<b>97.05</b>	<b>18,871</b>	<b>2.95</b>

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Comparative Election Results for Federal People's Assembly and Republic People's Assemblies

	Date of Elections in Republics	No of Registered Voters		Percent Who Did Not Vote		Percent Who Voted			
		FNRJ	Republics	FNRJ	Republics	For People's Front Candidates		Against Official Candidates	
						FNRJ	Republics	FNRJ	Republics
Serbia (excluding autonomous units)	18 Mar 51	2,738,133	2,863,595	9.43	2.60	92.30	96.50	7.70	3.50
Autonomous Province of the Vojvodina	18 Mar 51	1,090,863	1,124,512	5.32	2.80	86.27	91.30	13.73	8.70
Autonomous Oblast of Kosovo-Metohija	18 Mar 51	388,324	406,709	7.85	0.60	93.37	98.70	6.13	1.30
Croatia	5 Nov 50	2,448,887	2,565,800	8.85	1.55	94.12	97.86	5.88	2.14
Slovenia	18 Mar 51	927,616	949,680	9.40	3.16	92.52	96.02	7.48	3.98
Bosnia-Herzegovina	3 Dec 50	1,382,459	1,447,358	9.11	2.92	98.52	98.48	1.98	1.54
Macedonia	3 Dec 50	663,323	700,279	2.18	0.98	95.24	97.05	4.76	2.95
Montenegro	8 Oct 50	216,896	220,205	1.34	0.90	99.70	99.63	0.30	0.37

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Composition of the Newly-Elected Republic People's Assemblies

The republic People's Assemblies ratified the election of newly-elected members in their first meetings after the elections. The present composition of the republic People's Assemblies is as follows: Serbia, 338 members (break-down below totals 3487; Croatia, 250; Slovenia, 283; Bosnia-Herzegovina, 270; Macedonia, 245; and Montenegro, 161.

The newly-elected assemblies have an increased number of women members. The People's Assembly of Serbia has 22 women members. The majority of its members (194) belong to the 31- to 40-year age group, 56 belong to the 26- to 30-year age group and 45 to the 41- to 50-year age group; 50 are more than 50 years old, and three belong to the 18- to 25-year age group. The majority of its members are newly elected; 132 were members of the first assembly. The People's Assembly of Serbia includes: 267 Serbians, 7 Croatsians, 11 Montenegrins, 28 Albanians, 15 Hungarians, 4 Rumanians, 3 Slovaks, 2 Bulgarians, and one Russian. There are 102 industrial and agricultural blue-collar workers who are members of the assembly (17 of these are from farm work cooperatives), and 149 represent the intellectual occupations.

The composition of the People's Assembly of Serbia is more or less typical of the People's Assemblies of the other republics, on which complete data is not available.

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