Nov. 14, 1961 G. E. JOHNSON 3,008,713

SIMULATED SHOOTING TOYS

Filed Sept. 4, 1959 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

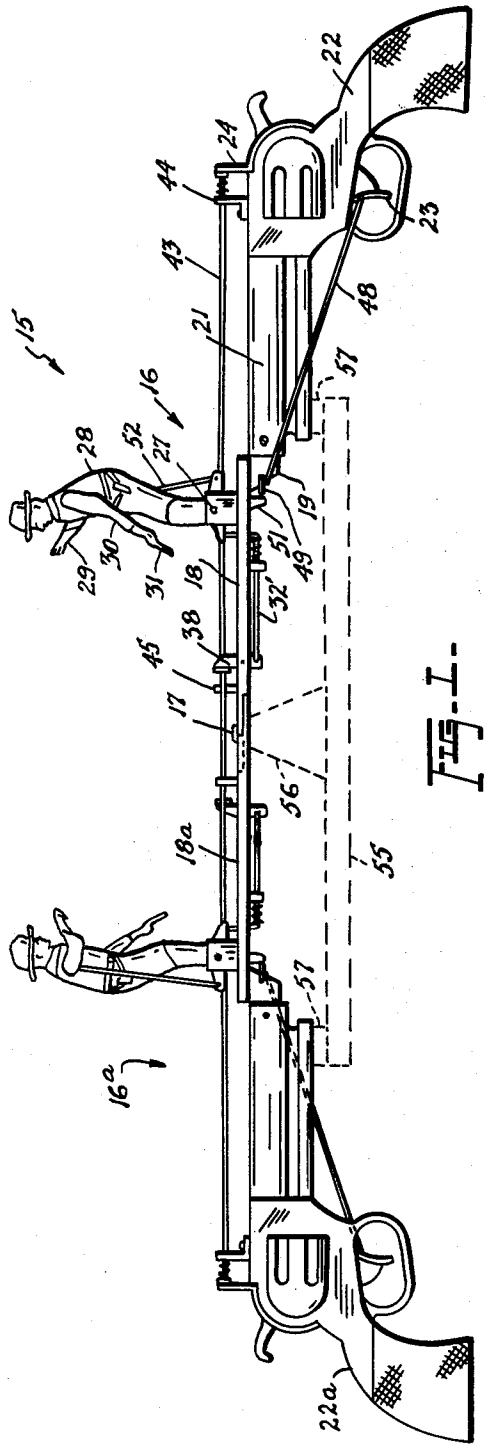


FIG. 1.

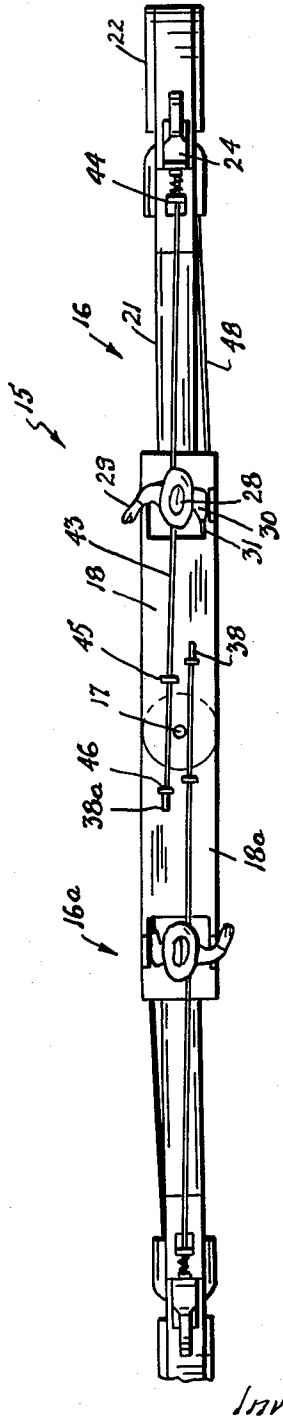


FIG. 2.

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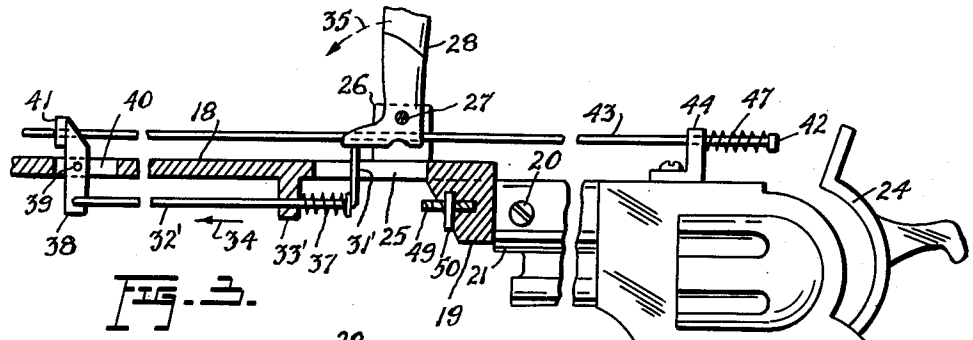


Fig. 3.

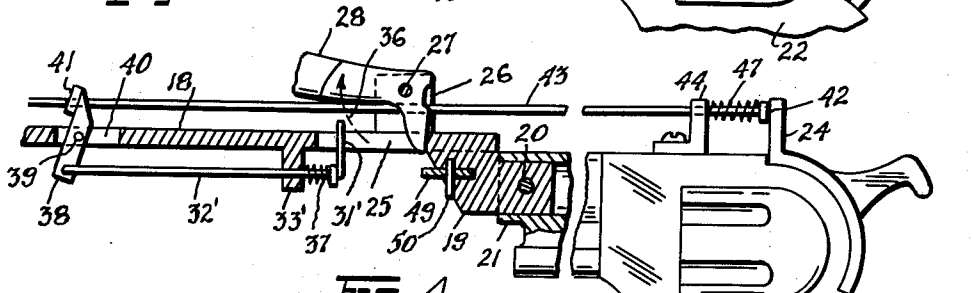


Fig. 4.

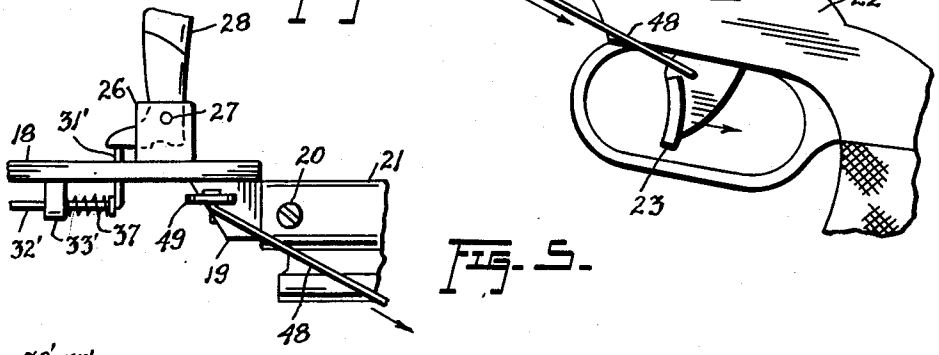


Fig. 5.

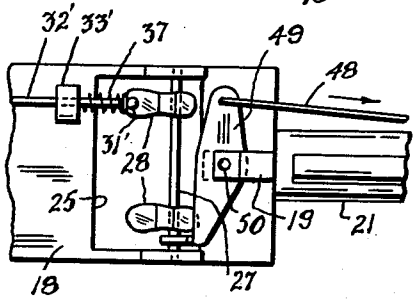


Fig. 6.

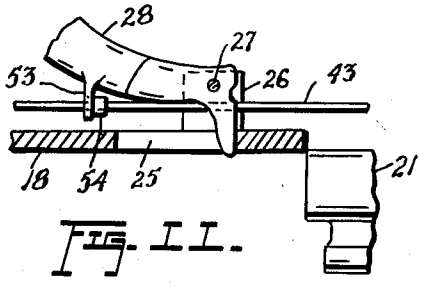


Fig. 11.

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SIMULATED SHOOTING TOYS

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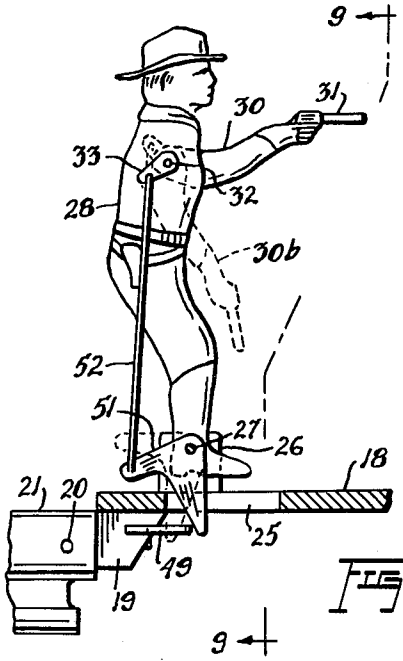


Fig. 8.

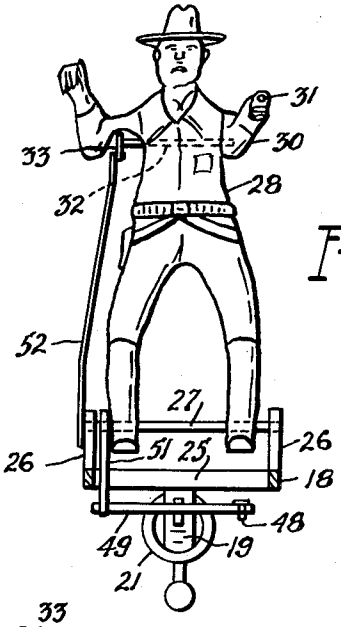


Fig. 9.

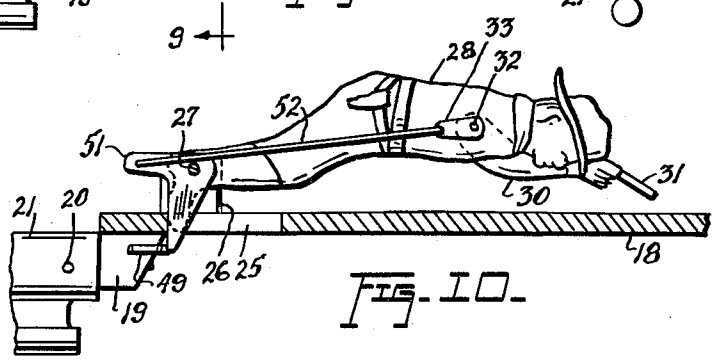


Fig. 10.

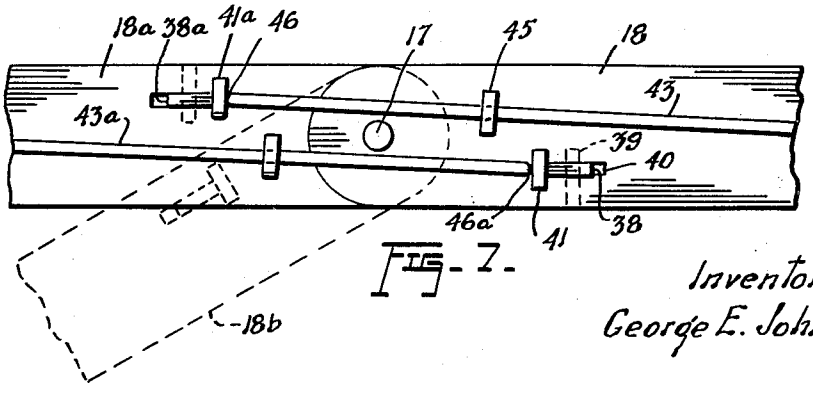


Fig. 7.

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SIMULATED SHOOTING TOYS

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Filed Sept. 4, 1959, Ser. No. 838,146
6 Claims. (Cl. 273—1)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in toys, and in particular concerns itself with a simulated shooting toy wherein two figures equipped with simulated guns are shooting at each other.

The principal object of the invention is to provide an amusing and highly entertaining device of this type which may conveniently represent two cowboys "shooting it out" in a Western environment, an important feature of the invention residing in the provision of a pair of support members having the respective figures mounted thereon for movement between standing and fallen positions, together with a pair of toy pistols attached to the respective support members, the pistol of each support member being operatively connected to the figure on the other support member, so that by "firing" either pistol, the opposing figure is caused to fall.

Each figure has a movable arm carrying a simulated gun, and another feature of the invention resides in the provision of means operatively connecting each pistol to the movable arm of the associated figure so that the arm is raised to a gun aiming position while the trigger of the pistol is being depressed.

Another important feature of the invention resides in the provision of means responsive to the falling to each figure for preventing the pistol associated therewith to cause falling of the opposing figure until the fallen figure is reset to its standing position.

Another very important feature of the invention resides in pivotally connecting together the aforementioned figure and pistol support members so that they may be swung angularly relative to each other, the operative connection of each pistol which causes falling of the opposing figure being such that it is operative only when the support members are in longitudinal alignment and the figures are mutually opposed, thus making it possible to engage in lateral maneuvering of the figures to avoid being "hit."

Some of the advantages of the invention reside in its simplicity of construction, efficient and highly entertaining operation, and in its adaptability to convenient and economical manufacture.

With the foregoing more important objects and features in view and such other objects and features as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention will be understood from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein like characters of reference are used to designate like parts, and wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a side elevational view of the simulated shooting toy in accordance with the invention;

FIGURE 2 is a top plan view thereof;

FIGURE 3 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view of one of the support members with the associated pistol, the figure on the support member being in standing position;

FIGURE 4 is a sectional view, similar to that shown in FIGURE 3, but with the figure in the fallen position;

FIGURE 5 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the subject shown in FIGURE 3;

FIGURE 6 is an underside plan view of the subject shown in FIGURE 5;

FIGURE 7 is a fragmentary top plan view showing the variable angular relationship of the support members;

FIGURE 8 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view on one of the support members with the figure in standing position thereon and emphasizing the figure arm actuating means;

FIGURE 9 is a vertical sectional view, taken substantially in the plane of the line 9—9 in FIGURE 8;

FIGURE 10 is a sectional view, similar to that shown in FIGURE 8 but showing the figure fallen; and

FIGURE 11 is a fragmentary sectional detail showing the arrangement of the locking means used in the invention.

For sake of simplicity of illustration, the operating mechanism of FIGURES 8–11 has been omitted in FIGURES 3–6, and that of FIGURES 3–6 have been omitted in FIGURES 8–10.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, more particularly to FIGURES 1 and 2, the simulated shooting toy is designated generally by the reference numeral **15** and is in the form of two identical and complemental sections or units **16** and **16***a*, which are movably connected together by a pivot element **17**. Inasmuch as the two sections or units are identical, a description of one will suffice for both.

Each section or unit, for example, the unit **16**, embodies in its construction an elongated, horizontally disposed support member or base **18** having a free outer end and connected at its inner end by the pivot **17** to the support member **18***a* of the other section **16***a*, whereby the two support members may be either longitudinally aligned or moved angularly relative to each other, as indicated at **18***b* in FIGURE 7.

The outer end of the member **18** is provided at the underside thereof with a rigid plug element **19** which is secured by a suitable fastener **20** in the barrel **21** of a toy pistol **22** of a conventional double-acting type. The pistol **22** also includes a depressible trigger **23** and a hammer **24** which moves from the position shown in FIGURE 3 to that shown in FIGURE 4 when the trigger is fully depressed, it being understood that the pistol, as such, is conventional and requires no detailed description herein.

The support member **18** is provided adjacent the pistol **22** with a recess **25** and with a pair of apertured ears **26** extending upwardly at opposite sides of the recess. A transverse shaft **27** is mounted in the ears **26** and extends through the feet of a suitable figure **28**. The latter has a relatively stationary arm **29** which, for sake of simplicity of illustration, has been omitted in FIGURES 8 and 10, and a movable arm **30** carrying a simulated gun **31**. The arm **30** is secured to a transverse shaft **32** rotatably journalled in and extending through the figure **28**, which shaft also has secured thereto a crank **33**, the purpose of which will be hereinafter described. The gun carrying arm **30** is normally held lowered by gravity as shown by the dotted lines **30***b* in FIGURE 8, but may be raised to the gun aiming position shown by the full lines in the same figure.

The figure **28** as a whole is normally upstanding, but is suitably weighted so that under gravity it tends to fall to the position shown in FIGURE 10, either by pivoting about the shaft **27** or moving with the shaft if the latter is rotatable in the ears **26**.

The figure **28** is normally retained in its standing position by an upwardly angulated end portion **31'** of a rod **32'** which is slidable in a bearing **33'** provided at the underside of the member **18** between the positions shown in FIGURES 3 and 4. The end portion **31'** projects upwardly through the recess **25** and engages the underside of one of the feet of the figure **28** when the rod **32** is in the position shown in FIGURE 3, but when the rod is slid in the direction of the arrow **34**, the end portion **31** is disengaged from the foot of the figure and the latter is free to fall by gravity, as indicated at **35**. The figure is adapted to be reset by hand to its standing position, that is, in the direction of the arrow **36** in FIGURE 4, and a compression spring **37** is provided on the rod **32** between the portion **31** and the bearing **33**, whereby to

urge the rod to its initial position wherein the portion 31 sustains the figure 28 against falling.

The other end of the rod 32 is pivoted to a lever 38 which is pivotally mounted on a pin 39 in a slot 40 formed in the member 18 and projects upwardly therefrom, being provided at its upper end with a pressure pad 41, disposed adjacent and facing the direction of the pivot element 17.

The movement of the aforementioned pistol hammer 24 to the position shown in FIGURE 4 causes the same to engage an enlarged end or head 42 provided at the outer end of an actuating rod 43 which is slidable in suitable bearings 44, 45 on the support member 18. The rod 43 extends somewhat obliquely along the support member and the inner end portion thereof projects beyond the pivot element 17 so that its inner extremity 46 may operatively engage the pressure pad 41*a* of the lever 38*a* on the other support member 18*a* when the two support members 18 and 18*a* are longitudinally aligned and the two figures 28 are mutually opposed in "face to face" relation. A compression spring 47 is provided on the rod 43 between the head 42 and the bearing 44 so as to urge the rod outwardly or rearwardly when the pistol hammer 24 is cocked back, as shown in FIGURE 3.

The trigger 23 of the pistol 22 has pivoted thereto one end of a rod 48, the other end of which is pivoted to one end of a lever 49, pivoted intermediate its ends on a pin 50 in the aforementioned plug 19. The other end of the lever 49 operatively engages one arm of a bell crank 51 which is freely mounted on the shaft 27 and has pivotally connected to its other arm a link 52 which, in turn, is pivoted to the aforementioned crank 33 on the shaft 32 carrying the arm 30 of the figure 28.

The operation of the invention will be readily understood from the foregoing. With the apparatus assembled as shown in FIGURE 1, two players assume their stations at the respective pistols 22, 22*a*, each player moving his pistol and the associated support member (18 or 18*a*) out of longitudinal alignment with the pistol and support member of the opposing player, so as to avoid being "hit." However, when this maneuver happens to place the two support members in line, either player may act quickly so as to first depress the trigger of his pistol and cause the (previously cocked) hammer to fly forward and hit the head 42 of the rod 43, thus causing the rod 43 to slide forwardly or inwardly into engagement with the pressure pad 41 on the lever 38 of the opposing player which, through the medium of the rod 32 then causes the figure 28 of the opposing player to fall. Simultaneously with the depression of the trigger, the linkage 48, 49, 51, 52 and 33 causes the arm 30 of the' 'shooting" player's figure to be raised to its gun aiming position, thus attaining a very realistic effect.

It is to be noted that, as is best shown in FIGURE 10, the arm raising linkage is so arranged that when either of the figure 28 falls, the link 52 and the crank 33 cause the arm 30 to be forwardly projected so as not to interfere with the support member 18, even though the bell crank 51 has remained stationary in the absence of depression of the trigger of the associated pistol.

It is to be also noted that when the support members 18, 18*a* are out of longitudinal alignment, the extremities 46, 46*a* of the respective actuating rods 43, 43*a* (see FIG. 7) are not aligned with the pressure pads 41*a* and 41, respectively, and accordingly, neither player may cause the figure of his opponent to fall unless the support members are longitudinally aligned and the figures are "face to face."

Means are also provided for preventing each player from causing the fall of the opponent's figure after his own figure has fallen, such means comprising a fork 53 which is secured to one of the legs of the figure 28 is such a position as to engage a collar 54 secured to the intermediate portion of the rod 43 when the figure has fallen, as illustrated in FIGURE 11. The engagement of the parts 53, 54 takes place when the rod 43 is retracted by the spring 47 so as to prevent the rod from sliding forwardly or inwardly toward the presure pad on the lever 38 of the opposing player, so that even if the player should "fire" his pistol after his figure has fallen, the rod 43, being prevented from sliding, will not operate to cause the opposing figure to fall.

If desired, the entire apparatus may be portable in nature, with each player holding his own pistol and maneuvering the same so as to avoid being "hit" by his opponent, while the apparatus is held between the players in the air. On the other hand, the device may be mounted on a suitable supporting framework 55 as indicated in FIGURE 1, having a central fulcrum block 56 to carry the pivot element 17, and also having curved rails 57 serving as supports or rests for the pistols. In such event, an enclosure (not shown) may also be provided for the apparatus, suitably ornamented to provide a "Western" scene for the device.

What is claimed as new is:

1. A simulated shooting toy, comprising in combination a support, a pair of figures mounted on said support in spaced and mutually opposing relation, each of said figures being movable from a standing to a fallen position and carrying a simulated gun adapted to be aimed at the opposing figure, a pair of toy pistols attached to said support adjacent the respective figures, each of said pistols including an element subjected to movement when the pistol is fired, and means operatively conecting the movable elemet of each pistol to the figure adjacent the other pistol, whereby firing of each pistol may permit the opposing figure to fall, said support comprising a pair of elongated sections pivotally connected together whereby said sections may be swung angularly relative to each other, each of said sections having one of said figures and one of said pistols associated therewith, and said means connecting each pistol to the figure adjacent the other pistol being operative only when said sections are in longitudinal alignment.

2. The device as defined in claim 1 wherein each of said pistols includes a depressible trigger and each figure includes a movable arm carrying said simulated gun, and means operatively connecting the trigger of each pistol to the arm of the adjacent figure whereby said arm may be raised to a gun aiming poistion when the trigger is depressed.

3. A simulated shooting toy, comprising in combination a pair of elongated support members having free outer ends and inner ends pivotally connected together whereby said support members may be swung angularly relative to each other, a pair of figures mounted on the outer end portions of the respective members in mutually opposing relation, said figures being movable by gravity from a standing to a fallen position and each figure carrying a simulated gun adapted to be aimed at the opposing figure, a pair of toy pistols attached to the outer ends of the respective support members, each of said pistols including a depressible trigger and a hammer subjected to movement when the trigger is depressed, releasable sustaining means provided on each support member for normally retaining the figure thereon in its standing position, and actuating means provided on each support member for operative engagement by the hammer of the associated pistol, the actuating means of each support member being operatively engageable with the sustaining means on the other support member for releasing the same only when said support members are longitudinally aligned, whereby firing of each pistol may permit the opposing figure to fall.

4. The device as defined in claim 3 wherein each of said figures includes an arm carrying said simulated gun and movable from a lowered position to a raised gun aiming position, and means operatively connecting the trigger of each pistol to the arm of the associated figure whereby said arm may be raised when the trigger is depressed.

5. The device as defined in claim 3 wherein each of said figures includes an arm carrying said simulated gun and movable from a lowered position to a raised gun aiming position, said arm being normally lowered when the figure is in its standing position, and means operatively connecting the trigger of each pistol to the arm of the associated figure whereby said arm may be raised when the trigger is depressed while the figure is standing, said last mentioned means being automatically operative to raise the arm when the figure has fallen.

6. The device as defined in claim 3 together with means responsive to the falling of each figure for rendering the actuating means on the associated support member inoperative by the hammer of the associated pistol, whereby to prevent release of the sustaining means on the other support member by firing of either pistol after the figure associated therewith has fallen.

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