



# THE GRIP

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

GAMMA PSI FRATERNITY INTERNATIONAL

FOUNDED 1879



1970

## President's Message

by R. E. Guthrie

Although it is too early to make a total assessment of the 1970-71 fraternal year, I think we could describe this year as being an average year so far for Gamma Delta Psi. Now whether this grade is good or bad is totally dependent on the outlook of the individual members. Probably most view it as encouraging and satisfactory for few seem to aspire to anything beyond average status which I feel is unfortunate particularly in relation to our organization.

As usual the chapters continue to operate in predictable fashion by functioning well within themselves but failing to join or work with other local chapters in the true fraternal spirit. Correspondence is somewhat improved from last year as is rally attendance but, as we all know, last year was quite a poor standard on which to judge present performance. Internal chapter performance is commendable but please bear in mind that we are known as an international fraternity for reasons other than just paying dues and meeting each other once a year.

The performance of Board officers may also be called into question. Most positions are occupied by merely adequate people with only a limited few putting forth outstanding efforts on behalf of the fraternity. District Deputies are in scarce supply and, therefore, we ask the chapters to try and work with each other in an effort to minimize the effects of fewer Board visits. Hopefully this scheme will strengthen rather than weaken all the chapters.

On the positive side of the ledger, Board finances are in top condition and the Trustees are ably fulfilling their role once again. A southern rally is planned in Virginia for January 31st and a northern meeting will be held in mid-February. The renewed spirit of the New Year and the success of these two rallies will undoubtedly enable us to focus our attention on a stretch drive from here to Convention '71.

## Southern Expectations

by Barry Yeates - Editor

When Eric Maginnis visited with Doug Darby, the Southern V. P., in September Eric compiled a report of southern plans for the year. Because I have been out of contact with the south since convention, I am unable to offer any definitive advice on whether these plans have been completed or not; however, I am printing these plans here to show Doug's enthusiastic ideas and to allow the brothers to compare our actual successes with the hopeful proposals advanced earlier in the year.

Apparently the south began the year with Doug, five District Deputies, a Secretary and a two hundred dollar bank balance. The southern board at this time hoped to sponsor functions and raise further capital to enable them to contribute to the centennial fund and the I.B.C. coffers at the end of the year. Plans were also voiced concerning a southern GRIP which was to be published on a monthly basis. A southern president's conference was also planned and the idea of a November rally was to be placed on the conference agenda for discussion and opinions.

In early September Doug was working at organizing a series of alumni reunions which would hopefully encourage alumni to attend to '71 Convention to be held in Virginia. The idea of a large southern banquet was also listed as tentative on his list of plans.

Doug also voiced firm ideas concerning delinquent chapters. Any chapter failing to hold a formal meeting for a month would be subject to probationary action and District Deputies were to be regularly rotated among the various chapters to see that all was well throughout the south.

As you can see, the south was not suffering from a lack of ideas this year. Perhaps in the next GRIP we can expect an article from Doug and his Southern Board updating us on his plans and informing us of his successes over the first part of the year.

## A LOOK AT CONVENTION

The following two articles both concern our last convention held in Niagara Falls, Ontario in August. The first article was a satirical forecast written prior to the convention expressly for publication in the Garnet & Silver. The second article, written after the convention, deals in retrospect with the same basic theme. I suggest that you read both pieces for an interesting but unfortunate assessment of Gamma Delta Psi's Convention '70.

## 1970 Convention Prognostication

by Barry Yeates - Editor

What's the biggest noise in the news today? What topic demands the most newspaper ink, talk show discussion, radio time, and bridge club conversation? Pollution? Politics? Taxes? Wrong! The number one rap of the world is the youth revolution. Right! And justifiably so, you think smugly. Maybe you believe it, but I can't. At least not from personal observation and I'll tell you why!

For the past five years I've been active in this fraternity which is supposedly comprised of intelligent and ambitious young men of the future. You're all here ostensibly to engage in "the dissemination of ideas" and to acquire "organizational abilities". At least that is what the constitution says, doesn't it? Well, I say it's a total delusion bordering on an outright lie. After five years on the Board, I still see many of the same faces present that were here when I started. The establishment - Jamieson, Fleming, Guthrie, Marskell, et al - still rule with an iron fist which pushes policies down the throats of gaping, awe-inspired brothers. And we don't hear even one isolated cry of protest or one shred of dissent. It appears to me that 1984 has arrived early. The rank and file of Gamma Delta Psi is readily being absorbed and digested by the monolithic central authority without one word of remonstrance.

It seems to me that no one wants to become involved. Nobody has any drive, ambition, or desire to change the normal course of events. The theme is "let the government do it" all over again.

At rallies and conventions we are relentlessly pleading and searching for new ideas, old complaints and energetic brothers but to our dismay no one complains or offers new ideas. No one seems to want to work, or lead, or even talk. Summarily, I honestly believe that in most instances the fraternity is composed of functional deadheads - unimaginative conformists who would be afraid to offer one opinion even if they had one.

Where are the idealists and the protesters that I read about daily? Where are the spirited brothers dedicated to the improvement of the outdated organizational establishment? Where is Gamma Delta Psi's share of the angry youth which rankles under authority? Answer: they're nowhere to be found because apparently we don't have any.

Prove me right by coming to the convention and watching the show. Here's a preview of the action. They'll all be there for the banquet, and

the awards, and the parties, and the good times. They'll all be out for the ego trip. But only some will be at the meetings, only a few will be at the elections, and none will run for the international offices. Nobody will be interested enough to do a little work to alter the antiquated rules or challenge the cliquish establishment.

You think I'm wrong? Maybe I'm overly harsh, you say defensively. Be at the convention and see if I'm not right. Sit in your chair and watch it all happening - from the outside looking in. Again.

## Convention 70 Report

by Eric Maginnis - Northern Vice-President

At 9:00 p.m. on Friday evening, Bro. Keith Watkins and I arrived at the Park Motor Hotel in Niagara Falls, the site of the 1970 convention, and were immediately escorted to the meeting room. I was surprised by the large number of brothers in attendance; however, the audience soon began to diminish in true Delt form.

The Board had worried at the low number of registrations received prior to convention but apparently there were many unexpected arrivals for I was soon notified that all available rooms were occupied with new arrivals continuing to pour in unanticipated numbers. Eventually, most brothers were registered and rooms allocated to them but some unregistered individuals became unruly and our entire membership was threatened with eviction, before the trouble-makers were located and dealt with.

By this time almost everyone was exhibiting the best brotherly spirit possible. A few brothers had even managed to find some local girls whose intentions were definitely not of a brotherly nature.

Following the meeting it took Keith and I over an hour to get across the street to eat because we were besieged with questions concerning registrations, procedure, agenda and jewellery. Other reasons for our difficulties were that we were mistaken for plainclothes police by some brothers, mistaken for hotel employees by some girls, and nearly charged with inciting a riot by hotel police who had responded to the rising noise in our areas of the hotel.

After a quick snack we returned to the hotel, instructed the front desk to ring all our rooms for the morning meeting and went to bed.

(continued on page 2)

(Convention '70 Report — continued from page 1)

At the morning meeting we were aware that a large portion of last evening's revellers had failed to come out but we started things rolling without them and continued through the day with only a one hour break for lunch.

By the start of the last session on Sunday morning practically the only people in attendance were the delegates, the Board and the Trustees. Needless to say, no one from the floor ran for office and most of the new I.B.C. officers were elected by acclamation as usual.

Is this democratic? Is this the way in which an organization should be run? Many brothers habitually complain about the heavy handed rule and policies of the fraternity *but* I feel that individuals should not be accorded the right to complain about an existing situation when they will not take the energy or time to change it.

## Yearbook - Who wants them?

Well, after two years of waiting, screaming, and criticizing you will be happy to note that the 1970 yearbook has been ready for distribution for some time now. But who the hell's buying them? Nobody.

Where are the brothers who cried for a Garnet & Silver over the past two years? How many chapters have yet to buy Garnet & Silvers to sell to their members? Suddenly they must have all vanished or forgotten about the yearbook because our supply far exceeds the present demand. Sound familiar?

The book is selling for the ridiculously low price of \$1.00 even though it includes two years' worth of pictures and reports. I feel this is an extremely small price to pay for two years' cumulative fraternal memories, isn't it?

A brief note, along with either a cheque or money order for \$1.00 (payable to Gamma Delta Psi Fraternity International) will secure you a copy of the 1970 Garnet & Silver. Address all requests to:-

YEARBOOK '70,  
c/o R. E. Guthrie,  
105 LaRose Avenue,  
Apt. 1109,  
WESTON 626, Ontario.

## What is our bag?

by Doug Jamieson — Trustee

"Fraternalities may be on the way out". These challenging words were voiced by several of the leading fraternalists at the recent Inter Fraternity Congress Seminar. I, for one, believe the words are true and I think if we look at the evidence we will see the unmistakable signs of failure within our own organization. Chapters from all over the U.S. and Canada are having increasing trouble to get good prospective members. They say — "There is too much competition from other fraternities" — "Nobody wants to go through a pledging period" "Brotherhood doesn't mean anything anymore". Of more immediate concern there is increasing difficulty in filling the International Board Offices with active bodies who will accept the responsibilities to assure continuation of our fraternity.

WHY? Well first let us consider the reasons for joining a fraternity:-

(1) PRESTIGE AND BELONGING — We have always got a lot of mileage out of the fact that there is snob appeal in being a fraternity member and wearing the pin and jacket. This is a lousy way to run a railroad, but we have rationalized saying "even if the motives of the pledge are not the best, when we get him in he will realize that there are more important things";

(2) FOR BROTHERHOOD — Define that if you can in such a way that you can use it to convince some to join Gamma Delta Psi;

(3) EXCHANGE OF IDEAS — with men of similar age but different backgrounds;

(4) SOCIAL ENJOYMENT — attend exclusive parties (more snob appeal);

(5) ACQUISITION OF SOCIAL GRACES — presumably by association with older brothers.

The question is — are these of any appeal to to-day's young people?

The young men of to-day are sophisticated at the age of thirteen or fourteen — prestige means less and less — everyone is "doing their own thing". Why join a fraternity? *What Can You Do In A Fraternity That You Can't Do Outside . . . Very Little.*

Then we continue to put our prospective members through an ordeal of degrading pledgship which at best has very little concrete effect on assuring our new members will be active and which probably is one more reason for young men deciding "this is not for me".

O.K. — So what — Do we fold up? This is our challenge! The time has come for fraternities to consider the modernization of themselves with a view to leading the young people. It is revealing of our state when you consider that two years ago we were concerned with teenage drinking when liquor was on the way out and drugs on the way in. The fraternities must concern themselves with to-day's world — it must offer education and leadership to youth on drugs, birth control, sex education, politics, world situations — we must take a stand and we must speak out.

If you feel strongly about Gamma Delta Psi and have some ideas about where we are going and what we should do, your ideas are wanted.

What's our bag? TO LEAD and we've got to start NOW.

## A glimpse into history

by Dave Bartlett — Past-Historian

Gamma Delta Psi was founded at Hill House High School in 1879 in New Haven, Connecticut. "Gamma was founded by Bros. No. 1 Walter Rawling Dann, No. 2 Arthur H. Jackson, No. 3 Wylie Brantly Jones and No. 4 Alexander Wurts founder. Sixteen members signed the original charter including the above four.

"Our idea was that a fraternity body small enough to be wieldy of kindred spirits with similar ideals could accomplish something for ourselves and for the school." This statement made by Brother Arthur H. Jackson in 1941 and tells us exactly what Gamma Delta Psi is.

Three of our founders Bros. Dann, Jones and Jackson were old friends even before they entered high school. It was Brother Wurts who got the idea of "Gamma" and was advised by one of his brothers who was a Yale fraternity man. Brother Wurts chose Brothers Dann, Jones and Jackson to carry out his plan.

Alpha chapter of Gamma Delta Psi met once a week in a corner room of a top floor in Hill House High School and Brother Al Wurts held "Gamma's" first social function in his barn. The chief bill of fare was peanuts.

Brother Wurts designed the pin in the shape of a crescent because the fraternity was new and bound to grow just like a new moon.

In 1884 Gamma became a national fraternity with the induction of Beta chapter at DeVeaux Military College in Suspension Bridge, New York. Our strength continued with the addition of Delta chapter in 1887 at Grand Rapids High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. "Gamma" had begun to move. A chapter a year was added until the outbreak of World War One.

## List of Officers

### BOARD OF CONTROL

President ..... Bob Guthrie  
Southern V.P. .... Doug Darby  
Northern V.P. .... Eric Maginnis  
Secretary ..... Keith Comeau  
Treasurer ..... Dan Gardiner  
Historian ..... Ray House  
Editor ..... Barry Yeates

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman ..... Paul Graham  
Member ..... Larry Bell  
Member ..... Mark Courtemanche  
Member ..... Ron Fleming  
Member ..... Doug Jamieson  
Member ..... Ken Marskell  
Member ..... Mac Stoodley

## My Creed

I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon — if I can. I seek opportunity — not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the state look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build, to fail and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence, the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence nor my dignity for a handout. It is my heritage to think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations and to face the world boldly and say, this I have done!

## Why Fraternity?

You are a member of a fraternity, 'Why' is the question that only you can answer. A question, however, that you may not have the answer to is 'Why fraternity?'

A Fraternity is a brotherhood of men, which more than any other type of organization inculcates in its members the virtues of tolerance, scholarship, social poise and citizenship.

From our early youth, we select our friends on the basis of common likes and dislikes. Our gregariousness leads us to the company of those who share the same interests and backgrounds. This desire to band together leads us to the establishment of clubs and fraternities. However, while a club and a fraternity share this common basis for coming into being a fraternity differs from a club in many respects.

Through its dignified ritual, the fraternity gives a real purpose to its existence on a moral and philosophical level of a continuing nature rather than basing its reason for existence solely on temporal objectives of immediate interest. The fraternity, through its esoteric work, teaches its members a philosophy of life, which to some degree remain with its members all their life, serving as a lode-star along Life's path. Untold thousands of fraternity men have found themselves that casual boyhood acquaintances, nurtured in the garden of fraternalism have blossomed into mature, sincere, and firm friendships which endure for all time.

The fraternity teaches tolerance for the viewpoint of others; acceptance of the decision of the majority; assumption of responsibility as a chapter officer or committee member; reverence to one's God; loyalty to one's school, friends and fraternity; achievement of scholarship, service to one's community and fellow-men; and respect for one's parents and civil authority. The fraternity has for one of its most important goals the development of character for it recognizes that a good fraternity man, above all, must be a good citizen. Thus, the fraternity seeks to build for the future rather than just for the exigencies of the moment.

Knowing that a good fraternity man must be familiar with the "give" and "take" of life, the fraternity seeks to afford its members a well-rounded experience through the cooperative planning and execution of social and athletic programs such as dances and dinners, football, baseball, and basketball games and track meets. The fraternity feels that it must not only cultivate the social graces in its members but a sense of good sportsmanship and a competitive spirit as well.

Through its insistence on formal meetings and observance of parliamentary procedure, the fraternity offers its members training in speaking on one's feet and the conduct of meetings which will be ever valuable to them in their later business, social and civic activities.

Fraternities are not confined to just one locality as are clubs, but generally consist of a number of chapters which may be located from coast to coast, confined within a limited number of states, or perhaps just within one state. However, regardless of its distribution of chapters, a fraternity's membership makes available to you an ever-ready friendship among people and in localities far beyond your normal contacts. The best part of this is the fact that as the years pass and your fraternity continues to grow, this circle of friends grows in constantly widening circles.

Opponents of the fraternity system claim that fraternities are bad because they breed snobishness, practice discrimination, and are generally undemocratic. Nothing can be further from the truth. Although the fraternity develops a high "esprit de corps" among its members, it likewise teaches them that its membership is not just an end in itself but a means towards the end of developing good citizenship which requires tolerance, understanding, and respect for others. The fraternity is selective in that it invites into its membership only those whom it feels congenial and who will share the same common interests and ideals. This is no different basis than we as individuals use in the selection of our close friends and associates. In actual practice, no organization can be more democratic than fraternities for all members have equal rights and votes, and although the decision of the majority prevails, the rights of the minority are protected.

A fraternity comes to the assistance of the parents at that time in a young man's life when he begins to look to his friends for advice and guidance.

Now, just a word about the secrecy and traditions of fraternities. As part of your pledge-training, you will be taught the traditions and history of your fraternity in order that you might come to know and appreciate it fully. Without knowledge, there can be no appreciation, so to become a member worthy of your fraternity, you must know its customs, laws, and traditions. Secrecy is practiced not because a fraternity has anything to hide or of which to be ashamed, but for three reasons: (1) to retain for each fraternity its individuality and 'personality' of principles, ideals, and lore; (2) to serve as a means of identification between members of different localities; and (3) to preserve the privacy of its business. Basically all fraternities are similar, but each has its own individuality and personality.

Fraternities teach loyalty, group consciousness and the ability to think and work with your brothers. If joined in this spirit, a fraternity will prove to be one of the most wonderful, valuable and rewarding experiences of your life. Best of all, it will be a lifetime experience.

## Letters from interested brothers

Although both of these letters are quite old by now, I still believe that you will find them interesting and informative.

Brother Guthrie:

Being that Beta Xi received the Board's letter (won't it be great when Gamma Delta Psi Pledges walk into a room and say "Hi, John!") only last Sunday at the rally, I apologize for replying so late.

The system of pledging is an extremely vital topic within the fraternity, and change may be necessary, but there are precautions which must be taken. It is extremely dangerous to generalize on some subjects, especially when our Fraternity exists in such widely varied areas. Each individual chapter will encounter its own problems of opposition from school administrations, local attitudes and acceptance of fraternities, and competition from other fraternities in attracting pledges.

Beta Xi is opposed to the idea of public hazing, physical abuse and degradation of the pledge. But, we are in favour of lengthy Coating periods, as lengthy as is necessary to familiarize the pledge with the fraternity so that he may make his own judgments, and as lengthy as is necessary for the brothers to familiarize themselves with the pledge so that they may decide whether the pledge will be beneficial as a brother of Gamma Delta Psi.

I include in this letter a thesis given by T. L. Bullock, an active fraternity man in the U.S.A. This address was given during a meeting of an inter-fraternity council. While dealing with college fraternities, Mr. Bullock hits home on several topics, and several points are applicable to our own situation. When reading this thesis, it struck me that the greatest problems facing Gamma Delta Psi are not exclusively ours, but are faced by fraternities as a whole. How, then, are we to overcome such problems when powerful college fraternities have failed?

The answer lies in the brothers of Gamma Delta Psi attacking the problems for all we're worth. It is useless for the International Board of Control to attack the problems; it is useless for the Board of Trustees to attack the problems; it is useless for the individual chapters to attack the problems. Once and for all every brother of our Fraternity must join together, regardless of "rank", and the Board, the individual brother of our Fraternity must join to Trustees, and the thirty chapters unite in spirit and in purpose to make Gamma Delta Psi THE Fraternity, and to put real meaning back into the words "for the mutual benefit and social enjoyment of the brothers".

It is then that Gamma Delta Psi Fraternity International will be able to look forward to an honourable and respectable future to combine with an honourable and respectable past. It is then that "Gaining Ever, Failing Never" becomes a reality. If then we fail, we do not deserve to be brothers in Gamma Delta Psi.

Fraternally yours, Ian McFarlane, Beta Xi.

\* \* \* \*

Dear Brothers:

April 13, 1969

This is my first correspondence with the I.B.C. since 1965 when I became a passive brother from Beta Alpha chapter in Hopewell, Virginia.

To-day I received a GRIP forwarded to me from my home in Hopewell. Kind of ironical that it arrived on April 13th — must be a reminder of the fraternity's history.

Although I am in the Republic of Viet Nam, some 16,000 miles from the physical location of my chapter, to-day I was reunited with it in spirit. This correspondence helps me to endure the time here in the 101st Airborne Division located near the DMZ.

Sorry this isn't much of a birthday card but we have no means here for things like that. But, I am thinking about the fraternity and I believe it is the thought that counts.

I offer the fraternity my best wishes for success and prosperity in the future. Also, hello to Brothers Guthrie and Courtemanche. I wish they were here and I was there — ha ha!

Fraternally yours, Allen Stanley, Beta Alpha.

I. F. C. CONVENTION 1970



Ray House — Kevin Stockdale



Swearing in of Officers — K. Marskell 2nd from R.



Bob Guthrie



Larry Bell



Eric Maginnes

Notes and Information

1971 YEARBOOK INFORMATION

1. All Chapters are expected to submit 300 work Report, plus pictures, by April 30th, 1971.
2. Any brothers wishing to submit any material for publication must also abide by April 30th deadline.
3. Queries, submissions, pictures may be sent to Yearbook,

c/o B. YEATES  
42 Larstone Avenue  
TORONTO 550, Ontario  
Telephone:- 233-0357 (Area Code 416)

GRIP INFORMATION

If you do not presently receive a Grip and would like to get one in future, please write to the President stating your request and your address. Although publication is sporadic you will be added to the list and you will receive the next Grip.

Write to: GRIP,  
c/o R. E. Guthrie,  
105 LaRose Avenue, Apt. 1109,  
WESTON 626, Ontario.

DONATIONS

We are happy to announce donations of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars each to Variety Village and Crippled Children's Society. This money was raised at a benefit circus sponsored by Gamma Delta Psi last year. Plans for a similar event to take place this year are underway and we hope to increase our contributions substantially if we are successful.

ALUMNI NOTES

DAVE SCHAD (Beta Delta) — is now in his first year at the University of Guelph taking Phys. Ed.

DAVE TAYLOR (Beta Beta) — this ex-District Deputy is back at the University of Waterloo taking Engineering.

PAUL GIBSON (Beta Mu) — this I.B.C. officer for three years is now an O.P.P. Constable in Spanish, Ontario.

ROSS TAYLOR (Beta Xi) — has recently returned from an extended trip to Europe.

DAVE MILNE (Beta Rho) — this first charter brother of Beta Rho is now a professional photographer.

BILL MIDDLETON (Beta Mu) — now serving as a Lieutenant in the Canadian Navy as navigator of Canada's only hydrofoil.

STEW SWEET (Gamma Eta) — is presently in his second year at Queen's University.

MARK COURTEMANCHE (Beta Zeta) — and his wife Eng have a new addition to the family — a baby boy. Congratulations!

BILL KERR (Beta Mu) — this past Northern V.P. is now attending the University of Western Ontario.

RON ADAMS (Beta Alpha) — this past Southern V.P. is presently serving in the U.S. Army as an M.P. in Korea.

GEORGE SOWCHUK (Beta Xi) — this long term chapter president attends college in the U.S. on a rowing scholarship.

DON GRAVES (Beta Gamma) — this former Southern V.P. is living in Richmond and manages a drive-in restaurant.

AL WESTON (Gamma Beta) — this ex.-I.B.C. officer is now an accountant living in Agincourt.

PAUL WEMPLE (Beta Rho) — is currently a second year student at Waterloo Lutheran University.

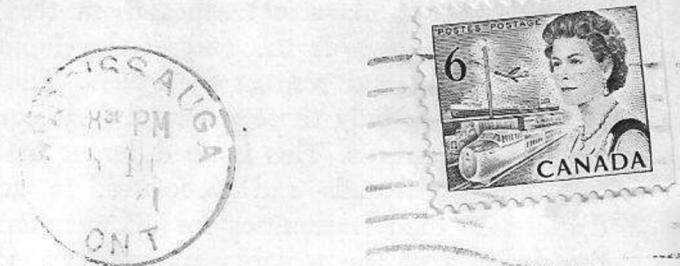
LARRY CRAIGHEAD (Beta Mu) — is an ex.-I.B.C. editor now employed by Bell Canada and living in Keene, Ontario.

BRIAN WREATHAM (Beta Delta) — is completing his final year of an Honour B.A. in Geography at the University of Guelph.

DENNIS COX (Alpha Phi) — this past I.B.C. officer graduated from Humber College last year and plans to attend university in the fall.

FRANK WALKER (Beta Alpha) — this ex-Board member is now an F.B.I. agent in Washington.

GAMMA DELTA PSI FRATERNITY  
c/o R. E. GUTHRIE — PRESIDENT  
105 LAROSE AVENUE  
APT. 1109  
WESTON, ONT., CANADA



Fermoile, J.L.S.  
~~Moore Business Forms Inc.~~  
~~1200 Sixth Ave.~~  
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~~Suite 250~~

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