

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ACC

10000/110/233 2/XO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

10000/110/233 2/XOA - REQUISITIONED VEHICLES FOR
USE OF AMG OFFICERS
MAR. 45 - AUG. 45

DHE/ES

INVER OFFICE MEMO
OFFICE OF G-4 (B)

Ext: 285.

CA/136/7

20 August 1945.

SUBJECT : Investigation of Irregularities.

TO : A/V.P. Establishment Section.
Executive Officer (B).

1. Reference conversation at conference this morning.
2. I considered the question of claims being brought against officers of AC/AMG for illegal requisitioning etc. about a year ago and produced a memorandum on the subject. I would like to repeat the observations made at that time rather more fully.

3. There are undoubtedly grounds for innumerable claims against officers of AC/AMG for illegal requisitioning of vehicles and many other stores. The claims which we are getting now are only from the early days.

4. The reasons for what has happened are as far as I can see as follows:-

(1) A most unwise dictum in the early days of instruction that civil affairs officers should as a matter of prestige see that they had the best of everything. This was widely quoted at the Military Govt School and has been liberally interpreted in Italy.

(2) Complete lack of reasonable G-4 education of officers and more particularly commanders.

(3) Non-existence of any G.R.O. on requisitioning in Italy before February 1944.

(4) Under-equipment of AC/AMG with the intention that there should be requisitioning but without any attempt to lay down limits or channels for such requisitioning.

(5) Non-existence before the spring of 1944 of any efficient central 'G-4' staff and the existence of too many self-styled central G-1 staffs.

(6) Irresponsibility on the part of most officers and the fact that those in a position to check this irresponsibility were often the least responsible.

(7) The fact that everybody "got away with it".

(8) A lack of understanding of the needs of AC/AMG by A.P.H.Q. and G-5 which has made it difficult to provide sufficient equipment for the Regions to function through legal methods.

I make these points to show that in many cases the officer who on the surface appears blameworthy, in many cases is the victim of the administrative chaos in which AC/AMG started work and from which it has been struggling to free itself ever since.

6. There have been cases in the past where real fault has appeared and no action has been taken. The fact that some got away with it has encouraged others, perhaps even innocently, to do the same thing.

7. To investigate these cases is going to take a long time as many officers have left AC/AMG and even the army. In the cases which I have tried to investigate I have found it is, to all extents and purposes, impossible to say which officer is really to blame for the irregularity and even more so to say if he did it innocently, through one of the reasons set out above or for his own private profit or comfort.

4. The reasons for what has happened are as far as I can see as follows:-

(1) A most unwise dictum in the early days of instruction that civil affairs officers should as a matter of prestige see that they had the best of everything. This was widely quoted at the Military Govt School and has been liberally interpreted in Italy.

(2) Complete lack of reasonable G-4 education of officers and more particularly commanders.

(3) Non-existence of any G.R.O. on requisitioning in Italy before February 1944.

(4) Under-equipment of AC/AMG with the intention that there should be requisitioning but without any attempt to lay down limits or channels for such requisitioning.

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(7) The fact that everybody "got away with it".

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I make these points to show that in many cases the officer who on the surface appears blameworthy, in many cases is the victim of the administrative chaos in which AC/AMG started work and from which it has been struggling to free itself ever since.

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I feel sure that if any attempt is made to fix responsibility on individual officers it will only be successful in very few cases and at the expense of time and trouble out of all proportion to the question involved. I think also that it is fairly certain that in this way the innocent will be punished and the guilty still get away with it, as they will have been more careful to cover their tracks.

8. I feel that unless there is to be a complete investigation into all the activities of officers of AC/AMG it would be most unfair to attempt to saddle one or two unfortunates with trifling irregularities.

9. In these circumstances I recommend that a claims officer be appointed on the British side to work with the corresponding officer on the American side and with instructions to satisfy themselves that the claims are true. Subject to such satisfaction I suggest that claims be treated as claims against AC/AMG as a whole and that finance be requested to deal with them.

10. Such claims officer should be one who has volunteered to serve on, so as to ensure continuity.

Copy to : G-4 (A)

Donald W. Haslam

D. W. HASLAM
Lt. Col. R.A.
G-4 (B)

3286

C O P YP 35890
AUG 160941BP/4089
AUG 16 1445

ROUTINE

AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE PHODS

HQ ALCOM

RESTRICTED.

Extremely tight situation on vehicle and tire production in ZI as well as critical POL situation has been brought to attention of this theater by WAR DEPT cable. In order to conserve these items it is directed that the following action be taken and a report made to this Hq not later than 16 September of action accomplished: 1 - check to see that instructions published in AR 850-15 relative to vehicle pooling are strictly complied with. 2 - carefully supervise the employment of vehicles at all times to insure that unnecessary trips are avoided and improper use by personnel in all categories is eliminated as much as possible. 3 - effect strict rationing of vehicles allowing units to retain only those vehicles necessary to accomplish their current operational mission. 4 - insure that all vehicles not specifically required for current activities including CCM and requisitioned vehicles are disposed of in accordance with existing procedures. 5 - devise and put into effect such methods and programs as will promote the conservation of these items.

DIST

Action	G4 A	
Info	Chief Commissioner	
	Estab Sec	
	File 2	3285
	Float	

E X T R A C T (AR 850-15) Military Motor Vehicles.

* * * *

- para 7a(4) No personal assignments of motor vehicles will be made except to the Secretary of War and medical officers on out-patient service.
- para 7a(5) Official cars will not be used to transport military personnel to and from their place of residence or to their place of business.
- para 7c(1) Commanding generals of service commands and organizational commanders of division and higher echelons will pool motor transportation to the fullest extent. From these pools allocation of motor transportation will be made to lower units to meet requirements in excess of the capacity of their organic transportation for emergency movements of troops and supplies.
- para 7c(4) "In no case will motor transportation be requested when rail transportation can be used to better advantage."

* * * *

C O P YF 35890
AUG 160941BF/4088
AUG 16 1445

ROUTINE

AFHQ SIGNED SACMED CITE FHGDS

HQ ALCOM

RESTRICTED.

Extremely tight situation on vehicle and tire production in ZI as well as critical POL situation has been brought to attention of this theater by WAR DEPT cable. In order to conserve these items it is directed that the following action be taken and a report made to this Hq not later than 10 September of action accomplished: 1 - check to see that instructions published in AR 850-15 relative to vehicle pooling are strictly complied with. 2 - carefully supervise the employment of vehicles at all times to insure that unnecessary trips are avoided and improper use by personnel in all categories is eliminated as much as possible. 3 - effect strict rationing of vehicles allowing units to retain only those vehicles necessary to accomplish their current operational mission. 4 - insure that all vehicles not specifically required for current activities including CMM and requisitioned vehicles are disposed of in accordance with existing procedures. 5 - devise and put into effect such methods and programs as will promote the conservation of these items.

DIST

ACTION	G4 A
INFOR	Chief Commissioner
	Estab Sec
	File 2
	Float

3283

1096

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: FX 33940

Message Centre No: E/3111

Date/Time of Origin: AUG 092040B

Date Time Rec'd: AUG 101130

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ATOMSA SIGNED COMBINED GIVE HANDS

TO: 5TH ARMY PDS AAF/MTO ROME AREA ATOMSA REPCO AND UTC HQAF
ERSI ABC WHELEWATE MAPLES WSA INFO PENSOUTH ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL

Extremely tight situation on vehicle and tire production in ⁴³ as well as critical POL situation has been brought to attention of this Theater by WAR DEPARTMENT cable.

In order to conserve these items, it is directed that the following action be taken by all commands:

1. Check to see that instructions published in AR 850-15 relative to vehicle pooling are strictly complied with.
2. Carefully supervise the employment of vehicles at all times to insure that unnecessary trips are avoided and improper use by personnel in all Categories is eliminated as much as possible.
3. Effect strict rationing of vehicles allowing units to retain only those vehicles necessary to accomplish their current operational missions.
4. Insure that all vehicles not specifically required for current activities, including GEM and requisitioned vehicles, be turned in to appropriate ordnance depots without delay.
5. Devise and put into effect such methods and programs as will promote the conservation of these items.



INFO-ACTION

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO-ACTION
INFO

DIST

EST SEC

CHIEF COMMISSION

ROOM SEC

TN SC 2

34 A

2675 REGT

TR OPER GRP

FILE 2

YLOAT

3282

3434

1097

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

0 11989
AUGUST 14/2059B

G-4 SECTION AMR
ALCOM

Est. Sec.
Col. Partin
info

W/3940
AUGUST 15/0730D
ROUT DNE



UNCLASSIFIED.

Return of requisitioned vehicles to the Italian authorities with WD tires, batteries, equipment or accessories constitutes a transfer to civil account of WD property.

such action will not be accomplished without the specific approval of this headquarters.

This policy has been written into each specific authority to derequisition vehicles. Attention invited to para 10, MFOUSA letter AG 451/764D-0 dated 14 April 1945, subject, requisition, derequisition or rental of civilian motor vehicles by the US forces.

related subject, all vehicles will be returned to the designated Italian governmental agency- not to the original owner

DIKT

ACTION : G-4 (A)

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EST 800
FILE (2)
PLANT 3281

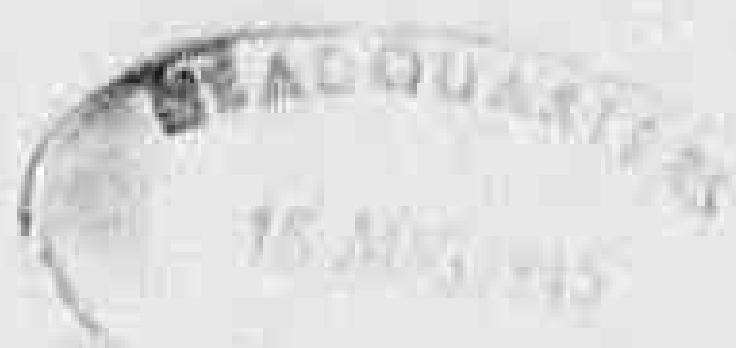
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785015

CONFIDENTIAL

Gr Parker
info
Lester Lee

EX 15335
AUG 14 1950



2/3942
NR 250930
HOUTIER

HTOUSA SIGNED COMBINED CITE MAGDS

5th ARMY, PHS, ADMIRALTY DEPUT, AAFMTO, ROME AREA COMMAND UIC, HQ COMD AF INFO
MPTA, VITA, CHTA, VIAGGIO RTA, FRANCOLISE RTA, AICOM, AAMTO, PENSOUTH

CONFIDENTIAL

Effective immediately no further property, either real or personal, will be requisitioned or acquired on temporary receipt unless specifically approved by this HQ.

Action to derequisition all real and personal property, and to release property on temporary receipt, as soon as such properties become excess to requirements, will be initiated. This program will be expedited by consolidating facilities wherever possible and by releasing personal property to the Italian Government when such are no longer essential to operations. It is specifically directed that vehicles be derequisitioned or released if on temporary receipt with the least possible delay. Detailed letter instructions soon follow.

PER

INFO-ACTION
INFO

G-4 (JA)
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EXT SEC
FILE 2
FLOAT

3280

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/HND No.

785015

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

FST
Col. Parker

Originator's Reference: PX 35631

Message Centre No: 7/4020

Date/Time of Origin: AUG 151332Z

Date/Time Rec'd: AUG 151730

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ATCUBA SIGNED CONDENSED DISE BASHD

TO: ALCON 5TH ARMY

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Concur in policy, reference 5TH ARMY cable 7531, of not evacuating ALCON vehicles to FENBASE. AC to arrange to evacuate vehicles beyond 3RD echelon repair to AC shops

HEA
ERS
15 AUG 1945
A
C

DIST

ACTION RST SEC 2
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER

84 A

84 B

EN SC 2

THICK UP

FILE 2

PLANT

ACTION

3279

RESTRICTED

File: 2/XOA - REQUISITIONED VEHICLES FOR USE OF AMG OFFICERS.
(LIST OF PAPERS).

NUMBER	DATE	FROM	TO	SUBJECT
1	12 Mar 45	AFHQ	5th & 8th Armies	Req Veh fr AMG Offors.
2	17 Apr 45	Col Parkin	CG, 5th Army	" " " " " "
3	26 Apr 45	Col Parkin	See Distribution	Use of Vehs Req by
				Prefects in AMG Terrtry
4	30 Apr 45	Col Parkin	Toscana Region	" " " " " "
5	18 Mar 45	15th Army Gp	SCAO 5 & 6 Army	Req Veh fr AMG Offors.

785015

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 15TH ARMY GROUP
G-5 SECTION
APO 777

Ref: G-5/13/3.8

WHD/ajs
16 March 1945

SUBJECT: Requisitioned Vehicles for Use of AMG Officers.

TO: SCAG, Fifth Army.
SCAG, Eighth Army.

1. Copy of letter from AFHQ to Fifth and Eighth Armies (AG 451/017 GEG-O of 12 Mar 45) is attached.
2. Will you please state if the authority to requisition civilian motor vehicles given to Fifth and Eighth Armies by AFHQ in their Admin Memo No. 5, of 31 Jan 45, has been delegated to you? If not, will you formally request the Army Commander to delegate this authority to you and let us know the decision as quickly as possible.

Nelson V. Mendenhall

NELSON V. MENDENHALL
Colonel, G.S.C.
A. G. of S., G-5

1 Incl:

Copy ltr AG 451/017 GEG-O, dtd 12 Mar 45.

Copy to: HQ Allied Commission.

G-4(A) says this has been taken
care of

3277

1103

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785015

Colonel
C. M. PARKIN

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
(Establishment Section)

CHP/TJA/ges

4

04/RY/O 23168 NA

30 April 1945

SUBJECT: Requisitioned Vehicles.

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Toscana Region,
Allied Military Government.

ATTENTION: Major John S. Andrews.

1. Reference your RV III/96/2/212 of 13 April 1945, subject: "Chrysler Sedan Car NA 23168", the question of whether or not AMG officers could use vehicles requisitioned by Prefects has been discussed and our 04/41/A of 26 April 1945, subject: "Use of Vehicles Requisitioned by Prefects in AMG Territory", copy attached, clearly states regulations applicable to any of these cases.

2. Any vehicles in your Region falling in this category will be disposed of in accordance with provisions of attached letter.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

C. M. PARKIN
Colonel, Infantry
Executive Officer (US)

3276

1 Incl.
Ltr. Hq AG, 04/41/A, dtd 26 Apr 45.

1104

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
(Establishment Section)

3

Ex-officio (A)
CP

CA/41/a

26 April 1945

SUBJECT: Use of Vehicles Requisitioned by Prefects in AMG Territory.

TO : See Distribution.

1. It has been brought to the attention of this headquarters that officers in AMG Regions have been authorizing Prefects to requisition civilian motor vehicles for AMG officers use.
2. Providing transportation for AMG officers in Regions is the responsibility of this headquarters and no authority has been granted to AMG officers authorizing them to use vehicles requisitioned by Prefects.
3. Therefore, under no circumstances will officers assigned to AMG Regions of the Allied Commission be permitted to use civilian motor vehicles requisitioned by Prefects, Sindaco, or any Italian Agency, and any such vehicles at present so being used will be returned to respective Prefects for disposition.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

3275

C. M. PARKIN

C. M. PARKIN
Colonel, Infantry
Acting Vice President

DISTRIBUTION:

Group I - Dist. "C"
Group II - Dist. "A"
Group III - Dist. "B"
G-4 (A) - 25

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 294
(Establishment Section)

CGP/VJA/cc

(2)

G4/41/A

17 April 1945

SUBJECT: Requisitioned Vehicles for use of A.M.G. Officers.

TO : Commanding General,
Headquarters Fifth Army,
APO 464, U. S. Army.

ATTENTION: C-4.

Reference is made to the following:

- a. Allied Force Headquarters, AG 451/317 CGG-C of 18 March 45, subject: "Requisitioned Vehicles for use of A.M.G. Officers".
- b. Headquarters Allied Commission, G4/120/6 of 19 March 45, subject: "Requisitioned Vehicles for use of A.M.G. Officers".
- c. Headquarters, A.M.G., Fifth Army of 24 March 45, subject: "Requisitioned Vehicles for use of A.M.G. Officers".

1. The Establishment Section at this Headquarters has carefully discussed the procurement problems in connection with the actual procedure to be adopted for obtaining vehicles in 8th Army and 5th Army Areas, and the following plan is submitted for your consideration and approval:

a. Fifth Army will be responsible for providing vehicles for A.M.G. Regions as follows:

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---|-----|-----------------------------------|
| (1) | Piemonte Region | - | 107 | deficiencies (Passenger carrying) |
| (2) | Liguria | " | 82 | " |
| (3) | Lombardia | " | 140 | " |

b. Eighth Army will be responsible for providing vehicles for A.M.G. Regions as follows:

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---|----|-----------------------------------|
| (1) | Amilia Region | - | 80 | deficiencies (passenger carrying) |
| (2) | Venezia | " | 93 | " |
| (3) | Venezia Giulia | - | 80 | " |

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Ltr, HQ, AC, Establishment Section, File G4/41/A, dtd 17 April 45, subject: "Requisitioned Vehicles for use of A.M.G. Officers".

2. Since British and U.S. requisitioning procedure and accountability differs to a large degree, it is requested that the following procedure be considered and adopted by G-4, 5th Army, to provide vehicles mentioned in Paragraph 1 (a) above.

a. G-4 (A) this Headquarters will request authority from G-4, Fifth Army, to pick up in each Region the number of vehicles deficient.

b. G-4 (A), Headquarters A.C., will then authorize Regions to pick up their authorized number of vehicles on a temporary receipt (copy attached).

c. Officers picking up vehicles will forward temporary receipt to the Regional Requisitioning Officer who will formalize and prepare all Requisition Forms.

d. After requisition forms have been completed with owner's signature etc., Regional Requisitioning Officer will forward two (2) copies to G-4 (A), Headquarters A.C., who will forward two (2) copies to G-4, 5th Army, for approval.

e. G-4, Fifth Army, will return approved requisition retaining a copy for record.

3. The present A.C. directives governing Registration and Accountability will remain in effect. Copies of Establishment Memorandums 12, 14, 21 of 1944, and No. 5 of 1945 are attached for information.

4. The above outlined procedure is considered feasible in that it would be difficult for the appropriate 5th Army procurement agencies to procure vehicles, obtain owners' signatures on requisitions, whereas CAO's will readily find vehicles on the spot and owners will be available to complete all necessary paper work.

5. This Headquarters does not feel that Regional Commissioners should deal direct with G-4, 5th Army, and the proposed plan will enable G-4 (A) this Headquarters to maintain an accurate record of all requisitioned vehicles in Regions as it has in the past. The above plan, if approved, will also enable this Headquarters to do most of the actual requisition paper work and leave G-4, Fifth Army, only to process and approve these papers. While A.C. still had requisitioning authority, this procedure worked very satisfactorily with some Area MTU's. **8273**

Ltr, HQ, AG, Establishment Section, file 04/41/A, dtd 17 April 45, subject:
"Requisitioned Vehicles for use of A.M.C. Officers".

6. Your comments and suggestions on the proposed plan will be greatly appreciated. This Headquarters will be glad to send a G-4 (A) representative to confer with your G-4 Section if you deem it necessary.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

C. M. PARKIN
Colonel, Infantry
Acting Vice President

5 Incls.
Incl 1. Cy of Temporary Receipt.
Incl 2. Est Memo 12.
Incl 3. Est Memo 14.
Incl 4. Est Memo 21.
Incl 5. Est Memo 3.

1108

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

FORM R-5

HEADQUARTERS _____ REGION _____
Allied Military Government

(Date)

TEMPORARY RECEIPT

1. Receipt is hereby acknowledged from (name) _____
(address) _____, of Motor Vehicle;

Make _____	Number of wheels _____
Body (type) _____	Number of Tires _____
Motor No. _____	Size of Tires _____
Chassis No. _____	Year (if known) _____
License No. _____	Condition _____

Name of Officer (Print)

ASN

Organization

Signature of Officer

2. Formal requisition will be issued upon presentation of this receipt together with "Libretto di Circolazione", by Requisitioning Officer _____
Allied Military Government. (Region) _____

NOTE: a) Officer only will requisition vehicle on temporary receipt and will clearly PRINT NAME, RANK and ORGANIZATION.

b) To be completed in duplicate, original to owner, duplicate forwarded to Regional Requisitioning Officer without delay.

3271

TRANSLATION OF PARAGRAPH 2 :

Il foglio di requisizione originale, sara' rilasciato, contro presentazione di questa ricevuta e del libretto di Circolazione, dall'Ufficiale addetto alle Requisizioni della Regione _____, Governo Militare Alleato.

File #1

785015

SECRETALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512Col. Parker
JC/ab

AF 215

SECRET

Auth: E.C.

Initials: [Signature]

12 March 1945

12 March 1945

File
Sgt
Est.

①

AG 451/017 GEG-O

SUBJECT: Requisitioned Vehicles for Use of AMG Officers

TO: Commanding General, Fifth Army, APO 464
Headquarters, Eighth Army(original to
Col. Liska)

1. The Allied Commission has expressed concern that provincial AMG officers are likely to find themselves hampered by lack of personal transportation on entry into Northern Italy.
2. The need for provincial AMG Officers to be fully mobile cannot be overstressed. This is especially so in the early stages of entry. Administration in the north will suffer severely if these officers are unnecessarily restricted, and are thereby prevented from carrying out their important task with efficiency. This is most likely to occur if the transport entitlement of the Allied Commission is regarded, in the early stages, as fixed. In view of the unpredictability of the Allied Commission's task in the initial stages of administration in new territory the transportation needs should be regarded as elastic.
3. The responsibility for ensuring that AMG officers are properly mobile is recognized as yours.
4. You are therefore requested, in the early stages of occupancy, to apply in a liberal way the provisions of paragraph 3, Section II, AFHQ Administrative Memorandum Number 59.
5. As soon as practicable the whole provisions of AFHQ Administrative Memorandum Number 59 will be applied, and any excessive vehicles requisitioned in the early stages will be properly accounted for and suitably disposed of.
6. For your information, Allied Commission has strongly pressed for separate requisitioning authority. As this might well lead to competition and lack of control these requests have been disapproved.

3270

HEADQUARTERS
14 MAR 1945
A. C.**SECRET****SECRET**

SECRET

SECRET

Ltr, AFHQ, file AG 591/017 CMO-0, etc 12 March 1945 (cont'd)

As the total needs can best be assessed by you, this communication is solely for the purpose of bringing the Allied Commission's fears to your attention.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

R. H. Freese
R. H. FREESE
Captain, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

- 5 - En addressee
- 1 - G-5
- 1 - G-4
- 1 - ORD(A)
- 1 - C(AE)
- 2 - ALCON
- 2 - CG, 15th Army Group
- 2 - AG Records
- 1 - AG H & D

SECRET

SECRET

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