'41 grad finds missionary life rewarding

In the 1941 Aggie prophecies, next to the name of Alton Knutson, appears one word -- "minister." Today after more than 30 years as a minister for the American Lutheran Church serving in Japan under the Japan Lutheran Church Alton says, "I have enjoyed every day of it. I could not have wished for a better calling. Of course the ministry of the Gospel in a country like Japan has not been without conflict and frustration, but the Lord's grace has been sufficient."

Alton was president of his class for the four years he was at NWSA. As he looks back over those years he says that, in ways unknown to his classmates and teachers, this was not just an honor given him but a great contributing factor in preparing him for the work as a pastor-missionary.

An "Ag" school may not seem to be the best type of school to attend in preparation for the ministry but Alton has no regrets. Rather he has high praise, not only for the classroom training received at NWSA, but for the other influences received there.

Alton Knutson graduated from the Advanced Class in 1942 and in that same year entered Augsburg College in Minneapolis. He was drafted into military service in 1943 and served with a small combat unit that fought the Japanese in the jungles and mountains of northern Burma. He later served in west China.

"The 1981 reunion of the class of '41 was an exhilarating experience that will never be forgotten."

Alton married Margretta Ann Ramaley in 1943. They have four children -- three married daughters, all employed in medically related work, and a son in school and planning for the ministry. All his children were raised in Japan, and have experienced a dual language and culture.

In 1946 he was discharged from the army and immediately entered college, graduating in 1948. In 1951 he graduated from seminary. That same year he began his life's work in Japan during which time he has served as missionary, pastor, and chaplain.

For some years he was chairman of the Social Welfare Department of the Japanese church and director of a Lutheran Hour radio broadcasting center. For many years he has held various positions on the executive committee of the American Lutheran Missionary Association. His present duties are associate pastor of two churches in Sendai, Japan, and chaplain of a 90-child, 12-staff day nursery.

He and his wife "Toodie" have developed a team ministry, "especially since the nest became empty." Though the work of Christianity has been difficult and often unproductive in Japan, they both say that life has been extremely rich and fulfilling.

Alton talks about leaving Japan in 1984 at the age of 62 and returning to Minnesota. "I would like to be engaged in a lighter or part-time ministry and at the same time be able to share in the growing up of my four grandchildren."

Over thirty years in the Orient may have made him a little different from the ordinary Minnesotan but he is confident he will soon be able to adjust.

Together with Edna Bolstad Moen he was granted the first Good Citizen Award at NWSA. This may well have influenced him to have a deep appreciation for the land of his birth even though he has spent more than half of his life away from America.

Alton's hobbies are unusual to the typical Minnesotan. He is a collector and restorer of antique Japanese furniture and clocks. His wife is a collector of antique "Imari" dishes.

"We love to visit junk places," says Alton with a smile.

The 1981 reunion of the class of '41 was an exhilarating experience that will never be forgotten. Not only did he travel the greatest distance, but, says Alton, "I think I enjoyed it the mostest. I was in ninth heaven for days to follow. I'll be forever grateful to those who made that trip possible."
Notes from the President

Another year of success. The 1981 reunion had the largest group ever. All the class leaders deserve a hand. Without their hard work it would not have been the success it was. Joan (Phillips) Fieat had her hands full keeping the class of '41 in line. The class of '56 thought they were 25 years younger on Saturday, and I'm sure some felt 25 years older on Sunday.

A couple of changes in this year's reunion were well accepted -- having the meeting in the same room as the meal and a dance in the old dining hall. The dance had a full house until the very end.

Provost's Message

It's always a special time when I have an opportunity to visit with alumni of the Northwest School of Agriculture. At our special open house at the new gymnasium on August 25, I had the pleasure to visit with Mr. Anderson who had been present at the dedication of the old gymnasium in 1931. Although our time was relatively short, it was a great pleasure to reminisce a bit about the school and the many changes that have taken place since that building was constructed in 1931.

The open house was a very successful one, as was the dedication of the new football stadium on September 19. It is estimated that over 2500 people were on the campus for that special event. Whenever you are in the area, I'd invite you to stop and visit the new athletic facilities. The gymnasium and the outdoor fields were the last items on the original ten-year plan developed in 1965 for the technical college.

It is a special pleasure to read about the contributions of Alton Knutson and E. S. (Gandy) Gandrud. Both bring great recognition to this campus through their contributions. It has been a special pleasure for me to be with Gandy on other occasions, and I've always enjoyed his wonderful personality and the remarkable candor with which he accepts recognition. We at UMC are very proud of you both.

It's a very special year here at UMC. All of the new beginnings since the first one of 1966 have brought special thrills, but I particularly have enjoyed the events of this fall. Yet, it is a period when we are experiencing the challenge of retrenching both salaries and supplies and expense money in order to stay within our budget. It is a new era of fiscal responsibility and is particularly difficult because of the need to remain current as far as curriculum and teaching equipment is concerned. It is our hope that we can maintain the high quality of instruction with reduced purchasing power.

May each of you join us in expressing thanksgiving for the blessings that are ours!

Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRESIDENT</th>
<th>Paul Pederson '67</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VICE PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Rodney Mosher '51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC.-TEAS.</td>
<td>Mrs. Kenneth Price '47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Rose Marie Kochmann)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMBERS AT LARGE</td>
<td>Ted Peet '29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James Wallace '66</td>
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NWSA grad marks 45th anniversary

Marking the 45th anniversary year at Gandy Company, founder and chairman of the board NWSA graduate E. S. Gandrud (Gandy), right, and president Dale Gandrud examine the original $100 capital stock certificate which established the Owatonna, MN firm.

"Canadian thistle is the outlaw that really got me into business," remarked E. S. Gandrud (Gandy), founder and chairman of the board of Gandy Company, which marks its 45th year in business this year. The Owatonna, Minnesota, firm is a primary United States manufacturer of granular herbicide and insecticide applicator plus fertilizer spreaders and land measuring wheels, and exports its products to over 40 other countries.

"Spraying thistles back then created 'wet pants' for spray operators who sprayed with sodium chlorate," Gandy recalls. "That residue would dry on the operator's pants by noon so during lunch if he would light a pipe or cigarette, his pants would burn off right there in the street -- a most disas- trous experience and particularly damaging not only to the spray operator but to the entire weed program."

That lit a fire under specialists who saw a need for a safe, dry granular form and a spreader to put it on. The Gandy Company, formed earlier in August 1936 to produce land measuring wheels for the Agricultural Adjustment Act, developed a granular spreader in 1938.

That same safe, dry concept is still vital to the Company and to the farming industry today over four decades later, Gandy points out.

Chemical applicators that the Gandy Company now produce are either: rotary valve metering hoppers for field-wide chemical coverage or row applicators for planters.

The row applicator Gandy developed for planters in 1957 was the first such applicator on the market. The applicators mount on press wheels or are tool bar mounted and hydraulic, electric motor or chain driven off the planter shaft. The Gandy boxes, as they are commonly called today, are used world-wide to meter insecticide and herbicide in row crops and with specially adapted mountings in specialized crops such as carnations in Nigeria.

In late 1979 Gandy's son Dale became president of the Company and together the two Gandrud's have combined their experience, training, and research in development of new applicators and adaptations for seven major food crops: corn, soybeans, cotton, peanuts, sugarbeets, cereal crops (particularly for the control of wild oats), and citrus and pecan groves (for controlling nematodes).

The design of the newest application system had to accommodate unique citrus grove characteristics of east and west Florida. The problem was to inject granular material into the soil beneath the low branches of trees which are planted on 4-foot high beds sloping upwards from a "ditch" where the tractor travels.

This latest system is one of three the citrus grower now has available to him.

"In the wheat areas of the United States and Canada and now in the cornbelt, one of the most exciting things is the tremendous acceptance of broadcast granular herbicides," said Gandy. "The 1980's trend is toward field-wide weed control, and with Gandy applicators mounted on the farmer's disk, field cultivator or combination tillage tool, the farmer is reporting not only effective weed control, but a number of time, labor, and cost advantages."

"And the greatest pleasure," added Gandy "is the satisfaction that these 44 previous years of development and manufacturing, though a small part of the food chain, have contributed to the feeding of a hungry world."

Miss Retta Bede

Miss Retta Bede, former faculty member of the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, died at The Benedictine Health Center in Duluth on Saturday, October 17, 1981. Miss Bede was born in Washington D.C., in 1890 and her family moved to Duluth shortly after her birth. After graduating from the University of Minnesota in 1913, she worked in extension work and joined the Northwest School of Agriculture in 1925 as an instructor in home economics and preceptress in the girls dormitory. She remained with the Northwest School until the time of her retirement in 1957. Bede had judged at every County Fair in northeastern Minnesota and was highly respected by thousands of former students at the North West School of Agriculture. The original classroom building known as the Home Economics Building on the campus here was named Bede Hall in her honor. This building became unsafe and was razed in 1967. In 1969 the dining hall on the University of Minnesota Technical College campus was named Bede Hall to continue the honor and respect due a great teacher and servant to rural people in northwestern Minnesota. A Retta Bede Memorial Scholarship fund has been created. If you are interested in sending a memorial, please forward to: Lowell Larson, Institutional Advancement, University of Minnesota, Crookston, MN 56716.
1981 reunion memories ...

by Berneil Nelson

Many alumni, former students, and faculty attended the annual summer NWSA Alumni Reunion held at the University of Minnesota -- Crookston (UMC) on June 27. A “first” for this year’s reunion was the scheduling of a dance in the evening in the former dining room in Bede Hall -- an event enjoyed by all who attended.

The Alumni Association honored as “Top Aggies” -
SELVIN ERICKSON, Class of ’31, from Badger, MN; and

GENE MILLER, instructor at the NWSA from 1964 to 1968 and presently on the Northwest Experiment Station staff.

A film depicting the 1920 dedication of the Soldier’s and Sailors’ Memorial, the new dining hall, and the paving from Crookston to the NWSA entrance was shown; film footage also showed scenes taken in 1939 of events such as home project assemblies, Armistice Day, 4-H Club Week, and Women’s Camp.

During the afternoon, alumni were taken on campus tours which included the just completed new gymnasium and outdoor athletic complex.

Class of 1916

CLASS OF 1916: Oscar Lund, Carl E. Olson, Andrew Landby

Class of 1921

CLASS OF 1921: Front row -- Bena (Flikke) Tronnes, Sophie (Krbechek) Narveson, Laura (Kjallberg) Austin, Alma (Lindgren) Berg, Marie (Austin) Anderson, George Norquist, Back row -- Elmer Bredle

Class of 1931

Class of 1941


Class of 1951


Alumni prizes

This year’s winners of our special alumni “Door Prizes” were:

PAUL PEDERSON, ’67, Blaine, MN - parent of youngest child;
OSCAR LEE, ’13, Cambridge, MN - alumnus representing the oldest class in attendance.
MARIYLIN HOVET DENNING, ’56, Albert Lea, MN - traveled greatest distance within Minnesota and North Dakota.
KATHRYN BRANDLI OLSON, ’41, Soldotna, Alaska - traveled the greatest distance in the U.S.

PAUL SUDA, ’56, Grafton, ND - Alumnus having the most daughters.

A three-way tie! Honors for the youngest alum grandfather in attendance went to: DON ENRIGHT, Bemidji; ROGER MOE, Grafton, ND; and LEON THORESON, Climax, MN... all from the Class of ’56.

ALTON KNUTSON, ’41, Sendai City, Japan - traveled greatest distance outside the U.S.
VERAL MOSBECK, ’43, Red Lake Falls, MN - daughter Cindy graduated from UMC fall quarter, 1978, with a degree in home and family services.

A three-way tie! Honors for the youngest alum grandfather in attendance went to: DON ENRIGHT, Bemidji; ROGER MOE, Grafton, ND; and LEON THORESON, Climax, MN... all from the Class of ’56.
Class of 1956


Class of 1961


Plan for NWSA reunion – June 26, 1982
Selvin Erickson '31 was awarded the "Top Aggie" Alumnus Award. His son, Erling, accepted the award on his behalf at the reunion because Selvin was unable to attend due to illness.

Gene Miller received the "Top Aggie" for faculty award from Herschel Lysaker, past "Top Aggie."

Dedication of football field a success

After ten years of dreaming, planning, and waiting, the dedication of the University of Minnesota-Crookston (UMC) football field is a reality. The event took place on Saturday, September 19.

Beginning the celebration was a parade through downtown Crookston complete with color guard, Shrine clowns, and several bands from neighboring towns.

Pregame festivities began at 1:15 with presentation of the flagpole by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and introduction of the teams' players.

At 1:30 Provost Stanley D. Sahlistrom threw out the football from the stands symbolizing the start of the game as the UMC Trojans met the Northmen of Northland Community College. Halftime activities included recognition of special guests and presentation of trophies to winning bands by the provost.

UMC Trojans stopped the Mesabi Norsemen 13 to 6 as they played their first homecoming game on the new field.

"The opening day activities for the new outdoor complex were a great success. We at UMC are very proud of the new facilities and we are sure that they will be a great asset to the college and to the intercollegiate athletic program."

- Marv Bachmeier, Athletic Director
Book reviews

Margaret Clark Keatinge was born in Crookston and attended Crookston High School. She is the daughter of Elmer R. Clark former faculty member of NWSA.

**FIGHTING BACK** is the moving, inspiring and disturbing true story of Margaret’s struggle with cancer. It is moving in its evocation of the despair and confusion of a happy woman who discovers she has cancer of the pancreas, a condition that is almost invariably fatal in a short time. It is inspiring because of the author’s courage, her refusing to accept the inevitable. The book is disturbing because of the picture it paints of how the medical profession treats cancer patients – diligently and often effectively, to be sure, but all too often with little regard to what the patient is going through. Hence the patient may well turn to “alternative” therapies, and the author describes some of these she experimented with. Further, her book shows dramatically the desperation that turns cancer patients away from what conventional medicine has to offer -- and challenges the medical establishment to do something about it.

**FIGHTING BACK** sells for $8.95 and is published by:

Vantage Press, Inc.
516 West 34th Street
New York, NY 10001

Harris Hanson of Hallock, MN (Class of ‘48) has written and published a book entitled **A DIFFERENT DAD**.

The book tells of his life, his family, living and coping with Multiple Sclerosis and his eventful move to a nursing home. It is the true story of a family making the best of a situation each day. Harris taped the book using a stick to operate the tape recorder and then had it typed.

**A DIFFERENT DAD** sells for $3.95 plus $.75 postage and is available from:

Harris Hanson
P. O. Box 546
Hallock, MN 56728

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**In memoriam**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Aash (‘16)</td>
<td>Deceased May 19, 1981</td>
<td>Hallock, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred Roger Kilen (attended 50)</td>
<td>Deceased June 15, 1981</td>
<td>Middle River, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Buck Aune (Mrs. Olaf Aune Sr.) (attended 1929-31)</td>
<td>Deceased July 18, 1981</td>
<td>Warren, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Buck Aune (attended 1929-31)</td>
<td>Deceased May 15, 1981</td>
<td>Crookston, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Bothum (attended 33-36)</td>
<td>Deceased May 14, 1981</td>
<td>Kennedy, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adolf Burtmein</td>
<td>Deceased January 28, 1980</td>
<td>Elbow Lake, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Clementson (attended 13-14)</td>
<td>Deceased May 9, 1981</td>
<td>Fosston, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roy W. Dunn</td>
<td>Deceased March 21, 1981</td>
<td>Northcote, MN</td>
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<td>John Flikke (‘20)</td>
<td>Deceased March 8, 1981</td>
<td>Shelly, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmer E. Johnson (attended 27)</td>
<td>Deceased September 27, 1981</td>
<td>Bagley, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie Larson (Mrs. Jay Larson) (‘21)</td>
<td>Deceased April 18, 1981</td>
<td>Pelican Rapids, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dale J. Schipper (attended 48-50)</td>
<td>Deceased August 21, 1981</td>
<td>Hillsboro, ND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert C. Widseth (‘42)</td>
<td>Deceased June 27, 1981</td>
<td>Goodridge, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Warnes</td>
<td>Deceased September 27, 1981</td>
<td>Stephen, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olaf O. Peterson</td>
<td>Deceased September 29, 1981</td>
<td>Twin Valley, MN</td>
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**UMC Associates Program**

The UMC Associates Program was introduced at the June Reunion. The UMC Associates is a $1,000 investment club to support the University of Minnesota – Crookston (Technical College and Agricultural Experiment Station). The $1,000 payment may be paid over a period of years and is tax deductible.

Don Enright ‘56, UMC Associates chairman, is presently seeking interested individuals who will become members and who will serve on the UMC Associates Advisory Committee. This Committee will set the direction of the associates and select specific projects for the funds collected.

"It is our hope that the UMC Associates will have the same impact of the C-400 Club of Concordia College which raised literally millions of dollars," commented chairman Enright. The need for private support has never been greater.

Please contact Don Enright, 122 West 26th Street, Bemidji, MN 56601 (218) 751-3860 or Lowell Larson at UMC Alumni Office, (218) 281-6510, Ext. 442 if you would consider becoming an UMC Associates member or are willing to serve on the advisory (planning) committee. In the next few weeks, final plans will be made. Your support and assistance is needed and will be greatly appreciated.
Class notes . . .

1912

WILLIAM A. LINDBERG, SR.
Warren, MN - Bill celebrated his 90th birthday in May, 1981. His great-great grandson was one of the special guests present for the celebration.

1921

ELMER BREDLIE
Mentor, MN - Farmed through 1978. Now retired and living at Maple Lake during the summer months and winters are spent in Florida.

1924

HOWARD E. BALK

1928

LAMBERT C. ERICKSON

1931

HELMER NORNES
Fergus Falls, MN - Married KARINE OPDAHL ('34) in 1938. We have two sons and two daughters, and 10 grandchildren. Carried mail out of Beltrami for 33½ years. Retired in 1976. We were both active in community activities and our church, having served as officers in both. We have traveled quite a bit and hope to do more.

1932

AGNES BERGLUND (EggEn)
Shelton, WA - Restaurant business for 40 years in Seattle. Recently retired, moved to retirement home at Spencer Lake. Enjoy gardening, crafts and traveling.

1941

LORRAINE JOHNSON (CapiStran)
Minneapolis, MN - Have been living in Mpls since 1942. Two sons and three grandchildren. We plan retirement in 1982. Golf, winters in Texas and trips East to see family about four times a year are pretty much our yearly activities. Three trips to Europe were part of the agenda in years past.

1947

DONALD KROULIK
White Bear Lake, MN - Barber for 28 years. Five children, three stepchildren and three grandchildren. Interests are gold and silver coins and just relaxing.

1949

MARLENE CLONINGER (BAILEY)
Ishpe'ming, MI - Housewife, six children, cake decorating, church activities.

1955

MARY LOU WOLDEN (ARVESON)
Gonvick, MN - Housewife, five children. I'm church organist, belong to ALCW and enjoy music. Also like hereford beef cattle which we have. Worked as telephone operator. Two of my sons played on the Gonvick basketball team and they won District championship this year.

(solos for church for 15 years. Sang with Richfield Civic Chorus for many years. Am member of Minnesota Fed. of Music Clubs sponsoring talented youth in every category. Member of Jellison Singers to help entertain senior citizens. Have two daughters and four grandchildren. Love to create gifts - initially designed and decorated own home. Entertain and gourmet cooking. Have traveled to Europe twice and also to Hawaii and Carribean. Have motor home and travel in the U.S.)

1934

EDSON D. WASHBURN
Phoenix, AZ - Salesman, WWII Pilot, Flying Club, do-it-yourself projects.

1936

ERLING H. CARLSON (Swede)
Spokane, WA - President of Carlson Machine Works, Inc.

1937

DOROTHY CHRISTENSEN (EVANS)
St. Paul, MN - Received home economics degree from UND in 1944. Husband is a veterinarian. Lived at Hancock, MN for 23 years before moving to St. Paul in 1967. Two children and four grandchildren. Taught home economics and in recent years weaving classes. Assistant superintendent of creative activities department at Minnesota State Fair.

1939

JOYCE HAGER (MERDINK)
Lakewood, CA - Retired secretary - three sons, voluntary church secretary.

1944

M. CARLSON
Whitefish, MT - Married, 1944. Two sons. Raising cattle on our property in Clay County.

(continued on back)
Class notes...

1956

ALICIA R. ORSTAD (NELSON)

1958

KEITH MILLER
Leona Valley, CA - Married and have two sons. All ride competitive motorcycles. Engineer/paramedic with the Los Angeles County Fire Department. Hobbies include water skiing, racquetball, and motorcycles.

1964

WAYNE ODEGAARD
Mayo, FL - Graduated from University of Minnesota in 1969 with BS degree in Animal Science. Obtained my Masters Degree in 1975. Was employed for eight years with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. In 1978-79 I was involved with Ag Development Program in Tanzania, East Africa. Recently moved to north Florida and am employed with the Ag. Extension Service.

1967

SANDRA JENSEN (CARLSON)
Monticello, MN - Teachers aide for trainable mentally handicapped. Active in church and have two children.

LLOYD A. PETRI
Rosemount, MN - Was a campus visitor this summer.

1982 Alumni Reunion

Plan NOW to attend the annual NWSA ALUMNI REUNION on Saturday, June 26, 1982 on the campus of the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

Classes planning special get-togethers are encouraged to support the alumni association and schedule their reunion for that weekend so they can also take part in the all-school reunion on June 26. Contact persons for classes planning special reunions are listed below. If you are willing to help plan a class reunion, please give the person in charge a call...or if no one is listed under your class, contact Berneil Nelson at the University of Minnesota, Crookston, for a listing of classmates and current addresses.

Class of 1917 - Berneil Nelson, University of Minnesota, Crookston, MN 56716 (218/281-6510, ext. 397).
Class of 1922 - Mrs. Frank (Una Briden) Deboer, 408 Golf Terrace Drive, Crookston, MN 56716 (218/281-4489); and Emil Nelson, Clearbrook, MN 56634.
Class of 1932 - (50th Anniversary) - No contact person as yet; let us know if you are interested in helping to plan for your 50th Reunion!
Class of 1942 - Berneil Nelson, University of Minnesota, Crookston, MN 56716 (218/281-6510, ext. 197).
Class of 1952 - Mr. and Mrs. Chuck (Bonnie Vesledahl) Holmquist, 614 1st Ave. NE, Crookston, MN (218/281-5427); and Rodney Mosher, Box 93, Beltrami, MN 56716 (218/926-5593).
Class of 1957 - (25th Anniversary) - Ray Dusek, 1506 Radisson Road, Crookston, MN 56716 (218/281-5767).
Class of 1962 - No contact person as yet. Let us know if you are interested in helping to plan for your 20th Reunion!

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University of Minnesota
Crookston, MN 56716

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