

Ghost Wars The Secret History Of The Cia Afghanist File PDF

ghost wars the secret history of the cia afghanist: Unveiling Hidden Conflicts and Covert Operations in Afghanistan

Introduction

The history of Afghanistan is riddled with conflict, intrigue, and covert operations that have significantly shaped the geopolitical landscape of South Asia and beyond. Among the most compelling narratives is the story of "Ghost Wars," a term that encapsulates the clandestine and often hidden efforts by the CIA and other intelligence agencies during the Soviet-Afghan War and subsequent conflicts. This article delves into the secret history of the CIA's involvement in Afghanistan, exploring the covert operations, strategic motivations, and long-term consequences of these shadowy wars.

The Context: Afghanistan's Strategic Significance

Afghanistan's rugged terrain, strategic location, and history of resisting foreign invasions have made it a focal point of international interest for centuries. During the Cold War era, Afghanistan became a battleground for superpower rivalry, particularly between the United States and the Soviet Union. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 marked a turning point, prompting a covert response from the CIA and allied nations to counter Soviet influence and support Afghan resistance fighters.

Understanding "Ghost Wars"

The term "Ghost Wars" was popularized by journalist Stephen Coll during his 2004 book titled *Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden, from the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001*. It refers to the clandestine operations, secret negotiations, and covert support provided by the CIA and its allies that largely remained hidden from public view until years later.

This hidden history encompasses a wide range of activities, including arming mujahideen fighters, clandestine diplomacy, covert funding, and strategic intelligence operations all conducted in the shadows to influence the course of events in Afghanistan and the wider region.

The Birth of the CIA's Covert Campaign in Afghanistan

Initial Involvement and Strategic Goals

Following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in December 1979, the United States recognized the need to counter Soviet expansion in the region. Under the auspices of the CIA, Operation Cyclone was launched as the primary covert program to support Afghan resistance fighters, known as mujahideen.

Key objectives of the CIA's involvement included:

- Undermining Soviet influence: Disrupt Soviet military operations and morale.
- Supporting Afghan resistance: Empower mujahideen factions to challenge Soviet forces.
- Preventing Soviet control of strategic corridors: Protecting neighboring countries from Soviet encroachment.

Strategic Support and Arms Supply

The CIA's support involved a complex web of covert operations, including:

- Arming mujahideen: Supplying weapons, including Stinger missiles capable of shooting down Soviet helicopters.
- Financial aid: Providing funding to various Afghan resistance groups.
- Training and intelligence: Assisting in guerrilla warfare tactics and intelligence gathering.

The operation relied heavily on clandestine channels, often working through intermediaries and allies in the Middle East, Pakistan, and other regions.

Pakistan's Role and the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)

Pakistan as a Crucial Partner

Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) played an indispensable role in channeling CIA support to Afghan fighters. The ISI facil

Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA in Afghanistan has become a seminal work in understanding the complex and often clandestine operations that shaped Afghanistan's recent history. This comprehensive analysis delves into the covert world of intelligence, insurgency, and geopolitics, revealing how secret operations by the CIA and other agencies influenced the course of the conflict and the broader regional dynamics. In this guide, we will explore the key themes, pivotal events, and long-term implications of the CIA's involvement in Afghanistan, providing a detailed overview for readers seeking to understand this opaque chapter of modern history.

Introduction: Unveiling the Hidden History

The phrase ghost wars the secret history of the CIA in Afghanistan refers to a clandestine chapter of American and international intelligence operations that spanned over three decades. These secret wars, often hidden from public view, played a critical role in shaping Afghanistan's trajectory from Soviet invasion to the post-9/11 insurgency. Understanding this hidden history is essential to grasp the complex web of alliances, covert actions, and unintended consequences that continue to influence the region today.

The Roots of Covert Engagement: The 1970s and Early Interventions

The Soviet Invasion and the U.S. Response

In 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan to support a communist government facing internal resistance. The United States, viewing the invasion as a significant threat to regional stability and its Cold War interests, launched a covert campaign to counter Soviet influence.

- CIA's Operation Cyclone: One of the longest and most significant covert operations in history, Operation Cyclone aimed to arm and train Afghan Mujahideen fighters to resist Soviet forces.
- Key Players:
 - The CIA
 - Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)
 - Saudi Arabia (funding and ideological support)

Strategic Goals and Challenges

The primary goal was to bleed the Soviet Union through sustained insurgency, an extension of the broader Cold War strategy. However, this approach posed significant challenges:

- Managing clandestine alliances
- Ensuring logistical support across hostile terrain
- Preventing the proliferation of weapons and extremist ideologies

The Rise of the Mujahideen and the Power Vacuum

Covert Support and the Growth of Insurgency

Through the 1980s, CIA-backed Mujahideen fighters gained momentum, becoming a formidable force against Soviet troops. This period saw:

- Massive influx of weapons, including Stinger missiles supplied via CIA operations
- Formation of various factions with shifting alliances
- The emergence of charismatic leaders like Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and Ahmad Shah Massoud

Consequences of Covert Operations

While the Mujahideen succeeded militarily, their victory created a power vacuum:

- Fragmentation of Afghan politics
- Rise of warlords and regional militias
- The eventual fall of the Soviet-backed Afghan government in 1992

Post-Soviet Afghanistan: The Power Struggle and the Taliban

The Collapse of the Soviet-backed Regime

After the Soviet withdrawal in 1989, Afghanistan descended into civil war. The CIA's role shifted from active support to strategic containment and intelligence gathering.

The Emergence of the Taliban

By the mid-1990s, the Taliban, initially a movement promising stability and strict Islamic governance, gained control over much of Afghanistan. Their rise was facilitated by:

- Power vacuums left by the Soviet and Afghan governments
- Continued clandestine support from regional players
- The complex legacy of US and allied policies during the 1980s and early 1990s

The CIA's Limited Role

During this period, the CIA's involvement was less direct but remained influential through intelligence and regional alliances.

The 9/11 Attacks and a New Chapter: The Post-2001 Invasion

The Turning Point

The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks drastically altered the US approach to Afghanistan. The Taliban's harboring of al-Qaeda terrorists prompted a military intervention.

CIA's Role in the Post-9/11 Era

- Targeted Operations: Drone strikes and special forces aimed at dismantling al-Qaeda networks
- Building a New Afghan State: Support for governance, security forces, and reconstruction efforts
- Covert Operations:
 - Tracking insurgent leaders
 - Disrupting Taliban supply lines
 - Managing intelligence on insurgent networks

Challenges and Controversies

Despite efforts, the CIA's operations faced criticism over civilian casualties, effectiveness, and unintended consequences, such as empowering certain factions or destabilizing regions further.

Long-Term Implications: Lessons from the Secret Wars

Unintended Consequences

The secret wars in Afghanistan have been associated with several unintended consequences:

- The proliferation of weapons and extremist ideologies
- Strengthening of regional proxies and militias
- The emergence of a resilient insurgency that outlasted initial military efforts

The Complexity of Covert Operations

Key lessons include:

- The importance of understanding local dynamics
- Risks of arming factions that later become adversaries
- The challenges of post-conflict nation-building

Impacts on U.S. and Global Policy

The history of CIA involvement in Afghanistan underscores the importance of transparency, strategic patience, and comprehensive planning in covert operations.

Conclusion: The Ongoing Legacy of the Ghost Wars

The story of ghost wars the secret history of the CIA in Afghanistan reveals a pattern of clandestine interventions with profound and often unpredictable outcomes. From supporting jihadists against the Soviets to battling insurgents after 2001, these secret operations have left a complicated legacy that continues to influence Afghan stability and regional geopolitics. Recognizing the opaque nature of these wars is crucial for policymakers, historians, and the public to learn from past mistakes and better navigate future conflicts.

Key Takeaways

- The CIA's covert operations in Afghanistan spanned over four decades, shaping regional and global geopolitics.
- Support for Mujahideen fighters in the 1980s was instrumental in defeating the Soviets but contributed to long-term instability.
- The rise of the Taliban and subsequent insurgency were indirect consequences of earlier covert support and regional dynamics.
- Post-2001 efforts, including drone strikes and intelligence operations, faced significant challenges and controversies.
- The complex legacy of these secret wars underscores the importance of understanding covert operations' long-term impacts.

By dissecting the layered history of these clandestine efforts, we gain a clearer understanding of Afghanistan's tumultuous path and the enduring influence of the 'ghost wars' that continue to shape its future.

Question What is the main focus of 'Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden'? The book examines the covert operations and secret history of the CIA's involvement in Afghanistan from the Soviet invasion through the rise of al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden. **Who is the author of 'Ghost Wars'?** The book was written by Steve Coll, a renowned journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author. **How does 'Ghost Wars' depict the CIA's strategy in Afghanistan during the 1980s?** It details how the CIA secretly supported Afghan mujahideen fighters to counter Soviet forces, often with limited oversight and long-term consequences. **What role does 'Ghost Wars' suggest the CIA played in the rise of Osama bin Laden?** The book suggests that CIA support for Afghan fighters and the chaotic aftermath of the Soviet withdrawal indirectly contributed to the emergence of bin Laden and al-Qaeda. **What are some of the key revelations in 'Ghost Wars' about U.S. policy in Afghanistan?** The book reveals how inconsistent U.S. policies, covert operations, and intelligence failures contributed to ongoing instability and the eventual rise of terrorist groups. **Does 'Ghost Wars' discuss the impact of CIA operations on Afghanistan's civil war?** Yes, it explores how CIA-backed mujahideen factions contributed to the civil war and ongoing violence in Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal. **What insights does 'Ghost Wars' provide about the relationship between the CIA and Pakistan's ISI?** The book highlights a complex and often

controversial alliance, with the ISI playing a crucial role in channeling support to Afghan fighters, sometimes at odds with U.S. interests. How has 'Ghost Wars' influenced understanding of U.S. covert operations in Afghanistan? It has shed light on the clandestine nature of these operations, emphasizing how decisions made in secret had far-reaching and unintended consequences. What lessons does 'Ghost Wars' offer regarding intelligence and foreign policy failures? The book underscores the importance of strategic planning, understanding long-term implications, and the dangers of short-term covert interventions. Is 'Ghost Wars' considered an authoritative source on the CIA's history in Afghanistan? Yes, it is widely regarded as a comprehensive and well-researched account, offering detailed insights based on extensive interviews and declassified documents.

Related keywords: CIA, Afghanistan, ghost wars, covert operations, intelligence agencies, Middle East conflicts, war on terror, clandestine missions, US foreign policy, insurgency

STAR WARS THE CLONE WARS ANTHOLOGY

Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology has become a cornerstone for fans and newcomers alike seeking to explore the expansive universe of the galaxy far, far away. This collection of stories, spanning multiple formats and media, offers a rich tapestry of characters, battles, and moral dilemmas that deepen our understanding of the Clone Wars era. Whether through animated series, novels, comics, or graphic novels, the anthology serves as a comprehensive gateway into one of the most dynamic periods in Star Wars history. In this article, we will delve into the origins of the Clone Wars anthology, explore its various components, highlight key stories, and discuss its significance within the broader Star Wars universe.

Understanding the Star Wars: The Clone Wars Era

Before diving into the anthology itself, it's essential to grasp the significance of the Clone Wars era within the Star Wars saga.

The Context of the Clone Wars

The Clone Wars is a pivotal conflict that takes place between Episode II: Attack of the Clones and Episode III: Revenge of the Sith. It involves the Galactic Republic fighting against the Confederacy of Independent Systems, primarily utilizing clone troopers and droid armies. This period is characterized by large-scale battles, political intrigue, and the rise of Darth Sidious' manipulations.

The Significance in the Star Wars Universe

The Clone Wars serve as a bridge between the prequel trilogy and the original trilogy. They reveal the complexities of war, the morality of soldiers and leaders, and the pivotal events that lead to the fall of the Jedi and the rise of the Empire. The stories set during this time deepen the lore and provide essential context for understanding the characters and conflicts.

The Components of the Clone Wars Anthology

The anthology spans several forms of media, each contributing unique perspectives and storytelling styles.

Animated Series

- Star Wars: The Clone Wars (2008-2020): An acclaimed animated TV series that vividly depicts the battles, characters, and story arcs of the Clone Wars.
- Star Wars: The Clone Wars (2008) Film: The feature film that launched the animated series, providing the foundation for many storylines.

Novels and Literature

- Titles like Republic Commando series and Dark Disciple expand on characters and events, offering detailed narratives beyond the screen.
- These novels often explore moral dilemmas, espionage, and the perspective of various factions.

Comics and Graphic Novels

- Comics such as Star Wars: Republic and Star Wars: The Clone Wars comic series provide visual storytelling and introduce new characters.
- Graphic novels compile stories into cohesive volumes, suitable for both casual and dedicated fans.

Other Media and Merchandising

- Video games, action figures, and art books enrich the storytelling and allow fans to immerse themselves further into the Clone Wars universe.

Key Stories and Characters in the Clone Wars Anthology

The anthology is celebrated for its memorable characters and compelling narratives.

Notable Characters

- Anakin Skywalker: His transition from hero to Sith begins during these stories.
- Obi-Wan Kenobi: A master tactician and diplomat.
- Ahsoka Tano: Anakin's Padawan, whose journey from naive apprentice to independent hero is central.
- Darth Sidious and Darth Maul: The Sith's manipulations and the resurgence of Maul play significant roles.
- Captain Rex and Clone Troopers: Showcase the camaraderie and complexities of clone soldiers.

Iconic Storylines

- **The Mandalore Arc:** Explores the political landscape of Mandalore and the rise of Death Watch.
- **Siege of Mandalore:** A critically acclaimed arc depicting the final battle of the Clone Wars, featuring Ahsoka Tano and Maul.
- **Dark Disciple:** A novel that follows Asajj Ventress and Quinlan Vos on a covert mission ? a story that dives into themes of loyalty and morality.
- **Venator-Class Star Destroyers and Battlefronts:** Showcases epic space battles and the strategic complexities of the war.

The Impact and Legacy of the Clone Wars Anthology

The Clone Wars anthology has significantly influenced the Star Wars franchise and its fandom.

Expanding the Lore

- The stories fill in gaps left by the movies, adding depth and nuance to characters like Ahsoka Tano and Captain Rex.
- They explore the moral ambiguities of war, the fallibility of heroes, and the corrupting influence of power.

Influence on Other Media

- The success of the animated series led to the development of spin-off projects, including Star Wars Rebels and The Bad Batch.
- The storytelling style and characters introduced in the Clone Wars have become central to subsequent narratives.

Fandom and Cultural Impact

- The characters from the Clone Wars have become fan favorites, inspiring cosplay, fan fiction, and community discussions.
- The series' portrayal of complex characters like Ahsoka Tano has challenged traditional notions of heroism and villainy.

Where to Experience the Clone Wars Anthology

For fans interested in exploring the anthology, several platforms and formats are available.

Streaming Services

- Disney+: Hosts the complete Star Wars: The Clone Wars animated series and the Siege of Mandalore arc.
- Audiobook Platforms: Offer narrated versions of novels like Dark Disciple and Ahsoka.

Bookstores and Comic Shops

- Physical copies of novels, comics, and graphic novels are widely available.
- Collector editions and art books provide additional insights into the universe.

Gaming Platforms

- Video games like Star Wars: Battlefront and Star Wars: Republic Commando allow immersive experiences of Clone Wars battles.

Future of the Clone Wars Anthology

The Clone Wars universe continues to expand with new projects and stories.

Upcoming Series and Projects

- Ahsoka (2023): Focuses on Ahsoka Tano's adventures post-Clone Wars.
- The Bad Batch: Follows a squad of clone troopers with unique abilities.
- Novels and Comics: New releases aim to explore uncharted territories within the Clone Wars era.

Continued Relevance

- The themes of loyalty, identity, and morality remain relevant and resonate with modern audiences.
- The anthology's stories are likely to influence future Star Wars narratives and adaptations.

Conclusion

The Star Wars: The Clone Wars anthology stands as a testament to the richness and complexity of the franchise. It offers a multi-layered exploration of war, heroism, and morality through various media, captivating audiences worldwide. From groundbreaking animated series to compelling novels and comics, the anthology provides a comprehensive look into one of the most transformative periods in the Star Wars universe. As new stories unfold and existing ones continue to inspire, the Clone Wars anthology remains a vital part of the Star Wars legacy – a universe of endless adventure and profound storytelling that continues to inspire generations of fans.

Star Wars The Clone Wars Anthology: An In-Depth Exploration of the Rich Tapestry of the Galactic Conflict

Since its debut, Star Wars The Clone Wars Anthology has become a vital cornerstone for fans and newcomers alike, offering a comprehensive collection that delves into the intricate narratives, compelling characters, and expansive lore of the Clone Wars era. This anthology encompasses various media forms—comics, novels, animated series episodes, and more—each contributing to a multifaceted universe that bridges the gap between the prequel films and the larger Star Wars saga. In this guide, we will explore the significance of the anthology, key themes, notable works, and how it enhances our understanding of this pivotal period in galactic history.

What Is the Star Wars The Clone Wars Anthology?

The Star Wars The Clone Wars Anthology is a curated collection of stories, artwork, and media that collectively expand on the events, characters, and conflicts during the Clone Wars—a tumultuous period between Episode II: Attack of the Clones and Episode III: Revenge of the Sith. Unlike the mainline films, which focus on broad strokes of the galactic conflict, the anthology emphasizes individual stories, moral dilemmas, and lesser-known figures, adding depth and nuance to the overarching narrative.

This anthology is not confined to a single medium. It includes:

- Comic Books and Graphic Novels: Expanding on side characters and pivotal battles.
- Novels and Short Stories: Providing backstories and exploring characters' motivations.
- Animated Series and Shorts: Deepening character development and showcasing creative battles.
- Art Books and Concept Designs: Offering visual insights into the universe's design and evolution.

The strength of the anthology lies in its ability to present a mosaic of perspectives, each adding layers to the grand tale of the Clone Wars.

Thematic Foundations of the Clone Wars Anthology

Understanding the core themes woven throughout the anthology helps appreciate its depth:

- The Complexity of Morality and War

The stories often grapple with moral ambiguity: the line between good and evil blurs as characters face tough choices. For example, characters like Anakin Skywalker and Ahsoka Tano confront situations that challenge their allegiance and beliefs.

- The Cost of War

Beyond epic battles, the anthology highlights personal sacrifices, loss, and the psychological toll on soldiers and civilians alike, illustrating that war affects everyone involved.

- Political Intrigue and Manipulation

The Clone Wars are as much about political machinations as they are about combat. The anthology explores the behind-the-scenes power plays and the rise of the Sith's influence.

- Heroism in the Shadows

Many stories focus on lesser-known heroes—clone troopers, spies, and diplomats—showing that heroism isn't confined to Jedi and Sith.

Notable Works Within the Clone Wars Anthology

The anthology is vast, but several works stand out for their impact and storytelling quality:

- "Dark Disciple" (Novel by Christie Golden)

Based on unused scripts from the canceled "Star Wars: The Clone Wars" animated series, "Dark Disciple" follows Asajj Ventress and Quinlan Vos on a covert mission. It explores themes of redemption, loyalty, and the darkness within even the most seemingly villainous characters. This novel deepens the lore of the Sith and Jedi, adding moral complexity to the conflict.

- "The Clone Wars" Animated Series (2008-2020)

While technically a television series, its episodes are often collected in anthologies. Notable episodes include "The Citadel," "The Lawless," and "The Wrong Jedi," each highlighting different facets of war, morality, and leadership.

- "Republic Commando" Series (Novels by Karen Traviss)

These novels provide a gritty, soldier-focused perspective, focusing on the elite clone units and their psychological states. They emphasize camaraderie and the moral dilemmas faced during combat.

- "Star Wars: Lost Stars" (Novel by Claudia Gray)

Although set during the Galactic Civil War, this novel references the Clone Wars' aftermath and the long-term consequences for characters involved in the conflict, connecting the anthology's themes across eras.

- Graphic Novels and Short Stories

Collections like "Star Wars: Clone Wars Adventures" offer a variety of short stories and comics that explore side characters and minor battles, enriching the universe with diverse viewpoints.

The Impact of the Clone Wars Anthology on Star Wars Lore

The anthology's significance extends beyond mere entertainment; it reshapes and enriches the

canonical universe in meaningful ways:

- Deepening Character Development: Characters like Anakin, Obi-Wan, Ahsoka, and Captain Rex are fleshed out beyond their film portrayals, revealing vulnerabilities, motivations, and growth.
- Expanding the Universe: Introduces new planets, species, and political factions, making the galaxy feel lived-in and complex.
- Enhancing the Mythos: Highlights the heroism, tragedy, and philosophical questions surrounding war, heroism, and duty.
- Bridging Gaps in the Narrative: Connects the dots between major events in the prequel trilogy and the original trilogy, providing context and background.

How to Engage with the Clone Wars Anthology

For newcomers eager to dive into the anthology, here are recommended starting points:

- Watch "Star Wars: The Clone Wars" Animated Series

It's accessible, visually engaging, and provides foundational knowledge.

- Read "Dark Disciple"

Offers a compelling, mature narrative that adds depth to characters introduced in the series.

- Explore Clone Wars Comics and Short Stories

Collections like "Clone Wars Adventures" are great for quick stories and character vignettes.

- Dive into Novelizations and Expanded Universe Works

Novels such as "Republic Commando" and others provide insights into the military and political aspects of the war.

- Visit Official Art and Concept Books

To appreciate the visual evolution of the universe, consult art books like "Star Wars: The Clone

Wars Visual Guide."

The Future of the Clone Wars Anthology

As Star Wars continues to expand, the anthology remains a vital resource for fans and creators. Recent and upcoming projects include:

- New Comic Series and Novels

Exploring fresh stories and characters set during and after the Clone Wars.

- Animated Spin-offs and Series

Such as "Ahsoka" and "Star Wars: Tales of the Jedi," which build upon the lore established in the anthology.

- Interactive Media and Games

Video games like "Star Wars: Republic Commando" and upcoming titles further immerse players in the Clone Wars universe.

Final Thoughts

The Star Wars The Clone Wars Anthology is more than a collection of stories; it's a celebration of the depth, complexity, and richness of one of the most compelling eras in the Star Wars saga. It invites fans to look beyond the surface, exploring the nuanced characters, moral dilemmas, and political machinations that define this tumultuous period. Whether you're a seasoned veteran or a newcomer, engaging with the anthology offers a rewarding journey into the heart of galactic conflict and heroism.

Embark on this adventure to discover the stories that shaped the galaxy, and remember: in the vast universe of Star Wars, every hero has a story worth telling.

Question What is the 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology' about? 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology' is a collection of stories that explore various events and characters during the Clone Wars era, providing deeper insights into the conflict and expanding the lore of the Star Wars universe. **Which characters are featured in the 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology'?** The anthology showcases a range of characters including Anakin Skywalker, Obi-Wan Kenobi, Ahsoka

Tano, Captain Rex, and various clone troopers and Sith Lords, highlighting their roles during the Clone Wars. Is 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology' a comic book series or a collection of stories? It is a collection of stories, which may be presented as comics, short stories, or graphic novels, offering fans a deeper look into the Clone Wars universe. How does 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology' expand the overall Star Wars lore? It delves into lesser-known characters, pivotal battles, and untold stories from the Clone Wars, enriching the timeline and providing context for key events in the saga. Is 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology' suitable for new fans or only for seasoned fans? While it is especially enjoyable for seasoned fans familiar with the Clone Wars, new fans can also appreciate the anthology as an introduction to the era and its characters. Are there any animated adaptations within 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology'? Some stories are adapted into animated formats, but the anthology itself primarily consists of comics and written stories, with select entries possibly animated in related series or specials. Where can I find 'Star Wars: The Clone Wars Anthology' to read or purchase? It is available through major retailers, comic book stores, and digital platforms such as Marvel, Dark Horse, or Star Wars official shops, depending on the specific collection or edition.

Related keywords: Star Wars, Clone Wars, anthology, animated series, Star Wars universe, Jedi, Sith, galactic conflict, Clone Troopers, Sith Lords

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