

# Assignment booklet

In the footsteps of Alfred, a German soldier.



Go together on exploration tour with a quest for children (6+).



Follow the blue signs '1914-1918. Batterij Aachen.



Carry out the assignments with the help of your family or friends.

**Good luck!**

When you're ready, a surprise will be waiting for you.

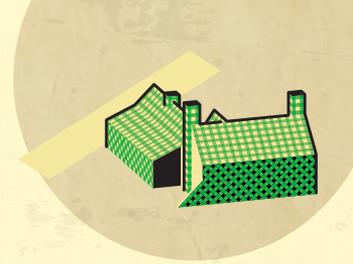
# LOOKING FOR ALFRED. WHO WAS ALFRED?

Alfred was a German soldier. He lived here one hundred years ago, during the First World War.

Do you want to know more about Alfred and the uniform he wore?  
About what exactly he was doing here?

Carry out the assignments with the help of your family or friends.

# JOIN US IN OUR SEARCH



**Follow the blue signs "1914-1918. Aachen Battery" and walk to the Green Checkered House. This house is painted in a checkered pattern.**



**Fill out the passport. Write down your name, age, the colour of your eyes. This way, everyone will know whom this booklet belongs to.**



**This sign will show you the way. Ask the stewards for help if you need it.**



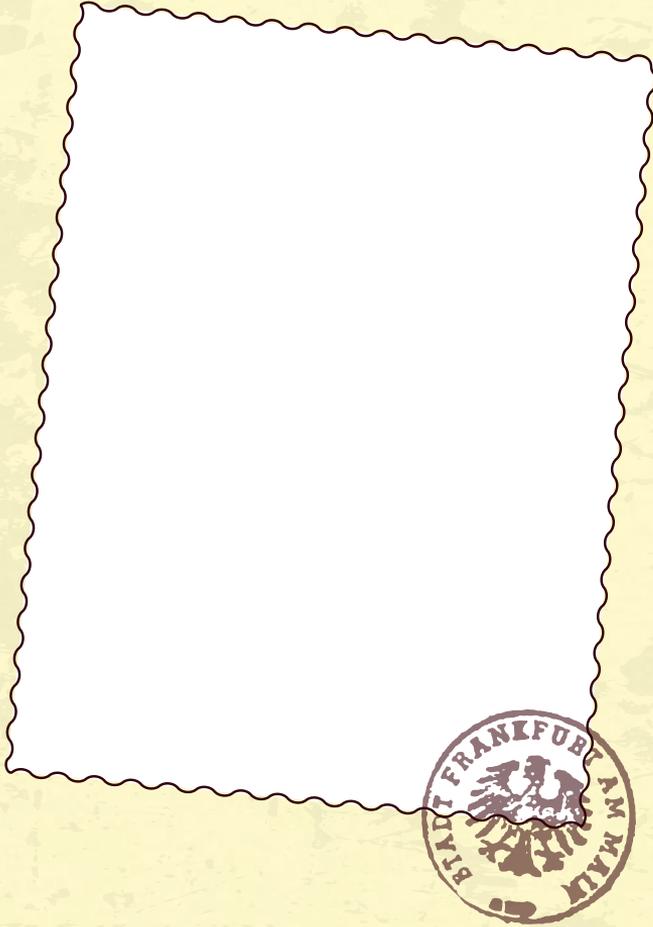
**Activity or assignment.**



**Fun facts.**

# PASSPORT

Passport photo: draw your portrait.



First name: .....

Last name: .....

Age: .....

Eye colour: .....

Length: .....

Weight: .....

Country: .....

# COASTAL DEFENCE



You are now at Aachen battery. One hundred years ago, during the First World War, German soldiers lived here.

One of those soldiers was Alfred, a seaman of the German Imperial Naval Corps Flanders. They defended the Belgian coast.

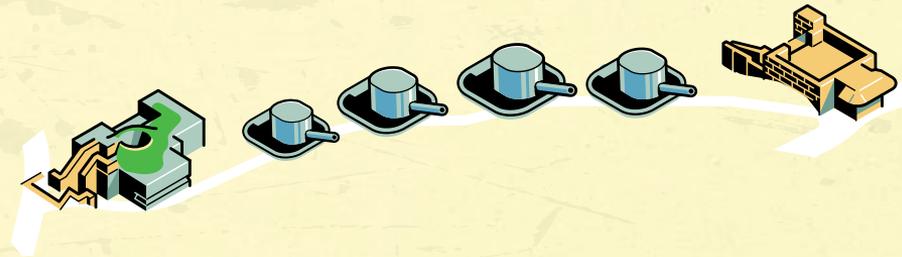
There's an observation bunker on both sides, with 4 cannons in a pit in between. The pit in which the cannon is put is called the gun displacement. The battery at Raversyde is not the only one. There were lots of them along the coast.



**Enter the Green Checkered House. Look for the overview with the red line and the white dots in the first room.**



**Did you know that a Battery is a group cannons?**





Circle the Aachen Battery on the overview with the dots.

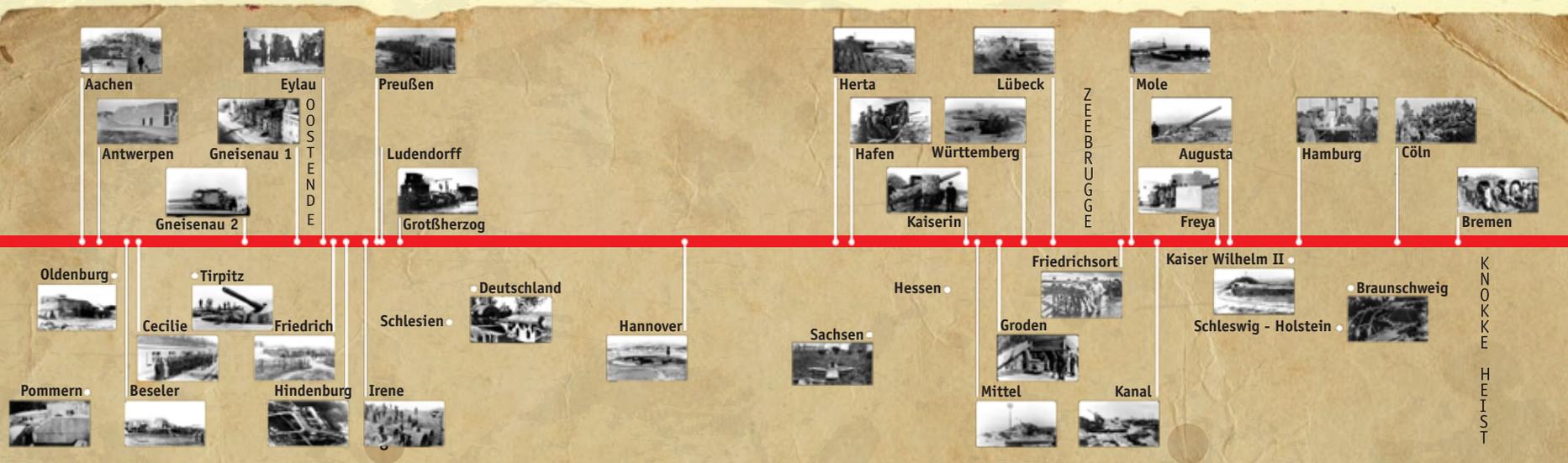
Here you see the batteries and artillery positions along the coast.



Did you know that the Germans were in charge in Belgium between 1914 and 1918?

Now, everything is peaceful at Raversyde, but there was a war going on here. German soldiers invaded Belgium. The Belgians defended themselves, but had to retreat behind the river Yser.

The Germans built a lot of bunkers along the Belgian coast. English and French soldiers, who were friends of the Belgians, could invade from the sea.



## WAR AT SEA



Stop at the overview with the red line and the dots.



Find the boat with white, black and green stripes

The fighting not only took place on land, but also at sea. The Germans had submarines that sunk their enemy's ships.



Did you know that these stripes are used to fool the enemy?

A zebra has black and white stripes and is therefore less visible in nature. This is called camouflage. It's a trick that is also used in war.

This ship has black-and-white stripes. This is called "dazzle camouflage". They made it more difficult to see where the ship was, where the bow and the stern were and what the size of the ship was.



Did you know that the checkered pattern on this house is also camouflage?

Artist Lily van der Stokker created her own dazzle camouflage.

## THE LIFE OF A SOLDIER

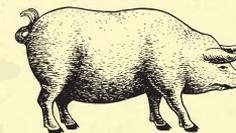
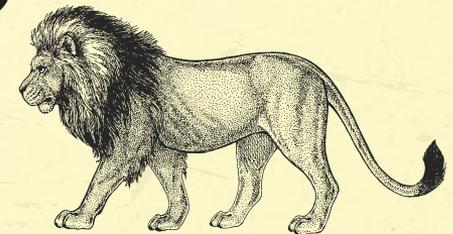


Stay in the Green Checkered House and go to the next glass display case with the clothes.

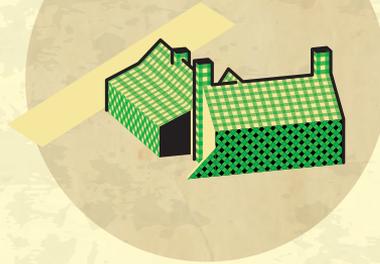
When you entered the house, you filled out a passport. Now find a real passport of a sailor. It mentions his name, of course, and that he worked for the Imperial Navy.



Find the real passport.  
What is the animal you see?  
Circle the right animal.



# THE LIFE OF A SOLDIER



**Did you know that the eagle is the symbol of Germany?**

This animal is often depicted on flags and coats of arms. It has been used for hundreds of years as a symbol of unity and freedom. This eagle tells you that this is the passport of a German soldier.



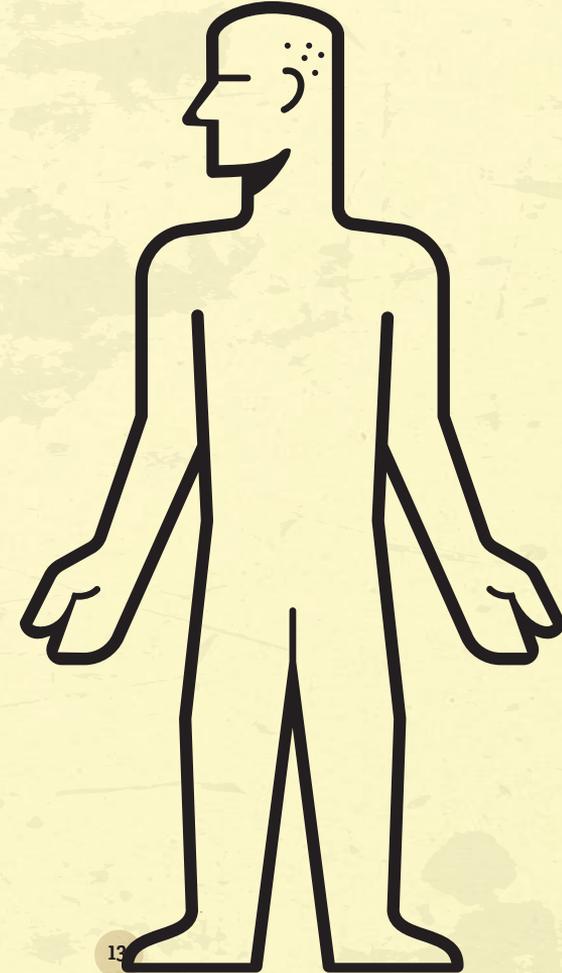
**Stay with the display case with the clothes.**



**Alfred was a sailor, so he wore the right uniform. Find a shirt, a sailor collar, a coat, a sailor cap, a helmet and boots.**



**Give this seaman a uniform. Draw the uniform on the soldier.**





**Stay in the Green Checkered House and go to the next glass display case.**



**Did you know that sailors sometimes got bored?**

Things were quiet, and they only had to fight now and then. Sailors like Alfred often had to do nothing but wait. In the meantime, they kept busy reading, making souvenirs or small works of art, cooking, growing vegetables, writing letters, cleaning their uniforms,...

The sailors of the Naval Corps had their own newspaper: "An Flanderns Küste", which means "At Flanders' coast". They wrote texts, poems, jokes or drew cartoons, often about their life in Flanders.



**Look at the items in the display case and watch the movie. What did Alfred and his fellow soldiers do in order not to get bored? Circle the objects.**





The youngest and the oldest seaman

## WHERE AM I? BATTERY?!



Leave the Green Checkered House and go straight ahead to the lawn. Follow the blue arrow "1914-1918. The Aachen Battery". Follow the sloping path. Stop at the scale model with the ground plan.

Here you see the most important buildings of Aachen Battery. If you lived at the battery, you had to be able to find your way.



Did you know that the word "battery" comes from French?

Of course, this battery is not the same thing as the batteries you put in toys. In the army, a battery is a group of cannons. The word comes from the French verb "se battre", which means to fight.



Look at the drawings below. Can you find these things on the map?



### LOOKOUT BUNKER

On both sides of the battery, there was a lookout bunker with a slit to watch the enemy. This is also from where orders were given.

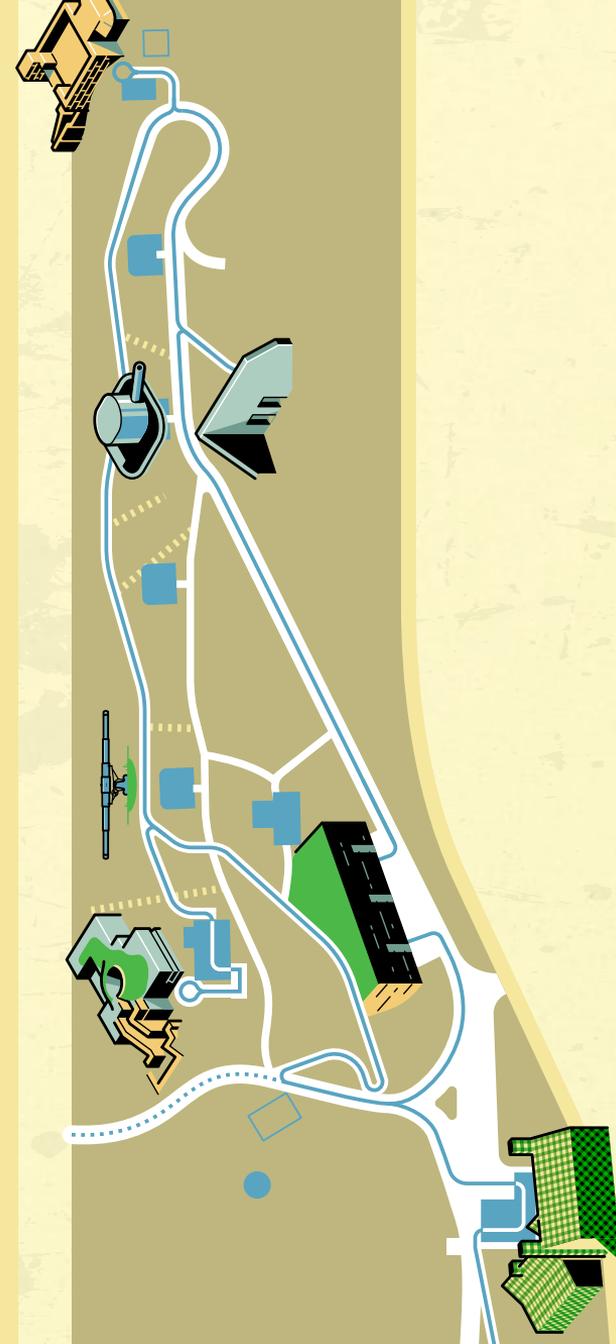


### CANNON

Between the two observation bunkers, there were 4 pits with cannons. These are called gun emplacements. Two of these pits are now filled with sand.



Circle the lookout bunker and the cannon:





# COMMUNICATION



This is a Morse device. It was used to send messages quickly. Morse code is made up of long and short signals. Dashes (-) are used for the long signals and dots (.) for the short signals. Each letter of the alphabet can be written with dashes and dots.

Letter		Morse	
A	· -	N	- ·
B	- · · ·	O	- - -
C	- · - ·	P	- · - ·
D	- · ·	Q	- - - ·
E	·	R	· - ·
F	· · - ·	S	· · ·
G	- - ·	T	-
H	· · · ·	U	· · -
I	· ·	V	· · · -
J	· - - -	W	· - -
K	- · -	X	- · · -
L	· - · ·	Y	- · - -
M	- -	Z	- · - ·



**Go down the stairs and go inside.  
Watch the film.**

We are now in the communication room. Communication means talking to each other or sending messages. The sailors communicated with each other so that they could put the cannons in the right position.



**Go to the next room. That's the  
room with the glass display case.**

This is the calculation room, where the position of a ship was calculated and then passed on to the communication room.

The display case contains a few of the real items that Alfred and his fellow soldiers used to watch, calculate and communicate.



**Do you recognise any?**

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**There is a code creating machine.  
Can you find it?**

Hint: There's a small strip of white paper in the machine. Haven't you found it yet? Look on the information board or ask someone to help you.



**Write your name in Morse code  
But beware, the enemy is always  
listening in!**

My name in Morse code:

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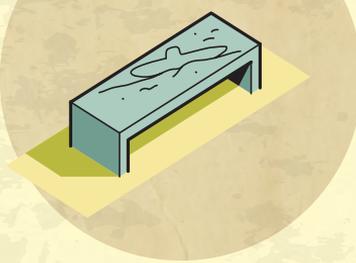
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## WAR UNDER WATER



Turn back and leave observation bunker. Follow the path along the sea to your right. Stop at the "table".



What was made here?

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Did you know that there are a lot of ships and submarines in the water in front of you?

The war was fought on and under water. There are a lot of wrecks of ships and submarines on the bottom of the sea.

This map shows you the German submarine U-11. This submarine probably hit a sea mine (a bomb under water). Here you can see the U-11 lying on the bottom of the sea.

The German submarines sank many ships, but they were in danger as well. French and British ships tried to stop them.

## WAR ON LAND



Walk further down the path until you reach the cannon.

This is one of the four cannons that was put in a pit or gun emplacement. Each emplacement had one cannon. Here you see one, made from concrete. It shows how large a cannon of The Aachen Battery was. At the back you can see the inside of the cannon.

They used them to shoot at ships of the enemy. The cannons could shoot at targets that were more than 11 miles away.



Did you know that a cannon weighed as much as eight elephants?

The cannon was very heavy, it weighed 88,000 pounds. That's as much as eight elephants!



# SHELTER



Follow the path along the sea until you reach the next bunker. This is the furthest lookout bunker of The Aachen battery.



Walk a bit further. On the left, there is a narrow path hidden in the dunes. Down at the bottom there is a bunker.



Look at the photos of the bunker (interior and exterior).



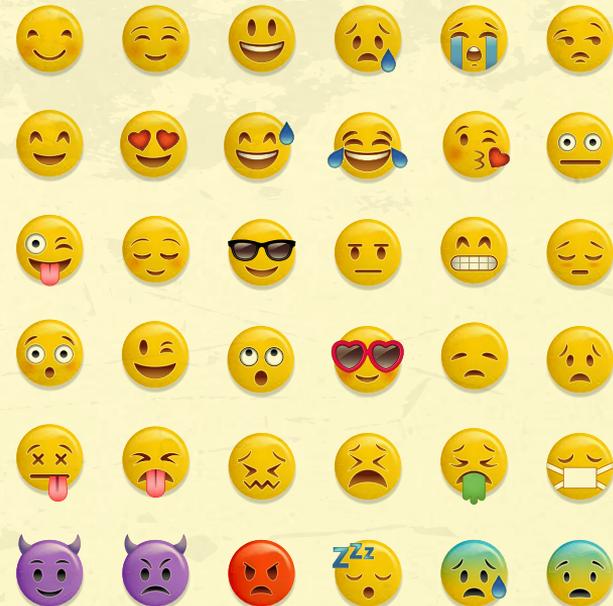
Did you know that the German soldiers were also shot at? They sheltered in this bunker.

Alfred also sat on a bench like this to wait until the bombs stopped falling.



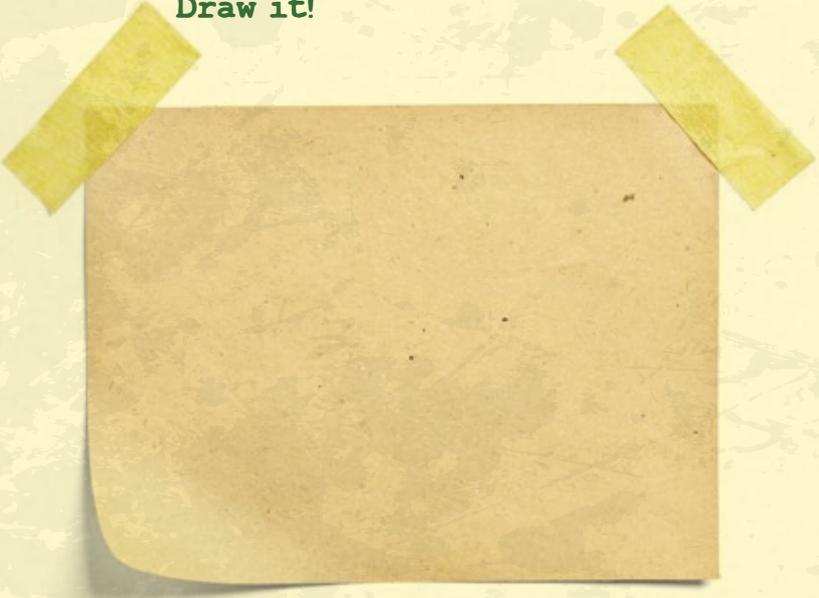
Imagine that there is a war here. Like Alfred, you have to shelter here.

How would you feel? Afraid? Sad? Or angry? Circle the emojis.





Alfred thought about home in this bunker.  
 What would you miss the most?  
 Draw it!



Soldiers had to shoot at the enemy.  
 They defended the coast and listened to their boss.  
 Sometimes they had to do things they didn't like.



Have you ever had to do something you didn't like?  
 What did you have to do?

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## SHOOTING AT THE ENEMY



Walk on. On the right you will see a small building with two doors.  
 This is the artillery position with the cannon you just saw.



Is there anything you would fight for? Place a cross.

- Your family
- Someone you love
- Your home
- Money
- Something else: \_\_\_\_\_

# REST



Alfred missed his family and friends. He wrote them letters and postcards.



**Step outside and follow the path. Go straight ahead until you reach the wooden building on your right-hand side.**

These are the barracks. Alfred and his fellow soldiers slept in a building like this. They slept in hammocks, just as on a ship.

The building is new. We copied the old building to give you an idea of what it looked like during World War I.



**Go inside. Would you like to sleep in this bedroom? Would you like to lie in a hammock?**

Give a score from one to five stars. One star is not good and five stars is very good



**How many stars do you give it? Draw the number of stars.**



**Take the postcard from the booklet. Write or draw something for someone you love. Give this person the postcard or send it to him or her.**

# CONGRATULATIONS!

You have learned more about Alfred and life at The Aachen Battery.

People are always fighting and war still exists. Raversyde wants to show people this part of history and make them think about it.



**Take a selfie. Add a peace message or symbol.**

Post your selfie on Instagram or Facebooks with #Raversyde and #Atlantikwallraversyde.



**Follow the red arrows '1939 - 1945. SALTZWEDEL-NEU BATTERY' and visit the WW II bunkers.**

You will receive a gift at the exit. Ask the steward.

# SEE YOU!

**Colophon:**

Raversyde

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 RAVERSYDE

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