

Mason Dixon Conference - Winter 2013

Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2013 10:05 am – 12:10 pm

The meeting was called to order by Mike Pollinger (MDC Chairman). The meeting was taped and for brevity purposes, these minutes represent the highlights of the meeting¹.

| Executive Board Roll-Call | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Title</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Present at Meeting</i> |
| Chairman | Mike Pollinger (DE-I) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Vice Chairman | J.J. Lightner (NC-XVII) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Secretary | Keith Chase (VA-II) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Treasurer | Richard Clark (NC-XVI) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| International Rep | John Bull (MD-III) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

| State Representatives and Other Appointed Positions Roll-Call | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Title</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Present at Meeting</i> |
| Delaware State Rep | Bert Littleton (DE-I) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kentucky State Rep | Ruben Gardner (KY-II) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maryland State Rep | Steve Smith (MD-I) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| North Carolina State Rep | Gary Folsom (NC-XIII) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Tennessee State Rep | T.C. Hicks (TN-III) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Virginia State Rep | Mike Hart (VA-III) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| West Virginia State Rep | Carl Pace (WV-II) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Chaplin | Mike Williams (MD-I) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Safety Officer | D.W. Conners (VA-V) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Paul Domingoes (VA-II) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Webmaster | Vacant | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Agenda Items |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>Call to Order</u>: (10:05 am)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Moment of Silence.b. Opening Prayer – Mike Williams (MDC Chaplin).c. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.d. Reading of Blue Knights Pledge – Chairman Pollinger.2. <u>Chapter Roll-Call and Report</u>: Keith Chase (MDC Secretary). Roll-Call was conducted and the below listed Chapters were represented at the meeting: |

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|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Delaware-- I ¹ | Maryland- I | Maryland-III ² | North Carolina-II ³ |
| North Carolina-IV | North Carolina-XIII | North Carolina-XVI ⁴ | North Carolina-XVII ⁵ |
| North Carolina-XIX | North Carolina-XXIV | Tennessee-III | Tennessee-VI ⁶ |
| Tennessee-XII | Virginia-II | Virginia-III | Virginia-V ⁷ |
| Virginia-XVII | West Virginia-II | | |

- There are 76 Chapters in the conference and 18 Chapters were represented at the meeting for a percentage of 24% in attendance. There were 54 members, spouses and guests in attendance at the meeting.

3. Recognized VIPs:

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| <u>INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS</u> | <u>CONFERENCE CHAIRMEN</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJ Alvarez (TX-XXXI) – Vice President • Jack Kaylor (CA-VI) – Secretary • Jerry Bryan (OK-I) – Treasurer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ricky Gautreau (QC-XIV) – NEC • Gus Faella (NJ-XI) – TSC |
| <u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u> | <u>CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Gennari (NY-I) • Ronnie Young (VA-V) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russ Harper (NY-XVIII) – TSC |
| <u>BOG OFFICERS</u> | <u>STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lon Strayer (PA-XII) – Chairman | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Fallaw (NJ-XI) – New Jersey • Glen Wheat (IN-XIII) – Indiana |

4. Host Chapter Remarks: President (Rick Lubow, TN-XII), thanked all for attending.

5. Chairman’s Remarks / International Elections: The Chairman yielded his remarks to the candidates for International Officers elections. Each candidate in attendance was afforded two minutes to address the meeting...those candidates that sent election requests for reading were also accommodated. Clicking on the name will hyperlink to the candidate’s posting on the International website. Additionally, some of the candidates have established their own websites, Facebook pages, twitter accounts and other social media outlets. (NOTE: Please take the time to review the candidate’s profiles, history and campaign agendas...become an informed voter).

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| <u>INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT</u> | <u>INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJ Alvarez (TX-XXXI) – In Attendance • Frank Gennari (NY-I) – In Attendance • Alex Ramirez (FL-IV) – No Presentation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerry Bryan (OK-I) – In attendance • Pat Fox (NY-XXIV) – Electronic Presentation • Russ Harper (NY-XVIII) – In Attendance • Arthorr Nomchong (AUST-II) – No Presentation • Glen Wheat (IN-XIII) – In Attendance |

¹ Mike Vari produced a voting authorization letter from Baldo Sebastianelli - Chapter President

² John Bull produced a voting authorization letter from James Miller - Chapter President

³ Jake Sanok produced a voting authorization letter from Monty Smothers - Chapter President

⁴ Richard Clark produced a voting authorization letter from John Rogers - Chapter President

⁵ Chapter represented only – No voting authorization letter from Chapter President

⁶ Chapter represented only – No voting authorization letter from Chapter President

⁷ Ronnie Young produced a voting authorization letter from Nancy Goode - Chapter President

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| <u>INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY</u> | <u>INTERNATIONAL TREASURER</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Borza (PA-XXIV) – In Attendance • Jack Kaylor (CA-VI) – Secretary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Borza (PA-XXIV) – In Attendance • John Gordon (OH-XVIII) – No Presentation • Bob Seelye (WA-I) – Electronic Presentation |

6. Candidate Discussion: There was 15 minutes of discussion concerning the MDC endorsement of candidates for International Officers. At the conclusion of the discussion there was a motion from the floor, which was seconded and voted unanimously to support the following candidates.

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| <u>INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT</u> Frank Gennari (NY-I) | <u>INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT</u> Russ Harper (NY-XVIII) |
| <u>INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY</u> Karen Borza (PA-XXIV) | <u>INTERNATIONAL TREASURER</u> Jim Borza (PA-XXIV) |

7. Secretary’s Report (Keith Chase): The meeting minutes from the Fall Conference were completed and sent out to the State Reps, to be forwarded on to the Chapter Presidents and posted on the website. Motion to accept the minutes was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to approve.

8. Treasurer’s Report (Lonnie Loyall): Financial Report – As of 02/13/2013 – was reported...The financial report was redacted from the online version...contact your Chapter President for the financial details. A motion to accept the financial report, as provided, was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the report.

a. We have 46 of 76 Chapters that have paid their dues (60.5%). Chapters that have not paid their dues are listed below and need to contact the Treasurer to fix the arrears:

- i. Kentucky: I, III, IV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII
- ii. Maryland: II, IV, V
- iii. North Carolina: I, III, V, VII, XII, XIV, XV, XVIII, XIX, XXII
- iv. Tennessee: I, VIII, IX
- v. Virginia: VI, VII, VIII, XI, XIV
- vi. West Virginia: III, IV

b. Ensure you make your IRS notifications each year. We have sent out information concerning the mandatory reporting in the past...please relook at the info and make any required notifications.

9. Vice Chairman’s Report (J.J. Lightner):

a. Membership: (2012 Year End)

- i. We have once again fallen behind Tri-State, making us the second largest conference in the Blue Knights with 2,822 members in 77 chapters.
- ii. As an organization, we end 2012 with 20410 members in 637 chapters.
- iii. In 2012, the organization gained 2950 members and 19 new Chapters.
- iv. I am working on a Conference Recruiting Flyer.

10. International Representative’s Report (John Bull): Since our last meeting in Culpeper, the International Board met on Sept 26th, Nov 14th and Jan 19th. Please keep in mind that my report is just a snap-shot of the meetings. Please take the time to read the minutes, especially in light of some of the things I am reporting. You also need to be up to date and informed because this is an election year and you should base your decisions on what is best for this organization.

a. Renewals: The renewal process is currently ongoing. If you have not gotten your Chapter

renewals in please do so quickly. Also if any Chapter President has not done so please go online and register with the International for the online renewal process.

- b. Charity Stat's: These numbers are as of January 19th. Don't forget you can now report your charity stats online now.
 - i. Overall = \$16,291,637.50
 - ii. Year to Date = \$691,655.50
- c. Committee Reports:
 - i. International Honorary Committee nominated the following International Honorary members (all were approved):
 1. Col Allen B West – US Army – Ret. - Florida
 2. Eric Estrada – California
 3. King & Queen of Belgium
 4. Christine Fulton - England
 - ii. Blue Knight Magazine: The new magazine is out and members are starting to receive it. So far the comments are positive. If you noticed the report from the BOG was not in the first one. According to the magazine committee this was an oversight and will be corrected in the next magazine. Starting with the next issue, the ads will need to have a picture with it in order to appear in the catalog...otherwise it will be in the online version only. There are additions to the magazine to include recipes.
- d. Recruitment Video: The video that was started in Tyler is almost done. The video will be 12 to 15 minutes long and feature interviews from current members. The International is looking at providing copies to every chapter for recruitment. Col Allen West has agreed to narrate the video.
- e. New Business:
 - i. Appeal of Pedro Sierra (FL-XXI) – Upheld. The SRC received a complaint that Sierra was selling items under a sales permit that belonged to another chapter. The investigation revealed that the items in question belonged to FL-XXIX and Sierra sold those items while he was their quartermaster. He left the chapter and went back to FL-XXI. He became their quartermaster and began selling items. It was discovered that some of the items were from FL-XXIX. The permit he was using was found to be falsified when it was reviewed. The original FL-XXI permit had items cut and pasted to it that were issued to FL-XXIX. At the hearing the SRC found him guilty of several charges and removed him from the Blue Knights for cause and had him declared a member “not in good standing” under Article X. He was also placed on the persona non grata list. After hearing the appeal the International Board upheld the removal by a vote of 15 – 0.
- f. 2012 Proposals: (11 Total)
 - i. 2012–0018: By Serge Fournier – Passed – Voted to donate \$1,000 to the torch Run of Canada.
 - ii. 2012–0019: Amend Section II of the International By-Laws – By Jerry Bryan – Passed – Changes the membership date to January 31st. This brings everything in line with the new dates for the elections and by-laws.
 - iii. 2012–0020: Suspend rules for advertising the 2014 Convention – By Bryan Gadd – Failed – The proposal was to allow the UK to advertise the 2014 Convention now instead of waiting until after the 2013 Convention. The Board voted against this proposal. It was felt that this would set a bad precedence. It was also felt by the Arkansas Chapter that

- members may not go to their event in order to save money for the UK Convention.
- iv. 2012–0021: Repeal 4.03 of the International By-Laws – By Jerry Bryan – Withdrawn.
 - v. 2012–0022: Repeal 7.02 of the International By-Laws – By Jerry Bryan – Failed – Both of these would remove the ability of the Board of Governors to charge Chapter dues. The BOG doesn't currently do this because their money comes from the International. It was felt that if the International decided to reduce or withdraw money from the BOG then they would not have the ability to do their job. Both proposals failed.
 - vi. 2012–0023: Trademark the name Sword and Shield – By Serge Fournier – Passed – This is the name of the new International magazine. The International had already filed to do this. If we decide to change the name down the road we still can.
 - vii. 2012–0024: Charity Donations – Guy O'Connor – Passed – Each Conference can now designate \$1,000 per budget year to be donated by the International. Any chapter wanting to make a donation needs to put it before the Conference to vote on. The International will not accept proposals directly from Chapters.
 - viii. 2012–0025: Social Media Guidelines – By Jack Kaylor – Passed – This was put together by the Internet committee and is basic guidelines when using social media such as Facebook, website and others.
 - ix. 2012-0026: Disciplinary Action of Anthony (Scooter) Boyer – By Bob Flanagan – Passed – Scooter brought J.D. Perkins into the banquet room at the Tri-State Conference in October. He was given a letter of reprimand by the Board.
 - x. 2012–0027: Dues Waiver – By Brad Tolefson – Passed – To waive the dues of members affected by Hurricane Sandy.
 - xi. 2012–0028: Military Dues Waiver – By D.J. Alvarez – Passed - To waive the dues of any member called to active duty.
- g. 2013 Proposals (5 Total)
- i. 2013–0001: Repeal 2011-0013 & 2012–0007 – Chuck Doran – Passed – This motion was originally tabled in order to get to 2013-0003 (below). When it came back up I made a motion to reject it with a second by Russ Harper. After some debate the motion to reject was defeated 9 to 8 with President Flanagan casting the tie-breaking vote. We then heard the motion and had discussions on it. As it was written, several people did not like the fact it removed these proposals and reverted us back to the old way with the International office handling the ballots. A vote was taken and the motion failed 9 to 6. At that point it should have been a dead issue. However, President Flanagan asked Chuck Doran if he would like to amend his motion and redo it now. Several members including me made the objection that the motion already failed and it was done and if we could not bring 2013-0003 back up how could we bring this one back. The President's answer was "That was different". He then allowed Doran to restate the new motion to simply repeal the two motions with nothing else added. The amended motion passed 11 to 4. With that vote things went back to the old way and everything we worked for and the wishes of the members were GONE.
 - ii. 2013–0002: Amend Article III Section 3:16 – Chuck Doran – Passed – This motion was also originally tabled in order to get to 2013-0003 (below). When it came back up several members had issues with it. It was amended to have everything in parentheses removed and the work "Mailed inserted between counting and ballots. After a long debate the vote was taken and it ended in a tie, with President Flanagan casting the tie-breaking vote and

the motion passed.

- iii. 2013–0003: Have Election America conduct Paper Election – By John Bull – Failed – On January 8th I got an inquiry from Carl Hutchinson about pricing and asked Eric Mines (Committee Chairman) to get a price from Election America (E.A.) since he was the authorized contact person with E.A. Eric Mines contacted them and was informed that President Flanagan had already contacted them and got pricing almost a month before. The President never notified Committee Chairman or the Committee that he had done this. E.A. had advised President Flanagan and confirmed with Eric Mines that it did not want the Blue Knights business. I contacted another company this week and was able to get a quote for paper only and on-site counting. I was prepared to make my motion with the amended information. I even checked with a friend who is a legislative aide in the state assembly. She told me how to make the motion with the amendment according to Robert rule’s so everything would be nice and legal. When President Flanagan called on me, I went to make the motion and was cut off by Bill Haylett, who made a motion to reject my proposal and that was followed by a quick second. When I tried to object, because it violated Robert Rules, the President simply said a motion has been made and moved on. Russ Harper and I both tried to explain that you can’t make a motion to reject a proposal that hasn’t been brought to the floor yet but he did not care. Several people wanted to turn it down because I had the name Election America in it. When I tried to amend to the new company I found, the President said I couldn’t. Russ Harper asked him if he was saying I could not amend my motion. He would not answer at first but we kept on him and he finally said that was correct because it was illegal to do so. After more discussion it was rejected 9 to 7.
- iv. 2013–0004: Election Guidelines – Jerry Bryan – Passed – This motion was amended on page 2 under ballots. The last sentence was changed to read “Ballots will be mailed 60 days prior to the election meeting” This motion then passed.
- v. 2013–0005: International Ballot Counting – Jerry Bryan – Passed - These guidelines put the election and the ballots back in the hands of the International Office. There was plenty of discussion about the motion. After some back and forth a change was made to page 1. Under the section titled Executive Director the next to last line was changed to read “ballots delivered to the Ballot Counting Committee”. The final vote was 9 for and 6 against.

NOTE FROM REP: *Please remember that my report is a synopsis of board activity. Read the full minutes which are currently on the International website and currently emailed to each Chapter President.*

- h. Election Ballots: During the discussion of the MDC International Rep’s Report, it was discussed that when the person of a Chapter receives their ballot (mid-May) that they should advise their Chapter Secretary to make notification to the members to be on the lookout for the ballot. If a member has not received their ballot within 10 days, an email should be sent to their Secretary who will advise the State Rep and the MDC International Rep for inquiry.

Representatives Reports

This will be a summary of topics presented by each reporting member...

- 1. Delaware State Representative – Albert Littleton (DE-I): [Reported by Vice Chairman J.J. Lightner]
 - a. Delaware has 1 Chapter with 70 members.

- b. All is well in the “First State”...Check the MDC Ride List for events.
- 2. Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II): [Reported by Vice Chairman J.J. Lightner]
 - a. Kentucky has 14 Chapters.
 - b. Chapters are active. Check the MDC Ride List for events.
- 3. Maryland State Representative – Steve Smith (MD-I):
 - a. Maryland has 8 Chapters.
 - b. Check the MDC Ride List for events.
- 4. North Carolina State Representative – Gary Folsom (NC-XIII):
 - a. North Carolina has 22 Chapters. The Goldsboro Chapter did not renew.
 - b. North Carolina has been hosting regional meetings and seems to be working for communication.
 - c. Check the MDC Ride List for events.
- 5. Tennessee State Representative – TC Hicks (TN-III): [Reported by Vice Chairman J.J. Lightner]
 - a. Tennessee has 10 Chapters.
 - b. There are two requests for a starter kits.
 - c. Check the MDC Ride List for events.
- 6. Virginia State Representative – Mike Hart (VA-III):
 - a. Virginia has 16 Chapters.
 - b. Virginia has two (2) Members at Large.
 - c. Check the MDC Ride List for events.
- 7. West Virginia State Representative – Carl Pace (WV-II): [Reported by Vice Chairman J.J. Lightner]
 - a. West Virginia has 5 Chapters.
 - b. Check the MDC Ride List for events.

Website

- 1. The position is currently vacant:
 - a. Email address is webmaster@mdc.org (being monitored by John Bull)
 - b. We have the new site up and running.
 - c. We are looking to see if someone is interested to become the webmaster...please check with the Chapter members to see if someone would like to volunteer. Interested persons need to submit their desires to the Executive Board Members and some background about their experience. The Board will make a final determination.
 - d. The President’s page has links to the contact listing...Chapter Presidents should have a password and if they don’t, contact John Bull.
 - e. The Ride List is constantly updated...send all ride info to the Secretary.

Quartermaster

- 1. Ordering Sales Items: The coins, pins and patches are up on the Virginia-II website or can be order directly through the Conference Secretary (Keith Chase). We take cash, checks or credit cards through paypal.
- 2. Inventory: as of 31 December 2012: COINS = 370 ** PINS = 174 ** PATCHES= 134

Safety

1. D.W. Conners – Safety Officer: [Reported by Vice Chairman J.J. Lightner]
 - a. Thanks for the get-well cards for my wife Kathy after her fall. She is recovering well.
 - b. I am still doing the ride workshops. These drills are not MSF but of my own design.
 - c. I am available to do “On-Road” workshops (travel is limited until Kathy is doing better). Day 1 will be classroom and the second day would be on the road. This is at no cost...I just need a place to lay my head.
 - d. Cook-Out at his house on the Friday of WV-II’s Wild and Wonderful Knights. FREE FOOD AND DRINK. 11am-4pm.
 - e. Emergency Cards...if you need one, please don’t hesitate to ask.
 - f. I have fliers for bike checks, etc.

Old Business

1. Spring Conference Update: President Jonny Overby (NC-XXIV) advised that the next Conference meeting will be in Lenoir, NC from 24-26 May. For more information or to pre-register, go to www.facebook.com/bkncxxiv . The flyer info is posted on the MDC website.
2. Scholarships:
 - The 2013 MDC Scholarship Application is now available on the MDC Website <http://www.bkmdc.org/docs/2013%20Scholarship>.
 - The MDC will award two \$500 scholarships.
 - The 2013 applications must be post marked by 26 April 2013. The full application, to include the essay must be received in order to be considered.
3. Fall Conference Update: President John Weinstein (VA-II) advised that the Fall Conference meeting will again be in Culpeper, VA from 30 Aug-2 Sep 2013. For more information or to pre-register, go to www.bkva-ii.org. The flyer info is posted on the MDC website.

New Business

1. Conference Calling: Any Chapter needing conference calling, check out www.rondee.com This is free as long as you only use the basic features which is very user friendly and has the ability to monitor who is on and off of the call. The catch is the call-in number is located in Texas or California so one must have unlimited long distance calling. You can have up to 50 persons on the line. A pay feature is to have a 800 number. The MDC Board is using this service and it works great.
2. Chaplin Notification: Mike Williams (MDC Chaplin) requested notification of any members/family members that are ill. He will make contact and/or send cards from the Conference.
3. Bids for 2014 Winter Meeting:
 - a. There were no bids from the floor. We will send out info to the Chapters to see if any Chapter. Info should be submitted to the Executive Board NLT 30 March 2013.

Good of the Order

1. Checking In on others: With all of the disasters that we have seen over the last several years, we see the need to ensure we are checking in on our brothers and sisters in the areas. If there are any Chapters that

- need ANYTHING, do not hesitate to contact the MDC Board.
2. 2014 Convention Add-On: Frank Gennari is putting together a three week add-on to the 2014 Convention for a tour of Europe after the actual convention. Details will be forthcoming but the price of taking your own bike will be about the cost of airplane seat.
 3. Recruitment: Lon Strayer (BOG Chairman) pushed the need for recruitment.
 4. Gus Faella (NJ-XI) – TSC Chairman reminded everyone of the TSC Conference meeting that will be in Harrisburg, PA 11-14 October. The event is being hosted by PA-V.
 5. Bids for 2014 Winter Meeting:
 - a. There were no bids from the floor. We will send out info to the Chapters to see if any Chapter. Info should be submitted to the Executive Board NLT 30 March 2013.
 6. Glen Wheat (IN-XIII) – Indiana State Rep mentioned a possible joint conference with GLRC, MDC and TSC. This is something we should look at.
 7. All candidates endorsed by the MDC thanks the Conference for their support.

Announcement of Mason Dixon Conference Meetings

1. Spring Conference Meeting - 2013:
 - Hosted By: North Carolina-XXIV
 - Location: Lenoir, NC
 - Dates: 24-26 May 2013
 - Information: www.facebook.com/bkncxxiv
2. Fall Conference Meeting - 2013:
 - Hosted By: Virginia-II
 - Location: Culpeper, VA
 - Dates: 30 August - 2 September 2013
 - Information: www.bkva-ii.org
3. Winter Conference Meeting - 2014:
 - Hosted By: PENDING
 - Location: PENDING
 - Dates: 14-16 February 2014
 - Information: Pending

Announcement of International Conventions

1. 2013 Convention:
 - Hosted By: Arkansas-IV
 - Location: Hot Springs, Arkansas
 - Dates: 14-19 July 2013
 - Info: <http://www.blueknightsar4.org/4.html>

Adjournment – 12:10 pm. Next meeting 10:00 am / 26 May 2013 at the 2013 Spring Conference

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| Contact Information | Website: www.bkmdc.org | <i>Secretary's Contact</i> Email: keith.a.chase@comcast.net Phone: 703-893-1823 Fax: 571-748-4240 |
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¹ File size is 178MB in MP3 format.