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This island is located near the international shipping route in the Indian Ocean. Sri Lanka is a must-pass route from East Asia to the Middle East, Europe and Africa. Half of Wanlongdian's revenue now comes from ocean escort. Now that we have the island of Maldives, if we add this island of Sri Lanka, the escort work will be more time-saving and efficient.

Bernard Elno specifically called charlie Wade to tell him about the island, and added: "I'm sorry, Mr. Wade, I acted first and asked for your permission later, so I want to apologize to you..."

Although this island is only worth two or three hundred million US dollars, charlie Wade saw Bernard Elno's attitude from this matter.

In fact, he had already seen through Bernard Arno. Although this old man was very rich, he was also very stingy at heart. A product that cost 199 was 199. He couldn't just not give him the change for the one dollar after giving him two hundred just because he was rich. This would make him upset for a long time and was absolutely unacceptable.

An old nobleman like Grandet would usually not be willing to pay a penny more than the agreed price, but this time he actually took the initiative to give an extra island on top of the agreed price. It can be seen that the old man has made some progress.

To use a Chinese saying, his iron tree has finally blossomed.

So, charlie Wade affirmed his approach and said with a smile: "Mr. Elno is thoughtful. I thank you on behalf of Wanlong Hall."

Bernard Elno quickly said, "You're welcome, Mr. Wade. This is just a small token of my appreciation."

After that, he quickly said to charlie Wade: "By the way, Mr. Wade, Mr. Hamid, who was almost assassinated, should have a good relationship with you, right?"

charlie Wade smiled and said, "Hamid and I have a good relationship. What's wrong?"

Bernard Erno immediately said, "Mr. Wade, I personally feel that Mr. Hamid's situation in Syria should be quite dangerous. Since he is your friend, I would like to offer him \$200 million as a small token of my appreciation. I hope you will pass it on to him to help him consolidate his foundation in Syria."

charlie Wade said in surprise: "Why does Mr. Elno suddenly want to sponsor Hamid?"

Bernard Erno said with a smile, "Oh, Mr. Wade, to be honest, this is just a small token of my appreciation. I hope Mr. Hamid can further improve his abilities and try not to cause you any worries, Mr. Wade."

"Very good." charlie Wade praised: "I really didn't expect you to have such a heart. Hamid is now trying to form alliances in Syria, and he will inevitably have to spend money to win over some warlords. This money can just help him. I thank you on his behalf."

Bernard Elno said excitedly, "You're too polite, Mr. Wade. I'm already very satisfied to do my best to help you with your worries! After all, you've helped me so much!"

charlie Wade smiled and said, "No need to be polite. I will say hello to Hamid later and tell him the news."

"Okay, Mr. Wade!" Bernard Erno quickly added, "If two hundred million dollars isn't enough, just let me know and I can add more!"

charlie Wade teased him: "Mr. Elno, I want to remind you that Syria is unlikely to become a market for luxury goods. You have invested so much in Hamid, and you may not have the chance to make it back."

Bernard Erno quickly said, "Mr. Wade, you misunderstood me. I'm not doing this to make money. I just want to share some of the burden with you..."

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The situation in Syria has entered a delicate balance due to hunter Hamid's lucky survival and Blackwater's island station.

Those senior opposition figures who advocated killing hunter Hamid have been condemned by the international community because their plan failed and was made public. Now they are being condemned by everyone.

Although they can ignore their international reputation, their internal authority has indeed been greatly affected. The people are questioning them and are wary of them internally. The situation is indeed not good for them, so in the short term, they absolutely dare not do anything outrageous again.

Moreover, there are various factions within the opposition. The core layer forms its own faction, and some small warlords on the periphery are in the same awkward situation or even face many crises as hunter Hamid. The attack on hunter Hamid this time also sounded a wake-up call for them.

After hunter Hamid returned safely, he followed charlie Wade's instructions and established very close contact with some of the more marginal figures in the opposition. He had been launching a psychological offensive against these people, making them very wary of those in power. They formed an alliance and were determined to advance and retreat together on this matter.

However, hunter Hamid currently does not know how strong the actual cohesion within this alliance is, nor how high its actual combat effectiveness will be once it is united.

Therefore, he is now on high alert. After eliminating the internal spies, he tripled the number of people responsible for guarding and security. Drones equipped with thermal imaging took off one after another, conducting 24-hour non-stop reconnaissance of the surrounding area within a radius of dozens of kilometers, for fear that the enemy would launch a sneak attack.

When charlie Wade called him, he was still asleep after inspecting for several hours.

After receiving charlie Wade's call, he quickly became alert and asked excitedly: "bruce Wade, what do you want me to do?"

charlie Wade asked: "Brother, how have things been in recent days?"

hunter Hamid sighed and said, "I've been following your instructions lately, secretly uniting with some warlords within the opposition and reaching a preliminary alliance agreement with them."

charlie Wade asked him: "How strong are those warlords?"

"Strength..." hunter Hamid said awkwardly, "They're not very strong. They don't even have their own territory. Their troops have been incorporated into the so-called government army. But because of what happened to me, they're all in a state of panic and eager to find an opportunity to separate themselves."

charlie Wade instructed: "You can persuade these warlords like you to establish self-government according to your model. It would be best if they could also control an area and build high walls and store abundant food, just like you. These days, it's not safe to leave your back to your comrades. If you can build an iron wall yourself, your safety will be greatly improved."

hunter Hamid lamented, "They'd like to, but it's not that easy to do... The core opposition is very wary of them. If they want to pull out the reorganized army, they will definitely not agree."

charlie Wade smiled and said, "They wouldn't agree before, but the situation is different now. They must be very worried now. After all, they have firmly established themselves in power and are no longer the opposition. This terrorist attack has a huge impact on their image. In addition, their internal morale is low. If they continue to maintain high pressure on other warlords, they may be in chaos before the former government forces return. Therefore, now is a good time to promote the feudal system."

"Feudal system?" hunter Hamid was a little confused and didn't quite understand what charlie Wade meant.

charlie Wade said, "Another way to put it is a modern federal system. Everyone is like you, striving for their own fiefdom, operating with their own armed forces in their own fiefdom. They are highly autonomous in normal times, but in major events like foreign invasions and internal uprisings, they obey the orders of the federal administrators and fight against the enemy together."

hunter Hamid hesitated for a moment and said, "Many people saw how I nearly died in the Maldives and probably thought they might face the same fate in the future, or even not be as lucky as me. Now they are all in danger. A high degree of autonomy is definitely the best option. I just don't know if the core leadership will agree to this."

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charlie Wade said calmly, "Whether or not this opening will be made depends on whether the internal and external pressure is great enough. When the pressure is not great, everyone wants both, but when the pressure is too great, everyone will automatically make choices. Now that there is great external pressure and great internal divisions, as long as these warlords like you can unite, striving for a high degree of autonomy will not be a problem, provided that the capital and the economically prosperous areas are left to the core group."

hunter Hamid lamented, "If we can't get the economically prosperous areas, even if the core leaders agree, we'll most likely have to start from scratch in a remote place. These warlords probably don't have enough initial capital."

charlie Wade smiled and said, "That's why I called you. Bernard Elno just called me and said he's willing to donate \$200 million to you to help you consolidate your position in Syria. I think you could use some of that to support your fellow sufferers in building their own territories."

hunter Hamid exclaimed, "Elno donated 200 million US dollars to me?! This...this must be all because of you, brother, right?"

charlie Wade smiled and said, "It doesn't matter whose face you're giving it to. What's important is that these two hundred million US dollars can help you win over a lot of people."

hunter Hamid said gratefully, "bruce Wade, you have really helped me so much. I don't know how to repay you..."

charlie Wade said: "There is no need to be so polite between you and me. What's more, the foundation of the Ten Thousand Dragons Palace is also in Syria. In the future, we will need you two to cooperate with each other and help each other. If you get better, the strength of our team will get better."

After that, charlie Wade asked him again: "By the way, after you went back, did you contact the leader of the opposition?"

"No." hunter Hamid said somewhat angrily, "I don't want to have any contact with these bastards who don't keep their promises and stab me in the back!"

charlie Wade said calmly, "Don't be so impulsive. He shot you in the back, but he didn't take you down. So you have to learn to take this opportunity to make a scene and blackmail them! Listen to me, today you're going to ask them for an explanation and make them give you some compensation. Otherwise, you're going to keep making trouble. Not only in Syria, but also on the Internet, where everyone knows about it. You can even register a personal account online, shoot short videos, and do live broadcasts. The bigger the incident, the more afraid they will be of you. In short, you have to do everything you can to torture them and force them to reach a settlement with you."

"Reconcile?" hunter Hamid asked, "bruce Wade, how do you want me to reconcile with them?"

charlie Wade said: "Let them at least give you a certain amount of compensation. It would be best if you force them to agree to expand your territory. Then you can hire an exploration team to see if there is any oil or natural gas in your territory. If there is, we will invest in mining."

hunter Hamid said, "Brother, even if I can dig up oil, I have no way to sell it. I don't have the qualifications for import and export business, and people won't do business with a warlord like me..."

charlie Wade smiled and said, "You don't need to sell it. As long as oil can be extracted in your territory, I will let Wanlong Palace invest in an oil refinery. Gasoline and diesel will be directly processed by Wanlong Palace. Heavy oil can be sold to Yisu Shipping and

directly added to passing cargo ships at sea. Everything will form an internal closed loop. When the time comes, Wanlong Palace will settle the bill for you, and you just need to collect the money."

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The biggest cost of long-distance transportation is fuel. A 100,000-ton cargo ship requires dozens of tons of heavy oil every day, and can refuel thousands or even tens of thousands of tons of oil at a time. If the price difference per ton is a few hundred yuan, then the difference can be hundreds of thousands of yuan per refueling.

Many ocean-going cargo ships like to refuel in Singapore, mainly because the oil price there is cheap and they can save a lot of money by filling up their tanks.

If hunter Hamid had oil, he would not need to go to great lengths to find buyers. He would only need to sell the oil to Wanlong Palace at a lower price, and Wanlong Palace would then sell the heavy oil to Yisu Shipping at a lower price, and this business line would be successful.

By then, hunter Hamid can make money, Wanlongdian can make money, and Yisu Shipping can save some fuel costs. Given the scale of the fleet, the cost savings may be hundreds of millions a year. This is definitely a win-win situation.

Moreover, relying on the foundation of escorting this route, Wanlong Palace only needs to provide refueling business to Yisu Shipping as a side job.

Although Syria's oil reserves are not as rich as those of the wealthy countries, charlie Wade does not expect hunter Hamid to get a large oil field that can earn tens of thousands of dollars a day. As long as there is one that is enough for Wanlong Palace and Yisu Shipping to digest internally, it is worth doing.

Moreover, charlie Wade did not want to save money for himself. The main reason was that hunter Hamid was a difficult old man. He usually stayed in that poor mountain valley and had almost no source of income. If it were not for his assistance, his base would never have been in its current situation.

But if his expenses are not enough to cover his income for a long time, it will be like a company that is always making losses. The whole company is a bottomless pit. If you force him to make money, he will not be able to do so. At that time, you will have to subsidize him yourself or simply give up on him.

So for charlie Wade, the best way is to help hunter Hamid find a stable source of income.

Syria has been in constant war and the land is barren. It is probably impossible to achieve self-sufficiency even by growing crops, let alone making money to support a large army.

If you want to make some money locally, the best way is to extract oil.

If hunter Hamid couldn't get himself a piece of land that could produce oil, charlie Wade even considered asking him to find an opportunity to snatch one away.

Otherwise, with the huge business he has now, he may not be able to hold on once he stops providing aid.

hunter Hamid also roughly understood what charlie Wade meant. Now that the business has expanded, not only has there been more people, but there are also many more permanent fortifications under construction and requiring maintenance. The overall operating costs have increased several times compared to before. In addition, charlie Wade has been asking him to stockpile enough supplies, and those reserve supplies also require a lot of funds to be constantly replaced. Under this circumstance, his deficit will only become more and more serious.

If you don't hurry up and find a way to make some money, you will become very passive in the future.

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So, he said to charlie Wade: "There is an oil field more than 40 kilometers away from me, which has been controlled by the opposition. It can produce about 5,000 to 6,000 barrels of oil every day. This is the oil field closest to me. In addition, there are three or four oil fields within a hundred kilometers of me, all of which are controlled by the opposition.

charlie Wade did some calculations and said, "Five to six thousand barrels a day, that's two million barrels a year, about two or three hundred thousand tons. The annual output value is about a little over \$100 million. After deducting various costs, a net profit of tens of millions should not be a problem."

After that, he warned, "Brother, you should talk to the core members of the opposition soon and tell them directly that they must give you some compensation for this matter. If they ask you what kind of compensation you want, tell them that you want the oil field closest to you."

"If they give you the oil fields, and everyone lives in peace, you will still be a part of them in name only. If an external enemy appears, you will still fight alongside them."

"If they don't give it to you, you don't need to say anything more. Just lead your troops to attack all the oil fields within a radius of 100 kilometers except this one!"

"How do we fight, brother?" hunter Hamid exclaimed. "Should we just lead the troops and attack?"

"Right!" charlie Wade said firmly, "Just lead your troops and attack them directly. They can't react as quickly as you do. At a distance of 100 kilometers, you can quickly maneuver and take down one of them in a few hours. You have so many soldiers, it's time to take them out for a walk. They've been staying in the mountains and eating imported white flour for so long that they won't even be able to use their guns!"

"Alright!" hunter Hamid said without hesitation, "Then let's beat him up! Anyway, my defenses are well built here. We can retreat after the fight. They won't be able to retaliate even if they want to!"

charlie Wade said: "That's right, when it's time to take action, just summon the army and do it."

hunter Hamid asked: "So what do you think is the appropriate level of beating?"

charlie Wade said seriously, "We must completely paralyze their oil fields, to the point where they cannot be repaired without spending a lot of money and a lot of time. For you, it's nothing more than some normal losses and casualties in war. For them, destroying an oil field may mean losing hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue in the next few years, so it's worth it no matter how we attack you."

"Besides, your base is impregnable. They can't do anything to you. And those oil fields are very close to you. You can fight them with guerrilla warfare or blitzkrieg. After a round of attack, these oil fields, which are like money-printing machines, will all stop working. At worst, you can just flip the table. If you don't let us take a bite, then no one else can take a bite."

hunter Hamid was infected by charlie Wade's words, and immediately said with passion: "Brother, you are absolutely right! Damn it, if you don't give me two bites, I will smash the pot!"

charlie Wade warned him again: "If you win this step, it will provide an idea for other opposition warlords. At that time, many people will definitely want to split up and set up their own factions, which will greatly weaken the strength of the core opposition. Once everyone wants to split up, they will be unable to suppress it. The cost of conquering them

one by one is extremely high and the chances of winning are slim. In order to protect their core interests, they will have no choice but to grit their teeth and accept it."

At this point, charlie Wade explained: "Sometimes, safety does not come from strengthening yourself, but also from limiting the enemy. If you can disintegrate the strength of the core layer bit by bit from the inside, then the gap between you and them will become smaller and smaller, and they will naturally not dare to underestimate you in the future. So I think this battle must be fought, and it must be fought as soon as possible!"

hunter Hamid was eager to try, and said excitedly, "Great, brother, it seems that this battle is inevitable! I will call the core members of the opposition later to communicate. If they dare to refuse my conditions, I will immediately launch a devastating attack on all the surrounding oil wells!"