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The story behind the first $4n$ signal

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In 2002, when the quest for multineutrons had been running for 40 years without success and was already fading, a first positive signal consistent with a tetraneutron was observed at GANIL. We will go back to the motivations and anecdotes around that experiment, review the impact of this first result on the theoretical and experimental communities but also on the general public, and discuss the consequences it had on the re-triggering of the whole multineutron program.

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