

HUNTERS IN THE SKY

Program 3: "Red Star Rising"

FINAL SCRIPT

<u>TEASE</u>	
<p>A. Marquardt (234G-2): "The Russians weren't attack pilots...they were trained defensively ... we took advantage of this.</p>	<p>234G-2: (11:04:38:03) "I presume the Russian pilots' inferiority was caused by their training. They were trained in defense, as a defensive force, and not as attack pilots. () [One says the mission of the fighter pilot is defense, but the tactic is one of attack, and] () we were able to use that to our advantage." (11:05:07:17)</p> <p>The in point may not make sense, and the on-camera part is very brief. The entire soundbite will need to be voiced over by the narrator.</p>

B. NARRATOR: Hitler turns his fury towards the East. His obsession: the conquest of Russia ... to succeed where even Napoleon failed. Can the obsolete Red Air Force stand up to the mighty Luftwaffe?	
C. Dolgushin (60R-8): "We all understood that we were fighting for our motherland ... I could trust my comrades in battle and blood".	
<u>SHOW TITLE: HUNTERS IN THE SKY</u>	
<u>EPISODE TITLE: "Red Star Rising"</u>	

ACT I: OPERATION BARBAROSSA	
A. HITLER'S PLAN	
1. NARRATOR: June 22, 1941. Operation Barbarossa, the German invasion of Russia begins. It is a surprise attack, in violation of the non-aggression pact between Germany and The Soviet Union. Luftwaffe pilots are commanded to destroy the enemy on the ground and in the air. It is a quiet Sunday morning. The Russians are taken completely by surprise. Russia becomes a killing ground.	
a. Archival footage: Furious ground explosions...battle scenes.	

2. Fedor Archipenko (55R 2,3 11:04:07-11:04:32): (V/O) "I will remember that day for the rest of my entire life. (O/C) Beginning at 4:25 on the morning of the 22nd of June 1941, (V/O) about 50 German bombers made strikes against our airfield. You can only imagine the kinds of horrors that took place on the airfield."	
a. Archival footage showing ground/aerial explosions.	
3. Anatoly Kozhevnikov (76R 2,3 09:17:14-09:17:36): (O/C) "That nightmarish hour is really very hard to imagine even now. (V/O) But I will try to tell you about it. (O/C) There were fountains of earth, bombs exploding, oil (V/O) exploding, the warehouses exploding. The planes were on fire.	

a. Archival footage: More ground explosions... strafing- etc.	
4. Fedor Archipenko: (55R-3; 11:06:33- 11:06:50) (V/O) "Then, by (O/C) the afternoon, the pilots and the technical people started arriving. (V/O) Many of them had their hair turned white from fear, and some of them even began to stutter from fear as well."	
B. NAZI BLITZ	
1. NARRATOR: The Wehrmacht smashes towards Leningrad in the north, Stalingrad in the south, and the ultimate prize... Moscow. The Red Army is in full retreat. The Red Air Force is no match for superior Luftwaffe planes and pilots.	

a. Archival footage: Air and ground operations; German troops advancing; obsolete Russian aircraft.	
2. Fritz Losikeit (229G-8 06:17:24-06:17:36): (V/O) "They were very gritty fighters in air combat, (O/C) and a huge number of beginners, which always flew in large packs, (V/O) and were of practically NO consequence as opponents."	229G-8: (_____) "They were very gritty fighters in air combat, and a huge number of beginners, who always flew in large packs and were of practically no consequence as opponents." (6:17:36:00) Check in point.
3. NARRATOR: Colonel Johannes Steinhoff, Luftwaffe. On his 900th mission, near war's end, he will survive the fiery crash of one of the world's first jet fighters. 176 kills.	

<p>4. Johannes Steinhoff (239G-8 03:17:17-03:17:49): (O/C) "I began to feel sorry for some of these guys. (VO) There was an incident where I was pursuing a low-flying MiG and it tried to escape between some trees, and I thought, well, should I push the button???, because I really felt sorry for this miserable wretch ... and then I did it!!!</p>	<p>239G-8: (3:17:17) ["But as time went on, especially in Russia,] (_____) I began to feel sorry for some of these guys. <i>There</i> was an incident where I was pursuing a low-flying MiG and it tried to escape between some trees. And I thought, well, should I push the button? Because I really felt sorry for this miserable wretch. And then I did it. (_____) [Homine lupis."] (3:17:49)</p> <p>Check in point.</p>
<p>a. Archival footage: Furious gun camera sequence...low-level flight sequence.</p>	

<p>5. Johannes Steinhoff (239G-12): (V/O) "They were very brave. ... (O/C) In the first day of the war with Russia, I saw bombing units who were down to the last plane, and the last bomber flew until he was shot down.</p>	<p>239G-12: (3:26:21) ["The Russians were completely different.] () They were very brave. In the first day of the war with Russia, I saw bombing units who were down to the last plane. And the last bomber flew until he was shot down." ()</p> <p>First part of sentence is voice-over, and the German track has been wiped out on the master. In and out points must be checked.</p>
<p>6. NARRATOR: Major Erich Hartmann, Luftwaffe. The Russians call him the black devil. He will tally 352 confirmed kills and ranks as the world's top ace.</p>	
<p>7. Major Erich Hartmann stills and archival footage.</p>	

<p>8. Erich Hartmann (244G-4; 08:06:40-08:07:10): (V/O) "Poland was finished in eight days through air attacks. (O/C) Then France was finished in six weeks through absolute mastery of the skies, then Norway in two and a half weeks, and then Russia. And in the first three months, we had an absolute mastery of the skies. As far as I was concerned, the Russians were finished."</p>	<p>244G-4: (8:06:40) "Poland was finished in eight days through air attacks. Then France was finished in six weeks through absolute mastery of the skies. Then Norway in two and a half weeks. And then Russia. And in the first three months we had absolute mastery of the skies. As far as I was concerned, the Russians were finished. (8:07:10)</p> <p>Out point may be a little clipped.</p>
<p>9. NARRATOR: In the first week, 4,000 Soviet planes are destroyed. The Red Army falls back. Hitler believes victory will be his by winter. The Russian giant is on its knees.</p>	
<p>C. RUSSIAN WINTER AND RUSSIAN WILL</p>	

1. NARRATOR: Frantic, the Soviets move factories and build airfields far beyond the Ural Mountains, out of range of Luftwaffe bombers. New and better fighters roll off production lines. New pilots are hastily trained.	
a. Archival footage: Factory scenes, assembly lines, etc.; new pilots, etc.	
2. NARRATOR: In defense of the motherland, the Russians make a fierce stand at Moscow's gates ... Incredibly, the German advance is stopped.	
a. Archival footage: Moscow defense street scenes ... battle lines, etc.	

3. NARRATOR: Russia finds a powerful ally. Winter begins ... it is a vicious, merciless onslaught of ice and snow.	
a. Archival footage: Harsh winter conditions ... planes being prepped in freezing conditions.	
4. NARRATOR: Adolf Galland, four times decorated by Hitler himself. He is the Luftwaffe's youngest General. 104 kills.	
5. Adolf Galland (237G 7 01:16:52-01:17:11): (V/O) "The winter and (O/C) the mud was a tremendous obstacle. (V/O) Then came the colds and the wind and the snow, and these were tasks for which the Luftwaffe was not at all prepared."	

a. Archival footage: Luftwaffe Me-109 fighters seen taxiing on a snowy airfield.	
6. Sergei Dolgushin (60R-5 16:09:06-16:09:22): (V/O) "You had to have (O/C) special equipment in order to warm up the engines, (V/O) to warm them up quickly. That of course was very hard."	
7. Friedrich Oblesser (241G 7,8 05:14:01- 05:14:43) (V/O) "And there were problems for the pilots too, (O/C) like taking off and landing in deep snow, for instance. (V/O) Today's pilots couldn't POSSIBLY imagine the conditions under which we had to fly...the mud, the snow... ROCKS!!!"	
a. Archival footage: Snowy, muddy, watery conditions ... JU-87 Stukas taxiing in deep water/mud.	

8. Sergei Dolgushin (60R 6 16:11:12-16:11:37): (O/C) "It was also a bad winter for us, too, and anyway, who starts a war without knowing what weather conditions he's facing in that particular country???"	
9. NARRATOR: As winter tightens its grip, Red Air Force pilots keep coming. They take a vow: To fight to the last drop of blood and breath, and to conquer. Forward...to victory.	
a. Archival footage: Snowy winter operations + NATSOT of sequence of Red Airforce pilots in patriotic ceremony.	

10. Fedor Archipenko (55R 6 11:13:05-11:13:40): (V/O) "We fighter (O/C) pilots at that time, we didn't think about death, (V/O) we only thought about defending our motherland, because that is the way we were brought up".	
a. Archival footage: More winter conditions ... additional sequence of patriotic ceremony.	
11. NARRATOR: The fierce Russian resolve and brutal Russian winter take their toll. Hitler is forced to halt the advance on Moscow ... The Russians stand ready as Hitler turns his eyes south to Stalingrad.	
a. Archival footage: Winter conditions ... Stalingrad street combat ... Russian Stormovik fighter- bombers on runway, ready for take-off.	

END ACT I	

ACT II: STALINGRAD AND THE STORMOVIKS/THE TIDE TURNS	
A. STALINGRAD	
1. NARRATOR: July, 1942 ... "OPERATION EDELWEISS". Hitler commits a huge field army against the Russians pledged to stand firm or die.	
a. Archival footage: German armored columns on the move. Russian air and ground forces in action at Stalingrad.	
2. NARRATOR: Stalingrad becomes a charnal house. Block by block, house to house, every foot of ground is paid for in blood.	
a. Archival footage: Stalingrad street fighting scenes.	

3. Sergei Dolgushin (60R 4 16:07:12-16:07:26): (O/C) "At Stalingrad, there were very few of us ... (V/O) we were ALWAYS in the minority. It was hard, but somehow we shot down quite a few planes.	
a. Archival footage: Gun camera sequences ... aerial dogfight(s) ... various pursuit sequences.	
4. NARRATOR: Over Stalingrad, the Red Airforce is reborn. America enters the war and launches a "Lend- Lease" policy that sends modern fighters to replace heavy Russian losses.	
a. Archival footage: Various Soviet fighters ... also shots of the P-39 Airacobra, acquired from America.	

<p>5. Erich Hartmann (244G-5; 08:07:18-08:07:41): (O/C) "When Lend-Lease came in, they got 40,000 trucks from America, (V/O) and 14,000 airplanes. And this is what Lend-Lease did, and this is what caused our downfall."</p>	<p>244G-5: (8:07:10) ["But what no one talks about, for example, Stalingrad, that's when lend-lease from the American side came.] (_____) When Lend-Lease came in, they got 40,000 trucks from America, 12- or 14,000 airplanes. (_____) [After Stalingrad we saw Cobras, King Cobras, and we saw Spitfires and Hurricanes from England, but no Russian planes.] (_____) And this is what Lend-Lease did and this is what caused our downfall." (8:07:48:26)</p> <p>Transition between on-camera and voice-over part occurs in mid-word; transitional line would be awkward anyway.</p>
<p>a. Archival footage: American war materiel being off-loaded from ships ... containerized cargo, etc.</p>	

<p>6. NARRATOR: Suddenly, Luftwaffe dominance of the sky is no longer assured. German pilots must deal with a new breed of ground-attack aircraft, like the Stormovik.</p>	
<p>7. Heinz Marquardt (234G-3 (V/O) "The Russians flew a combat bomber (O/C) which we called the cement bomber or the Il-2 Stormovik, (V/O) which was difficult to shoot down because it was an unusually heavily armored aircraft. The best way to bring it down was to either shoot up at the wings or the horizontal stabilizer, by flying in as close as possible before firing."</p>	<p>234G-3: (11:05:19:09) "The Russians flew a combat bomber, which we called the cement bomber, or Il-2, (11:05:25:19) which was difficult to shoot down because it was an unusually heavily armored aircraft. (11:05:32:19) The best way to bring it down was to either shoot up the wings or the horizontal stabilizer by flying in as close as possible before firing." (11:05:40:07)</p> <p>Transitional line could be used with this bite.</p>
<p>a. Archival showing Stormoviks on ground. Side/angular views of aircraft.</p>	

<p>8. Gunther Rall (242G-14; 06:35:13-6:35:20): (V/O) "You had to know where to aim (O/C) in order to bring it down. The dangerous aspect of the Stormovik consisted in the fact that it had a rear-gunner."</p>	<p>242G-14: (6:34:55:26) ["The Russian air force was primarily utilized to support ground operations, and in this capacity the Il-2 was used to great effect. And] (_____) you had to know where to aim in order to bring it down. The dangerous aspect of the Il-2 consisted in the fact that it had a rear gunner." (_____)</p> <p>Out point may be clipped.</p>
B. TIDE TURNING	
<p>1. NARRATOR: Now, the Soviets have potent weapons and use them with immense courage.</p>	
<p>a. Archival showing Stormoviks in combat flight formation.</p>	

<p>2. SERGEI DOLGUSHIN (60R-7 to 8; 16:12:59- 16:13:21): (O/C) "As a commander, I never thought about keeping up my subordinates' morale. The very situation itself, love for the motherland and of our people, that was enough. (V/O): I never had to utter lofty, loud or patriotic words. 'Long live this or that or the other.' I simply said, 'Let's go, guys,' and that was that."</p>	
<p>a. Archival of Soviet pilots at airfield, hugging, inspecting damaged planes, in good spirits, etc.</p>	

<p>3. ADOLF GALLAND (239G-4; 03:07:17-03:07:57): (O/C) "With each month, the chances that this war could be reasonably concluded became less and less. We kept fighting, however, because it's unimaginable that a responsible German soldier would stop fighting when the Fatherland continues to fight, when the Fatherland bleeds. And even if they had every right, morally they could not do it."</p>	<p>239G-4: (3:07:07) ["The Americans entered the war. We were overwhelmed by the war materiel on the other side.] (_____) With each month, the chances that this war could be reasonably concluded became less and less. We kept fighting, however, because it's unimaginable that a responsible German soldier would stop fighting when the Fatherland continues to fight, when the Fatherland bleeds. And even if they had every right, morally, they could not do it." (_____)]</p> <p>Check in and out points. The out sounds clipped.</p>

<p>4. NARRATOR: "The German army is stalemated at Stalingrad. The battle will be fought through spring and summer and into the fall. The Germans dig in, braced for another winter ... The Russians have other plans. A massive counterattack. November 18, 1942 ... a million Soviet soldiers, more than 1,000 planes and 900 tanks are ready. The Red Air Force gives its best pilots the P-39 Airacobra, newly acquired from America.</p>	
<p>a. Archival footage showing German troops pinned down ... winter combat scenes ... Soviet tanks rolling across a field ... airborne Soviet planes and beauty shots of P-39 Airacobra shown taxiing.</p>	

5. MIKHAIL S. KOMELKOV (98R-2; 07:03:05- 07:05:56): (V/O) "At that time the 'Cobra' (O/C) was an outstanding plane. (V/O) There were two radio transmitters and three receivers, with four machine guns and a 37-millimeter cannon. It was really a sheath of fire. (O/C) If you got to within 75 to 100 feet of the enemy's plane and opened fire, the plane you were attacking would fall to pieces."	
a. Archival footage showing Russian bombers in formation, unloading bombs.	
6. NARRATOR: The massive Red assault traps the German 6th Army at Stalingrad. It is a calamitous defeat.	

<p>7. JOHANNES STEINHOFF (240G-7; 04:15:00-04:15:30): (O/C) "In retrospect, Stalingrad was a crime. This was a crime of bad leadership ... (V/O) How could they leave 320,000 soldiers to their fate ... without any pity? 180,000 were taken prisoner. Of those, only 5,000 came back home."</p>	<p>240G-7: (4:15:00) "In retrospect, Stalingrad was a crime. This was a crime, a crime of bad leadership. (_____) [But not only Hitler's leadership.] (_____) How could they leave 320,000 soldiers to their fate? Without any pity. 180,000 were taken prisoner. Of those, only 5,000 came back home." (4:15:31)</p> <p>Transition from O/C to V/O must be checked.</p>
<p>a. Archival/music montage ... "Pageant" of German defeat at Stalingrad. German generals (Paulus et al.) surrendering. Columns of German troops surrendering.</p>	
<p>8. NARRATOR: Hitler, livid and desperate, forces his generals to launch "Operation Citadel," his plan to salvage the Russian campaign. ... Nothing will be spared. ... It will be a battle of titanic proportions.</p>	

a. Archival footage of Luftwaffe planes being prepared for combat. Overflight of Heinkel-111 bomber closes act.	
END ACT II	

ACT III: SHOWDOWN AT KURSK	
A. LINES DRAWN	
1. NARRATOR: July 1943. Nearly a million men, 2,700 tanks and nearly 2,000 Luftwaffe planes gather outside the city of Kursk. The Russians are warned by their spy ring code-named "Lucy." When German Tiger and Panther tanks roll, the Russians are ready. Within a year, the Red Air Force has tripled in size.	
a. Archival footage: German readiness for upcoming battle. Field artillery and aircraft ready for the assault. Russian tanks, officers seen prepping. Aerial of Soviet airfield.	

<p>2. NARRATOR: (over baby picture) Major Vasily Kubarev, Red Airforce. Wounded in the Battle of Kursk, he shoots down ten Luftwaffe planes. 18 kills.</p>	
<p>3. VASILY KUBAREV (96R-4 to 5; 05:08:07-05:08:16): (O/C) "At the Battle of Kursk, I was leading six fighters, (V/O) a group of six fighters. I was the lead man. We got into a fight with 50 German enemy planes."</p>	
<p>4. GUNTHER RALL (243G-4 to 5; 07:06:42-07:07:00): (O/C) "We encountered some Russians and we engaged them in battle. (V/O) I shot down a Russian, and he went down in flames, and I was blinded by the fire. As a result, I couldn't see another Russian approaching."</p>	<p>243G-4: (7:06:19) ["I was most seriously wounded.... It was dark at three.] (_____) We encountered some Russians. We engaged them in battle. I shot down a Russian. He went down in flames and I was blinded by the fire. As a result, I couldn't see another Russian approaching." (_____)]</p> <p>Check in point. Also, transition to voice-over is clipped.</p>

5. KUBAREV (96R-5; 7:07:10-7:07:18): (V/O) "As a result of that battle, (O/C) we shot down five of the Ju-87 dive bombers and two of their fighters."	
6. GUNTHER RALL (243G- 5; 7:07:01-7:07:18): (V/O) "He shot my engine, (O/C) so the propeller just revolved like a windmill, (V/O) without any power. So I was coming down and I wanted to crash in our territory, but it didn't go that way."	243G-4: (~7:06:45) (_____) "He shot my engine. So the propeller just revolved like a windmill, without any power. So I was coming down and I wanted to crash in our territory, but it didn't go that way." Check in point and transition to voice-over.

<p>7. HEINZ MARQUARDT (234-3; 11:07:18-11:07:44): (O/C) "The worst was to fly with the fear of being shot down over Russia. This in contrast to combat over England, where you'd also be taken into (V/O) captivity, but in Russia you were faced with a much worse fate. We were led to believe that pilots who were shot down over Russia were shot upon being captured."</p>	<p>234-3: (11:07:17:08) "The worst was to fly with the fear of being shot down over Russia, in contrast to combat over England where you'd also be taken into captivity, but in Russia you faced a much worse fate. (11:07:35:09) It's well known that pilots who were shot down over Russia were shot upon being captured." (11:07:41:07)</p> <p>Transition to voice-over is clipped.</p>
<p>8. NARRATOR: At Kursk, walls of steel collide. Neither side contemplates defeat. The Soviets lose 1,800 tanks, but almost the entire German armored force--some 2,000 tanks--is destroyed in the greatest clash of armor in the war.</p>	
<p>a. Archival footage of battlefield carnage, wrecked, smoldering German tanks, bodies, etc.</p>	

C. SOVIETS TAKE THE OFFENSIVE	
1. ADOLF GALLAND (239G-3 to 4; 03:05:50-03:06:41): (V/O) "At that time, I spoke to the chief of the General Chiefs of Staff, General Jeschonnek (O/C) and the general told me that if the spring offensive would not be successful, then the war would be lost, and that it's better to end the war sooner than later. I had nothing with which to counter this argument."	239G-3: (3:05:49) "At that time I spoke to the chief of the general chiefs of staff, General Jeschonnek. () [...] () And the general told me that if the spring offensive will not be successful, then the war would be lost. And it's better to end the war sooner than later. I had nothing with which to counter this argument." ()

<p>2. HEINZ MARQUARDT (234G-6; 11:14:27-11:14:44): (O/C) "We felt that we had to do our duty to help those on the ground, and did our best to do so ... (V/O) We were like hunted rabbits, and tried to attack, and tried to save that which we could, but we'd known for some time that we couldn't win the war."</p>	<p>234G-6: (11:14:22:15) ["I can't tell you how we dealt with it at that time.] () We felt that we had to do our duty to help those on the ground, and did our best to do so. We were like hunted rabbits and tried to attack and tried to save what we could (11:14:38:04), but we'd known for some time that we couldn't win the war." (11:14:43:13)</p> <p>Check in point. Also, transition to voice-over is clipped.</p>
<p>3. KOMOLKOV SOT - (O/C) We had the advantage. The Germans, who before, would engage any number of planes in the group in battle, wouldn't take on any formation of ours if they had less planes. If they had less planes they would simply leave. We had already caught them.</p>	

<p>4. KRUPINSKI SOT - (O/C)</p> <p>We realized that the offensive had reached a standstill. We weren't getting any further. The Soviets were much stronger than we were led to believe by our high command. That's when we asked ourselves 'how much further are we going to have to retreat?'"</p>	<p>225G-9: (2:19:14:28) "At that moment we realized that the offensive had reached a standstill. We weren't getting any farther. The Soviets were much stronger than we were led to believe by our high command. (2:19:26:26) That's when we asked ourselves, 'How much farther are we going to have to retreat?'"</p> <p>(_____)</p> <p>Check in and out points. Out is definitely clipped.</p>
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<p>5. OBLESER SOT - (O/C) My memories of that time are overshadowed by the fact that it was impossible to even come close to fulfilling our orders. (V/O) The question of motivation at this time should be seen as such... we had our more experienced colleagues who set an example and told us why we were there and what our duty was. This word duty was very important to us. But just a sense of duty is not enough. You have to convince yourself that what you're doing will ultimately be successful -- and that what one did made sense.</p>	<p>241G-12 (5:23:11:18) "My memories of that time are overshadowed by the fact that it was impossible to even come close to fulfilling our orders. (_____) (5:24:51:16) The question of motivation at this time should be seen as follows: Well, we had our more experienced colleagues who set an example and told us why we were there and what our duty was. The word duty was very important to us. But just a sense of duty is not enough. You have to convince yourself that what you're doing will ultimately be successful, that what one did made sense." (5:25:36)</p> <p>Check transition to voice-over.</p>
<p>a. Archival showing furious gun camera footage, ground-level strafing of German airdrome, etc.</p>	
<p>6. NARRATOR: Captain Arsenii V. Vorozheikin, Red Air Force. He is one of the top Soviet fighter pilots, with 52 kills.</p>	

a. Vorozheikin baby picture.	

7. ARSENII V.
VOROZHEIKIN (53R-5;
.09:08:49-09:12:00):
(O/C) "Popular wisdom
says that there are three
features of human
character which are
tested and tried in only
three cases: Friendship
when you're in trouble,
courage in battle, and
wisdom in rage. Rage
was boiling up inside of
us. I felt helplessness,
hatred. (V/O) I wanted
from the top to charge
into that mass of
German bombers. We
still had the weapon of
ramming them from the
top with the bodies of
our planes, to do in yet
another three bombers.
The decision was taken,
and when we turned,
the enemy met us with
a rapid-fire, head-on
attack. I aimed right at
the leading plane, at the
flag plane, (O/C) to hit
him from the top with
the propeller.

<p>And a speedy attack head-on, and then wait for the strike, for the blow. But there was no hit. Somehow, I didn't understand. I didn't hear the hit. I opened my eyes, there was sky. Why the sky? Where did that come from? (V/O) I turned my head around and everything became clear. Those huge, enormous, colossal planes had been unable, those multi-ton bombers had been unable to resist our offensive, our head-on attack. And like butterflies, they fluttered away through the skies, dumping the bombs on their own troops. In that battle, (O/C) our nerves and our will towards victory turned out to be stronger than the steel of the Germans."</p>	
a. Music/archival montage of dogfight	
D. GERMANS ROUTED	

1. NARRATOR: As winter approaches, it is clear that Hitler's Operation Citadel is a disaster. For the first time, the momentum of the German advance is halted. The Red Air Force controls the sky. What began as a turkey shoot for the Luftwaffe has turned into a struggle for survival.	
a. Archival/music montage of dead German men and wrecked, burnt-out equipment.	
- END -	