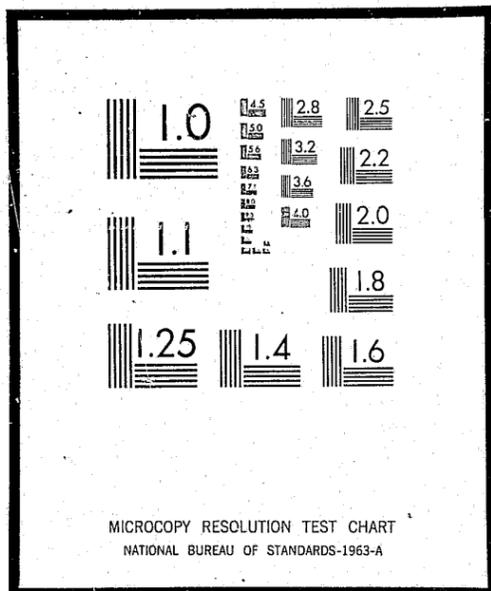


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FINAL REPORT

72-NI-99-0022

Grant No. NI-72-0226

Period: February 1, 1972 through June 30, 1973

GUIDED GROUP INTERACTION AS AN INSTRUMENT OF
CORRECTIONAL TREATMENT: - EVALUATION AND STANDARDS

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
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INTRODUCTION

The present report contains a complete summary of the activities, events, and findings of Grant Number NI 72-022G entitled Guided Group Interaction: Evaluation and Standards. Content reported with respect to administrative functions will be limited to the present grant period beginning on February 1, 1972 and ending on June 30, 1973. However, because of the longitudinal nature of the project, data related to specific research functions will be summarized with respect to all phases completed in the project. In the interest of clarity, the content of the following text will be divided into two major sections. The first will deal with the major administrative decisions, functions, and problems required to carry out the project plan. The second dimension relates to the primary research decisions, functions, and problems encountered in the present and previous phases of the project.

Administrative Functions:

During the present phase of operations a number of important administrative decisions were necessitated to fulfill the goals of the project. In addition, several modifications were made in the original project plan which created minor administrative problems requiring solution. The content of this section will be discussed with respect to specific administrative functions.

2.

Personnel:

At the time this report was submitted, a total of twelve full-time and 3 half-time research personnel, exclusive of the project director, were employed by the research project. Of the full-time staff, four individuals had the primary responsibility of collecting, processing, and scoring Guided Group Interaction and other in-treatment data. Four full-time staff were responsible for organizing, coordinating, and collecting data for the follow-up part of the project. Two of the full-time assistants were assigned to the Pinellas Control Group as treatment personnel in order to carry out the specialized programming in this facility. In addition, one full-time staff was assigned to supervise the videotape operations at the Criswell House and Dozier School sites. The remaining full-time position was held by the project secretary. Of the three half-time research staff, one each was assigned to data collection, the control group, and to the videotape production in the field.

As is easily noted from the summary presented above, a decision was made at the beginning of the present research phase to move from part-time graduate student assistants to a staff consisting of primarily full-time research personnel. The rationale for this change was based on the negative experience gained during the first phase of operations. During the first phase it was noted that part-time student assistants

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because of other commitments did not perform in an optimum manner. The employment of full-time research personnel eliminated the competitive position for the research assistant's time that existed during the first phase of operations.

With respect to personnel practices, two primary problems were encountered during the second phase of the project. The first problem was related to staff morale and motivation which was satisfactorily resolved through staff meetings. These meetings enabled individual staff members to air their concerns and complaints. In those cases where the issues raised were considered legitimate, steps were taken to eliminate the problem.

The second problem related to the inability of one of the research assistants to get along with a majority of the other members of the staff. Because of University personnel policies, it was not possible to terminate the individual until the end of the present funding period.

With respect to personnel turnover during the second phase of operations, a total of thirteen individuals were employed who ultimately left the project. Of these individuals, three were terminated for unsatisfactory job performances, two resigned to pursue their educations, two resigned because of travel opportunities, two resigned to take better paying jobs, one abandoned the job, one left the state, and one individual

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was employed on a temporary basis.

Travel:

Travel funds were utilized according to the project plan with two primary exceptions. The first related to funds allocated for travel to conventions, which because of restrictions placed on such travel by the National Institute, were not expended for this purpose. One convention paper was presented during this grant period directly related to project findings. However, travel for this meeting was paid out of University funds.

The second major problem was related to the amount of travel required to adequately cover all of the visits scheduled for the follow-up study of subjects after they had been released from treatment. It quickly became apparent that if each subject was to be personally interviewed in the field at three month intervals as planned, the funds budgeted for travel would have been used months before the end of the second phase. In order to solve this problem, it was decided to interview the subjects at six and twelve month intervals by phone and use of mail-out questionnaires. As of the present date this procedure has been successful with over a ninety percent return rate on the measures sent out. In those cases where the subject has not cooperated with the project staff in returning the measures sent to him, personal contact in the field is reinstated.

Equipment Purchase:

The only equipment purchases during the present phase of operations were the two IBM card files needed for data storage budgeted for in the grant proposal. No other capital outlays were anticipated or needed during the present phase of operations.

Equipment Rental:

Throughout the second phase of operations the project continued to rent videotape equipment from the Department of Educational Resources at the University of South Florida. This procedure has continued to operate smoothly without incident.

The most important decision related to the renting of equipment was to increase the budget for the rental of data processing equipment to include a terminal and line printer. The money for this equipment for the current phase of operations was taken from money budgeted for general computer services. The rationale underlying the acquisition of this equipment was based on the number of hours spent by research assistants in transporting data decks from the project offices to the Computer Center approximately one and a half miles away from the project site. In addition, there were often long delays in entering data into the system and retrieving it after analysis due to the limited number of terminals and line printers available at the Computer Center.

Relationships with Division of Youth Services:

Probably the most significant event or problem involving the relationship between the project and the Florida Division of Youth Services centered on the establishment of Pinellas House Control Group. Even though the control group concept had been agreed upon by all parties (project staff, the Division of Youth Services, and the National Institute) during the first phase of the research project, it was not until six months had passed during the second or present grant period that the control group became operational. The basis for delay centered on difficulties in securing an adequate facility to house a community-based residential treatment program.

In terms of rapport between project staff and Division of Youth Services' personnel, it can be said that problems during the present stage of operations have been minimal. In general, the relationships have been excellent with very little, if any, conflicts stemming from project activities. This state of affairs results in part from a policy of having project staff keep their institutional colleagues abreast of all developments occurring in the project.

Dissemination of Project Results:

As of the date of this report, approximately 250 requests have been filled for copies of the project proposal and quarterly reports. In addition, the project director and staff have presented two symposia for institute staff, presented

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three convention papers dealing with material from the project, and have submitted a book length monograph on the functional roles of group leaders in Guided Group Interaction for publication by the National Institute. It is of interest to note that over ninety copies of the initial manuscript have been distributed upon request even though it is still awaiting formal publication.

Besides the dissemination activities reported above, the project director was asked to participate by Institute Staff in several conferences whose purposes were ancillary to the goals of the project. These meetings included the Williamsburg Conference on Corrections and the Conference on Correctional Psychology held at Lake Wales, Florida.

Other Problems and Issues:

Shortly after the beginning of the present period of funding, the University administration made a decision to dissolve the research institute in which the Guided Group Interaction project was held. The result of this policy change left the project director with three alternatives with respect to continuing the contracted research activities. The first involved moving the research program from the University of South Florida to another suitable home, the second involved moving the project into one of the established departments on campus, and the third alternative was to attempt to build a

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new home in which the project could be located within the University structure. Because of difficulties involving staff movement, it was decided that the third alternative was the most feasible, if not the most expedient. Shortly after the decision to dissolve Institute III, the project director was asked by the Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to develop a new program in Criminal Justice. This offer was accepted, in part, because it provided the most expedient way of maintaining the project's integrity.

Research Functions:

The following discussion provides a comprehensive summary of the status of the project with respect to the numerous operational functions outlined in the project proposals. In the interest of clarity, the information and data presented in this section will follow the outline of components described in the methodological sections of the project plan.

Sample: As of the date of this report, a total of 214 subjects had been randomly sampled for participation in the present research. Of this total, 71 subjects were randomly assigned to Criswell House, 58 to Dozier Treatment, 59 to Dozier Control, and 21 to Pinellas House Control Group. Sampling was completed during the last quarter of the current grant period for the Criswell House and Dozier School Groups. Because of the delay in opening, only 21 subjects had been assigned to the Pinellas House Control Group.

As noted in Table I there were 10 subjects currently in treatment at Criswell House, 38 subjects were released to follow-up, four were runaways, 19 were transferred to other programs, and none were dropped due to illiteracy. In contrast, of the subjects assigned to Dozier School Treatment, eight subjects were in treatment at the end of the second phase, 43 were released to follow-up, one was lost as a runaway, two were transferred to other programs, and four subjects were dropped due to illiteracy. With respect to Dozier School Control, 17 subjects were currently in treatment, 35 were released to follow-up, there were no runaways, three were transferred to other programs, and four had been dropped due to illiteracy. In terms of the Pinellas House Control Group, 13 subjects were currently in treatment, two were released to follow-up, zero had runaway, six were transferred to other programs, and zero dropped due to illiteracy.

Guided Group Interaction Data: As of the date of this report, a total of 546 Guided Group Interaction sessions have been taped at the Criswell House and Dozier School facilities. Each of these tapes have been scored according to the Behavior Analysis System with the result being that over 330,000 verbal behaviors have been scored and coded for further analyses. All data are filed in duplicate on cards and tape and are again duplicated during analysis for specific manipulation of variables. All Guided Group Interaction data are cataloged

TABLE I
Subject Population Status as of 6/15/73

	Institution					Total
	Criswell	Dozier Treatment	Dozier Control	Pinellas Treatment	Pinellas Control	
In-Treatment	10	8	17	4	13	52
Released	38	43	35	0	2	118
Runaways Not Returned	4	1	0	0	0	5
Transfers	19	2	3	1	6	31
Dropped due to illiteracy	0	4	4	0	0	8
Total Assigned	71	58	59	5	21	214

according to the 53 variables derived from the Behavior Analysis System summarized in Table II.

Other In-Treatment Measures: As noted in Table III, there are ten other measures used to assess a wide variety of variables that might effect overall performance, or measure changes occurring during treatment outside the context of Guided Group Interaction. As of the date of the present report, 170 subjects have been assessed on pre-tests and single measures, and 118 subjects have been post-tested upon leaving the treatment component of the research. In terms of the bi-monthly measures, the complete number of testings are unavailable due to the continuous nature of this aspect of data collection. However, using a five month average stay in treatment, it is possible to estimate that approximately 2,000 of each of these measures will have been given by the end of the in-treatment data collection program.

Follow-up Data: As of the final date of this reporting period a total of 230 follow-up contacts had been made on subjects released from treatment. The breakdown of contacts by institution is summarized in Table III. As can be seen in this table, significant numbers of subjects were available for contact by the end of this grant period at the three and six month intervals for all groups but Pinellas House. In order to accomplish the visits scheduled for the three and nine month data collection, a total of 22,118 miles were traveled by

TABLE II
Variables Used in GGI Analysis

1. Total Responses	26. Total Category 3 Punishment
2. Total Desirable Responses	27. Total Category 4 Punishment
3. Total Undesirable Responses	28. Total Category 5 Punishment
4. Total Other Responses	29. Total Generalized Punishment
5. Total Category 1	30. Category 1 Desirable
6. Total Category 2	31. Category 1 Undesirable
7. Total Category 3	32. Category 1 Other
8. Total Category 4	33. Category 2 Desirable
9. Total Category 5	34. Category 2 Undesirable
10. Total Reinforcement	35. Category 2 Other
11. Total Desirable Reinforcement	36. Category 3 Appropriate
12. Total Undesirable Reinforcement	37. Category 3 Inappropriate
13. Total Other Reinforcement	38. Category 1 Desirable Reinforcement
14. Total Category 1 Reinforcement	39. Category 1 Undesirable Reinforcement
15. Total Category 2 Reinforcement	40. Category 1 Other Reinforcement
16. Total Category 3 Reinforcement	41. Category 2 Desirable Reinforcement
17. Total Category 4 Reinforcement	42. Category 2 Undesirable Reinforcement
18. Total Category 5 Reinforcement	43. Category 2 Other Reinforcement
19. Total Generalized Reinforcement	44. Category 3 Appropriate Reinforcement
20. Total Punishment Reinforcement	45. Category 3 Inappropriate Reinforcement
21. Total Desirable Punishment	46. Category 1 Desirable Punishment
22. Total Undesirable Punishment	47. Category 1 Undesirable Punishment
23. Total Other Punishment	48. Category 1 Other Punishment
24. Total Category 1 Punishment	49. Category 2 Desirable Punishment
25. Total Category 2 Punishment	50. Category 2 Undesirable Punishment
	51. Category 2 Other Punishment
	52. Category 3 Appropriate Punishment
	53. Category 3 Inappropriate Punishment

TABLE III

Total Visits Completed by Institution
2/1/72-6/15/73

	1 Criswell	Marianna Treatment	Marianna Control	Pinellas House	Total
1st contact (3 month)	30	36	28	0	94
2nd contact (6 month)*	21	31	20	0	72
3rd contact (9 month)	14	17	13	0	44
4th contact (12 month)*	5	8	5	0	18
5th contact (18 month)	0	1	1	0	2
	<u>70</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>230</u>

*By phone and mail

Grand Total = 230 visits

Miles traveled by auto = 22,118
Miles traveled by air = 11,742
Total miles traveled 33,860

automobile and 11,742 miles were traveled by air. As noted earlier, the six and twelve month contacts were made by phone and through the mails.

In terms of data collected to date, Table IV summarized the trends with regard to adjustment of subjects released from treatment. Excellent was defined as "strong motivation to stay out of trouble, has steady job and/or in school, avoids former friends, has tolerable home environment, definite change in behavior and attitudes". Satisfactory was defined as, "has not been in contact with authorities since release, moderate progress, no critical shortcomings". Borderline was "has had brushes with the law, but has not been convicted of any crime nor been incarcerated". Recidivist was "charged and found guilty (may or may not have been sentenced)".

TABLE IV

Trends in Adjustment of Subjects
Released from Treatment

	Criswell		Marianna Treatment		Marianna Control	
Excellent	11	32%	10	25%	11	35%
Satisfactory	8	24%	12	30%	7	23%
Borderline	8	24%	2	5%	4	13%
Recidivist	7	20%	16	40%	9	29%
Total	34		40		31	

Future Time Table and Objectives:

July 1, 1973 through September 30, 1973

A. Administrative Duties

1. Renew all personnel contracts.
2. Additional personnel recruitment.
3. Renew all leasing contracts (primarily computer).
4. Establish record and bookkeeping systems for Phase III.

B. Milestones

1. End sampling of subjects for Criswell House and Dozier School groups.
2. Phase out taping at Dozier School.
3. Phase out within institution data collection at Dozier School Control/Treatment Groups.
4. Continue subject selection and data collection.
5. Aftercare activities - see table below.

VISITS COMPLETED BY INSTITUTION BY VISIT

	Marianna Treatment	Marianna Control	Criswell House	Pinellas Treatment	Pinellas Control
1 Visit (3 mths)	43	35	37	0	2
2 Visits (6 mths)	39	31	36	0	0
3 Visits (9 mths)	34	23	25	0	0
4 Visits (12 mths)	16	19	20	0	0
5 Visits (18 mths)	13	7	9	0	0
6 Visits (24 mths)	3	0	0	0	0

Visits to be executed by institution from July 1, 1973-September 30, 1973

	36	20	21	0	2
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Total visits between July 1, 1973-September 30, 1973 - 79

C. Products

1. Manuscript: Cross-institutional comparisons of behavior occurring in Guided Group Interaction with male delinquent youths. (Related to Goal I, page 14 of proposal).
2. Quarterly Report.

October 1, 1973 through December 31, 1973

A. Administrative Duties

1. Maintain record and bookkeeping systems.
2. Phase out field personnel in Tallahassee and Marianna.
3. Close down research sites in Tallahassee and Marianna.

B. Milestones

1. Completion of videotape and data collection procedures within the Criswell House facility.
2. No subjects will be assigned to Pinellas House after June 1, 1974.
3. Halfway point of subject selection at Pinellas House.
4. All Guided Group Interaction data and within treatment data should be in final analysis format.
5. Secondary preparation of aftercare data for initial analyses within treatment variables.
6. Aftercare activities - see table below.

VISITS COMPLETED BY INSTITUTION BY VISIT

	Marianna Treatment	Marianna Control	Criswell House	Pinellas Treatment	Pinellas Control
1 Visit (3 mths)	47	41	43	2	5
2 Visits (6 mths)	43	35	37	0	2
3 Visits (9 mths)	39	31	36	0	0
4 Visits (12 mths)	34	23	25	0	0
5 Visits (18 mths)	13	7	9	0	0
6 Visits (24 mths)	3	0	0	0	0

Visits to be executed by institution from October 1, 1973 through December 31, 1973

	38	28	29	2	5
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Total visits between October 1, 1973-December 31, 1973 - 102

C. Products

1. Complete and finalize description of the treatment samples assigned to the Criswell House and Dozier School facilities. Preparation of Goal #5, page 12 of proposal.
2. Initiate preparation of write-up related to individual subject response profiles of subjects participating in Guided Group Interaction. Relates to Goal #1, page 11 of proposal. Also relates to Goal #1, page 14.
3. Initiate analyses of the relationship between Guided Group Interaction data and other within treatment variables. Relates to Goals #1, #2, and #3, pages 12 and 13 of proposal.
4. Quarterly Report.

January 1, 1974 through March 31, 1974

A. Administrative duties.

1. Continue record and bookkeeping systems.
2. Maintaining correspondence for grant related activities.

B. Milestones

1. Continue sampling procedures for Pinellas House.
2. Aftercare activities - see table below.

VISITS COMPLETED BY INSTITUTION BY VISIT

	Marianna Treatment	Marianna Control	Criswell House	Pinellas Treatment	Pinellas Control
1 Visit (3 mths)*	50	52	50	4	10
2 Visits (6 mths)	47	41	43	2	5
3 Visits (9 mths)	43	35	37	0	2
4 Visits (12 mths)	39	31	36	0	0
5 Visits (18 mths)	16	19	20	0	0
6 Visits (24 mths)	16	7	9	0	0

Visits to be executed by institution from January 1, 1973 through March 31, 1974

	33	34	31	4	10
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Total visits between January 1, 1974-March 31, 1974 - 112

*All subjects from Criswell House and Dozier School groups will have completed their 3 month visit.

C. Products

1. Complete manuscript of individual subject response profiles of subjects participating in Guided Group Interaction. Relates to Goal #1, page 11 of proposal. Also relates to Goal #1, page 14 in proposal.
2. Work toward completion of manuscript of analyses of the relationships between Guided Group Interaction data and other within treatment variables. Relates to Goals #1, #2, #3, pages 12 and 13 of proposal.
3. Initiate study of the analyses of the stimulus contingencies received by group members as related to behavioral change occurring within Guided Group Interaction. Relates to Goal #2, page 11 of proposal.
4. Initiate analyses of the relationship of stimulus contingencies received by group members as a function of variables external to the group milieu. Relates to Goal #1, page 12 of proposal.
5. Quarterly Report.

April 1, 1974 through June 30, 1974

A. Administrative duties.

1. Continue all administrative duties necessary for administering grant.

B. Milestones

1. End sampling at Pinellas House.
2. Aftercare activities - see table below.

VISITS COMPLETED BY INSTITUTION BY VISIT

	Marianna Treatment	Marianna Control	Criswell House	Pinellas Treatment	Pinellas Control
1 Visit (3 mths)	50	52	50	11	15
2 Visits (6 mths)*	50	52	50	4	10
3 Visits (9 mths)	47	41	43	2	5
4 Visits (12 mths)	43	35	37	0	2
5 Visits (18 mths)	16	19	20	0	0
6 Visits (24 mths)	16	7	9	0	0

Visits to be executed by institution from April 1, 1973
through June 30, 1974

	23	30	28	11	15
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Total visits between April 1, 1974-June 30, 1974 - 107

*All subjects from Criswell House and Dozier School groups will have completed their 6 month visit.

C. Products

1. Complete manuscript of analyses of the relationships between Guided Group Interaction data and other within treatment variables. Relates to Goals #1, #2, and #3, pages 12 and 13 of proposal.
2. Complete manuscript of the analyses of the stimulus contingencies as related to behavioral change. Relates to Goal #2, page 11 of proposal.
3. Continue work on analyses of the relationship of stimulus contingencies received by group members as a function of variables external to the group milieu. Relates to Goal #1, page 12 of proposal.
4. Initiate analyses of predictive relationships of patterns of behavior occurring in Guided Group Interaction to the criterion of adjustment at a 3 month interval after release. Relates to Goals #1 and #2, page 13 of proposal.
5. Quarterly Report.

July 1, 1974 through September 30, 1974

A. Administrative duties.

1. Continue all administrative duties necessary for administering grant.

B. Milestones

1. Aftercare activities - see table below.

VISITS COMPLETED BY INSTITUTION BY VISIT

	Marianna Treatment	Marianna Control	Criswell House	Pinellas Treatment	Pinellas Control
1 Visit (3 mths)	50	52	50	18	20
2 Visits (6 mths)	50	52	50	11	15
3 Visits (9 mths)*	50	52	50	4	10
4 Visits (12 mths)	47	41	43	2	7
5 Visits (18 mths)	39	31	36	0	0
6 Visits (24 mths)	32	26	29	0	0

Visits to be executed by institution from July 1, 1974
through September 30, 1974

	18	26	21	18	18
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Total visits between July 1, 1974-September 30, 1974 - 101

*All subjects from Criswell House and Dozier School groups will have completed their 9 month visit.

C. Products

1. Continue work on analyses of predictive relationships of patterns of behavior occurring in Guided Group Interaction to the criterion of adjustment at a 3 month interval after release. Relates to Goals #1 and #2, page 13 of proposal.
2. Quarterly Report.

October 1, 1974 through December 31, 1974

A. Administrative Duties.

1. Continue all administrative duties necessary for administering grant.
2. Prepare proposal for final phase of project.
3. Final quarterly report.

B. Milestones

1. Terminate research programming and close down field site at Pinellas House.
2. 90% of subject pool will have been visited at least 4 times.
3. Aftercare activities - see table below.

VISITS COMPLETED BY INSTITUTION BY VISIT

	Marianna Treatment	Marianna Control	Criswell House	Pinellas Treatment	Pinellas Control
1 Visit (3 mths)	50	52	50	26	25
2 Visits (6 mths)	50	52	50	18	20
3 Visits (9 mths)	50	52	50	11	15
4 Visits (12 mths)*	50	52	50	6	17
5 Visits (18 mths)	39	31	36	0	0
6 Visits (24 mths)	32	26	29	0	0

Visits to be executed by institution from October 1, 1974
through December 31, 1974

3	11	7	24	25
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Total visits between October 1, 1974 through December 31, 1974 - 70

*All subjects from Criswell House and Dozier School Groups will have completed their 12 month visit.

C. Products

1. Initiate analyses of predictive relationships of patterns of behavior occurring in Guided Group Interaction to the criterion of adjustment at a 6 month interval after release. Relates to Goals #1 and #2, page 13 of proposal.
2. Complete manuscript of predictive relationships of patterns of behavior occurring in Guided Group Interaction to the criterion of adjustment at a 3 month interval after release. Relates to Goals #1 and #2, page 13 of proposal.

END