FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 DECEMBER 1997

Registered Number 118482



DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1997.

Review of the Business

The Company did not trade during the year under review.

There has been no change in this respect since the end of that year.

Accounts and Dividends

The Company made no profit for the year under review (1996: Nil).

The state of the Company's affairs as at the end of the year under review is shown in the accompanying financial statements.

No dividends were declared or paid during the year under review and the Directors are not recommending the payment of any dividend in respect of that year.

Directors

Mr P F Doye and Mr J H Williamson served as Directors of the Company throughout the year under review.

No other person was a Director at any time during that year.

Directors' Interests

Neither Director had, at the end of the year under review, any interests in the shares in the Company or in the securities of any other company in the Group of which it is a member.

Auditors

Unless a resolution is duly passed by the Company in General Meeting to the effect that their appointment be brought to an end, the Company's auditors, Coopers & Lybrand, are deemed to be reappointed for the next financial year.

By Order of the Board

For PATERNOSTER SECRETARIES LIMITED

Secretary

26 MAY 1998

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Directors are required by law to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss, if any, for the period. The financial statements must be prepared in accordance with the required formats and disclosures of the Companies Act 1985 and with applicable accounting standards.

In addition, the Directors are required:-

- * to adopt suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, supported by judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- * to prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Directors confirm that the financial statements comply with the above requirements.

The Directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Company and for preventing and detecting fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF GRENDON SECURITIES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 6.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

As described on page 2, the Company's Directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company at 31 December 1997 and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Coopers & Lybrand
Coopers & Lybrand

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

London

1 June 1998

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 1997			
	Notes	1997 £	1996 £
Current Assets Debtors Investments	5 6	728,156 1	728,156 1
Net Current Assets		728,157	728,157

Capital and Reserves Called up share capital Share Premium Account Profit and Loss Account	8	885,000	885,000
	9	1,815,000	1,815,000
	10	(1,971,843)	(1,971,843)
Equity Shareholders' Funds	11	728,157	728,157

728,157

728,157

The financial statements on pages 4 to 6 were approved by the Board of Directors on 26 May 1998, and signed on its behalf by:-

P F Doye Director

Net Assets

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 1997

Accounting Policies 1.

Basis of Preparation (a)

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with accounting standards applicable to the United Kingdom.

Cash Flow Statement (b)

These financial statements do not contain a cash flow statement by virtue of the exemption available to the Company under paragraph 5(a) of Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 (Revised 1996).

Directors' Emoluments 2.

The Directors received no emoluments in respect of the current or previous year.

Auditors' Remuneration 3.

The auditors' remuneration for the current and the previous financial year has been borne by the immediate parent undertaking.

Employees 4.

The Company had no employees during the financial period (1996: nil).

Debtors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year 5.

5.	Debtors - Amounts ratting Due within One Tear	1997 £	1996 £
	Amounts due from immediate parent undertaking	728,156	728,156
6.	Investments	1997 £	1996 £
	Unlisted investments at cost, less amounts written off	1	1

In the opinion of the Directors, these investments are worth not less than the amount stated.

Taxation 7.

The Company has losses of £502,000 for the purposes of corporation tax on chargeable gains brought forward from earlier years.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 1997

8.	Share	Capital
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8.	Share Capital	1997 £	1996 £
	Authorised 10,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each	1,000,000	1,000,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid 8,850,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each	885,000	885,000
9.	Share Premium Account	1997 £	1996 £
	Share Premium Account	1,815,000	1,815,000

Profit and Loss Account and Reconciliation of Movement in Shareholders' Funds 10.

The Company did not trade and made neither a profit nor a loss during the year under review. No profit and loss account or reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds has been prepared because there were no movements during the current and preceding year.

Related Party Transactions 11.

Under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard No. 8, Related Party Disclosures, the Company is exempt from disclosing transactions with companies 90% or more controlled within the same group, as the consolidated financial statements in which the Company is included are publicly available.

Parent Undertakings 12.

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Shield Properties & Investments (Holdings) Limited, its controlling party, which in turn is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Charterhouse Bank Limited, which is registered in England and Wales and is the parent undertaking of the smallest group of which the Company is a member and for which group accounts are drawn up. Copies of those accounts can be obtained from the Company Secretary, Charterhouse Bank Limited, 1 Paternoster Row, St Paul's, London, EC4M 7DH.

At 31 December 1997 the parent undertaking of the largest group of which the Company was a member and for which group accounts were drawn up was European Corporate Finance Holding SA, the company regarded by the Directors as being the Company's ultimate parent undertaking and ultimate controlling party at that date. European Corporate Finance Holding SA is incorporated in Luxembourg and at 31 December 1997 was directly or indirectly jointly owned by BHF-BANK AG and Credit Commercial de France SA. Copies of its accounts are available from its offices at 8, Avenue Marie-Thérèse, L 2132 Luxembourg.

On 30 March 1998 Credit Commercial de France SA purchased the 50 per cent equity interest held by BHF-BANK AG in European Corporate Finance Holding SA, as a result of which that company became a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Credit Commercial de France SA.