REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

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Company Registration Number: 533513



REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

The Directors submit their annual report and the audited accounts of the Group for the year ended 31st December 1997.

ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Group during the year were Mining, Construction, Environmental Engineering and Tunnelling Contracting, Engineering and Structural Steelwork.

REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS

As anticipated, turnover from the Group's mining activities reduced further in the review period as a result of the continued decline in the British coal mining industry, and total group turnover fell to £39.0 million. Total group loss amounted to £0.9 million.

The group loss is entirely due to contract losses in the Tunnelling Division which exceeded the very satisfactory profits achieved by all other sections of the group. The losses in the Tunnelling Division are subject to claims for which settlement is expected in 1998.

The budgeted turnover for the Group for the year 1998 has been set at the 1997 level, after allowing for further anticipated reductions in mining turnover and planned controlled growth in construction and engineering.

The outlook for 1998 is satisfactory.

DIVIDENDS AND TRANSFER TO RESERVES

The result for the year, and the transfer to reserves, are set out in the Profit and Loss Account on page 6 and note 16 on page 14 of the accounts. No dividend payment is recommended.

| Cont | inued | l | | | ٠ |
|------|-------|---|--|------|---|
| | | | | | |

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997
(Continued)

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

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Charitable donations of £575 were made during the year.

EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

Senior executives are encouraged to make all the employees within their division aware of the financial and economic factors affecting the achievements of the companies for which they work, and the way in which their personal contributions to the company are of fundamental importance to the success of the business.

The Group gives full and fair consideration to applications for employment by disabled employees and encourages the career development of such persons as it is able to employ. In the event of employees becoming disabled whilst in the service of the Group every effort is made to continue their employment by transfer to alternative duties, if required.

DIRECTORS

The Directors who served during the year were Dr-Ing R.Nemitz (Chairman), Dr rer pol Dr phil J.Bankmann (Deputy Chairman), Dipl-Ing W.Luthe, Dr-Ing B.Schmucker, Dipl Kfm A.Muller and Mr K.Jessup (appointed on 15.4.1997 and as Managing Director from 1.1.1998).

DIRECTORS INTERESTS IN SHARES

The Directors have no interests in the share capital of the Company. No rights to subscribe for shares in the Company were granted to or exercised by the Directors or their families during the year.

AUDITORS

The Company's auditors, Messrs Helmore, Helmore & Co, have indicated their willingness to continue in office, and a resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting for their re-appointment.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Secretary

27 April 1998

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are required by law to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the Group, and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those accounts, they are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, and prepare the accounts on a going concern basis where appropriate. The directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records, safeguarding the assets of the Group, and for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THYSSEN (GREAT BRITAIN) LIMITED

We have audited the accounts on pages 4 to 23, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on pages 4 and 5.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

As described above, the Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts 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 accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's and the Group'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 a reasonable assurance that the accounts 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 accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion, the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the Group as at 31st December 1997, and of the loss and cash flows of the Group for the year then ended, and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

HELMORE, HELMORE & CO

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditor

27 April 1998

Grosvenor Gardens House 35/37 Grosvenor Gardens London SW1W OBY

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

2. BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The group accounts consolidate the accounts of Thyssen (Great Britain) Limited and all its subsidiaries made up to 31st December each year.

3. DEPRECIATION

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives. The rates employed are as follows:-

Freehold Buildings - 2.5%

Plant and Machinery - 16.7%, 25% and 50%

Fixtures and Fittings - 25%

Motor Vehicles - 25% and 50% Temporary Buildings - 12.5% and 25%

No depreciation is provided on Freehold Land or Assets under Construction.

4. STOCKS AND SHORT TERM WORK IN PROGRESS

Stocks and short term work in progress are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Cost includes a relevant proportion of overheads where applicable.

5. LONG TERM CONTRACTS

Long term contracts are assessed on a contract by contract basis, and reflected in the Profit and Loss Account by recording turnover and related costs as contract activity progresses. Turnover includes attributable profit where the outcome of the contract can be assessed with reasonable certainty. Work in progress on long term contracts is valued at costs incurred, net of amounts transferred to cost of sales, less foreseeable losses and payments on account not matched with turnover.

6. GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Grants relating to expenditure on tangible fixed assets are credited to Government Grant Deferred Credit account, and released to Profit and Loss Account over the useful lives of the relevant assets, to match the depreciation charged.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

7. LEASES

• ,

Finance leases are recorded by capitalising the relevant assets and showing future instalments as liabilities. The detailed information required to be disclosed by Statement of Standard Accounting Practice 21 in respect of finance leases is not given in these accounts as the amounts involved are not material. Amounts payable under operating leases are charged to Profit and Loss Account on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

8. FOREIGN CURRENCY RATES OF EXCHANGE

All amounts due to the parent company have been translated at D.M.2.9 = £1. Other current assets and liabilities have been translated at the exchange rates ruling at 31st December 1997.

9. PENSION SCHEME CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the group pension scheme are charged to Profit and Loss Account so as to spread the cost of pensions over the employees' working lives with the Group.

THYSSEN (GREAT BRITAIN) LIMITED AND ITS SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

| | | 1 | 997 | | 19 | 96 |
|---|------|------------|-----|-----------|------------|------------|
| | Note | s £ | | £ | £ | £ |
| TURNOVER | 1 | | 38 | ,946,551 | | 50,141,828 |
| Own Work Capitalised Change in Stocks of Finishe | d | | | 237,019 | | 54,352 |
| Goods and Work in Progress | | | | (180,329) | | 1,069,059 |
| Other Occupies | | | 39 | ,003,241 | | 51,265,239 |
| Other Operating Income | | | | 286,835 | | 138,188 |
| Raw Materials and | | | 39 | ,290,076 | | 51,403,427 |
| Consumables | | 7,075,914 | | | 9,427,924 | |
| Other External Charges | | 14,398,018 | | | 17,487,181 | |
| Staff Costs | 2 | 16,848,085 | | | 23,418,114 | |
| Depreciation | | 669,545 | | | 758,203 | |
| Other Operating Charges | | 1,034,527 | | | 47,670 | |
| | | | 40 | ,026,089 | <u></u> | 51,139,092 |
| OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS) | 3 | | | (736,013) | | 264,335 |
| Interest Receivable | | | | 11,517 | | 14,396 |
| Interest Payable | 6 | | | (217,483) | | (212,285) |
| PROFIT (LOSS) ON ORDINARY | | | | | | <u></u> |
| ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION | | | | (941,979) | | 66,446 |
| RETAINED PROFIT (LOSS) | 8 | | £ | (941,979) | £ | 66,446 |
| | | | | · | | |

The Group made no recognised gains or losses in this or the preceding financial year other than the profit or loss for the year. All items in the Profit and Loss Account relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form a part of these accounts.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 1997

| | | 199 | 97 | 19 | 96 |
|--|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | Note | s £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Tangible Assets | 9 | | 2,837,816 | | 3,128,496 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Stocks Debtors Cash at Bank and in Hand | 10 11 | 4,460,153 5,989,537 211,091 | | 4,730,839 6,230,388 277,675 | |
| | | 10,660,781 | | 11,238,902 | |
| CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year | 12 | 8,655,268 | | 9,318,819 | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | 2,005,513 | | 1,920,083 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | 4,843,329 | | 5,048,579 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due After One Year | 13 | | (51,614) | | (64,885) |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES | 14 | | (780,000) | | (30,000) |
| NET ASSETS | | £ | 4,011,715 | £ | 4,953,694 |
| CAPITAL AND RESERVES | | | | | |
| Called Up Share Capital Profit and Loss Account | 15 16 | | 3,500,000 511,715 | | 3,500,000 1,453,694 |
| SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS | 23 | £ | 4,011,715 | £ | 4,953,694 |

Approved by the Board on 27 April 6 1998
R.Nemitz, K.Jessup - Directors

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form a part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

1. TURNOVER

| Analysis By Activity: | 1997 | 1996 |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mining, Construction, Environmental Engineering and Tunnelling Contractors Engineering and Structural Steelwork Others | 33,344,454 4,746,287 855,810 | 45,667,309 3,696,728 777,791 |
| | £ 38,946,551 | £ 50,141,828 |
| 2. STAFF PARTICULARS | | |
| Staff Costs: | 1997 | 1996 |
| Wages and Salaries Social Security Costs Other Pension Costs | 15,033,475 1,328,346 486,264 | 21,209,308 1,982,395 226,411 |
| | £ 16,848,085 | £ 23,418,114 |
| Average Weekly Number of Persons Employed: | | |
| Production Administration | 451 166 | 674 217 |
| Total | 617 | 891 |

3. OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS)

The following amounts have been included in arriving at the Operating Profit or Loss:

| | 1997 | 1996 |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ |
| Directors Emoluments | 57,332 | _ |
| Auditors Remuneration | 50,888 | 65,179 |
| Hire of Equipment | 3,493,369 | 4,211,779 |

The cost of other services provided in the year by the Group's auditors amounted to £28,872 (1996 - £35,838). Auditors remuneration in respect of the parent company amounted to £22,888 (1996 - £39,179).

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

4. STAFF PENSION SCHEME

The Group operates a pension and life assurance scheme based on final pensionable salary. The assets of the scheme are held by the scheme trustees separately from the assets of the Group.

Contributions to the scheme are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of triennial valuations using the attained age method. The most recent valuation was at 1st April 1997. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the valuation are those relating to the return on investments and the rate of increase in members earnings. It was assumed that the return on investments will be 8.5% per annum, and that members earnings will increase at an average rate of 7% per annum.

The pension charge for the year, other than the cost of life cover, was £329,235 (1996 - £Nil) and at 31st December 1997 there were arrears of contributions due to the scheme by the Group amounting to £156,241 (1996 - prepayment £103,540).

The most recent actuarial valuation showed that the value of the fund amounted to £7,623,319 and that the actuarial valuation of those assets represented 108.5% of the benefits which had accrued to members after allowing for expected future increases in earnings. Following the actuarial valuation at 1st April 1997, the trustees have decided to increase the employers contribution from 9% to 9.2% with effect from 1 April 1997 in accordance with the actuary's recommendation. Employees contributions will remain at 5%.

5. DIRECTORS EMOLUMENTS

| | 1997 | 1996 |
|------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Salaries | 50,037 | - |
| Pension Scheme Contributions | 5,254 | - |
| Other Emoluments | 2,041 | - |
| | | |
| | £ 57,332 | £ - |
| | | |

One Director is a member of the Group's defined contribution pension scheme.

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

6. INTEREST PAYABLE

| | | 1997 | | 1996 |
|--|---|------------------|---|-------------------|
| Interest on Bank Loans and Overdafts Other Interest | | 208,360 9,123 | | 157,438 54,847 |
| | | | | |
| | £ | 217,483 | £ | 212,285 |
| | | | | |

Interest payable to group companies amounted to £8,085 (1996 - £33,319).

7. TAXATION

Losses for taxation purposes to be carried forward against future profits at 31st December 1997 amounted to approximately:

Group: £2,800,000 (1996 - £2,220,000) Company: £ 730,000 (1996 - £ 410,000)

8. RETAINED PROFIT (LOSS)

| | 1997 | 1996 |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Dealt with in the accounts of | | |
| the Parent Company | 102,440 | 41,796 |
| Retained by Subsidiary Companies | (1,044,419) | 24,650 |
| | | |
| | £ (941,979) | £ 66,446 |
| | | |

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

| Cost | Land and Buildings | | | s Total |
|--|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| Opening Balance Additions Disposals Transfers | 202,767 (215,534) | 10,500,68° 324,190 (1,061,982 (60,342 | 0 70,255 2) (89,085 | 14,877,234 5 597,212 5)(1,366,601) |
| | 2,732,909 | 9,702,55 | 3 1,672,383 | 3 14,107,845 |
| Depreciation | | | <u> </u> | |
| Opening Balance Charge for the Year Disposals Transfers | 82,466 (11,628) | 375,963 | 3 211,116 2) (85,084 | 7 11,748,738 6 669,545 (1,148,254) |
| · | 856,190 | 9,024,694 | 4 1,389,145 | 11,270,029 |
| Net Book Values | | | | |
| 1997 | £1,876,719 | £ 677,859 | 9 £ 283,238 | £2,837,816 |
| 1996 | £1,960,324 | £ 749,618 | 8 £ 418,554 | £3,128,496 |
| Land and Buildings consist of the | e following |]: 1997 | | 1996 |
| Freehold Property Long Leaseholds | | 1,876,719 | 9 - | 1,758,050 202,274 |
| | £ | 1,876,719 | - 9 - | £ 1,960,324 |
| Other Assets consist of the following | owing: | 1997 | | 1996 |
| Office Equipment Motor Vehicles Temporary Buildings | | 216,036 4,979 62,223 | € | 312,614 12,678 93,262 |
| | | £ 283,238 | 3 | £ 418,554 |
| | | | | |

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

10. STOCKS

| | 1997 | 1996 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Raw Materials and Consumables | 1,277,264 | 1,367,621 |
| Work in Progress: | | |
| Long Term Contracts - Gross Less: Progress Payments Received | 11,720,393 | 19,045,790 |
| and Receivable | 10,964,892 | 18,698,883 |
| | 755,501 | 346,907 |
| Short Term Contracts Engineering | 1,327,440 918,348 | 2,314,782 532,680 |
| | 3,001,289 | 3,194,369 |
| Finished Goods and Goods for Resale | 181,600 | 168,849 |
| | £ 4,460,153 | £ 4,730,839 |
| 11. DEBTORS | | |
| | 1997 | 1996 |
| Trade Debtors Other Debtors | 5,696,369 179,368 | 5,899,775 207,692 |
| Prepayments and Accrued Income | 113,800 | 122,921 |
| | £ 5,989,537 | £ 6,230,388 |
| | | - |

Trade Debtors includes £327,670 (1996 - £623,043) relating to amounts recoverable on long term contracts. All debtors fall due within one year.

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

12. CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

| | | 1997 | 1996 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|
| Bank Loans and Overdrafts | | | |
| (Note 22) | | 3,217,434 | 2,915,378 |
| Trade Creditors | | 3,906,676 | 4,456,134 |
| Amounts Owed to Group | | | • |
| Undertakings | | 29,363 | 435,011 |
| Taxation and Social Security | | 745,681 | 1,145,764 |
| Other Creditors | | 508,886 | 31,951 |
| Accruals and Deferred Income | | 247,228 | 334,581 |
| | | £ 8,655,268 | £ 0 210 010 |
| | | | £ 9,318,819 |
| .3. CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Du | e After One Y | lear 1997 | 1996 |
| Government Grant Deferred Cre | edit | 45,970 | 51,716 |
| Finance Lease Instalments | | 5,644 | 13,169 |
| | | £ 51,614 | £ 64,885 |
| | | | |
| 4. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AN | D CHARGES | | |
| | Brought | Profit & Loss | Carried |
| Nature of Provision | Forward | Account Transfer | Forward |
| Bad Debts | 30,000 | - | 30,000 |
| Future Losses on Contracts | - | 750,000 | 750,000 |
| | £ 30,000 | £ 750,000 | £ 780,000 |
| | | | · |

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

15. SHARE CAPITAL

| | | 1997 | 1996 |
|-----|---|------------------------|-------------|
| | Authorised, Issued and Fully Paid: 3,500,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each | £ 3,500,000 | £ 3,500,000 |
| 16. | PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT | 1997 | 1996 |
| | Balance Brought Forward Retained Profit (Loss) for the Year | 1,453,694 (941,979) | 1,387,248 |
| | Balance Carried Forward | £ 511,715 | £ 1,453,694 |

17. PARENT COMPANY AND ULTIMATE HOLDING COMPANY

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Thyssen Schachtbau GmbH which is incorporated in the Federal Republic of Germany. That company is the parent company of the only group of undertakings of which the Company is a member, and for which group accounts are prepared.

18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Group had no material transactions with related parties during the year. Balances with related parties at 31st December 1997 were as follows:

Amount due to Thyssen Schachtbau GmbH (parent company)

£ 29,363

19. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At 31st December 1997 there were contingent liabilities in respect of indemnities given against guarantees and bonds given by bankers on behalf of the Group amounting to £1,146,094 (1996 - £3,003,152). A subsidiary company had a contingent liability in respect of insurance commission received on an indemnity basis amounting to £180,000 (1996 - £120,000).

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

20. COMMITMENTS FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Amounts contracted for but not provided in the accounts amounted to £7,500 (1996 - £16,885).

21. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Amounts due in the next year in respect of leases of Motor Vehicles:

| Agreements Expiring Next Year | 87,682 |
|--|-----------|
| Agreements Expiring in One to Five Years | 174,429 |
| | £ 262,111 |

22. SECURED LIABILITIES

Bank overdrafts of £2,033,890 are secured by legal charges on land and buildings of the Group. Bank overdrafts of £1,641,557 are further secured by charges on the book debts of Thyssen (Great Britain) Limited, Thyssen Construction Limited and Thyssen Engineering Limited.

23. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS

| | 1997 | 1996 |
|----------------------------|--|-------------|
| Total Recognised Gains and | | |
| Losses for the Year | (941,979) | 66,446 |
| Movement in Shareholders | | |
| Funds | (941,979) | 66,446 |
| Opening Shareholders Funds | 4,953,694 | 4,887,248 |
| | <u> </u> | |
| Closing Shareholders Funds | £ 4,011,715 | £ 4,953,694 |
| | ······································ | |

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

| | | 199 | 97 | 19 | 96 |
|---|-------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities | 1 | | 28,527 | | 1,230,836 |
| RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE | | | | | |
| Interest Received Interest Paid | | 11,517 (217,483) | | 14,396 (212,285) | |
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT | • | | (205,966) | | (197,889) |
| Payments to Acquire Tangible Fixed Assets Receipts from Sales of Tangible Fixed Assets | | (597,212) 406,011 | | (450,318) 45,916 | |
| | - | · | (191,201) | · | (404,402) |
| INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH | 2 | £ | (368,640) | £ | 628,545 |

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

| 1. | RECONC | TTTATT | ON OF | OPERATING | PROFIT | (LOSS) | TO | NET | |
|----|--------|--------|-------|-----------|---------|--------|----|-----|---|
| | CASH | INFLOW | FROM | OPERATING | ACTIVIT | TES | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | : |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

| 1997 | 1996 |
|-------------|---|
| (736,013) | 264,335 |
| 669,545 | 758,203 |
| | • |
| (187,664) | (22,467) |
| 750,000 | (42,000) |
| 270,686 | (1,078,365) |
| 240,851 | 3,684,022 |
| (978,878) | (2,332,892) |
| | |
| £ 28,527 | £ 1,230,836 |
| LOW 1997 | 1996 |
| (368,640) | 628,545 |
| (368,640) | 628,545 |
| (2,637,703) | (3,266,248) |
| | |
| 1 | (736,013) 669,545 (187,664) 750,000 270,686 240,851 (978,878) |

| | At 1.1.1997 | Cash Flows | At 31.12.1997 |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Cash at Bank and In Hand Bank Overdrafts | 277,675 (2,915,378) ——— | (66,584) (302,056) | 211,091 (3,217,434) |
| | £ (2,637,703) | £ (368,640) | £ (3,006,343) |

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 1997

| | | 199 | 7 | 199 | 16 |
|--|--------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Tangible Assets Investments | 1 2 | | 1,364,149 551,331 | | 1,594,708 138,261 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | 1,915,480 | | 1,732,969 |
| Stocks Debtors Cash at Bank and in Hand | 3 4 | 1,264,326 4,403,367 33,752 | | 1,407,631 5,793,048 246,186 | |
| | | 5,701,445 | | 7,446,865 | |
| CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year | 5 | 3,329,297 | | 4,471,122 | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | 2,372,148 | | 2,975,743 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | 4,287,628 | | 4,708,712 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due After One Year | 6 | | (45,970) | | (51,716) |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES | 7 | | (10,000) | | (10,000) |
| NET ASSETS | | £ | 4,231,658 | £ | 4,646,996 |
| CAPITAL AND RESERVES | | | | | |
| Called Up Share Capital Profit and Loss Account | 8 9 | | 3,500,000 731,658 | | 3,500,000 1,146,996 |
| 10 / V/cc | | £ | 4,231,658 | £ | 4,646,996 |

Approved by the Board on 27 April 1998
R.Nemitz, K.Jessup - Directors

The notes on pages 19 to 23 form a part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997

1. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

| Cost | Land and Buildings | Plant and Machinery | Other Assets | Total |
|--|-----------------------|--|---------------------|------------|
| Opening Balance Additions Disposals Transfers | _ | 7,830,002 16,582 (780,462) (29,383) | 41,211 (61,132) | (844,954) |
| | 1,846,038 | 7,036,739 | 990,798 | 9,873,575 |
| Depreciation | | | | |
| Opening Balance Charge for the Year Disposals Transfers | | 7,678,684 78,817 (776,960) (28,273) | 140,029 (57,297) | (834,257) |
| | 721,105 | 6,952,268 | 836,053 | 8,509,426 |
| Net Book Values | | | | |
| 1997 | £1,124,933 | £ 84,471 £ | 154,745 | £1,364,149 |
| 1996 | £1,187,102 | £ 151,318 £ | 256,288 | £1,594,708 |

Land and buildings consist entirely of freehold property interests.

Other Assets consist of the following:

| | Net Book Value | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| | 1997 | 1996 | | |
| Office Equipment | 125,499 | 201,753 | | |
| Motor Vehicles | 4,329 | 11,751 | | |
| Temporary Buildings | 24,917 | 42,784 | | |
| | | | | |
| | £ 154,745 | £ 256,288 | | |
| | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | |

NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

2. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

| Shares in Group Undertakings | | 199' | 7 1996 |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Brought Forward at Cost | | 736,3 | 736,331 |
| Amounts Written Off: Brought Forward Charge (Credit) for the Year | 598,0 (41 3,0 | | 693,750 (95,680) |
| | | 185,0 | 598,070 |
| | | £ 551,3 | £ 138,261 |
| Subsidiary Undertakings | Shares Held | % of Nominal Value | Nature of Business |
| Berwic Insurance Consultants Limited T.Bridges and Company Limited | Ordinary Ordinary | | Insurance Consultants Mining Contractors |
| Thyssen Construction Limited Thyssen Engineering Limited Thyssen Environmental Limited | Ordinary Ordinary Ordinary | 100.00 | Construction Engineering Environmental Engineering |
| Thyssen Tunnelling Limited | Ordinary | 92.78 | Tunnelling Contractors |

All the above companies are incorporated in Great Britain.

NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

3. STOCKS

| | 1997 | 1996 |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| Raw Materials and Consumables | 1,111,726 | 1,200,797 |
| Work in Progress: | | |
| Long Term Contracts - Gross Less: Progress Payments | 3,181,391 | 7,181,453 |
| Received and Receivable | 3,181,391 | 7,181,453 |
| | | |
| Short Term Contracts | <u>.</u> | 66,985 |
| | - | 66,985 |
| Finished Goods and Goods for Resale | 152,600 | 139,849 |
| | £ 1,264,326 | £ 1,407,631 |
| 4. DEBTORS | | |
| | 1997 | 1996 |
| Trade Debtors Amounts Owed by Group | 1,235,058 | 1,705,280 |
| Undertakings | 2,915,274 | 3,796,811 |
| Other Debtors | 174,258 | 196,261 |
| Prepayments and Accrued Income | 78,777 | 94,696 |
| | | |
| | £ 4,403,367 | £ 5,793,048 |
| | | |

Trade Debtors includes £94,623 (1996 - £489,770) relating to amounts recoverable on long term contracts. Of Amounts Owed by Group Undertakings, £2,051,049 (1996-£nil) falls due after one year. All other debtors fall due within one year.

NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

5. CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

| | | | 1997 | | | 1996 |
|----|---|---------|----------|----------|------------|--------|
| | Bank Loans and Overdrafts | 1,1 | 83,545 | | 95 | 0,441 |
| | Trade Creditors | 2 | 52,555 | | 69 | 7,731 |
| | Amounts Owed to Group | | | | | |
| | Undertakings | | 29,363 | | | 21,238 |
| | Taxation and Social Security | | 36,448 | | | 15,676 |
| | Other Creditors | | 31,158 | | | 0,455 |
| | Accruals and Deferred Income | 1 | 96,228 | | 29 | 95,581 |
| | | £ 3,3 | 29,297 | £ | 4,4 | 71,122 |
| 6. | CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due After On | e Year | 1997 | | | 1996 |
| | Government Grant Deferred Credit | £ | 45,970 | | £ I | 51,716 |
| | Government Grant Deterred Credit | L | | | - . | |
| 7. | PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES | | | | | |
| | | Brought | Profit & | Loss | C | arried |
| | Nature of Provision | Forward | | Transfer | F | orward |
| | Bad Debts | 10,000 | | - | ; | 10,000 |
| | | | | | | |
| | £ | 10,000 | £ | _ | £ | 10,000 |

NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1997 (Continued)

8. SHARE CAPITAL

1997

1996

Authorised, Issued and Fully Paid: 3,500,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each £ 3,500,000

£ 3,500,000

9. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

No profit and loss account is presented for the parent company as permitted by Section 230, Companies Act 1985. The loss for the financial year of the parent company amounted to £415,338 (1996 -loss £26,060).

10. CHARGE ON ASSETS

Land and buildings with a book value of £1,077,197, bank balances with a value of £29,412 and the Company's book debts have been charged to secure the overdraft facilities of group companies.

11. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Company had a contingent liability of £1,670,969 at 31st December 1997 arising from guarantees given on subsidiary companies overdrafts (1996 -£1,377,470), and a further contingent liability in respect of a subsidiary company which the Company has undertaken to support of £1,023,752 (1996 fnil). There are also contingent liabilities in respect of indemnities given against guarantees and bonds given by bankers on behalf of the group amounting to £1,146,094 (1996 - £3,003,152).