REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

TO THE MEMBERS OF E C SAMES & COMPANY LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 11 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets, and the accounting policies set out on page 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 opinion, based on our audit, on those financial 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 mis-statement, 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 the company's affairs as at 31 December 1999 and of its results for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

W.L.BLAND & CO.

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

When I do

Castle House, 89 High Street, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 2DF

28 February 2000

EDX *E3BODeeT* 0228
COMPANIES HOUSE 15 16 16