Report and Accounts

31 March 1996

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Registered No. F12185

BRANCH. BROD 637

Directors:

C R Haskins

M S Christie (appointed 21 February 1996)

M A J Morgan

Secretary:

J N Wild

Auditors:

Ernst & Young

PO Box 3

Lowgate House

Lowgate Hull HU1 1JJ

Bankers:

Barclays Bank International

PO Box 68 Grand Cayman Cayman Islands British West Indies

Solicitors:

Maples and Calder

PO Box 309 Grand Cayman Cayman Islands British West Indies

Registered Office:

PO Box 309

Cayman International Trust Building

Grand Cayman Cayman Islands British West Indies

UK Office:

Beverley House St Stephen's Square

Hull HU1 3XG

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 1996.

INCORPORATION AND STATUS

The company is incorporated in the Cayman Islands, British West Indies and is resident and carries on business in Great Britain.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the company is that of investment.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The result for the year attributable to shareholders amounts to a US\$ loss of \$1,116,618 and a sterling profit of £1,021,462 and is dealt with as shown in the profit and loss account. The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend.

DIRECTORS

The directors of the company at the date of this report were those listed on page 1 together with Mr M Clark who resigned from the Board on 21 February 1996. Mr M S Christie was appointed to the Board on 21 February 1996.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

According to the register maintained as required under the Companies Act 1985 none of the directors held any beneficial interest in the share capital of the company and all are directors of the ultimate parent company, Northern Foods plc, in whose accounts their interest in that company are shown.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors 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 profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts, the directors 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, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that the accounts comply with the above requirements.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

AUDITORS

A resolution to reappoint Ernst & Young as auditors will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

By order of the board

J N Wild Secretary

14 October 1996

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

to the members of Norcay Limited

We have audited the accounts on pages 5 to 10 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and on the basis of the accounting policies set out on page 8.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 3 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 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 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 as at 31 March 1996 and of its result for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Ernst & Young

Chartered Accountants

aust + young

Registered Auditor

Hull

14 October 1996

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 1996

	Notes	1996 US\$	1995 US\$
Administrative expenses		(18)	•
Interest receivable from group undertakings		3,451,585	
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION Taxation	2	3,451,567 (1,135,666)	2,826,612 (932,753)
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION Currency translation (loss)/profit		2,315,901 (3,432,519)	1,893,859 4,565,172
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		(1,116,618)	6,459,031
STATEMENT OF RETAINED PROFITS			
Balance at 31 March 1995		16,604,844	10,145,813
(Loss)/profit for the year		(1,116,618)	6,459,031
Balance at 31 March 1996		15,488,226	16,604,844

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

There are no recognised gains and losses (1995 - \$nil) other than the loss (1995 - profit) for the financial year attributable to the shareholders of the company, as shown above.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 1996

	Notes	1996 £	1995 £
Administrative expenses		(11)	(83)
Interest receivable from group undertakings		2,204,077	1,816,672
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES			
BEFORE TAXATION		2,204,066	1,816,589
Taxation	2	(725,202)	
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION		1,478,864	1,217,133
Currency translation (loss)/profit		(457,402)	
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,021,462	1,810,024
STATEMENT OF RETAINED PROFITS			
Balance at 31 March 1995		12,589,386	10,779,362
Profit for the year		1,021,462	1,810,024
Balance at 31 March 1996		13,610,848	12,589,386
			=======

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

There are no recognised gains and losses (1995 - £nil) other than the profit for the financial year attributable to the shareholders of the company, as shown above.

BALANCE SHEET at 31 March 1996

	Notes	1996 US\$	1995 US\$
CURRENT ASSETS	110103	0.54	0.54
Debtors	3	54,395,055	54,450,518
Cash at bank		814	714
		54,395,869	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	4	12,907,643	11,846,388
NET CURRENT ASSETS		41,488,226	42,604,844
			
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Share capital	5	26,000,000	26,000,000
Profit and loss account		15,488,226	16,604,844
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		41,488,226	42,604,844
		1996	1995
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	3	35,633,839	33,429,837
Cash at bank		533	438
		35,634,372	33,430,275
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	4	8,455,712	7,273,077
NET CURRENT ASSETS		27,178,660	26,157,198
CAPITAL AND RESERVES	_		
Share capital	5	13,567,812	
Profit and loss account		13,610,848	
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		27,178,660	26,157,198
			=======

M S Christie

- Director

14 October 1996

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS at 31 March 1996

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

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

Overseas Company (Statutory Instrument No 1990/440)

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Section 258 of, and Schedule 9 to, the Companies Act 1985.

Foreign currencies

The company maintains its accounting records in the currency of the United States of America.

Assets and liabilities in US dollars are expressed in the sterling accounts at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date with the exception of share capital which is translated at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Trading results are translated at an average rate for the year.

All exchange differences arising on translation of foreign currencies are taken to the profit and loss account.

2. TAXATION

The charge based on the profit for the year is made up as follows:

1996 US\$	1995 US\$	1996 £	1995 £
1,139,016	932,753	727,341	599,456
(3,350)	_	(2,139)	_
1,135,666	932,753	725,202	599,456
	US\$ 1,139,016 (3,350)	US\$ US\$ 1,139,016 932,753 (3,350) -	US\$ US\$ £ 1,139,016 932,753 727,341 (3,350) - (2,139)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS at 31 March 1996

3.	DEBTORS				
		1996	1995	1996	1995
		US\$	US\$	£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:				
	Promissory notes	48,257,441	40,667,515	31,613,129	24,967,777
	Group relief	59	59	39	36
		48,257,500	40,667,574	31,613,168	24,967,813
	Amounts falling due after more than one year: Amounts due from				
	group undertakings	6,137,555	13,782,944	4,020,671	8,462,024
		54,395,055	54,450,518	35,633,839	33,429,837
4.	CREDITORS: amounts falli	ng due within c 1996 US\$	ne year 1995 US\$	1996 £	1995 £
	Amount due to				
	group undertakings	11,797,322	10,869,927	7,728,347	6,673,580
	Corporation tax	1,110,285	976,425	727,341	599,475
	Accruals	36	36	24	22
		12,907,643	11,846,388	8,455,712	7,273,077
5.	SHARE CAPITAL				
					llotted, called
		_	Authorised	•	and fully paid
			996 and 1995		996 and 1995
		US\$	£	US\$	£
	Ordinary shares of \$1 each	30,000,000	15,655,168	26,000,000	13,567,812

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS at 31 March 1996

6. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	1996 US\$	1995 US\$	1996 £	1995 £
(Loss)/profit attributable to shareholders	(1,116,618)	6,459,031	1,021,462	1,810,024
Opening equity shareholders' funds	42,604,844	36,145,813	26,157,198	24,347,174
Closing equity shareholders' funds	41,488,226	42,604,844	27,178,660 =======	26,157,198

7. GROUP ACCOUNTS

The parent undertaking of the largest group of undertakings for which group accounts are drawn up and of which the company is a member is Northern Foods plc, registered in England and Wales. Northern Foods plc is also the ultimate parent company. Copies of Northern Foods plc's accounts can be obtained from Beverley House, St Stephen's Square, HU1 3XG.