R.T.Z. PACIFIC HOLDINGS LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996



DIRECTORS

M.M. Freeman

G.C. Lloyd-Davis

S.F. McAdam

I.C. Ratnage

SECRETARY

:

:

B.G. Gale

REGISTERED OFFICE

6 St James's Square

London SW1Y 4LD

AUDITORS

Coopers & Lybrand

1 Embankment Place

London WC2N 6NN

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the sixty seventh annual general meeting of R.T.Z. PACIFIC HOLDINGS LIMITED will be held at 6 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LD on 5 March 1997 at 10.30 a.m. for the following purposes:-

- 1. To receive and, if approved, adopt the report of the directors and the audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 1996.
- 2. To re-appoint the auditors.
- 3. To transact any other ordinary business of the Company.

NOTE

A member of the Company who is entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his behalf and the proxy need not be a member of the Company.

By Order of the Board

B.G. Gale Secretary

6 St James's Square London SW1Y 4LD

5 March 1997

CONSENT OF SHORT NOTICE

We, the undersigned, being registered as the holders of the entire issued share capital of the above Company, HEREBY CONSENT to the annual general meeting being held on the date and at the time and place set forth and we hereby waive all rights to other notice of such meeting notwithstanding that less than 21 days' notice has been given of the meeting.

For and on behalf of:-AUSTRALASIAN HOLDINGS LIMITED For and on behalf of:-R.T.Z. NOMINEES LIMITED

Director

Director

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors have pleasure in submitting the sixty seventh annual report and audited accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 1996.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS

R.T.Z. Pacific Holdings Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The RTZ Corporation PLC ("RTZ"). The Company is a holding company and the directors intend the Company to continue its present activities as a holding company.

The results of the Company for the year ended 31 December 1996 are set out on page 8.

SHARE CAPITAL

During the year the following changes were made to the share capital of the company:

- i) The authorised share capital was increased to £925,010,000 on 22 February 1996.
- ii) 425,000,000 'B' cumulative redeemable preference shares of one pound each were issued on 22 February 1996; these were redeemed at par on 22 November 1996.
- iii) 500,000,000 cumulative redeemable preference shares of one pound each were redesignated as 500,000,000 'A' preference shares.
- iv) The authorised share capital was increased to £1,350,010,000 on 22 November 1996.
- v) 425,000,000 ordinary shares of one pound each were issued at par on 22 November 1996.

DIVIDENDS

The directors have declared and paid preference dividends of £43,746,045 during the year (1995 - preference dividend of £9,646,620). An additional amount of £4,903,699 (1995: £4,903,699) is included in the profit and loss account as dividend due to the holders of 'A' preference shares. No dividend on the ordinary shares is proposed (1995 - nil).

DIRECTORS

The names of the directors at the date of this report are shown on page 2.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS AND OPTIONS

No director is interested in any contract with the Company. The interests of the directors need not be shown as they are directors of the parent company.

POLICY REGARDING PAYMENT OF TRADE CREDITORS

It is the company's policy to abide by terms of payment agreed with suppliers. In many cases, the terms of payment are as stated in the supplier's own literature. In other cases, the terms of payment are determined by specific written or oral agreement. The company does not follow any published code or standard on payment practice.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice convening the sixty seventh annual general meeting is attached.

AUDITORS

A resolution to re-appoint Coopers & Lybrand as auditors, will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

B.G. GALE

Secretary

6 St James's Square London SW1Y 4LD

5 March 1997

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

The directors are required by UK company law to prepare accounts for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial period and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing the accounts, which have been prepared on a going concern basis, appropriate accounting policies have been used and applied consistently, and reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made. Applicable accounting standards have been followed. The directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, in accordance with the Companies Act 1985, for safeguarding the assets of the Company, and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

TO THE MEMBERS OF R.T.Z. PACIFIC HOLDINGS LIMITED

We have audited the accounts on pages 8 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 6, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of 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 the company's affairs at 31 December 1996 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Coopers & Lybrand

Coopers & Lybrand

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

London

5 March 1997

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

	<u>Note</u>	<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
Interest receivable from fellow subsidiary undertaking		50,126	8,586
Income from shares in subsidiary undertaking		<u>84,701</u>	21,400
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAX	2	134,827	29,986
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	3	(16,541)	(2,833)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAX		118,286	27,153
Dividends (including appropriations in respect of non-equity shares)	4	(43,946)	<u>(14,551)</u>
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		<u>74,340</u>	12,602
Movement in retained earnings			
At 1 January		12,602	-
Retained profit for the year		<u>74,340</u>	<u>12,602</u>
At 31 December		<u>86,942</u>	<u>12,602</u>

The Company has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the profit and loss account above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.

All items dealt with in the above profit and loss account relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1996

	<u>NOTE</u>	<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	5	386,500	<u>386,500</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	657,438	500,695
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(31,986)	(374,583)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		625,452	<u> 126,112</u>
NET ASSETS CAPITAL AND RESERVES		<u>1,011,952</u>	<u>512,612</u>
Called up share capital	8	925,010	500,010
Profit and loss account		86,942	<u> 12,602</u>
		<u>1,011,952</u>	<u>512,612</u>
Equity shareholders' funds		511,952	12,612
Non-equity shareholders' funds		_500,000	500,000
		<u>1,011,952</u>	<u>512,612</u>

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Director

Director

5 March 1997

NOTES TO THE 1996 ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost basis and in accordance with applicable U.K. accounting standards.

b) Investment Income

Dividends from companies registered in England and Wales are accounted for on an accruals basis. Interest is accounted for on an accruals basis.

c) Group Accounts

Group accounts have not been prepared as the Company is itself a wholly owned subsidiary of another company incorporated in England and Wales. In the opinion of the directors, the aggregate value of the assets of the Company consisting of shares in, and amounts owing from, its subsidiaries is not less than the aggregate of the amount at which those assets are included in the balance sheet.

d) <u>Investments</u>

The investments are shown at cost less any provision for permanent diminution in value.

2. OPERATING COSTS

- a) The auditors' remuneration is borne by a fellow group undertaking (1995 nil).
- b) The average number of persons employed during the year, excluding directors, was nil (1995 nil).
- c) No emoluments were paid to any of the directors in respect of their services to the Company (1995 nil).

3. TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
The charge to tax comprises:		
Corporation tax at 33% (1995 - 33%)	<u>16,541</u>	<u>2,833</u>

NOTES TO THE 1996 ACCOUNTS continued

4. <u>DIVIDENDS AND APPROPRIATIONS</u>

'A' preference shares	<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000	
Dividends paid	29,422	9,647	
Dividend accrued in previous year Dividend accrued in current year	(4,904) 24,518 <u>4,904</u>	9,647 4,904	
	<u>29,422</u>	<u>14,551</u>	
'B' preference shares			
Dividends paid	14,324	-	
Appropriation for issue costs	200		
	<u>14,524</u>		
Total	<u>43,946</u>	<u>14,551</u>	

5. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENT

Company	Country of Incorporation	Number held and class of shares	% held	Nature of Business Activities
R.T.Z. Australian	England &	17,767,036 Ordinary	100	Holding
Holdings Limited	Wales	shares of £1 each		company

Through R.T.Z. Australian Holdings Limited, the Company owns 49% of CRA Limited, a company incorporated in Australia. This interest comprised 313,704,802 (1995 - 291,818,420) shares listed on the Melbourne stock exchange with a market value of A\$19.75 (1995 - A\$19.74) each.

Cost	<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
At beginning and end of year	<u>386,500</u>	<u>386,500</u>

There were no movements during the year.

NOTES TO THE 1996 ACCOUNTS continued

6. <u>DEBTORS</u>

		<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
	Amount due from fellow subsidiary undertaking	500,000	500,000
	Amount due from parent undertaking	146,501	-
	Taxation recoverable	10,937	<u>695</u>
		<u>657,438</u>	<u>500,695</u>
7.	CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHI	N ONE YEAR	
		<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
	Amount due to parent undertaking	-	366,151
	Amount due to subsidiary undertaking	299	-
	Corporation tax	26,783	3,528
	Accrued preference dividend	4,904	4,904
		<u>31,986</u>	<u>374,583</u>
8.	SHARE CAPITAL		
		<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
	Authorised, issued and fully paid		
	Equity capital		
	425,010,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each (1995 - 10,000,000)	425,010	10
	Non-equity capital		
	500,000,000 5.8684% redeemable 'A' preference shares of £1 each (1995 -	500,000	E00 000
	500,000,000)	<u>500,000</u>	500,000 500,010
	Total capital	<u>925,010</u>	<u>500,010</u>

Details of the shares allotted and redeemed during the year are given in the Directors' Report.

NOTES TO THE 1996 ACCOUNTS continued

8. SHARE CAPITAL (cont'd)

The 500,000,000 'A' cumulative redeemable £1 preference shares were issued at par as a means of funding RTZ group activities. The shares are non-voting and have a preferential right to return of capital, and of arrears and accruals of dividends, on a winding up. Holders of these shares were entitled to redeem them on or before 1 November 2005 at par. The shares were redeemed at par on 13 February 1997. The redemption was financed by the issue of 500,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each

9. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

<u>1996</u> £000	<u>1995</u> £000
118,286	27,153
(43,946)	(14,551)
425,000	500,000
(425,000)	-
425,000	-
499,340	512,602
<u>512,612</u>	10
<u>1,011,952</u>	<u>512,612</u>
511,952	12,612
500,000	500,000
<u>1,011,952</u>	<u>512,612</u>
	118,286 (43,946) 425,000 (425,000) 425,000 499,340 512,612 1,011,952 511,952 500,000

10. CASH FLOW STATEMENT

The accounts do not include a cash flow statement because the Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary and the conditions of Financial Reporting Standard No.1 exempting inclusion are satisfied.

11. CONTROLLING PARTIES

The company is controlled by Australasian Holdings Ltd, which owns 100% of the issued share capital. The RTZ Corporation PLC, registered in England and Wales, is the Company's ultimate holding company and also its ultimate controlling party at 31 December 1996. Copies of the ultimate parent's consolidated financial statements may be obtained from its registered office at 6 St. James's Square, London.