ANNUAL REPORT AND

ACCOUNTS

for the year ended 2 May 1997

Company number 1878843



#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 2 May 1997.

#### 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 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 are responsible for maintaining 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.

#### **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The principal activity of the company is the secure collection, transport and destruction of confidential material.

#### REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUSINESS

The directors are satisfied with the results for the year in the face of stiff competition and are confident of improving upon the result in the forthcoming year.

#### **RESULTS**

The results for the year are set out in the profit and loss account on page 5.

#### DIVIDENDS

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (1996: £Nil).

# DIRECTORS' REPORT for the year ended 2 May 1997

#### **DIRECTORS**

The directors who served during the year were:

IR Fraser - Chairman JM Gorman

#### **EMPLOYEES**

The directors attach the highest priority to achieving excellent communications between people employed in the company. The aim is to ensure the close identity of employees with the needs of the business and its customers. Employment conditions are reviewed on a regular basis and individual employees are in daily contact with the General Manager. The company operates a policy of equal opportunity for all its employees.

#### DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES OF THE COMPANY

IR Fraser is a director of the parent company, Reliance Security Group plc, and his interests in that company are disclosed in that company's accounts. No director held any interest in the shares of the company.

#### SUPPLIER PAYMENT POLICY

The company has subscribed to the CBI Prompt Payers Code and is seeking to settle its trade liabilities on 30 days from receipt of invoice.

#### **AUDITORS**

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution proposing that Binder Hamlyn be reappointed as auditors of the company will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

This report was approved by the Board on 14 November 1997

FCE Pinto

Secretary Surety House

78-86 Brigstock Road

Thornton Heath

Croydon

Surrey CR77JA

#### **AUDITORS' REPORT**

### to the members of Reliance Security Shredding Limited

We have audited the accounts on pages 4 to 10 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention basis 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 the accounts. 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 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 2 May 1997 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Binder Hambyn
Chartered Accountants

Registered Auditors

London

14 November 1997.

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 2 May 1997

|  | Notes | 1997      | 1996      |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|
|  |       | £         | £         |
| Turnover   | 2     | 597,315   | 756,223   |
| Cost of sales  |       | (352,978) | (345,133) |
| Gross profit   |       | 244,337   | 411,090   |
| Administrative expenses  |       | (228,241) | (259,698) |
| Operating profit   |       | 16,096    | 151,392   |
| Interest payable   |       | (1,022)   | (2,376)   |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation                        | 3     | 15,074    | 149,016   |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities                                 | 5     | (2,622)   | (123,497) |
| Profit on ordinary activities after taxation transferred to reserves | 11    | 12,452    | 25,519    |

Turnover and operating profit are derived from continuing activities. There were no recognised gains or losses other than those shown in the profit and loss account.

# BALANCE SHEET as at 2 May 1997

|   | Notes    | 1997              | 1996               |
|---|----------|-------------------|--------------------|
|   | -        | £                 | £                  |
| Fixed Assets                                    |          |                   |                    |
| Tangible assets                                 | 6        | 102,119           | 136,784            |
| Current Assets                                  |          |                   |                    |
| Debtors Cash at bank and in hand                | 7        | 166,403<br>51,107 | 122,893<br>120,008 |
|   |          | 217,510           | 242,901            |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year  | 8        | (206,282)         | (274,052)          |
| Net current assets/(liabilities)                |          | 11,228            | (31,151)           |
| Total assets less current liabilities           |          | 113,347           | 105,633            |
| Provisions For Liabilities<br>And Charges       | 9        | (12,224)          | (16,962)           |
| Net assets                                      |          | 101,123           | 88,671             |
| Capital and Reserves                            |          |                   |                    |
| Called up share capital Profit and loss account | 10<br>11 | 6,000<br>95,123   | 6,000<br>82,671    |
| Equity shareholders' funds                      | 12       | 101,123           | 88,671             |

The accounts on pages 4 to 10 were approved by the Board on 14 November 1997.

IR Fraser Director

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the principal accounting policies all of which have been applied consistently throughout the year are set out below:

#### Basis of preparation of the accounts

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost convention. The financial year comprises the 52 or 53 weeks to the Friday following the accounting reference date, 30 April.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Assets are stated at the lower of cost or valuation, net of depreciation applied.

Depreciation on other tangible fixed assets is calculated to write off each item over its expected useful life by equal annual instalments. The expected useful lives are:

Leasehold land and buildings - Life of lease
Specialist Shredding Equipment - 10 years
Furniture and fittings - 5 to 10 years
Equipment - 3 to 5 years
Motor vehicles - 3 years

#### **Deferred taxation**

Deferred taxation is provided using the liability method in respect of timing differences except to the extent that a liability is not expected to crystallise in the foreseeable future.

#### **Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution plan for staff, the costs of which are recognised on the basis of contributions payable.

#### Leasing

Assets held under finance lease and lease purchase agreements are included in fixed assets and obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of finance charges. Finance charges are written off to the profit and loss account over the period of the lease so as to produce a constant rate of charge on the balance of capital repayments outstanding. All other leases are treated as operating leases, with rentals being charged evenly over the term of the lease.

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### Cash flow statement

A cash flow statement has not been prepared as the company has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS 1(revised), available to wholly owned subsidiaries of a company whose consolidated accounts include a consolidated cash flow statement.

#### **Turnover**

Turnover comprises the total amount receivable net of VAT for services supplied and for sales of waste paper.

#### 2 TURNOVER

Turnover arises from the company's principle activity and is derived solely from within the UK.

| 3 PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION is stated after charging: | 1997<br>£        | 1996<br>£        |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Depreciation Rent on leased properties                                    | 34,665<br>42,500 | 41,938<br>42,500 |
| Auditors' remuneration  Loss on sale of fixed assets                      | 2,000            | 2,000<br>654     |

#### 4 DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

#### **Directors**

The Chairman received no remuneration in the year under review (1996: £Nil), the remaining director received remuneration excluding pension contributions of £47,633 (1996: £Nil)

| Employees  | Number  | Number  |
|--|---------|---------|
| The average number of persons employed by the company during |         |         |
| the year was:  |         |         |
| Security staff   | 13      | 13      |
| Office staff and management                                  | 5       | 5       |
|  | 18      | 18      |
|  | £       | £       |
| Their total remuneration was:                                |         |         |
| Wages and salaries   | 247,794 | 240,566 |
| Social security cost   | 23,369  | 23,349  |
| Pension costs  | 8,281   | 10,059  |
|  | 279,444 | 273,974 |

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

| TAXATION  |                                |  | 1997  | 1996               |
|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--------------------|
|   |                                |  | £   | £                  |
| UK Corporation tax at 25% (1996: 25%)                                       |                                |  | 7,360                                       | 131,004            |
| Amount receivable for group relief Transfer from deferred taxation (Note 9) |                                |  | -<br>(4,738)                                | (3,638)<br>(3,869) |
|   |                                |  | 2,622                                       | 123,497            |
| TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS   | Plant<br>and<br>machinery<br>£ | Short<br>leasehold<br>land and<br>buildings<br>£ | Equipment, furniture, fixtures and fittings | Total<br>£         |
| <b>Cost</b> At 3 May 1996 and 2 May 1997                                    | 234,934                        | 60,363   | 92,278                                      | 387,575            |
| Depreciation 3 May 1996 Charge for the year                                 | 130,862<br>19,453              | 48,182<br>7,572                                  | 71,747<br>7,640                             | 250,791<br>34,665  |
| 2 May 1997  | 150,315                        | 55,754   | 79,387                                      | 285,456            |
| Net book value<br>2 May 1997  | 84,619                         | 4,609  | 12,891                                      | 102,119            |
| 3 May 1996  | 104,072                        | 12,181   | 20,531                                      | 136,784            |
| There was no capital expenditure contracted for be                          | ut not provided                | at 2 May 1997                                    | 7, (1996: £Nil)                             | ).                 |
| DEBTORS   |                                |  | 1997<br>£                                   | 1996<br>£          |
| Trade debtors Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings                | 3                              |  | 82,395<br>61,270                            | 102,478            |
| Prepayments and accrued income  |                                |  | 22,738                                      | 20,415             |
|   | _                              | 1  | 66,403                                      | 122,893            |

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

| 8  | CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year  | 1997    | 1996    |
|----|---|---------|---------|
| Ü  |   | £       | £       |
|    | Trade creditors                                 | 35,103  | 17,395  |
|    | Amounts owed to fellow subsidiary undertakings  | 129,059 | 186,815 |
|    | Other creditors                                 | 10,612  | 14,721  |
|    | Corporation tax payable                         | 7,396   | 10,684  |
|    | Other taxes and social security                 | 17,518  | 23,858  |
|    | Accruals and deferred income                    | 6,594   | 20,579  |
|    |   | 206,282 | 274,052 |
| 9  | PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES          | 1997    | 1996    |
|    |   | £       | £       |
|    | Deferred taxation                               |         |         |
|    | Potential and fully provided                    |         |         |
|    | Accelerated capital allowances                  | 12,224  | 16,962  |
|    | At 3 May 1996                                   | 16,962  | 20,831  |
|    | Transferred to profit and loss account (Note 5) | (4,738) | (3,869) |
|    | At 2 May 1997                                   | 12,224  | 16,962  |
| 10 | CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL                         |         |         |
|    | Authorised, allotted and fully paid             | 1997    | 1996    |
|    | Authorised, anotted and rung pard               | £       | £       |
|    | 6,000 ordinary shares of £1 each                | 6,000   | 6,000   |
| 11 | RESERVES  |         |         |
|    | Profit and loss account                         |         | £       |
|    | At 3 May 1996                                   |         | 82,671  |
|    | Profit for the year                             |         | 12,452  |
|    | At 2 May 1997                                   |         | 95,123  |

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

|    | Equity shareholders' funds at 2 May 1997                     | 101,123           | 88,671           |
|----|--|-------------------|------------------|
|    | Profit for the year Equity shareholders' funds at 3 May 1996 | 12,452<br>88,671  | 25,519<br>63,152 |
| 12 | RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS    | 1 <b>997</b><br>£ | 1996<br>£        |

#### 13 OPERATING LEASES

Payments committed to be made in the year ending 2 May 1997 in respect of operating leases are as follows:

| Leases expiring            | Leasehold<br>properties<br>£ | Motor<br>vehicles<br>£ |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Within one year            | -                            | 16,668                 |
| Between two and five years | -                            | 18,672                 |
| After more than five years | 42,500                       | -                      |
|                            | 42,500                       | 35,340                 |

#### 14 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Interlocking guarantees have been given to the group's bankers by the company and its fellow subsidiaries. At 2 May 1997 advances of £852,000 were subject to these guarantees (1996: £1,573,000).

#### 15 ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

Reliance Security Group plc, registered in England and Wales, is the ultimate parent company. Copies of the parent company's accounts are available from the registered office.

#### 16 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company, as a wholly owned subsidiary, has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS 8 - Related Party Transactions. Full disclosure of these transactions are included in the group accounts.