

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC
Form 10-K405
April 01, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2001

COMMISSION FILE
NO. 1-13653

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

INCORPORATED UNDER
THE LAWS OF OHIO

IRS EMPLOYER I.D.
NO. 31-1544320

ONE EAST FOURTH STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202
(513) 579-2121

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(B) OF THE ACT:

| Title of Each Class ----- | Name of Each Exchange on which Registered ----- |
|--|---|
| AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.: | |
| Common Stock | New York Stock Exchange |
| 7-1/8% Senior Debentures due December 15, 2007 | New York Stock Exchange |
| 7-1/8% Senior Debentures due April 15, 2009 | New York Stock Exchange |

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| AMERICAN FINANCIAL CAPITAL TRUST I (GUARANTEED BY REGISTRANT): | |
| 9-1/8% Trust Originated Preferred Securities | New York Stock Exchange |

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(G) OF THE ACT: None

OTHER SECURITIES FOR WHICH REPORTS ARE SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(D)
OF THE ACT: None

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months, and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes X No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and need not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [X]

As of March 1, 2002, there were 68,559,656 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock outstanding, excluding 18,666,614 shares owned by subsidiaries. The aggregate market value of the Common Stock held by nonaffiliates at that date was approximately \$1.1 billion (based upon nonaffiliate holdings of 39,993,711 shares and a market price of \$26.32 per share.)

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:

Proxy Statement for the 2002 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (portions of which are incorporated by reference into Part III hereof).

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

INDEX TO ANNUAL REPORT

ON FORM 10-K

| | PAGE |
|---|------|
| | ---- |
| PART I | |
| Item 1 - Business: | |
| Introduction | 1 |
| Property and Casualty Insurance Operations | 1 |
| Annuity and Life Operations | 13 |
| Other Companies | 16 |
| Investment Portfolio | 17 |
| Foreign Operations | 18 |
| Regulation | 18 |
| Item 2 - Properties | 19 |
| Item 3 - Legal Proceedings | 20 |
| Item 4 - Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders | (a) |
| | |
| PART II | |
| Item 5 - Market for Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters | 22 |
| Item 6 - Selected Financial Data | 23 |
| Item 7 - Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations | 24 |
| Item 7A - Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk | 36 |
| Item 8 - Financial Statements and Supplementary Data | 36 |
| Item 9 - Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure | (a) |
| | |
| PART III | |
| Item 10 - Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant | 36 |
| Item 11 - Executive Compensation | 36 |
| Item 12 - Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management | 36 |
| Item 13 - Certain Relationships and Related Transactions | 36 |
| | |
| PART IV | |
| Item 14 - Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules and Reports on Form 8-K | S-1 |

(a) The response to this Item is "none".

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

THIS FORM 10-K, CHIEFLY IN ITEMS 1, 3, 5, 7 AND 8, CONTAINS CERTAIN FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO NUMEROUS ASSUMPTIONS, RISKS OR UNCERTAINTIES. THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995 PROVIDES A SAFE HARBOR FOR FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS. SOME OF THE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THE USE OF FORWARD-LOOKING WORDS SUCH AS "BELIEVES", "EXPECTS", "MAY", "WILL", "SHOULD", "SEEKS", "INTENDS", "PLANS", "ESTIMATES", "ANTICIPATES" OR THE NEGATIVE VERSION OF THOSE WORDS OR OTHER COMPARABLE TERMINOLOGY. EXAMPLES OF SUCH FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS INCLUDE STATEMENTS RELATING TO: EXPECTATIONS CONCERNING MARKET AND OTHER CONDITIONS AND THEIR EFFECT ON FUTURE PREMIUMS, REVENUES, EARNINGS AND INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES; EXPECTED LOSSES AND THE ADEQUACY OF RESERVES FOR ASBESTOS, ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND MASS TORT CLAIMS; RATE INCREASES, IMPROVED LOSS EXPERIENCE AND EXPECTED EXPENSE SAVINGS RESULTING FROM RECENT INITIATIVES.

ACTUAL RESULTS COULD DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THOSE CONTAINED IN OR IMPLIED BY SUCH FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS FOR A VARIETY OF FACTORS INCLUDING:

- CHANGES IN ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, INCLUDING INTEREST RATES, PERFORMANCE OF SECURITIES MARKETS, AND THE AVAILABILITY OF CAPITAL;
- REGULATORY ACTIONS;
- CHANGES IN LEGAL ENVIRONMENT;
- TAX LAW CHANGES;
- LEVELS OF CATASTROPHES AND OTHER MAJOR LOSSES;
- THE ULTIMATE AMOUNT OF LIABILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CERTAIN ASBESTOS AND ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED INSURANCE CLAIMS;
- ADEQUACY OF LOSS RESERVES;
- AVAILABILITY OF REINSURANCE AND ABILITY OF REINSURERS TO PAY THEIR OBLIGATIONS; AND
- COMPETITIVE PRESSURES, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO OBTAIN RATE INCREASES.

THE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS HEREIN ARE MADE ONLY AS OF THE DATE OF THIS REPORT. THE COMPANY ASSUMES NO OBLIGATION TO PUBLICLY UPDATE ANY FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

PART I

ITEM 1

BUSINESS

PLEASE REFER TO "FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS" FOLLOWING THE INDEX IN FRONT OF THIS FORM 10-K.

INTRODUCTION

American Financial Group, Inc. ("AFG") is a holding company which, through its subsidiaries, is engaged primarily in specialty and private passenger automobile insurance businesses and in the sale of tax-deferred annuities and certain life and supplemental health insurance products. AFG's property and casualty operations originated in the 1800's and make up one of the twenty-five largest property and casualty groups in the United States based on statutory net premiums written. AFG was incorporated as an Ohio corporation in July 1997. Its address is One East Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202; its phone number is (513) 579-2121.

AFG's predecessor had been formed in 1994 for the purpose of acquiring American Financial Corporation ("AFC") and American Premier Underwriters, Inc. ("American Premier" or "APU") in merger transactions completed in April 1995.

At December 31, 2001, Carl H. Lindner, members of his immediate family and trusts for their benefit (collectively the "Lindner Family") beneficially owned approximately 44% of AFG's outstanding voting common stock.

Over the years, AFG and its predecessors have owned, operated, and invested in businesses in a variety of industries and geographic areas, culminating in today's group of insurance companies. Generally, AFG's interests have been in the following areas: insurance, savings and loan, leasing, banking, real estate, communications/entertainment and food distribution. A small number of opportunistic investments have been made in troubled and other undervalued assets.

Generally, companies have been included in AFG's consolidated financial statements when the ownership of voting securities has exceeded 50%; for investments below that level but above 20%, AFG has accounted for the investments as investees. (See Note E to AFG's financial statements.)

PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE OPERATIONS

AFG's property and casualty group is engaged primarily in specialty and private passenger automobile insurance businesses which are managed as two major business groups: Specialty and Personal. Each group reports to an individual senior executive and is comprised of multiple business units which operate autonomously but with certain strong central controls and full accountability. Decentralized control allows each unit the autonomy necessary to respond to local and specialty market conditions while capitalizing on the efficiencies of centralized investment and administrative support functions. AFG's property and casualty insurance operations employ approximately 7,300 persons.

In March 2001, AFG's Great American Insurance Group sold its Japanese property and casualty division to Mitsui Marine & Fire Insurance Company of America for \$22 million in cash. At the same time, a reinsurance agreement under which Great American ceded a portion of its pool of insurance to Mitsui was

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

terminated. The Japanese division generated net written premiums of approximately \$60 million per year to Great American while Great American ceded approximately \$45 million per year to Mitsui.

In connection with the sale of the Japanese division, and as was done with a similar sale of Great American's Commercial lines division to Ohio Casualty Corporation in 1998, Great American continues to write certain business for, and fully reinsures it to, the respective purchasers of those divisions. Such business generally does not appear in the tables and discussion herein.

1

In September 2000, AFG sold Stonewall Insurance Company for approximately \$31 million. Stonewall was a non-operating property and casualty subsidiary engaged primarily in the run-off of approximately \$170 million in asbestos and environmental liabilities associated with policies written through 1991.

AFG operates in a highly competitive industry that is affected by many factors which can cause significant fluctuations in its results of operations. The industry has historically been subject to pricing cycles characterized by periods of intense competition and lower premium rates (a "downcycle") followed by periods of reduced competition, reduced underwriting capacity due to lower policyholders' surplus and higher premium rates (an "upcycle"). After being in an extended downcycle for over a decade, the property and casualty insurance industry is experiencing significant market firming and price increases in certain specialty markets and in the private passenger automobile market.

The primary objective of AFG's property and casualty insurance operations is to achieve underwriting profitability. Underwriting profitability is measured by the combined ratio which is a sum of the ratios of underwriting losses, loss adjustment expenses ("LAE"), underwriting expenses and policyholder dividends to premiums. When the combined ratio is under 100%, underwriting results are generally considered profitable; when the ratio is over 100%, underwriting results are generally considered unprofitable. The combined ratio does not reflect investment income, other income or federal income taxes.

While many costs included in underwriting are readily determinable (commissions, administrative expenses, many of the losses on claims reported), the process of determining overall underwriting results is also highly dependent upon the use of estimates in the case of losses incurred or expected but not yet reported or developed. Actuarial procedures and projections are used to obtain "best estimates" which are then included in the overall results. While the process is imprecise and develops amounts which are subject to change over time, AFG's projections, excluding asbestos and environmental ("A&E") claims, have been close to the developed ultimate results, as can be seen in the "loss triangles" on page 11.

AFG's property and casualty group, like many others in the industry, has A&E claims arising in most cases from general liability policies written in years before 1987. The establishment of reserves for such A&E claims presents unique and difficult challenges and is subject to uncertainties significantly greater than those presented by other types of claims. For a discussion of uncertainties, see MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - "SPECIAL A&E CHARGE."

Management's focus on underwriting performance has resulted in a statutory combined ratio averaging 104.4% for the period 1997 to 2001 (excluding special charges in 1998 and 2001 to increase reserves for asbestos and other environmental matters), as compared to 108.7% for the property and casualty industry over the same period (Source: "Best's Review/Preview - Property/Casualty" - January 2002 Edition). AFG believes that its product line diversification and underwriting discipline have contributed to the Company's

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

ability to consistently outperform the industry's underwriting results. Management's philosophy is to refrain from writing business that is not expected to produce an underwriting profit even if it is necessary to limit premium growth to do so.

Generally, while financial data is reported on a statutory basis for insurance regulatory purposes, it is reported in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") for shareholder and other investment purposes. In general, statutory accounting results in lower capital and surplus and lower net earnings than result from application of GAAP. Major differences include charging policy acquisition costs to expense as incurred rather than spreading the costs over the periods covered by the policies; reporting investment-grade bonds and redeemable preferred stocks at amortized cost; netting of reinsurance recoverables and prepaid reinsurance premiums against the corresponding liability; requiring additional loss reserves; and charging to surplus certain assets, such as furniture and fixtures and agents' balances over 90 days old.

2

Unless indicated otherwise, the financial information presented for the property and casualty insurance operations herein is presented based on GAAP.

The following table shows (in millions) certain information of AFG's property and casualty insurance operations.

| | 2001 ---- | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| STATUTORY BASIS | | | |
| Premiums Earned | \$ 2,566 | \$2,484 | \$2,197 |
| Admitted Assets | 6,736 | 6,472 | 6,332 |
| Unearned Premiums | 1,158 | 1,154 | 1,005 |
| Loss and LAE Reserves (net) | 3,539 | 3,445 | 3,525 |
| Capital and Surplus | 1,669 | 1,763 | 1,664 |
| GAAP BASIS | | | |
| Premiums Earned | \$ 2,594 | \$2,495 | \$2,211 |
| Total Assets | 10,007 | 9,458 | 9,487 |
| Unearned Premiums | 1,641 | 1,414 | 1,326 |
| Loss and LAE Reserves (gross) (*) | 4,778 | 4,516 | 4,795 |
| Shareholder's Equity | 3,288 | 3,360 | 3,158 |

(*) GAAP loss and LAE reserves net of reinsurance recoverable were \$3.3 billion at December 31, 2001 and \$3.2 billion at December 31, 2000 and 1999.

The following table shows the segment, independent ratings, and size (in millions) of AFG's major property and casualty insurance subsidiaries. AFG continues to focus on growth opportunities in what it believes to be more profitable specialty and private passenger auto businesses which represented the bulk of 2001 net written premiums.

| Company | (Ratings - Am Best/S&P) | | Net Written Premiums | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------|-----------|
| | | | Personal | Specialty |
| Great American Pool(a) | A | A | \$ 287 | \$ 969(b) |
| Republic Indemnity | A- | A | - | 236 |
| Mid-Continent | A | A | - | 183 |
| National Interstate | A- | - | - | 73 |
| American Empire Surplus Lines | A | A | - | 75 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|---|---------|---------|
| Atlanta Casualty | A- | A | 224 | - |
| Infinity | A | A | 242 | - |
| Windsor | A | A | 182 | - |
| Leader | A- | A | 93 | - |
| Other | | | 12 | 6 |
| | | | ----- | ----- |
| | | | \$1,040 | \$1,542 |
| | | | ===== | ===== |

- (a) The Great American Pool represents approximately 15 subsidiaries, including Great American Insurance.
- (b) Before a reduction of \$29.7 million for unearned premium transfer related to the sale of the Japanese division.

3

The following table shows the performance of AFG's property and casualty insurance operations (dollars in millions):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Net written premiums | \$2,582 (a) | \$2,638 | \$2,263 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Net earned premiums | \$2,594 | \$2,495 | \$2,211 |
| Loss and LAE | 1,980 | 1,962 | 1,589 |
| Special A&E charge | 100 | - | - |
| Underwriting expenses | 737 | 732 | 661 |
| Policyholder dividends | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Underwriting loss | (\$ 228) | (\$ 202) | (\$ 43) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| GAAP ratios: | | | |
| Loss and LAE ratio | 80.2% | 78.6% | 71.9% |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 28.4 | 29.3 | 29.9 |
| Policyholder dividend ratio | .2 | .1 | .2 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Combined ratio (b) | 108.8% | 108.0% | 102.0% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Statutory ratios: | | | |
| Loss and LAE ratio | 81.1% | 80.1% | 73.4% |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 28.3 | 28.4 | 30.0 |
| Policyholder dividend ratio | .3 | .3 | .3 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Combined ratio (b) | 109.7% | 108.8% | 103.7% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Industry statutory combined ratio (c) | 117.0% | 110.1% | 107.8% |

- (a) Before a reduction of \$29.7 million for unearned premium transfer related to the sale of the Japanese division.
- (b) The 2001 combined ratios include 3.9 percentage points for the third quarter strengthening of insurance reserves relating to A&E matters and 1 percentage point attributable to the attack on the World Trade Center. The 2000 combined ratios include 1.4 percentage points for reserve strengthening in AFG's California workers' compensation business.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

- (c) Ratios are derived from "Best's Review/Preview - Property/Casualty" (January 2002 Edition).

As with other property and casualty insurers, AFG's operating results can be adversely affected by unpredictable catastrophe losses. Certain natural disasters (hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, forest fires, etc.) and other incidents of major loss (explosions, civil disorder, fires, etc.) are classified as catastrophes by industry associations. Losses from these incidents are usually tracked separately from other business of insurers because of their sizable effects on overall operations. AFG generally seeks to reduce its exposure to such events through individual risk selection and the purchase of reinsurance. The major catastrophe in 2001 was the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Total net losses to AFG's insurance operations from catastrophes were \$42 million in 2001; \$8 million in 2000 and \$24 million in 1999. These amounts are included in the tables herein.

The casualty industry is examining the ultimate liability for damages in the event of any future terrorist events. Efforts to add terrorist exclusions on policies written since September 11, 2001 have been mixed as a number of states have declined to approve the use of such exclusions or have limited the use and scope of such exclusions to certain types of policies. There are no terrorism exclusions on workers compensation policies. As a result, the industry will continue to face exposure to losses arising from terrorist events even as it attempts to find ways to mitigate this exposure.

Reinsurance that has been placed on behalf of AFG's property and casualty group since September 11, 2001 contains either a complete terrorism exclusion or more limited terrorism coverage than in prior years. Management is reviewing the business it insures with consideration of the potential changed net exposure.

4

SPECIALTY

GENERAL The Specialty group emphasizes the writing of specialized insurance coverage where AFG personnel are experts in particular lines of business or customer groups. The following are examples of such specialty businesses:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| INLAND AND OCEAN MARINE | Provides coverage primarily for marine cargo, boat dealers, marina operators/dealers, excursion vessels, builder's risk, contractor's equipment, excess property and motor truck cargo. |
| WORKERS' COMPENSATION | Writes coverage for prescribed benefits payable to employees (principally in California) who are injured on the job. |
| AGRICULTURAL-RELATED | Provides federally reinsured multi-peril crop (allied lines) insurance covering most perils as well as crop hail, equine mortality and other coverages for full-time operating farms/ranches and agribusiness |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| EXECUTIVE AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY | operations on a nationwide basis. |
| FIDELITY AND SURETY BONDS | Markets liability coverage for attorneys and for directors and officers of businesses and not-for-profit organizations. |
| COLLATERAL PROTECTION | Provides surety coverage for various types of contractors and public and private corporations and fidelity and crime coverage for government, mercantile and financial institutions. |
| UMBRELLA AND EXCESS | Provides coverage for insurance risk management programs for lending and leasing institutions. |
| UMBRELLA AND EXCESS | Provides primarily large liability coverage in excess of primary layers. |

Specialization is the key element to the underwriting success of these business units. Each unit has independent management with significant operating autonomy to oversee the important operational functions of its business such as underwriting, pricing, marketing, policy processing and claims service. These specialty businesses are opportunistic and their premium volume will vary based on prevailing market conditions. AFG continually evaluates expansion in existing markets and opportunities in new specialty markets that meet its profitability objectives.

The U.S. geographic distribution of the Specialty group's statutory direct written premiums in 2001 compared to 1997 is shown below.

| | 2001 | 1997 | | 2001 | 1997 |
|------------|-------|-------|----------------|--------|--------|
| | ---- | ---- | | ---- | ---- |
| California | 24.4% | 23.3% | Michigan | 2.5% | 2.4% |
| Texas | 8.8 | 6.6 | Georgia | 2.2 | * |
| New York | 5.9 | 7.1 | Pennsylvania | 2.1 | 2.6 |
| Florida | 5.3 | 4.2 | Massachusetts | * | 4.7 |
| Illinois | 3.7 | 3.6 | North Carolina | * | 3.2 |
| Oklahoma | 3.6 | 2.8 | Connecticut | * | 2.4 |
| New Jersey | 2.6 | 4.1 | Other | 36.4 | 30.6 |
| Ohio | 2.5 | 2.4 | | ----- | ----- |
| | | | | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| | | | | ===== | ===== |

 (*) less than 2%

The following table sets forth a distribution of statutory net written premiums for AFG's Specialty group by NAIC annual statement line for 2001

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

compared to 1997.

| | 2001 | 1997 |
|------------------------|--------|--------|
| | ---- | ---- |
| Other liability | 22.5% | 18.1% |
| Workers' compensation | 18.1 | 27.9 |
| Inland marine | 11.2 | 7.3 |
| Auto liability | 8.2 | 8.7 |
| Collateral protection | 7.0 | * |
| Commercial multi-peril | 6.9 | 13.5 |
| Allied lines | 6.2 | 4.5 |
| Auto physical damage | 5.9 | 3.6 |
| Fidelity and surety | 5.0 | 3.1 |
| Ocean marine | 3.4 | 2.8 |
| Aircraft | * | 5.4 |
| Other | 5.6 | 5.1 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| | ===== | ===== |

(*) less than 2%

The following table shows the performance of AFG's Specialty group insurance operations (dollars in millions):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Net written premiums | \$1,542 (a) | \$1,324 | \$1,111 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Net earned premiums | \$1,409 | \$1,223 | \$1,048 |
| Loss and LAE | 997 | 902 | 702 |
| Underwriting expenses | 430 | 413 | 370 |
| Policyholder dividends | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Underwriting profit (loss) | (\$ 23) | (\$ 95) | (\$ 28) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| GAAP ratios: | | | |
| Loss and LAE ratio | 70.7% | 73.8% | 67.0% |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 30.6 | 33.8 | 35.3 |
| Policyholder dividend ratio | .4 | .3 | .4 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Combined ratio (b) | 101.7% | 107.9% | 102.7% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Statutory ratios: | | | |
| Loss and LAE ratio | 73.6% | 76.5% | 70.2% |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 30.5 | 31.4 | 34.8 |
| Policyholder dividend ratio | .5 | .5 | .5 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Combined ratio (b) | 104.6% | 108.4% | 105.5% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Industry statutory combined ratio (c) | 118.0% | 108.2% | 109.8% |

- (a) Before a reduction of \$29.7 million for unearned premium transfer related to the sale of the Japanese division.
- (b) The 2001 combined ratios include 1.8 percentage points attributable to the attack on the World Trade Center. The 2000 combined ratios include 2.9 percentage points for reserve strengthening in AFG's California workers' compensation business.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

(c) Represents the commercial industry statutory combined ratio derived from "Best's Review/Preview - Property/Casualty" (January 2002 Edition).

MARKETING The Specialty group operations direct their sales efforts primarily through independent property and casualty insurance agents and brokers, although portions are written through employee agents. These businesses write insurance through several thousand agents and brokers and have approximately 400,000 policies in force.

6

COMPETITION These businesses compete with other individual insurers, state funds and insurance groups of varying sizes, some of which are mutual insurance companies possessing competitive advantages in that all their profits inure to their policyholders. They also compete with self-insurance plans, captive programs and risk retention groups. Because of the specialty nature of these coverages, competition is based primarily on service to policyholders and agents, specific characteristics of products offered and reputation for claims handling. Price, commissions and profit sharing terms are also important factors. Management believes that sophisticated data analysis for refinement of risk profiles, extensive specialized knowledge and loss prevention service have helped AFG's Specialty group compete successfully.

PERSONAL

GENERAL The Personal group writes primarily private passenger automobile liability and physical damage insurance, and to a lesser extent, homeowners' insurance.

Historically, the majority of AFG's auto premiums has been from sales in the nonstandard market covering drivers unable to obtain insurance through standard market carriers due to factors such as age, record of prior accidents, driving violations, particular occupation or type of vehicle. Though the Personal group will continue to write coverage in this market, it has expanded its approach to make personal automobile coverage available to drivers across a full spectrum from preferred to nonstandard risks. AFG's approach to its auto business is to develop tailored rates for its personal automobile customers based on a variety of factors, including the driving record of the insureds, the number of and type of vehicles covered, credit history, and other factors.

AFG's approach to homeowners business is to limit exposure in locations which have significant catastrophic potential (such as windstorms, earthquakes and hurricanes). Since 1997, AFG has ceded the majority of its homeowners' business through reinsurance agreements; in 2001, it ceded 80% of this business.

The Personal group holds licenses to write policies in all states and the District of Columbia. The U.S. geographic distribution of the Personal group's statutory direct written premiums in 2001 compared to 1997, was as follows:

| | 2001 | 1997 | | 2001 | 1997 |
|-------------|-------|-------|----------------|------|------|
| | ---- | ---- | | ---- | ---- |
| California | 21.1% | 13.2% | North Carolina | *% | 2.8% |
| New York | 10.5 | 4.3 | Indiana | * | 2.8 |
| Florida | 10.0 | 9.7 | Tennessee | * | 2.4 |
| Connecticut | 8.9 | 8.9 | Missouri | * | 2.2 |
| Georgia | 6.8 | 8.7 | Oklahoma | * | 2.2 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-------------|--------|--------|
| Pennsylvania | 6.7 | 8.1 | Mississippi | * | 2.0 |
| Texas | 5.1 | 5.9 | Arizona | * | 2.0 |
| New Jersey | 3.0 | 2.8 | Ohio | * | 2.0 |
| Kentucky | 2.7 | 2.0 | Other | 22.6 | 18.0 |
| South Carolina | 2.6 | * | | ----- | ----- |
| | | | | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| | | | | ===== | ===== |

 (*) less than 2%

The Personal group's underwriting strategy includes (i) using highly defined risk profiles to segment the consumer market for proper pricing and (ii) a focus on controlling underwriting and claims costs. Significant rate increases implemented during 2001 contributed to improved operating results in the latter part of the year. Management expects these improvements to continue in 2002. Since April 1, 2001, AFG has been ceding 90% of the automobile physical damage business written by certain subsidiaries under reinsurance agreements expiring in December 2002.

7

The following table shows the performance of AFG's Personal group insurance operations (dollars in millions):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Net written premiums | \$1,040 | \$1,311 | \$1,154 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Net earned premiums | \$1,183 | \$1,270 | \$1,163 |
| Loss and LAE | 970 | 1,061 | 881 |
| Underwriting expenses | 306 | 317 | 290 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Underwriting profit (loss) | (\$ 93) | (\$ 108) | (\$ 8) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| GAAP ratios: | | | |
| Loss and LAE ratio | 82.1% | 83.6% | 75.7% |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 25.8 | 25.0 | 25.0 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Combined ratio | 107.9% | 108.6% | 100.7% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Statutory ratios: | | | |
| Loss and LAE ratio | 82.3% | 83.9% | 75.6% |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 25.0 | 25.2 | 25.4 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Combined ratio | 107.3% | 109.1% | 101.0% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Industry statutory combined ratio (a) | 112.5% | 110.3% | 105.4% |

(a) Represents the personal lines industry statutory combined ratio derived from "Best's Review/Preview - Property/Casualty" (January

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

2002 Edition).

MARKETING The Personal group operations direct their sales efforts primarily through several thousand independent agents. In addition, AFG sells its products directly to customers, including over the Internet. AFG currently has the ability to sell over the Internet in 13 states which together represent the majority of the U.S. auto market.

The Personal group had approximately 940,000 auto policies in force at December 31, 2001, nearly 75% of which had policy limits of \$50,000 or less per occurrence.

COMPETITION A large number of national, regional and local insurers write private passenger automobile and homeowners' insurance coverage. Insurers in this market generally compete on the basis of price (including differentiation on liability limits, variety of coverages offered and deductibles), geographic presence and ease of enrollment and, to a lesser extent, reputation for claims handling, financial stability and customer service. Management believes that sophisticated data analysis for refinement of risk profiles has helped the Personal group to compete successfully. The Personal group attempts to provide selected pricing for a wider spectrum of risks and with a greater variety of payment options, deductibles and limits of liability than are offered by many of its competitors.

REINSURANCE

Consistent with standard practice of most insurance companies, AFG reinsures a portion of its business with other insurance companies and assumes a relatively small amount of business from other insurers. Ceding reinsurance permits diversification of risks and limits the maximum loss arising from large or unusually hazardous risks or catastrophic events. The availability and cost of reinsurance are subject to prevailing market conditions which may affect the volume and profitability of business that is written. AFG is subject to credit risk with respect to its reinsurers, as the ceding of risk to reinsurers generally does not relieve AFG of its liability to its insureds until claims are fully settled.

8

Reinsurance is provided on one of two bases, facultative or treaty. Facultative reinsurance is generally provided on a risk by risk basis. Individual risks are ceded and assumed based on an offer and acceptance of risk by each party to the transaction. Treaty reinsurance provides for risks meeting prescribed criteria to be automatically ceded and assumed according to contract provisions. The following table presents (by type of coverage) the amount of each loss above the specified retention maximum generally covered by treaty reinsurance programs (in millions):

| Coverage | Retention Maximum | Reinsurance Coverage (a) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ----- | ----- | ----- |
| California Workers' Compensation | \$.5 | (b) |
| Other Workers' Compensation | 1.0 | \$49.0 |
| Commercial Umbrella | 1.0 | 49.0 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|
| Other Casualty | 5.0 | 25.0 |
| Property - General | 5.0 (c) | 25.0 (d) |
| Property - Catastrophe | 10.0 | 65.0 |

- (a) Reinsurance covers substantial portions of losses in excess of retention.
- (b) All amounts in excess of \$500,000.
- (c) Reduced to \$2 million in 2002.
- (d) Since 1997, AFG has ceded at least 80% of its homeowners insurance coverage through reinsurance agreements. Since April 1, 2001, AFG has ceded 90% of the automobile physical damage business written by certain subsidiaries through December 2002.

AFG also purchases facultative reinsurance providing coverage on a risk by risk basis, both pro rata and excess of loss, depending on the risk and available reinsurance markets.

Included in the balance sheet caption "recoverables from reinsurers and prepaid reinsurance premiums" were approximately \$156 million on paid losses and LAE and \$1.5 billion on unpaid losses and LAE at December 31, 2001. The collectibility of a reinsurance balance is based upon the financial condition of a reinsurer as well as individual claim considerations. At December 31, 2001, AFG's insurance subsidiaries had allowances of approximately \$31 million for doubtful collection of reinsurance recoverables.

In connection with the sales of the Japanese division to Mitsui in 2001 and the Commercial lines division to Ohio Casualty in 1998, Great American agreed to issue and renew policies related to the businesses transferred until each purchaser received the required approvals and licensing to begin writing business on their own behalf. Under these agreements, which last for a few years, Great American cedes 100% of these premiums to the respective purchaser. In 2001, 2000 and 1999, premiums of \$160 million, \$209 million and \$337 million, respectively, were ceded under these agreements.

AFG regularly monitors the financial strength of its reinsurers. This process periodically results in the transfer of risks to more financially secure reinsurers. Substantially all reinsurance is ceded to reinsurers having more than \$100 million in capital and A.M. Best ratings of "A-" or better. Excluding business ceded to Mitsui and Ohio Casualty (discussed above), the following companies assumed approximately half of AFG's 2001 ceded reinsurance: Inter Ocean Reinsurance (Ireland), Ltd., General Reinsurance Corporation, Swiss Reinsurance America Corporation, P.D.S. Reinsurance Company, Ltd., American Re-Insurance Company, X.L. Reinsurance America, Inc., Transatlantic Reinsurance Company, Zurich Reinsurance North America, Inc., Berkley Insurance Company, Employers Reinsurance Corporation, PMA Capital Insurance Company and Folksamerica Reinsurance Company. Premiums written for reinsurance ceded and assumed are presented in the following table (in millions):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------|-------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Reinsurance ceded | \$1,101 | \$803 | \$898 |
| Reinsurance assumed - including | | | |
| involuntary pools and associations | 94 | 76 | 48 |

LOSS AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSE RESERVES

The consolidated financial statements include the estimated liability for unpaid losses and LAE of AFG's insurance subsidiaries. This liability represents estimates of the ultimate net cost of all unpaid losses and LAE and is determined by using case-basis evaluations and actuarial projections. These estimates are subject to the effects of changes in claim amounts and frequency and are periodically reviewed and adjusted as additional information becomes known. In accordance with industry practices, such adjustments are reflected in current year operations.

AFG recognizes underwriting profit only when realization is reasonably determinable and assured. In certain specialty businesses, where experience is limited or where there is potential for volatile results, AFG holds reasonable "incurred but not reported" reserves and does not recognize underwriting profit until the experience matures.

Generally, reserves for reinsurance and involuntary pools and associations are reflected in AFG's results at the amounts reported by those entities.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

American Premier's subsidiaries for only those periods following its acquisition in 1995. See Note N to the Financial Statements for an analysis of changes in AFG's estimated liability for losses and LAE, net and gross of reinsurance, over the past three years on a GAAP basis.

The following table presents the development of AFG's liability for losses and LAE, net of reinsurance, on a GAAP basis for the last ten years, excluding reserves of American Premier subsidiaries prior to 1995. The top line of the table shows the estimated liability (in millions) for unpaid losses and LAE recorded at the balance sheet date for the indicated years. The second line shows the re-estimated liability as of December 31, 2001. The remainder of the table presents development as percentages of the estimated liability. The development results from additional information and experience in subsequent years. The middle line shows a cumulative deficiency (redundancy) which represents the aggregate percentage increase (decrease) in the liability initially estimated. The lower portion of the table indicates the cumulative amounts paid as of successive periods as a percentage of the original loss reserve liability. For purposes of this table, reserves of businesses sold are considered paid at the date of sale. For example, the percentage of the December 31, 1997 reserve liability paid in 1998 includes approximately 10 percentage points for reserves ceded in connection with the sale of the Commercial lines division.

| | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| LIABILITY FOR UNPAID LOSSES AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES: | | | | | | | | |
| ----- | | | | | | | | |
| As originally estimated | \$2,129 | \$2,123 | \$2,113 | \$2,187 | \$3,393 | \$3,404 | \$3,489 | \$3,300 |
| As re-estimated at December 31, 2001 | 2,592 | 2,527 | 2,440 | 2,521 | 3,622 | 3,638 | 3,677 | 3,200 |
| LIABILITY RE-ESTIMATED: | | | | | | | | |
| ----- | | | | | | | | |
| One year later | 99.3% | 99.9% | 98.1% | 95.9% | 98.7% | 100.9% | 104.5% | 97.0% |
| Two years later | 98.7% | 98.2% | 94.1% | 99.3% | 98.5% | 105.9% | 104.6% | 96.0% |
| Three years later | 98.0% | 95.2% | 97.4% | 99.9% | 103.9% | 105.2% | 102.9% | 97.0% |
| Four years later | 97.3% | 100.3% | 98.9% | 109.4% | 103.1% | 103.6% | 105.4% | |
| Five years later | 103.0% | 102.6% | 109.7% | 109.0% | 102.9% | 106.9% | | |
| Six years later | 105.6% | 113.6% | 108.8% | 108.5% | 106.8% | | | |
| Seven years later | 116.9% | 112.3% | 108.5% | 115.3% | | | | |
| Eight years later | 115.2% | 112.2% | 115.5% | | | | | |
| Nine years later | 115.2% | 119.1% | | | | | | |
| Ten years later | 121.7% | | | | | | | |
| Cumulative deficiency (redundancy): | | | | | | | | |
| Aggregate | 21.7% | 19.1% | 15.5% | 15.3% | 6.8% | 6.9% | 5.4% | (2.3%) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Excluding A&E (*) | (0.3%) | (0.7%) | (3.2%) | (2.8%) | (4.8%) | (2.3%) | (3.6%) | (5.0%) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| CUMULATIVE PAID AS OF: | | | | | | | | |
| ----- | | | | | | | | |
| One year later | 26.4% | 26.7% | 25.2% | 26.8% | 33.1% | 33.8% | 41.7% | 28.0% |
| Two years later | 43.0% | 43.7% | 40.6% | 42.5% | 51.6% | 58.0% | 56.6% | 51.0% |
| Three years later | 55.4% | 54.2% | 50.9% | 54.4% | 67.2% | 66.7% | 70.8% | 62.0% |
| Four years later | 63.3% | 60.8% | 59.1% | 66.3% | 72.0% | 77.3% | 78.6% | |
| Five years later | 67.8% | 67.0% | 68.0% | 69.8% | 80.4% | 82.8% | | |
| Six years later | 72.7% | 74.0% | 70.8% | 80.0% | 84.7% | | | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Seven years later | 78.6% | 76.3% | 80.6% | 84.9% |
| Eight years later | 80.5% | 85.9% | 85.1% | |
| Nine years later | 89.9% | 89.5% | | |
| Ten years later | 93.1% | | | |

(*) Excludes special A&E charges and reallocations in 1994, 1996, 1998 and 2001 for prior years' losses.

The following is a reconciliation of the net liability to the gross liability for unpaid losses and LAE.

| | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| As originally estimated: | | | | | | |
| Net liability shown above | \$2,113 | \$2,187 | \$3,393 | \$3,404 | \$3,489 | \$3,300 |
| Add reinsurance recoverables | 611 | 730 | 704 | 720 | 736 | 1,400 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Gross liability | \$2,724 | \$2,917 | \$4,097 | \$4,124 | \$4,225 | \$4,700 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| As re-estimated at December 31, 2001: | | | | | | |
| Net liability shown above | \$2,440 | \$2,521 | \$3,622 | \$3,638 | \$3,677 | \$3,200 |
| Add reinsurance recoverables | 819 | 762 | 1,015 | 1,043 | 1,099 | 1,700 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Gross liability | \$3,259 | \$3,283 | \$4,637 | \$4,681 | \$4,776 | \$4,900 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Gross cumulative deficiency (redundancy) | 19.5% | 12.6% | 13.2% | 13.5% | 13.0% | 4.0% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |

These tables do not present accident or policy year development data. Furthermore, in evaluating the re-estimated liability and cumulative deficiency (redundancy), it should be noted that each percentage includes the effects of changes in amounts for prior periods. For example, AFG's \$100 million special

11

charge for A&E claims related to losses recorded in 2001, but incurred before 1991, is included in the re-estimated liability and cumulative deficiency (redundancy) percentage for each of the previous years shown. Conditions and trends that have affected development of the liability in the past may not necessarily exist in the future. Accordingly, it may not be appropriate to extrapolate future redundancies or deficiencies based on this table.

The adverse development in the tables is due primarily to A&E exposures for which AFG has been held liable under general liability policies written years ago where such coverage was not intended. Other factors affecting development included higher than projected inflation on medical, hospitalization, material, repair and replacement costs. Additionally, changes in the legal environment have influenced the development patterns over the past ten years. For example, changes in the California workers' compensation law in 1993 and subsequent court decisions, primarily in late 1996, greatly limited the ability of insurers to challenge medical assessments and treatments. These limitations, together with changes in work force characteristics and medical delivery costs, are contributing to an increase in claims severity.

The differences between the liability for losses and LAE reported in the

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

annual statements filed with the state insurance departments in accordance with statutory accounting principles ("SAP") and that reported in the accompanying consolidated financial statements in accordance with GAAP at December 31, 2001 are as follows (in millions):

| | |
|--|---------|
| Liability reported on a SAP basis, net of \$310 million of retroactive reinsurance | \$3,229 |
| Additional discounting of GAAP reserves in excess of the statutory limitation for SAP reserves | (12) |
| Reserves of foreign operations | 5 |
| Reinsurance recoverables, net of allowance | 1,525 |
| Reclassification of allowance for uncollectible reinsurance | 31 |
| | ----- |
| Liability reported on a GAAP basis | \$4,778 |
| | ===== |

ASBESTOS AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESERVES ("A&E") In addressing asbestos and environmental reserves, the insurance industry typically includes claims relating to polluted waste sites and asbestos as well as other mass tort claims such as those relating to breast implants, repetitive stress on keyboards, DES (a drug used in pregnancies years ago alleged to cause cancer and birth defects) and other latent injuries.

Establishing reserves for A&E claims is subject to uncertainties that are significantly greater than those presented by other types of claims. For a discussion of these uncertainties, see LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - "UNCERTAINTIES - PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE RESERVES", "UNCERTAINTIES - LITIGATION", AND "SPECIAL A&E CHARGE" AND NOTE L - "COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES" TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

The survival ratio, which is an industry measure of A&E claim reserves, is derived by dividing reserves for A&E exposures by annual paid losses. At December 31, 2001, AFG's three year survival ratio (after adjusting for the sale of Stonewall) is approximately 12.2 times paid losses. In November 2001, A.M. Best reported its estimate that the property and casualty insurance industry's three year survival ratio was approximately 6.7 times paid losses at December 31, 2000.

12

The following table (in millions) is a progression of A&E reserves.

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Reserves at beginning of year | \$357.7 | \$576.7 | \$625.4 |
| Incurred losses and LAE (a) | 108.0 | (1.9) | .1 |
| Paid losses and LAE | (28.1) | (48.7) | (48.8) |
| Reserves not classified as A&E prior to 2001: | | | |
| Reserves | 1.4 | - | - |
| Allowance for uncollectible reinsurance applicable to ceded A&E reserves | 7.8 | - | - |
| Reserves transferred with sale of Stonewall | - | (168.4) | - |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Reserves at end of year, net of reinsurance recoverable | 446.8 | 357.7 | 576.7 |
| Reinsurance recoverable, net of allowance | 101.4 | 105.7 | 219.8 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Gross reserves at end of year | \$548.2 | \$463.4 | \$796.5 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

(a) Includes a special charge of \$100 million in 2001.

ANNUITY AND LIFE OPERATIONS

GENERAL

AFG's annuity and life operations are conducted through Great American Financial Resources, Inc. ("GAFRI"), a holding company which markets retirement products, primarily fixed and variable annuities, and various forms of life and supplemental health insurance through the following subsidiaries which were acquired in the years shown. GAFRI and its subsidiaries employ approximately 1,900 persons.

Great American Life Insurance Company ("GALIC") - 1992(*)
 Annuity Investors Life Insurance Company ("AILIC") - 1994
 Loyal American Life Insurance Company ("Loyal") - 1995
 Great American Life Assurance Company of Puerto Rico ("GAPR") - 1997
 United Teacher Associates Insurance Company ("UTA") - 1999

(*) Acquired from Great American Insurance.

Acquisitions in recent years have supplemented GAFRI's internal growth as the assets of the holding company and its operating subsidiaries have increased from \$4.5 billion at the end of 1992 to \$8.4 billion at the end of 2001. Premiums over the last three years were as follows (in millions):

| INSURANCE PRODUCT(*) | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|
| ----- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Annuities | \$ 751 | \$ 747 | \$588 |
| Life and supplemental health | 310 | 261 | 126 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$1,061 | \$1,008 | \$714 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

(*) Table does not include premiums of subsidiaries or divisions until their first full year following acquisition or formation.

ANNUITIES

GAFRI's principal retirement products are Flexible Premium Deferred Annuities ("FPDAs") and Single Premium Deferred Annuities ("SPDAs"). Annuities are long-term retirement saving instruments that benefit from income accruing on a tax-deferred basis. The issuer of the annuity collects premiums, credits interest or earnings on the policy and pays out a benefit upon death, surrender or annuitization. FPDAs are characterized by premium payments that are flexible in both amount and timing as determined by the policyholder. SPDAs are issued in exchange for a one-time lump-sum premium payment.

13

The following table (in millions) presents combined financial information of GAFRI's principal annuity operations.

| GAAP BASIS | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|------------|------|------|------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Assets | \$7,456 | \$7,052 | \$6,657 |
| Fixed Annuity Reserves | 5,632 | 5,365 | 5,349 |
| Variable Annuity Reserves | 530 | 534 | 354 |
| Stockholder's Equity | 1,023 | 915 | 801 |

STATUTORY BASIS

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Assets | \$6,896 | \$6,620 | \$6,493 |
| Fixed Annuity Reserves | 5,729 | 5,536 | 5,564 |
| Variable Annuity Reserves | 530 | 534 | 354 |
| Capital and Surplus | 388 | 363 | 404 |
| Asset Valuation Reserve (a) | 79 | 77 | 67 |
| Interest Maintenance Reserve (a) | 11 | 3 | 10 |

Annuity Receipts:

Flexible Premium:

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| First Year | \$ 67 | \$ 71 | \$ 55 |
| Renewal | 176 | 157 | 145 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 243 | 228 | 200 |
| Single Premium | 508 | 519 | 388 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Total Annuity Receipts | \$ 751 | \$ 747 | \$ 588 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

(a) Allocation of surplus.

Sales of annuities are affected by many factors, including: (i) competitive annuity products and rates; (ii) the general level of interest rates; (iii) the favorable tax treatment of annuities; (iv) commissions paid to agents; (v) services offered; (vi) ratings from independent insurance rating agencies; (vii) other alternative investments; (viii) performance of the equity markets and (ix) general economic conditions. At December 31, 2001, GAFRI had over 290,000 annuity policies in force.

Annuity contracts are generally classified as either fixed rate (including equity-indexed) or variable. The following table presents premiums by classification:

| PREMIUMS | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|
| ----- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Traditional fixed | 68% | 50% | 55% |
| Variable | 27 | 43 | 35 |
| Equity-indexed | 5 | 7 | 10 |
| | --- | --- | --- |
| | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | === | === | === |

With a traditional fixed rate annuity, the interest crediting rate is initially set by the issuer and thereafter may be changed from time to time by the issuer subject to any guaranteed minimum interest crediting rates or any guaranteed term in the policy.

GAFRI seeks to maintain a desired spread between the yield on its investment portfolio and the rate it credits to its fixed rate annuities. GAFRI accomplishes this by: (i) offering crediting rates which it has the option to change; (ii) designing annuity products that encourage persistency and (iii) maintaining an appropriate matching of assets and liabilities. GAFRI designs its products with certain provisions to encourage policyholders to maintain their funds with GAFRI for at least five to ten years. Partly due to these features, annuity surrenders have averaged nearly 11% of related statutory reserves over the past five years.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

All of GAFRI's traditional fixed rate annuities offer a minimum interest rate guarantee of 3% or 4%; the majority permit GAFRI to change the crediting rate at any time (subject to the minimum guaranteed interest rates). In determining the frequency and extent of changes in the crediting rate, GAFRI takes into account the economic environment and the relative competitive position of its products.

14

Sales of GAFRI's fixed rate annuities have increased over the past two years, due to the weak stock market environment, as well as the development of new fixed rate products with multi-year guarantee periods and certain features designed to assist the elderly.

In addition to traditional fixed rate annuities, GAFRI offers variable and equity-indexed annuities. Industry sales of such annuities have increased substantially over the last ten years as investors have sought to obtain the returns available in the equity markets while enjoying the tax-deferred status of annuities. With the downturn in the stock market during the past two years, industry-wide sales of variable and equity-indexed annuities, including GAFRI's sales, have decreased substantially in 2001. With a variable annuity, the earnings credited to the policy vary based on the investment results of the underlying investment options chosen by the policyholder, generally without any guarantee of principal except in the case of death of the insured annuitant. Premiums directed to the variable options in policies issued by GAFRI are invested in funds maintained in separate accounts managed by various independent investment managers. GAFRI earns a fee on amounts deposited into variable accounts. Policyholders may also choose to direct all or a portion of their premiums to various fixed rate options, in which case GAFRI earns a spread on amounts deposited.

An equity-indexed fixed annuity provides policyholders with a crediting rate tied, in part, to the performance of an existing stock market index while protecting them against the related downside risk through a guarantee of principal. GAFRI purchases call options designed to offset substantially all of the increase in the liabilities associated with equity-indexed annuities.

In 2001, 2000 and 1999, 17%, 24% and 25%, respectively, of GAFRI's retirement annuity premiums came from California. In 2001, 13% of GAFRI's retirement annuity premiums came from Ohio. No other state accounted for more than 10% of premiums in those years.

GAFRI's FPDAs are sold primarily to employees of not-for-profit and commercial organizations who are eligible to save for retirement through contributions made on a before-tax or after-tax basis. Contributions are made at the discretion of the participants through payroll deductions or through tax-free "rollovers" of funds from other qualified investments. Federal income taxes are not payable on pretax contributions or earnings until amounts are withdrawn.

GAFRI distributes its fixed rate and equity-indexed products primarily through a network of 150 managing general agents who, in turn, direct more than 750 actively producing independent agents. In addition, GAFRI offers all of its annuity product lines through financial institutions. Sales of annuities through financial institutions were approximately one-sixth of total annuity premiums in 2001.

GAFRI distributes its variable annuity products through nearly 700 actively producing registered representatives representing more than 200

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

broker/dealers. Approximately one-third of GAFRI's variable annuity sales in 2001 were made through a wholly-owned subsidiary, Great American Advisors, Inc. ("GAA"). GAA is a broker/dealer licensed in all 50 states to sell stocks, bonds, options, mutual funds and variable insurance contracts through independent representatives and financial institutions. GAA also acts as the principal underwriter and distributor for GAFRI's variable annuity products.

LIFE AND SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE

GAFRI offers a variety of life and supplemental health products through GALIC's life operations, Loyal, GAPR and UTA. This group produced \$310 million of statutory premiums in 2001. It also had in excess of 800,000 policies and \$15 billion face amount of life insurance in force. GALIC offers traditional term, universal and whole life insurance products through national marketing organizations.

In October 1999, GAFRI acquired UTA, a provider of supplemental health products and annuities through independent agents. UTA's principal product offerings are annuities and coverage for Medicare supplement, cancer and long-term care. UTA also purchases blocks of insurance policies from other companies. In 2000, UTA acquired approximately 50,000 Medicare supplement and cancer policies.

15

Loyal offers a variety of supplemental health and life products. The principal products sold by Loyal include cancer, accidental injury, short-term disability, hospital indemnity, universal life and traditional whole life. In 2001, Loyal reinsured a substantial portion of its life insurance business and expects to reduce its marketing efforts in the future.

GAPR sells in-home service life and supplemental health products through a network of company-employed agents. Ordinary life, cancer, credit and group life products are sold through independent agents.

INDEPENDENT RATINGS

GAFRI's principal insurance subsidiaries are rated by Standard & Poor's and A.M. Best. In addition, GALIC is rated A3 (good financial security) by Moody's. Such ratings are generally based on items of concern to policyholders and agents and are not directed toward the protection of investors.

| | Standard & Poor's | A.M. Best |
|-------|----------------------|----------------|
| | ----- | ----- |
| GALIC | A (Strong) | A (Excellent) |
| AILIC | A (Strong) | A (Excellent) |
| Loyal | A (Strong) | A (Excellent) |
| UTA | Not rated | A- (Excellent) |
| GAPR | Not rated | A (Excellent) |

GAFRI believes that the ratings assigned by independent insurance rating agencies are important because potential policyholders often use a company's rating as an initial screening device in considering annuity products. GAFRI believes that a rating in the "A" category by at least one rating agency is necessary to successfully market tax-deferred annuities to public education employees and other not-for-profit groups.

Although GAFRI believes that its insurance companies' ratings are stable, those companies' operations could be materially and adversely affected by a downgrade in ratings.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

COMPETITION

GAFRI's insurance companies operate in highly competitive markets. They compete with other insurers and financial institutions based on many factors, including: (i) ratings; (ii) financial strength; (iii) reputation; (iv) service to policyholders and agents; (v) product design (including interest rates credited and premium rates charged); and (vi) commissions. Since policies are marketed and distributed primarily through independent agents (except at GAPR), the insurance companies must also compete for agents.

No single insurer dominates the markets in which GAFRI's insurance companies compete. Competitors include (i) individual insurers and insurance groups, (ii) mutual funds and (iii) other financial institutions. In a broader sense, GAFRI's insurance companies compete for retirement savings with a variety of financial institutions offering a full range of financial services. Financial institutions have demonstrated a growing interest in marketing investment and savings products other than traditional deposit accounts.

OTHER COMPANIES

Through subsidiaries, AFG is engaged in a variety of other businesses, including The Golf Center at Kings Island (golf and tennis facility) in the Greater Cincinnati area; commercial real estate operations in Cincinnati (office buildings and The Cincinnati Hotel), New Orleans (Le Pavillon Hotel), Cape Cod (Chatham Bars Inn), Austin (Driskill Hotel), Chesapeake Bay (Skipjack Cove Yachting Resort) and apartments in Louisville, Pittsburgh, St. Paul and Tampa Bay. These operations employ approximately 600 full-time employees.

16

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

GENERAL

The following tables present the percentage distribution and yields of AFG's investment portfolio (excluding investment in equity securities of investee corporations) as reflected in its financial statements.

| | 2001 ---- | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- | 1998 ---- | 1997 ---- |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash and Short-term Investments | 4.5% | 3.8% | 3.5% | 2.6% | 2.1% |
| Fixed Maturities: | | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Agencies | 8.3 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 4.4 | 5.0 |
| State and Municipal | 3.4 | 3.6 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| Public Utilities | 6.4 | 5.5 | 5.1 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| Mortgage-Backed Securities | 21.8 | 22.7 | 22.0 | 20.8 | 21.1 |
| Corporate and Other | 47.3 | 51.4 | 55.3 | 53.0 | 52.0 |
| Redeemable Preferred Stocks | .5 | .5 | .6 | .5 | .5 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 87.7 | 88.4 | 90.6 | 85.9 | 87.0 |
| Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on fixed maturities held Available for Sale | 1.3 | .1 | (2.1) | 3.5 | 2.0 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 89.0 | 88.5 | 88.5 | 89.4 | 89.0 |
| Other Stocks, Options and Warrants | 2.6 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.0 |
| Policy Loans | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 |
| Real Estate and Other Investments | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Yield on Fixed Income Securities: | | | | | |
| Excluding realized gains and losses | 7.6% | 7.7% | 7.7% | 7.8% | 7.7% |
| Including realized gains and losses | 7.5% | 7.4% | 7.6% | 8.0% | 7.7% |
| Yield on Stocks: | | | | | |
| Excluding realized gains and losses | 4.5% | 5.0% | 5.9% | 5.4% | 5.0% |
| Including realized gains and losses | (.3%) | 3.9% | 20.7% | (5.3%) | 3.0% |
| Yield on Investments (*): | | | | | |
| Excluding realized gains and losses | 7.6% | 7.6% | 7.7% | 7.8% | 7.7% |
| Including realized gains and losses | 7.4% | 7.4% | 7.9% | 7.8% | 8.0% |

(*) Excludes "Real Estate and Other Investments".

FIXED MATURITY INVESTMENTS

AFG's bond portfolio is invested primarily in taxable bonds. The NAIC assigns quality ratings which range from Class 1 (highest quality) to Class 6 (lowest quality). The following table shows AFG's bonds and redeemable preferred stocks, by NAIC designation (and comparable Standard & Poor's Corporation rating) as of December 31, 2001 (dollars in millions).

| NAIC Rating | Comparable S&P Rating | Amortized Cost | Market Value | |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------|
| | | | Amount | % |
| ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 1 | AAA, AA, A | \$ 7,515 | \$ 7,718 | 72% |
| 2 | BBB | 2,232 | 2,242 | 21 |
| | Total investment grade | 9,747 | 9,960 | 93 |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 3 | BB | 375 | 356 | 3 |
| 4 | B | 312 | 275 | 3 |
| 5 | CCC, CC, C | 144 | 143 | 1 |
| 6 | D | 15 | 15 | * |
| | Total noninvestment grade | 846 | 789 | 7 |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Total | \$10,593 | \$10,749 | 100% |
| | | ===== | ===== | ===== |

(*) Less than 1%

Risks inherent in connection with fixed income securities include loss upon default and market price volatility. Factors which can affect the market price of securities include: creditworthiness, changes in interest rates, the number of market makers and investors and defaults by major issuers of securities.

AFG's primary investment objective for fixed maturities is to earn interest and dividend income rather than to realize capital gains. AFG invests in bonds and redeemable preferred stocks that have primarily short-term and

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

intermediate-term maturities. This practice allows flexibility in reacting to fluctuations of interest rates.

EQUITY INVESTMENTS

AFG's equity investment practice permits concentration of attention on a relatively limited number of companies. At December 31, 2001, AFG held \$314 million in stocks and warrants; approximately 60% represents an investment in Provident Financial Group, Inc., a Cincinnati-based commercial banking and financial services company; another 20% consists of four investments of more than \$10 million each. Such equity investments, because of their size, may not be as readily marketable as the typical small investment position. Alternatively, a large equity position may be attractive to persons seeking to control or influence the policies of a company and AFG's concentration in a relatively small number of companies may permit it to identify investments with above average potential to increase in value.

CHIQUITA At December 31, 2001, AFG owned 24 million shares of Chiquita common stock (book value \$16 million) representing 31% of its outstanding shares. In March 2002, Chiquita completed a reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. In exchange for its "old" Chiquita shares, AFG received approximately 171,000 "new" shares (less than one-half of 1%) in the reorganized company plus warrants expiring in 2009 to purchase an additional 2.9 million shares at \$19.23 per share.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS

AFG sells life and supplemental health products in Puerto Rico and property and casualty products in Mexico, Canada, Puerto Rico, Europe and Asia. In addition, GAFRI has an office in India where employees perform computer programming and certain back office functions. Less than 3% of AFG's revenues and costs and expenses are derived from foreign sources.

REGULATION

AFG's insurance company subsidiaries are subject to regulation in the jurisdictions where they do business. In general, the insurance laws of the various states establish regulatory agencies with broad administrative powers governing, among other things, premium rates, solvency standards, licensing of insurers, agents and brokers, trade practices, forms of policies, maintenance of specified reserves and capital for the protection of policyholders, deposits of securities for the benefit of policyholders, investment activities and relationships between insurance subsidiaries and their parents and affiliates. Material transactions between insurance subsidiaries and their parents and affiliates generally must be disclosed and prior approval of the applicable insurance regulatory authorities generally is required for any such transaction which may be deemed to be material or extraordinary. In addition, while differing from state to state, these regulations typically restrict the maximum amount of dividends that may be paid by an insurer to its shareholders in any twelve-month period without advance regulatory approval. Such limitations are generally based on net earnings or statutory surplus. Under applicable restrictions, the maximum amount of dividends available to AFG in 2002 from its insurance subsidiaries without seeking regulatory clearance is approximately \$92 million.

Changes in state insurance laws and regulations have the potential to materially affect the revenues and expenses of the insurance operations. For example, between July 1993 and January 1995, the California Commissioner ordered reductions in workers' compensation insurance premium rates totaling more than 30% and subsequently replaced the workers' compensation insurance minimum rate law with an "open rating" policy. The Company is unable to predict whether or when other state insurance laws or regulations may be adopted or enacted or what

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

the impact of such developments would be on the future operations and revenues of its insurance businesses.

18

Most states have created insurance guaranty associations to provide for the payment of claims of insurance companies that become insolvent. Annual assessments for AFG's insurance companies have not been material. In addition, many states have created "assigned risk" plans or similar arrangements to provide state mandated minimum levels of automobile liability coverage to drivers whose driving records or other relevant characteristics make it difficult for them to obtain insurance otherwise. Automobile insurers in those states are required to provide such coverage to a proportionate number of those drivers applying as assigned risks. Premium rates for assigned risk business are established by the regulators of the particular state plan and are frequently inadequate in relation to the risks insured, resulting in underwriting losses. Assigned risks accounted for less than one percent of AFG's net written premiums in 2001.

The NAIC is an organization which is comprised of the chief insurance regulator for each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The NAIC model law for Risk Based Capital applies to both life and property and casualty companies. The risk-based capital formulas determine the amount of capital that an insurance company needs to ensure that it has an acceptably low expectation of becoming financially impaired. The model law provides for increasing levels of regulatory intervention as the ratio of an insurer's total adjusted capital and surplus decreases relative to its risk-based capital, culminating with mandatory control of the operations of the insurer by the domiciliary insurance department at the so-called "mandatory control level". At December 31, 2001, the capital ratios of all AFG insurance companies substantially exceeded the risk-based capital requirements.

ITEM 2

PROPERTIES

Subsidiaries of AFG own several buildings in downtown Cincinnati. AFG and its affiliates occupy about three-fourths of the aggregate 660,000 square feet of commercial and office space.

AFG's insurance subsidiaries lease the majority of their office and storage facilities in numerous cities throughout the United States, including Great American's and GAFRI's home offices in Cincinnati. A GAFRI subsidiary owns a 40,000 square foot office building in Austin, Texas, most of which is used by the company for its operations.

AFG subsidiaries own transferable rights to develop approximately 1.3 million square feet of floor space in the Grand Central Terminal area in New York City. The development rights were derived from ownership of the land upon which the terminal is constructed.

ITEM 3

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

PLEASE REFER TO "FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS" FOLLOWING THE INDEX IN FRONT OF THIS FORM 10-K.

AFG and its subsidiaries are involved in various litigation, most of which arose in the ordinary course of business, including litigation alleging bad faith in dealing with policyholders and challenging certain business practices of insurance subsidiaries. Except for the following, management believes that none of the litigation meets the threshold for disclosure under this Item.

AFG's insurance company subsidiaries and American Premier are parties to litigation and receive claims asserting alleged injuries and damages from asbestos, environmental and other substances and workplace hazards and have established loss accruals for such potential liabilities. The ultimate loss for these claims may vary materially from amounts currently recorded as the conditions surrounding resolution of these claims continue to change.

American Premier is a party or named as a potentially responsible party in a number of proceedings and claims by regulatory agencies and private parties under various environmental protection laws, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), seeking to impose responsibility on American Premier for hazardous waste remediation costs at certain railroad sites formerly owned by its predecessor, Penn Central Transportation Company ("PCTC"), and at certain other sites where hazardous waste allegedly generated by PCTC's railroad operations is present. It is difficult to estimate American Premier's liability for remediation costs at these sites for a number of reasons, including the number and financial resources of other potentially responsible parties involved at a given site, the varying availability of evidence by which to allocate responsibility among such parties, the wide range of costs for possible remediation alternatives, changing technology and the period of time over which these matters develop. Nevertheless, American Premier believes that its accruals for potential pre-reorganization environmental liabilities are adequate to cover the probable amount of such liabilities, based on American Premier's estimates of remediation costs and related expenses and its estimates of the portions of such costs that will be borne by other parties. Such estimates are based on information currently available to American Premier and are subject to future change as additional information becomes available. American Premier seeks reimbursement from certain insurers for portions of whatever remediation costs it incurs.

In terms of potential liability to American Premier, the company believes that the most significant site is the railyard at Paoli, Pennsylvania ("Paoli Yard") which PCTC transferred to Consolidated Rail Corporation ("Conrail") in 1976. A Record of Decision issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 presented a final selected remedial action for clean-up of polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCB's") at Paoli Yard having an estimated cost of approximately \$28 million. American Premier has accrued its portion of such estimated clean-up costs in its financial statements (in addition to other expenses) but has not accrued the entire amount because it believes it is probable that other parties, including Conrail, will be responsible for substantial percentages of the clean-up costs by virtue of their operation of electrified railroad cars at Paoli Yard that discharged PCB's at higher levels than discharged by cars operated by PCTC.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

On February 14, 2002, A.P. Green Industries, Inc. and its subsidiary, A.P. Green Services, Inc. (the "Policyholders") filed petitions for bankruptcy under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Great American Insurance Company and certain other insurers are parties to litigation with the Policyholders involving liability coverage for a substantial number of asbestos related bodily injury claims that have been asserted against the Policyholders. These claims (some of which are direct actions against Great American) allege that the refractory materials manufactured, sold or installed by the Policyholders contained asbestos and resulted in bodily injury from exposure to asbestos. The Policyholders seek to recover defense and indemnity expenses related to those claims from a number of insurers, including Great American, and in an effort to maximize coverage assert that Great American's policies on various grounds are not subject to aggregate limits on liability, that each exposure alleged by a claimant constitutes a separate occurrence, and that each insurer is required

20

to pay all sums the Policyholders become legally obliged to pay. Prior to the bankruptcy filing, Great American sought to have these coverage issues decided as part of a contribution and declaratory judgment action that it brought several years earlier (GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, ET AL. V. THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY, ET AL., United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio, filed January 29, 1998) (the "District Court Action") and asked the court to declare, among other things, that all asbestos bodily injury claims against the Policyholders constitute not more than one occurrence, are subject to a \$1,000,000 aggregate limit under each of the four Great American policies at issue in the action, and should be allocated among triggered policies and implicated years on a pro rata basis. Great American believes that its coverage defenses are substantial and intends to vigorously defend its position. The bankruptcy filing, however, stays the District Court Action unless the Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania modifies the stay to permit the District Court Action to proceed. On March 20, 2002, Great American and certain other insurers filed a motion in the Bankruptcy Court to modify the stay. On March 27, 2002, the Policyholders filed adversary proceedings in the Bankruptcy Court to decide the coverage issues. If the stay is not modified or the adversary proceedings are permitted to go forward in the Bankruptcy Court, then the resolution of these disputes will be subject to the complexities and uncertainties associated with a Chapter 11 proceeding.

For a discussion of the uncertainties relative to confronting asbestos and environmental claims, see BUSINESS - "ASBESTOS AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESERVES ('A&E')", MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - "UNCERTAINTIES - PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE RESERVES", "UNCERTAINTIES - LITIGATION", AND "SPECIAL A&E CHARGE" AND NOTE L - "COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES" TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. As a consequence of these uncertainties, the outcome of the litigation relating to asbestos and environmental matters may result in liabilities exceeding current related reserves by an amount that could have a material adverse effect on AFG's results of operations and financial condition.

In March 2000, a jury in Dallas, Texas, returned a verdict against GALIC with total damages of \$11.2 million in a lawsuit brought by two former agents of GALIC (MARTIN V. GREAT AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, 191st District Court of Dallas County, Texas, Case No. 96-04843). The former agents had alleged that their agency agreement with GALIC had been wrongfully terminated. GALIC believes that the verdict was contrary to both the facts and the law and expects to prevail on appeal. The Dallas County Court of Appeals heard oral arguments on the appeal in November 2001, and a decision is expected in 2002. The ultimate outcome of this case will not have a material adverse effect on GALIC's financial condition.

UTA was named a defendant in a purported class action lawsuit. (PEGGY BERRY, ET

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

AL. V. UNITED TEACHER ASSOCIATES INSURANCE COMPANY, Travis County District Court, Case No. GN100461, filed February 11, 2001). The complaint seeks unspecified damages based on the alleged misleading disclosure of UTA's interest crediting practices on its fixed rate annuities. GAFRI believes that UTA has meritorious defenses but it is not possible to predict the ultimate outcome. Nonetheless, the ultimate outcome of this case should not have a material adverse impact on UTA's financial condition.

21

PART II

ITEM 5

MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

PLEASE REFER TO "FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS" FOLLOWING THE INDEX IN FRONT OF THIS FORM 10-K.

AFG Common Stock has been listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol AFG. The information presented in the table below represents the high and low sales prices per share reported on the NYSE Composite Tape.

| | 2001 | | 2000 | |
|----------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|
| | ----- High ----- | Low --- | ----- High ----- | Low --- |
| First Quarter | \$29.00 | \$21.80 | \$29.00 | \$18.38 |
| Second Quarter | 30.30 | 23.30 | 29.00 | 24.38 |
| Third Quarter | 30.75 | 18.35 | 26.63 | 23.13 |
| Fourth Quarter | 25.33 | 20.20 | 27.19 | 18.69 |

There were approximately 13,500 shareholders of record of AFG Common Stock at March 1, 2002. In 2001 and 2000, AFG declared and paid quarterly dividends of \$.25 per share. In November 2001, AFG announced its intention to reduce the annual dividends on its Common Stock from \$1.00 to \$.50 per share beginning in 2002 in order to retain available capital to grow its profitable insurance operations and build long-term value. The ability of AFG to pay dividends will be dependent upon, among other things, the availability of dividends and payments under intercompany tax allocation agreements from its insurance company subsidiaries.

ITEM 6

SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table sets forth certain data for the periods indicated (dollars in millions, except per share data).

| | 2001 ---- | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| EARNINGS STATEMENT DATA: | | | |
| ----- | | | |
| Total Revenues | \$3,924 | \$3,817 | \$3,360 |
| Operating Earnings Before Income Taxes | 56 | 110 | 302 |
| Earnings (Loss) Before Extraordinary Items and Accounting Changes | (5) | (47) | 147 |
| Extraordinary Items | - | - | (2) |
| Cumulative Effect of Accounting Changes | (10) | (9) | (4) |
| Net Earnings (Loss) | (15) | (56) | 141 |
| Basic Earnings (Loss) Per Common Share (a): | | | |
| Earnings (Loss) Before Extraordinary Items and Accounting Changes | (\$.07) | (\$.80) | \$2.46 |
| Net Earnings (Loss) Available to Common Shares | (.22) | (.95) | 2.37 |
| Diluted Earnings (Loss) Per Common Share (a): | | | |
| Earnings (Loss) Before Extraordinary Items and Accounting Changes | (\$.07) | (\$.80) | \$2.44 |
| Net Earnings (Loss) Available to Common Shares | (.22) | (.95) | 2.35 |
| Cash Dividends Paid Per Share of | | | |
| Common Stock | \$1.00 | \$1.00 | \$1.00 |
| Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges (b) | 1.21 | 1.63 | 3.36 |
| BALANCE SHEET DATA: | | | |
| ----- | | | |
| Total Assets | \$17,402 | \$16,416 | \$16,054 |
| Long-term Debt: | | | |
| Holding Companies | 609 | 585 | 493 |
| Subsidiaries | 271 | 195 | 240 |
| Minority Interest | 455 | 508 | 489 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Shareholders' Equity | 1,498 | 1,549 | 1,340 |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|

- (a) Per share results for 1997 are calculated after deducting a premium over stated value on redemption of a subsidiary's preferred stock of \$153.3 million.
- (b) Fixed charges are computed on a "total enterprise" basis. For purposes of calculating the ratios, "earnings" have been computed by adding to pretax earnings the fixed charges and the minority interest in earnings of subsidiaries having fixed charges and the undistributed equity in losses of investees. Fixed charges include interest (excluding interest on annuity benefits), amortization of debt premium/discount and expense, preferred dividend and distribution requirements of subsidiaries and a portion of rental expense deemed to be representative of the interest factor.

23

ITEM 7

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

PLEASE REFER TO "FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS" FOLLOWING THE INDEX IN FRONT OF THIS FORM 10-K.

GENERAL

Following is a discussion and analysis of the financial statements and other statistical data that management believes will enhance the understanding of AFG's financial condition and results of operations. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the financial statements beginning on page F-1.

AFG was formed through the combination of AFC and American Premier in merger transactions completed in April 1995.

IT INITIATIVE In 1999, AFG initiated an enterprise-wide study of its information technology ("IT") resources, needs and opportunities. The initiative, involving improvements in physical infrastructure and business support systems, entails extensive effort and costs over a period of several years. While the costs precede the expected savings, management believes the benefits will exceed the costs incurred, all of which have been and will be funded through available working capital.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

RATIOS AFG's debt to total capital ratio (at the parent holding company level) was approximately 27% at December 31, 2001, compared to 25% at December 31, 2000.

AFG's ratio of earnings to fixed charges on a total enterprise basis was 1.21 for the year ended December 31, 2001, compared to 1.63 in 2000 and 3.36 in

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

1999.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners' model law for risk based capital ("RBC") applies to both life and property and casualty companies. RBC formulas determine the amount of capital that an insurance company needs to ensure that it has an acceptable expectation of not becoming financially impaired. At December 31, 2001, the capital ratios of all AFG insurance companies substantially exceeded the RBC requirements (the lowest capital ratio of any AFG subsidiary was 2.1 times its authorized control level RBC; weighted average of all AFG subsidiaries was 4.9 times).

SOURCES OF FUNDS AFG, AFC and American Premier are organized as holding companies with almost all of their operations being conducted by subsidiaries. These parent corporations, however, have continuing cash needs for administrative expenses, the payment of principal and interest on borrowings, shareholder dividends, and taxes. Funds to meet these obligations come primarily from dividend and tax payments from their subsidiaries.

Management believes these parent holding companies have sufficient resources to meet their liquidity requirements. If funds generated from operations, including dividends and tax payments from subsidiaries, are insufficient to meet fixed charges in any period, these companies would be required to generate cash through borrowings, sales of securities or other assets, or similar transactions.

The parent holding companies have a reciprocal Master Credit Agreement under which these companies make funds available to each other for general corporate purposes.

AFC has a revolving credit line with several banks under which it can borrow up to \$300 million until December 31, 2002. This credit line provides ample liquidity and can be used to obtain funds for operating subsidiaries or, if necessary, for the parent companies. At December 31, 2001, approximately two-thirds of the credit line had been used. While management expects to negotiate a replacement bank agreement later this year, market conditions indicate the maximum amount may be smaller and interest costs will likely be greater.

24

In December 2000, AFG issued 8.3 million shares of Common Stock, using the \$155 million in net cash proceeds to make capital contributions to its property and casualty operations. In April 1999, AFG issued \$350 million principal amount of 7-1/8% senior debentures due 2009, using the proceeds to retire outstanding holding company public debt and borrowings under AFC's credit line. All debentures issued by the parent holding companies and GAFRI are rated investment grade by three nationally recognized rating agencies. Under a currently effective shelf registration statement, AFG can issue up to an aggregate of approximately \$340 million in additional Common Stock, debt or trust securities. The shelf registration provides AFG with greater flexibility to access the capital markets from time to time as market and other conditions permit.

For statutory accounting purposes, equity securities of non-affiliates are generally carried at market value. At December 31, 2001, AFG's insurance companies owned publicly traded equity securities with a market value of \$310 million. In addition, Great American owns GAFRI common stock with a market value of \$657 million and a carrying value of \$460 million. Since significant amounts of these are concentrated in a relatively small number of companies, decreases in the market prices could adversely affect the insurance group's capital, potentially impacting the amount of dividends available or necessitating a

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

capital contribution. Conversely, increases in the market prices could have a favorable impact on the group's dividend-paying capability.

Under tax allocation agreements with AFC, its 80%-owned U.S. subsidiaries generally compute tax provisions as if filing separate returns based on book taxable income computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The resulting provision (or credit) is currently payable to (or receivable from) AFC.

INVESTMENTS Approximately two-thirds of AFG's consolidated assets are invested in marketable securities. A diverse portfolio of primarily publicly traded bonds and notes accounts for over 97% of these securities. AFG attempts to optimize investment income while building the value of its portfolio, placing emphasis upon long-term performance. AFG's goal is to maximize return on an ongoing basis rather than focusing on short-term performance.

Fixed income investment funds are generally invested in securities with short-term and intermediate-term maturities with an objective of optimizing total return while allowing flexibility to react to changes in market conditions. At December 31, 2001, the average life of AFG's fixed maturities was about 5-1/2 years.

Approximately 93% of the fixed maturities held by AFG were rated "investment grade" (credit rating of AAA to BBB) by nationally recognized rating agencies at December 31, 2001. Investment grade securities generally bear lower yields and lower degrees of risk than those that are unrated or noninvestment grade. Management believes that the high quality investment portfolio should generate a stable and predictable investment return.

Investments in MBSs represented approximately one-fourth of AFG's fixed maturities at December 31, 2001. MBSs are subject to significant prepayment risk due to the fact that, in periods of declining interest rates, mortgages may be repaid more rapidly than scheduled as borrowers refinance higher rate mortgages to take advantage of the lower current rates. As a result, holders of MBSs may receive prepayments on their securities, which cannot be reinvested at an interest rate comparable to the rate on the prepaid MBSs. The majority of MBSs held by AFG were purchased at a discount. Management believes that the discounted nature of the MBSs will mitigate the effect of prepayments on earnings over the anticipated life of the MBS portfolio. Over 90% of AFG's MBSs are rated "AAA" with substantially all being of investment grade quality. The market in which these securities trade is highly liquid. Aside from interest rate risk, AFG does not believe a material risk (relative to earnings or liquidity) is inherent in holding such investments.

25

At December 31, 2001, AFG had a net unrealized gain on fixed maturities of \$155.3 million (before income taxes) consisting of \$306.2 million in gross unrealized gains and \$150.9 million in gross unrealized losses. At that same date, AFG also had a net unrealized gain on equity securities of \$125.9 million consisting of \$135.7 million in gross gains and \$9.8 million in gross losses. Individual portfolio securities are sold creating gains or losses as market opportunities exist.

When a decline in the value of a specific investment is considered to be "other than temporary," a provision for impairment is charged to earnings (accounted for as a realized loss) and the cost basis of that investment is reduced. The determination of whether unrealized losses are "other than temporary" requires judgment based on subjective as well as objective factors. Factors considered and resources used by management include:

- a) whether the unrealized loss is credit-driven or a result of changes

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

- in market interest rates,
- b) the extent to which market value is less than cost basis,
 - c) historical operating, balance sheet and cash flow data contained in issuer SEC filings,
 - d) issuer news releases,
 - e) near-term prospects for improvement in the issuer and/or its industry,
 - f) industry research and communications with industry specialists,
 - g) third party research and credit rating reports,
 - h) internally generated financial models and forecasts,
 - i) discussions with issuer management, and
 - j) ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in market value.

The \$150.9 million in gross unrealized losses on fixed maturities at December 31, 2001, represents unrealized losses on more than 450 positions. None of the individual losses exceeds \$8 million and only 12 have unrealized losses exceeding \$2 million. All of the securities with unrealized losses are current in payment of principal and interest.

Based on its analysis of the factors enumerated above, management believes (i) the issuers of these securities will continue to meet their obligations and (ii) that AFG has the ability and intent to hold the securities until they mature or recover in value. Should either of these beliefs change with regard to a particular security, a charge for impairment would likely be required.

Net realized gains (losses) on securities sold and charges for "other than temporary" impairment on securities held were as follows (in millions):

| | Net Realized Gains (Losses) On Sales | Charges for Impairment | Other(a) | Total |
|------|--|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 2001 | \$89.8 | (\$125.5) (b) | \$11.6 | (\$24.1) |
| 2000 | (1.7) | (27.5) | 2.6 | (26.6) |
| 1999 | 31.1 | (13.0) | 2.1 | 20.2 |
| 1998 | 40.2 | (32.2) | (1.7) | 6.3 |
| 1997 | 54.7 | (6.7) | (2.0) | 46.0 |

(a) Includes adjustments to carry derivatives at market and to reflect the impact of realized gains and losses on the amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs.

(b) Does not include \$16.9 million writedown of certain collateralized debt obligations which was recorded as the cumulative effect of an adoption of an accounting change at April 1, 2001.

Increased impairment charges in recent years reflect a rise in corporate defaults in the marketplace resulting from the weakened economy.

UNCERTAINTIES Aside from risks common to most insurance operations, management believes that the areas posing the greatest risk of material loss are Great American's exposure to asbestos, environmental and other mass tort claims and American Premier's exposure to asbestos, environmental and other contingencies arising out of its former operations.

PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE RESERVES Future costs of claims are projected based on historical trends adjusted for changes in underwriting standards, policy provisions, product mix and other factors. Estimating the liability for unpaid losses and LAE is inherently judgmental and is influenced by factors which are subject to significant variation. Through the use of analytical reserve development techniques, management monitors items such as the

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

effect of inflation on medical, hospitalization, material, repair and replacement costs, general economic trends and the legal environment.

Establishing reserves for A&E claims is subject to uncertainties that are significantly greater than those presented by other types of claims. For a discussion of uncertainties, see "LITIGATION" AND "SPECIAL A&E CHARGE" BELOW AND NOTE L - "COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES" TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

LITIGATION AFG's insurance subsidiaries and American Premier are parties to litigation and receive claims alleging injuries and damages from asbestos, environmental and other substances and workplace hazards. The outcome of litigation relating to asbestos and environmental claims is uncertain due to numerous factors and may result in liabilities materially exceeding amounts AFG has currently recorded. For a discussion of uncertainties, see LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

EXPOSURE TO MARKET RISK Market risk represents the potential economic loss arising from adverse changes in the fair value of financial instruments. AFG's exposures to market risk relate primarily to its investment portfolio and annuity contracts which are exposed to interest rate risk and, to a lesser extent, equity price risk. To a much lesser extent, AFG's long-term debt is also exposed to interest rate risk.

FIXED MATURITY PORTFOLIO The fair value of AFG's fixed maturity portfolio is directly impacted by changes in market interest rates. AFG's fixed maturity portfolio is comprised of substantially all fixed rate investments with primarily short-term and intermediate-term maturities. This practice allows flexibility in reacting to fluctuations of interest rates. The portfolios of AFG's insurance operations are managed with an attempt to achieve an adequate risk-adjusted return while maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet policyholder obligations. AFG's life and annuity operations attempt to align the duration of their invested assets to the projected cash flows of policyholder liabilities.

The following table provides information about AFG's fixed maturity investments at December 31, 2001 and 2000, that are sensitive to interest rate risk. The table shows principal cash flows (in millions) and related weighted average interest rates by expected maturity date for each of the five subsequent years and for all years thereafter. Callable bonds and notes are included based on call date or maturity date depending upon which date produces the most conservative yield. Mortgage-backed securities ("MBSs") and sinking fund issues are included based on maturity year adjusted for expected payment patterns. Actual cash flows may differ from those expected.

| | DECEMBER 31, 2001 | | | DECEMBER 31, 2000 | |
|------------|-------------------------|-------|------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Principal Cash Flows | Rate | | Principal Cash Flows | Rate |
| | ----- | ---- | | ----- | ---- |
| 2002 | \$ 956.2 | 8.62% | 2001 | \$ 494.2 | 8.46% |
| 2003 | 1,407.3 | 7.84 | 2002 | 673.4 | 7.60 |
| 2004 | 860.1 | 8.56 | 2003 | 1,406.6 | 7.74 |
| 2005 | 1,081.6 | 7.50 | 2004 | 835.6 | 8.01 |
| 2006 | 1,109.7 | 6.89 | 2005 | 1,142.1 | 7.46 |
| Thereafter | 5,263.1 | 7.08 | Thereafter | 5,737.0 | 7.41 |
| | ----- | | | ----- | |
| Total | \$10,678.0 | 7.46% | | \$10,288.9 | 7.57% |
| | ===== | | | ===== | |
| Fair Value | \$10,748.6 | | | \$10,164.6 | |
| | ===== | | | ===== | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

EQUITY PRICE RISK Equity price risk is the potential economic loss from adverse changes in equity security prices. Although AFG's investment in "Other stocks" is less than 3% of total investments, it is concentrated in a relatively limited number of positions; approximately four-fifths of the total is in five investments. While

27

this approach allows management to more closely monitor the companies and industries in which they operate, it does increase risk exposure to adverse price declines in a major position.

Included in "Other stocks" at December 31, 2001 were warrants (valued at \$15.6 million) to purchase common stock of various companies. Under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 133, which was adopted as of October 1, 2000, these warrants are generally considered derivatives and marked to market through current earnings as realized gains and losses.

ANNUITY CONTRACTS Substantially all of GAFRI's fixed rate annuity contracts permit GAFRI to change crediting rates (subject to minimum interest rate guarantees of 3% to 4% per annum) enabling management to react to changes in market interest rates and maintain an adequate spread. The spread could be at risk, however, if yields available on newly invested funds fell significantly from current yields and remained lower for a long period. Projected payments (in millions) in each of the subsequent five years and for all years thereafter on GAFRI's fixed annuity liabilities at December 31 were as follows.

| | First ----- | Second ----- | Third ----- | Fourth ----- | Fifth ----- | Thereafter ----- | Total ----- | Fair Value ----- |
|------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 2001 | \$750 | \$680 | \$650 | \$630 | \$610 | \$2,512 | \$5,832 | \$5,659 |
| 2000 | 720 | 710 | 660 | 630 | 620 | 2,204 | 5,544 | 5,426 |

Nearly half of GAFRI's fixed annuity liabilities at December 31, 2001, were two-tier in nature in that policyholders can receive a higher amount if they annuitize rather than surrender their policy, even if the surrender charge period has expired. Current stated crediting rates on GAFRI's principal fixed annuity products average 5% and range from 3% on equity-indexed annuities (before any equity participation) to 7% on certain new policies (including first year bonus amounts). GAFRI estimates that its effective weighted-average crediting rate over the next five years will approximate 5%. This rate reflects actuarial assumptions as to (i) deaths, (ii) the number of policyholders who annuitize and receive higher credited amounts and (iii) the number of policyholders who surrender. Actual experience and changes in actuarial assumptions may result in different effective crediting rates than those above.

GAFRI's equity-indexed fixed annuities provide policyholders with a crediting rate tied, in part, to the performance of an existing stock market index. GAFRI attempts to mitigate the risk in the equity-based component of these products through the purchase of call options on the appropriate index. GAFRI's strategy is designed so that an increase in the liabilities due to an increase in the market index will be substantially offset by unrealized gains on the call options. Under SFAS No. 133, both the equity-based component of the annuities and the related call options are considered derivatives and marked to market through current earnings as annuity benefits. Adjusting these derivatives to market value had a net effect of less than \$1 million on annuity benefits in 2001 and 2000.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

DEBT AND PREFERRED SECURITIES The following table shows scheduled principal payments (in millions) on fixed-rate long-term debt of AFG and its subsidiaries and related weighted average interest rates for each of the subsequent five years and for all years thereafter.

| | December 31, 2001 ----- | | | December 31, 2000 ----- | |
|------------|------------------------------------|-------|------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| | Scheduled Principal Payments | Rate | | Scheduled Principal Payments | Rate |
| | ----- | ---- | | ----- | ---- |
| 2002 | \$ 4.3 | 7.02% | 2001 | \$ 2.9 | 6.74% |
| 2003 | * | | 2002 | 4.7 | 6.86 |
| 2004 | * | | 2003 | * | |
| 2005 | 10.1 | 9.07 | 2004 | 14.2 | 8.38 |
| 2006 | 18.7 | 6.73 | 2005 | 9.7 | 9.16 |
| Thereafter | 509.3 | 7.14 | Thereafter | 509.6 | 7.14 |
| | ----- | | | ----- | |
| Total | \$544.1 | 7.16% | | \$542.2 | 7.20% |
| | ===== | | | ===== | |
| Fair Value | \$514.7 | | | \$496.3 | |
| | ===== | | | ===== | |

(*) Less than \$2 million.

28

At December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively, AFG and its subsidiaries had \$337 million and \$239 million in variable-rate debt maturing primarily in 2002 and 2004. The weighted average interest rate on AFG's variable-rate debt was 2.67% at December 31, 2001 compared to 7.10% at December 31, 2000. There were \$242 million and \$317 million of subsidiary trust preferred securities outstanding at December 31, 2001 and 2000, none of which is scheduled for maturity or mandatory redemption during the next five years; the weighted average interest rate on these securities was 9.09% at December 31, 2001 and 8.65% at December 31, 2000.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS - THREE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

GENERAL Results of operations as shown in the accompanying financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Many investors and analysts focus on "core earnings" of companies, setting aside certain items included in net earnings.

The following table reconciles AFG's operating earnings before income taxes as shown in the Statement of Operations to "core earnings" as generally referred to in quarterly news releases and independent financial analysts' reports (in millions, except per share amounts):

| | 2001 ---- | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Operating earnings before income taxes | \$ 55.9 | \$109.9 | \$302.1 |
| Adjustments for normal items: | | | |
| Eliminate net realized (gains) losses | 24.0 | (4.7) | (20.2) |
| Include minority interest | (46.1) | (45.1) | (50.1) |
| Adjustments for unusual items: | | | |
| Add back special A&E charge | 100.0 | - | - |
| Add back World Trade Center losses | 25.0 | - | - |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Provision for income taxes | 158.8 (53.1) | 60.1 (17.8) | 231.8 (81.4) |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | ----- ----- ----- | ----- ----- ----- | ----- ----- ----- |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Core earnings from insurance businesses | \$105.7 | \$ 42.3 | \$150.4 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Per Common Share (diluted) | \$1.55 | \$.71 | \$2.50 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

The increase in "core earnings" in 2001 is due primarily to improvement in underwriting results (aside from the two unusual items shown above) partially offset by a \$15 million charge to increase reserves for environmental costs related to certain former operations.

The decrease in "core earnings" in 2000 is due primarily to a deterioration in underwriting results (including a \$35 million strengthening of California workers' compensation reserves), a \$41 million charge for the settlement of litigation and an offsetting gain of \$23 million on the sale of certain real estate lease rights.

PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE - UNDERWRITING AFG's property and casualty operations consist of two major business groups: Specialty and Personal.

The Specialty group includes a highly diversified group of business lines. Some of the more significant areas are inland and ocean marine, California workers' compensation, agricultural-related coverages, executive and professional liability, fidelity and surety bonds, collateral protection, and umbrella and excess coverages.

The Personal group sells nonstandard and preferred/standard private passenger auto insurance and, to a lesser extent, homeowners' insurance. Nonstandard automobile insurance covers risks not typically accepted for standard automobile coverage because of the applicant's driving record, type of vehicle, age or other criteria.

29

To understand the overall profitability of particular lines, the timing of claims payments and the related impact of investment income must be considered. Certain "short-tail" lines of business (primarily property coverages) have quick loss payouts which reduce the time funds are held, thereby limiting investment income earned thereon. On the other hand, "long-tail" lines of business (primarily liability coverages and workers' compensation) have payouts that are either structured over many years or take many years to settle, thereby significantly increasing investment income earned on related premiums received.

Underwriting profitability is measured by the combined ratio which is a sum of the ratios of underwriting losses, loss adjustment expenses, underwriting expenses and policyholder dividends to premiums. When the combined ratio is under 100%, underwriting results are generally considered profitable; when the ratio is over 100%, underwriting results are generally considered unprofitable. The combined ratio does not reflect investment income, other income or federal income taxes.

For certain lines of business and products where the credibility of the range of loss projections is less certain (primarily the various specialty businesses listed above), management believes that it is prudent and appropriate to use conservative assumptions until such time as the data, experience and

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

projections have more credibility, as evidenced by data volume, consistency and maturity of the data. While this practice mitigates the risk of adverse development on this business, it does not eliminate it.

While AFG desires and seeks to earn an underwriting profit on all of its business, it is not always possible to do so. As a result, AFG attempts to expand in the most profitable areas and control growth or even reduce its involvement in the least profitable ones.

Since mid-2000, AFG has been actively realigning its mix of business and resetting its rate structure with a goal of achieving underwriting profits, even if it entails sacrificing volume. Management expects the improvement experienced in the latter part of 2001 to continue in 2002.

Underwriting results of AFG's insurance operations outperformed the industry average for the sixteenth consecutive year (excluding special A&E charges of \$100 million in 2001 and \$214 million in 1998). AFG's insurance operations have been able to exceed the industry's results by focusing on growth opportunities in the more profitable areas of the specialty and nonstandard auto businesses.

Net written premiums and combined ratios for AFG's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries were as follows (dollars in millions):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| NET WRITTEN PREMIUMS (GAAP) | | | |
| Specialty | \$1,542 | \$1,324 | \$1,111 |
| Personal | 1,040 | 1,311 | 1,154 |
| Other Lines | - | 3 | (2) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$2,582 | \$2,638 | \$2,263 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| COMBINED RATIOS (GAAP) | | | |
| Specialty | 101.7% | 107.9% | 102.7% |
| Personal | 107.9 | 108.6 | 100.7 |
| Aggregate (including A&E and other lines) | 108.8% | 108.0% | 102.0% |

SPECIAL A&E CHARGE Estimating ultimate liability for asbestos claims presents unique and difficult challenges to the insurance industry due to, among other things, inconsistent court decisions, an increase in bankruptcy filings as a result of asbestos-related liabilities, novel theories of coverage, and judicial interpretations that often expand theories of recovery and broaden the scope of coverage. The casualty insurance industry is engaged in extensive litigation over these coverage and liability issues as the volume and severity of claims against asbestos defendants continue to increase.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

During the third quarter of 2001, AFG recorded an A&E charge of \$100 million after experiencing an increase in the number and severity of asbestos claims and observing the developments of adverse trends in the property and casualty insurance industry concerning asbestos losses. This charge, accompanied by a transfer of \$36 million from excess reserves for other environmental claims, resulted in an increase of \$136 million in asbestos reserves.

While management believes that the reserves, as strengthened, are a reasonable estimate of ultimate liability for A&E claims, actual results may vary materially from the amounts currently recorded due to outstanding issues and uncertainties such as whether coverage exists, whether claims are to be allocated among triggered policies and implicated years, whether claimants who exhibit no signs of illness will be successful in pursuing their claims, predicting the number of future claims, and the impact of recent bankruptcy filings.

Further, certain policyholders assert that each bodily injury claim should be treated as a separate occurrence under the policy, and that their claims are not subject to aggregate limits on coverage because either their policies did not contain aggregate limits with respect to products liability coverage or, faced with exhaustion of products coverage limits, their asbestos claims fall within non-products liability coverage which is not subject to any aggregate limit. These claims are now being contested in insurance coverage litigation in various jurisdictions. In rejecting the claims that are the basis of this litigation, AFG believes its coverage defenses are substantial and intends to continue to vigorously defend its position. Nonetheless, the outcome of this litigation is uncertain and such claims may have a material adverse effect upon AFG's future results of operations and financial condition. For a discussion of asbestos and environmental litigation, see LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

SPECIALTY The Specialty group's increase in net written premiums in 2001 reflects the impact of rate increases implemented in 2000 and 2001 and the realization of growth opportunities in certain commercial markets, partially offset by the decision to discontinue certain lines of business that were not achieving adequate returns. Specialty rate increases averaged over 20% in 2001 and are expected to be at least 15% in 2002. The improvement in the combined ratio compared to 2000 reflects the impact of rate increases and unusually strong results in several businesses. Excluding the effect of the attack on the World Trade Center, the Specialty group reported an underwriting profit with a combined ratio of 99.9% for 2001.

The Specialty group's increase in net written premiums in 2000 reflects the effect of (i) the January 2000 termination of reinsurance agreements relating to the California workers' compensation business which were in effect throughout 1999, (ii) rate increases in certain casualty markets (particularly California workers' compensation) and (iii) the realization of growth opportunities in certain commercial markets. Excluding the impact of the terminated reinsurance agreements, net written premiums were up approximately 14% for 2000. In response to continued losses in the California workers' compensation business, rate increases implemented for this business averaged 25% in 2000. Rate increases implemented in the other specialty operations averaged 12% in 2000.

Due primarily to adverse development in prior year losses, AFG recorded a \$35 million pretax charge in the third quarter of 2000 to strengthen loss reserves in its California workers' compensation business. The combined ratio for 2000 reflects this reserve strengthening (a combined ratio effect of 2.9 points) and the effect of a highly competitive pricing environment on policies written during 1999.

PERSONAL The Personal group's decline in net written premiums in 2001 reflects a reinsurance agreement, effective April 1, 2001, under which AFG cedes

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

90% of the automobile physical damage business written by certain of its insurance subsidiaries. This agreement is enabling AFG to reallocate some of its capital to the more profitable specialty operations. Excluding the effect of this agreement, the Personal group's net written premiums declined about 4% in 2001 as lower business volume was partially offset by the impact of significant rate increases in 2000 and 2001. The group implemented rate increases of about 14% in 2001 and expects to implement rate increases of at least 7% in 2002. As a result of rate increases in 2001 and 2000, the combined ratio improved to 107.9% for 2001.

31

The Personal group's increase in net written premiums for 2000 reflects firming market prices in the nonstandard auto market and expanded writings in certain private passenger automobile markets. These items were partially offset by the expected decline in volume caused by rate increases implemented throughout 2000. The combined ratio for 2000 increased due to (i) increased auto claim frequency and severity (particularly in medical and health related costs), (ii) the impact of a very competitive pricing environment on policies written during 1999 and early 2000 and (iii) increased underwriting expenses associated with the direct and Internet marketing initiatives. In an effort to alleviate increasing losses, AFG implemented rate increases averaging approximately 13% in 2000.

LIFE, ACCIDENT AND HEALTH PREMIUMS AND BENEFITS Life, accident and health premiums and benefits increased in 2001 and 2000 due primarily to the acquisition of a block of supplemental health insurance business in November 2000 and the October 1999 acquisition of United Teacher Associates.

INVESTMENT INCOME Changes in investment income reflect fluctuations in market rates and changes in average invested assets. Investment income increased in 2001 due primarily to higher average investment in fixed maturity securities, partially offset by lower average interest rates on those investments.

GAIN ON SALE OF OTHER INVESTMENTS In September 2000, GAFRI realized a \$27.2 million pretax gain on the sale of its minority ownership in a company engaged in the production of ethanol. GAFRI's investment was repurchased by the ethanol company which, following the purchase, became wholly-owned by AFG's Chairman.

GAINS (LOSSES) ON SECURITIES Realized gains (losses) on sales of securities include provisions for other than temporary impairment of securities still held of \$125.5 million in 2001, \$27.5 million in 2000 and \$13 million in 1999. The provision for 2001 includes \$8 million for the writedown of AFG's investment in Chiquita from \$1.00 per share to \$.67 per share.

Realized gains (losses) on securities includes gains of \$5.2 million in 2001 and \$1.5 million in the fourth quarter of 2000 to adjust the carrying value of AFG's investment in warrants to market value under SFAS No. 133.

GAINS ON SALES OF SUBSIDIARIES In 2001, AFG recognized a \$7.1 million pretax gain on the sale of a small insurance subsidiary. In connection with the sale of the Japanese division in 2001, AFG recognized a \$6.9 million pretax loss and deferred a gain of approximately \$21 million on ceded insurance which is being recognized over the estimated settlement period (weighted average of 4 years) of the ceded claims.

In 2000, AFG recognized (i) a \$25 million pretax gain representing an earn-out related to the 1998 sale of its Commercial lines division, (ii) a \$10.3 million pretax loss on the sale of Stonewall Insurance Company and (iii) a \$10.7 million estimated pretax loss related to the agreement to sell its Japanese division (completed in 2001).

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

REAL ESTATE OPERATIONS AFG's subsidiaries are engaged in a variety of real estate operations including hotels, apartments, office buildings and recreational facilities; they also own several parcels of land. Revenues and expenses of these operations, including gains and losses on disposal, are included in AFG's statement of operations as shown below (in millions).

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Other income | \$102.6 | \$95.9 | \$87.4 |
| Other operating and general expenses | 64.9 | 65.6 | 62.5 |
| Interest charges on borrowed money | 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| Minority interest expense, net | 3.7 | 1.5 | 2.0 |

Other income includes net pretax gains on the sale of real estate assets of \$27.2 million in 2001, \$12.4 million in 2000 and \$15.2 million in 1999.

32

OTHER INCOME

2001 COMPARED TO 2000 Other income returned to more normal levels in 2001 due primarily to the absence of income from the sale of lease rights, lease residuals and other operating assets.

2000 COMPARED TO 1999 Other income increased \$78.4 million (45%) in 2000 due primarily to increased fee income generated by certain insurance operations, income from the sale of lease rights and lease residuals and increased revenues from real estate operations.

ANNUITY BENEFITS For GAAP financial reporting purposes, annuity receipts are accounted for as interest-bearing deposits ("annuity benefits accumulated") rather than as revenues. Under these contracts, policyholders' funds are credited with interest on a tax-deferred basis until withdrawn by the policyholder. Annuity benefits reflect amounts accrued on annuity policyholders' funds accumulated. The rate at which GAFRI credits interest on most of its annuity policyholders' funds is subject to change based on management's judgment of market conditions. As a result, management has been able to react to changes in market interest rates and maintain a desired interest rate spread. While GAFRI believes the interest rate and stock market environment over the last several years has contributed to an increase in annuitizations and surrenders, the company's persistency rate remains approximately 90%. In 2000, annuity benefits also includes a second quarter charge of \$14.2 million related to the settlement of a policyholder class action lawsuit.

INTEREST ON BORROWED MONEY Changes in interest expense result from fluctuations in market rates as well as changes in borrowings. AFG has generally financed its borrowings on a long-term basis which has resulted in higher current costs. Interest expense decreased in 2001 as lower average interest rates on AFG's variable rate debt and lower average subsidiary indebtedness more than offset higher average borrowings under the AFC bank line. Interest expense increased in 2000 due to higher average indebtedness.

OTHER OPERATING AND GENERAL EXPENSES

2001 COMPARED TO 2000 Excluding the 2000 litigation charges discussed below, other operating and general expenses increased \$30.2 million (7%) due

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

primarily to a \$14.8 million increase in environmental reserves related to former operations and increased amortization of annuity and life deferred acquisition costs resulting from increased sales of traditional life insurance and changes in actuarial assumptions related to variable annuities.

2000 COMPARED TO 1999 Other operating and general expenses for 2000 include second quarter charges of \$18.3 million related to an agreement to settle a lawsuit against a GAFRI subsidiary and \$8.8 million for an adverse California Supreme Court ruling against an AFG property and casualty subsidiary. Excluding these litigation charges, other operating and general expenses increased \$56.1 million (14%) due primarily to the inclusion of the operations of UTA following its acquisition in October 1999 and increased expenses from certain start-up operations.

During 1999, AFG expensed approximately \$23 million to successfully ensure that its systems would function properly in the year 2000 and beyond. Because a significant portion of the Year 2000 Project was completed using internal staff, these costs do not represent solely incremental costs.

INCOME TAXES See Note J to the Financial Statements for an analysis of items affecting AFG's effective tax rate.

INVESTEE CORPORATIONS

CHIQUITA Equity in net losses of investee corporations for 2000 and 1999 includes AFG's proportionate share of the results of Chiquita Brands International. Chiquita reported net losses attributable to common shareholders of \$112 million in 2000 and \$75.5 million in 1999. In 2001, AFG suspended accounting for Chiquita under the equity method due to Chiquita's pending restructuring.

33

Equity in net losses of investees for 2000 includes a \$95.7 million pretax charge to writedown AFG's investment in Chiquita to a market value of approximately \$1 per share. Chiquita's results for 2000 include \$20 million in charges and writedowns of production and sourcing assets in its Fresh Produce operations.

In late 1999, Chiquita underwent a workforce reduction program that streamlined certain corporate and staff functions in the U.S., Central America and Europe. Operating income for 1999 includes a \$9 million charge for severance and other costs associated with the program.

START-UP MANUFACTURING BUSINESSES AFG's pretax operating earnings for 2000 include losses of \$6.7 million from two start-up manufacturing businesses acquired in 2000 from their former owners. AFG sold the equity interests in these businesses in the fourth quarter of 2000 for a nominal cash consideration plus warrants to repurchase a significant ownership interest. Beginning in the fourth quarter of 2000, AFG's equity in the results of operations of these businesses is included in investee earnings. Loans outstanding to these businesses totaled \$86.1 million at December 31, 2001 and \$61.5 million at December 31, 2000. Because AFG retains the financial risk in these businesses, it continues accounting for their operations under the equity method as investees. Accordingly, AFG's carrying value of these businesses was approximately \$45 million at December 31, 2001 and 2000.

In 2001 and 2000, equity in net losses of investee corporations includes \$16.6 million and \$4.1 million, respectively, in losses of these businesses. Investee losses in 2001 include litigation judgments of \$4.7 million against one

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

of the companies relating to the alleged misappropriation of a trade secret and infringement of a patent. In November 2001, an injunction was issued which would prohibit the company from using the equipment which was the subject of the trade secret claim and effectively close the plant. The injunction was subsequently modified, pending appeal, to permit operations to continue and require certain escrow payments. If the investee is unsuccessful in its attempt to have the injunction lifted or further modified, or if operating results fail to improve, a substantial portion of AFG's investment (\$31.8 million as of December 31, 2001), may be written off.

CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGES In 2001, the cumulative effect of accounting change represents the implementation of a new accounting standard (EITF 99-20) which resulted in a writedown of \$16.9 million (\$10.0 million or \$.15 per share after tax and minority interest) of the carrying value of certain collateralized debt obligations as of April 1, 2001.

In October 2000, AFG implemented Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities", which requires all derivatives to be recognized in the balance sheet at fair value and that the initial effect of recognizing derivatives at fair value be reported as a cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. Accordingly, AFG recorded a charge of \$9.1 million (net of minority interest and taxes) to record its derivatives at fair value at the beginning of the fourth quarter of 2000.

In 1999, GAFRI implemented Statement of Position 98-5, "Reporting on the Costs of Start-Up Activities". The SOP requires that costs of start-up activities be expensed as incurred and that unamortized balances of previously deferred costs be expensed and reported as the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. Accordingly, AFG expensed previously capitalized start-up costs of \$3.8 million (net of minority interest and taxes) in the first quarter of 1999.

34

RECENT ACCOUNTING STANDARDS The following accounting standards have been or will be implemented by AFG. The implementation of these standards is discussed under various subheadings of Note A to the Financial Statements; effects of each are shown in the relevant Notes.

| Accounting Standard | Subject of Standard (Year Implemented) | Reference |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|
| SOP 98-5 | Start-up Costs (1999) | "Start-up Costs" |
| SFAS #133 | Derivatives (2000) | "Derivatives" |
| EITF 99-20 | Asset-backed Securities (2001) | "Investments" |
| SFAS #141 | Business Combinations (2001) | "Business Combinations" |
| SFAS #142 | Goodwill and Other Intangibles (2002) | "Goodwill" |

Other standards issued in recent years did not apply to AFG or had only negligible effects on AFG.

In July 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS No. 141, "Business Combinations", and No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." Under SFAS No. 141, business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

are required to be accounted for using the purchase method of accounting. Under SFAS No. 142, goodwill will no longer be required to be amortized beginning January 1, 2002, but will be subject to an impairment test at least annually. A transitional test for impairment is required to be completed in 2002 with any resulting writedown reported during the first quarter as a cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. Other operating and general expenses include goodwill amortization of \$14.4 million in 2001, \$17.2 million in 2000 and \$14.3 million in 1999. The carrying value of AFG's goodwill at December 31, 2001, was \$312.8 million. AFG has not yet determined what effect, if any, the transitional test for impairment will have on its earnings or financial position.

35

ITEM 7A

QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The information required by Item 7A is included in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

ITEM 8

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

| | PAGE |
|---|------|
| | ---- |
| Report of Independent Auditors | F-1 |
| Consolidated Balance Sheet: December 31, 2001 and 2000 | F-2 |
| Consolidated Statement of Operations: Years ended December 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 | F-3 |
| Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity Years ended December 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 | F-4 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows:
Years ended December 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 F-5

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements F-6

"Selected Quarterly Financial Data" has been included in Note M to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

PLEASE REFER TO "FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS" FOLLOWING THE INDEX IN FRONT OF THIS FORM 10-K.

PART III

The information required by the following Items will be included in AFG's definitive Proxy Statement for the 2002 Annual Meeting of Shareholders which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days after the end of Registrant's fiscal year and is incorporated herein by reference.

- ITEM 10 DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

- ITEM 11 EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

- ITEM 12 SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

- ITEM 13 CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of American Financial Group, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001. Our audits also included the financial statement schedules listed in the Index at Item 14(a). These financial statements and schedules are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedules based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of American Financial Group, Inc. and subsidiaries at December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedules, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, present fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Cincinnati, Ohio
March 8, 2002

F-1

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

| | December 31, | |
|--|--------------|------------|
| | 2001 | 2000 |
| ASSETS: | | |
| Cash and short-term investments | \$ 544,173 | \$ 438,670 |
| Investments: | | |
| Fixed maturities - at market (amortized cost - \$10,593,305 and \$10,148,348) | 10,748,605 | 10,164,648 |
| Other stocks - at market (cost - \$187,810 and \$174,959) | 313,710 | 385,359 |
| Investment in investee corporations | - | 23,996 |
| Policy loans | 211,288 | 213,469 |
| Real estate and other investments | 266,545 | 273,994 |
| | 11,540,148 | 11,061,466 |
| Recoverables from reinsurers and prepaid reinsurance premiums | 2,286,509 | 1,845,171 |
| Agents' balances and premiums receivable | 666,171 | 700,215 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | 818,323 | 763,097 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Other receivables | 254,255 | 240,731 |
| Variable annuity assets (separate accounts) | 529,590 | 533,655 |
| Prepaid expenses, deferred charges and other assets | 449,693 | 513,616 |
| Cost in excess of net assets acquired | 312,819 | 318,920 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | \$17,401,681 | \$16,415,541 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL: | | |
| Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses | \$ 4,777,580 | \$ 4,515,561 |
| Unearned premiums | 1,640,955 | 1,414,492 |
| Annuity benefits accumulated | 5,832,120 | 5,543,683 |
| Life, accident and health reserves | 638,522 | 599,360 |
| Long-term debt: | | |
| Holding companies | 608,960 | 584,869 |
| Subsidiaries | 270,752 | 195,087 |
| Variable annuity liabilities (separate accounts) | 529,590 | 533,655 |
| Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities | 1,150,093 | 972,271 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total liabilities | 15,448,572 | 14,358,978 |
| Minority interest | 454,730 | 508,033 |
| Shareholders' Equity: | | |
| Common Stock, no par value | | |
| - 200,000,000 shares authorized | | |
| - 68,491,610 and 67,410,091 shares outstanding | 68,492 | 67,410 |
| Capital surplus | 911,074 | 898,244 |
| Retained earnings | 359,513 | 442,276 |
| Unrealized gain on marketable securities, net | 159,300 | 140,600 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total shareholders' equity | 1,498,379 | 1,548,530 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | \$17,401,681 | \$16,415,541 |
| | ===== | ===== |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-2

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)

Year Ended December 31,

2001 2000 1999

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| INCOME: | | | |
| Property and casualty insurance premiums | \$2,593,938 | \$2,494,892 | \$2,210,819 |
| Life, accident and health premiums | 280,122 | 230,441 | 119,160 |
| Investment income | 853,673 | 834,288 | 835,375 |
| Realized gains (losses) on: | | | |
| Securities | (24,140) | (26,581) | 20,152 |
| Subsidiaries | 170 | 4,032 | - |
| Other investments | - | 27,230 | - |
| Other income | 219,869 | 253,025 | 174,601 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 3,923,632 | 3,817,327 | 3,360,107 |
| COSTS AND EXPENSES: | | | |
| Property and casualty insurance: | | | |
| Losses and loss adjustment expenses | 2,080,057 | 1,961,538 | 1,588,651 |
| Commissions and other underwriting expenses | 741,396 | 735,241 | 665,109 |
| Annuity benefits | 294,654 | 293,171 | 262,632 |
| Life, accident and health benefits | 213,022 | 175,174 | 86,439 |
| Interest charges on borrowed money | 60,744 | 67,642 | 63,672 |
| Other operating and general expenses | 477,861 | 474,668 | 391,543 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 3,867,734 | 3,707,434 | 3,058,046 |
| Operating earnings before income taxes | 55,898 | 109,893 | 302,061 |
| Provision for income taxes | 10,078 | 29,041 | 98,198 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Net operating earnings | 45,820 | 80,852 | 203,863 |
| Minority interest expense, net of tax | (34,070) | (35,366) | (39,085) |
| Equity in net losses of investees, net of tax | (16,550) | (92,449) | (17,783) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Earnings (loss) before extraordinary items and accounting changes | (4,800) | (46,963) | 146,995 |
| Extraordinary items - loss on prepayment of debt | - | - | (1,701) |
| Cumulative effect of accounting changes | (10,040) | (9,072) | (3,854) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| NET EARNINGS (LOSS) | (\$ 14,840) | (\$ 56,035) | \$ 141,440 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| BASIC EARNINGS (LOSS) PER COMMON SHARE: | | | |
| Before extraordinary items and accounting changes | (\$.07) | (\$.80) | \$ 2.46 |
| Loss on prepayment of debt | - | - | (.03) |
| Cumulative effect of accounting changes | (.15) | (.15) | (.06) |
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Net earnings (loss) available to Common Shares | (\$.22) | (\$.95) | \$ 2.37 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| DILUTED EARNINGS (LOSS) PER COMMON SHARE: | | | |
| Before extraordinary items and accounting changes | (\$.07) | (\$.80) | \$ 2.44 |
| Loss on prepayment of debt | - | - | (.03) |
| Cumulative effect of accounting changes | (.15) | (.15) | (.06) |
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Net earnings (loss) available to Common Shares | (\$.22) | (\$.95) | \$ 2.35 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Average number of Common Shares: | | | |
| Basic | 67,928 | 58,905 | 59,732 |
| Diluted | 68,368 | 59,074 | 60,210 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

Cash dividends per Common Share \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.00

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-3

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
 (DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

| | Common Shares | Common Stock and Capital Surplus | Retained Earnings | Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Securities |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 1998 | 60,928,322 | \$831,649 | \$527,028 | \$357,500 |
| Net earnings | - | - | 141,440 | - |
| Change in unrealized | - | - | - | (375,700) |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | | | | |
| Dividends on Common Stock | - | - | (59,754) | - |
| Shares issued: | | | | |
| Exercise of stock options | 79,762 | 2,200 | - | - |
| Dividend reinvestment plan | 6,099 | 222 | - | - |
| Employee stock purchase plan | 63,794 | 2,136 | - | - |
| Retirement plan contributions | 57,888 | 2,171 | - | - |
| Portion of bonuses paid in stock | 38,640 | 1,439 | - | - |
| Directors fees paid in stock | 2,683 | 90 | - | - |
| Shares acquired and retired | (2,757,236) | (37,726) | (51,176) | - |
| Tax effect of intercompany dividends | - | (6,400) | - | - |
| Other | - | 4,859 | - | - |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 1999 | 58,419,952 | \$800,640 | \$557,538 | (\$ 18,200) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Net earnings (loss) | - | \$ - | (\$ 56,035) | \$ - |
| Change in unrealized | - | - | - | 158,800 |
| Comprehensive income | | | | |
| Dividends on Common Stock | - | - | (58,571) | - |
| Shares issued: | | | | |
| Public offering | 8,337,500 | 154,783 | - | - |
| Exercise of stock options | 68,523 | 1,376 | - | - |
| Dividend reinvestment plan | 285,694 | 5,731 | - | - |
| Employee stock purchase plan | 70,621 | 1,694 | - | - |
| Retirement plan contributions | 274,716 | 6,242 | - | - |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Directors fees paid in stock | 3,813 | 96 | - | - |
| Shares acquired and retired | (50,728) | (695) | (656) | - |
| Tax effect of intercompany dividends | - | (6,400) | - | - |
| Capital transactions of subsidiaries | - | 178 | - | - |
| Other | - | 2,009 | - | - |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2000 | 67,410,091 | \$965,654 | \$442,276 | \$140,600 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Net earnings (loss) | - | \$ - | (\$ 14,840) | \$ - |
| Change in unrealized | - | - | - | 18,700 |
| Comprehensive income | | | | |
| Dividends on Common Stock | - | - | (67,874) | - |
| Shares issued: | | | | |
| Exercise of stock options | 65,335 | 1,522 | - | - |
| Dividend reinvestment plan | 85,105 | 1,806 | - | - |
| Employee stock purchase plan | 53,370 | 1,365 | - | - |
| Retirement plan contributions | 876,877 | 20,970 | - | - |
| Directors fees paid in stock | 4,044 | 96 | - | - |
| Shares acquired and retired | (3,543) | (51) | (49) | - |
| Tax effect of intercompany dividends | - | (6,400) | - | - |
| Capital transactions of subsidiaries | - | (4,215) | - | - |
| Other | 331 | (1,181) | - | - |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2001 | 68,491,610 | \$979,566 | \$359,513 | \$159,300 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-4

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
(IN THOUSANDS)

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|------------|
| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Net earnings (loss) | (\$ 14,840) | (\$ 56,035) | \$ 141,440 |
| Adjustments: | | | |
| Extraordinary items | - | - | 1,701 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting changes | 10,040 | 9,072 | 3,854 |
| Equity in net losses of investees | 16,550 | 92,449 | 17,783 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 147,588 | 117,388 | 94,984 |
| Annuity benefits | 294,654 | 293,171 | 262,632 |
| Changes in reserves on assets | 10,505 | 3,795 | (8,285) |
| Realized gains on investing activities | (2,604) | (25,173) | (37,988) |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Deferred annuity and life policy acquisition costs | (137,724) | (146,686) | (119,382) |
| Decrease (increase) in reinsurance and other receivables | (309,500) | 70,433 | (112,558) |
| Decrease (increase) in other assets | (42,103) | (87,501) | 58,404 |
| Increase in insurance claims and reserves | 546,522 | 189,587 | 112,721 |
| Increase (decrease) in other liabilities | 158,942 | (28,848) | (50,590) |
| Increase in minority interest | 15,156 | 4,957 | 11,112 |
| Dividends from investees | - | - | 4,799 |
| Other, net | 28,730 | 4,856 | 8,588 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 721,916 | 441,465 | 389,215 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Purchases of and additional investments in: | | | |
| Fixed maturity investments | (3,827,768) | (1,635,578) | (2,049,536) |
| Equity securities | (9,071) | (45,800) | (80,624) |
| Subsidiaries | - | - | (285,971) |
| Real estate, property and equipment | (90,111) | (88,371) | (74,063) |
| Maturities and redemptions of fixed maturity investments | 902,820 | 689,691 | 1,047,169 |
| Sales of: | | | |
| Fixed maturity investments | 2,468,492 | 810,942 | 1,226,111 |
| Equity securities | 15,814 | 84,147 | 100,076 |
| Investees and subsidiaries | 40,395 | 30,694 | - |
| Real estate, property and equipment | 71,002 | 30,150 | 31,354 |
| Cash and short-term investments of acquired (former) subsidiaries, net | (134,237) | (132,163) | 54,331 |
| Decrease (increase) in other investments | (7,827) | 5,637 | 21,439 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | (570,491) | (250,651) | (9,714) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Fixed annuity receipts | 616,628 | 496,742 | 446,430 |
| Annuity surrenders, benefits and withdrawals | (622,474) | (731,856) | (698,281) |
| Net transfers from fixed to variable annuities | (363) | (50,475) | (19,543) |
| Additional long-term borrowings | 242,613 | 182,462 | 614,638 |
| Reductions of long-term debt | (143,840) | (141,577) | (478,657) |
| Issuances of Common Stock | 2,582 | 157,295 | 3,459 |
| Repurchases of Common Stock | - | - | (88,597) |
| Repurchases of trust preferred securities | (75,000) | (2,479) | (5,509) |
| Cash dividends paid | (66,068) | (52,886) | (59,532) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | (45,922) | (142,774) | (285,592) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH AND SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS | 105,503 | 48,040 | 93,909 |
| Cash and short-term investments at beginning of period | 438,670 | 390,630 | 296,721 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Cash and short-term investments at end of period | \$ 544,173 | \$ 438,670 | \$ 390,630 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INDEX TO NOTES

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| A. ACCOUNTING POLICIES | I. SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY |
| B. ACQUISITIONS AND SALES OF SUBSIDIARIES AND INVESTEEES | J. INCOME TAXES |
| C. SEGMENTS OF OPERATIONS | K. EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS |
| D. INVESTMENTS | L. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES |
| E. INVESTMENT IN INVESTEE CORPORATIONS | M. QUARTERLY OPERATING RESULTS |
| F. COST IN EXCESS OF NET ASSETS ACQUIRED | N. INSURANCE |
| G. LONG-TERM DEBT | O. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION |
| H. MINORITY INTEREST | P. SUBSEQUENT EVENT |

A. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PRESENTATION The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of American Financial Group, Inc. ("AFG") and its subsidiaries. Certain reclassifications have been made to prior years to conform to the current year's presentation. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated. All acquisitions have been treated as purchases. The results of operations of companies since their formation or acquisition are included in the consolidated financial statements.

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Changes in circumstances could cause actual results to differ materially from those estimates.

INVESTMENTS All fixed maturity securities are considered "available for sale" and reported at fair value with unrealized gains and losses reported as a separate component of shareholders' equity. Short-term investments are carried at cost; loans receivable are carried primarily at the aggregate unpaid balance. Premiums and discounts on mortgage-backed securities are amortized over a period based on estimated future principal prepayments and adjusted to reflect actual prepayments.

Gains or losses on securities are determined on the specific identification basis. When a decline in the value of a specific investment is considered to be other than temporary, a provision for impairment is charged to earnings and the cost basis of that investment is reduced.

Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 99-20 established a new standard for recognition of impairment on certain asset-backed investments. Impairment losses on these investments must be recognized when (i) the fair value of the security is less than its cost basis and (ii) there has been an adverse change in the expected cash flows. The new standard became effective on April 1, 2001. Impairment losses at initial application of this rule were recognized as the cumulative effect of an accounting change. Subsequent impairments are recognized as a component of net realized gains and losses.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

INVESTMENT IN INVESTEE CORPORATIONS Investments in securities of 20%- to 50%-owned companies are generally carried at cost, adjusted for AFG's proportionate share of their undistributed earnings or losses.

Due to Chiquita's announced intention to pursue a plan to restructure its public debt, AFG wrote down its investment in Chiquita common stock to market value at December 31, 2000. In 2001, AFG suspended accounting for the investment under the equity method due to the expected restructuring, and reclassified the investment to "Other stocks."

F-6

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

COST IN EXCESS OF NET ASSETS ACQUIRED Through December 31, 2001, the excess of cost of subsidiaries over AFG's equity in the underlying net assets ("goodwill") was being amortized over periods of 20 to 40 years. Under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 142 (issued in July 2001), goodwill will no longer be amortized but will be subject to an impairment test at least annually. SFAS No. 142 is effective beginning January 1, 2002, with the initial effect of the standard reported as a first quarter 2002 cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle.

INSURANCE As discussed under "Reinsurance" below, unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses and unearned premiums have not been reduced for reinsurance recoverable.

REINSURANCE In the normal course of business, AFG's insurance subsidiaries cede reinsurance to other companies to diversify risk and limit maximum loss arising from large claims. To the extent that any reinsuring companies are unable to meet obligations under agreements covering reinsurance ceded, AFG's insurance subsidiaries would remain liable. Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the claim liability associated with the reinsured policies. AFG's insurance subsidiaries report as assets (a) the estimated reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses, including an estimate for losses incurred but not reported, and (b) amounts paid to reinsurers applicable to the unexpired terms of policies in force. AFG's insurance subsidiaries also assume reinsurance from other companies. Income on reinsurance assumed is recognized based on reports received from ceding companies.

DEFERRED POLICY ACQUISITION COSTS ("DPAC") Policy acquisition costs (principally commissions, premium taxes and other marketing and underwriting expenses) related to the production of new business are deferred. For the property and casualty companies, DPAC is limited based upon recoverability without any consideration for anticipated investment income and is charged against income ratably over the terms of the related policies.

DPAC related to annuities and universal life insurance products is amortized, with interest, in relation to the present value of expected gross profits on the policies. To the extent that realized gains and losses result in adjustments to the amortization of DPAC related to annuities, such adjustments are reflected as components of realized gains. DPAC related to annuities is also adjusted, net of tax, for the change in amortization that would have been recorded if the unrealized gains (losses) from securities had actually been realized. This adjustment is included in unrealized gains (losses) on marketable securities.

DPAC related to traditional life and health insurance is amortized

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

over the expected premium paying period of the related policies, in proportion to the ratio of annual premium revenues to total anticipated premium revenues.

UNPAID LOSSES AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES The net liabilities stated for unpaid claims and for expenses of investigation and adjustment of unpaid claims are based upon (a) the accumulation of case estimates for losses reported prior to the close of the accounting period on direct business written; (b) estimates received from ceding reinsurers and insurance pools and associations; (c) estimates of unreported losses based on past experience; (d) estimates based on experience of expenses for investigating and adjusting claims and (e) the current state of the law and coverage litigation. These liabilities are subject to the impact of changes in claim amounts and frequency and other factors. Changes in estimates of the liabilities for losses and loss adjustment expenses are reflected in the Statement of Operations in the period in which determined. In spite of the variability inherent in such estimates, management believes that the liabilities for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses are adequate.

F-7

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

ANNUITY BENEFITS ACCUMULATED Annuity receipts and benefit payments are recorded as increases or decreases in "annuity benefits accumulated" rather than as revenue and expense. Increases in this liability for interest credited are charged to expense and decreases for surrender charges are credited to other income.

LIFE, ACCIDENT AND HEALTH RESERVES Liabilities for future policy benefits under traditional life, accident and health policies are computed using the net level premium method. Computations are based on anticipated investment yield, mortality, morbidity and surrenders and include provisions for unfavorable deviations. Reserves established for accident and health claims are modified as necessary to reflect actual experience and developing trends.

VARIABLE ANNUITY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES Separate accounts related to variable annuities represent deposits invested in underlying investment funds on which Great American Financial Resources, Inc. ("GAFRI"), an 83%-owned subsidiary, earns a fee. Investment funds are selected and may be changed only by the policyholder, who retains all investment risk. Accordingly, GAFRI's liability for these accounts equals the value of the account assets.

PREMIUM RECOGNITION Property and casualty premiums are earned over the terms of the policies on a pro rata basis. Unearned premiums represent that portion of premiums written which is applicable to the unexpired terms of policies in force. On reinsurance assumed from other insurance companies or written through various underwriting organizations, unearned premiums are based on reports received from such companies and organizations. For traditional life, accident and health products, premiums are recognized as revenue when legally collectible from policyholders. For interest-sensitive life and universal life products, premiums are recorded in a policyholder account which is reflected as a liability. Revenue is recognized as amounts are assessed against the policyholder account for mortality coverage and contract expenses.

POLICYHOLDER DIVIDENDS Dividends payable to policyholders are

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

included in "Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities" and represent estimates of amounts payable on participating policies which share in favorable underwriting results. Estimates are accrued during the period in which premiums are earned. Changes in estimates are included in income in the period determined. Policyholder dividends do not become legal liabilities unless and until declared by the boards of directors of the insurance companies.

MINORITY INTEREST For balance sheet purposes, minority interest represents the interests of noncontrolling shareholders in AFG subsidiaries, including American Financial Corporation ("AFC") preferred stock and preferred securities issued by trust subsidiaries of AFG. For income statement purposes, minority interest expense represents those shareholders' interest in the earnings of AFG subsidiaries as well as AFC preferred dividends and accrued distributions on the trust preferred securities.

INCOME TAXES AFC files consolidated federal income tax returns which include all 80%-owned U.S. subsidiaries, except for certain life insurance subsidiaries and their subsidiaries. Because holders of AFC Preferred Stock hold in excess of 20% of AFC's voting rights, AFG (parent) and its direct subsidiary, AFC Holding Company ("AFC Holding" or "AFCH"), are not eligible to file consolidated returns with AFC, and therefore, file separately.

Deferred income taxes are calculated using the liability method. Under this method, deferred income tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between financial reporting and tax bases and are measured using enacted tax rates. Deferred tax assets are recognized if it is more likely than not that a benefit will be realized.

STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION As permitted under SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," AFG accounts for stock options and other

F-8

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

stock-based compensation plans using the intrinsic value based method prescribed by Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees." Under AFG's stock option plan, options are granted to officers, directors and key employees at exercise prices equal to the fair value of the shares at the dates of grant. No compensation expense is recognized for stock option grants.

BENEFIT PLANS AFG provides retirement benefits to qualified employees of participating companies through contributory and noncontributory defined contribution plans contained in AFG's Retirement and Savings Plan. Under the retirement portion of the plan, company contributions are invested primarily in securities of AFG and affiliates. Under the savings portion of the plan, AFG matches a specific portion of employee contributions. Contributions to benefit plans are charged against earnings in the year for which they are declared.

AFG and many of its subsidiaries provide health care and life insurance benefits to eligible retirees. AFG also provides postemployment benefits to former or inactive employees (primarily those on disability) who were not deemed retired under other company plans. The projected future cost of providing these benefits is expensed over the period the employees earn such benefits.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

DERIVATIVES Effective October 1, 2000, AFG implemented SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities", which establishes accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments (including derivative instruments that are embedded in other contracts) and for hedging activities. Prior year financial statements were not restated. SFAS No. 133 generally requires that derivatives (both assets and liabilities) be recognized in the balance sheet at fair value with changes in fair value included in current earnings. The cumulative effect of implementing SFAS No. 133, which resulted from the initial recognition of AFG's derivatives at fair value, was a loss of \$9.1 million (net of minority interest and taxes) or \$.15 per diluted share.

Derivatives included in AFG's Balance Sheet consist primarily of investments in common stock warrants (included in other stocks), the equity-based component of certain annuity products (included in annuity benefits accumulated) and call options (included in other investments) used to mitigate the risk embedded in the equity-indexed annuity products.

START-UP COSTS Prior to 1999, GAFRI deferred certain costs associated with introducing new products and distribution channels and amortized them on a straight-line basis over 5 years. In 1999, GAFRI implemented Statement of Position ("SOP") 98-5, "Reporting on the Costs of Start-Up Activities". The SOP requires that (i) costs of start-up activities be expensed as incurred and (ii) unamortized balances of previously deferred costs be expensed and reported as the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. Accordingly, AFG expensed previously capitalized start-up costs of \$3.8 million (net of minority interest and taxes) or \$.06 per diluted share, effective January 1, 1999.

EARNINGS PER SHARE Basic earnings per share is calculated using the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. The calculation of diluted earnings per share includes the following dilutive effects of common stock options: 2001 - 440,000 shares; 2000 - 169,000 shares and 1999 - 478,000 shares.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For cash flow purposes, "investing activities" are defined as making and collecting loans and acquiring and disposing of debt or equity instruments and property and equipment. "Financing activities" include obtaining resources from owners and providing them with a return on their investments, borrowing money and repaying amounts borrowed. Annuity receipts, benefits and withdrawals are also reflected as financing activities. All other activities are considered "operating". Short-term investments having original maturities of three months or less when purchased are considered to be cash equivalents for purposes of the financial statements.

F-9

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

B. ACQUISITIONS AND SALES OF SUBSIDIARIES AND INVESTEEES

SEVEN HILLS INSURANCE COMPANY In July 2001, AFG sold Seven Hills Insurance Company for \$18.4 million, realizing a pretax gain of \$7.1 million. AFG retained all liability for Seven Hills' business related to the period AFG owned the company.

JAPANESE DIVISION In December 2000, AFG agreed to sell its Japanese property and casualty division to Mitsui Marine & Fire Insurance Company

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

of America for \$22 million in cash and recorded an estimated \$10.7 million pretax loss. Upon completion of the sale in March 2001, AFG realized an additional pretax loss of \$6.9 million (including post closing adjustments) and deferred a gain of approximately \$21 million on ceded insurance; the deferred gain is being recognized over the estimated settlement period (weighted average of 4 years) of the ceded claims. At the same time, a reinsurance agreement under which Great American Insurance ceded a portion of its pool of insurance to Mitsui was terminated. The Japanese division generated net written premiums of approximately \$60 million per year to Great American while Great American ceded approximately \$45 million per year to Mitsui.

STONEWALL INSURANCE COMPANY In September 2000, AFG sold Stonewall Insurance Company for \$31.2 million (net of post closing adjustments), realizing a pretax loss of \$10.3 million. Stonewall was a non-operating property and casualty subsidiary with approximately \$320 million in assets, engaged primarily in the run-off of approximately \$170 million in asbestos and environmental liabilities associated with policies written through 1991.

COMMERCIAL LINES DIVISION In 1998, AFG sold its Commercial lines division to Ohio Casualty Corporation for \$300 million cash plus warrants to purchase shares of Ohio Casualty common stock. AFG received an additional \$25 million (included in gains on sales of subsidiaries) in August 2000 under a provision in the sale agreement related to the retention and growth of the insurance businesses sold.

START-UP MANUFACTURING BUSINESSES Since 1998, AFG subsidiaries have made loans to two start-up manufacturing businesses which were previously owned by unrelated third-parties. During 2000, the former owners chose to forfeit their equity interests to AFG rather than invest additional capital. Total loans extended to these businesses prior to forfeiture amounted to \$49.7 million and the accumulated losses of the two businesses were approximately \$29.7 million.

During the fourth quarter of 2000, AFG sold the equity interests to a group of employees for nominal cash consideration plus warrants to repurchase a significant ownership interest. Due to the absence of significant financial investment by the buyers relative to the amount of loans (\$61.5 million at December 31, 2000) owed to AFG subsidiaries, the sale was not recognized as a divestiture for accounting purposes. Assets of the businesses (\$57.1 million at December 31, 2001 and \$55.3 million at December 31, 2000) are included in other assets; liabilities of the businesses (\$11.8 million at December 31, 2001 and \$7.5 million at December 31, 2000, after consolidation and elimination of loans from AFG subsidiaries) are included in other liabilities. AFG's equity in the losses of these two companies during 2001 and the fourth quarter of 2000 of \$16.6 million and \$4.1 million, respectively, is included in investee losses in the Statement of Operations.

WORLDWIDE INSURANCE COMPANY In 1999, AFG acquired Worldwide Insurance Company for \$157 million in cash. Worldwide is a provider of direct response private passenger automobile insurance.

UNITED TEACHER ASSOCIATES In 1999, GAFRI acquired United Teacher Associates Insurance Company of Austin, Texas ("UTA") for \$81 million in cash. UTA provides supplemental health products and retirement annuities, and purchases blocks of insurance policies from other insurers.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

GREAT AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL In 1999, GAFRI acquired Great American Life Insurance Company of New York, formerly Old Republic Life Insurance Company of New York, for \$27 million and Consolidated Financial Corporation, an insurance agency, for \$21 million.

- C. SEGMENTS OF OPERATIONS AFG's property and casualty group is engaged primarily in specialty and private passenger automobile insurance businesses. The Specialty group includes a highly diversified group of specialty business units. Some of the more significant areas are inland and ocean marine, California workers' compensation, agricultural-related coverages, executive and professional liability, fidelity and surety bonds, collateral protection, and umbrella and excess coverages. The Personal group writes nonstandard and preferred/standard private passenger auto and other personal insurance coverage. AFG's annuity and life business markets primarily retirement products as well as life and supplemental health insurance. AFG's businesses operate throughout the United States. In 2001, 2000, and 1999, AFG derived less than 2% of its revenues from the sale of life and supplemental health products in Puerto Rico and less than 1% of its revenues from the sale of property and casualty insurance in Mexico, Canada, Puerto Rico, Europe and Asia.

The following tables (in thousands) show AFG's assets, revenues and operating profit (loss) by significant business segment. Operating profit (loss) represents total revenues less operating expenses.

| | 2001 ---- | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Property and casualty insurance (a) | \$ 8,796,909 | \$ 8,200,683 | \$ 8,158,371 |
| Annuities and life | 8,370,904 | 7,934,851 | 7,523,570 |
| Other | 233,868 | 256,011 | 212,150 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 17,401,681 | 16,391,545 | 15,894,091 |
| Investment in investees | - | 23,996 | 159,984 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$17,401,681 | \$16,415,541 | \$16,054,075 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| REVENUES (b) | | | |
| Property and casualty insurance: | | | |
| Premiums earned: | | | |
| Specialty | \$ 1,409,497 | \$ 1,223,435 | \$ 1,047,858 |
| Personal | 1,182,651 | 1,270,328 | 1,163,223 |
| Other lines (c) | 1,790 | 1,129 | (262) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 2,593,938 | 2,494,892 | 2,210,819 |
| Investment and other income | 458,410 | 450,537 | 450,829 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 3,052,348 | 2,945,429 | 2,661,648 |
| Annuities and life (d) | 855,733 | 823,586 | 665,661 |
| Other | 15,551 | 48,312 | 32,798 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$ 3,923,632 | \$ 3,817,327 | \$ 3,360,107 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS) | | | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

Property and casualty insurance:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Underwriting: | | | |
| Specialty | (\$ 23,274) | (\$ 94,857) | (\$ 28,015) |
| Personal | (93,254) | (108,372) | (7,685) |
| Other lines (c) (e) | (110,987) | 1,342 | (7,241) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | (227,515) | (201,887) | (42,941) |
| Investment and other income | 296,725 | 289,549 | 282,440 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 69,210 | 87,662 | 239,499 |
| Annuities and life | 100,864 | 96,211 | 110,750 |
| Other (f) | (114,176) | (73,980) | (48,188) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$ 55,898 | \$ 109,893 | \$ 302,061 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

- (a) Not allocable to segments.
(b) Revenues include sales of products and services as well as other income earned by the respective segments.
(c) Represents lines in "run-off"; AFG has ceased underwriting new business in these operations.
(d) Represents primarily investment income.
(e) Includes a charge of \$100 million in 2001 related to asbestos and other environmental matters ("A&E").
(f) Includes holding company expenses.

F-11

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

- D. INVESTMENTS Fixed maturities and other stocks at December 31 consisted of the following (in millions):

| | 2001 | | 2000 | | 2001 | |
|--|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Amortized Cost | Market Value | Gross Gains | Unrealized Losses | Amortized Cost | Market Value |
| Fixed maturities: | | | | | | |
| United States Government and government agencies and authorities | \$ 1,000.1 | \$ 1,017.8 | \$ 21.7 | (\$ 4.0) | \$ 537.9 | \$ 553.0 |
| States, municipalities and political subdivisions | 405.6 | 414.9 | 16.2 | (6.9) | 416.6 | 426.0 |
| Foreign government | 105.5 | 108.8 | 3.5 | (.2) | 84.1 | 86.0 |
| Public utilities | 772.0 | 778.8 | 14.4 | (7.6) | 634.7 | 637.0 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 2,632.9 | 2,702.5 | 89.5 | (19.9) | 2,604.2 | 2,670.0 |
| All other corporate | 5,616.7 | 5,673.5 | 160.1 | (103.3) | 5,809.4 | 5,734.0 |
| Redeemable preferred stocks | 60.5 | 52.3 | .8 | (9.0) | 61.4 | 55.0 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$10,593.3 | \$10,748.6 | \$306.2 | (150.9) | \$10,148.3 | \$10,164.0 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Other stocks | \$ 187.8 | \$ 313.7 | \$135.7 | (\$ 9.8) | \$ 175.0 | \$ 385.0 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

The table below sets forth the scheduled maturities of fixed maturities based on market value as of December 31, 2001. Data based on amortized cost is generally the same. Mortgage-backed securities had an average life of approximately five years at December 31, 2001.

| MATURITY | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| ----- | |
| One year or less | 4% |
| After one year through five years | 25 |
| After five years through ten years | 30 |
| After ten years | 16 |
| | --- |
| | 75 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 25 |
| | --- |
| | 100% |
| | === |

Certain risks are inherent in connection with fixed maturity securities, including loss upon default, price volatility in reaction to changes in interest rates, and general market factors and risks associated with reinvestment of proceeds due to prepayments or redemptions in a period of declining interest rates.

The only investment which exceeds 10% of Shareholders' Equity is an equity investment in Provident Financial Group, Inc., having a market value of \$191 million and \$272 million at December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Realized gains (losses) and changes in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on fixed maturity and equity security investments are summarized as follows (in thousands):

| | Fixed Maturities | Equity Securities | Tax Effects | Tot |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 2001 | | | | |
| ----- | | | | |
| Realized | (\$ 15,315) | (\$ 8,825) | \$ 8,451 | (\$ 15,689) |
| Change in Unrealized | 139,000 | (84,500) | (19,200) | 35,290 |
| 2000 | | | | |
| ----- | | | | |
| Realized | (24,186) | (2,395) | 9,303 | (17,278) |
| Change in Unrealized | 255,200 | 29,900 | (98,200) | 186,890 |
| 1999 | | | | |
| ----- | | | | |
| Realized | (13,092) | 33,244 | (7,053) | 13,099 |
| Change in Unrealized | (641,900) | (42,500) | 237,500 | (446,900) |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

Gross gains and losses on fixed maturity investment transactions included in the Statement of Cash Flows consisted of the following (in millions):

| | 2001 ---- | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Gross Gains | \$108.9 | \$15.9 | \$29.2 |
| Gross Losses | (\$124.2) | (\$40.1) | (\$42.3) |

- E. INVESTMENT IN INVESTEE CORPORATIONS Investment in investee corporations at December 31, 2000, reflects AFG's ownership of 24 million shares (36%) of Chiquita common stock. The market value of this investment was \$24 million at December 31, 2000. Chiquita is a leading international marketer, producer and distributor of quality fresh fruits and vegetables and processed foods.

Summarized financial information for Chiquita at December 31 is shown below (in millions).

| | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Current Assets | \$ 847 | |
| Noncurrent Assets | 1,570 | |
| Current Liabilities | 613 | |
| Noncurrent Liabilities | 1,221 | |
| Shareholders' Equity | 583 | |
| | | |
| Net Sales | \$2,254 | \$2,556 |
| Operating Income | 27 | 42 |
| Net Loss | (95) | (58) |
| Net Loss Attributable to Common Shares | (112) | (75) |

Chiquita's results for 2000 include \$20 million in charges and writedowns of production and sourcing assets; 1999 results include a \$9 million charge resulting from a workforce reduction program.

In January 2001, Chiquita announced a restructuring initiative that included discontinuing all interest and principal payments on its public debt. Due to the expected restructuring, AFG recorded a fourth quarter 2000 pretax charge of \$95.7 million to write down its investment in Chiquita to quoted market value at December 31, 2000. In 2001, AFG suspended accounting for the investment under the equity method and reclassified the investment to "Other stocks". In the third quarter of 2001, AFG wrote down its investment in Chiquita by an additional \$8 million (to \$.67 per share). On March 8, 2002, the court approved Chiquita's plan of reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. The plan calls for the conversion of over \$700 million in principal and accrued interest related to Chiquita's public debt into common equity. As a result, AFG will receive approximately 171,000 "new" shares (less than one-half of 1%) in the reorganized company plus warrants expiring in 2009 to purchase an additional 2.9 million shares at \$19.23 per share.

- F. COST IN EXCESS OF NET ASSETS ACQUIRED Amortization expense for the excess of cost over net assets of purchased subsidiaries was \$14.4 million in 2001, \$17.2 million in 2000 and \$14.3 million in 1999. At December 31, 2001 and 2000, accumulated amortization amounted to approximately \$182 million and \$168 million, respectively.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

G. LONG-TERM DEBT Long-term debt consisted of the following at December 31, (in thousands):

| | 2001 | 2000 |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| | ---- | ---- |
| HOLDING COMPANIES: | | |
| AFG 7-1/8% Senior Debentures due April 2009, less discount of \$1,742 and \$1,919 (imputed rate - 7.2%) | \$301,108 | \$300,931 |
| AFG 7-1/8% Senior Debentures due December 2007 | 79,600 | 79,600 |
| AFC notes payable under bank line | 203,000 | 178,000 |
| American Premier Underwriters, Inc. ("APU") 10-7/8% Subordinated Notes due May 2011, including premium of \$836 and \$890 (imputed rate - 9.6%) | 11,557 | 11,611 |
| Other | 13,695 | 14,727 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | \$608,960 | \$584,869 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| SUBSIDIARIES: | | |
| GAFRI 6-7/8% Senior Notes due June 2008 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 |
| GAFRI notes payable under bank line | 121,100 | 48,500 |
| Notes payable secured by real estate | 36,253 | 31,201 |
| Other | 13,399 | 15,386 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | \$270,752 | \$195,087 |
| | ===== | ===== |

At December 31, 2001, sinking fund and other scheduled principal payments on debt for the subsequent five years were as follows (in millions):

| | Holding Companies | Subsidiaries | Total |
|------|----------------------|--------------|---------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 2002 | \$213.7 | \$1.2 | \$214.9 |
| 2003 | - | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| 2004 | - | 122.4 | 122.4 |
| 2005 | - | 10.4 | 10.4 |
| 2006 | - | 19.1 | 19.1 |

Debentures purchased in excess of scheduled payments may be applied to satisfy any sinking fund requirement. The scheduled principal payments shown above assume that debentures previously purchased are applied to the earliest scheduled retirements.

AFC and GAFRI each have an unsecured credit agreement with a group of banks under which they can borrow up to \$300 million and \$155 million, respectively. Borrowings bear interest at floating rates based on prime or Eurodollar rates. Loans mature in December 2002 under the AFC credit agreement and in December 2004 under the GAFRI credit agreement. At December 31, 2001, the weighted average interest rates on amounts borrowed under the AFC and GAFRI bank credit lines were 2.38% and 2.88%, respectively.

Cash interest payments of \$51 million, \$56 million and \$55 million were made on long-term debt in 2001, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

F-14

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

H. MINORITY INTEREST Minority interest in AFG's balance sheet is comprised of the following (in thousands):

| | 2001 | 2000 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| | ---- | ---- |
| Interest of noncontrolling shareholders | | |
| in subsidiaries' common stock | \$140,913 | \$119,216 |
| Preferred securities issued by | | |
| subsidiary trusts | 241,663 | 316,663 |
| AFC preferred stock | 72,154 | 72,154 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | \$454,730 | \$508,033 |
| | ===== | ===== |

PREFERRED SECURITIES Wholly-owned subsidiary trusts of AFG and GAFRI have issued preferred securities and, in turn, purchased a like amount of subordinated debt which provides interest and principal payments to fund the respective trusts' obligations. The preferred securities must be redeemed upon maturity or redemption of the subordinated debt. AFG and GAFRI effectively provide unconditional guarantees of their respective trusts' obligations.

The preferred securities consisted of the following (in thousands):

| Date of Issuance | Issue (Maturity Date) | 2001 | 2000 | Optional Redemption Dates |
|---------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|------------------------------|
| ----- | ----- | ---- | ---- | ----- |
| October 1996 | AFCH 9-1/8% TOPrS (2026) | \$98,750 | \$98,750 | Currently redeemable |
| November 1996 | GAFRI 9-1/4% TOPrS (2026) | 72,913 | 72,913 | Currently redeemable |
| March 1997 | GAFRI 8-7/8% Pfd (2027) | 70,000 | 70,000 | On or after 3/1/2007 |
| May 1997 | GAFRI 7-1/4% ROPES (2041) | - | 75,000 | |

In September 2001, GAFRI redeemed its ROPES for \$75 million in cash. In 2000, AFG and GAFRI repurchased \$1.3 million and \$1.7 million of their preferred securities for \$1.1 million and \$1.4 million in cash, respectively.

AFC PREFERRED STOCK AFC's Preferred Stock is voting, cumulative, and consists of the following:

SERIES J, no par value; \$25.00 liquidating value per share; annual dividends per share \$2.00; redeemable at AFC's option at \$25.75 per share beginning December 2005 declining to \$25.00 at December 2007 and thereafter; 2,886,161 shares (stated value \$72.2 million) outstanding at December 31, 2001 and 2000.

MINORITY INTEREST EXPENSE Minority interest expense is comprised of (in thousands):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|------|------|------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Interest of noncontrolling shareholders | | | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| in earnings of subsidiaries | \$11,366 | \$11,775 | \$15,308 |
| Accrued distributions by subsidiaries | | | |
| on preferred securities: | | | |
| Trust issued securities, net of tax | 16,932 | 17,819 | 18,005 |
| AFC preferred stock | 5,772 | 5,772 | 5,772 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$34,070 | \$35,366 | \$39,085 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

F-15

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

- I. **SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY** At December 31, 2001, there were 68,491,610 shares of AFG Common Stock outstanding, including 1,362,784 shares held by American Premier for possible distribution to certain creditors and other claimants upon proper claim presentation and settlement pursuant to the 1978 plan of reorganization of American Premier's predecessor, The Penn Central Corporation. Shares being held for distribution are not eligible to vote but otherwise are accounted for as issued and outstanding. In December 2000, AFG issued 8.3 million Common Shares at \$19.625 per share in a public offering. AFG is authorized to issue 12.5 million shares of Voting Preferred Stock and 12.5 million shares of Nonvoting Preferred Stock, each without par value.

STOCK OPTIONS At December 31, 2001, there were 9.7 million shares of AFG Common Stock reserved for issuance under AFG's Stock Option Plan. Options are granted with an exercise price equal to the market price of AFG Common Stock at the date of grant. Options generally become exercisable at the rate of 20% per year commencing one year after grant; those granted to nonemployee directors of AFG are fully exercisable upon grant. Options generally expire ten years after the date of grant. Data for AFG's Stock Option Plan is presented below:

| | 2001 | | 2000 | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| | Shares | Average Exercise Price | Shares | Average Exercise Price |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Outstanding at beginning of year | 6,452,496 | \$27.86 | 4,664,108 | \$31.28 |
| Granted | 20,500 | \$26.22 | 1,997,000 | \$19.81 |
| Exercised | (65,335) | \$21.39 | (68,523) | \$18.22 |
| Forfeited | (318,530) | \$28.16 | (140,089) | \$31.65 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Outstanding at end of year | 6,089,131 | \$27.91 | 6,452,496 | \$27.86 |
| Options exercisable at year-end | 3,818,305 | \$29.23 | 3,226,294 | \$29.38 |

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding at December 31, 2001:

| Range of Exercise Prices | Options Outstanding | | | Options Exercisable | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| | Shares | Average Exercise Price | Average Remaining Life | Shares | Average Exercise Price |
| \$18.56 - \$20.00 | 1,836,073 | \$19.79 | 8.6 years | 360,273 | \$19.78 |
| \$20.01 - \$25.00 | 1,181,362 | \$23.97 | 3.3 " | 1,181,362 | \$23.97 |
| \$25.01 - \$30.00 | 333,270 | \$26.98 | 3.6 " | 287,470 | \$27.02 |
| \$30.01 - \$35.00 | 957,250 | \$30.42 | 4.1 " | 943,350 | \$30.37 |
| \$35.01 - \$40.00 | 1,493,676 | \$36.81 | 6.3 " | 868,650 | \$37.12 |
| \$40.01 - \$45.19 | 287,500 | \$42.41 | 6.2 " | 177,200 | \$42.45 |

No compensation cost has been recognized for stock option grants. Had compensation cost been determined for stock option awards based on the fair values at grant dates consistent with the method prescribed by SFAS No. 123, AFG's net income would have decreased by \$3.7 million (\$.05 per share, diluted) in 2001, \$4.9 million (\$.08 per share) in 2000, and \$5.0 million (\$.08 per share) in 1999. The weighted-average fair value per option granted was \$8.18, \$5.38 and \$8.32 in 2001, 2000 and 1999, respectively. For SFAS No. 123 purposes, calculations were determined using the Black-Scholes option pricing model and the following weighted-average assumptions: dividend yield of 2% for 2001 and 3% for 2000 and 1999; expected volatility of 27% for 2001, 24% for 2000 and 22% for 1999; weighted average risk-free interest rate of 5.3% for 2001, 6% for 2000 and 5.4% for 1999; and expected life of 7.4 years for 2001 and 2000 and 7.3 years for 1999.

F-16

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON MARKETABLE SECURITIES, NET The change in unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities included the following (in millions):

| | Pretax | Tax Effects | Minority Interest | Ne |
|------|--------|-------------|-------------------|-------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 2001 | | | | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Unrealized holding gains (losses) on securities arising during the period | \$ 0.8 | (\$ 0.3) | (\$ 4.1) | (\$ 3.0) |
| Adoption of EITF 99-20 | 16.9 | (6.0) | (0.9) | 10.0 |
| Realized losses included in net income and unrealized gains of subsidiary sold | 23.6 | (8.3) | (3.0) | 12.3 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Change in unrealized gain on marketable securities, net | \$ 41.3 | (\$ 14.6) | (\$ 8.0) | \$ 18.7 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| 2000 | | | | |
| ----- | | | | |
| Unrealized holding gains on securities arising during the period | \$221.1 | (\$ 75.8) | (\$14.5) | \$130.9 |
| Adoption of SFAS No. 133 | 15.0 | (5.3) | - | 9.7 |
| Realized gains included in net income and unrealized losses of subsidiary sold | 31.3 | (10.9) | (2.1) | 18.3 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Change in unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities, net | \$267.4 | (\$ 92.0) | (\$16.6) | \$158.7 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| 1999 | | | | |
| ----- | | | | |
| Unrealized holding losses on securities arising during the period | (\$612.1) | \$212.1 | \$38.4 | (\$361.6) |
| Realized gains included in net income | (20.2) | 7.1 | (1.0) | (14.1) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Change in unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities, net | (\$632.3) | \$219.2 | \$37.4 | (\$375.5) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |

J. INCOME TAXES The following is a reconciliation of income taxes at the statutory rate of 35% and income taxes as shown in the Statement of Operations (in thousands):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Earnings (loss) before income taxes: | | | |
| Operating | \$55,898 | \$109,893 | \$302,061 |
| Minority interest expense | (43,187) | (44,961) | (48,780) |
| Equity in net losses of investees | (25,462) | (142,230) | (27,357) |
| Extraordinary items | - | - | (2,617) |
| Accounting changes | (15,948) | (13,882) | (6,370) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Total | (\$28,699) | (\$ 91,180) | \$216,937 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Income taxes at statutory rate | (\$10,045) | (\$ 31,913) | \$ 75,928 |
| Effect of: | | | |
| Adjustment to prior year taxes | (6,317) | - | - |
| Minority interest | 5,672 | 6,187 | 7,093 |
| Amortization of intangibles | 4,526 | 5,495 | 4,686 |
| Effect of foreign operations | (3,421) | 951 | (550) |
| Dividends received deduction | (2,317) | (2,378) | (2,783) |
| Nondeductible meals, etc. | 1,381 | 1,300 | 776 |
| Losses utilized | (1,245) | (7,000) | (5,250) |
| Tax credits | (1,243) | (5,757) | (1,900) |
| Tax exempt interest | (1,233) | (1,571) | (1,721) |
| State income taxes | 781 | 298 | 332 |
| Other | (398) | (757) | (1,114) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Provision (Credit) | (13,859) | (35,145) | 75,497 |
| Amounts applicable to: | | | |
| Minority interest expense | 9,117 | 9,595 | 9,695 |
| Equity in net losses of investees | 8,912 | 49,781 | 9,574 |
| Extraordinary items | - | - | 916 |
| Accounting changes | 5,908 | 4,810 | 2,516 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Provision for income taxes as shown on the Statement of Operations | \$10,078 | \$ 29,041 | \$ 98,198 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

F-17

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

Total earnings before income taxes include income subject to tax in foreign jurisdictions of \$8.3 million in 2001, \$10.6 million in 2000 and \$8.1 million in 1999.

The total income tax provision (credit) consists of (in thousands):

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Current taxes: | | | |
| Federal | \$44,715 | \$13,880 | (\$ 5,434) |
| Foreign | - | 1,106 | 32 |
| State | 1,201 | 459 | 511 |
| Deferred taxes: | | | |
| Federal | (59,042) | (50,070) | 81,419 |
| Foreign | (733) | (520) | (1,031) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | (\$13,859) | (\$35,145) | \$75,497 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

For income tax purposes, certain members of the AFC consolidated tax group had the following carryforwards available at December 31, 2001 (in millions):

| | | Expiring | Amount |
|---------------------|---|-------------|--------|
| | | ----- | ----- |
| | { | 2002 - 2006 | \$ 83 |
| Operating Loss | { | 2007 - 2016 | - |
| | { | 2017 - 2021 | 112 |
| Other - Tax Credits | | | 12 |

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities reflect temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities recognized for financial reporting purposes and the amounts recognized for tax purposes. The significant components of deferred tax assets and liabilities included in the Balance Sheet at December 31, were as follows (in millions):

| | 2001 | | 2000 |
|----------------------|------|--|------|
| | ---- | | ---- |
| Deferred tax assets: | | | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Net operating loss carryforwards | \$ 68.3 | \$ 78.8 |
| Insurance claims and reserves | 268.2 | 244.3 |
| Other, net | 106.5 | 90.0 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 443.0 | 413.1 |
| Valuation allowance for deferred tax assets | (40.9) | (39.6) |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 402.1 | 373.5 |
| Deferred tax liabilities: | | |
| Deferred acquisition costs | (231.5) | (205.8) |
| Investment securities | (101.1) | (121.1) |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | (332.6) | (326.9) |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Net deferred tax asset | \$ 69.5 | \$ 46.6 |
| | ===== | ===== |

The gross deferred tax asset has been reduced by a valuation allowance based on an analysis of the likelihood of realization. Factors considered in assessing the need for a valuation allowance include: (i) recent tax returns, which show neither a history of large amounts of taxable income nor cumulative losses in recent years, (ii) opportunities to generate taxable income from sales of appreciated assets, and (iii) the likelihood of generating larger amounts of taxable income in the future. The likelihood of realizing this asset will be reviewed periodically; any adjustments required to the valuation allowance will be made in the period in which the developments on which they are based become known.

Cash payments for income taxes, net of refunds, were \$6.6 million, \$27.8 million and \$9.7 million for 2001, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

F-18

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

- K. EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS Extraordinary items represent AFG's proportionate share of gains and losses related to debt retirements by the following companies. Amounts shown are net of minority interest and income taxes (in thousands):

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| | 1999 |
| | ---- |
| AFG (parent) | \$2,295 |
| AFC (parent) | (2,993) |
| APU (parent) | (1,003) |
| | ----- |
| | (\$1,701) |
| | ===== |

- L. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES Loss accruals (included in other liabilities) have been recorded for various environmental and occupational injury and disease claims and other contingencies arising out of the railroad operations disposed of by American Premier's predecessor, Penn Central Transportation Company ("PCTC"), prior to its bankruptcy reorganization in 1978 and certain manufacturing operations disposed of by American Premier.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

At December 31, 2001, American Premier had liabilities for environmental and personal injury claims aggregating \$82.2 million. The environmental claims consist of a number of proceedings and claims seeking to impose responsibility for hazardous waste remediation costs related to certain sites formerly owned or operated by the railroad and manufacturing operations. Remediation costs are difficult to estimate for a number of reasons, including the number and financial resources of other potentially responsible parties, the range of costs for remediation alternatives, changing technology and the time period over which these matters develop. The personal injury claims include pending and expected claims, primarily by former employees of PCTC, for injury or disease allegedly caused by exposure to excessive noise, asbestos or other substances in the workplace. In December 2001, American Premier recorded a \$12.1 million charge to increase its environmental reserves due to an increase in expected ultimate claim costs. At December 31, 2001, American Premier had \$57 million of offsetting recovery assets (included in other assets) for such environmental and personal injury claims based upon estimates of probable recoveries from insurance carriers.

AFG has accrued approximately \$13.4 million at December 31, 2001, for environmental costs and certain other matters associated with the sales of former operations.

AFG's insurance subsidiaries continue to receive claims related to environmental exposures, asbestos and other mass tort claims. Establishing reserves for these claims is subject to uncertainties that are significantly greater than those presented by other types of claims. The liability for asbestos and environmental reserves at December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively, was \$548 million and \$463 million; related recoverables from reinsurers (net of allowances for doubtful accounts) at those dates were \$101 million and \$105 million, respectively.

While management believes AFG has recorded adequate reserves for the items discussed in this note, the outcome is uncertain and could result in liabilities exceeding amounts AFG has currently recorded. Additional amounts could have a material adverse effect on AFG's future results of operations and financial condition. For a discussion of the uncertainties inherent in asbestos and environmental claims, see MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - "UNCERTAINTIES - PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE RESERVES", "UNCERTAINTIES - LITIGATION", AND "SPECIAL A&E CHARGE".

- M. QUARTERLY OPERATING RESULTS (UNAUDITED) The operations of certain of AFG's business segments are seasonal in nature. While insurance premiums are recognized on a relatively level basis, claim losses related to adverse weather (snow, hail, hurricanes, tornadoes, etc.) may be seasonal. Quarterly results necessarily rely heavily on estimates. These estimates and certain other factors, such as the nature of investees' operations and discretionary sales of assets, cause the quarterly results not to be necessarily indicative of results for longer periods of time.

F-19

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

The following are quarterly results of consolidated operations for the two years ended December 31, 2001 (in millions, except per share amounts).

| | 1st Quarter | 2nd Quarter | 3rd Quarter | 4th Quarter |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| 2001 | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Revenues | \$972.3 | \$993.2 | \$1,014.8 | \$943.3 |
| Earnings (loss) before accounting change | 13.1 | 6.3 | (55.7) | 31.5 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change | - | (10.0) | - | - |
| Net earnings (loss) | 13.1 | (3.7) | (55.7) | 31.5 |
| Basic earnings (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Before accounting change | \$.19 | \$.09 | (\$.82) | \$.46 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change | - | (.15) | - | - |
| Net earnings (loss) available to Common Shares | .19 | (.06) | (.82) | .46 |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Before accounting change | \$.19 | \$.09 | (\$.81) | \$.46 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change | - | (.15) | - | - |
| Net earnings (loss) available to Common Shares | .19 | (.06) | (.81) | .46 |
| Average number of Common Shares: | | | | |
| Basic | 67.5 | 67.9 | 68.0 | 68.3 |
| Diluted | 67.9 | 68.5 | 68.5 | 68.6 |

| 2000 | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Revenues | \$884.1 | \$959.2 | \$1,012.6 | \$961.4 |
| Earnings (loss) before accounting change | 44.7 | 16.3 | (22.2) | (85.7) |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change | - | - | - | (9.1) |
| Net earnings (loss) | 44.7 | 16.3 | (22.2) | (94.8) |
| Basic earnings (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Before accounting change | \$.76 | \$.28 | (\$.38) | (\$1.43) |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change | - | - | - | (.15) |
| Net earnings (loss) available to Common Shares | .76 | .28 | (.38) | (1.58) |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Before accounting change | \$.76 | \$.28 | (\$.38) | (\$1.43) |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change | - | - | - | (.15) |
| Net earnings (loss) available to Common Shares | .76 | .28 | (.38) | (1.58) |
| Average number of Common Shares: | | | | |
| Basic | 58.5 | 58.5 | 58.6 | 60.0 |
| Diluted | 58.5 | 58.9 | 58.8 | 60.1 |

Quarterly earnings per share do not add to year-to-date amounts due to changes in shares outstanding.

The 2001 third quarter results include a \$100 million pretax charge to strengthen asbestos and environmental insurance reserves and pretax losses of \$25 million resulting from the World Trade Center terrorist attack.

The 2000 second quarter results include pretax charges of \$32.5 million related to an agreement to settle a lawsuit against a GAFRI subsidiary and \$8.8 million for an adverse California Supreme Court ruling against an AFG property and casualty subsidiary. The 2000 third quarter results include a \$35 million pretax charge for reserve strengthening in the California workers' compensation business, partially offset by \$11.2 million in income from the sale of certain lease rights. Fourth quarter 2000 results include a \$95.7 million pretax writedown of AFG's Chiquita investment, partially offset by \$11.8 million in income from the sale of certain lease rights.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

AFG has realized gains (losses) on sales of subsidiaries in recent years (see Note B). Realized gains (losses) on securities, affiliates and other investments amounted to (in millions):

| | 1st Quarter ----- | 2nd Quarter ----- | 3rd Quarter ----- | 4th Quarter ----- | Total Year ----- |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 2001 | (\$8.5) | (\$26.4) | \$7.0 | \$3.9 | (\$24.0) |
| 2000 | (1.4) | 21.1 | 6.0 | (21.0) | 4.7 |

F-20

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

- N. INSURANCE Securities owned by insurance subsidiaries having a carrying value of about \$940 million at December 31, 2001, were on deposit as required by regulatory authorities.

INSURANCE RESERVES The liability for losses and loss adjustment expenses for certain long-term scheduled payments under workers' compensation, auto liability and other liability insurance has been discounted at about 8%, an approximation of long-term investment yields. As a result, the total liability for losses and loss adjustment expenses at December 31, 2001, has been reduced by \$24 million.

The following table provides an analysis of changes in the liability for losses and loss adjustment expenses, net of reinsurance (and grossed up), over the past three years on a GAAP basis (in millions):

| | 2001 ---- | 2000 ---- | 1999 ---- |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Balance at beginning of period | \$3,192 | \$3,224 | \$3,305 |
| Provision for losses and LAE occurring in the current year | 1,950 | 2,056 | 1,691 |
| Net increase (decrease) in provision for claims of prior years | 163 | (60) | (74) |
| Total losses and LAE incurred (*) | 2,113 | 1,996 | 1,617 |
| Payments for losses and LAE of: | | | |
| Current year | (831) | (905) | (780) |
| Prior years | (1,036) | (936) | (986) |
| Total payments | (1,867) | (1,841) | (1,766) |
| Reserves of businesses acquired or sold, net | (120) | (187) | 57 |
| Reclass to unearned premiums | (65) | - | - |
| Reclassification of allowance for uncollectible reinsurance | - | - | 11 |
| Balance at end of period | \$3,253 ===== | \$3,192 ===== | \$3,224 ===== |
| Add back reinsurance recoverables, net | | | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| of allowance | 1,525 | 1,324 | 1,571 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Gross unpaid losses and LAE included in the Balance Sheet | \$4,778 | \$4,516 | \$4,795 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

(*) Before amortization of deferred gains on retroactive reinsurance of \$33 million in 2001, \$34 million in 2000 and \$28 million in 1999.

NET INVESTMENT INCOME The following table shows (in millions) investment income earned and investment expenses incurred by AFG's insurance companies.

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Insurance group investment income: | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$841.0 | \$815.5 | \$806.1 |
| Equity securities | 8.1 | 10.4 | 12.2 |
| Other | 1.1 | 4.3 | .9 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 850.2 | 830.2 | 819.2 |
| Insurance group investment expenses (*) | (36.8) | (41.4) | (39.6) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | \$813.4 | \$788.8 | \$779.6 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

(*) Included primarily in "Other operating and general expenses" in the Statement of Operations.

F-21

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

STATUTORY INFORMATION AFG's insurance subsidiaries are required to file financial statements with state insurance regulatory authorities prepared on an accounting basis prescribed or permitted by such authorities (statutory basis). Net earnings and policyholders' surplus on a statutory basis for the insurance subsidiaries were as follows (in millions):

| | Net Earnings | | | Policyholders' Surplus | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|------|-------|---------------------------|---------|
| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | 2001 | 2000 |
| | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Property and casualty companies | \$34 | \$10 | \$170 | \$1,669 | \$1,763 |
| Life insurance companies | (25) | 40 | 37 | 414 | 384 |

In January 2001, AFG's insurance companies adopted the Codification of Statutory Accounting Principles. The cumulative effect of these changes at adoption increased the surplus of the property and casualty companies by \$44 million; the effect on surplus of the life insurance companies was not material.

REINSURANCE In the normal course of business, AFG's insurance subsidiaries

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

assume and cede reinsurance with other insurance companies. The following table shows (in millions) (i) amounts deducted from property and casualty written and earned premiums in connection with reinsurance ceded, (ii) written and earned premiums included in income for reinsurance assumed and (iii) reinsurance recoveries deducted from losses and loss adjustment expenses.

| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Direct premiums written | \$3,560 | \$3,365 | \$3,113 |
| Reinsurance assumed | 94 | 76 | 48 |
| Reinsurance ceded | (1,101) | (803) | (898) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Net written premiums | \$2,553 (*) | \$2,638 | \$2,263 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| | | | |
| Direct premiums earned | \$3,393 | \$3,306 | \$3,056 |
| Reinsurance assumed | 92 | 45 | 45 |
| Reinsurance ceded | (891) | (856) | (890) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Net earned premiums | \$2,594 | \$2,495 | \$2,211 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| | | | |
| Reinsurance recoveries | \$ 773 | \$ 567 | \$ 811 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

(*) Net of \$29.7 million unearned premium transfer related to the sale of the Japanese division.

- O. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Total rental expense for various leases of office space and equipment was \$53 million, \$44 million and \$39 million for 2001, 2000 and 1999, respectively. Sublease rental income related to these leases totaled \$2.4 million in 2001, \$2.5 million in 2000 and \$2.6 million in 1999.

Future minimum rentals, related principally to office space, required under operating leases having initial or remaining noncancelable lease terms in excess of one year at December 31, 2001, were as follows: 2002 - \$55 million; 2003 - \$47 million; 2004 - \$35 million; 2005 - \$21 million; 2006 - \$15 million; and \$36 million thereafter.

Other operating and general expenses included charges for possible losses on agents' balances, other receivables and other assets in the following amounts: 2001 - \$14.6 million; 2000 - \$9.7 million; and 1999 - \$5.1 million. Losses and loss adjustment expenses included charges for possible losses on reinsurance recoverables of \$11 million in 2001 and \$4 million in 1999. The aggregate allowance for all such losses amounted to approximately \$68 million and \$74 million at December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

F-22

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON MARKETABLE SECURITIES, NET In addition to adjusting equity securities and fixed maturity securities classified as "available for sale" to fair value, SFAS 115 requires that certain other balance sheet amounts be adjusted to the extent that unrealized gains and losses from securities would result in adjustments had those gains or losses actually been realized. The components of the Consolidated Balance Sheet caption "Unrealized gain on marketable securities, net" in shareholders' equity are summarized as follows (in millions):

| | Unadjusted Asset Liability) | Effect of Sfas 115 | Adjusted Asset (Liability) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 2001 | | | |
| ---- | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$10,593.3 | \$155.3 | \$10,748.6 |
| Other stocks | 187.8 | 125.9 | 313.7 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | 827.3 | (9.0) | 818.3 |
| Annuity benefits accumulated | (5,827.9) | (4.2) | (5,832.1) |
| | | ----- | |
| Pretax unrealized | | 268.0 | |
| Deferred taxes | 162.7 | (93.2) | 69.5 |
| Minority interest | (439.2) | (15.5) | (454.7) |
| | | ----- | |
| Unrealized gain | | \$159.3 | |
| | | ===== | |
| 2000 | | | |
| ---- | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$10,148.3 | \$ 16.3 | \$10,164.6 |
| Other stocks | 175.0 | 210.4 | 385.4 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | 763.1 | - | 763.1 |
| Annuity benefits accumulated | (5,543.7) | - | (5,543.7) |
| | | ----- | |
| Pretax unrealized | | 226.7 | |
| Deferred taxes | 125.2 | (78.6) | 46.6 |
| Minority interest | (500.5) | (7.5) | (508.0) |
| | | ----- | |
| Unrealized gain | | \$140.6 | |
| | | ===== | |

FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS The following table presents (in millions) the carrying value and estimated fair value of AFG's financial instruments at December 31.

| | 2001 | | 2000 | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Carrying Value | Fair Value | Carrying Value | Fair Value |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| ASSETS: | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$10,749 | \$10,749 | \$10,165 | \$10,165 |
| Other stocks | 314 | 314 | 385 | 385 |
| LIABILITIES: | | | | |
| Annuity benefits accumulated | \$ 5,832 | \$ 5,659 | \$ 5,544 | \$ 5,426 |
| Long-term debt: | | | | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Holding companies | 609 | 587 | 585 | 548 |
| Subsidiaries | 271 | 264 | 195 | 187 |
| MINORITY INTEREST: | | | | |
| Trust preferred securities | \$ 242 | \$ 242 | \$ 317 | \$ 304 |
| AFC preferred stock | 72 | 61 | 72 | 58 |
| SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$ 1,498 | \$ 1,681 | \$ 1,549 | \$ 1,791 |

When available, fair values are based on prices quoted in the most active market for each security. If quoted prices are not available, fair value is estimated based on present values, discounted cash flows, fair value of comparable securities, or similar methods. The fair value of the liability for annuities in the payout phase is assumed to be the present value of the anticipated cash

F-23

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

flows, discounted at current interest rates. Fair value of annuities in the accumulation phase is assumed to be the policyholders' cash surrender amount. Fair value of shareholders' equity is based on the quoted market price of AFG's Common Stock.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE-SHEET RISK On occasion, AFG and its subsidiaries have entered into financial instrument transactions which may present off-balance-sheet risks of both a credit and market risk nature. These transactions include commitments to fund loans, loan guarantees and commitments to purchase and sell securities or loans. At December 31, 2001, AFG and its subsidiaries had commitments to fund credit facilities and contribute limited partnership capital totaling up to \$21 million.

RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND ASSETS OF SUBSIDIARIES Payments of dividends, loans and advances by AFG's subsidiaries are subject to various state laws, federal regulations and debt covenants which limit the amount of dividends, loans and advances that can be paid. Under applicable restrictions, the maximum amount of dividends available to AFG in 2002 from its insurance subsidiaries without seeking regulatory clearance is approximately \$92 million. Total "restrictions" on intercompany transfers from AFG's subsidiaries cannot be quantified due to the discretionary nature of the restrictions.

BENEFIT PLANS AFG expensed approximately \$19 million in 2001, \$22 million in 2000 and \$13 million in 1999 for its retirement and employee savings plans.

TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES AFG purchased a \$3.7 million minority interest in a residential homebuilding company from an unrelated party in 1995. At that same time, a brother of AFG's chairman purchased a minority interest in the company for \$825,000. In 2000, that brother and another brother of AFG's chairman acquired the remaining shares from the third parties. GAFRI has extended a line of credit to this company under which the homebuilder may borrow up to \$8 million at 13%. At December 31, 2001 and 2000, \$6.4 million and \$8 million, respectively, was due under the credit line.

In 2001, an AFG subsidiary purchased a 29% interest in an aircraft for

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

\$1.6 million (fair value as determined by an independent third party) from a company owned by a brother of AFG's chairman. The remaining interests in the aircraft are owned by AFG's chairman and his two brothers. Costs of operating the aircraft are being borne proportionately.

In September 2000, GAFRI's minority ownership in a company engaged in the production of ethanol was repurchased by that company for \$7.5 million in cash and \$21.9 million liquidation value of non-voting redeemable preferred stock. Following the repurchase, AFG's Chairman beneficially owns 100% of the ethanol company. In December 2000, the ethanol company retired \$3 million of the preferred stock at liquidation value plus accrued dividends and issued an \$18.9 million subordinated note in exchange for the remaining preferred stock. The subordinated note bears interest at 12-1/4% with scheduled repayments through 2005. During 2001,

\$6 million of this note was repaid. The ethanol company also owes GAFRI \$4.0 million under a subordinated note bearing interest at 14%. In addition, Great American has extended a \$10 million line of credit to this company; no amounts have been borrowed under the credit line.

- P. SUBSEQUENT EVENT (UNAUDITED) On March 14, 2002, GAFRI reached an agreement to acquire Manhattan National Life Insurance company ("MNL") from Conseco, Inc. for \$48.5 million in cash. GAFRI expects to close on this transaction in the second quarter of 2002 and to fund this acquisition with cash on hand and through reinsurance of up to 90% of the business in force. While MNL is not currently writing new policies, the company reported over \$43 million of statutory renewal premiums in 2001. MNL has approximately 90,000 policies in force (primarily term life) representing over \$12 billion in face amount of insurance, statutory assets of \$297.8 million and statutory capital and surplus of \$23.1 million.

F-24

PART IV

ITEM 14

EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a) Documents filed as part of this Report:

1. Financial Statements are included in Part II, Item 8.

2. Financial Statement Schedules:

A. Selected Quarterly Financial Data is included in Note M to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

B. Schedules filed herewith for 2001, 2000 and 1999:

| | Page |
|---|------|
| | ---- |
| I - Condensed Financial Information of Registrant | S-2 |
| V - Supplemental Information Concerning Property-Casualty Insurance Operations | S-4 |

All other schedules for which provisions are made in the applicable regulation of the Securities and

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

Exchange Commission have been omitted as they are not applicable, not required, or the information required thereby is set forth in the Financial Statements or the notes thereto.

3. Exhibits - see Exhibit Index on page E-1.

(b) Reports on Form 8-K: none.

S-1

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. - PARENT ONLY (*)
 SCHEDULE I - CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF REGISTRANT
 (IN THOUSANDS)

CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET

| | December 31, | |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| | 2001 | 2000 |
| ASSETS: | | |
| Cash and short-term investments | \$ 529 | \$ 1,407 |
| Receivables from affiliates | 359,582 | 438,807 |
| Investment in subsidiaries | 1,562,550 | 1,534,280 |
| Other assets | 65,214 | 63,557 |
| | \$1,987,875 | \$2,038,051 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: | | |
| Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities | \$ 4,983 | \$ 5,185 |
| Payables to affiliates | 103,805 | 103,805 |
| Long-term debt | 380,708 | 380,531 |
| Shareholders' equity | 1,498,379 | 1,548,530 |
| | ----- | ----- |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

\$1,987,875 \$2,038,051
 =====

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------|-----------|
| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| INCOME: | | | |
| Dividends from subsidiaries | \$ 282 | \$ 282 | \$ 282 |
| Equity in undistributed earnings (losses) of subsidiaries | 10,863 | (57,796) | 242,850 |
| Investment and other income | 27,650 | 27,563 | 27,436 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 38,795 | (29,951) | 270,568 |
| COSTS AND EXPENSES: | | | |
| Interest charges on borrowed money | 42,958 | 39,912 | 34,707 |
| Other operating and general expenses | 8,588 | 7,435 | 9,937 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 51,546 | 47,347 | 44,644 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Earnings (loss) before income taxes, extraordinary items and accounting changes | (12,751) | (77,298) | 225,924 |
| Provision (credit) for income taxes | (7,951) | (30,335) | 78,929 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Earnings (loss) before extraordinary items and accounting changes | (4,800) | (46,963) | 146,995 |
| Extraordinary items - loss on prepayment of debt | - | - | (1,701) |
| Cumulative effect of accounting changes | (10,040) | (9,072) | (3,854) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| NET EARNINGS (LOSS) | (\$14,840) | (\$56,035) | \$141,440 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

(*) The Parent Only Financial Statements include the accounts of AFG and its predecessor, AFC Holding Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary.

S-2

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. - PARENT ONLY (*)
 SCHEDULE I - CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF REGISTRANT - CONTINUED
 (IN THOUSANDS)

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Net earnings (loss) | (\$14,840) | (\$ 56,035) | \$141,440 |
| Adjustments: | | | |
| Extraordinary items | - | - | 1,701 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting changes | 10,040 | 9,072 | 3,854 |
| Equity in losses (earnings) of subsidiaries | (10,613) | 34,225 | (158,067) |
| Change in balances with affiliates | 83,189 | (64,511) | (110,243) |
| Increase in other assets | (4,126) | (10,987) | (8,844) |
| Increase (decrease) in payables | (202) | 190 | 3,336 |
| Dividends from subsidiaries | 282 | 282 | 282 |
| Other | 458 | 602 | 15 |
| | 64,188 | (87,162) | (126,526) |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Purchases of investments | - | - | (14,894) |
| Sales of investments | - | - | 13,903 |
| | - | - | (991) |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Additional long-term borrowings | - | - | 344,938 |
| Reductions of long-term debt | - | - | (63,179) |
| Issuances of common stock | 19,669 | 159,562 | 7,389 |
| Repurchases of common stock | - | - | (88,597) |
| Repurchases of trust preferred securities | - | (1,052) | - |
| Cash dividends paid | (84,735) | (71,553) | (78,199) |
| | (65,066) | 86,957 | 122,352 |
| NET DECREASE IN CASH AND SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS | (878) | (205) | (5,165) |
| Cash and short-term investments at beginning of period | 1,407 | 1,612 | 6,777 |
| Cash and short-term investments at end of period | \$ 529 | \$ 1,407 | \$ 1,612 |

(*) The Parent Only Financial Statements include the accounts of AFG and its predecessor, AFC Holding Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary.

S-3

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
SCHEDULE V - SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION CONCERNING
PROPERTY-CASUALTY INSURANCE OPERATIONS
THREE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001
(IN MILLIONS)

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

| COLUMN A | COLUMN B | COLUMN C | COLUMN D | COLUMN E |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|
| AFFILIATION WITH REGISTRANT | DEFERRED POLICY ACQUISITION COSTS | (a) RESERVES FOR UNPAID CLAIMS AND CLAIMS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES | (b) DISCOUNT DEDUCTED IN COLUMN C | (c) UNEARNED PREMIUMS |

CONSOLIDATED PROPERTY-CASUALTY ENTITIES

| | | | | |
|------|----------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| 2001 | \$262 ===== | \$4,778 ===== | \$24 === | \$1,641 ===== |
| 2000 | \$275 ===== | \$4,516 ===== | \$33 === | \$1,414 ===== |

| | COLUMN F | COLUMN G | COLUMN H | | COLUMN I |
|------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------|---|
| | EARNED PREMIUMS | NET INVESTMENT INCOME | CLAIMS AND CLAIM ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES INCURRED RELATED TO CURRENT YEARS | PRIOR YEARS | AMORTIZATION OF DEFERRED POLICY ACQUISITION COSTS |
| 2001 | \$2,594 ===== | \$308 ===== | \$1,950 ===== | \$163 ===== | \$556 ===== |
| 2000 | \$2,495 ===== | \$298 ===== | \$2,056 ===== | (\$ 60) ===== | \$560 ===== |
| 1999 | \$2,211 ===== | \$292 ===== | \$1,691 ===== | (\$ 74) ===== | \$498 ===== |

(a) Grossed up for reinsurance recoverables of \$1,525 and \$1,324 at December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

(b) Discounted at approximately 8%.

(c) Grossed up for prepaid reinsurance premiums of \$477 and \$267 at December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, American Financial Group, Inc. has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, duly authorized.

American Financial Group, Inc.

Signed: March 27, 2002

BY: S/CARL H. LINDNER

 Carl H. Lindner
 Chairman of the Board and
 Chief Executive Officer

 Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this Report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

| SIGNATURE | CAPACITY | DATE |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| S/CARL H. LINDNER ----- Carl H. Lindner | Chairman of the Board of Directors | March 27, 2002 |
| S/THEODORE H. EMMERICH ----- Theodore H. Emmerich | Director* | March 27, 2002 |
| S/JAMES E. EVANS ----- James E. Evans | Director | March 27, 2002 |
| S/THOMAS M. HUNT ----- Thomas M. Hunt | Director* | March 27, 2002 |
| S/CARL H. LINDNER III ----- Carl H. Lindner III | Director | March 27, 2002 |
| S/KEITH E. LINDNER ----- Keith E. Lindner | Director | March 27, 2002 |
| S/S. CRAIG LINDNER ----- | Director | March 27, 2002 |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

S. Craig Lindner

| | | |
|---|---|----------------|
| S/WILLIAM R. MARTIN ----- William R. Martin | Director* | March 27, 2002 |
| S/FRED J. RUNK ----- Fred J. Runk | Senior Vice President and Treasurer (principal financial and accounting officer) | March 27, 2002 |

* Member of the Audit Committee

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

| Number | Exhibit Description | |
|--------|--|--|
| | | |
| 3(a) | Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation, filed as Exhibit 3(a) to AFG's Form 10-K for 1997. | (*) |
| 3(b) | Code of Regulations, filed as Exhibit 3(b) to AFG's Form 10-K for 1997. | (*) |
| 4 | Instruments defining the rights of security holders. | Registrant has no outstanding debt issues exceeding 10% of the assets of Registrant and consolidated subsidiaries. |
| | Management Contracts: | |
| 10(a) | Stock Option Plan, filed as Exhibit 10(a) to AFG's Form 10-K for 1998. | (*) |
| 10(b) | Form of stock option agreements, filed as Exhibit 10(b) to AFG's Form 10-K for 1998. | (*) |
| 10(c) | 2001 Annual Bonus Plan, filed as Exhibit 10 to AFG's June 30, 2001 Form 10-Q. | (*) |
| 10(d) | Nonqualified Auxiliary RASP, filed as Exhibit 10(d) to AFG's Form 10-K for 1998. | (*) |
| 10(e) | Retirement program for outside directors, filed as Exhibit 10(e) to AFG's Form 10-K for 1995. | (*) |
| 10(f) | Directors' Compensation Plan, filed as Exhibit 10(f) to AFG's Form 10-K for 1995. | (*) |
| 10(g) | Deferred Compensation Plan, filed as | |

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN FINANCIAL GROUP INC - Form 10-K405

Exhibit 10 to AFG's Registration Statement
on Form S-8 on December 2, 1999. (*)

12 Computation of ratios of earnings
to fixed charges. _____

21 Subsidiaries of the Registrant. _____

23 Consent of independent auditors. _____

(*) Incorporated herein by reference.