GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS CO INC

Form N-30B-2 April 25, 2002

GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS COMPANY, INC.

FIRST QUARTER REPORT MARCH 31, 2002

A Closed-End Investment Company

listed on the New York Stock Exchange

450 Lexington Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017

212-916-8400 1-800-436-8401 E-mail: InvestorRelations@gainv.com www.generalamericaninvestors.com

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS

For the three months ended March 31, 2002, our stockholders experienced a decrease of 0.6% on their investment in our Common Shares (assuming reinvestment of all dividends). The net asset value per Common Share decreased 2.3%. By comparison, our benchmark, the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index (including income), increased 0.3%. For the twelve months ended March 31, 2002, the return to our stockholders was 4% and the return on the net asset value per Common Share was 2%; these compare with an increase of 0.2% for the S&P 500. During each period, the discount at which our shares traded declined modestly and at March 31, 2002, it was 3.1%.

As set forth in the accompanying financial statements (unaudited), as of March 31, 2002, the net assets of the Company were \$1,212,973,779. Net assets applicable to the Common Stock were \$1,062,973,779, equal to \$34.04 per Common Share.

The decrease in net assets resulting from operations for the three months ended March 31, 2002 was \$22,486,472. During this period, net realized loss on securities sold was \$17,960,739 and the decrease in unrealized appreciation was \$5,037,227. Net investment income for the three months was \$511,494.

The nascent signs of economic recovery seen late last year have become more apparent. This strength is reflected in the outperformance during the first quarter of two stock groups, Basic Materials and Energy, where our market exposure is limited. Interest rates, meanwhile, have risen markedly with the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury notes up over one percentage point, to over five percent. Should this trend continue, two mainstays of the recovery, housing and consumer spending are likely to suffer.

The importance of housing, and its related financing, to the health of the economy and the market cannot be overstated since the average American family has four times more equity in housing than in the stock market. In addition, over the past year the average price of a house has increased by 12% - the largest inflation adjusted gain in history.

We continue to believe that the recovery is likely to be below average and that

stock valuations remain high in the context of corporate profits pressured by excess capacity, global competition and rising wage and heath care costs, among others. We retain abundant cash reserves and look forward to their selective employment as opportunities present themselves.

We are pleased to report that on April 10, 2002, at the Company's annual meeting, the Stockholders (1) elected eleven directors, including two directors who were elected by the holders of the Company's Preferred Stock, and (2) ratified the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as auditors of the Company for the year 2002.

We are pleased to announce that on March 26, 2002 the Company completed the development of a Web site. It can be accessed on the Internet at www.generalamericaninvestors.com and contains a wealth of information about the Company, including current NAV and market price data as well as historical dividend payments, financial reports, notices and press releases.

It is with a feeling of great loss that we report the death on March 17, 2002 of Arthur G. Altschul, our esteemed colleague and Chairman Emeritus. He served the Company for 50 years, including 43 years as a Director, of which 34 years were as Chairman of the Board, and 7 years as Chairman Emeritus. Over the years he contributed to the success of the Company by giving it steady leadership and guidance through many stock market cycles, and by providing management teams with unfailing support and considered encouragement even after his retirement from active involvement in the day-to-day affairs of the Company.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS COMPANY, INC.

Spencer Davidson
President and Chief Executive Officer

April 10, 2002

2 STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES March 31, 2002 (Unaudited)

General American Investors

ASSETS

INVESTMENTS, AT VALUE (NOTE 1a)

Common stocks (cost \$412,268,295) Corporate discount notes (cost \$329,147,345)

Total investments (cost \$741,415,640)

CASH, RECEIVABLES AND OTHER ASSETS

Cash, including margin account balance of \$11,512 \$ 135,419
Receivable for securities sold 1,325,742
Receivable from broker for proceeds on securities sold short 18,244,019
Dividends, interest and other receivables 692,006
Prepaid expenses 6,000,862
Other 482,516

TOTAL ASSETS

\$

1,

Payable for securities purchased Preferred dividend accrued but not yet declared		
Securities sold short, at value (proceeds \$18,244,019) (note 1a) Accrued expenses and other liabilities	2,615,200 240,000 12,972,260 6,657,979	
OTAL LIABILITIES		
ET ASSETS		\$1,
.20% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock - 6,000,000 shares at a iquidation value of \$25 per share (note 2)		:
et Assets applicable to Common Stock - 31,231,563 shares (note 2)		\$1
ET ASSET VALUE PER COMMON SHARE		:
ET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCK		=
Common Stock, 31,231,563 shares at par value (note 2) Additional paid-in capital (note 2) Accumulated realized loss on investments Undistributed net income Unallocated distributions on Preferred Stock Unrealized appreciation on investments and securities sold short	\$31,231,563 579,414,981 (17,731,769) 564,231 (2,940,000)	
(including aggregate gross unrealized appreciation of \$506,368,087)	472,434,773	
ET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCK		\$1,
see notes to financial statements)		
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudite		
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudite		
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudite General American Investors NCOME Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$21,770) Interest Other Income		
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudite General American Investors NCOME Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$21,770) Interest	\$ 1,617,430 1,636,026 135,281	 \$
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudite General American Investors NCOME Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$21,770) Interest Other Income	\$ 1,617,430 1,636,026 135,281	
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudite General American Investors NCOME Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$21,770) Interest Other Income XYENSES Investment research Administration and operations Office space and general Transfer agent, custodian and registrar fees and expenses Auditing and legal fees Directors' fees and expenses Stockholders' meeting and reports	\$ 1,617,430 1,636,026 135,281 	

Net realized gain (l Long transactions Short sale transa			(19,141,520) 1,180,781
Net realized loss or Net decrease in unre			(17,960,739) (5,037,227)
NET LOSS ON INVESTMENTS	3		
DECREASE IN NET ASSETS	RESULTING FROM OPERAT	IONS	
(see notes to financial	statements)		
4	STATEMENT OF CHANGES	IN NET ASSETS	
	General American	Investors	

OPERATIONS	Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudited)	D -
Net investment income Net realized gain (loss) on investments Net decrease in unrealized appreciation	\$ 511,494 (17,960,739) (5,037,227)	\$
DECREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	(22,486,472)	
DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS		_
From net income, including short-term capital gain From long-term capital gain Unallocated distributions on Preferred Stock		
DECREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM PREFERRED DISTRIBUTIONS	(2,700,000)	- (
DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS		_
From net income, including short-term capital gain From long-term capital gain	(5,933,997) (3,435,472)	(
DECREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM COMMON DISTRIBUTIONS	(9,369,469)	(1
CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS		=
Value of Common Shares issued in payment of dividends (note 2) Cost of Common Shares purchased (note 2)		
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS - CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS		_
NET DECREASE IN NET ASSETS NET ASSETS	(34,555,941)	(
BEGINNING OF PERIOD	1,247,529,720	1,3

END OF PERIOD (including undistributed net income of \$564,231 and \$52,737, respectively)

\$1,212,973,779

.,212,973,779

\$1,2

(see notes to financial statements)

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

General American Investors

The following table shows per share operating performance data, total investment return, ratios and supplemental data for the three months ended March 31, 2002 and for each year in the five-year period ended December 31, 2001. This information has been derived from information contained in the financial statements and market price data for the Company's shares.

	Three Months Ended		Year Ended De	ecember 31,
	March 31, 2002 (Unaudited)	2001	2000	1999 1
PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE Net asset value, beginning of period	\$35.14	\$39.91	\$41.74	\$34.87
Net investment income Net gain (loss) on securities -	.02	.41	.53	.45
realized and unrealized	(.73)	(.66)	6.12	11.32
Total from investment operations	(.71)	(.25)	6.65	11.77
Less distributions on: Common Stock: Dividends from investment income Distributions from capital gains	(.19)(a) (.11)	(.88)(b) (3.28)	(2.30) (c) (5.78)	(.71) (d) (3.77)
	(.30)	(4.16)	(8.08)	(4.48)
Preferred Stock: Dividends from investment income Distributions from capital gains Unallocated	 (.09)		(.11)(g) (.29) 	(.07) (h) (.35)
	(.09)	(.36)	(.40)	(.42)
Total distributions	(.39)	(4.52)	(8.48)	(4.90)
Capital Stock transaction - effect of Preferred Stock offering	~			
Net asset value, end of period	\$34.04 ===================================	\$35.14 ======	\$39.91 =====	\$41.74 ======
Per share market value, end of period		\$33.47 ======	\$36.00 ======	\$37 . 19
TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN - Stockholder Return, based on market price per sha			19.10%	39.22%

RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA					
Total net assets, end of					
period (000's omitted)	\$1,212,974	\$1,247,530	\$1,305,039	\$1,244,519	\$
Net assets attributable to Common Sto	ock,				
end of period (000's omitted)	\$1,062,974	\$1,097,530	\$1,155,039	\$1,094,519	
Ratio of expenses to average net asse	ets				
applicable to Common Stock	0.27%*	1.02%	1.09%	1.01%	
Ratio of net income to average net as	ssets				
applicable to Common Stock	0.05%*	1.15%	1.24%	1.23%	
Portfolio turnover rate	3.13%*	23.81%	40.61%	33.68%	
PREFERRED STOCK					
Liquidation value, end of					
period (000's omitted)	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	
Asset coverage	809%	832%	870%	830%	
Liquidation preference per share	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	
Market value per share	\$25.78	\$25.90	\$24.25	\$21.75	

6 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS March 31, 2002 (Unaudited)

General American Investors

Shares	COMMON STOCKS			
AEROSPACE/DEFENSE (1.7%)				
425,000	The Boeing Company	(COST \$12,796,662)		
	AND INFORMATION SERVICES (2.5%)			
535,000	Cisco Systems, Inc. (a) Cox Communications, Inc. Class A (a) NTL Incorporated (a)			
		(COST \$9,875,444)		
COMPUTER SOFTW	ARE AND SYSTEMS (0.6%)			
•	Oberthur Card Systems S.A. (a) Viewpoint Corporation (a) Wind River Systems, Inc. (a)			
		(COST \$10,435,875)		
CONSUMER PRODU	CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES (3.9%)			
	Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc. Ethan Allen Interiors, Inc. Ford Motor Company Newell Rubbermaid Inc. PepsiCo, Inc.			

(COST \$31,660,287)

692 , 500	Molex Incorporated Class A	(COST \$14,877,393)
IVITDONMENTA I	CONTROL (INCLUDING SERVICES) (1.3%)	
600,000	Waste Management, Inc.	(COST \$11,720,621)
INANCE AND IN	ISURANCE (23.6%)	
	American International Group, Inc.	
	AmerUs Group Co.	
525,000	Annaly Mortgage Management, Inc.	
700,000	Annuity and Life Re (Holdings), Ltd.	
315	Berkshire Hathaway Inc. Class A (a)	
78 , 912	Central Securities Corporation	
550,000	Everest Re Group, Ltd.	
525,000	Golden West Financial Corporation	
440,000	John Hancock Financial Services, Inc. M&T Bank Corporation	
360,000 300,000	MetLife, Inc.	
550,000	PartnerRe Ltd.	
600,000	Reinsurance Group of America, Incorporated	
260,000	SunTrust Banks, Inc.	
225,000	Transatlantic Holdings, Inc.	
220,000	rameacramere merarnge, rme.	
		(COST \$115,429,459)
STATEN	MENT OF INVESTMENTS March 31, 2002 (Unaudited) - co	
STATEN	MENT OF INVESTMENTS March 31, 2002 (Unaudited) - con General American Investors	
STATEN		
Shares	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued)	ntinued
Shares	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued)	ntinued
Shares	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000 300,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000 300,000 270,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Genaera Corporation (a)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000 300,000 270,000 325,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Genaera Corporation (a) Genentech, Inc. (a)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000 300,000 270,000 325,000 495,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Genaera Corporation (a) Genentech, Inc. (a) IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation (a)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000 300,000 270,000 325,000 495,000 155,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Genaera Corporation (a) Genentech, Inc. (a) IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation (a) Johnson & Johnson	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000 300,000 270,000 325,000 495,000 155,000 264,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Genaera Corporation (a) Genentech, Inc. (a) IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation (a) Johnson & Johnson MedImmune, Inc. (a)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUT 220,000 300,000 270,000 325,000 495,000 155,000 264,000 120,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Genaera Corporation (a) Genentech, Inc. (a) IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation (a) Johnson & Johnson MedImmune, Inc. (a) Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.(a)	ntinued
Shares EALTH CARE PHARMACEUTI 220,000 300,000 270,000 325,000 495,000 155,000 264,000	General American Investors COMMON STOCKS (continued) (13.0%) CCALS (10.8%) Alkermes, Inc. (a) Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Genaera Corporation (a) Genentech, Inc. (a) IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation (a) Johnson & Johnson MedImmune, Inc. (a)	ntinued

(COST \$59,271,905)

MEDICAL INS	TRUMENTS AND DEVICES (1.1%)	
290,000	Medtronic, Inc.	(COST \$862,614)
HEALTH CARE	SERVICES (1.1%)	
	BioReliance Corporation (a) Health Net, Inc. (a)	
		(COST \$7,734,076)
		(COST \$67,868,595)
MISCELLANEOUS	(2.2%)	
	Other	(COST \$38,095,586)
OIL & NATURAL	GAS (INCLUDING SERVICES) (2.0%)	
1,400,000	Halliburton Company	(COST \$19,393,327)
RETAIL TRADE (17.8%)	
2,045,000 1,325,000	Costco Wholesale Corporation (a) The Home Depot, Inc. (b) The TJX Companies, Inc. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	
		(COST \$49,514,414)
SEMICONDUCTORS	(2.0%)	
275,000 197,000 1,846,000 120,000	AXT, Inc (a) Brooks Automation, Inc. (a) EMCORE Corporation (a) IQE plc (a) PRI Automation, Inc. (a) Zarlink Semiconductor Inc. (a)	
		(COST \$23,704,505)
SPECIAL HOLDIN	GS (a) (c) (NOTE 5) (0.2%)	
(d) 432,000 546,000	Sequoia Capital IV Silicon Genesis Corporation Series C Preferred Standard MEMS, Inc. Series A Convertible Preferred	
		(COST \$6,896,127)
TOTAL COMMO	N STOCKS (72.5%)	(COST \$412,268,295)

8 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS March 31, 2002 (Unaudited) - continued

Principal Amount	SHORT-TERM SECURITIES AND OTHER ASSETS			
\$94,000,000	American Express Credit Corporation notes due 4/9-	•		
44,400,000 83,300,000	44,400,000 Ford Motor Credit Company notes due 4/16-4/22/02; 2.26%-2.28% 83,300,000 General Electric Capital Corp. notes due 4/2-4/29/02; 1.78%-1.80%			
68,800,000	General Motors Acceptance Corp. notes due 4/4-5/2	702; 2.10%-2.29%		
39,400,000	Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp. notes due 4/1-5/6/0	72; 1.25%-2.25%		
Cash reseivabl	og and other aggets logg lightlities	(COST \$329,147,345)		
Cash, receivables and other assets, less liabilities				
TOTAL SHORT-TER	M SECURITIES AND OTHER ASSETS, NET (27.5%)	(COST \$333,542,470)		
NET ASSETS		(COST \$745,810,765)	\$1	

STATEMENT OF SECURITIES SOLD SHORT March 31, 2002 (Unaudited) General American Investors

Shares	COMMON STOCKS
278,000	Molex Incorporated
100,000	Southwest Bancorporation of Texas Inc.

(see notes to financial statements)

TOTAL SECURITIES SOLD SHORT

9 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

General American Investors

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General American Investors Company, Inc. (the "Company"), established in 1927, is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 as a closed-end, diversified management investment company. It is internally managed by its officers under the direction of the Board of Directors.

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

a. SECURITY VALUATION Securities traded on securities exchanges or on the NASDAQ National Market System are valued at the last reported sales price on the last

(PROCEEDS \$18,244,019)

business day of the period. Listed and NASDAQ securities for which no sales are reported on that day and other securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued at the last bid price (asked price for open short positions) on the valuation date. Corporate discount notes are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value. Special holdings are valued at fair value in the opinion of the Directors. In determining fair value, in the case of restricted shares, consideration is given to cost, operating and other financial data and, where applicable, subsequent private offerings or market price of the issuer's unrestricted shares (to which a 30 percent discount is applied); for limited partnership interests, fair value is based upon an evaluation of the partnership's net assets.

- b. SHORT SALES The Company may make short sales of securities for either speculative or hedging purposes. When the Company makes a short sale, it borrows the securities sold short from a broker; in addition, the Company places cash with that broker and securities in a segregated account with the custodian, both as collateral for the short position. The Company may be required to pay a fee to borrow the securities and may also be obligated to pay any dividends declared on the borrowed securities. The Company will realize a gain if the security price decreases and a loss if the security price increases between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Company replaces the borrowed securities.
- c. FEDERAL INCOME TAXES The Company's policy is to fulfill the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute substantially all taxable income to its stockholders. Accordingly, no provision for Federal income taxes is required.
- d. OTHER As customary in the investment company industry, securities transactions are recorded as of the trade date. Dividend income and distributions to stockholders are recorded as of the ex-dividend dates.

2. CAPITAL STOCK AND DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTIONS

The authorized capital stock of the Company consists of 50,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$1.00 par value, and 10,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock, \$1.00 par value, of which 31,231,563 shares and 6,000,000 shares, respectively, were outstanding at March 31, 2002. On June 19, 1998, the Company issued and sold 6,000,000 shares of its 7.20% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock. The Preferred Shares are noncallable for 5 years and have a liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share plus an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid dividends to the date of redemption.

The Company is required to allocate distributions from long-term capital gains and other types of income proportionately among holders of shares of Common Stock and Preferred Stock. To the extent that dividends on the shares of Preferred Stock are not paid from long-term capital gains, they will be paid from ordinary income or net short-term capital gains or will represent a return of capital.

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Company is required to maintain an asset coverage of at least 200% for the Preferred Stock. In addition, pursuant to the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Company is required to maintain a certain discounted asset coverage for its portfolio that equals or exceeds the Basic Maintenance Amount under the guidelines established by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. The Company has met these requirements since the issuance of the Preferred Stock. The holders of Preferred Stock have voting rights equivalent to those of the holders of Common Stock (one vote per share) and, generally, vote together with the holders of Common Stock as a single class.

At all times, holders of Preferred Stock will elect two members of the Company's Board of Directors and the holders of Preferred and Common Stock, voting as a single class, will elect the remaining directors. If the Company fails to pay

dividends on the Preferred Stock in an amount equal to two full years' dividends, the holders of Preferred Stock will have the right to elect a majority of the directors. In addition, the Investment Company Act of 1940 requires that approval of the holders of a majority of any outstanding preferred shares, voting separately as a class, would be required to (a) adopt any plan of reorganization that would adversely affect the Preferred Stock and (b) take any action requiring a vote of security holders, including, among other things, changes in the Company's subclassification as a closed-end investment company or changes in its fundamental investment policies.

During the three months ended March 31, 2002 there were no transactions in Common Stock. Transactions in Common Stock during the year ended December 31, 2001 were as follows:

	SHARES	AMOUNT
Shares issued in payment of dividends (includes 28,400 shares issued from Treasury) Increase in paid-in capital	2,310,019	\$2,310 78,781
Total increase		81 , 091
Shares purchased (at an average discount from net asset value of 9.0%) Decrease in paid-in capital	19,000	(19 (673
Total decrease		(692
Net increase		 \$80 , 398 ======

Distributions in excess of net income for financial statement purposes result primarily from transactions where tax treatment differs from book treatment.

3. OFFICERS' COMPENSATION AND RETIREMENT AND THRIFT PLANS

The aggregate compensation paid by the Company during the three months ended March 31, 2002 to its officers amounted to \$1,355,750. The Company has non-contributory retirement plans and a contributory thrift plan which cover substantially all employees. The costs to the Company and the assets and liabilities of the plans are not material. Costs of the plans are funded currently.

4. PURCHASES AND SALES OF SECURITIES

Purchases and sales of investment securities and securities sold short (other than short-term securities) for the three months ended March 31, 2002 were as follows:

	PURCHASES	SALES
Long transactions	\$26,068,863	\$55,789,463

	=========	
Total	\$29,978,517	\$55,789,463
Short sale transactions	3,909,654	_

At March 31, 2002, the cost of investments for Federal income tax purposes was the same as the cost for financial reporting purposes.

5. RESTRICTED SECURITIES

	DATE ACQUIRED	COST	VALUE (NOTE 1a)
Sequoia Capital IV* Silicon Genesis Corporation Series C Preferred Standard MEMS, Inc. Series A Convertible Preferred	1/31/84 2/16/01 12/17/99	\$ 886,407 3,006,720 3,003,000	\$ 2,500 1,503,360 546,000
Total		\$ 6,896,127 =======	\$2,051,860

6. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENT

In July 1992, the Company entered into an operating lease agreement for office space which expires in 2007 and provides for future rental payments in the aggregate amount of approximately \$5.6 million. The lease agreement contains a clause whereby the Company received twenty months of free rent beginning in December 1992 and escalation clauses relating to operating costs and real property taxes.

Rental expense approximated \$71,400 for the three months ended March 31, 2002. Minimum rental commitments under the operating lease are approximately \$403,000 in 2002 and \$504,000 per annum in 2003 through 2007.

In March 1996, the Company entered into a sublease agreement which expires in 2003 and provides for future rental receipts. Minimum rental receipts under the sublease are approximately \$203,000 in 2002 and \$64,000 in 2003. The Company will also receive its proportionate share of operating expenses and real property taxes under the sublease.

In addition to purchases of the Company's Common Stock as set forth in Note 2 on page 9, purchases of Common Stock may be made at such times, at such prices, in such amounts and in such manner as the Board of Directors may deem advisable.

11 MAJOR STOCK CHANGES* Three Months Ended March 31, 2002 (Unaudited)

General American Investors

INCREASES	SHARES	SHARES HELD MARCH 31, 2002
ADDITIONS		
American International Group, Inc.	35,000	230,000
Annuity and Life Re (Holdings), Ltd.	140,000	700,000
Cox Communications, Inc. Class A	58,700	578 , 700
Halliburton Company	100,000	1,400,000 (a)
Waste Management, Inc.	320,000	600,000
DECREASES		
ELIMINATIONS		
First Midwest Bancorp, Inc.	200,000	
Repsol, S.A ADR	700,000	
Uniroyal Technology Corporation	250,000	
Wolters Kluwer NV - ADR	144,500	
REDUCTIONS		
AXT, Inc.	108,500	105,000
The Boeing Company	50,000	425,000
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company	125,000	300,000
Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc.	25,000	475,000
Everest Re Group, Ltd.	25,000	550,000
Ford Motor Company	825,000	875 , 500
IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation	25,000	495,000
IQE plc	800,000	1,846,000
Oberthur Card Systems S.A.	234,500	250,000
Zarlink Semiconductor Inc.	130,000	250,000

DIRECTORS

Lawrence B. Buttenwieser, Chairman
Arthur G. Altschul, Jr. Bill Green
Lewis B. Cullman Sidney R. Knafel
Spencer Davidson Richard R. Pivirotto
Gerald M. Edelman Joseph T. Stewart, Jr.
John D. Gordan, III Raymond S. Troubh

William O. Baker, Director Emeritus William T. Golden, Director Emeritus

OFFICERS

Spencer Davidson, President & Chief Executive Officer Andrew V. Vindigni, Vice-President Eugene L. DeStaebler, Jr., Vice-President, Administration Peter P. Donnelly, Vice-President & Trader Diane G. Radosti, Treasurer Carole Anne Clementi, Secretary

SERVICE COMPANIES

COUNSEL

Sullivan & Cromwell

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS
Ernst & Young LLP

CUSTODIAN

Bankers Trust Company

TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR Mellon Investor Services LLC P.O. Box 3315 South Hackensack, NJ 07606-1915 1-800-413-5499 www.mellon-investor.com

RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

The votes cast by stockholders at the Company's annual meeting held on April 10, 2002 were as follows: Election of Directors:

FOR WITHHELD

31,533,425	263,318
31,511,566	285,177
31,384,971	411,772
31,529,748	266,995
31,432,056	364,687
31,531,772	264,971
31,438,830	357 , 913
31,498,541	298,202
31,346,613	450,130
	31,511,566 31,384,971 31,529,748 31,432,056 31,531,772 31,438,830 31,498,541

Elected by holders of Preferred Stock:

Bill Green	5,478,745	37 , 760
Sidney R. Knafel	5,481,753	34,752

Ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as auditors of the Company for the year 2002: For -31,453,316; Against -166,114; Abstain -177,313