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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

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FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 30, 2000

/  TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE EXCHANGE ACT

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER:

333-51447

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

MASSACHUSETTS  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

13-3912933  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1590 ADAMSON PARKWAY, SUITE 400  
MORROW, GEORGIA 30260  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(770) 961-8722  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12 (b) of the Act: None

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12 (g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check 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 (or for such shorter period that the  
registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such  
filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No  /

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item  
405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the  
best of the 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.

Aggregate market value of voting and non-voting common equity held by  
non-affiliates: None

Documents incorporated by reference: None

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PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

## GENERAL

For purposes of this Report, "Holdings" refers to Carter Holdings, Inc. and "Carter's" refers to The William Carter Company and its subsidiaries. On October 30, 1996, Holdings acquired 100% of the outstanding capital stock of Carter's. Holdings has substantially no assets or investments other than those related to its investment in Carter's. The consolidated entity of Holdings and Carter's is collectively hereinafter referred to as the "Company".

Carter's is the largest branded marketer and manufacturer of baby and toddler apparel and a leading marketer and manufacturer of young children's apparel. Over Carter's 136 years of operation, CARTER'S has become one of the most highly recognized brand names in the children's apparel industry. Carter's sells its products under the brand names of CARTER'S and CARTER'S CLASSICS to 484 department, specialty and discount store accounts, with an estimated 7,997 store fronts, and through its 147 retail outlet stores. In the fourth quarter of 2000, Carter's entered the discount channel by launching its TYKES and BABY TYKES brands within the Target stores division of Target Corporation ("Target").

Carter's generates a majority of its sales in the baby and toddler apparel market which was approximately an \$8.0 billion market in 2000. Management believes that the baby and toddler market is insulated from changes in fashion trends and less sensitive to general economic conditions and offers strong prospects for continued growth. The growth in this market is being driven by a number of factors, including: (i) a strong and growing birth market; (ii) more women returning to the workplace after having children, resulting in more disposable income and increased day care apparel needs; (iii) the increasing number of grandparents, a demographic segment with high per capita discretionary income and an important consumer base for children's apparel; and (iv) an increase in the percentage of births to first time mothers.

On October 30, 1996, Holdings, a company organized on behalf of affiliates of INVESTCORP S.A. ("Investcorp"), management and certain other investors, acquired 100% of the outstanding preferred and common stock of Carter's (the "Acquisition"). Financing for the Acquisition was provided by (i) \$56.1 million of borrowings under a \$100.0 million senior credit facility among Carter's, certain lenders and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as administrative agent (the "Senior Credit Facility"); (ii) \$90.0 million of borrowings under a subordinated loan facility among Carter's, certain lenders and Bankers Trust Company, as administrative agent (the "Subordinated Loan Facility"); (iii) \$50.9 million of equity investments in Holdings by affiliates of Investcorp and certain other investors, which excludes the exchange of management stock; and (iv) the issuance by Holdings of \$20.0 million of 12% Senior Subordinated Notes to affiliates of Investcorp and certain other investors.

Carter's and Holdings are Massachusetts corporations. The principal executive office of the Company is located at 1590 Adamson Parkway, Suite 400, Morrow, Georgia 30260 and its telephone number is (770) 961-8722.

## PRODUCTS AND MARKETS

The Company designs, manufactures, sources and markets a broad array of baby, toddler and young children's apparel. The Company also licenses its brand names to other companies to create a complete collection of coordinating lifestyle products including bedding, strollers, underwear, shoes, room decor, toys and more.

The Company's brand positioning is based on Celebrating Imagination which is expressed through creative artwork in prints, colors and embroideries on Carter's products. This positioning supports the Company's strategy of creating quality core products that are differentiated through imaginative and creative artistic application. Celebrating Imagination continues to provide growth opportunities for the brand and is widely embraced by both retailers and consumers.

## BABY AND TODDLER

In 2000, total industry sales of baby and toddler apparel (newborn through size 5T) were approximately \$8.0 billion (industry sales, reported by The NPD Group, Inc., are stated in retail sales dollars and therefore are not comparable to the Company's sales which are reported in wholesale shipment dollars and retail outlet store sales). Department and chain stores, which represent Carter's primary distribution, account for approximately half this market. Carter's is currently the leading supplier of branded baby and toddler apparel in the United States with a 12% market share in its primary distribution channels, more than twice that of its nearest branded competitor. In 2000, total industry discount channel sales of baby and toddler apparel were approximately \$3.1 billion, approximately 39% of the total market.

LAYETTE. Layette includes a complete range of products primarily made of cotton for newborns, including bodysuits, undershirts, towels, washcloths, receiving blankets, layette gowns, bibs, caps and booties. In fiscal 2000, Carter's generated \$179.0 million in sales of these products. Carter's is the leading supplier of layette products within its distribution channels. Management attributes Carter's leading market position to its distinctive print designs, unique embroideries and the reputation

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for quality Carter's has developed over its 136 year history. In 2000, Carter's continued to introduce new layette programs targeted toward three consumer groups: gift-givers, experienced mothers and first-time mothers. Just One Year ("JOY"), Limited Editions and Carter's Classics are complete nursery programs designed for the first-time mother and gift-givers. Baby Basics, the core component of Carter's layette business, provides the experienced mother with the essentials in value-focused multi-packs. Carter's primary competitors in the layette market are private label manufacturers.

SLEEPWEAR. Baby and toddler sleepwear includes pajamas, long underwear and one-piece footed sleepers. In fiscal 2000, Carter's generated \$103.5 million in sales of these products. Carter's is the leading supplier of baby sleepwear products within its distribution channels. As in layette, management attempts to differentiate its sleepwear products from its competition by offering creative artwork in consumer-tested prints and embroideries with an emotional appeal. In addition, management believes Carter's baby and toddler sleepwear product line features more functional, higher quality products than those of its competitors. The 2000 introduction of flame retardant cotton sleepwear strengthened Carter's leading position through product innovation. Carter's primary competitors in the baby and toddler sleepwear market are private label manufacturers and licensed character products.

PLAYWEAR. Baby and toddler playwear includes knit and woven cotton apparel for everyday use. In fiscal 2000, Carter's generated \$86.7 million in sales of these products. Carter's continues to focus on strengthening its playwear product offerings by introducing original print designs and innovative artistic applications to drive sales growth and increase market share. Carter's Celebrating Imagination brand theme has continued to create a strong competitive differentiation for the brand in this marketplace. Management believes that this focus, in addition to Carter's high brand name awareness, strong wholesale customer relationships and expanded global sourcing capabilities will propel Carter's sales and market share growth in this category. The baby and toddler playwear market is highly fragmented, with no one branded competitor having more than a 7% share of the market.

OTHER PRODUCTS. Other baby and toddler products include bedding, outerwear, shoes, socks, diaper bags, gift sets, toys, room decor and hair accessories, including products for which the Company licenses the CARTER'S, CARTER'S CLASSICS, TYKES and BABY TYKES name. In fiscal 2000, Carter's generated \$46.5 million in sales of these products.

TYKES AND BABY TYKES

Carter's launched the TYKES and BABY TYKES brands for baby and toddler

at Target in the fourth quarter of 2000. This comprehensive lifestyle brand includes layette, sleepwear, baby and playwear along with a range of licensed products. Such licensed products include hosiery, bedding, toys and room decor products. The January 2001 introduction was launched with a nationwide floor set that management believes will establish the TYKES and BABY TYKES brands through a substantial presentation at Target stores along with a comprehensive in store sign and fixture program. This program was shipped into Target stores nationwide and represents Carter's initial entry into the discount channel of distribution.

#### YOUNG CHILDREN'S

In 2000, total industry sales of young children's apparel (girls' sizes 4-6x and boys' sizes 4-7) were approximately \$5.7 billion. Department and chain stores, which represent Carter's primary distribution, account for approximately half of this market. Carter's is the largest branded supplier of young children's sleepwear products and also has a growing share of the branded young children's playwear market.

**SLEEPWEAR.** Young children's sleepwear product offerings include basic two-piece pajamas, long underwear and polyester blanket-fleece one-piece sleepers. In fiscal 2000, Carter's generated \$28.6 million in sales of these products. As with baby and toddler sleepwear, Carter's attempts to differentiate its young children's sleepwear products from those of its competitors by offering creative artwork through consumer-tested prints and embroideries with an emotional appeal. Carter's primary competitors in the young children's sleepwear market are private label manufacturers and licensed character products.

**PLAYWEAR.** Young children's playwear product offerings include knit and woven cotton apparel for everyday use. In fiscal 2000, Carter's generated \$23.1 million in sales of these products. Carter's strategy is to leverage its high brand awareness and leading market shares in layette and sleepwear in combination with its creative designs to increase its sales of young children's playwear. The young children's playwear market is highly fragmented among private label, licensed characters and branded competitors.

#### LICENSING

The Company licenses the CARTER'S, CARTER'S CLASSICS, TYKES and BABY TYKES names to other companies for use on baby, toddler and young children's products including bedding, outerwear, shoes, socks, room decor, toys, stationery, strollers and hair accessories and related products. In 1998, the Company entered into a license agreement for the rights to John Lennon's Real Love artwork collection for use on children's apparel, accessories and related products. In 1999, Carter's entered into an artwork agreement with Emu Namae, a Japanese artist, to use his art on children's apparel, accessories and licensed products. These artwork agreements are part of Carter's Limited Editions program which utilizes partnerships with outside artists and concepts to further differentiate the Carter's brand. In fiscal 2000, Carter's earned \$5.8 million in royalty income from the sale of licensed products.

#### PRODUCT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

The Company's product design and development organization is comprised of teams that focus on each of the Company's primary product markets. Each team has its own business and design staff to develop new business opportunities specifically for its respective market. A separate art team that creates exclusive prints, embroideries and other artistic applications for each product team further strengthens the creative process. Management believes that this organizational structure provides the Company greater flexibility and allows it to introduce products more quickly and with a greater success rate.

The Company's design staff continuously strives toward product innovation

and distinctive artistic applications. Extensive consumer preference testing drives the product offerings and defines the look for the brand, while a few showpieces are developed each season to add variety and interest. Generally, graphics, prints, colors and embroideries are used to provide originality and depth with a sophisticated graphic computer network which enhances artistic talent.

Due to the importance of creative art, Carter's devotes particular effort to consumer preference testing for colors, prints, artwork and silhouettes. Each year, over 1,000 concepts are consumer-tested in focus groups in Carter's outlet stores as well as in geographically-diverse malls and baby fairs.

After consumer preference testing of a fabric or product occurs and internal review committees approve selections, retailers are often shown a color drawing in "board form" to provide market feedback. Finally, product development groups from the Company's merchandising team coordinate plans with the global sourcing managers to ensure cost-effective execution and quality of the entire line.

#### DISTRIBUTION AND SALES

The Company sells its products to wholesale accounts and through Carter's retail outlet stores. In fiscal 2000, sales through the wholesale channel, including discount channel revenues, accounted for 54% of total sales, while the retail outlet channel accounted for 46% of total sales. No one wholesale customer accounts for more than 10% of consolidated net sales.

#### WHOLESALE OPERATIONS

The Company sells its products in the United States through a network of approximately 30 sales professionals. Sales professionals work with each department or specialty store account in his/her jurisdiction to establish annual plans for "basics" (primarily layette and certain baby apparel) within the CARTER'S and CARTER'S CLASSICS lines. Once an annual plan has been established with an account, Carter's places the account on its semi-monthly automatic reorder plan for "basics". Automatic reorder allows the Company to plan its sourcing requirements and benefits both the Company and its wholesale customers by maximizing customers' in-stock positions, thereby improving sales and profitability. The automatic reorder process has also been established with Target, which began receiving TYKES and BABY TYKES products in the fourth quarter of 2000. Carter's sleepwear and playwear products are planned and ordered seasonally as new products are introduced.

#### RETAIL OPERATIONS

The Company currently operates 147 retail outlet stores in 39 states featuring Carter's quality merchandise, complemented by select brand accessories, apparel and licensed products. The stores, which average 5,100 square feet per location, offer a broad assortment of baby, toddler and young children's apparel including layette, sleepwear, underwear, playwear, swimwear, outerwear and related accessories.

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Business segment financial information for the wholesale and retail segments is contained in ITEM 8 "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data", Note 16 --"Segment Information" to the Consolidated Financial Statements, and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### MARKETING

Management's strategy has been to promote Carter's brand image as the leader in baby apparel and to consistently provide quality products at a value to consumers. To this end, management employs a comprehensive four-step marketing strategy which incorporates identifying core products through extensive consumer preference testing; brand and product presentation at the consumer point-of-purchase; mass marketing the brand name; and providing

consistent, premium service, including delivering and replenishing products on time to fulfill customer and consumer needs.

Management believes that the Company has strengthened its brand image with the consumer through its Celebrating Imagination brand theme that attempts to capture the essence of childhood and a child's imagination as expressed through creative artwork in prints and embroideries. The Company also attempts to differentiate its products through innovative product designs, lifestyle positioning, advertising with wholesale customers, store-in-store shops and fixturing. Management believes that frequent meetings between Carter's executives and senior representatives from its key wholesale customers help maintain account relationships and further strengthen the brand's image in the marketplace.

#### PRODUCT SOURCING

The Company continues to expand its global supply chain capabilities. Consistent with this strategy, the Company closed its textile operations in Barnesville, Georgia in December 1999 and fabric previously produced by the Company is currently purchased from third-party manufacturers. The Company prints, cuts, sews, finishes and embroiders a majority of the products it sells. In the United States, the Company currently operates one print facility, one cutting facility, one sewing facility, one embroidery facility and three distribution centers. The Company operates two sewing facilities in Costa Rica, one sewing facility in the Dominican Republic and two sewing facilities in Mexico. The Company also sources its products through contractual arrangements throughout the world. Management believes that the Company's sourcing arrangements are sufficient to meet current and planned operating requirements.

Management believes significant additional opportunities exist to further optimize its supply chain. Such opportunities include the reduction of product costs, cycle times and inventories. The Company will attempt to realize these reductions through investments in advanced information systems, the expansion of global sourcing relationships, reductions in SKUs and product complexity and the focus on core product offerings.

#### DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Demographic and psychographic trends support a strong and growing baby and toddler market and help insulate the Company from seasonal and fashion fluctuations. Highlights of these trends include:

- a strong birth market;
- more money being spent on babies than ever before;
- multiple births at record levels;
- 40% of all births are first births; and
- the number of grandparents as a growing and more affluent market.

In 1998 (the most current data available), 3.9 million births were reported and demographers project a progressive increase in births over the next 20 years that will ultimately surpass the original baby boom. Today's mother is more likely to be working outside the home, thus is more affluent and spending more on her children's apparel. New families are being formed and higher levels of spending are required for the child's first wardrobe.

#### COMPETITION

The baby and toddler and young children's apparel markets are highly competitive. Competition is generally based upon product quality, brand name recognition, price, selection, service and convenience. Both branded and private label manufacturers compete in the baby and toddler and young children's markets. Carter's primary branded competitors include Health-Tex and Oshkosh B'Gosh, together with Disney licensed products, in playwear and numerous smaller branded companies, as well as Disney licensed products, in sleepwear. Although management believes that Carter's does not compete

directly with most private label manufacturers in sleepwear and playwear, certain retailers, including several which are customers of the Company, have significant private label product offerings. The Company does not believe that it has any significant branded competitors in its layette market in which most of the alternative products are offered by private label manufacturers. Because of the highly fragmented nature of the industry, the Company also competes with several small, local manufacturers and retailers. Certain competitors of the Company have greater financial resources, larger customer bases and are less financially leveraged.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The Company is subject to various federal, state and local laws that govern activities or operations that may have adverse environmental effects. Noncompliance with these laws and regulations can result in significant liabilities, penalties and costs. From time to time, operations of the Company have resulted or may result in noncompliance with or liability pursuant to environmental laws. Carter's is in the final stages of resolving an environmental matter associated with waste deposited at or near a landfill in Lamar County, Georgia in the 1970's. In 1999, the Company established a reserve to provide for its share of the total estimated costs required to resolve this matter. These costs are estimated to be less than \$1.0 million. However, there can be no assurance that this estimate will prove accurate. Generally, compliance with environmental laws has not had a material impact on the Company's operations, but there can be no assurance that future compliance with such laws will not have a material adverse effect on the Company or its operations.

#### PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, COPYRIGHTS AND LICENSES

The Company owns many trademarks and tradenames, including Carter's(R), Carter's Growbody(R), Carter-Set(R), Jamakins(R), Today's Classics(R), Tykes(R) and Baby Tykes(TM) as well as patents and copyrights, most of which are registered in the United States and in 60 foreign countries. The Company licenses the CARTER'S, CARTER'S CLASSICS, TYKES and BABY TYKES names and many of its trademarks, tradenames and patents to third-party manufacturers to produce and distribute children's apparel and related products such as diaper bags, lamps, socks, strollers, hair accessories, outerwear, underwear, bedding, plush toys and shoes. The Company licenses, under an agreement which expires at the end of 2002, the rights to John Lennon's Real Love artwork collection for use on children's apparel, accessories and related products. The Company's artwork agreement with Emu Namae also expires in 2002. The Company has the right to exercise renewal options.

#### EMPLOYEES

As of December 30, 2000, the Company had approximately 6,948 employees, 2,761 of which were employed on a full-time basis in the Company's domestic operations, 997 of which were employed on a part-time basis in the Company's domestic operations and 3,190 of which were employed on a full-time basis in the Company's offshore operations. None of the Company's employees are unionized. The Company has had no labor-related work stoppages and believes that its labor relations are good.

#### ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

The Company operates 147 leased retail outlet stores located primarily in outlet centers across the United States, having an average size of 5,100 square feet. Typically, the leases have an average term of approximately five years with additional five-year renewal options. Domestically, the Company owns three distribution facilities, two in Georgia and one in Pennsylvania. The Company also owns three manufacturing facilities as well as an office building in Georgia, has a ground lease on one additional manufacturing facility in Texas and leases office space in four buildings - two in Georgia, one in Connecticut and one in New York. In February 2001, the Company entered into a ten-year lease agreement for a new corporate office in Atlanta, Georgia. Internationally, the Company leases two sewing facilities in Costa Rica, one in the Dominican

Republic and two in Mexico.

#### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, the Company has been involved in various legal proceedings. Management believes that all of such litigation is routine in nature and incidental to the conduct of its business, and that none of such litigation, if resolved adversely to the Company, would have a material adverse effect on the financial condition or results of operations.

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#### ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

Not applicable.

### PART II

#### ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

There is no public trading market for Holdings Class A, Class C, Class D or Common Stock. There were approximately 11, 22 and 11 holders of Holdings Class A, Class C and Class D Stock at March 29, 2001, respectively. No Common Stock was outstanding at March 29, 2001. Holdings has not paid dividends on any class of stock to date and does not currently intend to pay dividends on any class of stock in the future. The payment of dividends is restricted by the Senior Credit Facility and by the provisions of the Series A and Series B Senior Subordinated Notes.

During fiscal 2000, 1999 and 1998, Holdings repurchased 1,169, 8,450 and 5,358 shares, respectively, of its Class C Stock owned by former Company employees for cash payments totaling approximately \$70,000, \$507,000 and \$320,000, respectively. In addition, during each of fiscal 2000 and 1999, Holdings issued 1,000 shares of its Class C Stock to employees at a fair value of \$60,000. During fiscal 1998, Holdings sold 1,000 shares of Class C Stock to an employee of the Company for \$60,000 and issued 500 shares to another employee at a fair value of \$30,000.

#### ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table sets forth selected financial and other data of Carter Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000, January 2, 1999, January 3, 1998 and December 28, 1996 and for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2000 ("fiscal 2000"), January 1, 2000 ("fiscal 1999"), January 2, 1999 ("fiscal 1998") and January 3, 1998 ("fiscal 1997") and for the period from October 30, 1996 (inception) through December 28, 1996. On October 30, 1996, Carter Holdings, Inc. acquired 100% of the outstanding capital stock of The William Carter Company ("Carter's"). For purposes of identification, Carter's and its subsidiaries are also referred to as "Predecessor" for periods prior to the Acquisition. Also set forth below is selected financial and other data of the Predecessor for the period from December 31, 1995 through October 29, 1996.

As a result of the Acquisition and certain adjustments made in connection therewith, the results of operations of the Company are not comparable to those of the Predecessor.

The selected financial data of the Company for fiscal 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997 and for the period from October 30, 1996 (inception) through December 28, 1996 were derived from the Company's audited Consolidated Financial Statements. The selected financial data of the Predecessor were derived from the Predecessor's audited Consolidated Financial Statements.



The following table should be read in conjunction with ITEM 7 "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and ITEM 8 "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data".

	(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)					PREDECESSOR	
	THE COMPANY (a)				OCT. 30, 1996 (INCEPTION) THROUGH DEC. 28, 1996	DEC. 31, 1995 THROUGH OCT. 29, 1996	
	FISCAL YEARS						
	2000	1999	1998	1997			
OPERATING DATA:							
Wholesale sales .....	\$ 256,094	\$ 231,284	\$ 236,486	\$ 219,535	\$ 28,506	\$ 160,485	
Retail sales .....	215,280	183,312	171,696	143,419	22,990	106,254	
Net sales .....	471,374	414,596	408,182	362,954	51,496	266,739	
Cost of goods sold .....	293,340	271,844	256,482	227,332	31,631	169,167	
Gross profit .....	178,034	142,752	151,700	135,622	19,865	97,572	
Selling, general and administrative .....	137,513	120,773	124,278	112,531	16,749	80,156	
Nonrecurring charges (b) (e) .....	--	7,124	--	--	--	8,834	
Operating income .....	40,521	14,855	27,422	23,091	3,116	8,582	
Interest income .....	(303)	--	--	--	--	--	
Interest expense .....	18,982	20,437	21,215	20,246	3,065	7,075	
Income (loss) before income taxes, extraordinary item and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle .....	21,842	(5,582)	6,207	2,845	51	1,507	
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes ...	8,835	(1,782)	2,697	1,391	51	1,885	
Income (loss) before extraordinary item and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle .....	13,007	(3,800)	3,510	1,454	--	(378)	
Extraordinary item, net of tax (c) .....	--	--	--	--	2,351	--	
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax benefit of \$217 (f) .....	354	--	--	--	--	--	
Net income (loss) .....	\$ 12,653	\$ (3,800)	\$ 3,510	\$ 1,454	\$ (2,351)	\$ (378)	
Net income (loss) available to stockholders .....	\$ 12,653	\$ (3,800)	\$ 3,510	\$ 1,454	\$ (2,351)	\$ (1,510)	
Pro forma net income (loss) assuming accounting change is applied retroactively .....	\$ 13,007	\$ (3,384)	\$ 3,348	\$ 1,426	\$ (2,639)	\$ (498)	
BALANCE SHEET DATA (END OF PERIOD):							
Working capital (d) .....	\$ 87,862	\$ 83,471	\$ 100,524	\$ 88,273	\$ 70,553		
Total assets .....	327,545	314,944	351,295	334,565	321,036		
Total debt, including current maturities ...	161,400	162,300	187,600	177,100	165,000		
Stockholders' equity .....	69,596	56,953	61,200	57,920	57,649		
CASH FLOW DATA:							
Net cash provided by operating activities ..	\$ 24,197	\$ 36,458	\$ 7,064	\$ 1,642	\$ 7,095	\$ 24,405	
Net cash used in investing activities .....	(19,217)	(12,362)	(17,960)	(13,965)	(143,227)	(4,007)	
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities .....	(4,698)	(24,667)	10,623	14,621	134,263	(19,433)	
OTHER DATA:							
EBITDA, as defined (e) .....	\$ 58,041	\$ 38,834	\$ 43,021	\$ 36,926	\$ 5,530	\$ 25,628	
Gross margin .....	37.8%	34.4%	37.2%	37.4%	38.6%	36.6%	
Depreciation and amortization .....	\$ 17,520	\$ 16,855	\$ 15,599	\$ 13,835	\$ 2,414	\$ 6,612	
Capital expenditures .....	17,179	12,726	17,991	14,013	3,749	4,007	

See Notes to Selected Financial Data.

#### NOTES TO SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

(a) As a result of the Acquisition, Carter's assets and liabilities were adjusted to their estimated fair values as of October 30, 1996. In addition, the Company entered into new financing arrangements and changed its capital structure. Accordingly, the results of operations for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000, January 2, 1999 and January 3, 1998 and the period from October 30, 1996 through December 28, 1996 are not comparable to prior periods. The fiscal years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000, January 2, 1999 and January 3, 1998 and the period October 30, 1996 through

December 28, 1996 reflect increased depreciation, amortization and interest expenses.

(b) The nonrecurring charge for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2000 represents the \$6.9 million writedown in the carrying value of the Company's textile facility assets, for which the operations were closed in December 1999, and a \$0.2 million loss on property, plant and equipment related to the closures of three domestic sewing facilities. The nonrecurring charge for the period December 31, 1995 through October 29, 1996 includes: (1) compensation-related charges of \$5.3 million for amounts paid to management in connection with the Acquisition; and (2) other expense charges of \$3.5 million for costs and fees Carter's incurred in connection with the Acquisition.

(c) The extraordinary item for the period October 30, 1996 (inception) through December 28, 1996 reflects the write-off of \$3.4 million and \$0.2 million of deferred debt issuance costs related to the Subordinated Loan Facility and the portion of the Senior Credit Facility, respectively, repaid with the proceeds of the 10 3/8% Notes in November 1996, net of income tax effects.

(d) Represents total current assets less total current liabilities.

(e) EBITDA represents earnings before interest and income tax expense (i.e. operating income) excluding the following charges:

- (i) the \$7.1 million nonrecurring charge in 1999 related to the closure of textile and sewing facilities, and, in fiscal 1996, the nonrecurring charge of \$8.8 million related to the Acquisition;
- (ii) depreciation and amortization expense including prepaid management fee amortization of \$1.125 million, \$1.35 million and \$1.35 million for the fiscal years ended January 1, 2000, January 2, 1999 and January 3, 1998, respectively, and \$0.23 million for the period October 30, 1996 through December 28, 1996 incurred in connection with the Acquisition; and
- (iii) costs associated with certain benefit plans that were terminated as a result of the Acquisition and not replaced, as follows: (1) Long-Term Incentive Plan expenses of \$1.0 million for the period December 31, 1995 through October 29, 1996; and (2) Management Equity Participation Plan expenses of \$0.6 million for the period December 31, 1995 through October 29, 1996.

The Company has reported EBITDA as it is relevant for covenant analysis under the \$100.0 million 10 3/8% Notes Indenture, which defines EBITDA as set forth above for the periods shown. In addition, management believes that EBITDA is generally accepted as providing useful information regarding a company's ability to service and/or incur debt. EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for net income, cash flows or other consolidated income or cash flow data prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles or as a measure of a company's profitability or liquidity. The EBITDA amounts presented herein may not be comparable to other similarly titled measures presented by other companies.

(f) In fiscal 2000, the Company recorded the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle in order to comply with guidance provided by the Securities and Exchange Commission's Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101, "Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements."

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the "Selected Financial Data" and the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and the notes thereto. This report contains, in addition to historical information, forward-looking statements that include risks and other uncertainties. The Company's actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such a difference include those discussed below, as well as general economic and business conditions, competition and other factors discussed elsewhere in this report. The Company undertakes no obligation to release publicly any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events.

#### GENERAL

The Company is a leading marketer and manufacturer of baby, toddler and young children's apparel. The Company sells its products to 484 department, specialty and discount store customers (54% of fiscal 2000 sales) and through its 147 retail outlet stores (46% of fiscal 2000 sales).

Consolidated net sales have increased from \$318.2 million in 1996 to \$471.4 million in 2000. During this period, wholesale sales have increased from \$189.0 million to \$256.1 million and retail sales have increased from \$129.2 million to \$215.3 million. The increase in wholesale sales resulted primarily from the success of product introductions and the strength of the Carter's brand in the market place relative to branded and private label competitors. The increase in retail sales resulted from new store openings and comparable store sales increases (stores open more than 12 months).

#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth certain components of the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations data expressed as a percentage of net sales:

	FISCAL YEARS		
	2000	1999	1998
STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS:			
Wholesale sales.....	54.3%	55.8%	57.9%
Retail sales.....	45.7	44.2	42.1
Net sales.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cost of goods sold.....	62.2	65.6	62.8
Gross profit.....	37.8	34.4	37.2
Selling, general and administrative expenses	29.2	29.1	30.5
Nonrecurring charge.....	--	1.7	--
Operating income.....	8.6	3.6	6.7
Interest expense, net.....	4.0	4.9	5.2
Income (loss) before income taxes and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle.....	4.6	(1.3)	1.5
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes...	1.9	(0.4)	0.7

Income (loss) before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle.....	2.7%	(0.9)%	0.9%
	=====	=====	=====

FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 30, 2000 COMPARED WITH FISCAL YEAR ENDED JANUARY 1, 2000

NET SALES. Net sales for fiscal 2000 increased 13.7% to \$471.4 million from \$414.6 million in fiscal 1999. This increase includes a 10.7% increase in wholesale sales and a 17.4% increase in retail sales. Revenues from each of the Company's major product markets, which are baby, sleepwear and playwear, increased \$18.8 million (12.0%), \$20.4 million (18.2%) and \$8.6 million (8.7%), respectively, from 1999 to 2000.

The Company's total wholesale sales for fiscal 2000 increased to \$256.1 million from \$231.3 million in fiscal 1999. Excluding off-price and Tykes sales, wholesale sales increased \$26.3 million (12.6%) to \$235.2 million in 2000 from \$208.9 million in 1999. The increase in wholesale sales reflects the growth of baby and sleepwear product lines of \$14.7 million (14.1%) and \$17.0 million (22.7%), respectively, as compared to fiscal 1999. The continued success of these lines reflects the benefit from improvements made to the Company's products through its new product sourcing strategy and the Company's focus on product innovation through creative prints and embroideries. Included in 2000 wholesale sales are the sales of TYKES and BABY TYKES products sold to Target in the fourth quarter of 2000 in an initial launch in Target stores nationwide.

Wholesale sales in 2000 included a lower mix of off-price sales (merchandise promoted at more than 25% off regular wholesale selling prices) to the secondary market. Off-price sales as a percentage of consolidated sales in 2000 were 3.6% compared to 5.4% in 1999. The decrease in off-price sales reflects the benefit from improved product development and inventory management disciplines.

Retail sales for fiscal 2000 increased to \$215.3 million from \$183.3 million in fiscal 1999. Such increase was primarily attributed to the strong performance of the playwear product line. Product performance was also the driving force behind the Company's comparable retail store sales increase of 14.3% in 2000. In 2000, the Company opened seven stores and closed six stores. There were 147 stores in operation at December 30, 2000 compared to 146 at January 1, 2000.

GROSS PROFIT. Gross profit for fiscal 2000 increased 24.7% to \$178.0 million from \$142.8 million in fiscal 1999. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales in fiscal 2000 increased to 37.8% from 34.4% in fiscal 1999. The improvement in gross profit is attributed to a higher mix of retail revenues, a lower mix of off-price sales and the benefit from cost reduction achieved through increased levels of global sourcing.

In 1999, the Company curtailed production and ultimately closed its textile facility, which produced substantially all of the Company's fabrics. Gross profit in 1999 was negatively impacted by costs associated with this closure and the closure of three sewing facilities in the United States. Fiscal 2000 was impacted favorably as a result of the successful transition to sourcing 100% of the Company's fabric requirements following the closure of the textile facility and further movement of sewing production to the Company's offshore facilities and third parties.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. Selling, general and administrative expenses for fiscal 2000 increased 13.9% to \$137.5 million from \$120.8 million in fiscal 1999. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales were 29.2% in fiscal 2000 compared to 29.1% in fiscal 1999. The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses includes the variable costs required to support higher revenue levels, investments in brand

marketing and retail partnerships and provisions for incentive compensation partially offset by increased levels of royalty and licensing income.

OPERATING INCOME. Operating income for fiscal 2000 increased to \$40.5 million from \$14.9 million in fiscal 1999. Operating income as a percentage of net sales increased to 8.6% in fiscal 2000 from 3.6% in fiscal 1999. Such increase reflects the net effect of changes in gross profit and selling, general and administrative expenses described above.

INTEREST EXPENSE, NET. Interest expense for fiscal 2000 decreased to \$19.0 million from \$20.4 million in fiscal 1999. This decrease reflects lower interest expense on lower average borrowings under the Company's revolving credit facility. Average daily revolver borrowings in 2000 decreased to \$5.0 million from \$25.3 million in 1999. Lower average borrowings are primarily due to lower average gross inventory levels resulting from improved inventory management disciplines. In fiscal 2000, the Company earned approximately \$303,000 in interest income from overnight investments. At December 30, 2000, outstanding debt aggregated \$161.4 million, of which \$41.4 million bore interest at a variable rate, so that an increase of 1% in the applicable rate would increase the Company's annual interest cost by \$414,000. At December 30, 2000, there were no borrowings under the Company's \$65.0 million revolving credit facility. The Company had outstanding letters of credit totaling \$6.0 million as of December 30, 2000.

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INCOME TAXES. The Company's 2000 effective tax rate of 40% was more than the prior year's effective tax rate of 32% due to the effect of permanent tax differences, primarily goodwill amortization. In 1999, such permanent differences reduced the tax benefit related to the pre-tax operating loss.

NET INCOME (LOSS). Primarily as a result of the factors described above, the Company reported net income of \$12.7 million in fiscal 2000 compared to a net loss of \$(3.8) million in fiscal 1999.

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JANUARY 1, 2000 COMPARED WITH FISCAL YEAR ENDED JANUARY 2, 1999

NET SALES. Net sales for fiscal 1999 increased 1.6% to \$414.6 million from \$408.2 million in fiscal 1998. This increase includes a 2.2% decrease in wholesale sales offset by a 6.8% increase in retail sales. Wholesale sales for fiscal 1999 decreased to \$231.3 million from \$236.5 million in fiscal 1998. Retail sales for fiscal 1999 increased to \$183.3 million from \$171.7 million in fiscal 1998.

The decrease in wholesale sales reflects:

- lower 1999 sleepwear revenue compared to increases generated from the successful launch of the Dreamakers sleepwear product line in May 1998;
- underperformance of the CARTER'S CLASSICS and playwear product lines; and
- lower layette product revenues resulting from the expiration of the BABY DIOR license in December 1998.

In this increasingly competitive marketplace, revenue gains have been achieved through the frequent introduction of products which are distinctive in fabric and creative application (i.e., embroidery and prints) and which provide value to the consumer. The decline in 1999 revenue reflects the Company's previous insufficient ability to source better products from lower cost manufacturers. As discussed below, the Company made changes in its product sourcing strategy.

In late 1998, the Company began to develop the infrastructure necessary to source products globally. The Company plans to achieve future growth in revenue and profitability by sourcing products at lower costs from manufacturers throughout the world. This strategy is designed to build on the Company's core business strengths in layette and sleepwear product markets and will improve product performance in the highly fragmented children's playwear market.

Wholesale sales in 1999 included a higher mix of off-price sales (merchandise promoted at more than 25% off regular wholesale selling prices) to the secondary market. Off-price sales as a percentage of consolidated sales in 1999 were 5.4% compared to 4.0% in 1998. The higher level of off-price sales reflects management's efforts to reduce excess inventory levels.

The Company's retail comparable store sales increased 3.2% in 1999. In 1999, the Company opened ten stores and closed eight stores. There were 146 stores in operation at January 1, 2000 compared with 144 at January 2, 1999.

GROSS PROFIT. Gross profit for fiscal 1999 decreased 5.9% to \$142.8 million from \$151.7 million in fiscal 1998. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales in fiscal 1999 decreased to 34.4% from 37.2% in fiscal 1998. The reduction in gross profit percentage reflects the higher mix of off-price sales to the secondary market, costs incurred to close sewing facilities in Georgia and Mississippi, the costs to phase-down and close the Company's textile facility in Georgia and the curtailment of production to lower inventory levels.

In 1999, the Company closed three sewing facilities in the United States. Such closures and expansion of sewing capacity in Mexico, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic have enabled the Company to decrease costs in the most labor-intensive component of its supply chain.

In 1998, the Company expanded its ability to source its products from manufacturers throughout the world. Such products are manufactured, labeled and packaged to Carter's specifications. The Company's global sourcing strategy provides the opportunity to source a broader range of products at lower costs and eliminates the requirement for internal textile capacity. Lower levels of throughput in the Company's textile facility in Barnesville, Georgia and related unabsorbed manufacturing costs negatively impacted 1999 financial results.

In recent years, the domestic textile knit industry experienced increasing levels of overcapacity caused by consolidation and higher levels of global sourcing. Overcapacity resulted in lower prices offered by the Company's fabric suppliers, which in turn, reduced the cost advantages previously gained by Carter's through vertical integration.

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As more fully described in Note 16 to the accompanying financial statements, the Company began to phase-down production in its textile facility in the third quarter of 1999. All textile processes, with the exception of printing, were closed by the end of fiscal 1999. The Company has negotiated fabric-sourcing arrangements with its suppliers which will meet current and future fabric requirements. While there may be no near-term cost reduction by sourcing fabrics externally, the Company expects to purchase lower cost fabrics from Mexico and Central America within the next two to three years.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES. Selling, general and administrative expenses for fiscal 1999 decreased 2.8% to \$120.8 million from \$124.3 million in fiscal 1998. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased to 29.1% in fiscal 1999 from 30.5% in fiscal 1998. The improvement in selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales is attributed to a reduction in discretionary spending, including marketing expenditures and incentive compensation to mitigate the impact of manufacturing plant closing costs and production curtailment.

NONRECURRING CHARGE. The nonrecurring charge of \$7.1 million in fiscal

1999 represents the \$6.9 million writedown in the carrying value of assets related to the closure of the textile facility, and the \$0.2 million loss on property, plant and equipment related to closures of the three domestic sewing facilities.

OPERATING INCOME. Operating income for fiscal 1999 decreased to \$14.9 million from \$27.4 million in fiscal 1998 as a result of the net effect of lower margins earned on wholesale sales, the cost of exiting certain manufacturing facilities and the reduction of selling, general and administrative expenses. Operating income as a percentage of net sales decreased to 3.6% in fiscal 1999 from 6.7% in fiscal 1998.

INTEREST EXPENSE. Interest expense for fiscal 1999 decreased to \$20.4 million from \$21.2 million in fiscal 1998. This decrease reflects lower interest expense on lower average borrowings under the Company's revolving credit facility. At January 1, 2000, outstanding debt aggregated \$162.3 million, of which \$42.3 million bore interest at a variable rate, so that an increase of 1% in the applicable rate would increase the Company's annual interest cost by \$423,000. At January 1, 2000, there were no borrowings under the Company's \$65.0 million revolving credit facility. The Company had outstanding letters of credit totaling \$6.0 million as of January 1, 2000.

INCOME TAXES. The Company's 1999 effective tax rate of 32% was less than the prior year's effective tax rate of 43% due to the effect of permanent tax differences, primarily goodwill amortization, in relation to the change in pre-tax income (loss).

NET (LOSS) INCOME. As a result of the factors described above, the Company reported a net loss of \$(3.8) million in fiscal 1999 compared to net income of \$3.5 million in fiscal 1998.

#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's primary cash needs are working capital, capital expenditures and debt service. The Company has financed its working capital, capital expenditures and debt service requirements primarily through internally generated cash flow, in addition to funds borrowed under the Company's credit facilities. Holdings is dependent upon dividends and other payments from Carter's to fund its obligations and meet its cash needs. Accordingly, Holdings' ability to pay interest on the \$20.0 million of 12% Senior Subordinated Notes and to repay the Notes at maturity will be dependent upon earnings and cash flows of Carter's and payment of funds by Carter's to Holdings in the form of dividends or loans. The Senior Credit Facility imposes certain covenants, requirements and restrictions on actions by the Company and its subsidiaries that, among other things, restrict the payment of dividends by Carter's to Holdings except under certain specified conditions. The Company does not expect this to negatively impact Holdings' ability to meet its cash obligations. Likewise at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, Holdings was effectively precluded from declaring or paying dividends on its capital stock.

Net cash provided by operating activities in fiscal years 2000, 1999 and 1998 was \$24.2 million, \$36.5 million and \$7.1 million, respectively.

Net cash flow provided by operating activities in fiscal 2000 was \$24.2 million, a decrease of \$12.3 million compared to fiscal year 1999. This decrease is attributed to the investments required to support higher revenue levels. Year-end inventory levels grew to \$92.4 million at fiscal year end 2000 from \$79.6 million at fiscal year end 1999. Average net inventory levels were \$92.1 million in fiscal 2000 compared to \$103.1 million in fiscal 1999.

The Company invested \$17.2 million, \$12.7 million and \$18.0 million in capital expenditures during fiscal years 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively. Although there are no material commitments for capital expenditures, the Company plans capital expenditures of approximately \$23.0 million in fiscal 2001.

At December 30, 2000, the Company had approximately \$161.4 million of indebtedness outstanding, consisting of \$20.0 million of Holdings 12% Series B Senior Subordinated Notes (due 2008), \$100.0 million of 10 3/8% Series A Senior Subordinated Notes (due 2006), \$41.4 million in term loan borrowings under the Senior Credit Facility and no borrowings outstanding under the \$65.0 million revolving credit portion of the Senior Credit Facility (exclusive of approximately \$6.0 million of outstanding letters of credit). At December 30, 2000, the Company had approximately \$59.0 million of financing available under the revolving credit portion of the Senior Credit Facility.

The term loan has a final scheduled maturity date of October 31, 2003 and is required to be repaid in 14 consecutive semi-annual installments totaling \$0.9 million in each of fiscal years 1997 through 2000, \$5.4 million in fiscal year 2001, \$13.5 million in fiscal year 2002 and \$22.5 million in fiscal year 2003. The revolving credit portion of the Senior Credit Facility will mature on October 31, 2001 and has no scheduled interim amortization. The Company is in the process of negotiating the terms of the revolving credit portion of the Senior Credit Facility to include an extension of the maturity date and to increase the limitation for annual capital expenditures. No principal payments are required on the \$20.0 million or \$100.0 million Notes prior to their scheduled maturity in 2008 and 2006, respectively.

The Company believes that cash generated from operations, together with amounts available under the revolving portion of the Senior Credit Facility, will be adequate to meet its debt service requirements, capital expenditures and working capital needs for the foreseeable future, although no assurance can be given in this regard. Holdings will fund its debt service requirements through permitted dividend payments from Carter's.

#### EFFECTS OF INFLATION

The Company is affected by inflation primarily through the purchase of raw materials, increased operating costs and expenses and higher interest rates. The effects of inflation on the Company's operations have not been material in recent years.

#### SEASONALITY

The Company experiences seasonal fluctuations in its sales and profitability, with generally lower sales and gross profit in the first and second quarters of its fiscal year. The Company believes that seasonality of sales and profitability is a factor that affects the baby and children's apparel industry generally and is primarily due to retailers' emphasis on price reductions in the first quarter and promotional retailers' and manufacturers' emphasis on closeouts of the prior year's product lines.

#### ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

In the operation of its business, the Company has market risk exposures to foreign sourcing, raw material prices and interest rates. Each of these risks and the Company's strategies to manage the exposure is discussed below.

The Company currently sources over 90% of its sewing production from its offshore operations as well as contractors. As a result, the Company may be adversely affected by political instability resulting in the disruption of trade from foreign countries in which the Company's manufacturing facilities are located, the imposition of additional regulations relating to imports, duties, taxes and other charges on imports, any significant decreases in the value of the dollar against foreign currencies and restrictions on the transfer of funds. These and other factors could result in the interruption of production in offshore facilities or a delay in the receipt of the products by the Company in the United States. The Company's future performance may be subject to such factors, which are beyond the Company's control, and there can be no assurance that such factors would not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

The Company's operating results are subject to risk from interest rate



fluctuations on debt which carries variable interest rates. At December 30, 2000, outstanding debt aggregated \$161.4 million, of which \$41.4 million bore interest at a variable rate, so that an increase of 1% in the applicable rate would increase the Company's annual interest cost by \$414,000.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of  
Carter Holdings, Inc.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, cash flows and changes in stockholders' equity present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Carter Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000 and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management; our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America which 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, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company changed its method of accounting for revenue recognition in fiscal 2000.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Stamford, Connecticut  
March 12, 2001

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
	-----	-----
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 3,697	\$ 3,415
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$2,045 in 2000 and \$2,765 in 1999.....	33,788	34,405
Inventories.....	92,435	79,636
Prepaid expenses and other current assets.....	4,971	3,863
Assets held for sale.....	373	1,000
Deferred income taxes.....	9,184	10,276
	-----	-----
Total current assets.....	144,448	132,595
Property, plant and equipment, net.....	54,441	51,776
Assets held for sale.....	950	950
Tradename, net.....	89,583	92,083
Cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired, net.....	26,606	27,457
Deferred debt issuance costs, net.....	5,724	7,325
Other assets.....	5,793	2,758
	-----	-----
Total assets.....	\$ 327,545	\$ 314,944
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term debt.....	\$ 5,400	\$ 900
Accounts payable.....	19,223	19,532
Other current liabilities.....	31,963	28,692
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities.....	56,586	49,124
Long-term debt.....	156,000	161,400
Deferred income taxes.....	35,125	35,902

Other long-term liabilities.....	10,238	11,565
	-----	-----
Total liabilities.....	257,949	257,991
	-----	-----
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Class A Stock, nonvoting; par value \$.01 per share; 775,000 shares authorized; 752,808 shares issued and outstanding; liquidation value of \$.001 per share.....	45,168	45,168
Class C Stock, nonvoting; par value \$.01 per share; 500,000 shares authorized; 242,192 shares issued; liquidation value of \$.001 per share.....	14,532	14,532
Class C Treasury Stock, 31,186 shares at cost at December 30, 2000; 31,017 shares at cost at January 1, 2000.....	(1,870)	(1,860)
Class D Stock, voting; par value \$.01 per share; 5,000 shares authorized, issued and outstanding.....	300	300
Common Stock, voting; par value \$.01 per share; 1,280,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding.....	--	--
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit).....	11,466	(1,187)
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity.....	69,596	56,953
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity...	\$ 327,545	\$ 314,944
	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

	FOR THE YEARS ENDED		
	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
	-----	-----	-----
Net sales.....	\$ 471,374	\$ 414,596	\$ 408,182
Cost of goods sold.....	293,340	271,844	256,482
	-----	-----	-----
Gross profit.....	178,034	142,752	151,700
Selling, general and administrative....	137,513	120,773	124,278
Nonrecurring charge.....	--	7,124	--
	-----	-----	-----
Operating income.....	40,521	14,855	27,422
Interest income.....	(303)	--	--
Interest expense.....	18,982	20,437	21,215

Income (loss) before income taxes and cumulative effect of change in accounting principle.....	21,842	(5,582)	6,207
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	8,835	(1,782)	2,697
Income (loss) before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle....	13,007	(3,800)	3,510
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax benefit of \$217.....	354	--	--
Net income (loss).....	\$ 12,653	\$ (3,800)	\$ 3,510
Pro forma amounts assuming the accounting change is applied retroactively:			
Net income (loss) .....	\$ 13,007	\$ (3,384)	\$ 3,348

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

	FOR THE YEARS ENDED		
	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income (loss) .....	\$ 12,653	\$ (3,800)	\$ 3,510
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization .....	17,520	16,855	15,599
Amortization of debt issuance costs .....	1,601	1,592	1,606
(Gain) loss and writedown on property, plant and equipment and other.....	(21)	7,183	387
Deferred tax provision (benefit) .....	248	(2,670)	1,092
Effect of changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable .....	617	429	(4,700)
(Increase) decrease in inventories .....	(12,799)	21,772	(13,769)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses and other assets.....	(1,129)	(1,769)	111
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and other liabilities .....	5,507	(3,134)	3,228
Net cash provided by operating activities.....	24,197	36,458	7,064
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Capital expenditures .....	(17,179)	(12,726)	(17,991)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment .....	252	364	31
Proceeds from assets held for sale .....	546	--	--
Issuance of loan .....	(4,336)	--	--
Proceeds from loan.....	1,500	--	--
Net cash used in investing activities.....	(19,217)	(12,362)	(17,960)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from revolving line of credit .....	62,900	89,850	114,750
Payments of revolving line of credit .....	(62,900)	(114,250)	(103,350)
Payments of other debt .....	(900)	(900)	(900)
Payments of financing costs .....	--	--	(597)
Borrowings on capital leases .....	--	558	--
Payments of capital lease obligation .....	(925)	(458)	--
Proceeds from sale of Class C Treasury Stock .....	--	--	60
Repurchase of capital stock .....	(70)	(507)	(320)
Other .....	(2,803)	1,040	980

Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities.....	(4,698)	(24,667)	10,623
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents .....	282	(571)	(273)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period.....	3,415	3,986	4,259
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period .....	\$ 3,697	\$ 3,415	\$ 3,986

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

	COMMON STOCK	CLASS A STOCK	CLASS C STOCK	CLASS C TREASURY STOCK	CLASS D STOCK	(ACCUMULATED DEFICIT) RETAINED EARNINGS
BALANCE AT JANUARY 3, 1998 .....	\$ --	\$ 45,168	\$ 14,532	\$ (1,183)	\$ 300	\$ (897)
Issuance of Class C Treasury Stock (1,500 shares).....				90		
Purchase of Class C Treasury Stock (5,358 shares).....				(320)		
Net income.....						3,510
BALANCE AT JANUARY 2, 1999 .....	--	45,168	14,532	(1,413)	300	2,613
Issuance of Class C Treasury Stock (1,000 shares).....				60		
Purchase of Class C Treasury Stock (8,450 shares).....				(507)		
Net loss.....						(3,800)
BALANCE AT JANUARY 1, 2000 .....	--	45,168	14,532	(1,860)	300	(1,187)
Issuance of Class C Treasury Stock (1,000 shares).....				60		
Purchase of Class C Treasury Stock (1,169 shares).....				(70)		
Net income .....						12,653
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 30, 2000 .....	\$ --	\$45,168	\$ 14,532	\$ (1,870)	\$ 300	\$ 11,466

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1--THE COMPANY:

Carter Holdings, Inc. ("Holdings") is a holding company whose primary asset consists of an investment in 100% of the outstanding capital stock of The William Carter Company, Inc. ("Carter's"). On October 30, 1996, Holdings, a company organized on behalf of affiliates of INVESTCORP S.A. ("Investcorp"), management and certain other investors, acquired 100% of the previously outstanding common and preferred stock of Carter's (the "Acquisition") from MBL Life Assurance Corporation, CHC Charitable Irrevocable Trust and certain management stockholders for a total financed purchase price of \$226.1 million. For purposes of identification and description, Carter's is referred to as the "Predecessor" for the period prior to the Acquisition.

The Acquisition was accounted for by the purchase method. Accordingly, the assets and liabilities of the Predecessor were adjusted, at the acquisition date, to reflect the allocation of the purchase price based on estimated fair values.

NOTE 2--NATURE OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING  
POLICIES:

Carter's designs, manufactures, sources and markets premier branded childrenswear under the CARTER'S, CARTER'S CLASSICS, TYKES and BABY TYKES labels. Carter's manufactures its products in its plants located in the southern United States, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Mexico. Carter's also sources its products through contractual arrangements throughout the world. Products are manufactured for wholesale distribution to major domestic retailers and for Carter's 147 retail outlet stores that market its brand name merchandise and certain products manufactured by other companies.

RECLASSIFICATIONS:

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified for comparative purposes.

PRINCIPLES OF CONSOLIDATION:

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Holdings, Carter's and Carter's wholly-owned subsidiaries (all together the "Company"). These subsidiaries consist of operations in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Mexico. These operations represented approximately 85%, 78% and 59% of the Company's sewing production for fiscal years 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively. Total net assets (primarily property, plant and equipment and inventory) of the international subsidiaries were approximately \$15.2 million and \$15.5 million at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, respectively. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

FISCAL YEAR:

The Company's fiscal year ends on the Saturday in December or January nearest the last day of December. The accompanying consolidated financial statements reflect the Company's financial position as of December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000 and results of operations for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999. Each of the fiscal years ended December 30, 2000 (fiscal 2000), January 1, 2000 (fiscal 1999) and January 2, 1999 (fiscal 1998) contain 52 weeks.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:

The Company considers all highly liquid investments that have original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. The Company had cash deposits, in excess of deposit insurance limits, in four and nine banks at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, respectively.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:

Approximately 75% of the Company's gross accounts receivable at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000 were from its ten largest wholesale customers, primarily major retailers. Of these customers, four and three have individual receivable balances in excess of 10% of gross accounts receivable at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, respectively, but not more than 20%. Sales to these customers represent comparable percentages to total wholesale revenues.

INVENTORIES:

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out basis for wholesale inventories and retail method for retail inventories) or market.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT:

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization which includes the amortization of assets recorded under capital leases. When fixed assets are sold or otherwise disposed, the accounts are relieved of the original costs of the assets and the related accumulated depreciation and any resulting profit or loss is credited or charged to income. For financial reporting purposes, depreciation and amortization are computed on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows: buildings--15 to 50 years and machinery and equipment--3 to 10 years. Leasehold improvements and fixed assets purchased under capital leases are amortized over the lesser of the asset life or related lease term.

TRADENAME AND COST IN EXCESS OF FAIR VALUE OF NET ASSETS ACQUIRED:

Cost in excess of fair value of net assets acquired ("goodwill") represents the excess of the cost of the Acquisition over the fair value of the net assets acquired.

The tradename and goodwill are each being amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated lives of 40 years. Accumulated amortization of the tradename at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000 was \$10,417,000 and \$7,917,000, respectively. Accumulated amortization of goodwill at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000 was \$3,478,000 and \$2,739,000, respectively.

IMPAIRMENT OF LONG-LIVED ASSETS:

The Company reviews long-lived assets, including property, plant and equipment and certain intangibles (tradename and goodwill), for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of such an asset may not be recoverable. Intangibles are also reviewed at least annually. Management determines whether there has been a permanent impairment on such assets held for use in the business by comparing anticipated undiscounted future cash flows from operating activities involving the asset to the carrying value of the asset. The amount of any resulting impairment will be calculated using the present value of the same cash flows. The factors considered in this assessment would include operating results, trends and prospects, as well as the effects of demand, competition and other economic factors. Long-lived assets to be disposed of are valued at the lower of carrying amount or net realizable value.

DEFERRED DEBT ISSUANCE COSTS:

Debt issuance costs are deferred and amortized to interest expense using the straight-line method, which approximates the effective interest method, over the lives of the related debt. Amortization approximated \$1,601,000, \$1,592,000 and \$1,606,000 for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999, respectively.

REVENUE RECOGNITION:

Revenues consist of sales to customers, net of returns and markdowns. The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101, "Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements" ("SAB 101") in December 1999. SAB 101 summarizes certain SEC staff views in applying generally accepted accounting principles to revenue recognition in financial statements. The Company adopted the provisions of SAB 101 in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2000. Accordingly, the Company revised its method of accounting for revenue recognition retroactive to the beginning of fiscal 2000. Previously, the Company had recognized revenue at the point of shipment for all wholesale customers. However, for certain shipments, although title has passed, the Company effectively retains the risks and rewards of ownership until the goods reach the specified customer. Under the new accounting method, the Company now recognizes revenue on wholesale sales at the point where both title has passed and all the

risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred. Retail store revenues continue to be recognized at the time of sale, as the earnings process is then complete.

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 2--NATURE OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (CONTINUED)

REVENUE RECOGNITION:(CONTINUED)

The cumulative effect of the accounting change on prior years resulted in a charge to income of approximately \$354,000 (net of income tax benefit of approximately \$217,000), which is presented as a separate component of net income for fiscal 2000. The effect of the change on fiscal 2000 operating results was to decrease income before the cumulative effect of the accounting change by \$160,000 (which is net of income tax benefit of \$98,000).

The pro forma amounts presented on the accompanying consolidated statements of operations for fiscal 2000, 1999 and 1998 were calculated assuming the accounting change was made retroactively to prior years.

Under the new accounting method, fiscal 2000 includes \$2.2 million of net sales that were included in the cumulative effect adjustment as of January 2, 2000, all of which would have been recognized in the first quarter of fiscal 2000. The impact of the accounting change on amounts previously reported for the interim periods of fiscal 2000 is as follows (\$000):

	FIRST QUARTER		SECOND QUARTER		THIRD QUARTER	
	AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	AS RESTATED	AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	AS RESTATED	AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	AS RESTATED
Net sales .....	\$ 98,123	\$ 97,823	\$ 97,070	\$ 95,851	\$145,457	\$145,639
Gross profit .....	\$ 36,569	\$ 36,355	\$ 36,250	\$ 35,798	\$ 56,372	\$ 56,477
Income (loss) before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle .....	\$ 547	\$ 425	\$ (88)	\$ (330)	\$ 7,531	\$ 7,591
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax benefit of \$217 .....	--	354	--	--	--	--
Net income (loss) .....	\$ 547	\$ 71	\$ (88)	\$ (330)	\$ 7,531	\$ 7,591

STOCK-BASED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION ARRANGEMENTS:

The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with the provisions of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," and related interpretations. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," ("SFAS 123") was adopted in 1996 for disclosure purposes only (see Note 8).

ACCOUNTING FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING FEES AND COSTS:

The Company has adopted the provisions of the consensus on Emerging Issues Task Force Issue 00-10, "Accounting for Shipping and Handling Fees and Costs" ("Issue 00-10") during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2000. The Company classifies shipping and handling fees billed to customers as revenue and includes the corresponding cost in cost of goods sold. Shipping and handling costs that are absorbed by the Company are included in selling, general and administrative expenses and amounted to approximately \$14,289,000,



\$13,675,000 and \$12,412,000 in fiscal 2000, fiscal 1999 and fiscal 1998, respectively.

ROYALTIES AND LICENSE FEES:

The Company receives royalties and license fees, which are recognized as earned. Royalties and license fees amounted to approximately \$5.8 million, \$4.2 million and \$2.5 million for fiscal years 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively, and are included as a reduction of selling, general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 2--NATURE OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (CONTINUED)

INCOME TAXES:

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes" ("SFAS 109"). In accordance with SFAS 109, the deferred tax provision is determined under the liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized based on differences between the book and tax bases of assets and liabilities using presently enacted tax rates. Valuation allowances are established when it is more likely than not that a deferred tax asset will not be recovered. The provision for income taxes is generally the sum of the amount of income taxes paid or payable for the year as determined by applying the provisions of enacted tax laws to the taxable income for that year, the net change during the year in the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities and the net change during the year in any valuation allowances.

SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOWS INFORMATION:

Interest paid in cash approximated \$17,380,000, \$18,801,000 and \$19,614,000 for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999, respectively. Income taxes paid in cash approximated \$6,774,000, \$756,000 and \$2,345,000 for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999, respectively. Equipment acquired under capital leases approximated \$2,296,000 for the year ended January 1, 2000.

USE OF ESTIMATES IN THE PREPARATION OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

The preparation of these consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management of the Company to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS:

In 1998, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities", ("SFAS 133"). In June 1999, the FASB issued SFAS No. 137, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities - Deferral of the Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 133 - An Amendment of FASB Statement No. 133". Provisions of SFAS 133 are effective as of the beginning of fiscal 2001. SFAS 133 establishes accounting and reporting standards requiring that all derivative instruments, including certain derivative instruments

embedded in other contracts, be recorded in the balance sheet as either assets or liabilities measured at fair value. SFAS 133 requires that changes in the derivative instrument's fair value be recognized currently in earnings, unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met. SFAS 133 is not expected to have a material impact on the financial position or results of operations of the Company.

NOTE 3--INVENTORIES:

Inventories consisted of the following (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
	-----	-----
Finished goods.....	\$ 70,713	\$ 57,695
Work in process.....	14,508	13,842
Raw materials and supplies.....	7,214	8,099
	-----	-----
	\$ 92,435	\$ 79,636
	=====	=====

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 4--PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT:

Property, plant and equipment consisted of the following (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
	-----	-----
Land, buildings and improvement.....	\$ 20,305	\$ 17,443
Machinery and equipment.....	73,043	60,778
Equipment under capital leases.....	2,854	2,854
	-----	-----
	96,202	81,075
Accumulated depreciation and amortization..	(41,761)	(29,299)
	-----	-----
	\$ 54,441	\$ 51,776
	=====	=====

Depreciation and amortization expense (\$000) was \$14,281, \$12,420 and \$10,940 for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999, respectively.

NOTE 5--LONG-TERM DEBT:

Long-term debt consisted of the following (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
	-----	-----
Senior Credit Facility term loan.....	\$ 41,400	\$ 42,300
Senior Credit Facility revolving credit.....	--	--
10 3/8% Series A Senior Subordinated Notes due 2006.....	100,000	100,000
12% Series B Senior Subordinated Notes due 2008...	20,000	20,000
	-----	-----
	161,400	162,300
Current maturities.....	(5,400)	(900)
	-----	-----
	\$ 156,000	\$ 161,400
	=====	=====

The Senior Credit Facility provides for a \$50.0 million Tranche B term loan facility. The Tranche B term loans have a final scheduled maturity date of October 31, 2003. The principal amounts of the Tranche B term loans are required to be repaid in 14 consecutive semi-annual installments totaling \$0.9 million in each of fiscal years 1997 through 2000, \$5.4 million in fiscal year 2001, \$13.5 million in fiscal year 2002 and \$22.5 million in fiscal year 2003. In November 1996, proceeds of the 10 3/8% Senior Subordinated Notes (the "Notes") were used to repay \$5.0 million of the term loan. The repayment schedule has been adjusted ratably for this payment.

In June 1998, Carter's amended its Senior Credit Facility to benefit from favorable changes in the interest rate environment since the Acquisition and to support higher levels of demand for the Company's products than had been anticipated at Acquisition. As amended, the Senior Credit Facility provides for a \$65.0 million revolving credit facility. The revolving credit facility will expire on the earlier of (a) October 31, 2001 or (b) such other date as the revolving credit commitments thereunder shall terminate in accordance with the terms of the Senior Credit Facility. There is no scheduled interim amortization of principal. The facility has a sublimit of \$15.0 million for letters of credit of which \$6.0 million was used for letters of credit as of December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000. A commitment fee of 1/2 of 1% per annum is charged on the unused portion of the revolving credit facility. The Company is in the process of negotiating the terms of the revolving credit portion of the Senior Credit Facility to include an extension of the maturity date and to increase the limitation for annual capital expenditures.

Borrowings under the Senior Credit Facility accrue interest at either the Alternate Base Rate (the "Alternate Base Rate") or an adjusted Eurodollar Rate (the "Eurodollar Rate"), at the option of the Company, plus the applicable interest margin. The Alternate Base Rate at any time is determined to be the highest of (i) the Federal Effective Funds Rate plus 1/2 of 1% per annum; (ii) the Base CD Rate (as defined in the Credit Agreement) plus 1% per annum; or (iii) The Chase Manhattan Bank's Prime Rate. The applicable interest margin for loans that accrue interest at the Eurodollar Rate is 2.25% per annum for the revolving credit facility and is 1.50% per annum for loans that accrue interest at the Alternate Base Rate. The applicable

NOTE 5--LONG-TERM DEBT: (CONTINUED)

interest margin with respect to Tranche B term loans is 2.50% per annum for loans that accrue interest at the Eurodollar Rate and is 2.00% per annum for loans that accrue interest at the Alternate Base Rate. The amendment provides for additional reductions in the interest margin based on the achievement of

certain leverage ratios. The effective interest rate on variable rate Senior Credit Facility borrowings outstanding at December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999 was 8.7%, 8.7% and 8.0%, respectively. Interest on the Senior Credit Facility is payable quarterly.

The Senior Credit Facility requires that upon a public offering by Holdings or any subsidiary of Holdings, of its common or other voting stock, 50% of the net proceeds from such offering (only after satisfaction of certain specified obligations) is required to be applied toward the prepayment of indebtedness under the Senior Credit Facility. Upon the incurrence of any additional indebtedness (other than indebtedness permitted under the Senior Credit Facility), or upon the receipt of proceeds from certain asset sales and exchanges, 100% of the net proceeds from such incurrence, sale or exchange is required to be applied. In addition, the Senior Credit Facility requires that either 75% or 50% (depending on certain circumstances) of Excess Cash Flow (as defined in the Senior Credit Facility) be applied toward the prepayment of indebtedness under the Senior Credit Facility. Such prepayments are required to be so applied first to the prepayment of the term loans and second to reduce permanently the revolving credit commitments. Subject to certain conditions, the Company may, from time to time, make optional prepayments of loans without premium or penalty.

The loans are collateralized by a first priority interest in substantially all the personal property and certain real property of Carter's and a pledge of all the issued and outstanding stock of Carter's, as well as 65% of the issued and outstanding stock of Carter's foreign subsidiaries.

The Senior Credit Facility imposes certain covenants, requirements and restrictions on actions by Carter's and its subsidiaries that, among other things, restrict: (i) the incurrence and existence of indebtedness; (ii) consolidations, mergers and sales of assets; (iii) the incurrence and existence of liens or other encumbrances; (iv) the incurrence and existence of contingent obligations; (v) the payment of dividends and repurchases of common stock; (vi) prepayments and amendments of certain subordinated debt instruments and equity; (vii) investments, loans and advances; (viii) capital expenditures; (ix) changes in fiscal year; (x) certain transactions with affiliates; and (xi) changes in lines of business. In addition, the Senior Credit Facility requires that Carter's comply with specified financial ratios and tests, including minimum cash flow, a maximum ratio of indebtedness to cash flow and a minimum interest coverage ratio.

In November 1996, Carter's issued 10 3/8% Senior Subordinated Notes. The proceeds from the Notes were used to repay \$90.0 million of Acquisition-related financing and \$5.0 million of the Senior Credit Facility term loan.

In April 1997, Carter's completed a registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission related to an Exchange Offer for \$100.0 million of 10 3/8% Series A Senior Subordinated Notes for a like amount of 10 3/8% Senior Subordinated Notes issued in a November 1996 private placement. The terms and provisions of the Notes were essentially unchanged.

Interest on the 10 3/8% Notes is to be paid semi-annually on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The 10 3/8% Notes will be redeemable, in whole or in part, at the option of the Company on or after December 1, 2001 at the following redemption prices, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption:

YEAR	REDEMPTION PRICE
----	-----
2001.....	105.188%
2002.....	103.458%
2003.....	101.729%
2004 and thereafter.....	100.000%

## CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## NOTE 5--LONG-TERM DEBT: (CONTINUED)

The 10 3/8% Notes are uncollateralized. The 10 3/8% Notes contain provisions and covenants, including limitations on other indebtedness, restricted payments and distributions, sales of assets and subsidiary stock, liens and certain other transactions.

The 12% Senior Subordinated Notes ("Holdings Notes") were originally issued by Holdings to Investcorp affiliates on October 30, 1996 in connection with the Acquisition.

In March 1997, pursuant to a Private Placement for \$16,350,000 of the \$20,000,000 outstanding Holdings Notes, Holdings agreed to register the Holdings Notes with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In July 1998, the Company completed a registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission related to an Exchange Offer for \$20.0 million of Series B 12% Senior Subordinated Notes for a like amount of the Holdings Notes. The terms and provisions of the Holdings Notes were essentially unchanged.

Interest on the Holdings notes is to be paid semi-annually on May 1 and November 1 of each year. The Holdings Notes are redeemable, in whole or in part, at the option of the Company on or after the dates indicated, at the following redemption prices, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption:

YEAR	REDEMPTION PRICE
----	-----
December 31, 1996.....	109.000%
October 1, 1999.....	107.000%
October 1, 2000.....	105.000%
October 1, 2001.....	103.000%
October 1, 2002.....	101.000%
October 1, 2003 and thereafter.....	100.000%

Upon a "Change in Control", (as defined in the indenture pursuant to which the Holdings Notes were issued (the "Subordinated Note Indenture")), each holder shall have the rights to require that Holdings repurchase all or any part of such Holdings Notes at a purchase price in cash equal to 101% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the date of purchase.

The Holdings Notes are general uncollateralized obligations of Holdings and are subordinated in right of payment to all existing and future Senior Indebtedness (as defined in the Subordinated Notes Indenture) of Holdings. In addition, the Holdings Notes are subordinated to all debts, liabilities, and obligations of Carter's. The Holdings Notes contain provisions and covenants, including limitations on other indebtedness, dividends and distributions, transactions with affiliates, sales of assets and subsidiary stock, liens and certain other transactions.

As noted above, provisions of Carter's and Holdings' debt agreements contain restrictions and limitations which effectively preclude dividends, distribution, or advances from Carter's to Holdings, except under certain specified conditions. Restricted net assets of Carter's at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000 totaled approximately \$65.4 million and \$53.6 million,

respectively. Likewise, at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, Holdings was effectively precluded from declaring or paying dividends on its Capital Stock.

Aggregate minimum scheduled maturities of long-term debt subsequent to December 30, 2000 are as follows (\$000): 2001--\$5,400; 2002--\$13,500; 2003--\$22,500; 2004--\$0; 2005--\$0; 2006--\$100,000; 2007--\$0 and 2008--\$20,000.

The fair value of the Company's 12% Notes was deemed even with and was approximately \$2.0 million lower than the book value at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, respectively. The fair value of the 10 3/8% Notes was approximately \$3.0 million and \$11.0 million lower than book value at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, respectively. The fair values were estimated based on similar issues or on current rates offered to the Company for debt of the same remaining maturities. The fair value of the Company's other long-term debt was deemed to approximate its carrying value as of December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000.

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 6--CAPITAL STOCK:

Features of Holdings' various classes of capital stock are specified in a Certificate of Designation (the "Certificate"). The Certificate specifies, among other things, restrictions on transfers of shares; certain "tag along rights" of the Class A and Class C shares pursuant to certain transfers of Class D shares; and redemptions required in connection with tag-along transfers or warrant exercises (see below).

In the event of an initial public offering or sale of Holdings, as defined in the Certificate, all issued and outstanding shares of Class A, Class C and Class D Stock not otherwise redeemed by Holdings shall automatically convert into shares of Common Stock on a one-for-one basis.

Holder of shares of Class D Stock and Common Stock shall be entitled to one vote per share of such stock held, on all matters. Until a change in control of the Company, as defined, holders of Class A or Class C stock shall not have any voting rights except that the holders of the Class A and Class C Stock shall have the right to one vote for each share of such stock held as to (i) the approval of any amendments, or the alteration or repeal, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise, of any provision of the Certificate or the Articles of Organization that would increase or decrease the par value of those shares of the Class A or Class C Stock, or alter or change the powers, preferences, or special rights of the shares of the Class A or Class C Stock, so as to affect such holders adversely; and (ii) matters as required under law.

Effective upon a change in control, holders of shares of Class A or Class C Stock shall be entitled to one vote for each share of stock held, on all matters.

In the event of liquidation of Holdings, each holder of Class A or Class C Stock shall be entitled to receive out of the net assets of the Company or the proceeds thereof available for distribution to stockholders, before any payment or distribution shall be made or set aside for payment on the Class D or Common Stock upon such liquidation, the amount of \$.001 per share. Such distribution shall be allocated on a pro rata basis according to the number of shares of Class A or Class C Stock held by each stockholder.

Certain officers and employees of the Company held 119,863 and 120,032 shares of Class C Stock as of December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, respectively. Under certain circumstances, these officers and employees have the right to require an affiliate of Investcorp to purchase their Class C shares. In

such cases, the Company has a right of first refusal to purchase such shares.

In connection with the Acquisition, Holdings issued a Class A Warrant to an affiliate of Investcorp. Upon an initial public offering or sale of Holdings, as defined, the Class A Warrant entitles its holder to purchase, at a specified price, a specified number of shares of Holdings Common Stock. This will be accomplished via a redemption by Holdings of a corresponding number of Class A shares and issuance by Holdings to the Warrant holder of a corresponding number of common shares.

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 7--EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS:

The Company offers a comprehensive post-retirement medical plan to current and certain future retirees and their spouses until they become eligible for Medicare or a Medicare Supplement plan. The Company also offers life insurance to current and certain future retirees. Employee contributions are required as a condition of participation for both medical benefits and life insurance and the Company's liabilities are net of these employee contributions.

The following is a reconciliation of the Accumulated Post-Retirement Benefit Obligations ("APBO") under this plan (\$000):

	YEARS ENDED	
	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
	-----	-----
Benefit Obligation (APBO) at beginning of year.....	\$ 9,347	\$ 10,589
Service cost.....	140	166
Interest cost.....	672	639
Plan participants' contribution.....	768	615
Actuarial loss (gain).....	598	(1,216)
Benefits paid.....	(1,647)	(1,446)
	-----	-----
APBO at end of year.....	\$ 9,878	\$ 9,347
	=====	=====

The Company's contribution for these post-retirement benefit obligations was \$878,644 in fiscal 2000 and \$831,448 in fiscal 1999.

The funded status of the plan is reconciled to the accrued post-retirement benefit liability recognized in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets, as follows (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
	-----	-----
Funded status (unfunded APBO).....	\$ 9,878	\$ 9,347
Unrecognized net loss from past experience different from that assumed and from changes		

in assumptions.....	(1,110)	(511)
	-----	-----
Accrued benefit cost.....	\$ 8,768	\$ 8,836
	=====	=====

The discount rates used in determining the APBO as of December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000 were 7.00% and 7.50%, respectively.

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 7--EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS: (CONTINUED)

The components of post-retirement benefit expense charged to operations are as follows (\$000):

	YEARS ENDED		
	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
	-----	-----	-----
Service cost - benefits attributed to service during the period .....	\$140	\$166	\$169
Interest cost on accumulated post-retirement benefit obligation .....	672	639	649
Amortization of net actuarial loss .....	--	56	34
	----	----	----
Total net periodic post-retirement benefit cost .....	\$812	\$861	\$852
	====	====	====

The effects on the Company's plan of all future increases in health care costs are borne by employees; accordingly, increasing medical costs are not expected to have any material effect on the Company's future financial results.

The Company has an obligation under a defined benefit plan covering certain former officers. At December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000, the present value of the estimated remaining payments under this plan was approximately \$1.4 million and \$1.5 million, respectively, and is included in other current and long-term liabilities.

The Company also sponsors a defined contribution plan within the U.S. The plan covers employees who are at least 21 years of age and have completed three months of service, during which at least 257 hours were served. The plan provides for the option for employee contributions of between 1% and 15% of salary, of which the Company matches up to 2.5% of the employee contribution, at a rate of 75% on the first 2% and 50% on the second 2%. The Company's expense for the defined contribution plan totaled approximately (\$000): \$1,017 for the fiscal year ended December 30, 2000, \$997 for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2000 and \$906 for the fiscal year ended January 2, 1999.

NOTE 8--MANAGEMENT STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN:

At the Acquisition, Holdings adopted a Management Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan") in order to provide incentives to employees and directors of the



Company by granting them awards tied to Class C stock of Holdings. Options for up to 75,268 shares may be granted to certain employees under the Plan, of which 286 remained ungranted at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000. The exercise price of all options granted since inception is \$60.00 per share, which is the same price per share paid by existing holders of Holdings' Class C stock, and which is deemed to be the fair market value of the stock at the time the options were granted. Accordingly, no compensation expense has been recognized on the options granted. All options granted vest ratably over five years (contingent upon the Company meeting specific earnings targets) and expire in ten years, with weighted average remaining contractual lives of approximately six years at December 30, 2000.

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 8--MANAGEMENT STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN: (CONTINUED)

A summary of stock options (in number of shares that may be purchased) is presented below:

	YEARS ENDED		
	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
Outstanding, beginning of year	74,982	71,255	67,302
Granted .....	--	5,751	4,976
Exercised .....	--	--	--
Forfeited .....	--	(2,024)	(1,023)
Expired .....	--	--	--
Outstanding, end of year .....	74,982	74,982	71,255
Exercisable, end of year .....	56,890	42,889	26,511

The fair value of each granted option, at the date of grant, has been estimated to be \$19.04 for options granted during fiscal 1999 and \$19.78 for options granted during fiscal 1998. The fair value of the options granted was estimated using a minimum value method, at an assumed risk free interest rate of 5.5% for options granted during fiscal 1999 and 5.0% for options granted during fiscal 1998. The expected life of the options was estimated to be 7.13 years for options granted during fiscal 1999 and eight years for fiscal 1998. No dividends were assumed.

If the fair value based method required by SFAS 123 had been applied, estimated compensation expense for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999 would have been approximately \$418,000, \$418,000 and \$414,000, respectively, resulting in pro forma net income (loss) of approximately \$12,404,000, \$(4,063,000) and \$3,260,000, respectively.

NOTE 9--INCOME TAXES:

The provision for income taxes consisted of the following (\$000):

	YEARS ENDED		
	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
CURRENT TAX PROVISION:			
Federal .....	\$ 6,678	\$ 341	\$ 1,085
State .....	1,343	254	438
Foreign .....	566	293	82
Total current provision .....	8,587	888	1,605
DEFERRED TAX PROVISION (BENEFIT):			
Federal .....	222	(2,366)	978
State .....	26	(304)	114
Total deferred provision (benefit) .....	248	(2,670)	1,092
Total provision (benefit) .....	\$ 8,835	\$ (1,782)	\$ 2,697

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 9--INCOME TAXES: (CONTINUED)

Components of deferred tax assets and liabilities were as follows (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
DEFERRED TAX ASSETS:		
Accounts receivable allowance.....	\$ 1,840	\$ 1,886
Inventory valuation.....	4,314	5,108
Liability accruals.....	3,196	3,273
Deferred employee benefits.....	3,973	4,039
Loss and tax credit carryforwards..	--	425
Other.....	542	797
Total deferred tax assets.....	\$ 13,865	\$ 15,528
DEFERRED TAX LIABILITIES:		
Tradename.....	\$ 33,146	\$ 34,071
Depreciation.....	6,018	6,615
Deferred employee benefits.....	642	468
Total deferred tax liabilities...	\$ 39,806	\$ 41,154

=====

The difference between the Company's effective income tax rate and the federal statutory tax rate is reconciled below:

	YEARS ENDED		
	DECEMBER 30, 2000 ----	JANUARY 1, 2000 ----	JANUARY 2, 1999 ----
Statutory federal income tax rate .....	35%	(34)%	34%
State income taxes, net of Federal income tax benefit .....	4	(1)	6
Goodwill amortization .....	1	5	4
Other permanent items .....	--	(3)	1
Foreign income, net of tax .	--	1	(3)
Other .....	--	--	1
	----	----	----
Total .....	40%	(32)%	43%
	====	====	====

The portion of income before income taxes attributable to foreign income was approximately \$1,589,000, \$704,000 and \$735,000 for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999, respectively.

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 10--LEASE COMMITMENTS:

Annual rent expense (\$000) under operating leases was \$19,232, \$18,108 and \$16,739 for the years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999, respectively.

Minimum annual rental commitments under current noncancelable operating leases as of December 30, 2000 were as follows (\$000):

FISCAL YEAR	BUILDINGS, PRIMARILY RETAIL STORES	TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT	TOTAL NONCANCELABLE LEASES
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2001.....	\$ 13,092	\$ 436	\$ 704	\$ 430	\$ 14,662
2002.....	10,311	301	266	328	11,206
2003.....	8,300	49	64	142	8,555
2004.....	6,058	10	--	78	6,146
2005.....	3,923	--	--	50	3,973
Thereafter...	3,852	--	--	7	3,859
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total....	\$ 45,536	\$ 796	\$ 1,034	\$ 1,035	\$ 48,401
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

In February 2001, the Company entered into a ten-year lease agreement for a new corporate office in Atlanta, Georgia. Payments on this lease will begin in October 2001. The ten year commitment will total approximately \$18.0 million.

Future annual lease commitments under capital lease obligations are as follows (\$000):

FISCAL YEAR	
2001.....	\$1,016
2002.....	509
Thereafter.....	--
	-----
Total minimum obligations.....	1,525
Interest.....	(54)
	-----
Present value of net minimum obligations.....	1,471
Current portion, included in other current liabilities....	(970)
	-----
Long-term obligations, included in other long-term liabilities at December 30, 2000.....	\$ 501
	=====

NOTE 11--CONTINGENCIES:

The Company is subject to various federal, state and local laws that govern activities or operations that may have adverse environmental effects. Noncompliance with these laws and regulations can result in significant liabilities, penalties and costs. From time to time, operations of the Company have resulted or may result in noncompliance with or liability pursuant to environmental laws. Carter's is in the final stages of resolving an environmental matter associated with waste deposited at or near a landfill in Lamar County, Georgia in the 1970's. In 1999, the Company established a reserve to provide for its share of the total estimated costs required to resolve this matter. These costs are estimated to be less than \$1.0 million. However, there can be no assurance that this estimate will prove accurate. Generally, compliance with environmental laws has not had a material impact on the Company's operations, but there can be no assurance that future compliance with such laws will not have a material adverse effect on the Company or its operations.

NOTE 12--OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES:

Other current liabilities consisted of the following (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30,	JANUARY 1,
	2000	2000
	----	----
Accrued income taxes.....	\$ 7,732	\$ 6,158
Accrued incentive compensation.....	5,025	134
Accrued workers compensation.....	3,178	2,913
Accrued interest.....	1,675	1,749
Accrued health insurance.....	1,650	1,907
Other current liabilities.....	12,703	15,831
	-----	-----
	\$ 31,963	\$ 28,692
	=====	=====

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 13--VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS:

Information regarding valuation and qualifying accounts is as follows (\$000):

	ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS	INVENTORY VALUATION
	-----	-----
BALANCE, JANUARY 3, 1998.....	\$2,374	\$2,766
Additions, charged to expense.....	1,427	2,947
Writeoffs.....	(1,301)	(2,595)
	-----	-----
BALANCE, JANUARY 2, 1999.....	2,500	3,118
Additions, charged to expense.....	2,435	5,306
Writeoffs.....	(2,170)	(3,187)
	-----	-----
BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 2000.....	2,765	5,237
Additions, charged to expense.....	1,840	3,408
Writeoffs.....	(2,560)	(4,563)
	-----	-----
BALANCE, DECEMBER 30, 2000.....	\$2,045	\$4,082
	=====	=====

NOTE 14--RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS:

In connection with the closing of the Acquisition, the Company entered into an agreement for management advisory and consulting services (the "Management Agreement") with Investcorp International, Inc. ("International") pursuant to which the Company agreed to pay International \$1.35 million per annum for a five-year term. At the closing of the Acquisition, the Company prepaid International \$4.05 million for the first three years of the term of the Management Agreement in accordance with its terms.

In January 2000, a loan to an officer in the amount of \$4.3 million was issued, the proceeds of which were used by the officer to repay a previous loan from the Company in the amount of \$1.5 million. The \$4.3 million loan is payable in annual installments of \$600,000 commencing on March 31, 2002, and thereafter on each anniversary thereof until such principal amount and all accrued and unpaid interest thereon has been repaid. The loan has recourse and is collateralized by the officer's stock in Holdings and bears interest at the average rate paid by the Company under the revolving portion of its Senior Credit Facility. The loan is prepayable with proceeds of any disposition of the officer's stock in Holdings.

During fiscal 2000, 1999 and 1998, Holdings repurchased 1,169, 8,450 and 5,358 shares, respectively, of its Class C Stock owned by former Company employees for cash payments totaling approximately \$70,000, \$507,000 and \$320,000, respectively. In each of fiscal 2000 and 1999, Holdings issued 1,000 shares to employees at a fair value of \$60,000. During fiscal 1998, Holdings sold 1,000 shares of Class C Stock to an employee of the Company for \$60,000 and issued 500 shares to another employee at a fair value of \$30,000.

## CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## NOTE 15--SEGMENT INFORMATION:

The Company reports segment information in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 131, "Disclosure about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information" ("SFAS 131") which requires segment information to be disclosed based on a "management approach". The management approach refers to the internal reporting that is used by management for making operating decisions and assessing the performance of the Company's reportable segments. SFAS 131 also requires disclosure about products and services, geographic areas and major customers. For purposes of complying with SFAS 131, the Company has identified its two reportable segments as "Wholesale" and "Retail". The Company generally sells the same products in each business segment. Wholesale products are offered through the Company's wholesale distribution channel while the retail segment reflects the operations of the Company's outlet stores. The Accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in Note 2--"Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies".

In fiscal 2000, the Company reassessed its process for evaluating the financial results of each reportable segment. Effective December 30, 2000, each segment's results include the costs directly related to the segment's revenue and all other costs are allocated based on relationship to consolidated net sales or units produced to support each segment's revenue. Prior to December 30, 2000, the Company determined the Retail segment's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization expenses ("EBITDA") on a direct contribution basis only and did not include allocations of all costs incurred to support Retail operations. The wholesale segment, previously referred to as "Wholesale and Other", included all other revenue and expenses of the Company not directly related to the Retail segment. Management believes that its revised process for measurement provides a more meaningful analysis of each segment's financial results. Prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation. Under the old method, EBITDA for the Wholesale and Other segment would have been approximately \$414,000, \$(1,132,000) and \$5,056,000 for fiscal years 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively, and EBITDA for the Retail segment would have been approximately \$57,627,000, \$39,966,000 and \$37,965,000 for fiscal years 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively.

The table below presents certain segment information for the periods indicated (\$000):

	RETAIL -----	WHOLESALE -----	TOTAL -----
FISCAL YEAR 2000:			
Sales.....	\$215,280	\$256,094	\$471,374
EBITDA.....	\$ 31,517	\$ 26,524	\$ 58,041
FISCAL YEAR 1999:			
Sales.....	\$183,312	\$231,284	\$414,596
EBITDA.....	\$ 18,061	\$ 20,773	\$ 38,834
FISCAL YEAR 1998:			
Sales.....	\$171,696	\$236,486	\$408,182
EBITDA.....	\$ 17,852	\$ 25,169	\$ 43,021

A reconciliation of total segment EBITDA to total consolidated income (loss) before income taxes is presented below (\$000):

	YEARS ENDED		
	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
Total EBITDA for reportable segments	\$58,041	\$38,834	\$43,021
Depreciation and amortization expense.....	(17,520)	(16,855)	(15,599)
Interest income.....	303	--	--
Interest expense.....	(18,982)	(20,437)	(21,215)
Nonrecurring charge.....	--	(7,124)	--
Consolidated income (loss) before income taxes.....	\$21,842	\$ (5,582)	\$ 6,207

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE 15--SEGMENT INFORMATION: (CONTINUED)

The table below represents inventory by segment at (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
Wholesale.....	\$ 72,114	\$ 58,269	\$ 81,817
Retail.....	20,321	21,367	19,591
	\$ 92,435	\$ 79,636	\$ 101,408

Wholesale inventories include inventory produced and warehoused for the Retail segment.

The following represents property, plant and equipment, net, by geographic area as of (\$000):

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
--	----------------------	--------------------	--------------------

United States.....	\$ 45,226	\$ 41,417	\$ 49,178
International.....	9,215	10,359	10,496
	-----	-----	-----
	\$ 54,441	\$ 51,776	\$ 59,674
	=====	=====	=====

The Company's international operations consist primarily of sewing facilities and, accordingly, no revenues are recorded at these locations.

NOTE 16--TEXTILE PLANT PHASE-DOWN:

Historically, the Company met most of its fabric requirements through its textile operations located in Barnesville, Georgia. During 1999, the Company developed a plan to take advantage of alternative fabric sourcing opportunities and, in the third quarter of 1999, began to phase-down production in its textile operations. All textile processes, with the exception of printing, were discontinued by the end of fiscal 1999.

Financial results for fiscal 1999 included a nonrecurring charge of \$6,865,000 representing the impairment adjustment required to reduce the carrying value of land, buildings and equipment associated with the textile facility in Barnesville, Georgia to their estimated net realization value of \$1,950,000. In fiscal 2000, \$627,000 of these assets were sold. The remaining assets are presented as assets held for sale on the accompanying December 30, 2000 balance sheet. It is estimated that approximately \$373,000 of equipment will be sold during the current year with the remaining \$950,000 of land, buildings and equipment sold in future years.

During 1999, the Company also closed three domestic sew plants. The net loss on property, plant and equipment related to the closures totaled \$259,000 and was included in the 1999 nonrecurring charge.

ITEM 9. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTANTS

Not applicable.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

The following table sets forth the name, age and position of each of the directors and executive officers of the Company. Each director of the Company will hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders of the Company or until his successor has been elected and qualified. Officers of the Company are elected by the Board of Directors of the Company and serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

NAME	AGE	POSITIONS
-----	---	-----
Frederick J. Rowan, II	61	Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and Chief Executive Officer.
Joseph Pacifico	51	President-Marketing.
Charles E. Whetzel, Jr.	50	Executive Vice President-Global Sourcing.
David A. Brown	43	Executive Vice President-Business Planning & Administration and Director of Carter's.
Michael D. Casey	40	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.
Christopher J. O'Brien	42	Director.



Thomas J. Sullivan            38            Director.  
William C. McCollum        29            Director.

FREDERICK J. ROWAN, II joined the Company in 1992 as President and Chief Executive Officer and became Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company in October 1996. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Rowan was Group Vice President of VF Corporation, a multi-division apparel company and, among other positions, served as President and Chief Executive Officer of both the H.D. Lee Company and Bassett-Walker, Inc., divisions of VF Corporation. Mr. Rowan, who has been involved in the textile and apparel industries for 36 years, has been in senior executive positions for nearly 24 of those years. Mr. Rowan began his career at the DuPont Corporation and later joined Aileen Inc., a manufacturer of women's apparel, where he subsequently became President and Chief Operating Officer.

JOSEPH PACIFICO joined the Company in 1992 as Executive Vice President-Sales and Marketing and was named President-Marketing in 1997. Mr. Pacifico began his career with VF Corporation in 1981 as a sales representative for the H.D. Lee Company and was promoted to the position of Vice President of Marketing in 1989, a position he held until 1992.

CHARLES E. WHETZEL, JR. joined the Company in 1992 as Executive Vice President-Operations and was named Executive Vice President-Manufacturing in 1997. In 2000, Mr. Whetzel's title became Executive Vice President-Global Sourcing consistent with the Company's focus on expansion of global sourcing capabilities. Mr. Whetzel began his career at Aileen Inc. in 1971 in the Quality function and was later promoted to Vice President of Apparel. Following Aileen Inc., Mr. Whetzel held positions of increased responsibility with Mast Industries, Health-Tex and Wellmade Industries, respectively. In 1988, Mr. Whetzel joined Bassett-Walker, Inc. and was later promoted to Vice President of Manufacturing for the H.D. Lee Company.

DAVID A. BROWN joined the Company in 1992 as Senior Vice President-Business Planning and Administration and became a Director of Carter's in October 1996. In 1997, Mr. Brown was named Executive Vice President-Business Planning and Administration. Prior to 1992, Mr. Brown held various positions at VF Corporation including Vice President-Human Resources for both the H.D. Lee Company and Bassett-Walker, Inc. Mr. Brown also held personnel focused positions with Blue Bell, Inc. and Milliken & Company earlier in his career.

MICHAEL D. CASEY joined the Company in 1993 as Vice President-Finance and was named Senior Vice President-Finance in 1997. In 1998, Mr. Casey was named Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Casey was a Senior Manager with Price Waterhouse LLP.

CHRISTOPHER J. O'BRIEN became a Director of the Company in October 1996. Mr. O'Brien has been an executive of Investcorp, its predecessor or one or more of its wholly-owned subsidiaries since December 1993. Prior to joining Investcorp, Mr. O'Brien was a Managing Director of Mancuso & Company for four years. Mr. O'Brien is a Director of CSK Auto Corporation, Harborside Healthcare Corporation, NationsRent, Inc. and IWO Holdings, Inc. (Independent Wireless One Corporation).

THOMAS J. SULLIVAN became a Director of the Company in 2000. Mr. Sullivan has been an executive of Investcorp, its predecessor or one or more of its wholly-owned subsidiaries since April 1996. Prior to joining Investcorp, Mr. Sullivan was Vice President and Treasurer of the Leslie Fay Companies, Inc. (now Leslie Fay Company, Inc.). Mr. Sullivan is a Director of Werner Holding Co. (DE), Inc. and IWO Holdings, Inc. (Independent Wireless One Corporation).

WILLIAM C. MCCOLLUM became a Director of the Company in 2000. Mr. McCollum has been an executive of Investcorp, its predecessor or one or more of its

wholly-owned subsidiaries since May 1996. Prior to joining Investcorp, Mr. McCollum was a financial analyst with Chase Securities Inc. Mr. McCollum is a Director of Harborside Healthcare Corporation.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth all cash compensation earned in fiscal years 2000, 1999 and 1998 by the Company's Chief Executive Officer and each of the other four most highly compensated executive officers whose remuneration exceeded \$100,000 (collectively, the "Named Executive Officers"). The current compensation arrangements for each of these officers are described in "Employment Arrangements".

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

NAME AND PRINCIPAL POSITION	FISCAL YEAR	SALARY	INCENTIVE COMPENSATION	OTHER ANNUAL COMPENSATION (a)
Frederick J. Rowan, II..... Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and Chief Executive Officer	2000	\$600,000	\$1,080,000	\$1,144,477
	1999	595,833	--	442,290
	1998	560,750	632,500	394,074
Joseph Pacifico..... President-Marketing	2000	\$390,000	\$ 456,300	\$ 251,707
	1999	387,500	--	197,399
	1998	375,000	268,200	439,572
Charles E. Whetzel, Jr..... Executive Vice President-Global Sourcing	2000	\$262,500	\$ 307,100	\$ 140,809
	1999	260,417	--	110,238
	1998	250,000	178,800	109,019
David A. Brown..... Executive Vice President-Business Planning & Administration and Director of Carter's	2000	\$262,500	\$ 307,100	\$ 166,166
	1999	260,417	--	75,372
	1998	247,500	178,800	74,721
Michael D. Casey..... Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	2000	\$210,000	\$ 245,700	\$ 100,097
	1999	208,333	--	115,471
	1998	190,208	143,000	126,080

(a) Other annual compensation includes Holdings' Class C Stock, supplemental retirement plan benefits, automobile allowances, insurance premiums and medical cost reimbursement. In fiscal 2000, other annual compensation for Mr. Rowan includes relocation assistance. In fiscal 1999 and 1998, other annual compensation for Mr. Casey included relocation assistance. In fiscal 1998, other annual compensation for Messrs. Pacifico and Whetzel included relocation assistance.

EMPLOYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Frederick J. Rowan, II, President and Chief Executive Officer, and the Company entered into a three-year employment agreement as of October 30, 1996, which automatically extends annually for successive one-year terms, subject to termination upon notice. Pursuant to such agreement, Mr. Rowan is entitled to receive (i) a base salary, currently \$600,000 per year (subject to annual cost of living adjustments and any increases approved by the Board of Directors), (ii) annual cash bonuses based upon a bonus plan to be determined each year by the Board of Directors in conjunction with the Company's achievement of targeted performance levels as defined in the plan and (iii) certain specified fringe benefits, including a retirement trust. If Mr. Rowan's employment with the Company is terminated without cause (as defined), he will continue to receive his then current salary for the remainder of the employment term and the Company will maintain certain fringe benefits on his behalf until either the expiration of the remainder of the employment term or his 65th birthday. Mr. Rowan has agreed not to compete

with the Company for the two-year period following the end of his employment with the Company, unless he is terminated without cause, in which case the duration of such period is one year.

Joseph Pacifico, Charles E. Whetzel, Jr. and David A. Brown entered into two-year employment agreements with the Company as of October 30, 1996. Michael D. Casey entered into a two-year employment agreement effective October 28, 1998. Pursuant to such agreements, Messrs. Pacifico, Whetzel, Brown and Casey (each an "Executive") are entitled to receive (i) a base salary, currently \$390,000, \$262,500, \$262,500 and \$210,000, respectively (subject to annual cost of living adjustments and any increases approved by the Board of Directors), (ii) annual cash bonuses based upon a bonus plan to be determined each year by the Board of Directors in conjunction with the Company's achievement of targeted performance levels as defined in the plan and (iii) certain specified fringe benefits, including a retirement trust. The employment agreements automatically extend annually for successive one-year terms, subject to termination upon notice. If an Executive's employment with the Company is terminated without cause (as defined), he will continue to receive his then current salary for the remainder of the employment term and the Company will maintain certain fringe benefits on his behalf until either the expiration of the remainder of the employment term or his 65th birthday. Each Executive has agreed not to compete with the Company for a one-year period following the end of his employment with the Company, unless he is terminated without cause, in which case the duration of such period is six months.

#### MANAGEMENT STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

At the Acquisition, Holdings adopted a Management Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan"), in order to provide incentives to employees and directors of Holdings and the Company by granting them awards tied to the Class C Stock of Holdings. The Plan is administered by a committee of the Board of Directors of Holdings (the "Compensation Committee"), which has broad authority to administer and interpret the Plan. Awards to employees are not restricted to any specified form or structure and may include, without limitation, restricted stock, stock options, deferred stock or stock appreciation rights (collectively, "Awards"). Options granted under the Plan may be options intended to qualify as incentive stock options under Section 422 of the Code or options not intended to so qualify. An Award granted under the Plan to an employee may include a provision terminating the Award upon termination of employment under certain circumstances or accelerating the receipt of benefits upon the occurrence of specified events, including, at the discretion of the Compensation Committee, any change of control of the Company.

In connection with the Acquisition, Holdings granted options to purchase up to 72,199 shares of its Class C Stock to certain members of the Company's senior management, other officers and employees of the Company. As of December 30, 2000, options to purchase up to 74,982 shares of Class C stock were outstanding. The exercise price of each such option is \$60.00 per share, which was the same price per share paid by existing holders of Class C Stock of Holdings to acquire such Class C Stock. The exercise price of each option granted in the future will be equal to the fair market value of Holdings' Class C Stock at the time of the grant. Each option will be subject to certain vesting provisions. To the extent not earlier vested or terminated, all options will vest on the tenth anniversary of the date of grant and will expire 30 days thereafter if not exercised.

#### DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

The Company pays no additional remuneration to its employees or to executives of Investcorp for serving as directors. There are no family relationships among any of the directors or executive officers.

#### ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

Class D Stock, par value \$.01 share, is the only class of Holdings' stock that currently possess voting rights. At December 30, 2000 there were 5,000 shares of Holdings' Class D Stock issued and outstanding. As of December 30, 2000, members of the Company's management owned 119,863 shares of Class C Stock of Holdings. This stock has no voting rights except in certain limited circumstances. The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of each class of issued and outstanding securities of Holdings, as of February 28, 2001, by each Director of the Company, each of the Executive Officers of the Company, the Directors and Executive Officers of the Company as a group and each person who beneficially owns more than 5% of the outstanding shares of any class of voting securities of Holdings.

CLASS D VOTING STOCK:

NAME	NUMBER OF SHARES (a)	PERCENT OF CLASS (a)
----	-----	-----
INVESTCORP S.A. (b) (c).....	5,000	100.0%
SIPCO Limited(d).....	5,000	100.0
CIP Limited(e) (f).....	4,600	92.0
Ballet Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Denary Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Gleam Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Highlands Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Noble Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Outrigger Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Quill Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Radial Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Shoreline Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
Zinnia Limited(e) (f).....	460	9.2
INVESTCORP Investment Equity Limited(c).....	400	8.0

(a) As used in this table, beneficial ownership means the sole or shared power to vote, or to direct the voting of, or the sole or shared power to dispose of, or direct the disposition of, a security.

(b) INVESTCORP S.A. ("Investcorp") does not directly own any stock in Holdings. The number of shares shown as owned by Investcorp includes all of the shares owned by INVESTCORP Investment Equity Limited (see (c) below). Investcorp owns no stock in Ballet Limited, Denary Limited, Gleam Limited, Highlands Limited, Noble Limited, Outrigger Limited, Quill Limited, Radial Limited, Shoreline Limited, Zinnia Limited, or in the beneficial owners of these entities (see (f) below). Investcorp may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of voting stock held by these entities because the entities have entered into revocable management services or similar agreements with an affiliate of Investcorp, pursuant to which each of such entities has granted such affiliate the authority to direct the voting and disposition of the Holdings voting stock owned by such entity for so long as such agreement is in effect. Investcorp is a Luxembourg corporation with its address at 37 rue Notre-Dame, Luxembourg.

(c) INVESTCORP Investment Equity Limited is a Cayman Islands corporation, and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Investcorp, with its address at P.O. Box 1111, West Wind Building, George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.

(d) SIPCO Limited may be deemed to control Investcorp through its ownership of a majority of a company's stock that indirectly owns a majority of Investcorp's shares. SIPCO Limited's address is P.O. Box 1111, West Wind

Building, George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.

- (e) CIP Limited ("CIP") owns no stock in Holdings. CIP indirectly owns less than 0.1% of the stock in each of Ballet Limited, Denary Limited, Gleam Limited, Highlands Limited, Noble Limited, Outrigger Limited, Quill Limited, Radial Limited, Shoreline Limited and Zinnia Limited (see (f) below). CIP may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares of voting stock of Holdings held by such entities because CIP acts as a Director of such entities and the ultimate beneficial shareholders of each of those entities have granted to CIP revocable proxies in companies that own those entities' stock. None of the ultimate beneficial owners of such entities beneficially owns individually more than 5% of Holdings' voting stock.
- (f) Each of CIP Limited, Ballet Limited, Denary Limited, Gleam Limited, Highlands Limited, Noble Limited, Outrigger Limited, Quill Limited, Radial Limited, Shoreline Limited and Zinnia Limited is a Cayman Islands corporation with its address at P.O. Box 2197, West Wind Building, George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.

CLASS C NON-VOTING STOCK:

NAME -----	NUMBER OF SHARES (a) -----	PERCENT OF CLASS -----
Frederick J. Rowan, II.....	81,844 (b)	30.6%
Joseph Pacifico.....	21,350 (c)	8.6%
Charles E. Whetzel, Jr.....	21,350 (d)	8.6%
David A. Brown.....	21,350 (e)	8.6%
Michael D. Casey.....	5,489 (f)	2.2%
Christopher J. O'Brien.....	--	--
Thomas J. Sullivan.....	--	--
William C. McCollum.....	--	--
	-----	---
All directors and executive officers of the Company as a group (8 persons).....	151,383 =====	58.6% =====

- (a) As used in this table, beneficial ownership means the sole or shared power to vote, or to direct the voting of, or the sole or shared power to dispose of, or direct the disposition of, a security.
- (b) Includes an aggregate of 25,195 shares of Holdings' Class C Stock issuable pursuant to options that are currently exercisable or are exercisable within 60 days as of February 28, 2001.
- (c) Includes an aggregate of 6,298 shares of Holdings' Class C Stock issuable pursuant to options that are currently exercisable or are exercisable within 60 days as of February 28, 2001.
- (d) Includes an aggregate of 6,298 shares of Holdings' Class C Stock issuable pursuant to options that are currently exercisable or are exercisable within 60 days as of February 28, 2001.
- (e) Includes an aggregate of 6,298 shares of Holdings' Class C Stock issuable

pursuant to options that are currently exercisable or are exercisable within 60 days as of February 28, 2001.

- (f) Includes an aggregate of 3,200 shares of Holdings' Class C Stock issuable pursuant to options that are currently exercisable or are exercisable within 60 days as of February 28, 2001.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

In connection with the closing of the Acquisition, the Company entered into an agreement for management advisory and consulting services with Investcorp International, Inc. ("International") pursuant to which the Company agreed to pay International \$1.35 million per annum for a five-year term. At the closing of the Acquisition, the Company paid International \$4.05 million for the first three years of the term of the Management Agreement in accordance with its terms. Upon the Acquisition, the Company was required to pay an aggregate amount of approximately \$11.3 million to certain members of management, including payments under the Management Equity Participation Plan and the Long-Term Incentive Plan.

In January 2000, a loan to an officer in the amount of \$4.3 million was issued, the proceeds of which were used by the officer to repay a previous loan from the Company in the amount of \$1.5 million. The \$4.3 million loan is payable in annual installments of \$600,000 commencing on March 31, 2002, and thereafter on each anniversary thereof until such principal amount and all accrued and unpaid interest thereon has been repaid. The loan has recourse and is collateralized by the officer's stock in Holdings and bears interest at the average rate paid by the Company under the revolving portion of its Senior Credit Facility. The loan is prepayable with proceeds of any disposition of the officer's stock in Holdings.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of section 13 or 15(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Morrow, Georgia on March 29, 2001.

CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ FREDERICK J. ROWAN, II

-----  
Frederick J. Rowan, II  
Chairman of the Board of Directors,  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: March 29, 2001

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 indicated.

NAME	TITLE
----	-----
/s/ FREDERICK J. ROWAN, II	Chairman of the Board of Directors, President
-----	and Chief Executive Officer (Principal
Frederick J. Rowan, II	Executive Officer)

/s/ MICHAEL D. CASEY	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Michael D. Casey	
/s/ CHRISTOPHER J. O'BRIEN	Director
Christopher J. O'Brien	
/s/ THOMAS J. SULLIVAN	Director
Thomas J. Sullivan	
/s/ WILLIAM C. McCOLLUM	Director
William C. McCollum	

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: included in Item 8.

Report of Independent Accountants

Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 30, 2000 and January 1, 2000

Consolidated Statements of Operations for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2000, January 1, 2000 and January 2, 1999

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

2. Financial Statement Schedules:

Report of Independent Accountants

Schedule I - Condensed Financial Information of Carter Holdings, Inc.

3. Exhibits:

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF EXHIBITS
-------------------	-------------------------

2	Agreement of Merger dated September 18, 1996 between TWCC Acquisition
---	---

Corp. and the Company, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.

- 3.1 Amended and Restated Articles of Organization of the Company, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 3.2 Articles of Merger of the Company, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 3.3 By-laws of the Company, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 3.4 Certificate of Designation relating to the Preferred Stock of the Company dated October 30, 1996 (included in Exhibit 3.2).
  - 4.1 Indenture dated as of March 25, 1997 between the Company and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as Trustee, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 4.2 Exchange and Registration Rights Agreement dated March 25, 1997 between the Company and BT Securities Corporation, Bankers Trust International plc, Chase Securities Inc. and Goldman, Sachs & Co., incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
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- 10.1 Employment Agreement between the Company and Frederick J. Rowan, II, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 10.2 Employment Agreement between the Company and Joseph Pacifico, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 10.3 Employment Agreement between the Company and Charles E. Whetzel, Jr. incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 10.4 Employment Agreement between the Company and David A. Brown incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 10.5 Employment Agreement between the Company and Michael D. Casey incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Carter Holdings, Inc. Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 10.6 Credit Agreement dated October 30, 1996 among the Company, certain lenders and The Chase Manhattan Bank, as administrative agent, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 10.7 Purchase Agreement dated November 20, 1996 between the Company and BT Securities Corporation, Bankers Trust International plc, Chase Securities Inc. and Goldman, Sachs & Co., incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4.
  - 10.8 Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Company and Michael D. Casey incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the



Company's 1998 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

- 10.9 Promissory Note dated January 1, 2000 between the Company and Frederick J. Rowan, II incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's 1999 Annual Report on Form 10-K.
- 10.10 Stock Pledge Agreement dated January 1, 2000 between the Company and Frederick J. Rowan, II incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's 1999 Annual Report on Form 10-K.
- 10.11 Receipt and Promissory Note Termination Agreement dated January 1, 2000 between the Company and Frederick J. Rowan, II incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.11 to the Company's 1999 Annual Report on Form 10-K.
- 10.12 Lease Agreement dated February 16, 2001 between the Company and Proscenium, L.L.C.
- 21 Subsidiaries of Carter Holdings, Inc. incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 21 filed with Carter Holdings, Inc.'s Registration Statement Form S-4.

(b) Reports on Form 8-K: None

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS ON  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULE

To the Board of Directors of  
Carter Holdings, Inc.:

Our audits of the consolidated financial statements of Carter Holdings, Inc. referred to in our report dated March 12, 2001, also included an audit of the financial statement schedule listed in ITEM 14(a)(2) of this Form 10-K. In our opinion, the financial statement schedule presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Stamford, Connecticut  
March 12, 2001

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.  
CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS  
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000
	-----	-----
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Income tax receivable.....	\$ 3,927	\$ 2,369
Deferred tax asset.....	--	662
Investment in Carter's at equity.....	84,513	72,517
Deferred debt issuance costs, net .....	1,556	1,811
	-----	-----
Total assets.....	\$89,996	\$77,359
	=====	=====
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Accrued interest.....	\$ 400	\$ 406
12% Senior Subordinated Notes.....	20,000	20,000
	-----	-----
Total liabilities.....	20,400	20,406
	-----	-----
Stockholders' equity:		
Class A Stock, nonvoting; par value \$.01 per share; 775,000 shares authorized; 752,808 shares issued and outstanding; liquidation value of \$.001 per share.....	45,168	45,168
Class C Stock, nonvoting; par value \$.01 per share; 500,000 shares authorized; 242,192 shares issued; liquidation value of \$.001 per share	14,532	14,532
Class C Treasury Stock, 31,186 shares, at cost at December 30, 2000; 31,017 shares, at cost at January 1, 2000;.....	(1,870)	(1,860)
Class D Stock, voting; par value \$.01 per share; 5,000 shares authorized, issued and outstanding.....	300	300
Common stock, voting; par value \$.01 per share; 1,280,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding.....	--	--
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit).....	11,466	(1,187)
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity.....	69,596	56,953
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity.....	\$89,996	\$77,359
	=====	=====

See accompanying note

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.  
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS  
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

## FOR THE YEARS ENDED

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
Interest expense.....	\$ (2,688)	\$ (2,689)	\$ (2,690)
Income tax benefit.....	896	913	919
	-----	-----	-----
Loss before equity interest in Carter's.....	(1,792)	(1,776)	(1,771)
Equity in net income (loss) of Carter's.....	14,445	(2,024)	5,281
	-----	-----	-----
Net income (loss).....	\$12,653	\$ (3,800)	\$ 3,510
	=====	=====	=====

See accompanying note

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## CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

## CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

## FOR THE YEARS ENDED

	DECEMBER 30, 2000	JANUARY 1, 2000	JANUARY 2, 1999
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income (loss).....	\$ 12,653	\$ (3,800)	\$ 3,510
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Equity in net (income) loss of Carter's.....	(14,445)	2,024	(5,281)
Dividend received from earnings of Carter's.....	2,510	2,940	3,133
Amortization of debt issuance costs.....	254	256	259
Deferred tax expense.....	662	6	52
Increase in tax receivable.....	(1,558)	(919)	(971)
Decrease in accrued interest.....	(6)	--	(2)
	-----	-----	-----
Net cash provided by operating activities.....	70	507	700
	-----	-----	-----
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Capital contribution to Carter's.....	--	--	(60)
Additional dividends received from Carter's.....	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----
Net cash used in investing activities.....	--	--	(60)
	-----	-----	-----
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Repurchase of Class C stock.....	(70)	(507)	(320)
Proceeds from sale of Class C Treasury stock.....	--	--	60
Payment of financing costs.....	--	--	(380)
	-----	-----	-----
Net cash used in financing activities.....	(70)	(507)	(640)
	-----	-----	-----
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents.....	--	--	--
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period.....	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period.....	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --
	=====	=====	=====

Supplemental disclosure of noncash investing and financing activity:

Increase in investment in Carter's as a result of treasury shares issued to an employee.....	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 30
	=====	=====	=====

See accompanying note

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

	COMMON STOCK	CLASS A STOCK	CLASS C STOCK	CLASS C TREASURY STOCK	CLASS D STOCK	(ACCUMULATED DEFICIT) RETAINED EARNINGS
BALANCE AT JANUARY 3, 1998.....	\$--	\$45,168	\$14,532	\$ (1,183)	\$300	\$ (897)
Sale of Class C Treasury Stock (1,000 shares).....				60		
Issuance of Class C Treasury Stock (500 shares).....				30		
Purchase of Class C Treasury Stock (5,358 shares).....				(320)		
Net income.....						3,510
BALANCE AT JANUARY 2, 1999.....	--	45,168	14,532	(1,413)	300	2,613
Issuance of Class C Treasury Stock (1,000 shares).....				60		
Purchase of Class C Treasury Stock (8,450 shares).....				(507)		
Net loss.....						(3,800)
BALANCE AT JANUARY 1, 2000.....	--	45,168	14,532	(1,860)	300	(1,187)
Issuance of Class C Treasury Stock (1,000 shares).....				60		
Purchase of Class C Treasury Stock (1,169 shares).....				(70)		
Net income.....						12,653
BALANCE AT DECEMBER 30, 2000.....	\$--	\$45,168	\$14,532	\$ (1,870)	\$300	\$11,466

See accompanying note

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CARTER HOLDINGS, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF REGISTRANT (PARENT COMPANY)

NOTE 1--THE COMPANY:

Carter Holdings, Inc. ("Holdings") is a holding company whose primary asset consists of an investment in 100% of the outstanding capital stock of The William Carter Company, Inc. ("Carter's"). On October 30, 1996 (inception), Holdings, organized on behalf of affiliates of INVESTCORP S.A. ("Investcorp"),

management and certain other investors, acquired 100% of the previously outstanding common and preferred stock of Carter's from MBL Life Assurance Corporation, CHC Charitable Irrevocable Trust and certain management stockholders for a total financed purchase price of \$226.1 million. For further information, reference should be made to the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of Carter Holdings, Inc. included in the accompanying Form 10-K.