

0283

STATEMENT UNDER OATH OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL OFFICER REGARDING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO EXCHANGE ACT FILINGS

I, John J. Burns, Jr., chief executive officer of Alleghany Corporation, state and attest that:

1. To the best of my knowledge, based upon a review of the covered reports of Alleghany Corporation, and, except as corrected or supplemented in a subsequent covered report:
 - no covered report contained an untrue statement of a material fact as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed); and
 - no covered report omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements in the covered report, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed).
2. I have reviewed the contents of this statement with Alleghany's Audit Committee.
3. In this statement under oath, each of the following, if filed on or before the date of this statement, is a "covered report":
 - Annual Report on Form 10-K of Alleghany Corporation filed with the Commission for the year ended December 31, 2001;
 - all reports on Form 10-Q, all reports on Form 8-K and all definitive proxy materials of Alleghany Corporation filed with the Commission subsequent to the filing of the Form 10-K identified above; and
 - any amendments to any of the foregoing.

John J. Burns, Jr.
John J. Burns, Jr.
August 8, 2002

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of August, 2002

Carol Stark
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

April 30, 2006

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

AUG 8 2002

CAROL STARK
Notary Public, State Of New York
No. 01570150585
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires April 30, 2006