



STANDARD MAIL PERMIT NO. 114

April 25, 1997

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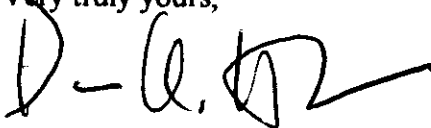
CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Top Hat Plan Exemption
Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration
Room N-5644
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

Re: The Fortress Corporation Executive Retirement Plan

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed for filing is the Disclosure Statement for The Fortress Corporation Executive Retirement Plan to meet the alternative method of compliance with the reporting and disclosure requirements of Part I of Title I of ERISA for top-hat plans pursuant to DOL Reg. Section 2520.104-23.

Very truly yours,


Denis M. Holler
Vice President of Finance

DMH/ehs

Enclosure

REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

TOP HAT PLAN (DOL REG. §2520.104-23)

Name and Address of Employer: *The Fortress Corporation
One Design Center Place, Suite 715
Boston, MA 02210-2313*

EIN of Employer: *59-2519700*

The Employer maintains a plan primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation for a select group of management or highly compensated employees.

Name of Plan: *The Fortress Corporation Executive Retirement Plan*

Date of Adoption of Plan: *December 23, 1996*

Number of Plans: *one (1)*

Number of Employees in Plan: *five (5)*

THE FORTRESS CORPORATION

By: *D. W. OR*

Dated: March *31*, 1997