

+++++THE INFORMATION IN THIS PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT IS NOT COMPLETE AND +
+MAY BE CHANGED. THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS +
+ARE NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND WE ARE NOT SOLICITING OFFERS TO +
+BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED. +
+++++

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED APRIL 24, 2001

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT TO PROSPECTUS DATED APRIL 6, 2001.

[RAYTHEON LOGO]

Class B Common Stock

We are offering 11,000,000 shares of our class B common stock.

- . A reclassification of our classes of class A and class B common stock into one new class of common stock has been approved by our board of directors and proposed to our stockholders. If the recapitalization is approved by our stockholders at our Annual Meeting on April 25, 2001, your shares of class B common stock will be converted into the new series of common stock.
- . In addition, the board of directors approved and proposed to the stockholders a reverse/forward stock split which would have the effect of cashing out all holders of less than 20 shares of our class A or class B common stock. If you hold less than 20 shares of class B common and the reverse/forward stock split is approved by our stockholders at our Annual Meeting on April 25, 2001, you will receive cash in exchange for all your shares.
- . Concurrently with this offering, we are also offering \$650 million of equity security units, which will initially consist of a contract to purchase shares of our class B common stock, and a preferred security of RC Trust I, a Delaware business trust sponsored by us. Neither offering is conditioned on the other.

OUR CLASS B COMMON STOCK IS LISTED ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE UNDER THE SYMBOL "RTNB". ON APRIL 23, 2001, THE LAST REPORTED SALE PRICE OF OUR CLASS B COMMON STOCK ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE WAS \$29.60 PER SHARE.

INVESTING IN OUR CLASS B COMMON STOCK INVOLVES RISKS. SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE S-10 OF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT.

	PRICE TO	UNDERWRITING	PROCEEDS TO
	PUBLIC	DISCOUNTS	RAYTHEON
		AND	
		COMMISSIONS	
	-----	-----	-----
Per Share Price.....	\$	\$	\$
Total.....	\$	\$	\$

The underwriters have an option to purchase a maximum of 1,650,000 additional shares to cover over-allotments of shares.

Delivery of the shares of class B common stock will be made on or about May , 2001.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND STATE SECURITIES REGULATORS HAVE NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT OR THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

Joint Bookrunning Managers

BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC

JPMORGAN

MORGAN STANLEY DEAN WITTER

May , 2001

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This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of the offering of class B common stock and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in that prospectus. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information about securities we may offer from time to time, including securities other than the class B common stock.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated into this document. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from that contained in this document. This document is not an offer to sell the shares of class B common stock and is not soliciting an offer to buy shares of class B common stock in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted. The information contained in this document is accurate only as of the date hereof, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus supplement or of any sale of the shares. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since the date of this prospectus supplement.

As used in this prospectus supplement, the terms "Raytheon" and "we" or "us" may, depending upon the context, refer to Raytheon Company and its consolidated subsidiaries or any part or division thereof.

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. As a result, it does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the shares. You should read the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference, which are described under "Information We Incorporate by Reference," carefully. All financial information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, unless otherwise indicated, has been derived from the consolidated financial statements of Raytheon and its subsidiaries and is presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

RAYTHEON COMPANY

We are a global leader in defense electronics serving all four branches of the United States military as well as several agencies of the United States government. We also serve the defense departments of many foreign governments, including several NATO countries. Our defense electronics business is conducted through four divisions: Electronic Systems; Command, Control, Communication and Information Systems; Aircraft Integration Systems; and Raytheon Technical Services Company. We are also a provider of commercial electronics systems and business and special mission aircraft. Our defense electronics systems are deployed on many of the major platforms in service today and we believe we are positioned in a leading role in many of the follow-on platforms currently under development. Our defense electronics businesses specialize in technologically advanced electronic systems, including:

- . National and Theater Missile Defense Systems
- . Air Defense Systems
- . Air-to-Air, Air-to-Ground and Ground/Sea-to-Air Missile Systems
- . Radar Technologies
- . Electro-Optics Sensors
- . Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Systems
- . Command, Control, Communication and Information Systems
- . Naval and Maritime Systems
- . Air Traffic Control Systems
- . Aircraft Integration Systems

In addition, our commercial electronics businesses leverage proven defense electronics technologies for applications in commercial advanced electronics markets. Our aircraft division, Raytheon Aircraft Company, specializes in advanced composite fuselage technologies and is one of the top three U.S. providers of business and special mission aircraft. We deliver a broad line of general aviation aircraft to corporate and government customers worldwide.

COMPETITIVE STRENGTHS

We believe that we have a strong competitive position attributable to a number of factors, including the following:

Largest Defense Electronics Contractor. We believe we are well positioned to experience significant growth as a result of our leading position within the defense electronics industry. As the needs of the United

States military continue to evolve, defense electronics programs have become among the highest priority programs of the Department of Defense and the Bush Administration. According to government sources, defense electronics procurement is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 6.0%, which is faster than the broader defense budget.

Leading Defense Electronics Provider Across Many Different Platforms. We believe the priority mission areas of the Department of Defense will evolve based on its primary military needs to include: National Missile Defense ("NMD"); Theater Missile Defense; longer range and smaller precision strike weapons; Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance systems; Command, Control, Communication and Information ("C3I") systems and space control/communication systems. Our defense electronics systems are not limited to any specific platforms. We are a leading provider of defense electronics on many of the platforms in these mission areas. For example, we are a leading provider of defense electronics systems in the ballistic missile defense mission area, including: the Exoatmospheric Kill Vehicle interceptor, the Lightweight Exoatmospheric Projectile interceptor, the radar for the Theater High Altitude Air Defense System ("THAAD"), the Ground Based Radar for the NMD program, the STANDARD Missile area defense weapon systems and several early warning electro-optical tracking systems. These products are critical enablers of the NMD initiative. Accordingly, we believe that we are well positioned to benefit from the anticipated growth in programs to meet these needs.

Product Leadership. Raytheon is a global leader in developing technologically advanced electronic systems and solutions. We believe our expertise in designing, developing and producing these technologically advanced systems substantially strengthens our relationships with our customers. As such, we believe that the breadth of our proprietary product base and our strong customer relationships will enable us to continue to benefit from our existing programs. We also expect our technological leadership and customer relationships to result in new opportunities for follow-on and next generation military and commercial systems.

BUSINESS STRATEGY

Our business strategy is to maintain a leadership position and to best serve our customers by:

- focusing on fundamentals to drive performance and accountability;
- concentrating resources on defense electronics and commercial market opportunities;
- capitalizing on technology and program breadth to grow revenue; and
- strengthening our balance sheet.

RAYTHEON BUSINESS SEGMENTS

We are aligned into six business segments as follows:

Electronic Systems. The Electronic Systems segment ("ES") is our largest segment representing the majority of our defense electronics business with approximately \$7.6 billion in revenues in 2000. ES focuses on missile systems including anti-ballistic missile systems; air defense; air-to-air, surface-to-air, and air-to-surface missiles; naval and maritime systems; ship self-defense systems; torpedoes; strike, interdiction and cruise missiles; and advanced munitions. ES also specializes in radar, electronic warfare, infrared, laser, and GPS technologies with programs focusing on land, naval, airborne and spaceborne systems used for surveillance, reconnaissance, targeting, navigation, commercial and scientific applications. Some of the leading

programs in ES include: the Patriot Air Defense System; the ground based radar for the THAAD system; interceptor and radar technologies for the NMD and Navy Area Defense and Navy Theater Wide systems; the Tomahawk Cruise Missile program; airborne radar systems for the F-14, F-15, F/A-18, AV-8B and, through a joint-venture with Northrop Grumman Corporation, the next generation F-22 programs; integrated sensor suites for applications such as the Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Reconnaissance System; and advanced night vision technologies for defense and commercial applications.

Command, Control, Communication and Information Systems. The C3I segment, which generated approximately \$3.4 billion in revenues in 2000, is involved in command, control and communication systems; air traffic control systems; tactical radios; satellite communication ground control terminals; wide area surveillance systems; ground-based information processing systems; image processing; large scale information retrieval, processing and distribution systems; and global broadcast systems. Some of our leading programs in the C3I division include: the U.S. Navy's Cooperative Engagement Capability program that integrates sensor information from multiple sources to provide ships, aircraft and land-based installations an integrated air picture; the Brazilian System for the Vigilance of the Amazon program, which calls for the delivery of an integrated information network linking numerous sensors to regional and national coordination centers; and air traffic control and weather systems at airports worldwide, including the Federal Aviation Administration/ Department of Defense's Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System program, which will modernize and upgrade over 300 air traffic control sites across the United States.

Aircraft Integration Systems. The Aircraft Integration Systems segment ("AIS") focuses on integration of airborne surveillance and intelligence systems and aircraft modifications and generated approximately \$1.2 billion in revenues in 2000. AIS specializes in developing and integrating complex electronic systems for airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance missions. AIS provides signals intelligence, air-ground surveillance, maritime surveillance, and airborne command post systems to both U.S. Government and foreign customers. In addition, AIS modernizes aging aircraft through structural refurbishment and avionics upgrades including completely new "glass" cockpits with the latest display technologies and FAA-required air traffic management systems that enhance air safety. The segment also designs and installs interiors for executive aircraft and performs Special Operations Forces Support Activity.

Raytheon Technical Services Company. Raytheon Technical Services Company ("RTSC") with approximately \$1.8 billion in revenues in 2000 provides technical services; training programs; and logistics and base operations support throughout the U.S. and in nearly 40 other countries. RTSC performs complete engineering and depot-level cradle-to-grave support to Raytheon-manufactured equipment and to various commercial and military customers. RTSC is a world leader in providing and supporting range instrumentation systems and bases worldwide for the Department of Defense. It also provides missile range calibration services for the U.S. Air Force, trains U.S. Army personnel in battlefield tactics and supports undersea testing and evaluation for the U.S. Navy. RTSC provides operations and engineering support to the Atlantic Underwater Test and Evaluation Center, range technical support, and facilities maintenance at several Department of Defense facilities, including the U.S. Army's missile testing range in the Kwajalein Atoll.

Commercial Electronics. Raytheon's commercial electronics businesses, which generated approximately \$0.7 billion in revenues in 2000, among other things, thin film filters for optical communications products, gallium arsenide MMIC components for direct broadcast satellite television receivers, gallium arsenide power amplifiers for wireless communications products, wireless broadband solutions, thermal imaging products, automobile radar systems, marine electronics for the commercial and military marine markets, and other electronic components for a wide range of applications.

Raytheon Aircraft Company. Raytheon Aircraft Company ("RAC") offers a broad product line of aircraft and aviation services in the general aviation market and generated approximately \$3.2 billion in revenues in 2000. Raytheon Aircraft manufactures, markets and supports business jets, turboprops and piston-powered aircraft for the world's commercial, regional airlines and military aircraft markets. Raytheon Aircraft's

piston-powered aircraft line includes the single-engine Beech Bonanza and the twin-engine Beech Baron aircraft for business and personal flying. The segment's King Air turboprop series includes the Beech King Air C90B, B200, and 350. The jet line includes the Beechjet 400A lightjet and the Hawker 800XP midsize business jet. Raytheon Aircraft also produces a 19-passenger regional airliner. The Raytheon Premier I entry-level business jet recently completed FAA certification. A new super midsize business jet, the Hawker Horizon, is currently in development, leading to anticipated airplane certification and delivery in 2003. The segment supplies aircraft training systems, including the T-6A trainer selected as the next-generation trainer for the U.S. Air Force and Navy under the Joint Primary Aircraft Training System. Raytheon Aircraft also produces special mission aircraft, including militarized versions of the King Airs and the U-125 search-and-rescue variant of the Hawker 800.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On April 18, 2001, we reported net sales of \$4.0 billion for the first quarter of 2001, a slight decline from \$4.2 billion in sales in the first quarter a year ago. Income from continuing operations was \$97 million, or \$0.28 per diluted share, compared with \$80 million, or \$0.24 per diluted share, in last year's first quarter. Backlog at the end of the quarter was \$25.9 billion, up \$1.4 billion over the course of the last year.

Net sales were down due to the impact of divestitures and a decline in aircraft shipments. Stronger profits in our defense electronics businesses contributed to an increase in income from continuing operations of 21 percent over last year. Cash outflow from operations was \$573 million in the quarter, compared with \$520 million a year ago. Excluding the effects of discontinued operations, cash outflow from our core businesses was \$530 million, a significant improvement from \$706 million in the first quarter of 2000. Our cash flow is usually negative in the first quarter. Net debt at the end of the first quarter was \$9.6 billion, compared with \$10.0 billion at the end of the first quarter 2000.

On April 5, 2001, we agreed to divest a majority stake in Raytheon Aerospace Company, a subsidiary of Raytheon Aircraft Company, to Veritas Capital Inc. We will receive \$153 million in cash at closing which is expected in the second quarter of 2001. In addition to the cash, we will retain \$47 million in receivables and \$70 million in preferred and common equity in the Mississippi-based aviation support and logistics business. The impact of the divestiture on net debt is expected to be approximately \$200 million this year.

As previously announced, Raytheon Aircraft Company plans a workforce reduction in administrative and managerial staff in its Kansas operations. The action is a precautionary move that we believe will help the business stay ahead of a downturn in the economy.

Washington Group International has sued Raytheon and certain of its affiliates in an Idaho state court, in a lawsuit captioned Washington Group International, Inc. v. Raytheon Company, et. al. (4th Jud. Dist., ID) (cv oc 0101 14220). The complaint, which was amended and restated, alleged fraud and other claims in connection with the sale of Raytheon Engineers & Constructors to Washington Group International in July 2000. The complaint sought to rescind the sale and sought specific performance regarding the delivery of financial statements by Raytheon to Washington Group International relating to a claim for a purchase price adjustment under the sale agreement or, alternatively, money damages. Raytheon made a demand for arbitration under the sale agreement, seeking a declaratory judgement that the fraud and related claims be dismissed. In April 2001, the Idaho court granted Raytheon's motion to stay the proceedings pending their arbitration pursuant to the terms of the sale agreement and retained jurisdiction to review delivery of the financial information described above. Raytheon believes that the claims of Washington Group International are without merit and is defending them vigorously.

Raytheon recorded a charge of \$325 million to discontinued operations in the first quarter of 2001 to reflect the cost to complete two construction projects, which were abandoned by Washington Group International and for which Raytheon has performance guarantees. We estimate, based primarily on current information, from Washington Group International, that the maximum cost to us to complete these and other projects, if Washington Group International were to fail to complete them, would be up to \$450 million. Under the sale agreement, Raytheon is entitled to indemnification by Washington Group International for amounts Raytheon spends to complete such projects. We expect operating cash flow to be affected by these costs over the next four to six quarters. For more information, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the notes to our financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000 and in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 11, 2001.

THE OFFERING

Class B common stock offered... 11,000,000 shares.

Class A and Class B common stock to be outstanding after the offering..... 352,612,846 shares.

Use of Proceeds..... We estimate that we will receive net proceeds from the offering of class B common stock of \$311 million, or \$358 million if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of class B common stock is exercised in full. We anticipate using the net proceeds from this offering, together with an estimated \$629 million of net proceeds from the concurrent offering of equity security units, or \$723 million if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of equity security units is exercised in full, primarily to reduce the amounts outstanding under our Five Year Competitive Advance and Revolving Credit Facility dated May 2, 1997, among us and the lenders named therein, to repurchase \$75 million of long-term debt and to partially fund the August 10, 2001 maturity of \$350 million of floating rate notes or to refinance other debt. Any remaining proceeds may be used by Raytheon to fund capital expenditures, working capital requirements and general corporate purposes.

New York Stock Exchange symbol..... RTNb.

The number of shares of class A and class B common stock that will be outstanding after this offering is based on the number of shares of class A and class B common stock outstanding as of March 8, 2001. This number excludes the following:

- . 34.1 million shares of class B common stock subject to options outstanding as of December 31, 2000, at a weighted average exercise price of \$41.66 per share;
- . 49.2 million shares of class B common stock available for future grants under our stock plans as of December 31, 2000;
- . 1.65 million shares of class B common stock that may be purchased by the underwriters to cover over-allotments, if any; and
- . the effects of the reverse/forward stock split and reclassification of our class A common stock and class B common stock into one class of common stock, each of which is subject to stockholder approval at the April 25, 2001 annual meeting of stockholders.

Our board of directors has approved the reclassification of our class A and class B common stock. Our stockholders are scheduled to vote on the reclassification at their annual meeting on April 25, 2001. If approved, we expect that your shares of class B common stock will be converted into the new series of common stock shortly after completion of this offering. For more information regarding the possible reverse/forward stock split and reclassification, see "Description of Our Class A and Class B Common Stock--Reverse/Forward Stock Split" and "--Reclassification of Our Existing Two Classes of Common Stock into a Single New Class of Common Stock" in the accompanying prospectus.

CONCURRENT OFFERING

We are also offering, in a concurrent offering, \$650 million of our equity security units. Each equity security unit initially consists of a contract to purchase shares of our class B common stock and a preferred security to be issued by RC Trust I, a Delaware business trust sponsored by us. The stock purchase contract requires the holder to purchase a number of shares of our class B common stock, or if the recapitalization is approved, the new series of common stock, on May 15, 2004 from us. The number of shares of common stock that each holder will be required to purchase, and we will be obligated to sell, will be determined based on the average trading price of our common stock at that time. The stock purchase contracts will pay quarterly contract adjustment payments at the rate of %. The trust preferred securities, which will be pledged to secure each holder's obligations under the related stock purchase contract, will pay quarterly cumulative cash distributions at the annual rate of % on their stated liquidation amount through and including February 15, 2004. Thereafter, these cash distributions will be paid at a reset rate determined through a remarketing process. The trust preferred securities will be redeemed by RC Trust I at their aggregate stated liquidation amount, plus any accumulated and unpaid distributions on May 15, 2006. This common stock offering and the concurrent offering of equity security units are not conditioned on each other.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

We present below summary financial information of Raytheon for each of the five years ended December 31, 2000 and the quarters ending April 2, 2000 and April 1, 2001. This historical financial information has been derived from and should be read in conjunction with Raytheon's consolidated financial statements, the notes thereto and the other financial data and statistical information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. The summary financial information for the quarters ended April 2, 2000 and April 1, 2001 are derived from unaudited consolidated financial statements.

	YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,					QUARTER ENDED	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	(UNAUDITED) APRIL 2, 2000	APRIL 1, 2001
(IN MILLIONS EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS AND TOTAL EMPLOYEES)							
RESULTS OF OPERATIONS							
Net sales.....	\$10,122	\$11,537	\$17,364	\$17,201(6)	\$16,895	\$ 4,231	\$ 3,968
Operating income.....	1,014(1)	1,040(2)	2,259(4)	1,592(7)	1,625	316	316
Interest expense, net...	142	343	697	703	736	180	180
Income from continuing operations.....	649(1)	507(3)	1,019(5)	502(8)	498	80	97
Net income (loss).....	757(1)	511(3)	844(5)	404(8)	141	(181)	(124)
Diluted earnings per share from continuing operations.....	\$ 2.70(1)	\$ 2.10(3)	\$ 2.98(5)	\$ 1.47(8)	\$ 1.46	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.28
Diluted earnings (loss) per share.....	3.15(1)	2.11(3)	2.47(5)	1.19(8)	0.41	(0.54)	(0.36)
Dividends declared per share.....	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.20	0.20
Average diluted shares outstanding (in thousands).....	240,165	241,886	341,861	340,784	341,118	338,735	345,128
FINANCIAL POSITION AT PERIOD END							
Current assets.....	\$ 5,560	\$ 8,911	\$ 8,464	\$ 8,602	\$ 8,013	\$ 8,187	\$ 7,788
Property, plant, and equipment, net.....	1,697	2,812	2,237	2,387	2,491	2,451	2,498
Total assets.....	10,623	27,668	27,223	27,289	26,777	27,002	26,527
Current liabilities.....	4,178	10,380	6,114	7,133	4,865	5,373	4,950
Long-term liabilities (excluding debt).....	370	2,496	2,149	1,899	2,035	1,855	2,019
Long-term debt.....	1,500	4,406	8,163	7,298	9,054	9,042	8,858
Total debt.....	3,715	10,050	8,988	9,769	9,931	10,151	10,043
Stockholders' equity....	4,575	10,386	10,797	10,959	10,823	10,732	10,700
GENERAL STATISTICS							
Total backlog.....	\$ 8,942	\$18,615	\$20,157(9)	\$24,978	\$26,530	\$24,540	\$25,865
U.S. government backlog included above.....	5,614	12,360	13,472(9)	15,239	17,374	15,512	17,099
Capital expenditures....	379	441	468	524	431	113	103
Depreciation and amortization.....	345	424	734	699	694	171	177
Total employees.....	65,600	109,600	99,500	97,600	93,700	94,200	92,300

Raytheon has restated its financial statements for discontinued operations as more fully discussed in the financial statements incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. During 2000, we recorded favorable adjustments to restructuring-related reserves and net gains on sales of operating units that were more than offset by restructuring charges and unfavorable contract adjustments.

- (1) Includes a special charge of \$34 million pretax, \$22 million after-tax, or \$0.09 per diluted share.
- (2) Includes restructuring and special charges of \$370 million.
- (3) Includes restructuring and special charges of \$370 million pretax and a net gain on sales of operating units of \$72 million pretax. The impact of these items combined was a net charge of \$194 million after-tax, or \$0.80 per diluted share.
- (4) Includes special charges of \$167 million.
- (5) Includes special charges of \$167 million pretax and a net gain on sales of operating units of \$141 million pretax. The impact of these items combined was a net charge of \$41 million after-tax, or \$0.12 per diluted share.

- (6) Includes charges of \$180 million.
- (7) Includes charges of \$195 million and restructuring and special charges of \$197 million, offset by \$65 million of favorable adjustments to restructuring-related reserves.
- (8) Includes charges of \$195 million pretax and restructuring and special charges of \$211 million pretax, offset by favorable adjustments to restructuring-related reserves of \$65 million pretax and a net gain on sales of operating units and investments of \$23 million pretax. The impact of these items combined was a net charge of \$195 million after-tax, or \$0.57 per diluted share.
- (9) During 1998, we changed our method of reporting backlog at certain locations in order to provide a consistent method of reporting across and within the company's businesses. Backlog includes the full value of contract awards when received, excluding awards and options expected in future periods. Prior to the change, contract values which were awarded but incrementally funded were excluded from reported backlog for some parts of the business. The one-time impact of this change was a \$1.1 billion increase to backlog, related principally to U.S. government contracts. Prior periods have not been restated for this change.

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation. We acquired Texas Instruments' defense business ("TI Defense") in July 1997 and merged with the defense business of Hughes Electronics Corporation ("Hughes Defense") in December 1997. In December 1997, we issued 102.6 million shares of class A common stock and converted each share of Raytheon common stock into one share of class B common stock in connection with the merger with Hughes Defense. For more information regarding our classes of common stock and the reverse/forward stock split and reclassification, see "Description of our Class A and Class B Common Stock--Reverse/Forward Stock Split" and "--Reclassification of Our Existing Two Classes of Common Stock into a Single New Class of Common Stock" in the accompanying prospectus.

In 1996, we recorded a \$34 million special charge to exit the manual-clean range market and dispose of the assets related to that operation.

In 1997, we recorded restructuring charges of \$220 million in connection with the merger with Hughes Defense and the acquisition of TI Defense. We recorded a \$63 million special charge primarily for one-time costs associated with the merger with Hughes Defense and the acquisition of TI Defense. We also recorded a \$57 million special charge primarily to write down to estimated fair value certain assets that we had decided to sell. Also in 1997, we recorded a \$30 million special charge to recognize a permanent impairment at RAC.

In 1998, we recorded special charges of \$167 million at Commercial Electronics comprised of a \$125 million charge to exit a line of business, which included writing off its investment in a Korean business venture, and a \$42 million charge to write down the assets of two operations we had decided to sell to estimate fair value.

In 1999, we recorded \$195 million of charges for contract-related adjustments of which \$180 million was reflected as a reduction of sales. We recorded restructuring charges of \$137 million comprised of a \$102 million restructuring charge to reduce the workforce and vacate and dispose of facility space primarily at our defense electronics businesses, and \$35 million for higher than originally estimated exit costs related to the TI Defense and Hughes Defense actions. We recorded a \$35 million special charge related to Iridium LLC, of which \$21 million was included in operating income and \$14 million was included in other expenses. We also recorded a \$33 million special charge to further write down inventory and receivables related to a Korean business venture and a \$6 million special charge to exit the personal rapid transit business.

RISK FACTORS

In considering whether to purchase the shares of our common stock, you should carefully consider all the information we have included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. In particular, you should carefully consider the risk factors described below. In addition, please read "Forward-Looking Information" on page S-18 of this prospectus supplement and on page 3 of the accompanying prospectus, where we describe additional uncertainties associated with our business and the forward-looking statements in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

WE DEPEND HEAVILY ON OUR GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, WHICH ARE ONLY PARTIALLY FUNDED, SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE TERMINATION AND HEAVILY REGULATED AND AUDITED, AND THE TERMINATION OR FAILURE TO FUND ONE OR MORE OF THESE CONTRACTS COULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OUR OPERATIONS.

We act as prime contractor or major subcontractor for many different government programs. Over its lifetime, a program may be implemented by the award of many different individual contracts and subcontracts. The funding of government programs is subject to congressional appropriations. Although multi-year contracts may be authorized in connection with major procurements, Congress generally appropriates funds on a fiscal year basis even though a program may continue for several years. Consequently, programs are often only partially funded initially, and additional funds are committed only as Congress makes further appropriations. The termination of funding for a government program would result in a loss of anticipated future revenues attributable to that program. That could have a negative impact on our operations. In addition, the termination of a program or failure to commit additional funds to a program already started could increase our overall costs of doing business.

Generally, government contracts are subject to oversight audits by government representatives and contain provisions permitting termination, in whole or in part, without prior notice at the government's convenience upon the payment of compensation only for work done and commitments made at the time of termination. We can give no assurance that one or more of our government contracts will not be terminated under these circumstances. Also, we can give no assurance that we would be able to procure new government contracts to offset the revenues lost as a result of any termination of our contracts. As our revenues are dependent on our procurement, performance and payment under our contracts, the loss of one or more critical contracts could have a negative impact on our financial condition.

Our government business is also subject to specific procurement regulations and a variety of socioeconomic and other requirements. These requirements, although customary in government contracts, increase our performance and compliance costs. These costs might increase in the future, reducing our margins, which could have a negative effect on our financial condition. Failure to comply with these regulations and requirements could lead to suspension or debarment, for cause, from government contracting or subcontracting for a period of time. Among the causes for debarment are violations of various statutes, including those related to:

- . procurement integrity;
- . export control;
- . government security regulations;
- . employment practices;
- . protection of the environment; and
- . accuracy of records and the recording of costs.

The termination of a government contract or relationship as a result of any of these acts would have a negative impact on our operations and could have a negative effect on our reputation and ability to procure other government contracts in the future.

In addition, sales to the government may be affected by:

- . changes in procurement policies;
- . budget considerations;
- . changing concepts of national defense; and
- . political developments abroad.

The influence of any of these factors, which are largely beyond our control, could also negatively impact our financial condition. We also may experience problems associated with advanced designs required by the government which may result in unforeseen technological difficulties and cost overruns. Failure to overcome these technological difficulties and the occurrence of cost overruns would have a negative impact on our results.

BECAUSE WE HAVE RECENTLY SOLD A NUMBER OF OUR BUSINESS UNITS, OUR BUSINESS IS LESS DIVERSIFIED, WHICH COULD REDUCE OUR EARNINGS AND MIGHT MAKE US MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO NEGATIVE CONDITIONS IN OUR REMAINING BUSINESSES.

Consistent with our strategy of focusing on and streamlining our core businesses and paying down our debt, during 1998, 1999 and 2000, we divested several non-core business units. As a result of these divestitures, we no longer receive revenues from these operations and, without offsetting increases in revenues in our other businesses, our overall revenues would decrease, which would have a negative effect on our financial condition.

In addition, as a result of these divestitures, our business is now less diversified and thus more dependent on our remaining businesses. As a result, we are now more sensitive to conditions and trends in the remaining industries in which we operate. Negative conditions and trends in these remaining industries could cause our financial condition and results of operations to suffer more heavily than would occur when our business lines were more diversified. Our inability to overcome these negative conditions and trends could have a negative impact on our financial condition.

WE DEPEND ON THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF OUR SALES, AND THE LOSS OF THIS RELATIONSHIP OR A SHIFT IN GOVERNMENT FUNDING COULD HAVE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION.

Approximately 66% of our net sales in 2000 were to the U.S. Government. Therefore, any significant disruption or deterioration of our relationship with the U.S. Government would significantly reduce our revenues. Our U.S. Government programs must compete with programs managed by other defense contractors for a limited number of programs and for uncertain levels of funding. Our competitors continuously engage in efforts to expand their business relationships with the U.S. Government at our expense and are likely to continue these efforts in the future. The U.S. Government may choose to use other defense contractors for its limited number of defense programs. In addition, the funding of defense programs also competes with nondefense spending of the U.S. Government. Budget decisions made by the U.S. Government are outside of our control and have long term consequences for the size and structure of Raytheon. A shift in government defense spending to other programs in which we are not involved or a reduction in U.S. Government defense spending generally could have severe consequences for our results of operations.

WE DERIVE A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF OUR REVENUES FROM INTERNATIONAL SALES AND ARE SUBJECT TO THE RISKS OF DOING BUSINESS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

In 2000, sales to international customers accounted for approximately 21% of our net sales. We expect that international sales will continue to account for a substantial portion of our net sales for the foreseeable future. As a result, we are subject to risks of doing business internationally, including:

- . changes in regulatory requirements;
- . domestic and foreign government policies, including requirements to expend a portion of program funds locally and governmental industrial cooperation requirements;
- . fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates;
- . delays in placing orders;
- . the complexity and necessity of using foreign representatives and consultants;
- . the uncertainty of adequate and available transportation;
- . the uncertainty of the ability of foreign customers to finance purchases;
- . uncertainties and restrictions concerning the availability of funding credit or guarantees;
- . imposition of tariffs or embargoes, export controls and other trade restrictions;
- . the difficulty of management and operation of an enterprise spread over various countries;
- . compliance with a variety of foreign laws, as well as U.S. laws affecting the activities of U.S. companies abroad; and
- . general economic and geopolitical conditions, including international hostilities, inflation, trade relationships and military and political alliances.

While these factors or the impact of these factors are difficult to predict, any one or more of them could adversely affect our operations in the future.

WE MAY NOT BE SUCCESSFUL IN MAINTAINING AND OBTAINING THE NECESSARY LICENSES TO CONDUCT OPERATIONS ABROAD, AND CONGRESS MAY PREVENT PROPOSED SALES TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

Licenses are required from government agencies under the Export Administration Act, the Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917 and the Arms Export Control Act of 1976 for export of many of our products. We can give no assurance that we will be successful in obtaining these necessary licenses in order to conduct business abroad. In the case of certain sales of defense equipment and services to foreign governments, the U.S. Government's Executive Branch must notify Congress at least 15 to 30 days, depending on the location of the sale, prior to authorizing these sales. During that time, Congress may take action to block the proposed sale.

COMPETITION WITHIN OUR MARKETS MAY REDUCE OUR PROCUREMENT OF FUTURE CONTRACTS AND OUR SALES.

The military and commercial industries in which we operate are highly competitive. Our competitors range from highly resourceful small concerns, which engineer and produce specialized items, to large, diversified firms. Several established and emerging companies offer a variety of products for applications similar to those of our products. Our competitors may have more extensive or more specialized engineering, manufacturing and marketing capabilities than we do in some areas. There can be no assurance that we can continue to compete with these firms. In addition, some of our largest customers could develop the capability to manufacture products similar to products that we manufacture. This would result in these customers supplying their own products and competing directly with us for sales of these products, all of which could significantly reduce our revenues and seriously harm our business.

Furthermore, we are facing increased international competition and crossborder consolidation of competition. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully against our current or future competitors or that the competitive pressures we face will not result in reduced revenues and market share or seriously harm our business.

OUR FUTURE SUCCESS WILL DEPEND ON OUR ABILITY TO DEVELOP NEW TECHNOLOGIES THAT ACHIEVE MARKET ACCEPTANCE.

Both our commercial and defense markets are characterized by rapidly changing technologies and evolving industry standards. Accordingly, our future performance depends on a number of factors, including our ability to:

- . identify emerging technological trends in our target markets;
- . develop and maintain competitive products;
- . enhance our products by adding innovative features that differentiate our products from those of our competitors; and
- . manufacture and bring products to market quickly at cost-effective prices.

Specifically, at Raytheon Aircraft Company, our future success is dependent on our ability to meet scheduled timetables for the development, certification and delivery of new product offerings.

We believe that, in order to remain competitive in the future, we will need to continue to develop new products, which will require the investment of significant financial resources in new product development. The need to make these expenditures could divert our attention and resources from other projects, and we cannot be sure that these expenditures will ultimately lead to the timely development of new technology. Due to the design complexity of our products, we may in the future experience delays in completing development and introduction of new products. Any delays could result in increased costs of development or deflect resources from other projects. In addition, there can be no assurance that the market for our products will develop or continue to expand as we currently anticipate. The failure of our technology to gain market acceptance could significantly reduce our revenues and harm our business. Furthermore, we cannot be sure that our competitors will not develop competing technology which gains market acceptance in advance of our products. The possibility that our competitors might develop new technology or products might cause our existing technology and products to become obsolete. If we fail in our new product development efforts or our products fail to achieve market acceptance more rapidly than our competitors, our revenues will decline and our business, financial condition and results of operations will be negatively affected.

RAYTHEON AIRCRAFT COMPANY MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY UNFAVORABLE MARKET AND COST PRESSURES.

At Raytheon Aircraft Company, our future success is dependent on a number of factors some of which are beyond our control, including: (1) market perceptions of and government regulations affecting regional aircraft, (2) our ability to achieve the efficiencies necessary to control product costs, and (3) price pressures within the market. Any cost overruns at Raytheon Aircraft Company similar to those experienced in 1999, or a decline in demand in the market for our aircraft, would have an adverse effect, which may be material, on our financial results.

OUR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE IS SIGNIFICANTLY DEPENDENT ON THE TIMELY AND SUCCESSFUL CONVERSION OF OUR DEFENSE PRODUCTS INTO COMMERCIAL MARKETS.

In order to leverage technology that we develop for defense applications, we frequently strive to adapt existing defense technology for commercial markets. We may not be successful, however, in converting our defense systems and devices into commercially viable products, and the market for such products may be limited. Any of these results could have a negative impact on our future revenues.

WE ENTER INTO FIXED PRICE CONTRACTS WHICH COULD SUBJECT US TO LOSSES IN THE EVENT THAT WE HAVE COST OVERRUNS.

Sometimes, we enter into contracts on a firm, fixed price basis. This allows us to benefit from cost savings, but carries the burden of cost overruns. If our initial estimates are incorrect, we can lose money on these contracts. In addition, some of our contracts have provisions relating to cost controls and audit rights, and

if we fail to meet the terms specified in those contracts then we may not realize their full benefits. Our financial condition is dependent on our ability to maximize our earnings from our contracts. Lower earnings caused by cost overruns and cost controls would have a negative impact on our financial results. As previously disclosed, during 2000 our financial results were negatively impacted by cost overruns on certain fixed price contracts.

WE MAY INCUR ADDITIONAL CHARGES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF RAYTHEON ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS TO THE WASHINGTON GROUP INTERNATIONAL.

Raytheon has significant guarantees and support agreements related to twelve ongoing Washington Group International projects with an estimated potential range of exposure of up to \$450 million. Raytheon has recorded a charge of \$325 million for the first quarter of 2001 in connection with Washington Group International's default on two construction projects for which Raytheon has provided performance guarantees, and may incur additional charges if Washington Group International further defaults on other ongoing projects for which Raytheon has exposure under related existing guarantees, surety bonds and letters of credit. We are legally entitled to reimbursement from Washington Group International for all costs incurred on these twelve projects. In determining our estimates for our exposure with respect to these performance guarantees and support agreements, we have had to rely primarily on information provided by Washington Group International. The cost to complete these twelve projects may ultimately be higher than the \$450 million that we have estimated on the basis of current information. If Washington Group International files for protection under the bankruptcy law, it may significantly limit our ability to recover any reimbursement. In addition, an unfavorable determination in the claim made by Washington Group International against us could cause us to incur additional losses or be set off against any potential reimbursement.

In addition, certain liabilities and risks that we retained in connection with the sale of Raytheon Engineers & Constructors include the following:

- . Raytheon has retained responsibility for the performance of four large, fixed price international turnkey projects that are close to completion, and has partially indemnified the buyer on the completion of one other existing contract. The ultimate cost to complete these projects could be higher than we estimated.
- . We retained certain assets and liabilities of our engineering and construction business, the ultimate value of which could differ from the amount recorded at December 31, 2000.
- . The purchase and sale agreement provides for a purchase price adjustment based on a cut off date balance sheet that has not yet been finalized. Any disputes related to a purchase price adjustment are subject to binding arbitration.

While these risks or the impact of these risks are difficult to predict, any one or more of these factors could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition.

WE DEPEND ON THE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL, AND OUR FAILURE TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN SUCH PERSONNEL COULD SERIOUSLY HARM OUR BUSINESS.

Due to the specialized nature of our businesses, our future performance is highly dependent upon the continued services of our key engineering personnel and executive officers. Our prospects depend upon our ability to attract and retain qualified engineering, manufacturing, marketing, sales and management personnel for our operations. Competition for personnel is intense, and we may not be successful in attracting or retaining qualified personnel. Our failure to compete for these personnel could seriously harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF OUR LABOR FORCE IS UNIONIZED, AND OUR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN STABLE RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR UNIONS COULD SERIOUSLY HARM OUR BUSINESS.

Approximately 16,000 of our employees are unionized, which represented approximately 17% of our employees at December 31, 2000. As a result, we may experience work stoppages from time to time, and we are vulnerable to the demands imposed by our collective bargaining relationships. We cannot predict how stable these relationships, currently with 10 different U.S. labor organizations and 4 different non U.S. labor

organizations, will be or whether we will be able to meet the requirements of these unions without impacting the financial condition of Raytheon. In addition, the presence of unions may limit our flexibility in dealing with our workforce. Work stoppages and instability in our union relationships could negatively impact our ability to manufacture our products on a timely basis, resulting in strain on our relationships with our customers, as well as a loss of revenues. That would adversely affect our results of operations.

WE MAY BE UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT OUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, WHICH COULD AFFECT OUR ABILITY TO COMPETE.

Protecting our intellectual property rights is critical to our ability to compete and succeed as a company. We own a large number of United States and foreign patents and patent applications, as well as trademark, copyright and semiconductor chip mask work registrations which are necessary and contribute significantly to the preservation of our competitive position in the market. There can be no assurance that any of these patents and other intellectual property will not be challenged, invalidated or circumvented by third parties. In some instances, we have augmented our technology base by licensing the proprietary intellectual property of others. In the future, we may not be able to obtain necessary licenses on commercially reasonable terms. We enter into confidentiality and invention assignment agreements with our employees, and enter into nondisclosure agreements with our suppliers and appropriate customers so as to limit access to and disclosure of our proprietary information. These measures may not suffice to deter misappropriation or independent third party development of similar technologies. Moreover, the protection provided to our intellectual property by the laws and courts of foreign nations may not be as advantageous to us as the remedies available under United States law.

OUR OPERATIONS EXPOSE US TO THE RISK OF MATERIAL ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES.

Because we use and generate large quantities of hazardous substances and wastes in our manufacturing operations, we are subject to potentially material liabilities related to personal injuries or property damages that may be caused by hazardous substance releases and exposures. For example, we are investigating and remediating contamination related to our current or past practices at numerous properties and, in some cases, have been named as a defendant in related personal injury or "toxic tort" claims.

We are also subject to laws and regulations that impose strict requirements for the proper management, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, restrict air and water emissions from our manufacturing operations, and require maintenance of a safe workplace. These laws and regulations can impose substantial fines and criminal sanctions for violations, and require the installation of costly pollution control equipment or operational changes to limit pollution emissions and/or decrease the likelihood of accidental hazardous substance releases. We incur, and expect to continue to incur, substantial capital and operating costs to comply with these laws and regulations. In addition, new laws and regulations, stricter enforcement of existing laws and regulations, the discovery of previously unknown contamination or the imposition of new cleanup requirements could require us to incur costs in the future that would have a negative effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

PROVISIONS IN OUR CHARTER DOCUMENTS AND RIGHTS AGREEMENT COULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO ACQUIRE RAYTHEON AND MAY REDUCE THE MARKET PRICE OF OUR STOCK.

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws contain certain provisions, such as a classified board of directors, a provision prohibiting stockholder action by written consent, a provision prohibiting stockholders from calling special meetings and a provision authorizing our Board of Directors to consider factors other than stockholders' short-term interests in evaluating an offer involving a change in control. Also, we have a rights plan, which limits the ability of any person to acquire more than 15% of our common stock. These provisions could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of Raytheon or the removal of Raytheon management, of deterring potential acquirers from making an offer to our stockholders and of limiting any opportunity to realize premiums over prevailing market prices for Raytheon common stock. Provisions of the Shareholder Rights Agreement and the Hughes Separation Agreement, both of which are incorporated as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus form a part, could also have the effect of deterring changes of control of Raytheon.

WE DEPEND ON COMPONENT AVAILABILITY, SUBCONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE AND OUR KEY SUPPLIERS TO MANUFACTURE AND DELIVER OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

Our manufacturing operations are highly dependent upon the delivery of materials by outside suppliers in a timely manner. In addition, we depend in part upon subcontractors to assemble major components and subsystems used in our products in a timely and satisfactory manner. While we enter into long term or volume purchase agreements with a few of our suppliers, we cannot be sure that materials, components, and subsystems will be available in the quantities we require, if at all. We are dependent for some purposes on sole source suppliers. If any of them fails to meet our needs, we may not have readily available alternatives. Our inability to fill our supply needs would jeopardize our ability to satisfactorily and timely complete our obligations under government and other contracts. This might result in reduced sales, termination of one or more of these contracts and damage to our reputation and relationships with our customers. All of these events could have a negative effect on our financial condition.

IF OUR CLASS A AND CLASS B COMMON STOCK IS NOT RECLASSIFIED INTO ONE CLASS OF COMMON STOCK, THE DUAL CLASS STRUCTURE MAY DEPRESS THE VALUE OF YOUR CLASS B COMMON STOCK.

If our stockholders do not approve the reclassification of our class A and class B common stock into one class at the annual meeting of stockholders on April 25, 2001, then our existing dual class capital structure will continue and may depress the value of the class B common stock that you receive when you settle your purchase contract.

The proposed elimination of the dual class capital structure has been approved by our Board of Directors and is subject to approval by majority vote of the outstanding class A and class B shares, with each voting class voting separately. With respect to all actions other than the election or removal of directors, holders of class A common stock and class B common stock have equal voting rights. With respect to the election or removal of directors only, holders of class A common stock have 80.1% of the total voting power. Holders of class B common stock have the remaining 19.9% of the voting power. If you hold class B common stock, the value of your securities may be depressed by the disparity in voting power. Furthermore, while shares of both our class A and class B common stock currently trade on the NYSE, the Chicago Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange, the listing policies of each of these exchanges with respect to corporations with dual class capitalizations may change in the future, and in the future such policies may not allow for the continued listing of both our class A and class B common stock.

Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the proposed reclassification will happen and, if it does not happen, the dual class structure may depress the value of your class B common stock.

THE UNPREDICTABILITY OF OUR RESULTS MAY HARM THE TRADING PRICE OF OUR SECURITIES OR CONTRIBUTE TO VOLATILITY.

Our operating results may vary significantly over time for a variety of reasons, many of which are outside of our control and any of which may harm our business. The value of our securities may fluctuate as a result of considerations that are difficult to forecast, such as:

- . volume and timing of product orders received and delivered;
- . levels of product demand;
- . consumer and government spending patterns;
- . the timing of contract receipt and funding;
- . our ability and the ability of our key suppliers to respond to changes in customer orders;
- . timing of our new product introductions and the new product introductions of our competitors;
- . changes in the mix of our products;
- . cost and availability of components and subsystems;
- . price erosion;
- . adoption of new technologies and industry standards;

- . competitive factors, including pricing, availability and demand for competing products;
- . fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates;
- . conditions in the capital markets and the availability of project financing;
- . the impact on recourse obligations at Raytheon Aircraft Company due to changes in the collateral value of financed aircraft;
- . regulatory developments; and
- . general economic conditions, particularly the cyclical nature of the general aviation and other commercial markets in which we participate.

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement and the information we are incorporating by reference in it contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements, other than statements of historical facts included in this prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, that we expect or anticipate will or may occur in the future, including, without limitation, statements included in this prospectus supplement under "Raytheon Company" and located elsewhere in this prospectus supplement regarding our financial position, business strategy and measures to implement that strategy, including changes to operations, competitive strengths, goals, expansion and growth of our business and operations, plans, references to future success and other such matters, are forward-looking statements. These statements are based on assumptions and analyses made by us in light of our experience and our perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments as well as other factors we believe are appropriate in the circumstances. However, whether actual results and developments will conform with our expectations and predictions is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including without limitation the information discussed under the caption "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement as well as other factors which might be described from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Consequently, all of the forward-looking statements we make in this prospectus supplement and the information we are incorporating by reference in this prospectus supplement are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments anticipated by us will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to or effects on us or our businesses or operations. All subsequent forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by any of those factors described above and in the documents containing such forward-looking statements. We do not assume any obligation to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from the sale of 11,000,000 shares, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated fees and expenses, are expected to be approximately \$311 million (approximately \$358 million if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full).

We anticipate using the net proceeds from this offering, together with an estimated \$629 million of net proceeds from the concurrent offering of our equity security units, or \$723 if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of common stock is exercised in full, primarily to reduce the amounts outstanding under our Five Year Competitive Advance and Revolving Credit Facility dated May 2, 1997, among us and the lenders named therein, to repurchase initially \$75 million of long-term debt and to partially fund the August 10, 2001 maturity of \$350 million of floating rate notes or to refinance other debt. Any remaining proceeds may be used by Raytheon to fund capital expenditures, working capital requirements and general corporate purposes. The weighted average interest rate on borrowings outstanding under the revolving credit facility on April 1, 2001 was 5.38% and the weighted average interest rate on the \$75 million of long-term debt was 8.1%. Several banking affiliates of the underwriters are lenders to us under the revolving credit facility and will receive a portion of the net proceeds of this offering and the concurrent equity security units offering in repayment of amounts outstanding to them under the revolving credit facility.

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth the capitalization of Raytheon and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis as of April 1, 2001 (1) on an historical basis, (2) as adjusted to give effect to this offering, and (3) on a further adjusted basis to give effect to the related offering of our equity security units, and with respect to (2) and (3) the application of the net proceeds from the offerings as described under "Use of Proceeds". Any gain or loss resulting from an early extinguishment of long-term debt resulting from application of the proceeds of the offerings is expected to be immaterial. This table should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of Raytheon and the notes relating to them, which are incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus.

	APRIL 1, 2001		
	UNAUDITED HISTORICAL	AS ADJUSTED	AS FURTHER ADJUSTED(1)
	(IN MILLIONS)		
Notes payable and current portion of long term debt:			
Notes payable.....	\$ 985	\$ 674	\$ 385
Current portion of long-term debt.....	200	200	200
	-----	-----	-----
Total notes payable and current portion of long-term debt.....	1,185	874	585
Long-term debt.....	8,858	8,858	8,783
	-----	-----	-----
Total debt.....	10,043	9,732	9,368
	-----	-----	-----
Raytheon-obligated trust preferred securities of subsidiary trust holding solely Raytheon subordinated notes (2).....	0	0	650
	-----	-----	-----
Stockholders' equity:			
Class A Common stock, par value \$0.01, 450,000,000 shares authorized (3).....	1	1	1
Class B Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, 1,000,000,000 authorized (3).....	2	2	2
Additional paid-in capital.....	6,422	6,733	6,717
Accumulated other comprehensive income.....	(114)	(114)	(114)
Treasury stock.....	(250)	(250)	(250)
Retained earnings.....	4,639	4,639	4,639
	-----	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity.....	10,700	11,011	10,995
	-----	-----	-----
Total capitalization.....	\$20,743	\$20,743	\$21,013
	=====	=====	=====

- (1) Raytheon anticipates using the remaining net proceeds to partially fund the August 10, 2001 maturity of \$350 million of floating rate notes.
- (2) The sole assets of RC Trust I will be the subordinated notes of Raytheon. Upon repayment of these subordinated notes of Raytheon, the related trust preferred securities will become mandatorily redeemable.
- (3) The class A common stock and class B common stock may be reclassified into one new series of common stock after the 2001 annual stockholders meeting. For more information, see "Description of Our Class A and Class B Common Stock--Reverse/Forward Stock Split" and "--Reclassification of Our Existing Two Classes of Common Stock into a Single New Class of Common Stock" in the accompanying prospectus.

PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY

Our class B common stock has been trading on the NYSE since 1997 under the symbol "RTNb", and prior to 1997 our common stock traded since 1952 under the symbol "RTN". The following table sets forth the quarterly high and low sales prices for our class B common stock as reported by the NYSE for the periods indicated and the amount of per-share dividends for the periods indicated.

CLASS B COMMON STOCK

	STOCK PRICES		DIVIDENDS PER COMMON SHARE
	HIGH	LOW	
FISCAL YEAR 1999			
First Quarter.....	\$58.88	\$51.25	\$.20
Second Quarter.....	74.63	57.75	.20
Third Quarter.....	76.56	44.50	.20
Fourth Quarter.....	49.88	22.19	.20
FISCAL YEAR 2000			
First Quarter.....	\$28.50	\$17.50	\$.20
Second Quarter.....	25.19	18.06	.20
Third Quarter.....	29.56	19.50	.20
Fourth Quarter.....	35.81	26.63	.20
FISCAL YEAR 2001			
First Quarter.....	\$36.68	\$25.24	\$.20
Second Quarter (through April 23, 2001).....	32.95	29.45	

Dividends are considered quarterly by our board of directors and may be paid only when approved by our board. Our credit facilities restrict our ability to pay dividends to our stockholders under provisions that we do not currently believe will limit our ability to continue to pay dividends at the current rate. On March 28, 2001, our board of directors declared a regular quarterly cash dividend payable in the amount of \$.20 per share on April 30, 2001 to stockholders of record at the close of business on April 6, 2001.

CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS
FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS OF OUR COMMON STOCK

The following is a general discussion of certain U.S. federal income and estate tax considerations with respect to the ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock applicable to non-U.S. holders. In general, a "non-U.S. holder" is any holder other than:

- . a citizen or resident of the United States;
- . a corporation or partnership created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States or of any state;
- . an estate, the income of which is includible in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source; or
- . a trust if (a) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or (b) the trust has election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

This discussion is based on current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, judicial opinions, published positions of the Internal Revenue Service, and other applicable authorities, all of which are subject to change (possibly with retroactive effect). We assume in this discussion that a non-U.S. holder holds shares of our common stock as a capital asset (generally property held for investment). This discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income and estate taxation that may be important to a particular non-U.S. holder in light of that non-U.S. holder's individual circumstances nor does it address any aspects of state, local, or non-U.S. taxes. This discussion also does not consider any specific facts or circumstances that may apply to a non-U.S. holder subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws (such as "controlled foreign corporations," "passive foreign investment companies," "foreign personal holding companies," corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax, owners of more than 5% of our common stock and certain U.S. expatriates). Accordingly, we urge prospective investors to consult with their own tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal, state, local and non-U.S. income and other tax considerations of acquiring, holding and disposing of shares of our common stock.

DIVIDENDS

In general, dividends we pay to a non-U.S. holder will be subject to U.S. withholding tax at a 30% rate of the gross amount (or a lower rate prescribed by an applicable income tax treaty) unless the dividends are effectively connected with a trade or business carried on by the non-U.S. holder within the United States and, if a treaty applies, are attributable to a permanent establishment of the non-U.S. holder within the United States. Dividends effectively connected with such a U.S. trade or business, and, if a treaty applies, attributable to such a permanent establishment of a non-U.S. holder, generally will not be subject to U.S. withholding tax if the non-U.S. holder files certain forms, including Internal Revenue Service Form W-8ECI (or any successor form), with the payor of the dividend, and generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis, in the same manner as if the non-U.S. holder were a resident of the United States. A non-U.S. holder that is a corporation, may be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a rate of 30% (or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty) on the repatriation from the United States of its "effectively connected earnings and profits," subject to certain adjustments. Under applicable Treasury Regulations, a non-U.S. holder (including, in certain cases of non-U.S. holders that are entities, the owner or owners of such entities) will be required to satisfy certain certification requirements in order to claim a reduced rate of withholding pursuant to an applicable income tax treaty.

GAIN OR SALE OR OTHER DISPOSITION OF COMMON STOCK

In general, a non-U.S. holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on any gain realized upon the sale or other disposition of the holder's shares of our common stock unless:

- . the gain is effectively connected with a trade or business carried on by the non-U.S. holder within the United States (in which case the branch profits tax discussed above may also apply if the non-U.S. holder is a corporation) or the gain is attributable to a permanent establishment of the non-U.S. holder maintained in the United States if that is required by an applicable income tax treaty as a condition to subjecting a non-U.S. holder to United States income tax on a net basis;
- . the non-U.S. holder is an individual and is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition and certain other tests are met;
- . the non-U.S. holder is subject to tax pursuant to the provisions of the Revenue Code regarding the taxation of U.S. expatriates; or
- . we are or have been a U.S. real property holding corporation (a "USRPHC") for U.S. federal income tax purposes (which we do not believe that we have been, currently are, or will become) at any time within the shorter of the five-year period preceding such disposition and such non-U.S. holder's holding period. If we were or were to become a USRPHC at any time during this period, generally gains realized upon a disposition of shares of our common stock by a non-U.S. holder that did not directly or indirectly own more than 5% of our common stock during this period would not be subject to U.S. federal income tax, provided that our common stock is "regularly traded on an established securities market" (within the meaning of Section 897(c)(3) of the Code).

An individual non-U.S. holder described in the first bullet point above will be subject to tax on the net gain derived from the sale under regular United States federal income tax rates. An individual non-U.S. holder described in the second bullet point above will be subject to a flat 30% tax on the gain derived from the sale, which may be offset by United States source capital losses (even though the individual is not considered a resident of the United States). If a non-U.S. holder that is a foreign corporation falls under the first bullet point above, it will be subject to tax on its gain under regular graduated United States federal income tax rates and, in addition, may be subject to the branch profits tax equal to 30% of its effectively connected earnings and profits or at such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

ESTATE TAX

Shares of our common stock that are owned or treated as owned by an individual who is not a citizen or resident (as defined for U.S. federal estate tax purposes) of the United States at the time of death will be includible in the individual's gross estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes, unless an applicable estate tax treaty provided otherwise, and therefore may be subject to U.S. federal estate tax.

BACKUP WITHHOLDING, INFORMATION REPORTING AND OTHER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

We must report annually to the Internal Revenue Service and to each non-U.S. holder the amount of dividends paid to, and the tax withheld with respect to, each non-U.S. holder. These reporting requirements apply regardless of whether withholding was reduced or eliminated by an applicable tax treaty. Copies of this information also may be made available under the provisions of a specific treaty or agreement with the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. Holder resides or is established.

U.S. backup withholding tax is imposed at the rate of 31% on certain payments to persons that fail to furnish the information required under the U.S. information reporting requirements.

Under the Treasury Regulations, the payment of proceeds from the disposition of shares of our common stock to or through a U.S. office of a broker will be subject to information reporting and backup withholding,

unless the beneficial owner, under penalties of perjury, certifies, among other things, its status as a non-U.S. holder or otherwise establishes an exemption. The payment of proceeds from the disposition of shares of our common stock to or through a non-U.S. office of a broker generally will not be subject to backup withholding and information reporting, except as noted below. In the case of proceeds from a disposition of shares of our common stock paid to or through a non-U.S. office of a broker that is:

- . a U.S. person;
- . a "controlled foreign corporation" for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- . a foreign person 50% or more of whose gross income from certain periods is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business; or
- . a foreign partnership if at any time during its tax year (a) one or more of its partners are U.S. persons who, in the aggregate, hold more than 50% of the income or capital interests of the partnership or (b) the foreign partnership is engaged in a U.S. trade or business,

information reporting (but not backup withholding) will apply unless the broker has documentary evidence in its files that the owner is a non-U.S. holder and certain other conditions are satisfied, or the beneficial owner otherwise establishes an exemption (and the broker has no actual knowledge to the contrary).

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a non-U.S. holder can be refunded or credited against the non-U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, provided that the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service in a timely manner.

The foregoing discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations is for general information only and is not tax advice. Accordingly, each prospective non-U.S. holder of shares of our common stock should consult his, her or its own tax adviser with respect to the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common stock.

UNDERWRITING

Under the terms and subject to the conditions contained in an underwriting agreement dated May , 2001, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters named below, for whom Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation and Salomon Smith Barney Inc. are acting as joint bookrunning managers and representatives, the following respective numbers of shares:

UNDERWRITER	NUMBER OF SHARES
Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation.....	
Salomon Smith Barney Inc.	
Banc of America Securities, LLC	
J.P. Morgan Securities Inc.	
Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated.....	

Total.....	=====

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the shares if any are purchased, other than those shares covered by the over-allotment option described below. The underwriting agreement also provides that, if an underwriter defaults, the purchase commitments of non-defaulting underwriters may be increased or the offering of shares may be terminated.

We have granted to the underwriters a 30 day option to purchase on a pro rata basis up to additional shares at the initial public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions. The option may be exercised only to cover any over-allotments in the sale of the shares.

The underwriters propose to offer the shares initially at the public offering price on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to selling group members at that price less a selling concession of \$ per share. The underwriters and selling group members may allow a discount of \$ per share on sales to other broker/dealers. After the initial public offering, the representatives may change the public offering price and concession and discount to broker/dealers.

The following table summarizes the compensation and estimated expenses we will pay.

	PER SHARE		TOTAL	
	WITHOUT OVER- ALLOTMENT	WITH OVER- ALLOTMENT	WITHOUT OVER- ALLOTMENT	WITH OVER- ALLOTMENT
Underwriting discounts and				
commissions paid by us.....	\$	\$	\$	\$
Expenses payable by us	\$	\$	\$	\$

We and our executive officers and directors have agreed that we will not offer, sell, contract to sell or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, or file with the SEC a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 relating to, shares of our common stock, securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for any shares of our common stock, enter into a transaction that would have the same effect, or enter into any swap, hedge or other arrangement that transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of our common stock, whether any such aforementioned transaction is to be settled by delivery of our common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise, or publicly disclose our intention to make any offer, sale, disposition or filing, without the prior written consent of Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation and Salomon Smith Barney Inc. for a period of 90 days after the date of this prospectus.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, or contribute to payments which the underwriters may be required to make in that respect.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may engage in stabilizing transactions, over-allotment transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

- . Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.
- . Over-allotment involves sales by the underwriters of shares in excess of the number of shares the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position. The short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of shares over-allotted by the underwriters is not greater than the number of shares that they may purchase in the over-allotment option. In a naked short position, the number of shares involved is greater than the number of shares in the over-allotment option. The underwriters may close out any short position by either exercising their over-allotment option and/or purchasing shares in the open market.
- . Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the shares in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. In determining the source of shares to close out the short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the over-allotment option. If the underwriters sell more shares than could be covered by the over-allotment option, a naked short position, that position can only be closed out by buying shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.
- . Penalty bids permit the representatives to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the shares originally sold by such syndicate member are purchased in a stabilizing transaction or a syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

These stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the shares or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the shares. As a result, the price of the shares may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise. Neither Raytheon nor the underwriters makes any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the shares. In addition, neither Raytheon nor the underwriters makes any representation that anyone will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

A prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the web sites maintained by one or more of the underwriters participating in this offering. The representatives may agree to allocate a number of shares to underwriters for sale to their online brokerage account holders. Internet distributions will be allocated by the underwriters that will make internet distributions on the same basis as other allocations. Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation may effect an on-line distribution through its affiliate, CSFBdirect Inc., an on-line broker dealer, as a selling group member. It is anticipated that Morgan Stanley DW Inc., an affiliate of Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, through Morgan Stanley Online, its online service, may be a member of the syndicate and engage in electronic offers, sales and distribution of the shares being offered. Other underwriters may be on-line investment banks and post the prospectus supplement on their web sites.

Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates have provided from time to time, and expect to provide in the future, investment banking, lending, financial advisory and other related services to us and our affiliates, for which they have received and may continue to receive customary fees and commissions. Concurrently with this offering, we are also offering \$650 million equity security units for which the underwriters of this offering are also acting as underwriters under a separate underwriting agreement. The two offerings are not conditioned on each other. In addition, several of the banking affiliates of the underwriters, including Credit Suisse First

Boston Corporation and Citibank, an affiliate of Salomon Smith Barney Inc., are lenders under the Five Year Competitive Advance and Revolving Credit Facility dated May 2, 1997 among us and the lenders listed therein borrowings under which will be repaid from the net proceeds of this offering and the concurrent equity security units offering.

Because more than 10% of the proceeds of this offering, not including underwriting compensation, will be received by entities who are affiliated with National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. members who are participating in this offering, this offering is being conducted in compliance with the NASD Conduct Rule 2710(c)(8). Pursuant to that rule, the appointment of a qualified independent underwriter is not necessary in connection with this offering, as a bona fide independent market (as defined in the NASD Conduct Rules) exists in the common shares.

NOTICE TO CANADIAN RESIDENTS

RESALE RESTRICTIONS

The distribution of the shares of our common stock in Canada is being made only on a private placement basis exempt from the requirement that we prepare and file a prospectus with the securities regulatory authorities in each province where trades of common stock are made. Any resale of our common stock in Canada must be made under applicable securities laws which will vary depending on the relevant jurisdiction, and which may require resales to be made under available statutory exemptions or under a discretionary exemption granted by the applicable Canadian securities regulatory authority. Purchasers are advised to seek legal advice prior to any resale of the units.

REPRESENTATIONS OF PURCHASERS

By purchasing our common stock in Canada and accepting a purchase confirmation a purchaser is representing to us and the dealer from whom the purchase confirmation is received that

- . the purchaser is entitled under applicable provincial securities laws to purchase the shares without the benefit of a prospectus qualified under those securities laws,
- . where required by law, that the purchaser is purchasing as principal and not as agent, and
- . the purchaser has reviewed the text above under Resale Restrictions.

RIGHTS OF ACTION (ONTARIO PURCHASERS)

The securities being offered are those of a foreign issuer and Ontario purchasers will not receive the contractual right of action prescribed by Ontario securities law. As a result, Ontario purchasers must rely on other remedies that may be available, including common law rights of action for damages or rescission or rights of action under the civil liability provisions of the U.S. federal securities laws.

ENFORCEMENT OF LEGAL RIGHTS

All of the issuer's directors and officers as well as the experts named herein may be located outside of Canada and, as a result, it may not be possible for Canadian purchasers to effect service of process within Canada upon the issuer or such persons. All or a substantial portion of the assets of the issuer and such persons may be located outside of Canada and, as a result, it may not be possible to satisfy a judgment against the issuer or such persons in Canada or to enforce a judgment obtained in Canadian courts against such issuer or persons outside of Canada.

NOTICE TO BRITISH COLUMBIA RESIDENTS

A purchaser of our common stock to whom the Securities Act (British Columbia) applies is advised that the purchaser is required to file with the British Columbia Securities Commission a report within ten days of the sale of any shares of common stock acquired by the purchaser in this offering. The report must be in the form attached to British Columbia Securities Commission Blanket Order BOR #95/17, a copy of which may be obtained from us. Only one report must be filed for shares of common stock acquired on the same date and under the same prospectus exemption.

TAXATION AND ELIGIBILITY FOR INVESTMENT

Canadian purchasers of shares of our common stock should consult their own legal and tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of an investment in our common stock in their particular circumstances and about the eligibility of our common stock for investment by the purchaser under relevant Canadian legislation.

LEGAL MATTERS

Thomas D. Hyde, Esq., Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Raytheon Company will pass upon the validity of Raytheon's common stock offered hereby. As of the date of this prospectus, Mr. Hyde holds no shares or options to acquire shares of class A common stock and 93,000 shares of class B common stock and options to acquire an additional 382,018 shares of class B common stock. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett.

EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Raytheon Company for the year ended December 31, 2000 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report (which contains an explanatory paragraph relating to the Company's adoption of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Statement of Position 98-5 "Reporting on the Costs of Start-up Activities", in 1999 as described in Note A to the financial statements) of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of that firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

INFORMATION WE INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy the registration statement, of which this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus form a part, and any other document we file at the SEC's public reference section, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Room 1024, Washington, D.C. 20549 and at the worldwide web site (<http://www.sec.gov>) maintained by the SEC. Information regarding the operation of the public reference section can be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. Our class B common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and class A common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the Chicago Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange, where reports, proxy statements and other information concerning Raytheon Company can also be inspected. The offices of the NYSE are located at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. These incorporated documents contain important business and financial information about us that is not included in or delivered with this prospectus supplement. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement, and later information filed with the SEC will update and supersede this information.

We incorporate by reference in this prospectus:

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000 filed with the SEC on March 5, 2001;
- our Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, relating to our annual meeting of stockholders to be held on April 25, 2001, filed with the SEC on March 26, 2001;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 11, 2001 and April 20, 2001;
- our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on December 11, 1997 and Form 8-A/A filed with the SEC on December 17, 1997; and
- any future filings made by us with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 until we sell all of the securities.

We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, on written or oral request of that person, a copy of any or all of the documents we are incorporating by reference in this prospectus, other than exhibits to those documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. Such written requests should be addressed to:

Secretary, Raytheon Company
141 Spring Street
Lexington, Massachusetts 02421

You may direct telephone requests to the Secretary of Raytheon Company at (781) 862-6600.

PROSPECTUS

\$3,000,000,000

RAYTHEON COMPANY

DEBT SECURITIES
PREFERRED STOCK
CLASS A COMMON STOCK*
CLASS B COMMON STOCK*
STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS
STOCK PURCHASE UNITS
WARRANTS

By this prospectus, we may offer, from time to time, the following securities:

- . our unsecured senior debt securities;
- . our unsecured subordinated debt securities;
- . warrants to purchase our debt securities;
- . shares of our preferred stock;
- . warrants to purchase shares of our preferred stock;
- . shares of our Class A and Class B common stock;
- . warrants to purchase shares of our Class A or Class B common stock;
- . stock purchase contracts; and
- . units consisting of some or all of these securities including, but not limited to, stock purchase units.

- - - - -
* Includes shares of a new class of common stock, \$.01 par value, of Raytheon Company, into which Class A and Class B Common Stock will be reclassified if such reclassification is approved by the stockholders of Raytheon Company at the 2001 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, as further described herein.

We may offer the offered securities in different series from time to time in amounts, at prices and on terms determined at the time of the offering. We will provide you with specific terms of the applicable offered securities in one or more supplements to this prospectus. The aggregate initial offering price of the securities that we may issue under this prospectus will not exceed \$3.0 billion.

Shares of our Class A and Class B common stock are listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange, the Chicago Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange under the symbols "RTNa" and "RTNb", respectively. On April 4, 2001, the last reported sale prices of our Class A and Class B common stock on the New York Stock Exchange were \$30.75 and \$31.03, respectively.

You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before you decide to invest. This prospectus may not be used to make sales of the offered securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of those offered securities. We may sell the securities, or we may distribute them through underwriters or dealers. In addition, the underwriters may over-allot a portion of the securities.

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NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this Prospectus is April 6, 2001.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$3.0 billion or the equivalent denominated in foreign currencies. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. This prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For a more complete understanding of the offering of the securities, you should refer to the registration statement, including its exhibits. Prospectus supplements may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information under the heading "Where You Can Find Information."

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We are not making offers to sell the securities in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation.

The information in this prospectus speaks only as of the date indicated on the cover of this document unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies.

References in this prospectus to the terms "we," "us" or "Raytheon" or other similar terms mean Raytheon Company, unless we state otherwise or the context indicates otherwise.

RAYTHEON COMPANY

Raytheon Company is a global technology leader, with worldwide 2000 sales of \$16.9 billion. We provide products and services in defense electronics, including missiles; radar; sensors and electro-optics; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; command, control, communication and information systems; naval systems; air traffic control systems; aircraft integration systems; and technical services. We are one of the leading providers of business and special mission aircraft and deliver a broad line of jet, turboprop, and piston-powered airplanes to corporate and government customers world-wide. We have operations throughout the United States and serve customers in more than 70 countries around the world. Our principal executive offices are located at 141 Spring Street, Lexington, Massachusetts 02421. Our telephone number is (781) 862-6600.

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS

Our electronic systems segment focuses on:

- . anti-ballistic missile systems;
- . air defense;
- . air-to-air, surface-to-air and air-to-surface missiles;
- . naval and maritime systems;
- . ship self-defense systems;
- . torpedoes;
- . strike, interdiction and cruise missiles; and
- . advanced munitions.

Our electronic systems segment also specializes in radar, electronic warfare, infrared, laser, and GPS technologies with programs focusing on land, naval, airborne and spaceborne systems used for surveillance, reconnaissance, targeting, navigation, commercial and scientific applications.

COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Our command, control, communication and information systems segment is involved in:

- . command, control and communication systems;
- . air traffic control systems;
- . tactical radios;
- . satellite communication ground control terminals;
- . wide-area surveillance systems;
- . ground-based information processing systems;
- . image processing;
- . large-scale information retrieval, processing and distribution systems; and
- . global broadcast systems.

AIRCRAFT INTEGRATION SYSTEMS

Our aircraft integration systems segment focuses on integration of airborne surveillance and intelligence systems and aircraft modifications and provides signals intelligence, air-ground surveillance, maritime surveillance and airborne command post systems to both U.S. Government and foreign customers.

RAYTHEON TECHNICAL SERVICES COMPANY

Through our Raytheon Technical Services Company subsidiary, we provide technical services, training programs, and logistics and base operations support throughout the U.S. and in 37 other countries. Raytheon Technical Services Company performs complete engineering and depot-level cradle-to-grave support to equipment manufactured by us and to various commercial and military customers.

COMMERCIAL ELECTRONICS

Our commercial electronics businesses produce, among other things, thin film filters for optical communications products, gallium arsenide MMIC components for direct broadcast satellite television receivers, gallium arsenide power amplifiers for wireless communications products, wireless broadband solutions, thermal imaging products, automobile radar systems, marine electronics for the commercial and military marine market, and other electronic components for a wide range of applications.

AIRCRAFT

Our Raytheon Aircraft subsidiary offers a broad product line of aircraft and aviation services in the general aviation market. Raytheon Aircraft manufactures, markets and supports piston-powered aircraft, turboprops and business jets for the world's commercial, regional airlines and military aircraft markets. Our Raytheon Travel air subsidiary sells fractional shares in aircraft and provides aircraft management and transportation services for the owners of the shares. Raytheon Aircraft Charter and Management offers aircraft charter and management services to the U.S. market.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. In addition to the other information included in this prospectus, you should carefully consider the risk factors in the prospectus supplement when determining whether or not to purchase the securities offered under this prospectus and the prospectus supplement.

DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the information we are incorporating by reference into it contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements, other than statements of historical facts included in this prospectus and the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus, that we expect or anticipate will or may occur in the future, including, without limitation, statements included in this prospectus under "Raytheon Company" and located elsewhere in this prospectus regarding our financial position, business strategy and measures to implement that strategy, including changes to operations, competitive strengths, goals, expansion and growth of our business and operations, plans, references to future success and other such matters, are forward-looking statements. These statements are based on assumptions and analyses made by us in light of our experience and our perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors we believe are appropriate in the circumstances. However, whether actual results and developments will conform with our expectations and predictions is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including without limitation the information discussed under the caption "Risk Factors" in the prospectus supplement to be provided with this prospectus as well as other factors which might be described from time to time in our filings with the SEC.

Consequently, all of the forward-looking statements we make in this prospectus and the information we are incorporating by reference into this prospectus are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments anticipated by us will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to or effects on us and our subsidiaries or our businesses or operations. All subsequent forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by any of those factors described above and in the documents containing such forward-looking statements. We do not assume any obligation to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, we expect to use the net proceeds from the sale of securities for general corporate purposes. These purposes may include, but are not limited to:

- . equity investments in existing and future projects;
- . acquisitions;
- . working capital;
- . capital expenditures;
- . repayment or refinancing of debt or other corporate obligations;
- . repurchases and redemptions of securities.

Pending any specific application, we may initially invest funds in short-term marketable securities or apply them to the reduction of short-term indebtedness.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES
AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth our consolidated ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the end of the fiscal years 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997 and 1996:

FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

2000 - - - - -	1999 - - - - -	1998 - - - - -	1997 - - - - -	1996 - - - - -
2.0x	2.0x	3.1x	2.8x	4.2x

For purposes of computing the ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends:

- . earnings consist of income from continuing operations, taxes on income from continuing operations and fixed charges, less capitalized interest; and
- . fixed charges consist of interest expense, amortization of debt discount and issuance expense, the portion of rents representative of an interest factor and capitalized interest.

The ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges has declined due to higher interest expense resulting from increased borrowings to finance our merger with the defense business of Hughes Electronics and our acquisition of the defense assets of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

DESCRIPTION OF OUR SECURITIES

We may offer under this prospectus one or more of the following categories of our securities:

- . unsecured senior debt securities;
- . unsecured subordinated debt securities;
- . warrants to purchase senior or subordinated debt securities;
- . shares of preferred stock, in one or more series;
- . warrants to purchase shares of preferred stock;
- . shares of Class A and Class B common stock;
- . warrants to purchase shares of Class A and Class B common stock;
- . stock purchase contracts; and
- . units consisting of some or all of these securities, including, but not limited to, stock purchase units.

The terms of any specific offering of our securities, including the terms of any units of a combination of our securities, will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to that offering.

DESCRIPTION OF OUR DEBT SECURITIES

This section describes the general terms and provisions of the debt securities that we may offer. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of the debt securities offered through that prospectus supplement as well as any general terms described in this section that will not apply to those debt securities.

Our unsecured senior debt securities will be issued under an Indenture, dated as of July 3, 1995, between Raytheon Company and The Bank of New York, as trustee, or another indenture or indentures to be entered

into by Raytheon Company and that trustee or another trustee. The unsecured subordinated debt securities will be issued under a second Indenture, dated as of July 3, 1995, also between Raytheon Company and The Bank of New York, as trustee or another indenture to be entered into by Raytheon Company and that trustee or another trustee.

Copies of each of the July 3, 1995 indentures have been filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. If we elect to issue securities under another indenture, we will file a copy of that indenture with the SEC. You should refer to the applicable indenture for more specific information. In addition, you should consult the applicable prospectus supplement for particular terms of our debt securities.

Our existing indentures do not limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue, and permit us to issue securities from time to time in one or more series. The debt securities will be unsecured obligations of Raytheon Company.

Generally, we will pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on our debt securities either at an office or agency that we maintain for that purpose or, if we elect, we may pay interest by mailing a check to your address as it appears on our register. We will issue our debt securities only in fully registered form without coupons, generally in denominations of \$1,000 or integral multiples of \$1,000. We will not apply a service charge for a transfer or exchange of our debt securities, but we may require that you pay the amount of any applicable tax or other governmental charge.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the following terms of any series of debt securities that we may offer:

- . the title of the debt securities;
- . whether they are senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities;
- . any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities offered through that prospectus supplement;
- . the total amount of the debt securities authorized and the amount outstanding, if any;
- . the identity of the person to whom we will pay interest if it is anybody other than the noteholder;
- . when the principal of the debt securities will mature;
- . the interest rate, which may be fixed or variable, or its method of calculation;
- . when interest will be payable, as well as the record date for determining who we will pay interest to;
- . where the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities will be paid;
- . any mandatory or optional sinking funds or similar arrangements;
- . when the debt securities may be redeemed if they are redeemable, as well as the redemption prices, and a description of the terms of redemption;
- . whether we have any obligation to redeem or repurchase the debt securities at your option;
- . the denominations of the debt securities, if other than \$1,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000;
- . the amount that we will pay you if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated, if other than their principal amount;
- . the currency in which we will make payments to you and, if a foreign currency, the manner of conversion from United States dollars;
- . any index we may use to determine the amount of payment of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities;

- . if the debt securities will be issued only in the form of a global note, the name of the depository or its nominee and the circumstances under which the global note may be transferred or exchanged to someone other than the depository or its nominee;
- . the applicability of the defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions in the applicable indenture;
- . whether the debt securities are convertible into any other securities and the terms and conditions of convertibility;
- . any additions or changes to events of default and, in the case of subordinated debt securities, any additional events of default that would result in acceleration of their maturity; and
- . any other terms of the debt securities.

We may issue our debt securities at an original issue discount, bearing no interest or bearing interest at a rate that, at the time of issuance, is below market rate, to be sold at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. Generally speaking, if our debt securities are issued at an original issue discount and there is an event of default or acceleration of their maturity, holders will receive an amount less than their principal amount. Tax and other special considerations applicable to original issue discount debt will be described in the prospectus supplement in which we offer those debt securities.

SUBORDINATION OF SUBORDINATED DEBT SECURITIES

Generally, the payment of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on our unsecured subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of our senior indebtedness. If we distribute our assets to creditors upon liquidation, dissolution, reorganization, insolvency, bankruptcy or under similar circumstances, holders of our senior debt will be entitled to be paid in full before any payments will be made on our subordinated debt securities. In addition, if the maturity of our subordinated debt securities is accelerated, holders of our senior debt will be entitled to be paid in full before any payments will be made on our subordinated debt securities. Moreover, while there is an event of default with respect to our senior debt that would permit our senior debt to be accelerated, and while we are in default in our payment obligations to holders of senior debt, we cannot make payments to our subordinated debt holders.

If we were to become insolvent, you may not be paid with respect to our subordinated debt securities until our senior debt and third-party creditors are paid in full.

The indenture for our unsecured subordinated debt securities will not place any limits on the amount of other indebtedness, including senior debt, that we may issue.

The indenture for our unsecured subordinated debt securities defines "senior indebtedness" to include the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on:

- . all of our indebtedness for money borrowed, other than our subordinated debt securities, and any other indebtedness represented by a note, bond, debenture or other similar evidence of indebtedness, including indebtedness of others that we guarantee, in each case whether outstanding on the date of execution of the subordinated debt securities indenture or thereafter created, incurred or assumed; and
- . any amendments, renewals, extensions, modifications and refundings of any such indebtedness, unless in any case in the instrument creating or evidencing any such indebtedness or pursuant to which it is outstanding it is provided that such indebtedness is not superior in right of payment to our subordinated debt securities.

In addition, for purposes of the definition of "senior indebtedness," "indebtedness for money borrowed" includes:

- . any obligation of, or any obligation guaranteed by, Raytheon Company for the repayment of borrowed money, whether or not evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other written instruments,

- . any deferred payment obligation of, or any such obligation guaranteed by, Raytheon Company for the payment of the purchase price of property or assets evidenced by a note or similar instrument, and
- . any obligation of, or any such obligation guaranteed by, Raytheon Company for the payment of rent or other amounts under a lease of property or assets if such obligation is required to be classified and accounted for as a capitalized lease on our balance sheet under generally accepted accounting principles.

EVENTS OF DEFAULT

Generally speaking, any of the following events will constitute an event of default under the indentures:

- . failure to pay interest on our debt securities for thirty days past the applicable due date, even if we are prohibited from paying interest on our debt securities because they are subordinated;
- . failure to pay principal of, or premium, if any, on our debt securities when due, even if we are prohibited from making such payments on our debt securities because they are subordinated;
- . failure to make any sinking fund payment when due, even if we are prohibited from making such payments with respect to subordinated securities;
- . failure to perform any other covenant or agreement in the applicable indenture, other than a covenant included in the indenture solely for the benefit of a different type of our debt securities, which continues for 60 days after written notice as provided in the indenture;
- . bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and
- . any other event of default provided with respect to debt securities of that series.

You will be notified of an event of default with respect to a series of our debt securities by the trustee.

If there is an event of default with respect to a series of our senior debt securities, which continues for the requisite amount of time, either the trustee or holders of at least 25% of the aggregate principal amount of that series may declare the principal amount of all of the senior debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. If the securities were issued at an original issue discount, less than the stated principal amount may become payable.

Payment of the principal of our subordinated debt securities may be accelerated only in the case of our bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization. Neither you nor the trustee will be able to accelerate the payment of interest or principal with respect to our subordinated debt securities for any other reason.

In some cases, after a declaration of acceleration has been made, but before a judgment or decree has been obtained, holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the series that is in default may rescind the acceleration.

The trustee will be required to act with a high standard of care. However, the trustee will not be obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indentures at your request unless you provide the trustee reasonable security or indemnity. Generally, but with exceptions, holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of any series of our outstanding debt securities will have the right to choose the time, method and place of any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or any exercise of power by the trustee with respect to debt securities of that series.

You may institute a suit against us for enforcement of your rights to receive payment of the principal of, premium, if any, on or interest on our debt securities after the due dates. However, you will not be able to

institute any other proceedings under the applicable indenture, including for any remedy, unless the following conditions are satisfied:

- . you give the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default with respect to a series of our debt securities that you hold;
- . holders of at least 25% of the aggregate principal amount of that series make a request, in writing, and offer reasonable indemnity, to the trustee for the trustee to institute the requested proceeding;
- . the trustee does not receive direction contrary to your request within 60 days following your written notice from holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of that series; and
- . the trustee does not institute the proceeding you request within 60 days following your written notice.

Every year we are required to deliver to the trustee a statement as to performance of our obligations under the indentures and as to any defaults.

A default in the payment of any of our debt securities, where the aggregate principal amount of that series of debt securities exceeds \$50 million, or a default with respect to our debt securities that causes them to be accelerated, will give rise to a cross-default under our senior credit facilities. In some circumstances, payment defaults on our debt securities may also give rise to cross-defaults of our guarantees of the indebtedness of our subsidiaries.

DEFEASANCE AND COVENANT DEFEASANCE

Any series of our debt securities may be subject to the defeasance and discharge provisions of the applicable indenture. If those provisions are applicable, we may elect either:

- . defeasance -- which will permit us to defease and be discharged from, subject to limitations, all of our obligations with respect to those debt securities; or
- . covenant defeasance -- which will permit us to be released from our obligations to comply with covenants relating to those debt securities as described in the applicable prospectus supplement, which may include obligations concerning subordination of our subordinated debt securities.

To invoke defeasance or covenant defeasance with respect to any series of our debt securities, we must irrevocably deposit with the trustee, in trust, an amount in funds or U.S. government obligations which, through the payment of principal and interest in accordance with their terms, will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay, when due, the principal of, premium, if any, on and interest on those debt securities and any mandatory sinking fund or similar payments on those debt securities.

We cannot defease our obligations to register the transfer or exchange of our debt securities, to replace our debt securities that have been stolen, lost or mutilated, to maintain paying agencies, or to hold funds for payment in trust. We may not defease our obligations if there is a continuing event of default on securities issued under the applicable indenture, or if depositing amounts into trust would cause the trustee to have conflicting interests with respect to other of our securities. In addition, we would be required to deliver a legal opinion to the trustee to the effect that you will not recognize additional income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance or covenant defeasance.

If we effect covenant defeasance with respect to any of our debt securities, and then those debt securities are declared due and payable because of an event of default, other than an event of default relating to any covenant from which we have been released through covenant defeasance, the amount of money or U.S. government obligations on deposit with the trustee may not be sufficient to pay all amounts due on the debt securities at the time of acceleration. However, we would remain liable with respect to any shortfall.

MODIFICATION AND WAIVER

Modifications and amendments of our current indentures may be made only with the consent of holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of all of our outstanding debt securities affected, voting as a single class. Generally, the consent of all of the holders of our debt securities that are affected is required for any of the following:

- . to change the stated maturity of the principal, or any installment of interest or premium, if any;
- . to reduce the principal amount, the premium, if any, or the interest, or the amount payable upon acceleration or maturity in the case of debt securities issued at an original issue discount;
- . to change the place of payment, or the currency in which payments are made;
- . to impair your right to institute suit to enforce any payment at or following stated maturity or following a redemption date;
- . to modify the subordination provisions of our subordinated debt securities in a manner adverse to holders; or
- . to reduce the percentage of the principal amount of our outstanding debt securities required for modification to or amendment of either indenture, or for waiver of our compliance with indenture provisions or defaults.

Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of either our senior debt securities or our subordinated debt securities may waive any past default under the applicable indenture, except for a default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, on, or interest on our debt securities and except for our compliance with specified covenants.

COVENANTS

Our current indentures contain covenants regarding, among other things:

- . a limitation on liens other than specified types of liens;
- . a limitation on sale and leaseback transactions, unless the lien on any property subject to the sale and leaseback transaction is permitted under the indentures or the proceeds of the sale and leaseback transaction are used to retire specified types of debt; and
- . restrictions on our ability to engage in consolidations, mergers or transfers of substantially all of our assets unless the surviving or acquiring entity is a domestic company and it expressly assumes our obligations with respect to our debt securities by executing a supplemental indenture.

You should be aware that we are not prohibited from engaging in highly leveraged transactions, other than as may conflict with those covenants. Moreover, any series of our debt securities may provide that these covenants may be removed with respect to that series.

CONSOLIDATION, MERGER AND SALE OF ASSETS

Our current indentures prohibit us from consolidating with or merging into another business entity, or transferring or leasing substantially all of our assets, unless the surviving or acquiring entity is a domestic company and it expressly assumes our obligations with respect to our debt securities by executing a supplemental indenture.

CONVERSION OR EXCHANGE RIGHTS

If any series of debt securities are convertible or exchangeable, the applicable prospectus supplement will specify:

- . the type of securities into which it may be converted or exchanged;
- . the conversion price or exchange ratio, or its method of calculation;
- . whether conversion or exchange is mandatory or at your election; and
- . how the conversion price or exchange ratio may be adjusted if our debt securities are redeemed.

GLOBAL SECURITIES

Our debt securities may be issued in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with a depository or its nominee identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so, each global security will be issued in the denomination of the aggregate principal amount of securities that it represents. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities that are in definitive registered form, a global security may not be transferred or exchanged except as a whole by the depository to its nominee. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe this concept more fully.

The specific material terms of the depository arrangement with respect to any portion of a series of our debt securities that will be represented by a global security will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. We anticipate that the following provisions will apply to our depository arrangements.

Upon the issuance of any global security, and its deposit with or on behalf of the depository, the depository will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the principal amounts of our debt securities represented by the global security to the accounts of participating institutions that have accounts with the depository or its nominee. The underwriters or agents engaging in the distribution of our debt securities, or Raytheon Company if we are offering and selling our debt securities directly, will designate the accounts to be credited. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be limited to participating institutions or their clients. The depository or its nominee will keep records of the ownership and transfer of beneficial interests in a global security by participating institutions. Participating institutions will keep records of the ownership and transfer of beneficial interests by their clients. The laws of some jurisdictions may require that purchasers of our securities receive physical certificates, which may impair your ability to transfer your beneficial interests in global securities.

While the depository or its nominee is the registered owner of a global security, the depository or its nominee will be considered the sole owner of all of our debt securities represented by the global security for all purposes under the indentures. Generally, if you own beneficial interests in a global security, you will not be entitled to have our debt securities registered in your own name, and you will not be entitled to receive a certificate representing your ownership. Accordingly, if you own a beneficial interest in a global security, you must rely on the depository and, if applicable, the participating institution of which you are a client to exercise the rights of a holder under the applicable indenture.

The depository may grant proxies and otherwise authorize participating institutions to take any action that a holder is entitled to take under the indentures. We understand that, according to existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders, or any owner of a beneficial interest in a global security wishes to give any notice or take any action, the depository would authorize the participating institutions to give the notice or take the action, and the participating institutions would in turn authorize their clients to give the notice or take the action.

Generally, we will make payments on our debt securities represented by a global security directly to the depository. It is our understanding that the depository will then credit the accounts of participating institutions,

which will then distribute funds to their clients. We also expect that payments by participating institutions to their clients will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of clients registered in "street names," and will be the responsibility of the participating institutions. Neither we nor the trustee, nor our respective agents, will have any responsibility, or bear any liability, for any aspects of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial interests in a global security, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing records relating to beneficial interests.

Generally, a global security may be exchanged for certificated debt securities only in the following instances:

- . the depository notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository, or it ceases to be a registered clearing agency, if required to be registered by law, and a successor is not appointed within 90 days;
- . we determine in our sole discretion that we will permit global securities to be exchanged for certificated debt securities; or
- . there is a continuing event of default under the indenture governing the debt securities held in global form.

The following is based on information furnished to us:

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") will act as depository for securities issued in the form of global securities. Global securities will be issued only as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co., which is DTC's nominee. One or more fully-registered global securities will be issued for these securities representing in the aggregate the total number of these securities, and will be deposited with or on behalf of DTC.

DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with it. DTC also facilitates the settlement among its participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations. DTC is owned by a number of its direct participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange and the National Association of Securities Dealers. Access to the DTC system is also available to others, known as indirect participants, such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain custodial relationships with direct participants, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of securities within the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the securities on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each security, commonly referred to as the beneficial owner, is in turn to be recorded on the direct and indirect participants' records. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchases, but beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transactions, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participants through which the beneficial owners purchased securities. Transfers of ownership interests in securities issued in the form of global securities are accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in these securities, except if use of the book-entry system for such securities is discontinued.

DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the securities issued in the form of global securities. DTC's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts such securities are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants, and by direct participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Any redemption notices need to be sent to DTC. If less than all of the securities of a series or class are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount to be redeemed from each participant.

Although voting with respect to securities issued in the form of global securities is limited to the holders of record, when a vote is required, neither DTC nor Cede & Co. will itself consent or vote with respect to such securities. Under its usual procedures, DTC would mail an omnibus proxy to the issuer of the securities as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those direct participants to whose accounts such securities are credited on the record date, identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy.

Payments in respect of securities issued in the form of global securities will be made by the issuer of such securities to DTC. DTC's practice is to credit direct participants' accounts on the relevant payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records unless DTC has reason to believe that it will not receive payments on such payment date. Payments by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices and will be the responsibility of such participant and not of DTC or Raytheon Company, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payments to DTC are the responsibility of the issuer of the applicable securities, disbursement of such payments to direct participants is the responsibility of DTC, and disbursements of such payments to the beneficial owners is the responsibility of direct and indirect participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depositary with respect to any securities at any time by giving reasonable notice to the issuer of such securities. If a successor depositary is not obtained, individual security certificates representing such securities are required to be printed and delivered. We, at our option, may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC or a successor depositary.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that we believe to be accurate, but we assume no responsibility for its accuracy. We have no responsibility for the performance by DTC or its participants of their obligations as described in this prospectus or under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

OUR DEBT TRUSTEE

The current trustee for our debt securities is The Bank of New York, which performs services for us in the ordinary course of business. We may engage additional or substitute trustees with respect to particular series of our debt securities.

DESCRIPTION OF OUR PREFERRED STOCK

This section describes the general terms and provisions of our preferred stock. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of the shares of preferred stock offered through that prospectus supplement, as well as any general terms described in this section that will not apply to those shares of preferred stock. We will file a copy of the certificate of designation that contains the terms of each new series

of preferred stock with the SEC each time we issue a new series of preferred stock, and these certificates of designation will be incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Each certificate of designation will establish the number of shares included in a designated series and fix the designation, powers, privileges, preferences and rights of the shares of each series as well as any applicable qualifications, limitations or restrictions. You should refer to the applicable certificate of designation as well as our restated certificate of incorporation before deciding to buy shares of our preferred stock as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 1,650,000,000 shares of stock, including:

- . 1,450,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, comprised of:
 - . 450,000,000 shares of Class A common stock and
 - . 1,000,000,000 shares of Class B common stock.
- . 200,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share, including:
 - . 4,000,000 shares of Series A Junior Participating preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share.

Our Board of Directors has been authorized, subject to limitations provided in our restated certificate of incorporation, to provide for the issuance of shares of our preferred stock in multiple series. No shares of our preferred stock are currently outstanding.

With respect to each series of our preferred stock, our Board of Directors has the authority to fix the following terms:

- . the designation of the series;
- . the number of shares within the series;
- . whether dividends are cumulative and, if cumulative, the dates from which dividends are cumulative;
- . the rate of any dividends, any conditions upon which dividends are payable, and the dates of payment of dividends;
- . whether the shares are redeemable, the redemption price and the terms of redemption;
- . the amount payable to you for each share you own if Raytheon Company is dissolved or liquidated;
- . whether the shares are convertible or exchangeable, the price or rate of exchange, and the applicable terms and conditions;
- . any restrictions on issuance of shares in the same series or any other series; and
- . your voting rights for the shares you own.

You will have no preemptive rights with respect to your shares. In addition, your rights with respect to your shares of preferred stock will be subordinate to the rights of our general creditors. If we receive the appropriate payment, shares of our preferred stock that we issue will be fully paid and nonassessable.

We currently plan to retain State Street Bank and Trust Company as the registrar and transfer agent of any series of our preferred stock.

DESCRIPTION OF OUR CLASS A AND CLASS B COMMON STOCK

We are authorized to issue up to 1,450,000,000 shares of common stock, consisting of 450,000,000 shares of our Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and 1,000,000,000 shares of our Class B common stock, \$0.01 par value per share.

This section describes the general terms of our Class A and Class B common stock. For more detailed information, you should refer to our restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated by-laws, copies of which have been filed with the SEC. These documents are also incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

In addition, we entered into an agreement with General Motors Corporation that limits our ability to take actions that affect our common stock. Please refer to "--Hughes Separation Agreement" below in this section of the prospectus.

Generally, holders of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock are entitled to one vote per share, and the approval of corporate actions requires the approval of both classes, voting separately, as well as approval of the holders of any series of our preferred stock that may be entitled to vote for the action. The election or removal of our directors is subject to separate rules.

For the election or removal of our directors, our common stockholders vote as a single class, and are entitled to vote as follows:

Class B: Holders of our Class B common stock will be entitled to one vote per share, and the voting power of the entire class will be equal to 19.9% of the total voting power of all classes of our common stock.

Class A: Holders of our Class A common stock will be entitled to the number of votes per share as will cause the Class A common stock to have 80.1% of the total voting power of all classes of our common stock.

Our common stock will be the only type of our capital stock entitled to vote in the election and removal of directors and other matters presented to our stockholders from time to time, unless we issue voting preferred stock or our restated certificate of incorporation or the law requires otherwise.

Our common stockholders will be entitled to receive dividends and distributions declared by our Board of Directors, to the extent permitted by outstanding shares of preferred stock and by our restated certificate of incorporation. If a dividend is declared, it will be distributed pro rata to our Class A and Class B stockholders, unless it is a dividend in kind. We are permitted to distribute Class A common stock to Class A stockholders and Class B common stock to Class B stockholders, but only if the ratio of shares outstanding of the two classes remains unchanged. In addition, in the case of any stock split, subdivision, combination or reclassification of either class, the other class will be adjusted accordingly so that the ratio of shares outstanding of the two classes remains unchanged.

If Raytheon Company is liquidated or dissolved, our common stockholders will be entitled to receive our assets and funds available for distribution to common stockholders in proportion to the number of shares of either class they hold. Our common stockholders may not receive any assets or funds until our creditors have been paid in full and the preferential or participating rights of our preferred stockholders have been satisfied. If we participate in a corporate merger, consolidation, purchase or acquisition of property or stock, or other reorganization, any payments or shares of stock allocated to our common stockholders will be distributed pro rata to holders of our Class A and Class B common stock on a per share basis. If we redeem, repurchase or otherwise acquire for payment any shares of our common stock, we will treat each share of Class A common stock and Class B common stock identically.

You will not have any preemptive, subscription or conversion rights with respect to shares of our common stock that you own. We may issue additional shares of our common stock, if authorized by our Board of Directors, without your approval -- unless required by a stock exchange on which our securities are traded. If we receive the appropriate payment, shares of our common stock that we issue will be fully paid and nonassessable.

Other than as described above, the rights of our Class A common stockholders and Class B common stockholders are the same, and we will not discriminate with respect to one class over the other.

HUGHES SEPARATION AGREEMENT

A copy of the Hughes Spin-Off Separation Agreement has been filed with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

On December 17, 1997, Raytheon Company acquired the defense electronics business of Hughes Electronics Corporation through a merger, which we refer to as the "Hughes merger". Raytheon Company's two classes of common stock are a result of the Hughes merger in which stockholders of the former Raytheon Company received Class B common stock and holders of General Motors Corporation common stock and holders of General Motors Corporation Class H common stock received Class A common stock. Also as a result of the Hughes merger, Raytheon Company currently has a large stockholder base of approximately 700,000 stockholders, many of whom hold fewer than 20 shares of common stock.

As part of the Hughes merger, we agreed under the Hughes Spin-Off Separation Agreement (the "Separation Agreement") not to take specified actions unless General Motors Corporation determines in good faith that such actions would not jeopardize the tax-free status of the spin-off of the defense electronics business of Hughes Electronics Corporation and its merger with Raytheon Company.

Many of the covenants restricting our actions under the Separation Agreement expired on December 18, 1999 or December 18, 2000 and are no longer in effect. However, we remain subject to a covenant that prohibits us from proposing a plan of recapitalization or amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation that would (1) convert shares of our Class A common stock into shares of Class B common stock or vice versa, or (2) change the absolute or relative voting rights of any class of our common stock from the rights in existence on December 17, 1997. While this covenant does not have an expiration date, the Separation Agreement provides that the covenants restricting our actions do not prohibit us from implementing any transaction upon which the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") has granted a favorable ruling.

In December 2000 and January 2001, in anticipation of receiving advice from the IRS, we reviewed with our financial and tax advisors the effects of a possible reclassification of our shares and its effects on our stockholders.

On January 24, 2001, after consideration of the issues and hearing presentations from outside tax counsel and our financial advisors, our Board resolved to seek stockholder approval to reclassify the Class A common stock and Class B common stock into a single class of new common stock, contingent upon receiving a ruling from the IRS that consummation of the proposed reclassification, as well as the reverse/forward stock split discussed below, will not adversely affect the IRS ruling received in connection with the Hughes merger.

On January 31, 2001, the IRS issued to us a supplementary ruling to the effect that consummation of the proposed reclassification, as well as the reverse/forward stock split, will not adversely affect the IRS ruling received in connection with the Hughes merger. Accordingly, as described in more detail below, our Board has recommended that our stockholders approve the reclassification of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock into a single new class of common stock and approve the reverse/forward stock split.

REVERSE/FORWARD STOCK SPLIT

Our Board has authorized, and recommended that our stockholders approve at our next annual meeting, which is scheduled for April 25, 2001, a reverse 1-for-20 stock split followed immediately by a forward 20-for-1 stock split of each of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock. As permitted under Delaware state law, stockholders whose shares of stock are converted into less than 1 share in the reverse split will be converted into the right to receive a cash payment. We refer to the reverse and forward stock splits, together

with the related cash payments to stockholders with small holdings, as the "Reverse/Forward Split." We believe the Reverse/Forward Split will result in significantly reduced shareholder record keeping and mailing expenses, and provide holders of fewer than 20 shares with a cost-effective way to cash out their investments efficiently.

If approved, the Reverse/Forward Split is expected to take place at 6:00 p.m. on May 14, 2001. All Class A stockholders on May 14, 2001 will receive 1 share of Raytheon Class A common stock for every 20 shares of Class A stock held in their accounts at that time; all Class B stockholders on May 14, 2001 will receive 1 share of Raytheon Class B common stock for every 20 shares of Class B stock held in their accounts at that time. If a registered holder has 20 or more Class A or Class B shares, as the case may be, any fractional share in such account will not be cashed out after the reverse split and the total number of shares held by such holder will not change as a result of the Reverse/Forward Split. Any registered stockholder who holds fewer than 20 shares of Class A or Class B shares, as the case may be, at the time of the reverse stock split, will receive a cash payment instead of a fractional share. To determine the amount of the cash payment, at our election, we may either (1) instruct our transfer agent to sell these fractional shares of Class A or Class B stock in the open market or (2) purchase these fractional shares of Class A and Class B at a price based on the average daily closing price per share of the Class A or Class B common stock, as the case may be, on the New York Stock Exchange for the ten trading days immediately before and including the date the Reverse/Forward Split is effected.

Immediately following the reverse split, at 6:01 p.m. on May 14, 2001, all Class A and Class B stockholders, who held 20 or more shares of Class A or Class B common stock, as the case may be, immediately before the reverse split, will receive 20 shares of Class A or Class B common stock for every 1 share of Class A or Class B common stock they held immediately following the reverse stock split.

The Reverse/Forward Split will not affect the public registration of our Class A or Class B common stock under the Exchange Act. Similarly, we do not expect that the Reverse/Forward Split will affect our application for the continued listing of the Class A and Class B common stock on the New York Stock Exchange.

The number of shares of common stock authorized will not change as a result of the Reverse/Forward Split. If we elect to arrange for the sale of the fractional shares of cashed-out stockholders by our transfer agent on the open market, as described above, there will be no change in the numbers of shares of our Class A and Class B common stock that are issued and outstanding. However, if we elect to purchase these fractional shares, as described above, the total number of shares of our Class A and Class B common stock will be reduced by the aggregate number of such shares held by holders owning fewer than 20 such shares immediately prior to the reverse stock split.

RECLASSIFICATION OF OUR EXISTING TWO CLASSES OF COMMON STOCK INTO A SINGLE NEW CLASS OF COMMON STOCK

In addition to the Reverse/Forward Split, our Board has unanimously approved a proposal to amend our restated certificate of incorporation, which, if approved at our next annual stockholders' meeting, would eliminate our two classes of common stock and reclassify the Class A common stock and the Class B common stock into a single new class of common stock, \$.01 par value, of Raytheon Company. The reclassification will eliminate the trading disparities between our Class A common stock and our Class B common stock and eliminate any confusion arising from having two publicly traded classes of common stock.

The rights, powers and limitations of the new common stock will be set forth in an amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation. The following summary should be read in conjunction with, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the form of amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation attached as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

COMPARISON OF CLASS A COMMON STOCK, CLASS B COMMON STOCK AND NEW COMMON STOCK

RIGHT, POWER OR LIMITATION	CLASS A COMMON STOCK	CLASS B COMMON STOCK	NEW COMMON STOCK
Election or Removal of Directors:	--Holders entitled to 80.1% of the total voting power with respect to the election or removal of directors.	--Holders entitled to 19.9% of the total voting power with respect to the election or removal of directors.	--Holders entitled to equal per share voting rights with respect to the election or removal of all directors.
Class Voting:	--On all matters (other than the election or removal of directors) the approval of holders of each Class, voting separately, is required.	--On all matters (other than the election or removal of directors) the approval of holders of each Class, voting separately, is required.	--Holders vote as a single class on all matters.
Dividends and Stock Splits and Combinations:	--Dividends payable or stock divisions or combinations with respect to shares of Class A common stock must be made pro rata with shares of Class B common stock.	--Dividends payable or stock divisions or combinations with respect to shares of Class B common stock must be made pro rata with shares of Class A common stock.	--Except as prohibited under Delaware law, no prohibition on or special rights as to the payment of dividends or stock divisions or combinations.
Liquidation, Dissolution, Mergers, Consolidations, or other reorganizations:	--Participate pro rata with the holders of Class B common stock.	--Participate pro rata with the holders of Class A common stock.	--Participate pro rata with other holders of New Common Stock.
Stock Repurchases:	--Company repurchases of Class A stock must be effected ratably, and in a non-prejudicial way, with purchases of Class B common stock.	--Company repurchases of Class B stock must be effected ratably, and in a non-prejudicial way, with purchases of Class A common stock.	--Except as prohibited under applicable law, no prohibitions on or special rights as to stock repurchases.

PROVISIONS OF OUR RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION AND AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS

Advance Notice of Nominations

Our by-laws contain provisions requiring that you deliver advance notice of any business that you intend to raise at an annual meeting of stockholders and providing for procedures to be followed if you wish to nominate a person to be elected as a director. To be timely, you must give written notice to our Secretary within the thirty-day period beginning on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting. If the date of the next annual meeting is more than 30 days before, or more than 60 days after, the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting, you must deliver notice to our Secretary within the period beginning on the 120th day prior to the meeting and ending thirty days later, or, if later, the 10th day after our public announcement of the meeting date. In addition, if we plan to increase the size of our Board of Directors, and we do not announce all of the nominees for election or the fact that the size of our Board will be increased at least 100 days before the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting, you will have ten days following the date of our public announcement to give notice of your nomination to our Secretary.

The notice must provide information about you and the business to be brought before the meeting. You should review our by-laws for more information. For our 2001 annual stockholders' meeting, the first anniversary of the previous year's meeting will be April 26, 2001.

Classification of Directors

Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that, except as otherwise required by specific provisions of the restated certificate of incorporation relating to the rights of holders of any class or series of preferred stock to elect additional directors under specified circumstances, the number of our directors may be fixed from time to time by a resolution adopted by a majority of our Board but must not be less than three. Our Board is classified into three classes, as nearly equal in size as possible. Each class holds office until the third succeeding anniversary of the annual stockholders' meeting electing that class, except that the terms of the initial three classes were set to expire in 1998, 1999 and 2000, respectively. A director may be removed only for cause by the vote of our common stockholders, voting together as a single class in accordance with their respective percentages of total voting power, and subject to the rights of any series of preferred stock outstanding.

No Action by Written Consent; Special Meeting

Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that stockholders may not act by written consent in lieu of an annual or a special meeting. Except as otherwise required by law and subject to the rights of holders of any class or series of preferred stock, special meetings of the stockholders may only be called by our Chairman of the Board or by our Board of Directors pursuant to a resolution that indicates the purpose of the meeting, which is approved by a majority of our directors, assuming, for this purpose, that there were no vacancies. No business other than that stated in the notice may be transacted at any special meeting of stockholders.

According to our by-laws, if we call a special meeting to elect directors to the Board of Directors, you may nominate individuals for election if you deliver notice to our Secretary during the period beginning on the 120th day before the special meeting and ending thirty days later, or, if later, the 10th day after our public announcement of the meeting.

Limitation on Directors' Liability

Our restated certificate of incorporation provides, as authorized by law, that our directors will not be personally liable to Raytheon Company or our stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except to the extent such exemption from or limitation of liability is not permitted under the Delaware General Corporation Law. The effect of this provision may be to reduce the likelihood of derivative litigation against directors for breach of their duty of care, even though the action, if successful, might otherwise have benefited Raytheon Company and our stockholders.

STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN

When Raytheon Company merged with the defense electronics business of Hughes Electronics Corporation in 1997, the Board of Directors adopted a stockholder rights plan. Each share of Class A and Class B common stock issued hereunder will be issued together with one right under the stockholder rights plan. You should refer to the Rights Agreement, dated as of December 15, 1997, by and between Raytheon Company and State Street Bank and Trust Company, as rights agent, for a more detailed description of the stockholder rights plan. A copy of the Rights Agreement is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

The rights trade automatically with shares of our common stock and become exercisable only under circumstances described below. The rights are designed to protect our interests and the interests of our stockholders against coercive takeover tactics. The purpose of the rights is to encourage potential acquirers to negotiate with our Board of Directors before attempting a takeover and to provide the Board of Directors with leverage in negotiating the terms of any proposed takeover on behalf of all stockholders. The rights may have anti-takeover effects. Subject to the terms of the Hughes Spin-Off Separation Agreement, the rights should not, however, interfere with any merger or other business combination that the Board of Directors approves.

The rights do not become exercisable until triggering events occur. They expire on December 15, 2007, but we may extend this date or redeem the rights earlier. Before a right is exercised, the right does not confer any right to vote or receive dividends. Before a triggering event occurs, each right will entitle you to purchase from us one one-hundredth of a share of our Series A Junior Participating preferred stock for \$250, subject to adjustment. The rights are triggered by either of the following occurrences:

- . 10 days after the public announcement that an individual or group -- the "acquirer" -- has acquired 15% or more of our Class A common stock, Class B common stock, or the total voting power in the election of our directors; or
- . 10 business days, or later if the Board of Directors elects, after the commencement or announcement by an individual or group -- the "acquirer" -- of an intention to make a tender offer or exchange offer that would result in the acquisition of 15% or more of our Class A common stock, Class B common stock, or the total voting power in the election of our directors.

If the rights are triggered, each holder of a right other than the acquirer, whose rights will automatically become void, will thereafter have the right to purchase shares of Class A or Class B common stock, as the case may be, at a 50% discount to market price. If Raytheon Company is thereafter acquired in a merger or other business combination, or 50% or more of our assets or earning power are sold, each holder of a right will have the right to purchase shares of common stock of the acquiring company at a 50% discount to market price. However, the Board of Directors will have the option, before the acquirer obtains 50% or more of our outstanding shares of common stock, to exchange rights of holders, other than the acquirer, for shares of our Series A Junior Participating preferred stock, at a rate of 100 rights per share, subject to adjustment.

Subject to the terms of the Hughes Spin-Off Separation Agreement, we may redeem the rights at any time before they are triggered at a price of \$0.01 per right. Our Board of Directors may also designate the effective time of the redemption as well as the applicable conditions. If we redeem your rights, you will be entitled to receive \$0.01 for each right you hold, but you will not have any further entitlements with respect to these rights.

SECTION 203 OF THE DELAWARE GENERAL CORPORATION LAW

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law prohibits a defined set of transactions between a Delaware corporation, such as Raytheon Company, and an "interested stockholder." An interested stockholder is defined as a person who, together with any affiliates or associates of such person, beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, 15% or more of the outstanding voting shares of a Delaware corporation. This provision may prohibit business combinations between an interested stockholder and a corporation for a period of three years after the date the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. The term "business combination" is broadly defined to include mergers, consolidations, sales or other dispositions of assets having a total value in excess of 10% of the consolidated assets of the corporation, and some other transactions that would increase the interested stockholder's proportionate share ownership in the corporation.

This prohibition is effective unless:

- . The business combination is approved by the corporation's board of directors prior to the time the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder;
- . The interested stockholder acquired at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation, other than stock held by directors who are also officers or by qualified employee stock plans, in the transaction in which it becomes an interested stockholder; or
- . The business combination is approved by a majority of the board of directors and by the affirmative vote of 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

In general, the prohibitions do not apply to business combinations with persons who were stockholders prior to the corporation becoming subject to Section 203.

STOCK EXCHANGE LISTING

Both our Class A common stock and Class B common stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the Chicago Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange. The trading symbols for our Class A common stock and Class B common stock on these exchanges are "RTNa" and "RTNb," respectively.

TRANSFER AGENT

State Street Bank and Trust Company is the Transfer Agent for our common stock and the Rights Agent for the rights.

DESCRIPTION OF OUR SECURITIES WARRANTS

This section describes the general terms and provisions of our securities warrants. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of the securities warrants offered through that prospectus supplement, as well as any general terms described in this section that will not apply to those securities warrants.

We may issue securities warrants for the purchase of our debt securities, preferred stock, or our Class A or Class B common stock. We may issue warrants independently or together with other securities, and they may be attached to or separate from the other securities. Each series of securities warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement that we will enter into with State Street Bank and Trust Company, or another bank or trust company, as warrant agent, as detailed in the applicable prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as an agent of Raytheon Company in connection with the securities warrants and will not assume any obligation, or agency or trust relationship, with you. The forms of securities warrant agreements, including the forms of warrant certificates, are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. You should refer to the provisions of the securities warrant agreements for more specific information.

The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of securities warrants will describe the terms of those securities warrants, including, where applicable:

- . the exercise price for our debt securities, the amount of debt securities you will receive upon exercise, and a description of that series of debt securities;
- . the exercise price for shares of our preferred stock, the number of shares of preferred stock you will receive upon exercise, and a description of that series of our preferred stock;
- . the exercise price for shares of our Class A or Class B common stock and the number of shares of Class A or Class B common stock you will receive upon exercise;
- . the expiration date;
- . U.S. federal income tax consequences; and
- . any other terms of the securities warrants.

After your warrants expire they will become void. The prospectus supplement will describe how you may exercise your securities warrants. You must exercise warrants for our preferred stock or our Class A or Class B common stock through payment in U.S. dollars. All securities warrants will be issued in registered form. The prospectus supplement may provide for the adjustment of the exercise price of the securities warrants.

Until you exercise your warrants to purchase our debt securities, preferred stock, or Class A or Class B common stock, you will not have any rights as a holder of our debt securities, preferred stock, or Class A or Class B common stock, as the case may be, by virtue of your ownership of warrants.

DESCRIPTION OF THE STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS
AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS

We may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and us to sell to the holders, a specified number of shares of common stock at a future date or dates, which we refer to herein as "stock purchase contracts." The price per share of common stock and the number of shares of common stock may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may be issued separately or as part of units consisting of a stock purchase contract and debt securities, trust preferred securities or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. treasury securities, securing the holders' obligations to purchase the common stock under the stock purchase contracts, which we refer to herein as "stock purchase units." The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations thereunder in a specified manner. The stock purchase contracts also may require us to make periodic payments to the holders of the stock purchase units or vice versa, and such payments may be unsecured or refunded on some basis.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. The description in the prospectus supplement will not necessarily be complete, and reference will be made to the stock purchase contracts, and, if applicable, collateral or depositary arrangements, relating to the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. Material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the stock purchase units and the stock purchase contracts will also be discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the offered securities in and outside the United States (a) through underwriters or dealers, (b) directly to purchasers, including our affiliates, (c) through agents or (d) through a combination of any of these methods. The prospectus supplement will include the following information:

- . the terms of the offering;
- . the names of any underwriters or agents;
- . the name or names of any managing underwriter or underwriters;
- . the purchase price of the securities;
- . the net proceeds from the sale of the securities;
- . any delayed delivery arrangements;
- . any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items constituting underwriters' compensation;
- . any initial public offering price;
- . any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and any commissions paid to agents.

SALE THROUGH UNDERWRITERS OR DEALERS

If underwriters are used in the sale, the underwriters will acquire the securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Underwriters may offer securities to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to certain

conditions, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the offered securities if they purchase any of them. The underwriters may change from time to time any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers.

During and after an offering through underwriters, the underwriters may purchase and sell the securities in the open market. These transactions may include over-allotment and stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover syndicate short positions created in connection with the offering. The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid, which means that selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other broker-dealers for the offered securities sold for their account may be reclaimed by the syndicate if the offered securities are repurchased by the syndicate in stabilizing or covering transactions. These activities may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the offered securities, which may be higher than the price that might otherwise prevail in the open market. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue these activities at any time.

Some or all of the securities that we offer through this prospectus may be new issues of securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters to whom we sell our securities for public offering and sale may make a market in those securities, but they will not be obligated to and they may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. Accordingly, we cannot assure you of the liquidity of, or continued trading markets for, any securities that we offer.

If dealers are used in the sale of securities, we will sell the securities to them as principals. They may then resell those securities to the public at varying prices determined by the dealers at the time of resale. We will include in the prospectus supplement the names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction.

DIRECT SALES AND SALES THROUGH AGENTS

We may sell the securities directly. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We may also sell the securities through agents designated from time to time. In the prospectus supplement, we will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the offered securities, and we will describe any commissions payable to the agent. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, any agent will agree to use its reasonable best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of its appointment.

We may sell the securities directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 with respect to any sale of those securities. We will describe the terms of any such sales in the prospectus supplement.

DELAYED DELIVERY CONTRACTS

If we so indicate in the prospectus supplement, we may authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price under delayed delivery contracts. These contracts would provide for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The contracts would be subject only to those conditions described in the prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement will describe the commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

GENERAL INFORMATION

We may have agreements with the agents, dealers and underwriters to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, or to contribute with respect to payments that the agents, dealers or underwriters may be required to make. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of their businesses.

LEGAL MATTERS

Thomas D. Hyde, Esq., Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Raytheon, Company will pass upon the validity of Raytheon's common stock, debt securities, preferred stock, warrants and stock purchase contracts. As of the date of this prospectus, Thomas D. Hyde, Esq. holds no shares or options to acquire shares of Class A common stock and 93,000 shares of Class B common stock and options to acquire an additional 382,018 shares of Class B common stock.

EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Raytheon Company for the year ended December 31, 2000 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report (which contains an explanatory paragraph relating to the Company's adoption of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Statement of Position 98-5 "Reporting on the costs of Start-up Activities", in 1999 as described in Note A to the financial statements) of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of that firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy the registration statement and any other document we file at the SEC's public reference section, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Room 1024, Washington, D.C. 20549 and at the worldwide web site (<http://www.sec.gov>) maintained by the SEC. Information regarding the operation of the public reference section can be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. Our Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and Class B common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the Chicago Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange, where reports, proxy statements and other information concerning Raytheon Company can also be inspected. The offices of the NYSE are located at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. These incorporated documents contain important business and financial information about us that is not included in or delivered with this prospectus. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and later information filed with the SEC will update and supersede this information.

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus:

- . our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000 filed with the SEC on March 5, 2001;
- . our Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, relating to our annual meeting of shareholders to be held on April 25, 2001, filed with the SEC on March 26, 2001;
- . our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on December 11, 1997 and Form 8-A/A filed with the SEC on December 17, 1997; and
- . any future filings made by us with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 until we sell all of the securities.

We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, on written or oral request of that person, a copy of any or all of the documents we are incorporating by reference into this prospectus, other than exhibits to those documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. Such written requests should be addressed to:

Secretary, Raytheon Company
141 Spring Street
Lexington, Massachusetts 02421

You may direct telephone requests to the Secretary of Raytheon Company at (781) 862-6600.

{RAYTHEON LOGO}