

SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC
Form N-30D
August 22, 2001

THE SWISS
HELVETIA
FUND, INC.
www.swz.com

A SWISS
INVESTMENTS
FUND

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc.
1270 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 400
New York, NY 10020
1-888-SWISS-00
(212) 332-2760
<http://www.swz.com>

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED
JUNE 30, 2001

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Directors and Officers

Paul Hottinguer
CHAIRMAN AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Eric R. Gabus
VICE CHAIRMAN (NON OFFICER)
Alexandre de Takacsy
DIRECTOR
Claude Frey
DIRECTOR
Baron Hottinger
DIRECTOR
Claude Mosseri-Marlio
DIRECTOR
Didier Pineau-Valencienne*
DIRECTOR
Stephen K. West, Esq.*
DIRECTOR
Samuel B. Witt III, Esq.**
DIRECTOR
Rodolphe E. Hottinger
PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
Rudolf Millisits
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

Philippe Comby
VICE PRESIDENT
Sharon Kanovsky
VICE PRESIDENT
Edward J. Veilleux
VICE PRESIDENT AND TREASURER
Paul R. Brenner, Esq.
SECRETARY

* AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER
** AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The Investment Advisor

The Fund is managed by Hottinger Capital Corp., which is 100% owned by the Hottinger Group.

The Hottinger Group dates back to Banque Hottinguer, which was formed in Paris in 1786 and is one of Europe's oldest private banking firms. The Hottinger Group has remained under the control of the Hottinger family through seven generations. It has offices in New York, Zurich, Luxembourg, Geneva, and the Bahamas.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc.
1270 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 400
New York, New York 10020
1-888-SWISS-00 (1-888-794-7700)
(212) 332-2760

FOR INQUIRIES AND REPORTS:

1-888-SWISS-00 (1-888-794-7700)
Fax (212) 332-7931
email: swz@swz.com

WEBSITE ADDRESS

<http://www.swz.com>

The Fund

The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc. is a non-diversified, closed-end investment company whose objective is to seek long-term capital appreciation through investment in equity and equity-linked securities of Swiss companies. The Fund, listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "SWZ," is managed by Hottinger Capital Corp.

Net Asset Value is calculated daily by 6:00 P.M. (Eastern Standard Time). The most recent calculation is available by calling 1-888-SWISS-00 or by accessing our Website. Weekly Net Asset Value is also published in BARRON'S, the Monday edition of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL and the Sunday edition of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Hottinger Capital Corp.
1270 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 400
New York, New York 10020
(212) 332-7930

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

ADMINISTRATOR
Investment Company Capital Corp.
CUSTODIAN
Swiss American Securities Inc.
TRANSFER AGENT
PFPC, Inc.
P.O. Box 43027
Providence, RI 02940-3027
(800) 331-1710
LEGAL COUNSEL
Paul R. Brenner, Esq. and
Salans Hertzfeld Heilbronn
Christy & Viener
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS
Deloitte & Touche LLP

1

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

During the second quarter of 2001, the U.S. Federal Reserve cut interest rates by 125 basis points in three separate actions, bringing the total reduction in the fed funds rate to 3.25% over a six-month period. The rate cuts were a reaction to a pronounced downshift in economic activity, which was accentuated when manufacturers promptly scaled back production to reduce excess inventories. The U.S. Federal Reserve believes that manufacturing may recover somewhat when the rate of inventory reduction decreases. Further, U.S. consumer demand will find some support from the recent tax cut and lower energy costs. However, there are still considerable uncertainties regarding the current economic situation.

For several years, productivity, GDP growth, and corporate earnings grew at rates far above historic averages. This was largely driven by globalization and investments in information technology. Equity markets reflected this rapid growth, raising equity prices and market multiples to new highs. There is widespread agreement that there was an equity price "bubble" as unsustainable long term projections were mistakenly extrapolated from short term growth rates. The partial reversal of these driving forces has led to the current period of slower economic growth. Since we probably can not expect these forces to resume at earlier peak levels, the rapid growth of the 1990s may not return.

The U.S. Federal Reserve believes that many growth-enabling technologies are not yet mature, nor are they widely adopted. In the coming years adoption of such technologies may provide a catalyst for sustainable long-term growth in GDP and corporate earnings beyond historical averages, though significantly below the rapid pace of the late 1990s. Resurgence in globalization and the acceleration of large emerging economies may provide additional growth opportunities.

Significant pressures on revenues, profit margins, and cash flows have exacerbated weakness in capital spending. Rising energy prices further hindered corporate performance. Cost pressure from growth in unit labor costs may moderate if civilian unemployment rises as projected over the second half of the year. Additionally, energy prices have moderated from levels seen earlier in the

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

year and U.S. inflation remains subdued, with current Fed projections of only 1.75% to 2.5% for 2001 and 2002.

U.S. capital spending remains weak with little agreement among market participants as to when it will strengthen significantly. As successive generations of technology enable increasingly large worker productivity gains, businesses will likely resume capital spending to reap these benefits.

2

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

In the near term, softness continues in all of the world's major economies. The 3% growth rate projected for the U.S. exceeds expectations for other countries. The Japanese economy is saddled with public debt and is undergoing a long overdue restructuring. The European Union continues to digest the integration of member nations and the harmonization of previously independent economies. EU monetary policy can not effectively react to divergent economic conditions within member nations, while individual fiscal policies are limited by EU laws and strained by "subsidies" for the less developed nations. The weak euro makes matters more difficult, as EU members are at an increasing disadvantage on global commodity markets. A strict EU regulatory environment continues to discourage foreign investment. Most notable among the disincentives to investment in the EU are high tax regimes, increasingly burdensome labor regulations, and the growing divergence of U.S. and EU policies. These are evidenced by the EU Commission's aggressive stance on the GE/Honeywell merger, for which there is no appeal process.

THE SWISS ECONOMY

The Swiss economy is growing at a fairly stable rate and has held up reasonably well in spite of the slowdowns in the U.S. and Europe. Economic growth is expected to be about 2% for the year, down from 3.4% in 2000, the strongest year since 1990. Such growth is near the long-term potential of the Swiss economy. Unemployment is low, at 1.6%, down from 2.0% at the beginning of the year, and remains below the level of any country in the European Union.

INTEREST RATES: The Swiss National Bank did not change the LIBOR target band of 2.75%-3.75% during the quarter after a mild reduction earlier in the year. The target is roughly in line with recently reduced U.S. interest rates. Switzerland still has very low unemployment despite the slowdown, and economic development is near its long-term potential according to the president of the Swiss National Bank. Though inflation is well contained, further cuts are unlikely without changes in the economic environment.

Swiss producer prices have fallen, and the Swiss National Bank predicts inflation of only 1.4% this year, down 0.2% from last year and well within the targeted 2% ceiling.

The two key risks identified by the president of the Swiss National Bank are linked to the U.S. The first risk consists of potentially volatile oil prices, which are denominated in U.S. dollars. The more significant risk is the development of the U.S. economy itself, and the possibility of U.S. dollar depreciation. A strong dollar makes the U.S. an attractive and important export market for Swiss goods and services.

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

There are rough spots in the Swiss Economy. The Swiss Index of leading economic indicators (Konjunkturbarometer) has been declining since March of 2000, suggesting an economic slowdown in the near future. It now stands at 0.25, down from 0.46 in March.

CURRENCY

During the quarter, the Swiss franc lost nearly 3% against the dollar. Global investors continued to seek security in U.S. currency as troubles mounted in Turkey and East Asia. The U.S. dollar has been less affected than other currencies in the context of the global economic slowdown because its main trading partners have yet to show weakness. However, the U.S. dollar became an increasingly expensive currency. The dollar ended the quarter near 12-month highs relative to the euro, yen, and Swiss franc, even as interest rates continued to decline. The risk of lower real returns on U.S. dollar denominated assets, especially financial instruments, can reverse the flow of money that had come into the U.S. dollar since the beginning of the year.

The Swiss franc has historically been a stable currency during times of regional distress due to its relative economic neutrality. Switzerland has a healthy domestic economy and a free-floating currency supported by an independent monetary and fiscal policy.

However, during the quarter, movements in the franc closely tracked movements in the euro, suggesting that broad movement into the dollar was the primary factor driving currency exchange rates. Further, current EU inflation is 3.4% and has remained above the targeted ceiling of 2% for over 13 months, limiting the European Central bank's ability to use monetary policy to provide economic stimuli. The current EU benchmark interest rate remains unchanged at 4.5%.

The EU Central Bank's ("ECB") declared objective is to ensure price stability. Unlike the U.S. Federal Reserve, the ECB is not charged with stimulating economic activity. So long as inflation remains above the 2% target, rate reductions are unlikely.

In addition to the problem of an inflexible monetary policy, the EU can not rely on fiscal stimuli to promote growth. Under the Stability and Growth Pact, EU members face stringent budgetary restrictions aimed at reducing debt. Members are limited in their ability to reduce taxes or incur debt. While this may be good long-term policy, the EU is left with few fiscal or monetary options to help its faltering economy. Unaided by fiscal or monetary policy, EU economic growth may remain sluggish relative to the U.S., keeping a cap on the euro.

Management believes there is a possibility that the Swiss franc will appreciate in the near future as investors seek a less expensive safe haven than the U.S. dollar. Switzerland's lower inflation and more flexible monetary policy should provide a degree of downside protection against the euro.

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

While the Swiss franc's depreciation of more than 11% over the past two quarters is quite significant, the June 29th closing price of 1.79 francs per dollar is still below the rates seen as recently as November 2000.

The weakness of the franc against the U.S. dollar provides significant export opportunities for Swiss companies. At the same time, Swiss companies must bear the increased cost of dollar denominated commodities and imports, such as oil.

SWISS STOCK MARKET REVIEW:

After the year's bad start, the Swiss market has performed better than its European peers over the last three months. The strong showing by stocks like UBS, Credit Suisse, Nestle, and Swiss Re helped to balance negative performance from Zurich, Roche and, to a lesser extent, Novartis.

In response to the recent law change permitting reduced par value for Swiss equities, companies continue to announce stock splits. The following table summarizes the major splits that impacted the Fund's portfolio during the quarter.

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC AS FOLLOWS:

CURRENCY EXCHANGE MOVEMENTS--NORMALIZED FROM 3/30/01

	EU(+3.2)	CHF(+2.8)
3/30/01	1	1
4/2/01	0.9972	0.9958
4/3/01	0.9767	0.9765
4/4/01	0.9729	0.973
4/5/01	0.9776	0.9778
4/6/01	0.9696	0.9706
4/9/01	0.9777	0.9774
4/10/01	0.9864	0.9851
4/11/01	0.9874	0.9808
4/12/01	0.9822	0.9795
4/13/01	0.9871	0.9831
4/16/01	0.9861	0.9834
4/17/01	0.9922	0.9915
4/18/01	0.9923	0.9944
4/19/01	0.9768	0.977
4/20/01	0.9717	0.9726
4/23/01	0.9782	0.9792
4/24/01	0.9804	0.9832
4/25/01	0.9768	0.9794
4/26/01	0.9704	0.9772
4/27/01	0.9831	0.9894
4/30/01	0.9861	0.9943
5/1/01	0.9821	0.9905
5/2/01	0.9808	0.9905
5/3/01	0.9852	0.9944
5/4/01	0.9823	0.992
5/7/01	0.9847	0.9939
5/8/01	0.9906	0.9996

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

5/9/01	0.9892	0.9986
5/10/01	0.9947	0.9998
5/11/01	1.0016	1.0049
5/14/01	1.003	1.005
5/15/01	0.9978	1.0007
5/16/01	0.9929	0.9955
5/17/01	0.9931	0.9979
5/18/01	0.9947	0.9996
5/21/01	0.9999	1.003
5/22/01	1.0131	1.0142
5/23/01	1.0232	1.0214
5/24/01	1.0235	1.0201
5/25/01	1.0181	1.018
5/28/01	1.0191	1.0197
5/29/01	1.0248	1.0217
5/30/01	1.0232	1.0205
5/31/01	1.0372	1.0316
6/1/01	1.0345	1.03
6/4/01	1.0367	1.03
6/5/01	1.0266	1.0193
6/6/01	1.0341	1.0293
6/7/01	1.0303	1.0277
6/8/01	1.0308	1.0288
6/11/01	1.0407	1.0358
6/12/01	1.0272	1.0261
6/13/01	1.025	1.0254
6/14/01	1.0166	1.0157
6/15/01	1.0182	1.0187
6/18/01	1.0185	1.0202
6/19/01	1.0266	1.0268
6/20/01	1.0256	1.0236
6/21/01	1.0259	1.02
6/22/01	1.0223	1.0172
6/25/01	1.0205	1.015
6/26/01	1.0153	1.0122
6/27/01	1.0198	1.0134
6/28/01	1.0385	1.0329
6/29/01	1.0326	1.0283

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC AS FOLLOWS:

CURRENCY EXCHANGE MOVEMENTS--NORMALIZED FROM 12/29/00

	EU (+11.0)	CHF (+11.2)
12/29/00	1	1
1/1/01	1.0004	0.9996
1/2/01	0.9905	0.9921
1/3/01	1.0158	1.0127
1/4/01	0.9928	0.9953
1/5/01	0.9851	0.9919
1/8/01	0.9958	0.9992
1/9/01	0.9993	1.002
1/10/01	1.0061	1.0114
1/11/01	0.9903	1.0012
1/12/01	0.991	1.0048
1/15/01	1.0007	1.015
1/16/01	1	1.0139
1/17/01	1.0074	1.0197
1/18/01	0.9997	1.0056
1/19/01	1.0091	1.0168

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

1/22/01	1.0043	1.0127
1/23/01	1.0074	1.0161
1/24/01	1.0207	1.0284
1/25/01	1.0198	1.0253
1/26/01	1.0198	1.0248
1/29/01	1.0278	1.0287
1/30/01	1.0172	1.022
1/31/01	1.0065	1.0151
2/1/01	1.0042	1.0138
2/2/01	1.0067	1.0208
2/5/01	1.0056	1.0178
2/6/01	1.0126	1.0266
2/7/01	1.0153	1.0273
2/8/01	1.0275	1.0372
2/9/01	1.02	1.031
2/12/01	1.0113	1.0264
2/13/01	1.0238	1.036
2/14/01	1.0269	1.0371
2/15/01	1.0413	1.0501
2/16/01	1.0303	1.0409
2/19/01	1.0231	1.0355
2/20/01	1.0343	1.045
2/21/01	1.0358	1.0469
2/22/01	1.043	1.0511
2/23/01	1.0273	1.0392
2/26/01	1.0348	1.0475
2/27/01	1.0273	1.0418
2/28/01	1.0207	1.0354
3/1/01	1.0132	1.0247
3/2/01	1.0074	1.0213
3/5/01	1.0152	1.0258
3/6/01	1.0096	1.0237
3/7/01	1.0142	1.0285
3/8/01	1.0104	1.0246
3/9/01	1.0106	1.0257
3/12/01	1.0146	1.0284
3/13/01	1.0301	1.0442
3/14/01	1.0343	1.048
3/15/01	1.0505	1.0639
3/16/01	1.05	1.061
3/19/01	1.0476	1.0587
3/20/01	1.0366	1.0479
3/21/01	1.0515	1.0615
3/22/01	1.0602	1.0693
3/23/01	1.0593	1.0681
3/26/01	1.0515	1.0639
3/27/01	1.0547	1.066
3/28/01	1.0633	1.0718
3/29/01	1.0687	1.0723
3/30/01	1.0753	1.0818
4/2/01	1.0722	1.0772
4/3/01	1.0503	1.0564
4/4/01	1.0462	1.0525
4/5/01	1.0512	1.0577
4/6/01	1.0426	1.05
4/9/01	1.0513	1.0573
4/10/01	1.0606	1.0656
4/11/01	1.0617	1.061
4/12/01	1.0561	1.0596
4/13/01	1.0614	1.0634
4/16/01	1.0603	1.0638
4/17/01	1.0669	1.0726

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

4/18/01	1.067	1.0757
4/19/01	1.0504	1.0569
4/20/01	1.0449	1.0521
4/23/01	1.0519	1.0592
4/24/01	1.0542	1.0636
4/25/01	1.0504	1.0595
4/26/01	1.0435	1.057
4/27/01	1.0571	1.0703
4/30/01	1.0603	1.0756
5/1/01	1.056	1.0715
5/2/01	1.0546	1.0715
5/3/01	1.0593	1.0757
5/4/01	1.0562	1.0731
5/7/01	1.0589	1.0751
5/8/01	1.0652	1.0813
5/9/01	1.0636	1.0802
5/10/01	1.0696	1.0815
5/11/01	1.077	1.087
5/14/01	1.0785	1.0872
5/15/01	1.073	1.0826
5/16/01	1.0676	1.0768
5/17/01	1.0678	1.0795
5/18/01	1.0696	1.0813
5/21/01	1.0752	1.085
5/22/01	1.0893	1.0971
5/23/01	1.1003	1.1049
5/24/01	1.1005	1.1035
5/25/01	1.0948	1.1012
5/28/01	1.0958	1.1031
5/29/01	1.1019	1.1053
5/30/01	1.1003	1.1039
5/31/01	1.1152	1.1159
6/1/01	1.1123	1.1142
6/4/01	1.1147	1.1142
6/5/01	1.1039	1.1027
6/6/01	1.1119	1.1135
6/7/01	1.1079	1.1117
6/8/01	1.1084	1.1129
6/11/01	1.1191	1.1205
6/12/01	1.1045	1.11
6/13/01	1.1022	1.1092
6/14/01	1.0931	1.0987
6/15/01	1.0949	1.1019
6/18/01	1.0951	1.1037
6/19/01	1.1039	1.1108
6/20/01	1.1028	1.1073
6/21/01	1.1031	1.1034
6/22/01	1.0992	1.1004
6/25/01	1.0973	1.0979
6/26/01	1.0917	1.0949
6/27/01	1.0965	1.0962
6/28/01	1.1167	1.1174
6/29/01	1.1104	1.1123

SWISS PERFORMANCE INDEX	FOR THE QUARTER	YEAR TO DATE
SWISS PERFORMANCE IN SWISS FRANCS	(4/1/01-6/30/01)	(AS OF 6/30/01)
SWISS PERFORMANCE INDEX	1.10%	(10.93)%
FOODS	7.08%	2.48%
UTILITIES	6.24%	5.71%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

INSURANCE	5.72%	(20.49)%
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	3.38%	(4.52)%
BUILDING MATERIALS & CONSTRUCTION	1.50%	(5.86)%
CHEMICALS & PHARMACEUTICALS	0.67%	(11.78)%
RETAILERS	0.44%	(10.75)%
BANKS	(0.07)%	(4.40)%
ELECTRONICS & ELECTRICAL		
ENGINEERING	(5.96)%	(26.23)%
MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRY	(10.83)%	(27.86)%
TRANSPORTATION	(13.93)%	(31.45)%
MACHINERY	(13.94)%	(20.23)%

5

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

EARNINGS RELEASE

Earnings of Swiss companies were affected by the ongoing deterioration of global economic conditions. Overall, results were weaker than expected with specific standout exceptions within two sectors: the medical technology sector, including Phonak, Disetronic and Tecan, and the technology sector, with strength from Logitech and Leica Geosystem. The engineering sector and the majority of the technology sector saw sharp declines in earnings momentum. Among the blue chips, the bright spots were Nestle (first quarter volume growth above expectations), SwissRe (strong 2000 results) and Swisscom (first quarter margin above consensus). On the other side of the blue chip performance spectrum, ABB and Roche struggled to show some growth, while Richemont and Adecco were hit by the slowing global economy. UBS and Credit Suisse were mostly in line with expectations despite lower trading volume and activity levels in the investment banking business.

SWZ PERFORMANCE

Although the fund slightly outperformed its benchmark during the last quarter, it is still lagging year-to-date. The mid and small cap segments of the market suffered lower trading volume and sharper valuation compression than the first tier companies. This negatively affected Fund performance due to its heavier weighting of second tier companies relative to the index. Novartis was a negative factor as well, not so much because of sub par operating performance, but because of negative news specific to the company and to the sector (e.g. slowdown at FDA, U.S. Medicare reform talks, push for over-the-counter drugs and potential U.S. imports of cheaper drugs).

The market price return of the Fund was better than the return of the Swiss Performance Index by a wide margin for the current year.

COMPANY	SPLIT RATIO	SPLIT DATE
ROCHE DIVIDEND RIGHT CERTIFICATE	100 FOR 1	5/4/2001
TECAN REG.	10 FOR 1	5/4/2001
ABB REG.	4 FOR 1	5/7/2001
NOVARTIS REG.	40 FOR 1	5/7/2001
ADDECO REG.	10 FOR 1	5/14/2001

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

CLARIANT REG.	10 FOR 1	5/21/2001
HOLDERBANK BEARER	5 FOR 1	5/23/2001
NESTLE REG.	10 FOR 1	6/11/2001
BALOISE REG.	10 FOR 1	5/11/2001
CREDIT SUISSE REG.	4 FOR 1	6/1/2001
HELVETIA PATRIA REG.	4 FOR 1	5/11/2001
HUBER & SUHNER REG.	5 FOR 1	5/16/2001
JULIUS BAR BEARER	10 FOR 1	5/9/2001
KUHNE & NAGEL REG.	10 FOR 1	5/15/2001
KUDELSKI BEARER	10 FOR 1	5/18/2001
SGS SURVEILLANCE BEARER	5 FOR 1	5/10/2001
SWISS RE REG.	20 FOR 1	5/31/2001
SWISSLOG REG.	5 FOR 1	5/16/2001

THROUGH 6/30/01	YEAR TO DATE	ONE YEAR	THREE YEARS
-----------------	-----------------	-------------	----------------

MEASURED IN SWISS FRANCS

SWZ TOTAL RETURN BASED ON NAV(12.00)%	(6.21)%	1.43%
SWZ TOTAL RETURN BASED ON MARKET PRICE	(8.87)%	(2.76)% 3.41%
SPI TOTAL RETURN	(10.93)%	(5.42)% 0.50%

MEASURED IN U.S. DOLLARS

SWZ TOTAL RETURN BASED ON NAV(20.60)%	(14.82)%	(4.18)%
SWZ TOTAL RETURN BASED ON MARKET PRICE	(17.78)%	(11.69)% (2.32)%
SPI TOTAL RETURN (USD)	(19.64)%	(14.11)% (5.06)%

6

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

This was due to a narrowing of the Fund's discount. One possible explanation may be that the market has rediscovered the benefits of value investing.

MAJOR CORPORATE NEWS FOR THE QUARTER

NOVARTIS: After announcing a fast track approval of its cancer drug Gilvec (for chronic myelogenous leukemia with potential for more applications), the company suffered a set-back on Zelnorm, a new promising compound to treat irritable bowel syndrome. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulators issued a "not approvable" letter requesting additional data on the drug mainly due to concerns over potential side effects. Despite this negative development, Novartis' management reiterated its growth targets.

Earlier during the quarter Novartis announced that it had bought a stake worth \$2.8 billion in rival Roche (20% of the company's bearer shares) at 151 Sfr.--(5% above the closing price of the day preceding the transaction). Novartis declared that it was a financial investment as opposed to a "strategic" one.

ACTELION: This biotech company's experimental drug, Veletri, for treatment

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

of the symptoms of heart failure, which was co-developed with Genentech of the U.S., failed to show significant improvement in patients' shortness of breath even though it showed to be effective in hemodynamics tests (blood flow) in a previous trial. Even if a new study is successful, this disappointing result will delay the introduction of the drug for at least two years.

LEICA-GEOSYSTEM: This manufacturer of surveying and mapping equipment agreed to buy Erdas and LH Systems of the U.S. for a total of \$45 million in cash, hoping to become the most comprehensive supplier in the field of geographic information systems and the remote sensing market.

SOCIETE GENERALE DE SURVEILLANCE: The company continued its restructuring and simplified its shareholder structure leading to a higher free float of shares. At its shareholder meeting in May a large majority voted to unify the company's registered and bearer shares.

LOGITECH: One of the top performers this year on the Swiss Performance Index, the company signed a deal with Yahoo of the U.S. to include the Yahoo instant-messaging software in its QuickCam line of webcams. Yahoo is the first instant-messaging provider to offer such a Webcam service. It also shows that the ongoing effort by management to transform Logitech into a branded retail product company continues to bear fruit.

KUEHNE & NAGEL: The largest sea-freight company agreed to buy USCO Logistics in an attempt to establish itself as a leading player in supply-chain management, linking the three businesses of international forwarding, contract logistics and warehousing.

In June the European stock exchange Virt-X PLC, a joint-venture between the Swiss Exchange and investment banks that include Deutsche Bank and Merrill Lynch, began trading operations. Companies listed on this European platform include Switzerland's largest companies, the members of the Swiss Market Index (SMI).

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

OUTLOOK

Business conditions are expected to remain difficult across the board, with no industry immune to the macro-economic conditions. For that reason Management continues to focus on stock selection with particular attention paid to the quality of balance sheets and low historical valuation. Management strategy is to find the winners in the next up cycle, companies that can sustain the downturn (based on their management track record) and gain market share during the very difficult current economic conditions. The economic situation should soon stabilize in the U.S. and begin to improve toward the end of the year. Since Europe is lagging in the economic cycle, the recovery of its stock markets could come later. We expect the Swiss market to be resilient because of its high defensive (healthcare and food) and service, insurance and financial services components which should fare well in a global economy with below average growth and a greater tendency towards deflation in the medium term. Based on fundamental analysis, the current Swiss market exhibits some downside protection. The equity risk premium stands currently at 2.3%, which is above its historical level. Current valuations reflect heightened risk aversion to uncertainties regarding future earnings growth.

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

Even after recent downward revisions of earnings amid growth projections, expectations for the Swiss market remain positive for 2002. While estimated 2001 earnings growth

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND -- PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS PER INDUSTRY
AS OF JUNE 30, 2001

Pharmaceuticals	27.53%
Banks	14.65
Electrical Engineering & Electronics	14.04
Food & Luxury Goods	13.72
Insurance	11.23
Miscellaneous Industries	3.26
Miscellaneous Services	2.97
Chemicals	2.17
Biotechnology	1.85
Machinery	1.73
Telecommunications	1.52
Retailers	1.15
Transportation	0.91
Miscellaneous Medical Services	0.58
Cash and Equivalents	2.69
Total	100.00%

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND -- TEN LARGEST HOLDINGS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2001 (PERCENTAGES ARE BASED ON NET ASSET VALUE)

	COST	MARKET VALUE	% OF TOTAL NET ASSETS
1. Novartis AG	\$21,636,239	\$ 57,213,872	17.18%
2. Nestle Ltd.	12,427,540	44,018,036	13.22
3. Roche Holdings Ltd.	10,471,939	34,451,152	10.35
4. UBS Ltd.	8,314,606	20,784,625	6.24
5. Swiss Reinsurance Company	9,998,827	20,095,524	6.03

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

6. Credit Suisse Group	6,828,597	17,601,035	5.29
7. Logitech International SA	6,208,715	8,657,315	2.60
8. Zurich Allied	3,991,252	8,394,456	2.52
9. ABB Ltd.	8,498,713	7,558,584	2.27
10. Tecan Group Ltd.	5,122,456	6,718,437	2.02
Total	\$93,498,884	\$225,493,036	67.72%

8

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Letter to Stockholders (concluded)

for the SPI stands near -2%, forecasts for 2002 are roughly 11.2%. These projections imply a market P/E of 17.8 based on projected 2002 earnings. Swiss mid and small caps are discounted even further, with a 2002 forward P/E of 15 based on projected earnings growth of 20%. Swiss blue chips are expected to increase earnings by 9.3% in 2002, for a forward P/E of 18.4, after an expected contraction of 1.5% in 2001. However, these figures, like all projections, are subject to uncertainties.

Many Swiss companies, among the world's largest and most internationally diverse, are well positioned to capitalize on the ongoing processes of globalization, consolidation and trade liberalization.

During the first half of 2001, the Fund repurchased 358,500 of its shares, at an average price of \$14.28 and an average discount of 17.88%. This program has enhanced stockholders value by \$1,099,740. During the same period, the discount was between 12.95% and 19.76% finishing the first six months at 16.21%.

VOTING RESULTS

At the Annual Meeting held on May 15, 2001, stockholders supported management's proposals by a wide margin. These final results, certified by the Fund's independent inspector of elections, show that stockholders took the following actions:

- O REELECTED ERIC R. GABUS, CLAUDE W. FREY AND ALEXANDRE DE TAKACSY AS CLASS I DIRECTORS OF THE FUND FOR THREE YEAR TERMS EXPIRING IN 2004 (RECEIVING OVER 63% OF THE VOTES CAST FOR DIRECTORS);
- O CONFIRMED THE CONTINUANCE OF THE FUND'S INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT WITH HOTTINGER CAPITAL CORP. (WITH SUPPORT FROM OVER 72% OF THE VOTES CAST ON THIS PROPOSAL); AND
- O DEFEATED BANKGESELLSCHAFT BERLIN AG'S PROPOSAL TO TERMINATE THE FUND'S INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT WITH HOTTINGER CAPITAL CORPORATION (WITH FAVORABLE VOTES FROM 25% OF THE SHARES PRESENT AT THE MEETING VS. THE 67% LEVEL REQUIRED TO TERMINATE).

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

THE FINAL RESULTS SHOW THAT 59.9% OF THE FUND'S 24,047,809 OUTSTANDING SHARES VOTED OR WERE OTHERWISE PRESENT AT THE MEETING IN PERSON OR BY PROXY. THE OFFICIAL OUTCOME OF THE VOTE WAS CERTIFIED BY I.V.S. ASSOCIATES, INC.

Sincerely,

/S/ PAUL HOTTINGUER
Paul Hottinguer
CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ RODOLPHE HOTTINGER
Rodolphe Hottinger
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
June 30, 2001

9

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Review of Operations

Trading activity in the first half of 2001 involved changes in the following positions:

NEW INVESTMENTS BY THE FUND

Daetwyler Holding Inc.
Esec Holding AG
Kaba Holding AG
Kuehne & Nagel International Ltd.
Lonza AG
SIG Holding AG
Swisscom AG
Unaxis Holdings Ltd.

ADDITIONS TO EXISTING INVESTMENTS

Gurit-Heberlein AG
Helvetia Patria Holding
Kudelski SA
Leica Geosystems AG
Logitech International SA
Saia-Burgess Electronics Holding AG
Schaffner Holding Ltd.
Schindler Holding AG
SGS Societe Generale de Surveillance Holding SA
Swiss Life
Tecan Group Ltd.

SECURITIES DISPOSED OF

Actelion Ltd.
Bachem AG

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

Micronas Semiconductor Holding
Mikron Holding AG
Sulzer AG

10

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Schedule of Investments
(Unaudited)

June 30, 2001

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

COMMON STOCKS -- 97.31%			
BANKS -- 14.65%			
2,081	BANK SARASIN & CO. REGISTERED SHARES Specializes in investment advisor services and portfolio management for private and institutional customers in Europe. (cost \$1,774,473)	\$ 4,923,319	1.48%
3,600	BANQUE CANTONALE VAUDOISE BEARER SHARES Attracts deposits and offers real estate mortgages and commercial loans as well as investment counseling and portfolio management. (cost \$1,227,323)	991,984	0.30
107,000	CREDIT SUISSE GROUP REGISTERED SHARES A global operating financial group.1,3 (cost \$6,828,597)	17,601,035	5.29
550	JULIUS BAER HOLDINGS AG BEARER SHARES Banking group specializing in asset management, investment consulting and securities trading. (cost \$607,255)	2,117,151	0.63
1,500	OZ HOLDING BEARER SHARES Provides brokerage and banking services, specializing in Swiss	1,594,856	0.48

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

futures and options.
(cost \$1,365,178)

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

BANKS -- (CONTINUED)			
145,000	UBS LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Product of the merger of Basel-based Swiss Bank Corp. and Zurich-based Union Bank of Switzerland. Operates globally and has three core business units: UBS Switzerland, UBS Asset Management and UBS Warburg.1,3 (cost \$8,314,606)	\$ 20,784,625	6.24%
25,000	VONTOBEL HOLDING AG BEARER SHARES Provides investment, banking and consulting services to private and institutional customers. (cost \$904,344)	777,945	0.23
		-----	-----
		48,790,915	14.65
BIOTECHNOLOGY -- 1.85%			
6,200	SERONO SA BEARER SHARES Develops and markets biotechnology products. (cost \$4,495,858)	6,153,752	1.85
		-----	-----
		6,153,752	1.85
CHEMICALS -- 2.17%			
57,000	CLARIANT LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Specializes in color chemistry and manufactures a range of dyestuffs, pigments, chemicals, additives and master batches for the textile, paper, leather, plastics, synthetic fibers and paint industries. (cost \$1,699,963)	1,372,328	0.41

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

11

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Schedule of Investments (continued) June 30, 2001
(Unaudited)

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets
COMMON STOCKS -- (CONTINUED)			
CHEMICALS -- (CONTINUED)			
2,250	GURIT-HEBERLEIN AG BEARER SHARES European market leader for wind screen bonding systems, ski based and optically pure thermoplastic sheeting for the auto industry. (cost \$2,223,639)	\$ 1,578,156	0.47%
6,200	LONZA AG REGISTERED SHARES Produces chemicals, plastics, and energy. (cost \$3,677,401)	3,620,463	1.09
2,523	SIKA FINANZ LTD. BEARER SHARES Leading producer of construction chemicals. (cost \$614,614)	650,974	0.20
		----- 7,221,921	----- 2.17
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & ELECTRONICS -- 14.04%			
499,200	ABB LTD. The holding company for ABB Group which is one of the largest electrical engineering firms in the world. ³ (cost \$8,498,713)	7,558,584	2.27
58,000	ASCOM HOLDING AG BEARER SHARES Manufactures telecommunications service automation equipment and systems, as well as power systems. (cost \$3,957,329)	2,676,575	0.80

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & ELECTRONICS -- (CONTINUED)			
4,055	BELIMO AUTOMATION AG REGISTERED SHARES World market leader in damper and volume control actuators for ventilation and air conditioning equipment. (cost \$1,259,329)	\$ 1,670,396	0.50%
4,800	DISETRONIC HOLDING LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Develops, manufactures and markets infusion (insulin pumps) and injection systems.1 (cost \$4,132,588)	3,540,414	1.06
19,400	KABA HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES Provides mechanical and electronic security systems.1 (cost \$5,359,714)	3,833,779	1.15
25,500	KUDELSKI SA BEARER SHARES Designs, produces and distributes equipment under the 'Nagra' brand name for professional data display in audio and video applications.1 (cost \$2,584,942)	2,143,454	0.64
6,000	LEICA GEOSYSTEMS AG REGISTERED SHARES Manufactures surveying and mapping equipment, Produces devices that capture and process spatial data.1 (cost \$1,657,638)	1,720,107	0.52

12

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Schedule of Investments (continued)

June 30, 2001

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

(Unaudited)

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

COMMON STOCKS -- (CONTINUED)			
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & ELECTRONICS -- (CONTINUED)			
27,000	LOGITECH INTERNATIONAL SA REGISTERED SHARES Manufactures personal computer input devices, as well as producing trackballs, desktop publishing programs, and related software.1,3 (cost \$6,208,715)	\$ 8,657,315	2.60%
608	PHONAK HOLDING LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Designs and produces wireless analog and digital hearing aids and miniaturized voice communications systems.1 (cost \$1,842,863)	1,820,886	0.55
5,400	SAIA-BURGESS ELECTRONICS HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES Develops and produces switches, motors and programmable control devices. Products are mainly used in the automobile, heating & air conditioning and telecommunications industries.1 (cost \$1,485,298)	1,533,066	0.46
6,285	SCHAFFNER HOLDING LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Develops, manufactures and markets electrical components and test equipment in the area of EMC (Electro Magnetic Compatibility). (cost \$1,814,360)	1,784,319	0.54
29,000	SWISSLOG HOLDING, AG REGISTERED SHARES Provides turnkey delivery of automated material handling systems, storage, order picking and transport systems. Delivers its systems to	1,299,544	0.39

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

production, distribution
and service companies
throughout Europe. (cost
\$464,077)

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & ELECTRONICS -- (CONTINUED)			
81,000	TECAN GROUP, LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Manufactures and distributes components and complete solutions for the automation of laboratory processes.3 (cost \$5,122,456)	\$ 6,718,437	2.02%
1,800	THE SWATCH GROUP, LTD. BEARER SHARES Manufactures watches, watch components and microelectronics. Produces machine tools for scientific, medical and industrial use.1 (cost \$1,212,326)	1,803,607	0.54
		-----	-----
		46,760,483	14.04
FOOD & LUXURY GOODS -- 13.72%			
300	LINDT & SPRUNGLI AG REGISTERED SHARES Major manufacturer of premium Swiss chocolates. (cost \$1,196,399)	1,661,657	0.50
207,000	NESTLE LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Largest food and beverage processing company in the world.3 (cost \$12,427,540)	44,018,036	13.22
		-----	-----
		45,679,693	13.72
INSURANCE -- 11.23%			
3,000	BALOISE HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES Medium-sized insurer active in all sectors of insurance. (cost \$169,640)	2,939,212	0.88

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

13

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Schedule of Investments (continued) June 30, 2001
(Unaudited)

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets
COMMON STOCKS -- (CONTINUED)			
INSURANCE -- (CONTINUED)			
3,000	HELVETIA PATRIA HOLDING REGISTERED SHARES Provides a broad range of life, casualty, liability accident, and transportation insurance programs. (cost \$2,753,300)	\$ 2,620,240	0.79%
10,050	SCHWEIZERISCHE RUCKVERSICHERUNGS-GESELLSCHAFT (SWISS REINSURANCE COMPANY) REGISTERED SHARES Second largest reinsurance company in the world.1,3 (cost \$9,998,827)	20,095,524	6.03
5,200	SWISS LIFE REGISTERED SHARES A financial services company that provides life insurance, institutional investment management and private banking through Banca del Gottardo and STG. (cost \$4,142,382)	3,357,827	1.01
24,600	ZURICH ALLIED REGISTERED SHARES A multi-line insurance company whose core business units are non-life and life insurance, reinsurance, and asset management.3 (cost \$3,991,252)	8,394,456	2.52
		----- 37,407,259	----- 11.23

MACHINERY -- 1.73%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

4,950	ESEC HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES Manufactures automatic assembly equipment for the semiconductor industry. (cost \$1,152,129)	826,653	0.25
No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

MACHINERY -- (CONTINUED)			
2,650	SCHINDLER HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES One of the world's largest elevator companies and a leading Swiss machinery enterprise. (cost \$3,510,746)	\$ 3,537,464	1.06%
13,500	SIG HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES Produces and sells drives and automation systems, construction & mining equipment, tools, wood, and timber products, packaging machines and packaging systems for food. (cost \$1,772,584)	1,382,766	0.42
		-----	-----
		5,746,883	1.73
MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES -- 3.26%			
750	DAETWYLER HOLDING INC. BEARER SHARES Manufactures cable, rubber and plastic products, steel tubing, pharmaceutical packaging and industrial components. (cost \$1,249,175)	1,047,929	0.32
3,515	HUBER & SUHNER AG REGISTERED SHARES Manufactures a wide range of products, extending from cables for energy and electrical transmission to special products such as rubber.2 (cost \$1,526,678)	1,764,935	0.53

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

14

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Schedule of Investments (continued)
(Unaudited)

June 30, 2001

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

COMMON STOCKS -- (CONTINUED)			
MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES -- (CONTINUED)			
15,000	KOMAX HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES Seller of wire processing machines. Most important markets are the car, household appliance, telecommunication and electronics industries. (cost \$589,052)	\$ 1,177,355	0.35%
5,600	PHOENIX MECANO AG BEARER SHARES Leading Swiss packaging manufacturer for the mechanical engineering and electronics industries. (cost \$3,218,074)	2,553,106	0.77
30,500	UNAXIS HOLDINGS LTD. REGISTERED SHARES Provider of systems and IT services, including semiconductors, data storage and displays, as well as surface technology and space applications. (cost \$5,528,147)	4,295,536	1.29
		-----	-----
		10,838,861	3.26
MISCELLANEOUS MEDICAL SERVICES -- 0.58%			
546	GALENICA HOLDING LTD. Manufactures and distributes prescription and over-the-counter drugs, toiletries and hygiene products. (cost \$490,462)	440,715	0.13
1,800	UNILABS SA		

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

REGISTERED SHARES	1,492,986	0.45
Provides clinical laboratory testing services in Europe.1 (cost \$1,420,719)		
	-----	-----
	1,933,701	0.58

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES -- 2.97%			
62,000	ADECCO SA BEARER SHARES Leading personnel and temporary employment company. (cost \$1,902,171)	\$ 2,919,840	0.88%
1,800	COMPAGNIE FINANCIERE RICHEMONT AG BEARER SHARES Investment company with principal interests in luxury goods and tobacco.1 (cost \$1,500,228)	4,609,218	1.38
13,000	SGS SOCIETE GENERALE DE SURVEILLANCE HOLDING SA REGISTERED SHARES SGS provides a variety of industrial inspection, analysis, testing and verification services worldwide. (cost \$3,393,051)	2,351,926	0.71
		-----	-----
		9,880,984	2.97
PHARMACEUTICALS -- 27.53%			
1,580,000	NOVARTIS AG REGISTERED SHARES Life science group created by the consolidation of Sandoz and Ciba-Geigy. Manufactures health care products for use in a broad range of medical fields, as well as agricultural products. The second largest pharmaceutical entity in the world.3 (cost	57,213,872	17.18

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

\$21,636,239)

477,900 ROCHE HOLDINGS LTD.
DIVIDEND RIGHTS CERTIFICATES 34,451,152 10.35

Worldwide pharmaceutical
company.3 (cost
\$10,471,939)

91,665,024 27.53

15

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Schedule of Investments (concluded) June 30, 2001
(Unaudited)

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

COMMON STOCKS -- (CONTINUED)			

RETAILERS -- 1.15%

13,000 CHARLES VOEGELE HOLDING AG
Manufactures and markets a variety of clothing items for men, women and children. Operates approximately 385 retail stores in Switzerland, Germany, Austria and Benelux region. (cost \$2,008,189)

\$ 1,447,339 0.43%

1,900 JELMOLI HOLDING AG
BEARER SHARES
Operates a network of retail/service outlets throughout Switzerland, including local dry cleaners, auto body shops, opticians, interior decorators, travel agencies, restaurants, pharmacies and retailers. (cost \$1,405,702)

2,379,760 0.72

3,827,099 1.15

TELECOMMUNICATIONS -- 1.52%

21,300 SWISSCOM AG
REGISTERED SHARES 5,074,816 1.52

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

Operates public telecommunication networks and offers network application services. (cost \$5,664,693)

5,074,816 1.52

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

TRANSPORTATION -- 0.91%			
5,600	KUEHNE & NAGEL INTERNATIONAL LTD. Operates sea freight, land and rail transportation businesses and warehousing and distribution facilities. (cost \$2,920,445)	\$ 3,023,825	0.91%
		----- 3,023,825	----- 0.91
	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS (Cost \$185,373,362)	\$324,005,216	97.31%
	OTHER ASSETS IN EXCESS OF LIABILITIES	8,967,341	2.69
		-----	-----
	TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$332,972,557 =====	100.0% =====

1 NON-INCOME PRODUCING SECURITY FOR THE SIX MONTH PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2001.

2 ALL OR A PORTION OF THIS SECURITY WAS ON LOAN. (SEE NOTE A--SECURITIES LENDING). THE VALUE OF ALL SECURITIES LOANED AT JUNE 30, 2001 AMOUNTED TO \$107,901.

3 ONE OF THE TEN LARGEST PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS.

SEE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

16

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
(Unaudited)

June 30, 2001

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

ASSETS:

Investments, at value (cost \$185,373,362)	\$324,005,2
Cash	5,788,5
Tax reclaims receivable	3,438,1
Receivable for collateral under securities lending agreements	141,3
Prepaid expenses and other	7,9
Total assets	333,381,2

LIABILITIES:

Advisory fees payable	233,1
Payable for collateral under securities lending agreements	141,3
Administration fees payable	24,4
Accounting fees payable	9,2
Accrued expenses and other	3
Total liabilities	408,6
Net assets	\$332,972,5

COMPOSITION OF NET ASSETS:

Paid-in capital	173,016,2
Undistributed net investment income	972,4
Accumulated net realized gain from investment and foreign currency transactions	21,009,7
Net unrealized appreciation on investments and foreign currencies	137,974,1
Net assets	\$332,972,5

NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE:

(\$332,972,557 (DIVIDE) 23,997,809 shares outstanding)	\$ 13.
--	--------

SEE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Statement of Operations
(Unaudited)

For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2001

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

INVESTMENT INCOME:

Dividends (less foreign taxes withheld of \$584,225)
 Interest
 Securities lending income
 Total income

EXPENSES:

Investment advisory fee
 Professional fees
 Directors' fees
 Administration fee
 Custody fees
 Printing and shareholder reports
 Accounting fee
 Franchise tax
 Transfer agent fee
 Miscellaneous
 Total expenses

Net investment income

REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS AND FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Net realized gain (loss) from:
 Investment transactions
 Foreign currency transactions
 Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments and foreign currencies
 Net Realized and Unrealized Loss on Investments and Foreign Currencies

NET DECREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS

 SEE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2001	For the Year Ended December 31, 2000

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS:		
OPERATIONS:		
Net investment income	\$ 972,406	\$ 47,623
Net realized gain from investment and foreign currency transactions	21,539,316	33,661,372

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments and foreign currencies	(112,512,982)	5,565,094
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from operations ...	(90,001,260)	39,274,089
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:		
Net realized capital gains	(4,015,983)	(31,851,302)
Total distributions to shareholders	(4,015,983)	(31,851,302)
CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS:		
Value of shares issued in reinvestment of dividends	16,795,123	12,126,372
Value of shares repurchased through stock buy back	(5,120,030)	(20,832,970)
Total increase (decrease) from capital share transactions	11,675,093	(8,706,598)
Total decrease in net assets	(82,342,150)	(1,283,811)
NET ASSETS:		
Beginning of period	415,314,707	416,598,518
End of period (including undistributed net investment income of \$972,406 and \$0, respectively)	\$ 332,972,557	\$ 415,314,707

1 UNAUDITED.

SEE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

19

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Financial Highlights

	For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2001	For the Years Ended Decem		
		2000	1999	1998
PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE: ²				
Net asset value, beginning of period.....	\$ 17.92	\$ 17.52	\$ 19.07	\$ 16.48
INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:				
Net investment income (expenses in excess of income).....	0.04	0.00	0.01	0.00
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments 3.....	(3.82)	1.68	(0.60)	3.60
Total from Investment Operations.....	(3.78)	1.68	(0.59)	3.60
Gain from capital share repurchases.....	0.05	0.21	0.12	--
Capital charge resulting from the issuance				

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

of fund shares.....	(0.14)	(0.12)	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----
LESS DISTRIBUTIONS:				
Dividends from net investment income.....	--	--	(0.03)	(0.07)
Distributions from net realized capital gains.....	(0.17)	(1.37)	(1.05)	(0.94)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total distributions.....	(0.17)	(1.37)	(1.08)	(1.01)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net asset value, end of period.....	\$ 13.88	\$ 17.92	\$ 17.52	\$ 19.07
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Market value per share, end of period.....	\$ 11.63	\$ 14.50	\$ 13.81	\$ 16.00
	=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN:5				
Based on market value per share.....	(17.78)%	15.06%	(7.06)%	23.82%
Based on net asset value per share.....	(20.60)%	12.11%	(1.09)%	22.89%
RATIOS TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS:				
Expenses.....	1.29% 6	1.16%	1.11%	1.09%
Net investment income (expenses in excess of income).....	0.53% 6	0.01%	0.05%	0.01%
SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:				
Net assets, end of period (000).....	\$332,973	\$415,315	\$416,599	\$469,916
Average net assets during period (000).....	\$370,487	\$422,426	\$428,072	\$464,967
Shareholders of record 7.....	1,102	1,125	1,230	1,287
Portfolio turnover rate.....	15%	25%	14%	13%

-
- 1 UNAUDITED.
 - 2 PER SHARE AMOUNTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1996 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1997 HAVE BEEN RESTATED TO REFLECT 2:1 STOCK SPLIT EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 16, 1998.
 - 3 INCLUDES NET REALIZED CURRENCY GAIN (LOSS).
 - 4 LESS THAN \$0.01 PER SHARE.
 - 5 TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN BASED ON MARKET VALUE DIFFERS FROM TOTAL INVESTMENT RETURN BASED ON NET ASSET VALUE DUE TO CHANGES IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FUND'S MARKET PRICE AND ITS NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE. RETURNS FROM 1998 AND 1997 HAVE BEEN RESTATED TO REFLECT SUBSEQUENT CHANGES TO DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT CALCULATIONS.
 - 6 ANNUALIZED.
 - 7 NOT AUDITED BY DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP.
- SEE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

- A. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") which was incorporated in Delaware on October 24, 1986 and began operations August 27, 1987, is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as a non-diversified, closed-end Investment Management Company. Its objective is to seek long-term growth of capital through investment in equity and equity-linked securities of Swiss companies.

When preparing the Fund's financial statements, management makes estimates and assumptions in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. These estimates affect 1) the assets and liabilities that we report at the date of the financial statements; 2) the contingent assets and liabilities that we disclose at the date of the financial statements; and 3) the income and expenses that we report for the period. Our estimates could be different from the actual results.

Under certain circumstances, it is necessary to reclassify prior year information in order to conform to the current year's presentation. The Fund's significant accounting policies are:

VALUATION OF SECURITIES -- The Fund states its investments at value. The Fund values a security that is traded on the Swiss stock exchange at the last sales price on the day of valuation. If there is no sales price available, the Fund values the security at the mean between the closing bid and asked prices for that day. A security that is not traded on the Swiss stock exchange is valued at the mean between the current bid and asked prices. If bid and asked prices are not available, the Fund uses a fair value that is determined in good faith by or under the direction of the Fund's Board of Directors.

SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS AND INVESTMENT INCOME -- The Fund uses the trade date to account for securities transactions and the specific identification method for financial reporting and income tax purposes to determine the cost of investments sold or redeemed. Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. The Fund records Swiss withholding tax as an expense, net of an amount receivable from Swiss tax authorities in accordance with a tax treaty.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION -- The Fund's books and records are maintained in U.S. dollars. The Fund translates Swiss franc amounts into U.S. dollars based on the following criteria.

- o The Fund adjusts asset and liability accounts to reflect the exchange rate at the end of the period.
- o The Fund includes in the period's net realized foreign exchange gain or loss, the exchange gain or loss that occurs due to exchange rate changes from the time an income or expense amount is accrued and the time it is realized.
- o The Fund records securities at cost based upon exchange rates at the time that Swiss francs are purchased or received. Exchange rates are identified on a first-in, first-out basis.

It is not practical for the Fund to distinguish the portion of its operating results attributable to exchange rate changes from the portion attributable to market price changes.

FEDERAL INCOME TAXES AND DISTRIBUTIONS -- The Fund determines its distributions according to income tax regulations, which may be different from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. As a result, the Fund occasionally makes reclassifications within its capital accounts to reflect income and gains that are available for distribution

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

under income tax regulations.

The Fund declares and pays dividends from net investment income annually, and records distributions of capital gains on the ex-dividend date. The Fund is organized as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code. As long as it maintains this status and distributes to its stockholders all of its taxable net investment income and net realized capital gains, it will be exempt from most, if not all, federal income and excise taxes. As a result, the Fund has made no provisions for federal income taxes.

SECURITIES LENDING -- The Fund may lend securities to broker-dealers. The loans are secured by collateral at least equal at all times to the market value of the securities loaned. Loans are subject to termination at the option of the borrower or the Fund. Upon termination of the loan, the borrower will return to the Fund securities identical to the loaned securities. The Fund may bear the risk of delay in recovery of, or even loss of rights in, the securities loaned should the borrower of

21

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
(Unaudited)

the securities fail financially. The Fund receives compensation, net of any rebate, for lending its securities in the form of fees. The Fund continues to receive dividends on the securities loaned and any gain or loss in the market price of the securities loaned that may occur during the term of the loan.

- B. INVESTMENT ADVISORY FEES, TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES AND OTHER FEES -- Hottinger Capital Corp. ("HCC"), which is owned jointly by Hottinger U.S., Inc. and Hottinger & Cie (Zurich), is the Fund's investment advisor. As compensation for its advisory services, the Fund pays HCC an annual fee based on the Fund's month-end net assets. This fee is calculated and paid monthly at the following annual rates. 1.00% of the first \$60 million, 0.90% of the next \$40 million, 0.80% of the next \$100 million, 0.70% of the next \$100 million, 0.65% of the next \$100 million, 0.60% of the next \$100 million, 0.55% of the next \$100 million, and 0.50% of the amount over \$600 million. The Fund paid Hottinger & Cie \$8,775 in brokerage commissions for the period ended June 30, 2001.

Investment Company Capital Corp. ("ICCC"), is the Fund's administrator. As compensation for its administrative services, the Fund pays ICCC an annual fee based on the Fund's average net assets. This fee is calculated daily and paid monthly at the following annual rates: 0.10% of the first \$250 million, 0.05% of the next \$250 million and 0.03% of the amount over \$500 million.

Certain officers and/or directors of the Fund are officers and/or directors of HCC, Hottinger U.S., Inc., Hottinger & Cie (Zurich) and/or ICCC.

Swiss American Securities Inc. is the Fund's custodian. Swiss American Securities, Inc. and the Fund have entered into an agreement with Credit

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

Suisse First Boston that provides for the custody of Swiss securities that the Fund holds. PFPC, Inc. is the Fund's transfer agent.

- C. CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS -- The Fund is authorized to issue up to 50 million shares of \$.001 par value capital stock. HCC owned 92,528 of the 23,997,809 shares outstanding on June 30, 2001. During the period the Fund issued 1,177,572 shares and repurchased 358,500 shares through a stock repurchase program.
- D. STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM -- On February 5, 1999, the Fund announced that its Board of Directors had authorized the Fund to repurchase up to 1,000,000 shares of its common stock in open market purchases to be effected on the New York Stock Exchange. On December 7, 1999, the Fund announced that its Board of Directors had increased this authorization for 2000 to 2,000,000 shares. The Board of Directors and Management made these purchases from time to time during 1999 and 2000. The principal purpose of the repurchases is to enhance stockholder value by increasing the Fund's net asset value per share without creating a meaningful adverse effect upon the Fund's expense ratio and without generating capital gains to fund the program. This may also have the effect of temporarily reducing the current discount of approximately 16 percent. During the period ended June 30, 2001 the Fund repurchased and retired 358,500 shares at a cost of \$5,120,030 at an average price of \$14.28 (includes broker commissions) and a weighted average discount of 17.88%.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with section 23(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 that the Fund may, from time to time, purchase shares of its Common Stock in the open market in addition to the above program.

- E. DIRECTORS' FEES -- The Fund pays each director who is not affiliated with the Fund, its investment advisor or administrator approximately \$15,000 per annum in compensation, except for the Chairman of the Audit Committee, who receives an annual fee of approximately \$16,500. In addition, each unaffiliated director receives \$750 for each attended directors' meeting and \$750 for each committee meeting attended, if it is held separately, and reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses in conjunction with attendance at meetings.

22

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements (concluded)
(Unaudited)

Each Director who is a non-interested Director and who is a member of the Discount or Litigation Committees of the Board is compensated for his work on the committees on an hourly basis at the rate of \$300, less the \$750 meeting fee otherwise payable to committee members for each meeting attended.

- F. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS -- Excluding short-term obligations, purchases of investment securities aggregated \$54,124,488 and sales of investment securities aggregated \$55,759,793 for the period ended June 30, 2001.

On June 30, 2001, aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there is an excess of value over tax cost was

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

\$150,829,480 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation of all securities in which there is an excess of tax cost over value was \$12,197,626.

- G. LENDING OF SECURITIES -- The Fund has the ability to lend its securities to brokers, dealers and other financial organizations. Loans of the Fund's securities are collateralized by cash and/or government securities that are maintained at all times in an amount equal to 102% of the current market value of the loaned securities for domestic securities.

At June 30, 2001

Market Value of Loaned Securities	Market Value of Collateral	% of Portfolio on Loan
\$107,901	\$141,349	0.04%

- H. TAX RECLAIMS RECEIVABLE -- Swiss taxes are withheld from dividends received by the Fund subject to partial reclaim upon application to the Swiss Federal Tax Administration (SFTA). The Fund records receivables for tax reclaims in the normal course of business. Recently the SFTA suspended payment of reclaims to U.S. regulated investment companies, such as the Fund, pending a review of their eligibility to receive such reclaims. Based upon information available to it, including the advice of Swiss tax counsel, and recent statements by the SFTA, management believes these tax reclaims are collectible.
- I. LITIGATION -- On April 2, 2001 and May 8, 2001 two complaints were filed in purported class actions on behalf of stockholders of the Fund in the Court of Chancery of the state of Delaware by individuals claiming to be Fund stockholders against the Fund, each of its Directors and Hottinger Capital Corp., the Fund's Investment Advisor (collectively, the "defendants"). The complaints in these cases, entitled KIMBERLY KAHN VS. PAUL HOTTINGUER ET AL. and CHARLES MILLER VS. PAUL HOTTINGUER ET AL., allege that the defendants have: (A) breached fiduciary duties to stockholders and violated Section 109(a) of the Delaware General Corporation Law by adopting amendments to the Fund's Bylaws requiring a vote of 75% of the Fund's outstanding shares to alter, amend or repeal the Bylaws or to adopt other bylaws; (B) breached fiduciary duties to stockholders by adopting amendments to the Fund's Bylaws requiring nominees for election as directors to satisfy certain qualifications; and (C) breached fiduciary and contractual duties through the manner in which the Fund effected a capital gains distribution in December 2000. The complaints seek as relief among other things: (i) a declaration that the defendants have breached their fiduciary duties to stockholders and that the amendments to the Bylaws are null and void; (ii) an injunction in connection with any meeting of stockholders preventing the defendants from enforcing the Bylaw amendments; and (iii) certain unspecified damages. The defendants, including the Fund, believe that each complaint is without merit and are defending against them vigorously.

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.

Proxy Results (Unaudited)

At the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, held on May 15, 2001, the shares voted on the following three proposals presented to the Stockholders, as reported by IVS

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30D

Associates, Inc., independent Inspectors of Election, were as follows:

1. TO ELECT THREE CLASS I DIRECTORS TO SERVE FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM AND UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE ELECTED AND QUALIFIED.

	FOR -----	WITHHELD/ ABSTENTIONS -----
Alexandre de Takacsy	9,109,524	605,986
Claude W. Frey	9,136,031	580,389
Eric R. Gabus	9,110,674	604,746
Dirk Kipp	4,630,693	53,420
Gregory L. Melville 1	4,630,441	53,672
Moritz A. Sell 1	4,630,441	53,672

The following persons continue as Directors of the Fund: The Baron Hottinger, Didier Pineau-Valencienne and Samuel B. Witt, III, Esq. (Terms Expire in 2002); and Paul Hottinguer, Claude Mosseri-Marlio and Stephen K. West, Esq. (Terms Expire in 2003).

2. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO CONFIRM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' DECISION TO CONTINUE THE INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT WITH HOTTINGER CAPITAL CORP.

FOR -----	AGAINST -----	WITHHELD/ ABSTENTIONS -----
10,391,014	3,782,139	223,897

3. TO CONSIDER A STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL TO TERMINATE THE FUND'S INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT WITH HOTTINGER CAPITAL CORP.

FOR -----	AGAINST -----	WITHHELD/ ABSTENTIONS -----
3,577,602	1,044,577	59,458

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, with 59.9% of the Fund's outstanding shares present at the Meeting in person or by proxy, the approval of the stockholder proposal to terminate the Fund's Investment Advisory Agreement with Hottinger Capital Corp. required the approval of at least 67% of the shares present at the Meeting. With only 3,577,602 votes cast "FOR" this proposal, it received only 25% of the shares present at the Meeting and was soundly defeated.

In connection with the election of directors, there were no abstentions. In addition, because the matters before the Meeting were contested, brokers were not permitted to cast "broker non-votes" and no such votes are included in the above totals.

Following the Meeting, the Fund's investment advisor, Hottinger Capital Corp., agreed to reimburse the Fund in full for expenses incurred in connection with the engagement of Georgeson Shareholder Communications Inc. as the Fund's proxy solicitor. The amount of the reimbursement is \$96,508.72.

-
- 1 PRIOR TO THE MEETING, THE FUND'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS DETERMINED THAT MESSRS. MELVILLE AND SELL FAILED TO MEET THE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE FUND'S BY-LAWS TO BE NOMINATED AS DIRECTORS OF THE FUND. ALTHOUGH THOSE NOMINEES WERE NOT BEFORE THE STOCKHOLDERS, THE FUND'S INDEPENDENT INSPECTOR OF ELECTION REPORTED VOTING TOTALS FOR THEM, BECAUSE A STOCKHOLDER SOLICITED PROXIES FOR ALL ITS NOMINEES. TOTALS FOR MESSRS. MELVILLE AND SELL ARE INCLUDED HERE FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

[THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

[THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

[THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]