SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) August 18, 1999

CULP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

North Carolina0-1278156-1001967(State or other jurisdiction of (Commission File No.)
incorporation)(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

101 South Main Street High Point, North Carolina 27260 (Address of principal executive offices) (336) 889-5161 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

- -----

Item 5. Other Events

See attached Press Release (2 pages) and Financial Information Release (10 pages), both dated August 18, 1999, related to the fiscal 2000 first quarter ended August 1, 1999.

Forward Looking Information. This Report contains statements that could be deemed "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Such statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements are statements that include projections, expectations or beliefs about future events or results or otherwise are not statements of historical fact. Such statements are often characterized by qualifying words such as "expect," "believe," "estimate," "plan" and "project" and their derivatives. Factors that could influence the matters discussed in such statements include the level of housing starts and sales of existing homes, consumer confidence, trends in disposable income and general economic conditions. Decreases in these economic indicators could have a negative effect on the Company's business and prospects. Likewise, increases in interest rates, particularly home mortgage rates, and increases in consumer debt or the general rate of inflation, could affect the Company adversely. Because of the significant percentage of the Company's sales derived from international shipments, strengthening of the U. S. dollar against other currencies could make the Company's products less competitive on the basis of price in markets outside the United States. Additionally, economic and political instability in international areas could affect the demand for the Company's products.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

CULP, INC. (Registrant)

By:

Phillip W. Wilson Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Dated: August 18, 1999

CULP REPORTS FIRST QUARTER NET INCOME

HIGH POINT, N. C. (Aug. 18, 1999) - Culp, Inc. (NYSE: CFI) today reported net income of \$1.6 million for the first quarter of its 2000 fiscal year.

For the three months ended August 1, 1999, Culp reported net sales increased to \$115.9 million compared with \$110.7 million a year ago. The company reported net income for the quarter of \$1.6 million, or \$0.13 per share diluted, compared with a net loss of \$2.6 million, or \$0.20 per share diluted, in the year-earlier quarter.

"The favorable year-to-year comparisons for the first quarter extend the positive momentum that we achieved as fiscal 1999 progressed," said Robert G. Culp, III, chief executive officer. "A primary goal for us in fiscal 2000 is to sustain this pattern of improvement. We are pleased with the recovery to date and are confident about realizing further gains in our level of profitability."

Culp noted, "The first fiscal quarter is historically not the strongest period for our industry due to planned vacations and seasonal plant closings. That makes it difficult to gauge the underlying trend in demand. The backdrop of consumer spending on home furnishings still appears favorable, and we are optimistic about the success of the new patterns and textures that will be introduced to retailers this fall. Much of the improvement in our results relates directly to the changes we made in our management structure a year ago. We are continuing to refine our new organizational framework and believe that this realignment has strengthened our ability to capitalize on the trends within the home furnishings industry. Probably the most significant change is the ongoing consolidation at all levels within the supply chain linking manufacturers with consumers. Culp's vertical integration and broad product line equip us to develop strong working relationships with these larger companies that are seeking true corporate partners. Our objective is to provide not only the volume of fabrics and mattress ticking that these accounts need but also consistently high product quality and customer service."

Culp indicated that the company is maintaining its stock repurchase program. He said, "During the first quarter, we invested an additional \$393,000 to repurchase our shares. We currently have authorization from the Board of Directors to invest an additional \$4.1 million in this program. Culp's financial position is enabling us to execute this program and still make the appropriate investments to expand and modernize our capacity. We believe that the repurchase of our shares at attractive market levels will prove to be a sound investment of the company's capital."

Culp, Inc. is one of the world's largest marketers of upholstery fabrics for furniture and is a leading marketer of mattress ticking for bedding. The Company's fabrics are used principally in the production of residential and commercial furniture and bedding products.

| | CULP, INC. |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Condensed | Financial Highlights |
| | (Unaudited) |

| | | Three Mont | hs Ende | d |
|--|----------|--------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| | | August 1, 1999 | | August 2, 1998 |
| Net sales Net income (loss) Net income (loss) per share: | \$ \$ | 115,937,000 1,597,000 | \$ \$ | 110,667,000 (2,640,000) |
| Basic | \$ | 0.13 | \$ | (0.20) |
| Diluted Average shares outstanding: | \$ | 0.13 | \$ | (0.20) |
| Basic Diluted | | 12,063,000 12,219,000 | | 13,000,000 13,203,000 |

This release contains statements that could be deemed "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Such statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements are statements that include projections, expectations or beliefs about future events or results or otherwise are not statements of historical fact. Such statements are often characterized by qualifying words such as "expect," "believe," "estimate," "plan" and "project" and their derivatives. Factors that could influence the matters discussed in such statements include the level of housing starts and sales of existing homes, consumer confidence, trends in disposable income and general economic conditions. Decreases in these economic indicators could have a negative effect on the company's business and prospects. Likewise, increases in interest rates, particularly home mortgage rates, and increases in consumer debt or the general rate of inflation, could affect the company adversely. Because of the significant percentage of the company's sales of price in markets outside the United States. Additionally, economic and political instability in international areas could affect the demand for the company's products.

-END-

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (LOSS) FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 1, 1999 AND AUGUST 2, 1998

(Amounts in Thousands, Except for Per Share Data)

| | | THREE MONTHS ENDED (UNAUDITED) | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|---|----------------------|---|------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | Amoui | nts | | Percent of | f Sales | | | | |
| | AI | ugust 1, 1999 | August 2, 1998 | % Over (Under) | 2000 | 1999 | | | | |
| Net sales Cost of sales | | 95,525 | 110,667 97,056 | (1.6)% | | 100.0 % 87.7 % | | | | |
| Gross profit | | 20,412 | | | 17.6 % | 12.3 % | | | | |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | | 15,038 | 14,473 | 3.9 % | 13.0 % | 13.1 % | | | | |
| Income (loss) from operations | | 5,374 | (862) | 723.4 % | 4.6 % | (0.8)% | | | | |
| Interest expense Interest income Other expense (income), net | | 2,416 (17) 555 | 2,361 (53) 770 | (67.9)% (27.9)% | (0.0)% | 2.1 % (0.0)% 0.7 % | | | | |
| Income (loss) before income taxe | es | 2,420 | (3,940) | 161.4 % | 2.1 % | (3.6)% | | | | |
| Income taxes * | | 823 | (1,300) | 163.3 % | 34.0 % | 33.0 % | | | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | 1,597 | (2,640) | 160.5 % | 1.4 % | (2.4)% | | | | |
| Net income (loss) per share Net income (loss) per share, assuming dil Dividends per share Average shares outstanding Average shares outstanding, assuming dilu | | \$0.13 \$0.13 \$0.035 12,063 12,219 | \$0.035 13,000 | 165.0 % 165.0 % 0.0 % (7.2)% (7.5)% | | | | | | |

 * Percent of sales column is calculated as a % of income (loss) before income taxes.

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS AUGUST 1, 1999, AUGUST 2, 1998 AND MAY 2, 1999 Unaudited (Amounts in Thousands)

| | | Amou | unts | Increase (Decreas | | |
|---|--------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | 4 | August 1, 1999 | August 2, 1998 | Dollars | Percent | * May 2, 1999 |
| Current assets | | | | | | |
| Cash and cash investments | \$ | 1,097 | 1,520 | (423) | (27.8)% | 509 |
| Accounts receivable | | 61,984 | 63,833 | (1,849) | (2.9)% | 70,503 |
| Inventories | | 75,337 | 79,358 | (4,021) | (5.1)% | 67,070 |
| Other current assets | | 10,860 | 7,511 | 3,349 | 44.6 % | 9,633 |
| Total current assets | | 149,278 | 152,222 | (2,944) | (1.9)% | 147,715 |
| Restricted investments | | 1,684 | 4,074 | (2,390) | (58.7)% | 3,340 |
| Property, plant & equipment, net | | 120,971 | 127, 287 | (6,316) | (5.0)% | 123,310 |
| Goodwill | | 50,920 | 54,798 | (3,878) | (7.1)% | 51,269 |
| Other assets | | 4,969 | 4,317 | 652 | 15.1 % | 4,978 |
| | | | | | | |
| Total assets | \$ | 327,822 | 342,698 | (14,876) | (4.3)% | 330,612 ======= |
| Current liabilities Current maturities of long-term debt Accounts payable Accrued expenses Income taxes payable | \$ | 1,678 26,099 20,309 798 | 3,250 31,710 13,856 0 | (1,572) (5,611) 6,453 798 | (48.4)% (17.7)% 46.6 % 100.0 % | 1,678 25,687 21,026 0 |
| Total current liabilities | | 48,884 | 48,816 | 68 | 0.1 % | 48,391 |
| Long-term debt | | 136,228 | 154,383 | (18,155) | (11.8)% | 140,312 |
| Deferred income taxes | | 14,583 | 11,227 | 3,356 | 29.9 % | 14,583 |
| Total liabilities | | 199,695 | 214,426 | (14,731) | (6.9)% | 203,286 |
| Shareholders' equity | | 128,127 | 128,272 | (145) | (0.1)% | 127,326 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ === | 327,822 | 342,698 | (14,876) | (4.3)% | 330,612 ====== |
| Shares outstanding | | 12,040 | 12,995 | (955) | (7.3)% | 12,079 |

* Derived from audited financial statements.

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 1, 1999 AND AUGUST 2, 1998 Unaudited (Amounts in Thousands)

| | THREE MONTHS | nts |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| | August 1, 1999 | August 2, 1998 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 1,597 | (2,640) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation | 4,759 | 4,376 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 399 | 398 |
| Changes in assets and liabilities: | | |
| Accounts receivable | 8,519 | |
| Inventories | (8,267) | (764) |
| Other current assets | (1,227) | 297 |
| Other assets | (41) 270 | (11) (3,017) |
| Accounts payable Accrued expenses | (717) | (4,080) |
| Income taxes payable | 798 | |
| | | (_,, |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 6,090 | 3,217 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (2,420) | (2,858) |
| Purchases of restricted investments | (15) | (53) |
| Sale of restricted investments | 1,671 | 0 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (764) | (2,911) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt | 3,333 | 2,071 |
| Principal payments on long-term debt | 3,333 (7,417) | (75) |
| Change in accounts payable-capital expenditures | 142 | (2,487) |
| Dividends paid | (423) | (455) |
| Payments to acquire common stock | (393) | (160) |
| Proceeds from common stock issued | 20 | 8 |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (4,738) | |
| | | |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash investments | 588 | (792) |
| Cash and cash investments at beginning of period | 509 | 2,312 |
| | | |
| Cash and cash investments at end of period | \$ 1,097 | 1,520 |
| | | |

| | FISCAL 99 | SCAL 99 FISCAL 00 | | | | |
|---|---|--|----|----|----|----------------------------------|
| - | Q1 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | LTM |
| INVENTORIES Inventory turns | 4.9 | 5.4 | | | | |
| RECEIVABLES Days sales in receivables Percent current & less than 30 days past due | 48 93.8% | 45 93.2% | | | | |
| WORKING CAPITAL Current ratio Working capital turnover (4) Operating working capital (4) | 3.1 4.5 \$111,481 | 3.1 4.4 \$111,222 | | | | |
| PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT Depreciation rate Percent property, plant & equipment are depreciate Capital expenditures | 7.7% d 43.8% \$10,689 (1) | 8.0% 49.0% \$2,420 | | | | |
| PROFITABILITY Return on average total capital Return on average equity Net income (loss) per share Net income (loss) per share (dilut | (1.6%) (8.1%) (\$0.20) ed) (\$0.20) | 4.8% 5.0% \$0.13 \$0.13 | | | | 5.1% 5.7% \$0.58 \$0.58 |
| LEVERAGE (3) Total liabilities/equity Funded debt/equity Funded debt/capital employed Funded debt Funded debt EBITDA/Interest expense, net (LTM) | 167.2% 119.7% 54.5% \$153,559 3.75 4.9 | 155.9% 106.3% 51.5% \$136,222 3.33 4.3 | | | | |
| OTHER Book value per share Employees at quarter end Sales per employee (annualized) Capital employed (3) Effective income tax rate EBITDA (2) EBITDA/net sales | \$9.87 4,230 \$103,000 \$281,831 33.0% \$3,142 2.8% | \$10.64 4,050 \$116,000 \$264,349 34.0% \$9,977 8.6% | | | | \$40,682 8.3% |

(1) Expenditures for entire year
 (2) Earnings before interest, income taxes, and depreciation & amortization.
 (3) Long-term debt, funded debt and capital employed are all net of restricted investments.

(4) Working capital for this calculation is accounts receivable, inventories and accounts payable.
(5) LTM represents "Latest Twelve Months"
(6) EBITDA includes capitalized interest and pro forma amounts for accuisitions

acquisitions.

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE SALES BY SEGMENT/DIVISION FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 1, 1999 AND AUGUST 2, 1998

(Amounts in thousands)

| | | | THREE M | MONTHS ENDED (UNA | UDITED) | |
|---|------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| | | Amou | nts | | Percent of T | otal Sales |
| Segment/Division | | | August 2, 1998 | % Over (Under) | 2000 | 1999 |
| Upholstery Fabrics Culp Decorative Fabrics Culp Velvets/Prints Culp Yarn | \$ | 36,209 | 29, 994 | (1.8)% 20.7 % (37.4)% | | |
| Mattress Ticking Culp Home Fashions | | 90,854 25,083 | 88,035 22,632 | 3.2 % | | 79.5 % 20.5 % |
| | * \$ | 115,937 ======== | 110,667 | 4.8 % | 100.0 % | 100.0 % |

 * U.S. sales were \$92,124 and \$84,310 for the three months of fiscal 2000 and fiscal 1999, respectively.The percentage increase in U.S. sales was 9.3% for the three months.

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE INTERNATIONAL SALES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 1, 1999 AND AUGUST 2, 1998

(Amounts in thousands)

| | | THREE MC | ONTHS ENDED (UNAL | JDITED) | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Amoun | ts | | Percent of T | otal Sales |
| Geographic Area | August 1, 1999 | August 2, 1998 | % Over (Under) | 2000 | 1999 |
| North America (Excluding USA) Europe Middle East Far East & Asia South America All other areas | \$ 7,676 2,929 6,992 4,309 620 1,287 | 7,253 3,683 8,300 4,868 1,000 1,253 | 5.8 % (20.5)% (15.8)% (11.5)% (38.0)% 2.7 % | 32.2 % 12.3 % 29.4 % 18.1 % 2.6 % 5.4 % | 27.5 % 14.0 % 31.5 % 18.5 % 3.8 % 4.8 % |
| | \$ 23,813 | 26,357 | (9.7)% | 100.0 % ======= | 100.0 % |

International sales, and the percentage of total sales, for each of the last five fiscal years follows: fiscal 1995-\$57,971 (19%); fiscal 1996-\$77,397 (22%); fiscal 1997-\$101,571 (25%); fiscal 1998-\$137,223 (29%); and fiscal 1999-\$113,354 (23%). International sales for the first quarter represented 20.5% and 23.8% for 2000 and 1999, respectively.

Culp, Inc. SALES BY SEGMENT/DIVISION - TREND ANALYSIS 1998 vs 1999 vs 2000 Unaudited (Amounts in thousands)

| | | Fi | scal 1998. | } | | | F | iscal 199 | 9 | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| - Segment/Division | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | TOTAL | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | TOTAL |
| Upholstery Fabrics Culp Decorative Fabrics Culp Velvets/Prints Culp Yarn | 39,814 38,397 - | 56,781 43,928 - | 53,415 44,020 761 | | 210,165 171,389 7,876 | 29,99 | 5 59,573 4 38,728 5 6,367 | 50,520 34,949 4,088 | 60,520 40,402 4,462 | 222,058 144,073 21,513 |
| - | 78,211 | 100,709 | 98,196 | 112,314 | 389,430 | 88,03 | 5 104,668 | 89,557 | 105,384 | 387,644 |
| Mattress Ticking Culp Home Fashions | 21,287 | 22,217 | 20,261 | 23,520 | 87,285 | 22,63 | 2 23,491 | 22,536 | 26,781 | 95,440 |
| | | | | | 476,715 | | | | | |
| Segment/Division Upholstery Fabrics | Per | cent incre | ase(decre | ease) from | n prior yea | ır: | | | | |
| Culp Decorative Fabrics Culp Velvets/Prints Culp Yarn | 2.2 10.1 | 24.2 9.2 | 35.8 9.0 100.0 | 37.7 9.9 100.0 | 25.3 9.5 100.0 | 29.2 (21.9 100.0 | 9) (11.8) | (5.4) (20.6) 437.2 | | 5.7 (15.9) 173.1 |
| - | 5.9 | 17.2 | 23.2 | 32.6 | 20.1 | 12.0 | 3.9 | (8.8) | (6.2) | (0.5) |
| Mattress Ticking Culp Home Fashions | 27.5 | 15.4 | 14.2 | 12.0 | 16.9 | 6.3 | 3 5.7 | 11.2 | 13.9 | 9.3 |
| _ | 9.9 | 16.8 | 21.5 | 28.5 | 19.5 | 11.2 | 2 4.3 | (5.4) | (2.7) | 1.3 |
| - Overall Growth Rate | | | | | | | | | | |
| Internal (without acquisitio | ons) 9.9 | 6.6 | 9.2 | 11.6 | 9.3 | (4.) | 6) (0.9) | (8.5) | (2.7) | (4.1) |
| External | - | 10.2 | 12.3 | 16.9 | 10.2 | 15.8 | 3 5.2 | 3.1 | - | 5.4 |
| _ | 9.9 | 16.8 | 21.5 | 28.5 | 19.5 | 11.2 | 2 4.3 | (5.4) | (2.7) | 1.3 |

Culp, Inc. SALES BY SEGMENT/DIVISION - TREND ANALYSIS 1998 vs 1999 vs 2000 Unaudited (Amounts in thousands)

| | | Fisca | 1 2000 | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------|----------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Segment/Division | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | TOTAL |
| | | | | | |
| Upholstery Fabrics Culp Decorative Fabrics | 50,516 | | | | 50,516 |
| Culp Velvets/Prints | 36,209 | | | | 36,209 |
| Culp Yarn | 4,129 | | | | 4,129 |
| | 90,854 | | | | 90,854 |
| Mattress Ticking | | | | | |
| Culp Home Fashions | 25,083 | | | | 25,083 |
| | 115,937 | | | - | 115,937 |
| == | ============ | | | | ======= |
| Segment/Division | Percent | increase(d | ecrease) | from pı | rior year |
| Jpholstery Fabrics Culp Decorative Fabrics | (1.8) | | | | |
| Culp Velvets/Prints | 20.7 | | | | (18) |
| Culm Vam | | | | | (1.8) 20.7 |
| Culp Yarn | (37.4) | | | | 20.7 (37.4) |
| Cuip Yarn | | | | | 20.7 (37.4) |
| Mattress Ticking Culp Home Fashions | (37.4) | | | | 20.7 (37.4) |
| Mattress Ticking Culp Home Fashions | (37.4) 3.2 10.8 4.8 | | | | 20.7 (37.4) 3.2 10.8 4.8 |
| Mattress Ticking Culp Home Fashions | (37.4) 3.2 10.8 4.8 | | | | 20.7 (37.4) 3.2 10.8 4.8 |

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE FINANCIAL NARRATIVE for the three month periods ended August 1, 1999 and August 2, 1998

INCOME STATEMENT COMMENTS

GENERAL - For the first quarter, net sales increased 4.8% to \$115.9 million; and net income amounted to \$1.6 million, or \$0.13 per share diluted, versus a net loss a year ago of \$2.6 million, or \$0.20 per share diluted.

The company's strategic plan encompasses several competitive initiatives:

Broad Product Offering - continuing to market one of the broadest product lines in upholstery fabrics and mattress ticking. Through its extensive manufacturing capabilities, the company competes in every major category except leather;

Diverse Global Customer Base - increasing its penetration into other end-use markets in addition to U.S. residential furniture, such as bedding, international, commercial furniture and juvenile furniture. The company has long-standing relationships with most major upholstery furniture manufacturers, but is not reliant on a single customer or a small group of dominant customers. No one customer accounted for more than 9% of net sales during the first quarter of fiscal 2000;

Design Innovation - continuing to invest in the design of upholstery fabrics and ticking with appealing patterns and textures. An integral component of the value Culp provides to customers is supplying fabrics that are fashionable and meet current consumer preferences. The company's principal design resources are consolidated in a single facility that provides advanced CAD systems and promotes a sharing of innovative designs among the divisions;

Vertical Integration - operating as a vertically integrated manufacturer and taking advantage of economies that can be gained by producing the raw material components that are used in the manufacture of its products; and

Additional Acquisitions - investing in selective acquisitions complementary to existing segments/divisions.

NET SALES - Compared with the first quarter of last year, upholstery fabric sales increased 3.2% to \$90.8 million and mattress ticking sales increased 10.8% to \$25.1 million (See Sales by Segment/Division schedule on Page 5 and Sales by Segment/Division - Trend Analysis on Page 7). International sales were down 9.7% for the quarter compared to a year ago. The first fiscal quarter is historically not the strongest period of the year for Culp due to planned vacations and seasonal industry-wide plant closings.

During the first quarter of fiscal 1999, the company implemented a major reorganization from six business units to four divisions. This new corporate alignment grouped related operations together and was accompanied by several changes in managerial positions. The company believes that this move is aiding its growth through improved customer service, more effective use of design resources and increased manufacturing efficiency. Results for the first quarter of fiscal 2000 include a 3.2% increase in sales of upholstery fabrics, reflecting higher sales of upholstery fabrics to U.S.-based customers that offset some further softness in international sales. The trend of weakness in international sales, which the company believes has also affected other manufacturers of upholstery fabrics, has persisted since the close of fiscal 1998. During fiscal 1999, the company took steps to mitigate the impact of this industry-wide trend by significantly curtailing production schedules for certain international-targeted fabrics, introducing a new line of printed cotton upholstery fabrics and shifting its marketing focus to geographic areas where demand appears more favorable. The company has a diversified global base of customers and is seeking to broaden that further to minimize exposure to economic uncertainties in any geographic area.

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE FINANCIAL NARRATIVE for the three month periods ended August 1, 1999 and August 2, 1998

The company also benefited in the first quarter from increased sales by Culp Home Fashions (primarily mattress ticking) which has experienced a longer-term pattern of expansion. Culp's growth in mattress ticking continues to be driven by the introduction of new designs and fabric constructions as well as the advantages of the company's vertical integration. In particular, the ability to manufacture the jacquard greige (or unfinished) goods that are then printed to produce mattress ticking has aided Culp in meeting faster delivery schedules and providing improved overall customer service.

GROSS PROFIT - Gross profit for the first quarter increased 50.0% to \$20.4 million and increased as a percentage of net sales from 12.3% to 17.6%. The increase was due principally to the actions that the company took during fiscal 1999, including a significant reduction in the capacity for manufacturing printed flock fabrics and an intense effort to reduce operating expenses and raise productivity.

S,G&A EXPENSES - S,G&A expenses for the first quarter declined as a percentage of sales to 13.0% from 13.1% for the year-earlier period. The decrease reflects improved economies of scale as a result of the increased net sales as well as programs throughout the company to contain operating expenses.

INTEREST EXPENSE - Interest expense of \$2.4 million for the first quarter was unchanged from a year ago even though the company had lower average borrowings outstanding. The lower level of borrowings were offset by lower capitalized interest related to capital expenditures and higher average interest rates.

OTHER EXPENSE (INCOME), NET - Other expense (income) decreased to \$555,000 for the first quarter versus \$770,000 a year ago. The prior year included a non-recurring charge to write-off certain fixed assets.

 $\tt INCOME TAXES$ - The effective tax rate for the quarter was 34.0%, up slightly from 33.0% for the same quarter of last year.

<code>EBITDA</code> - Due principally to the increase in net income from a year ago, <code>EBITDA</code> for the first quarter increased to \$10.0 million compared with \$3.1 million a year ago.

BALANCE SHEET COMMENTS

WORKING CAPITAL - Accounts receivable as of August 1, 1999 decreased 2.9% from the year-earlier level. Days sales outstanding decreased to 45 days at August 1, 1999 compared with 48 a year ago. Additionally, the aging of accounts receivable was 93.2% current and less than 30 days past due versus 93.8% at August 2, 1998. Inventories at the close of the first quarter decreased \$4.0 million or 5.1% from August 2, 1998. Inventory turns for the first quarter were 5.4 versus 4.9 for the first quarter of fiscal 1999. The reduction in inventories is attributable to the increased focus management has placed on controlling the level of inventories. Operating working capital (comprised of accounts receivable, inventory and accounts payable) was \$111.2 million at August 1, 1999, as compared with \$111.5 million a year ago. The balance at May 2, 1999 was \$111.9 million.

CULP, INC. FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE FINANCIAL NARRATIVE for the three month periods ended August 1, 1999 and August 2, 1998

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT - For fiscal 2000, the company's budgeted capital spending is \$20 million. The major projects planned for upholstery fabrics are new dobby and velvet looms. The projects are intended to increase capacity for the woven velvet product line and improve efficiencies for the dobby product line as part of the company's continuing modernization effort. The major projects for mattress ticking are for weaving expansions intended to increase the capacity for jacquard greige goods. Depreciation expense for fiscal 2000 is currently estimated to be approximately \$20 million.

LONG-TERM DEBT - The company's funded debt-to-capital ratio was 51.5% at August 1, 1999, compared with 54.5% at August 2, 1998 and 52.1% at May 2, 1999. Funded debt was \$136.2 million at August 1, 1999, down from \$153.6 million at August 2, 1998 and \$138.7 million at May 2, 1999. Funded debt equals long-term debt, including current maturities, less restricted investments, which represent unspent IRB funds. The decrease in funded debt from May 2, 1999 resulted primarily from an operating cash flow of \$6.1 million, offset by capital expenditures of \$2.4 million, dividends paid of \$423,000 and repurchases of common stock of \$393,000.

STOCK REPURCHASE

In separate authorizations in June 1998 and March 1999, the Board of Directors authorized the use of a total of \$10.0 million to repurchase the company's common stock. During fiscal 1999, the company repurchased 938,600 shares at an average price of \$5.90 per share under these authorizations. During the first quarter of fiscal 2000, the company repurchased 46,000 shares at an average price of \$8.55 per share.