

base company shipping operations at December 31, 1980 (\$90,000) exceed its qualified investments in foreign base company shipping operations at December 31, 1979 (\$80,000). N does not make an election under section 955(b)(3) in its return for its taxable year 1980. Corporation A's increase in qualified investments in foreign base company shipping operations for the taxable year 1980 with respect to the 40-percent stock interest acquired by N is \$4,000.

[T.D. 7894, 48 FR 22539, May 19, 1983]

**§ 1.956-1 Shareholder's pro rata share of a controlled foreign corporation's increase in earnings invested in United States property.**

(a) *In general.* Section 956(a)(1) and paragraph (b) of this section provide rules for determining the amount of a controlled foreign corporation's earnings invested in United States property at the close of any taxable year. Such amount is the aggregate amount invested in United States property to the extent such amount would have constituted a dividend if it had been distributed on such date. Subject to the provisions of section 951(a)(4) and the regulations thereunder, a United States shareholder of a controlled foreign corporation is required to include in his gross income his pro rata share, as determined in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section, of the controlled foreign corporation's increase for any taxable year in earnings invested in United States property but only to the extent such share is not excludable from his gross income under the provisions of section 959(a)(2) and the regulations thereunder.

(b) *Amount of a controlled foreign corporation's investment of earnings in United States property—(1) Dividend limitation.* The amount of a controlled foreign corporation's earnings invested at the close of its taxable year in United States property is the aggregate amount of such property held, directly or indirectly, by such corporation at the close of its taxable year to the extent such amount would have constituted a dividend under section 316 and §§ 1.316-1 and 1.316-2 (determined after the application of section 955(a)) if it had been distributed on such closing day. For purposes of this subparagraph, the determination of whether an amount would have constituted a divi-

dend if distributed shall be made without regard to the provisions of section 959(d) and the regulations thereunder.

(2) *Aggregate amount of United States property.* For purposes of determining an increase in earnings invested in United States property for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1975, the aggregate amount of United States property held by a controlled foreign corporation at the close of—

(i) Any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1975, and

(ii) The last taxable year beginning before January 1, 1976 does not include stock or obligations of a domestic corporation described in section 956(b)(2)(F) or movable property described in section 956(b)(2)(G).

(3) *Treatment of earnings and profits.* For purposes of making the determination under subparagraph (1) of this paragraph as to whether an amount of investment would have constituted a dividend if distributed at the close of any taxable year of a controlled foreign corporation, earnings and profits of the controlled foreign corporation shall be considered not to include any amounts which are attributable to—

(i) Amounts which have been included in the gross income of a United States shareholder of such controlled foreign corporation under section 951(a)(1)(B) (or which would have been so included but for section 959(a)(2)) and have not been distributed, or

(ii)(a) Amounts which are included in the gross income of a United States shareholder of such controlled foreign corporation under section 551(b) or would be so included under such section but for the fact that such amounts were distributed to such shareholder during the taxable year, or

(b) Amounts which, for any prior taxable year, have been included in the gross income of a United States shareholder of such controlled foreign corporation under section 551(b) and have not been distributed.

The rules of this subparagraph apply only in determining the limitation on a controlled foreign corporation's increase in earnings invested in United States property. See section 959 and

the regulations thereunder for limitations on the exclusion from gross income of previously taxed earnings and profits.

(4) [Reserved]

(c) *Shareholder's pro rata share of increase*—(1) *General rule.* A United States shareholder's pro rata share of a controlled foreign corporation's increase for any taxable year in earnings invested in United States property is the amount determined by subtracting the shareholder's pro rata share of—

(i) The controlled foreign corporation's earnings invested in United States property at the close of its preceding taxable year, as determined under paragraph (b) of this section, reduced by amounts paid by such corporation during such preceding taxable year to which section 959(c)(1) and the regulations thereunder apply, from his pro rata share of

(ii) The controlled foreign corporation's earnings invested in United States property at the close of its current taxable year, as determined under paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) *Illustration.* The application of this paragraph may be illustrated by the following examples:

*Example 1.* A is a United States shareholder and direct owner of 60 percent of the only class of stock of R Corporation, a controlled foreign corporation during the entire period here involved. Both A and R Corporation use the calendar year as a taxable year. Corporation R's aggregate investment in United States property on December 31, 1964, which would constitute a dividend (as determined under paragraph (b) of this section) if distributed on such date is \$150,000. During the taxable year 1964, R Corporation distributed \$50,000 to which section 959(c)(1) applies. Corporation R's aggregate investment in United States property on December 31, 1965, is \$250,000; and R Corporation's current and accumulated earnings and profits on such date (determined as provided in paragraph (b) of this section) are \$225,000. A's pro rata share of R Corporation's increase for 1965 in earnings invested in United States property is \$75,000, determined as follows:

(i) Aggregate investment in United States property on December 31, 1965 .....	\$250,000
(ii) Current and accumulated earnings and profits on December 31, 1965 .....	225,000
(iii) Amount of earnings invested in United States property on December 31, 1965, which would constitute a dividend if distributed on such date (lesser of item (i) or item (ii)) .....	225,000

(iv) Aggregate investment in United States property on December 31, 1964, which would constitute a dividend if distributed on such date ....	\$150,000	
Less: Amounts distributed during 1964 to which section 959(c)(1) applies .....	50,000	100,000
(v) R Corporation's increase for 1965 in earnings invested in United States property (item (iii) minus item (iv)) .....		125,000
(vi) A's pro rata share of R Corporation's increase for 1965 in earnings invested in United States property (item (v) times 60 percent) .....		75,000

*Example 2.* The facts are the same as in example 1, except that R Corporation's current and accumulated earnings and profits on December 31, 1965, are \$100,000 instead of \$225,000. Accordingly, even through R Corporation's aggregate investment in United States property on December 31, 1965, of \$250,000 exceeds the net amount (\$100,000) taken into account under subparagraph (1)(i) of this paragraph as of December 31, 1964, by \$150,000, there is no increase for taxable year 1965 in earnings invested in United States property because of the dividend limitation of paragraph (b)(1) of this section. Corporation R's aggregate investment in United States property on December 31, 1966, is unchanged (\$250,000) Corporation R's current and accumulated earnings and profits on December 31, 1966, are \$175,000, and, as a consequence, its aggregate investment in United States property which would constitute a dividend if distributed on that date is \$175,000. Corporation R pays no amount during 1965 to which section 959(c)(1) applies. Corporation R's increase for the taxable year 1966 in earnings invested in United States property is \$75,000, and A's pro rata share of that amount is \$45,000 (\$75,000 times 60 percent).

(d) *Date and basis of determinations.* The determinations made under paragraph (c)(1)(i) of this section with respect to the close of the preceding taxable year of a controlled foreign corporation and under paragraph (c)(1)(ii) with respect to the close of the current taxable year of such controlled foreign corporation, for purposes of determining the United States shareholder's pro rata share of such corporation's increased investment of earnings in United States property for the current taxable year, shall be made as of the last day of the current taxable year of such corporation but on the basis of stock owned, within the meaning of section 958(a) and the regulations thereunder, by such United States

shareholder on the last day of the current taxable year of the foreign corporation on which such corporation is a controlled foreign corporation. See the last sentence of section 956(a)(2). The application of this paragraph may be illustrated from the following example:

*Example.* Domestic corporation M owns 60 percent of the only class of stock of A Corporation, a controlled foreign corporation during the entire period here involved. Both M Corporation and A Corporation use the calendar year as a taxable year. Corporation A's investment of earnings in United States property at the close of the taxable year 1963 is \$100,000, as determined under paragraph (b) of this section, and M Corporation includes its pro rata share of such amount (\$60,000) in gross income for its taxable year 1963. On June 1, 1964, M Corporation acquires an additional 25 percent of A Corporation's outstanding stock from a person who is not a United States person as defined in section 957(d). Corporation A's investment of earnings in United States property at the close of the taxable year 1964, as determined under paragraph (b) of this section, is unchanged (\$100,000). Corporation A pays no amount during 1963 to which section 959(c)(1) applies. Corporation M is not required, by reason of the acquisition in 1964 of A Corporation's stock, to include an additional amount in its gross income with respect to A Corporation's investment of earnings in United States property even though the earnings invested in United States property by A Corporation attributable to the stock acquired by M Corporation were not previously taxed. The determination made under paragraph (c)(1)(i) of this section as well as the determination made under paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section with respect to A Corporation's investment for 1964 of earnings in United States property are made on the basis of stock owned by M Corporation (85 percent) at the close of 1964.

(e) *Amount attributable to property*—(1) *General rule.* Except as provided in subparagraph (2) of this paragraph, for purposes of paragraph (b)(1) of this section the amount taken into account with respect to any United States property shall be its adjusted basis, as of the applicable determination date, reduced by any liability (other than a liability described in subparagraph (3) of this paragraph) to which such property is subject on such date. To be taken into account under this subparagraph, a liability must constitute a specific charge against the property involved. Thus, a liability evidenced by an open

account or a liability secured only by the general credit of the controlled foreign corporation will not be taken into account. On the other hand, if a liability constitutes a specific charge against several items of property and cannot definitely be allocated to any single item of property, the liability shall be apportioned against each of such items of property in that ratio which the adjusted basis of such item on the applicable determination date bears to the adjusted basis of all such items at such time. A liability in excess of the adjusted basis of the property which is subject to such liability shall not be taken into account for the purpose of reducing the adjusted basis of other property which is not subject to such liability.

(2) *Rule for pledges and guarantees.* For purposes of this section the amount taken into account with respect to any pledge or guarantee described in paragraph (c)(1) of § 1.956-2 shall be the unpaid principal amount on the applicable determination date of the obligation with respect to which the controlled foreign corporation is a pledgor or guarantor.

(3) *Excluded charges.* For purposes of subparagraph (1) of this paragraph, a specific charge created with respect to any item of property principally for the purpose of artificially increasing or decreasing the amount of a controlled foreign corporation's investment of earnings in United States property will not be recognized; whether a specific charge is created principally for such purpose will depend upon all the facts and circumstances of each case. One of the factors that will be considered in making such a determination with respect to a loan is whether the loan is from a related person, as defined in section 954 (d)(3) and paragraph (e) of § 1.954-1.

(4) *Statement required.* If for purposes of this section a United States shareholder of a controlled foreign corporation reduces the adjusted basis of property which constitutes United States property on the ground that such property is subject to a liability, he shall attach to his return a statement setting forth the adjusted basis of the

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property before the reduction and the amount and nature of the reduction.

(Secs. 956(c), 7805, Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (76 Stat. 1017, 68A Stat. 917; (26 U.S.C. 956(c) and 7805 respectively)))

[T.D. 6704, 29 FR 2600, Feb. 20, 1964, as amended by T.D. 6795, 30 FR 942, Jan. 29, 1965; T.D. 7712, 45 FR 52374, Aug. 7, 1980; T.D. 8209, 53 FR 22171, June 14, 1988]

### § 1.956-1T Shareholder's pro rata share of a controlled foreign corporation's increase in earnings invested in United States property (temporary).

(a) [Reserved]

(b)(1)-(3) [Reserved]

(4) *Treatment of certain investments of earnings in United States Property—(i) Special rule.* For purposes of § 1.956-1(b)(1) of the regulations, a controlled foreign corporation will be considered to hold indirectly (A) the investments in United States property held on its behalf by a trustee or a nominee or (B) at the discretion of the District Director, investments in U.S. property acquired by any other foreign corporation that is controlled by the controlled foreign corporation, if one of the principal purposes for creating, organizing, or funding (through capital contributions or debt) such other foreign corporation is to avoid the application of section 956 with respect to the controlled foreign corporation. For purposes of this paragraph (b), a foreign corporation will be controlled by the controlled foreign corporation if the foreign corporation and the controlled foreign corporation are related parties under section 267(b). In determining for purposes of this paragraph (b) whether two or more corporations are members of the same controlled group under section 267(b)(3), a person is considered to own stock owned directly by such person, stock owned with the application of section 1563(e)(1), and stock owned with the application of section 267(c). The following examples illustrate the application of this paragraph.

*Example 1.* P, a domestic corporation, owns all of the outstanding stock of FS1, a controlled foreign corporation, and all of the outstanding stock of FS2, also a controlled foreign corporation. FS1 sells products to FS2 in exchange for trade receivables due in 60 days. FS2 has no earnings and profits. FS1

has substantial accumulated earnings and profits. FS2 loans to P an amount equal to the debt it owes FS1. FS2 pays the trade receivables according to the terms of the receivables. FS1 will not be considered to hold indirectly the investment in United States property under this paragraph (b)(4), because there was no transfer of funds to FS2.

*Example 2.* The facts are the same as in Example 1, except that FS2 does not pay the receivables. FS1 is considered to hold indirectly the investment in United States property under this paragraph (b)(4), because there was a transfer of funds to FS2, a principal purpose of which was to avoid the application of section 956 to FS1.

(ii) *Effective date.* This section is effective June 14, 1988, with respect to investments made on or after June 14, 1988.

(c)-(d) [Reserved]

(e)(1)-(4) [Reserved]

(e)(5) *Excluded charges—(i) Special rule.* For purposes of § 1.956-1(e)(1) of the regulations, in the case of an investment in United States property consisting of an obligation of a related person, as defined in section 954(d)(3) and paragraph (e) of § 1.954-1, a liability will not be recognized as a specific charge if the liability representing the charge is with recourse with respect to the general credit or other assets of the investing controlled foreign corporation.

(ii) *Effective date.* This section is effective June 14, 1988, with respect to investments made on or after June 14, 1988.

[T.D. 8209, 53 FR 22171, June 14, 1988]

### § 1.956-2 Definition of United States property.

(a) *Included property—(1) In general.* For purposes of section 956(a) and § 1.956-1, United States property is (except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section) any property acquired (within the meaning of paragraph (d)(1) of this section) by a foreign corporation (whether or not a controlled foreign corporation at the time) during any taxable year of such foreign corporation beginning after December 31, 1962, which is—

(i) Tangible property (real or personal) located in the United States;

(ii) Stock of a domestic corporation;

(iii) An obligation (as defined in paragraph (d)(2) of this section) of a