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ARCH CAPITAL GROUP LTD
 Form S-8
 August 30, 2002

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 30, 2002

REGISTRATION NO. _____

UNITED STATES
 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8
 REGISTRATION STATEMENT
 UNDER
 THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ARCH CAPITAL GROUP LTD.
 (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

BERMUDA
 (State or other jurisdiction of
 incorporation or organization)

NOT APPLICABLE
 (I.R.S. Employer
 Identification No.)

WESSEX HOUSE, 3RD FLOOR
 45 REID STREET
 HAMILTON HM 12 BERMUDA
 (441) 278-9250
 (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

ARCH CAPITAL GROUP LTD. 2002 LONG TERM INCENTIVE AND SHARE AWARD PLAN
 (Full title of the plan)

NATIONAL REGISTERED AGENTS, INC.
 440 9TH AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR
 NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001
 (Name and address of agent for service)

(800) 767-1553
 (Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy to:
 IMMANUEL KOHN, ESQ.
 CAHILL GORDON & REINDEL
 80 PINE STREET
 NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10005
 (212) 701-3000

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price
Common shares, \$.01 par value	3,165,830 shares	\$ 28.13(2)	\$89,054,797.90(3)

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- (1) Plus such additional number of common shares as may be issued under the Company's 2002 Long Term Incentive and Share Award Plan in the event of a share dividend, recapitalization, share split, reverse split, reorganization, merger, amalgamation, consolidation or other similar dilutive event.
- (2) Estimated pursuant to Rules 457(c) and (h) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, solely for purposes of determining the registration fee and is based on the average of the reported high and low sales prices of the common shares on the Nasdaq National Market on August 29, 2002.

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REOFFER PROSPECTUS

ARCH CAPITAL GROUP LTD.

COMMON SHARES, PAR VALUE US \$0.01 PER SHARE

3,165,830 shares issued or issuable under the
Arch Capital Group Ltd. 2002 Long Term Incentive and Share Award Plan

This prospectus relates to the offer and sale of our common shares, par value US \$0.01 per share, which may be offered hereby from time to time by any or all of the selling shareholders named herein for their own benefit.

All or a portion of the common shares offered hereby may be offered for sale, from time to time, through the Nasdaq National Market or otherwise, at prices and terms then obtainable. All brokers' commissions, concessions or discounts will be paid by the selling shareholders. We will not receive any of the proceeds from sales by selling shareholders.

The selling shareholders and brokers through whom sales of the common shares are made may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of Section 2(11) of the Securities Act of 1933. In addition, any profits realized by the selling shareholders or such brokers on the sale of the common shares may be deemed to be underwriting commissions under the Securities Act.

Our common shares are traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "ACGL". The last reported sale price of the common shares on the Nasdaq National Market on August 29, 2002 was \$27.80 per share.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this Prospectus is August 30, 2002

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AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We have also filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-8 to register the common shares offered by this prospectus. This prospectus, which forms a part of the registration statement, does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For further information about us and the securities offered in this prospectus, you should refer to the registration statement and the exhibits to it.

You may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at Judiciary Plaza, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 and may obtain copies of these documents at the SEC's offices at 233 Broadway, New York, New York 10279 at prescribed rates. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. We file our SEC materials electronically with the SEC, so you can also review our filings by accessing the website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. This site contains reports, proxy information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

NO DEALER, SALESPERSON OR OTHER PERSON IS AUTHORIZED TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION OR TO REPRESENT ANYTHING NOT CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS. YOU MUST NOT RELY ON ANY UNAUTHORIZED INFORMATION OR REPRESENTATIONS. THIS PROSPECTUS IS AN OFFER TO SELL OR TO BUY ONLY THE SHARES OFFERED BY THIS PROSPECTUS, BUT ONLY UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN JURISDICTIONS WHERE IT IS LAWFUL TO DO SO. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS CURRENT ONLY TO THE DATE OF THIS PROSPECTUS.

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THE COMPANY

Arch Capital Group Ltd. ("ACGL") was formed in Bermuda on September 22, 2000. Our executive offices are located at Wessex House, 3rd Floor, 45 Reid Street, Hamilton HM 12 Bermuda; telephone number: (441) 278-9250.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the common shares offered by this prospectus. All proceeds will be received by the selling shareholders.

SELLING SHAREHOLDERS

Under our 2002 Long Term Incentive and Share Award Plan (the "Plan"), there are available a total of 3,165,830 common shares for issuance to our and our subsidiaries' employees and directors. The common shares to which this prospectus relates are being registered for reoffers and resales by selling shareholders who may acquire, or have acquired, such shares pursuant to the Plan. To date, the following persons, pursuant to the Plan, have been granted options to purchase common shares and restricted shares in the numbers set forth opposite their names in the table below:

NAME	NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES SUBJECT TO OPTION	RESTRICTED SHARES
Dwight R. Evans.....	25,000	0
Robert Glanville.....	300	277
David R. Tunnell.....	300	277

We do not know whether any of the selling shareholders will use this prospectus in connection with the offer or sale of any common shares, or, if this prospectus is so used, how many common shares will be offered or sold. The selling shareholders may resell all, a portion, or none of the shares that they have acquired or may acquire pursuant to the Plan. Pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act, we will supplement this prospectus with the number of common shares, if any, to be offered or sold by the selling shareholders as that information becomes known.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The selling shareholders may sell common shares through dealers, through agents or directly to one or more purchasers. The distribution of the common shares may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions (which may involve crosses or block transactions):

- o on any national stock exchanges on which the common shares may be traded from time to time in transactions which may include special offerings, exchange distributions and/or secondary distributions pursuant to and in accordance with the rules of such exchanges,
- o in the over-the-counter market, or
- o in transactions other than on such exchanges or in the over-the-counter market, or a combination of such transactions.

Any such transaction may be effected at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices, at negotiated prices or at fixed prices. The selling shareholders may effect such transactions by selling common shares to or through broker-dealers, and such broker-dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from

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the selling shareholders and/or commissions from purchasers of common shares for whom they may act as agent. The selling shareholders and any broker-dealers or agents that participate in the distribution of common shares by them might be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts, commissions or concessions received by any such broker-dealers or agents might be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions, under the Securities Act.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with them, which means we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information included in the following documents is incorporated by reference and is considered to be a part of this prospectus. The most recent information that we file with the SEC automatically updates and supersedes information previously filed. We have previously filed the following documents with the SEC and are incorporating them by reference into this prospectus:

- o Our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001.
- o Our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2002 and our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2002.
- o Our proxy statement on Schedule 14A for our annual meeting of shareholders held on June 27, 2002 (other than the sections entitled "Proposal 1--Election of Directors--Report of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors," "Proposal 1--Election of Directors--Performance Graph," "Proposal 1--Election of Directors--Report of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors" and "Proposal 6--Ratification of Selection of Independent Auditors--Audit Fees").
- o The description of the common shares contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on August 23, 2002 pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

We are also incorporating into this prospectus all documents subsequently filed by us pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment that indicates all common shares offered have been sold, or that deregisters all common shares then remaining unsold.

We will provide without charge to each person, including any person having a control relationship with that person, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not delivered with this prospectus. If you would like to obtain this information from us, please direct your request, either in writing or by telephone, to:

Arch Capital Group Ltd.
Wessex House, 3rd Floor
45 Reid Street
Hamilton HM 12 Bermuda
Attention: Secretary
Telephone Number: (441) 278-9250

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The validity of the common shares offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Conyers Dill & Pearman, Hamilton, Bermuda.

EXPERTS

The financial statements incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

SEC POSITION ON INDEMNIFICATION

Under Bermuda law, a company is permitted to indemnify any officer or director, out of the funds of the company, against (a) any liability incurred by him or her in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his or her favor, or in which he or she is acquitted, or in connection with any application under relevant Bermuda legislation in which relief from liability is granted to him or her by the court and (b) any loss or liability resulting from negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust, save for his or her fraud and dishonesty. Our bye-laws provide for our indemnity of our officers, directors and employees to the fullest extent permitted by law. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers or persons controlling us pursuant to the foregoing provisions, we have been informed that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable. We believe that the limitation of liability provisions in our bye-laws will facilitate our ability to continue to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve as our officers and directors.

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PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Pursuant to the Note to Part I of Form S-8, the information required by Part I is not required to be filed with the SEC.

Arch Capital Group Ltd. will provide without charge to each person to whom a copy of a Section 10(a) prospectus hereunder is delivered, upon the oral or written request of such person, a copy of any document incorporated in this registration statement by reference, except exhibits to such documents. Requests for such information should be directed to Arch Capital Group Ltd., Wessex House, 3rd Floor, 45 Reid Street, Hamilton HM 12 Bermuda, Attention: Secretary; telephone number: (441) 278-9250.

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PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

ITEM 3. INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

See section of prospectus entitled "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference."

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ITEM 4. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

The class of securities offered is registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act.

ITEM 5. INTERESTS OF NAMED EXPERTS AND COUNSEL

None.

ITEM 6. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Under Bermuda law, a company is permitted to indemnify any officer or director, out of the funds of the company, against (a) any liability incurred by him or her in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his or her favor, or in which he or she is acquitted, or in connection with any application under relevant Bermuda legislation in which relief from liability is granted to him or her by the court and (b) any loss or liability resulting from negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust, save for his or her fraud and dishonesty.

Our bye-laws provide for our indemnity of our officers, directors and employees to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Our bye-laws also provide that expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by one of our officers or directors in defending any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding will be paid by us in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that he or she is not entitled to be indemnified by us pursuant to Bermuda law.

Our bye-laws also provide that our officers and directors will not be personally liable to us or our shareholders for monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duty as a director or officer, except to the extent that such limitation is prohibited by Bermuda Law.

ITEM 7. EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION CLAIMED

A total of 554 of our common shares previously issued under our 2002 Long Term Incentive and Share Award Plan to participants listed as selling shareholders in the prospectus contained in this registration statement were awarded either in transactions not involving a sale or in reliance upon the exemption from registration provisions of the Securities Act set forth in Section 4(2) therein.

ITEM 8. EXHIBITS

See Exhibit Index immediately preceding the Exhibits.

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ITEM 9. UNDERTAKINGS

We hereby undertake:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

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- (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;
- (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement;
- (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to such information in this registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (1)(i) and (1)(ii) shall not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by us pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement.

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (4) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of our annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (5) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and persons controlling us pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, we have been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by us of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or person controlling us in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securi-

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ties being registered, we will, unless in the opinion of our counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by us is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Greenwich, State of Connecticut on August 30, 2002.

ARCH CAPITAL GROUP LTD.

By: /s/ PETER A. APPEL

Peter A. Appel
President and Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been duly signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

SIGNATURE

TITLE

*

Chairman and Director

Augu

Robert Clements

/s/ Peter A. Appel

President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer) and
Director

Augu

Peter A. Appel

*

Executive Vice President and Chief
Financial Officer (Principal
Financial and Accounting Officer)

Augu

John D. Vollaro

*

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
of Arch Reinsurance Ltd. and Director

Augu

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Paul B. Ingrey

*			Augu

Constantine Iordanou		President and Chief Executive Officer of Arch Capital Group (U.S.) Inc. and Director	

*			Augu

Wolfe "Bill" H. Bragin		Director	

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SIGNATURE -----	TITLE -----	
*		Augu

John L. Bunce, Jr.	Director	
*		Augu

Robert Glanville	Director	
*		Augu

Kewsong Lee	Director	
*		Augu

James J. Meenaghan	Director	
*		Augu

John M. Pasquesi	Executive Vice Chairman and Director	
*		Augu

David R. Tunnell	Director	
*		Augu

Robert F. Works	Director	

*By: /s/ PETER A. APPEL

Attorney-in-Fact

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EXHIBIT
NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

4	Specimen Common Share Certificate (a)
5	Opinion of Conyers Dill & Pearman regarding the legality of the securities
10	Arch Capital Group Ltd. 2002 Long Term Incentive and Share Award Plan (b)
15	Accountants' Awareness Letter (regarding unaudited interim financial information)
23.1	Consent of Conyers Dill & Pearman (included in Exhibit 5)
23.2	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
24	Power of Attorney

(a) Incorporated by reference to the annual report on Form 10-K/A of Arch Capital Group Ltd. for the year ended December 31, 2000, as filed with the SEC on August 10, 2001.

(b) Incorporated by reference to the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Arch Capital Group Ltd. for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2002, as filed with the SEC on August 14, 2002.