FOREIGN CORPORATIONS

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§ 1.881-1 Manner of taxing foreign corporations.

(a) Classes of foreign corporations. For purposes of the income tax, foreign corporations are divided into two classes, namely, foreign corporations which at no time during the taxable year are engaged in trade or business in the United States and foreign corporations which, at any time during the taxable year, are engaged in trade or business in the United States.

(b) Manner of taxing—(1) Foreign corporations not engaged in U.S. business. A foreign corporation which at no time during the taxable year is engaged in trade or business in the United States is taxable, as provided in §1.881-2, on all income received from sources within the United States which is fixed or determinable annual or periodical income and on other items of income enumerated under section 881(a). Such a foreign corporation is also taxable on certain income from sources within the United States which, pursuant to §1.882-2, is treated as effectively connected for the taxable year with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States.

(2) Foreign corporations engaged in U.S. business. A foreign corporation which at any time during the taxable year is engaged in trade or business in the United States is taxable, as provided in §1.882-1, on all income from whatever source derived, whether or not fixed or determinable annual or periodical income, which is effectively connected for the taxable year with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States. Such a foreign corporation is also taxable, as provided in §1.882-1, on income received from sources within the United States which is not effectively connected for the taxable year with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States and consists of (i) fixed or determinable annual or periodical income, or (ii) other items of income enumerated in section 881(a). A foreign corporation which at any time during the taxable year is engaged in trade or business in the United States is also taxable on certain income from sources within the United States which, pursuant to §1.882-2, is treated as effectively connected for the taxable year with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States.

(c) Meaning of terms. For the meaning of the term "engaged in trade or business within the United States", as used in section 881 and this section, see section 864(b) and the regulations thereunder. For determining when income, gain, or loss of a foreign corporation for a taxable year is effectively connected for that year with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, see section 864(c), the regulations thereunder, and §1.882-2. The term "foreign corporation" has the meaning assigned to it by section 7701(a) (3) and (5) and §301.7701-5 of this chapter (Regulations on Procedure and Administration), except that, for purposes of section 881 and §1.881-2, in the case of taxable years beginning after December 31, 1971, the term "foreign corporation" does not include a corporation created or organized in Guam or under the law of Guam. Thus, for example, for such a taxable year the first sentence of paragraph (b)(1), and the second sentence of paragraph (b)(2), of this section do not apply to a Guamanian corporation.

(d) Rules applicable to foreign insurance companies—(1) Corporations qualifying under subchapter L. A foreign corporation carrying on an insurance business in the United States at any time during the taxable year, which, without taking into account its income not effectively connected for the taxable year with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, would qualify for the taxable year under part I, II, or III of subchapter L if it were a domestic corporation, shall be taxable for such year under that part on its entire taxable income (whether derived from sources within or without the United States) which is, or which pursuant to section 882 (d) or (e) and §1.882-2 is treated as, effectively connected for the taxable year with the conduct of a trade or business (whether or not its insurance business) in the United States. Any income derived by that foreign corporation from sources