FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to
Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5
obligations may continue. See
Instruction 1(h)

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

	UNB APPROV	AL								
	OMB Number: 3235-028									
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L										

Name and Address of Reporting Person* CONCONTRACT A DAMPAN						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
GRISWELL J BARRY						PFG]									Directo	r		10% Ov	vner	
(Last) (First) (Middle)						-									Officer below)	(give title		Other (s below)	pecify	
711 HIGH STREET						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/03/2006									Chairman, President/CEO					
(Street) DES MOINES IA 50392					4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)					
DES MOI	NES IA	5	0392		1									X		,		rting Persor	I	
(City)	(Sta	ite) (Z	<u>Z</u> ip)												Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
		Tabl	e I - Nor	n-Deriv	ative	Se	curities	Acc	uired,	Dis	posed of	f, or B	ene	ficially	Owned					
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date)					ar) E	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securiti Disposed 5)						5. Amoun Securities Beneficia Owned Fo Reported	s lly ollowing	Form	: Direct Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
									Code V		Amount	(A) (D)	(A) or (D) Price		Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)				(111501.4)	
		Т									osed of, onvertib				Owned					
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Da if any (Month/Day/\)	Date, Transa Code (I					6. Date E Expiratio (Month/D	n Dat		7. Title and An of Securities Underlying Derivative Sec (Instr. 3 and 4)		ecurity	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numbe derivative Securities Beneficia Owned Following Reported Transacti (Instr. 4)	e	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisa		Expiration Date	Title	O N O	umber						
Performance Units	(1)	02/03/2006			A		53,368		(2)	\dashv	(2)	Commo	n 5	3,368	(2)	53,36	8	D		

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- 2. The performance units were acquired pursuant to the Principal Financial Group Long-Term Performance Plan. Units under the Plan will be settled in cash or stock within a five-year period from the date of vesting.

Remarks:

Karen E. Shaff, by Power of

02/07/2006

<u>Attorney</u>

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

 $Reminder: Report \ on \ a \ separate \ line \ for \ each \ class \ of \ securities \ beneficially \ owned \ directly.$

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.