

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC
Form N-CSRS
March 01, 2005

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-06445

The Herzfeld Caribbean Basin Fund, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

P.O. BOX 161465, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33116

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

THOMAS J. HERZFELD
P.O. BOX 161465, MIAMI, FL 33116

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 305-271-1900

Date of fiscal year end: 06/30/05

Date of reporting period: 07/01/04 - 12/31/04

Form N-CSR is to be used by management investment companies to file reports with the Commission not later than 10 days after the transmission to stockholders of any report that is required to be transmitted to stockholders under Rule 30e-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30e-1). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-CSR in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-CSR, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-CSR unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. ss. 3507.

ITEM 1. SHAREHOLDER REPORT

[GRAPHIC]

THE HERZFELD

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

CARIBBEAN BASIN
FUND, INC.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
December 31, 2004

=====
The Herzfeld Caribbean Basin Fund, Inc.
The Herzfeld Building
PO Box 161465
Miami, FL 33116
(305) 271-1900

Investment Advisor
HERZFELD/CUBA
a division of Thomas J. Herzfeld Advisors, Inc.
PO Box 161465
Miami, FL 33116
(305) 271-1900

Transfer Agent & Registrar
Investors Bank & Trust Company
200 Clarendon Street, 16th Floor
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 443-6870

Custodian
Investors Bank & Trust Company
200 Clarendon Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02116

Counsel
Pepper Hamilton LLP
3000 Two Logan Square
18th and Arch Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Independent Auditors
Kaufman, Rossin & Co., P.A.
2699 South Bayshore Drive
Miami, FL 33133
www.kaufmanrossin.com

The Herzfeld Caribbean Basin Fund's investment objective is long-term capital appreciation. To achieve its objective, the Fund invests in issuers that are likely, in the Advisor's view, to benefit from economic, political, structural and technological developments in the countries in the Caribbean Basin, which consist of Cuba, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Barbados, Aruba, Haiti, the Netherlands Antilles, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela. The fund invests at least 80% of its total assets in a broad range of securities of issuers, including U.S.-based companies which engage in substantial trade with, and derive substantial revenue from, operations in the Caribbean Basin Countries.

Listed NASDAQ SmallCap Market
Symbol: CUBA

Letter to Stockholders

=====

Febraury 7, 2005

[PHOTO]
Thomas J. Herzfeld
Chairman and President

Dear Fellow Stockholders:

Our investment strategy continues to be to invest in companies in the Caribbean Basin which we believe will do well even if there is no change in U.S. relations with Cuba. At the same time, when we make those investments, we try to select companies which we believe will benefit from a resumption of trade with that country. When the embargo is lifted, we will seek to re-deploy a substantial part of our capital directly in Cuba.

We are pleased to report that our strategy has worked quite well. As of December 31, 2004, The Herzfeld Caribbean Basin Fund's net assets were a record \$11,721,829 and its per share net asset value was \$6.99, compared with \$8,719,841 or \$5.20 per share a year earlier, representing a gain in net asset value of +34.4% for the calendar year and +28.7% for the six month period ended December 31, 2004. These gains follow a 52.0% gain in net asset value for the previous calendar year. For the benefit of new shareholders, at inception our net assets were \$8,388,000 and we have paid out \$2,535,847 in distributions, resulting in a 70% gain in net asset value from inception.

Here are a few examples of some of the more interesting companies in which we are invested which meet our two-pronged investment criteria:

Seaboard Corporation (SEB), listed on the American Stock Exchange, made a new high last week at \$1113 per share. We started accumulating our position in the \$262 per share range and added to our holding at prices as low as \$227 per share. The company is primarily a diversified international agribusiness and transportation company, including a large fleet of containerized cargo ships operating throughout the Caribbean. They also operate an electric utility in the Dominican Republic.

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

=====

Two cruise line operators, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. (RCL) and Carnival Corp. (CCL), are also naturals for our portfolio. The companies rebounded strongly after the 9/11 setback and have been doing very well. Indeed, just today Carnival announced that it "expects to carry a record 3.3 million passengers and operate an unprecedented number of voyages in the coming year." Should the embargo be lifted, tourism will be in the forefront, and we believe that RCL and CCL are ideally positioned for this market. Incidentally, Cuba received two million tourists in 2004, an increase of 8% from 2003.

Perhaps the best example of our investment strategy is our largest position, Florida East Coast Industries (FLA), which made a new high last December. This investment has contributed significantly to the increase in the Fund's net asset value. FLA is in both the railroad and real estate business. The company owns the Florida East Coast Railway which is the main freight line running

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

between Jacksonville and Miami. We believe that when the embargo is lifted, there will be a large increase in two-way freight traffic between Florida and Cuba.

A different focus of our portfolio is closed-end funds--a subject on which I have written five books. By regulation we are limited to 10% of our assets in this category; we currently hold three positions which represent 7.47% of the portfolio. Although Herzfeld Caribbean is a closed-end fund, many of our investors are not familiar with the fundamentals of closed-end funds. For the benefit of those stockholders, a closed-end fund is quite similar to a mutual fund; one difference, however, is that the share price of a closed-end fund is determined by supply and demand in the market place, just like any other publicly traded stock. Its share price, therefore, can be at a premium to net asset value when buyers dominate, or at a discount when there are more sellers. Mutual funds' shares, on the other hand, are priced based on their net asset value.

The three closed-end funds in our portfolio were acquired at substantial discounts to net asset value, at levels we consider to be attractive. One of these, Mexico Fund (MXF), which we bought at a 19% discount (before adjustment for dilution from a rights offering), recently made a tender offer at a 1.25% discount to net asset value. We tendered a part of our holding in exchange for shares of Mexican companies in their portfolio. This is the second time we have made this arbitrage in MXF. By the way, the shares of Herzfeld Caribbean are currently changing hands at a 12% discount to net asset value, which is about one

- 4 -

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

=====

percentage point narrower than the average discount of the existing Latin American and Mexican closed-end funds, but still, in our view, attractive. In fact, I recently added to my personal position at discounts in the area of 16%. A graph of the Herzfeld Caribbean's premium/discount from inception appears below.

Premium/Discount

As the following graph depicts, the Fund has traded at both premiums and discounts every year except the year of inception in which it traded only at a premium. As I have stated before, we believe that closed-end funds trading at discounts to net asset value represent good value.

Premium/Discount of The Herzfeld Caribbean Basin Fund from Inception

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

- 5 -

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

=====

Largest Allocations

The following tables present our largest investment and geographic allocations as of December 31, 2004.

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Geographic Allocation	% of Net Assets
USA	55.24%
Mexico	12.64%
Cayman Islands	7.75%
Latin American Regional	6.18%
Netherlands Antilles	3.08%
Puerto Rico	2.98%
Panama	2.71%
Belize	2.43%
Virgin Islands	1.14%
Colombia	0.84%
Costa Rica	0.27%
Venezuela	0.12%
Dominican Republic	0.02%
Cuba	0.00%

Largest Portfolio Positions	% of Net Assets
Florida East Coast Industries, Inc.	18.66%
Florida Rock Industries, Inc.	7.82%
Consolidated Water Co.	6.61%
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.	6.27%
Seaboard Corporation	5.11%
Watsco Incorporated	4.66%
The Latin American Equity Fund, Inc.	4.01%
Trailer Bridge Inc.	3.22%
Garmin Ltd.	3.11%
Orthofix International N.V.	3.09%

Daily net asset values and press releases on the Fund are available on the Internet at www.herzfeld.com.

I would like to thank the members of the Board of Directors for their hard work and guidance and also to thank my fellow stockholders for their continued support and suggestions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Thomas J. Herzfeld

Thomas J. Herzfeld
Chairman of the Board and President

- 6 -

Schedule of Investments as of December 31, 2004

Shares or Principal Amount	Description	Market Value
Common stocks - 95.40% of net assets		

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Banking and finance - 3.88%		
7,000	Bancolombia, S.A.	\$ 98,840
15,920	Banco Latinoamericano de Exportaciones, S.A.	317,445
3,600	Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A. de C.V. Series O	22,676
8,400	Grupo Financiero Inbursa, S.A. de C.V. Series O	15,459
Communications - 11.51%		
11,000	America Movil, S.A. de C.V. Series A	28,918
43,800	America Movil, S.A. de C.V. Series L	115,111
2,000	America Movil ADR Series L	104,700
11,100	America Telecom, S.A. de C.V. Series A1*	31,879
4,100	Atlantic Tele-Network, Inc.	133,250
11,100	Carso Global Telecom, S.A. de C.V. Series A1	19,769
6,000	Garmin Ltd.	365,040
725	Grupo Iusacell, S.A. de C.V. Series V*	1,570
16,800	Grupo Radio Centro, S.A. ADR	113,400
4,500	Grupo Televisa, S.A. ADR	272,250
12,100	Grupo Televisa, S.A. Series CPO	36,534
500	Telefonos de Mexico ADR Series L	19,160
11,000	Telefonos de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. Series A	21,120
39,300	Telefonos de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. Series L	75,462
18,000	Tricom, S.A. ADR*	2,160
13,900	TV Azteca, S.A. de C.V. Series CPO	8,818
Conglomerates - 3.09%		
4,900	Alfa, S.A. de C.V. Series A	25,061
39,400	Carlisle Holdings, Inc.*	285,256
3,100	Corporacion Interamericana de Entretenimiento, S.A. de C.V. Series B*	9,735
7,000	Desc, S.A. de C.V. Series B*	2,010
3,300	Grupo Carso, S.A. de C.V.	17,766
3,300	U.S. Commercial Corp., S.A. de C.V.*	1,379
2,600	Vitro, S.A. Series A	2,712
6,000	Vitro Sociedad Anonima ADR	18,180

* Non-income producing

See accompanying notes.

- 7 -

Schedule of Investments as of December 31, 2004 (continued)

=====

Shares or Principal Amount	Description	Market Value
Construction and related - 10.68%		
12,000	Bufete Industrial S.A. ADR*	\$ 600
10,442	Cemex, S.A. de C.V. Series CPO	76,265
1,936	Ceramica Carabobo Class A ADR*	3,604
4,000	Consortio ARA, S.A. de C.V.*	12,023
15,600	Empresas ICA, Sociedad Controladora, S.A. de C.V.*	6,018
15,400	Florida Rock Industries, Inc.	916,762
1,665	Hylsamex S.A. de C.V. Series B*	4,976
22,950	Mastec, Inc.*	232,025

Consumer products and related manufacturing - 5.55%

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

800,000	Atlas Electricas, S.A.	31,400
4,900	Grupo Casa Saba, S.A. ADR	72,765
15,500	Watsco Incorporated	545,910
Food, beverages and tobacco - 1.56%		
4,800	Coca Cola Femsas, S.A. de C.V. ADR	114,048
5,800	Fomento Economico Mexicano, S.A. de C.V. Series UBD	30,462
7,300	Grupo Bimbo, S.A. de C.V. Series A	18,445
7,300	Grupo Modelo, S.A. de C.V. Series C	20,082
Investment companies - 7.47%		
13,904	The Latin American Discovery Fund, Inc.	254,026
21,745	The Latin America Equity Fund, Inc.	470,562
7,000	The Mexico Fund, Inc.	151,480
Leisure - 8.97%		
5,500	Carnival Corp.	316,965
13,500	Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.	734,940
Medical - 3.38%		
3,159	CancerVax Corp.	34,275
9,160	Orthofix International N.V.*	361,628
Pulp and paper - 0.17%		
5,700	Kimberly-Clark de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. Series A	19,690

* Non-income producing

See accompanying notes.

- 8 -

Schedule of Investments as of December 31, 2004 (continued)

Shares or Principal Amount	Description	Market Value

Railroad and landholdings - 18.66%		
48,500	Florida East Coast Industries, Inc.	\$ 2,187,350
Retail - 0.75%		
3,700	Controladora Comercial Mexicana, S.A. de C.V. Series UBC	4,166
1,380	Grupo Elektra, S.A. de C.V.	12,816
20,669	Wal-Mart de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. Series V	71,029
Trucking and marine freight - 8.79%		
14,800	Grupo TMM, S.A. ADR*	54,168
600	Seaboard Corporation	598,800
39,600	Trailer Bridge, Inc.*	376,992
Utilities - 7.75%		
12,000	Caribbean Utilities Ltd. Class A	134,160
25,000	Consolidated Water, Inc.	774,500
Other - 3.19%		
2,414	Mantex S.A.I.C.A*	7,022
41,337	Margo Caribe, Inc.*	349,628

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

843	Siderurgica Venezolana Sivensa ADR	2,660
75	Siderurgica Venezolana Sivensa Series B	237
45,000	Xcelera, Inc.*	14,850
Total common stocks (cost \$6,836,816)		\$11,182,989
Bonds - 0% of net assets		
165,000	Republic of Cuba - 4.5%, 1977 - in default (cost \$63,038) (Note 2)*	--
Other assets less liabilities - 4.60% of net assets		\$ 538,840
Net assets - 100% (a)		\$11,721,829

* Non-income producing

(a) The cost for federal income tax purposes was \$6,899,854. At December 31, 2004, net unrealized gain for all securities based on tax cost was \$4,283,136. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there was an excess value over tax cost of \$5,050,644 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$767,508.

See accompanying notes.

- 9 -

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of December 31, 2004

ASSETS		
Investments in securities, at market value (cost \$6,899,854) (Notes 2 and 5)		\$ 11,182,990
Cash		498,808
Dividends receivable		29,300
Receivable for investments sold		29,949
Other assets		33,249
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 11,774,296
LIABILITIES		
Accrued investment advisor fee (Note 3)	\$ 36,987	
Other payables	15,480	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		52,467
NET ASSETS (Equivalent to \$6.99 per share based on 1,677,636 shares outstanding)		\$ 11,721,829
Net assets consist of the following:		

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Common stock, \$.001 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 1,677,636 shares issued and outstanding	\$ 1,678
Additional paid-in capital	8,362,502
Accumulated net investment loss (Note 5)	(1,301,069)
Accumulated net realized gain on investments (Note 5)	375,582
Net unrealized gain on investments (Notes 4 and 5)	4,283,136

TOTAL	\$ 11,721,829
	=====

See accompanying notes.

- 10 -

Statement of Operations
Year Ended December 31, 2004

=====	
INVESTMENT INCOME	
Dividends	\$ 101,343
EXPENSES	
Investment advisor fees (Note 3)	\$ 69,314
Custodian fees	27,000
Professional fees	22,540
Insurance	13,395
Transfer agent fees	8,750
Listing fees	7,500
Director fees	3,900
Printing	4,724
Postage	4,033
CCO Expense	2,725
Miscellaneous	1,300

Total investment expenses	165,181

INVESTMENT LOSS - NET	(\$ 63,838)
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS AND FOREIGN CURRENCY	
Net realized gain on investments and foreign currency (Note 5)	646,615
Change in unrealized gain on investments and foreign currency (Note 4)	2,029,890

NET GAIN ON INVESTMENTS	2,676,505

NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 2,612,667
	=====

See accompanying notes.

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

- 11 -

Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	Six Months Ended 12/31/04 (unaudited)	Year Ended 6/30/04
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS:		
Net investment loss	(\$ 63,838)	(\$ 115,085)
Net realized gain on investments and foreign currency	646,615	358,431
Change in unrealized gain on investments and foreign currency	2,029,890	2,239,812
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	2,612,667	2,483,158
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 2,612,667	\$ 2,483,158
NET ASSETS:		
Beginning of year	\$ 9,109,162	\$ 6,626,004
End of year	\$ 11,721,829	\$ 9,109,162

See accompanying notes.

- 12 -

Financial Highlights

	Six Months Ended 12/31/04 (unaudited)	2004
PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE (For a share of capital stock outstanding for each time period indicated)		
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 5.43	\$ 3.95
Operations:		
Net investment loss(1)	(0.03)	(0.07)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investment transactions(1)	1.59	1.55
Total from operations	1.56	1.48
Distributions:		
From net investment income	--	--
From net realized gains	--	--

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Total distributions	--	--
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 6.99	\$ 5.43
	-----	-----
Per share market value, end of year	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.87
	-----	-----
Total investment return (loss) based on market value per share	46.41%(2)	39.54%
	-----	-----
RATIOS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA		
Net assets, end of year (in 000's)	\$11,722	\$ 9,109
	-----	-----
Ratio of expenses to average net assets	3.40%(2)	3.67%
	-----	-----
Ratio of net investment loss to average net assets	(1.31%)(2)	(1.39%)
	-----	-----
Portfolio turnover rate	14%	23%
	-----	-----

(1) Computed by dividing the respective period's amounts from the Statement of Operations by the average outstanding shares for each time period presented.

(2) This ratio has been annualized; however, the percentage shown is not necessarily indicative of results for a full year.

See accompanying notes.

- 13 -

Notes to Financial Statements

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization and Related Matters

The Herzfeld Caribbean Basin Fund, Inc. (the Fund) is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland on March 10, 1992, and registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The Fund commenced investing activities in January, 1994. The Fund is listed on the NASDAQ SmallCap Market and trades under the symbol "CUBA".

The Fund's investment policy is to invest at least 80% of its assets in investments that are economically tied to Caribbean Basin Countries. The Fund's investment objective is to obtain long-term capital appreciation. The Fund pursues its objective by investing primarily in equity and equity-linked securities of public and private companies, including U.S.-based companies, (i) whose securities are traded principally on a stock exchange in a Caribbean Basin Country or (ii) that have at least 50% of the value of their assets in a Caribbean Basin Country or (iii) that derive at least 50% of their total revenue

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

from operations in a Caribbean Basin Country. The Fund's investment objective is fundamental and may not be changed without the approval of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities.

At December 31, 2004, the Fund had foreign investments in companies operating principally in Mexico and the Cayman Islands, representing approximately 12.64% and 7.75% of the Fund's net assets, respectively.

The Fund's custodian and transfer agent is Investors Bank & Trust Company, based in Boston, Massachusetts.

Security Valuation

Investments in securities traded on a national securities exchange (or reported on the NASDAQ national market or SmallCap market) are stated at the last reported sales price on the day of valuation (or at the NASDAQ official closing price); other securities traded in the over-the-counter market and listed securities for which no sale was reported on that date are stated at the last quoted bid price. Restricted securities and other securities for which quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined by the Board of Directors.

- 14 -

Notes to Financial Statements

=====

Income Recognition

Security transactions are recorded on the trade date. Gains and losses on securities sold are determined on the basis of identified cost. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date, and interest income is recognized on an accrual basis. Discounts and premiums on debt securities purchased are amortized over the life of the respective securities. It is the Fund's practice to include the portion of realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments denominated in foreign currencies as components of realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments and foreign currency.

Deposits with Financial Institutions

The Fund may, during the course of its operations, maintain account balances with financial institutions in excess of federally insured limits.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Income Taxes

The Fund's policy is to continue to comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code that are applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all its taxable income to its stockholders. Under these provisions, the Fund is not subject to federal income tax on its taxable income and no federal tax provision is required.

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

The Fund has adopted a June 30 year-end for federal income tax purposes.

Distributions to Stockholders

Distributions to stockholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Income and capital gain distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. For the six months ended December 31, 2004, no distributions were declared or paid to stockholders.

- 15 -

Notes to Financial Statements

=====

NOTE 2. NON-MARKETABLE SECURITY OWNED

Investments in securities include \$165,000 principal, 4.5%, 1977 Republic of Cuba bonds purchased for \$63,038. The bonds are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and had been trading in default since 1960. A "regulatory halt" on trading was imposed by the New York Stock Exchange in July, 1995. As of December 31, 2004, the position was valued at \$0 by the Board of Directors, which approximates the bonds' fair value.

NOTE 3. TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

HERZFELD / CUBA (the "Advisor"), a division of Thomas J. Herzfeld Advisors, Inc., is the Fund's investment advisor and charges a monthly fee at the annual rate of 1.45% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Total fees for the six months ended December 31, 2004 amounted to \$69,314.

During the six months ended December 31, 2004, the Fund paid \$5,791 of brokerage commissions to Thomas J. Herzfeld & Co., Inc., an affiliate of the Advisor.

NOTE 4. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

During the six months ended December 31, 2004, purchases and sales of investment securities were \$1,336,394 and \$1,902,247, respectively.

At December 31, 2004, the Fund's investment portfolio had gross unrealized gains of \$5,050,644 and gross unrealized losses of \$767,508, resulting in a net unrealized gain of \$4,283,136 for both financial statement and income tax purposes.

NOTE 5. INCOME TAX INFORMATION

The cost of securities owned for financial statement purposes equals the cost basis for income tax purposes.

The income tax basis of distributive earnings as of December 31, 2004, include \$1,301,069 of accumulated net investment loss, \$375,582 of accumulated net realized gain on investments and \$4,283,136 of net unrealized gain on investments.

For the six months ended December 31, 2004, the Fund had net realized gains of \$646,615, which could, if unchanged, utilize the remaining capital loss carryforward of \$605,664 in the current fiscal year. Any net capital gain in excess of the capital loss carryforward, which expires in the tax year ended June 30, 2008, are anticipated to be distributed in accordance with Sub-chapter

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

M of the Internal Revenue Code.

- 16 -

Results of November 18, 2004 Stockholder Meeting

=====

The annual meeting of stockholders of the Fund was held on November 18, 2004. At the meeting one nominee for Director was elected as follows:

	Votes for	Votes withheld
Ann S. Lieff	1,291,666	69,234

The terms of office as directors of Thomas J. Herzfeld, Michael A. Rubin, and Albert L. Weintraub continued after the meeting.

- 17 -

Privacy Policy

=====

Information We Collect

We collect nonpublic information about you from applications or other account forms you complete, from your transactions with us, our affiliates or others through transactions and conversations over the telephone.

Information We Disclose

We do not disclose information about you, or our former customers, to our affiliates or to service providers or other third parties except on the limited basis permitted by law. For example, we may disclose nonpublic information about you to third parties to assist us in servicing your account with us and to send transaction confirmations, annual reports, prospectuses and tax forms to you. We may also disclose nonpublic information about you to government entities in response to subpoenas.

Our Security Procedures

To ensure the highest level of confidentiality and security, we maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that comply with federal standards to guard your personal information. We also restrict access to your personal and account information to those employees who need to know that information to provide services to you.

- 18 -

Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures

=====

Information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, and a description of the policies and procedures used to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, by calling the Fund at 800-TJH-FUND, or by accessing the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Quarterly Portfolio Reports

=====

The Fund files quarterly schedules of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Form N-Q is available by link on the Fund's website at www.herzfeld.com, by calling the Fund at 800-TJH-FUND, or on the SEC's EDGAR database at www.sec.gov. In addition, the Form N-Q can be reviewed and copied at the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. More information about the SEC's website or the operation of the public reference room can be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-732-0330.

Officers and Directors

=====

Officers

THOMAS J. HERZFELD

Director, Chairman of the Board, President and Portfolio Manager

CECILIA GONDOR

Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Compliance Officer

Independent Directors

ANN S. LIEFF

Director

MICHAEL A. RUBIN

Director

ALBERT L. WEINTRAUB

Director

- 19 -

THE HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND, INC.
The Herzfeld Building
P.O. Box 161465
Miami, FL 33116

ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS

- (a) Not applicable.
- (c) There have been no amendments, during the period covered by this report, to a provision of the code of ethics that applies to the registrant's principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, regardless of whether these individuals are employed by the registrant or a third party, and that relates to any element of the code of ethics description.
- (d) The registrant has not granted any waivers, including an implicit waiver, from a provision of the code of ethics that applies to the registrant's principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, regardless of whether these individuals are employed by the registrant or

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

a third party, that relates to one or more of the items set forth in paragraph (b) of this item's instructions.

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.

Not applicable.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

Not applicable.

ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS.

Not applicable.

ITEM 6. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS.

Not applicable as schedule is included as part of the report to shareholders filed under Item 1 of this Form.

ITEM 7. DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

Not applicable.

ITEM 8. PORTFOLIO MANAGERS OF CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

Not applicable.

ITEM 9. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END FUND MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS.

Not applicable.

ITEM 10. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS.

There have been no material changes to the procedures by which the stockholders may recommend nominees to the registrant's board of directors, where those changes were implemented after the registrant last provided disclosure in response to the requirements of Item 7(d)(2)(ii)(G) of Schedule 14A (17 CFR 240.14a-101), or this Item.

ITEM 11. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

- (a) The registrant's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d))) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal half-year (the registrant's second fiscal half-year in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Edgar Filing: HERZFELD CARIBBEAN BASIN FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

ITEM 12. EXHIBITS.

- (a) (2) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(b) under the 1940 Act and Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are filed herewith as Exhibits 99.302 Cert.
- (a) (3) Not applicable.
- (b) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act and Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are filed herewith as Exhibits 99.906 Cert.

Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

The Herzfeld Caribbean Basin Fund, Inc.

By: /s/ Thomas J. Herzfeld

Thomas J. Herzfeld
President and Chairman

Date: February 28, 2005

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Thomas J. Herzfeld

Thomas J. Herzfeld
President and Chairman

Date: February 28, 2005

By: /s/ Cecilia L. Gondor

Cecilia L. Gondor
Secretary and Treasurer
(Principal Financial Officer)

Date: February 28, 2005