1660 Wynkoop St., Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80202-1132
Ph (303) 573-1660
Fx (303) 595-9385
Email: royalgold@royalgold.com
Web Site: http://www.royalgold.com

News Release

Royal Gold, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Stanley Dempsey, Chairman
Karen Gross, Vice President & Corporate Secretary
(303) 573-1660

ROYAL GOLD REPORTS SOLID FIRST QUARTER EARNINGS

DENVER, COLORADO. NOVEMBER 9, 2000: ROYAL GOLD, INC. (NASDAQ:RGLD; TSE: RGL) today reported results for the first quarter (July 1 - September 30) of fiscal year 2001. The Company had net income of $629,084, or $.04 per basic share, on royalty revenue of $1,537,944. Net income for the first quarter of fiscal 2001 compares to net income of $855,296, or $.05 per basic share, on royalty revenue of $2,022,882 for the first quarter of fiscal 2000.

Exploration and lease maintenance and holding costs for the quarter were $133,658 as compared to $481,157 for the quarter ended September 30, 2000.

At September 30, 2000, the Company had working capital of approximately $6.6 million. Current assets were $7,123,899, compared to current liabilities of $536,115, for a current ratio of 13 to 1.

Stanley Dempsey, Chairman & CEO, stated "We are particularly pleased with these results. While revenue levels were lower in the current quarter as compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2000 due to lower grade, and lower production levels at the Pipeline Mining Complex, Placer Dome has reported that it expects to increase production for the remainder of calendar year 2000. Therefore, we believe our revenue estimates for fiscal 2001 will still be achieved. However, our actual results will depend on Cortez' continued good performance and the gold

* * * MORE * * *

price during the year. Our general and administrative expenditures have been kept in line with our last fiscal year, and we have significantly reduced our exploration expenditures."

"We will continue in our efforts to acquire valuable royalty interests and are well-positioned to sustain high cash flow levels during a low gold price environment. Also, our leverage to gold price increases derives from our sliding scale royalties on the Pipeline Mining Complex, with downside protection from falling gold prices because of our fixed royalties. These factors make a compelling case for holding Royal Gold shares as a core asset in any investor's portfolio," said Dempsey.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Pipeline Mining Complex, Lander County, Nevada

The Company holds two sliding scale gross smelter return royalties (GSR1 and GSR2) and a fixed gross royalty (GSR3) over the Pipeline Mining Complex that includes the Pipeline and South Pipeline gold deposits in Lander County, Nevada. The GSR1 royalty covers the current mine footprint, and the GSR2 "super" royalty covers any reserves that are developed on the claim block lying outside the current mine footprint. The GSR2 royalty pays out at a rate that is 80% higher than that of GSR1, at all gold prices. The GSR3 royalty is initially at a rate of 0.48%, until a further 359,246 ounces of gold are produced from the Complex, and then escalates to 0.71% for the remainder of the life of the mine. The step-up is expected to occur early in calendar 2001. Current production from the Pipeline Mining Complex is subject to GSR1 and GSR3.

The Pipeline Mining Complex is owned by the Cortez Joint Venture ("Cortez"), a joint venture between Placer Cortez Inc. (60%), a subsidiary of Placer Dome Inc., and Kennecott Explorations (Australia) Ltd. (40%), a subsidiary of Rio Tinto.

For the first quarter of Royal Gold's fiscal 2001, the Pipeline Mining Complex produced 188,172 ounces of gold, providing $1,452,556 of royalty revenue to Royal Gold. This compares to 358,298 ounces of gold produced, providing $1,892,719 of royalty revenue to Royal Gold for the same quarter in fiscal 2000. For the first quarter of fiscal 2001, the average gold price was between $270 and $310, and Royal Gold's GSR1 royalty was 2.25%.

In October, Cortez announced that it has increased its production forecasts for each of calendar years 2000 and 2001, due to expectations regarding improved throughput and plant

* * * MORE * * *

availability, higher grade ore and production attributable to third party ore sales. In calendar 2000, production will be one million ounces of gold, a 16% increase over the planned 860,000 ounces Cortez previously adopted for calendar 2000, and production in calendar 2001 is now expected to exceed 1.1 million ounces of gold. Cortez expects to spend about $5 million on further exploration at the Pipeline Mining Complex in calendar 2000.

Proven and probable reserves for the Pipeline Mining Complex, as of December 31, 1999, as reported by Cortez, using a $325 gold price, were approximately 159,125,000 tons (1,443,263 tonnes), at an average grade of 0.052 ounces of gold per ton ("opt") (1.78 gpt), containing approximately 8.2 million ounces of gold. As of December 31, 1999, the Complex also contained additional mineralization of approximately 22 million tons (20 million tonnes) of mineralized material, at an average grade of 0.038 opt (1.30 gpt), all of which is subject to the Company's GSR1 and GSR3 royalties. New reserve and mineralization estimates are expected from Cortez early in calendar 2001.

In addition, Cortez recently announced a new discovery adjacent to the South Pipeline pit in an area known as Crossroads. The Crossroads area contains an indicated resource, estimated by manual geologic cross sections, consisting of approximately 12.6 million tons (11.4 million tonnes) of oxide mineralization, at an average grade of 0.044 opt (at a 0.01 cut-off) (1.50 gpt). This estimate does not factor in any mining dilution or processing losses. The mineralization remains open in several directions and exploration and development drilling is continuing. A decision to reclassify some, or all, of the additional mineralized material reported herein to proven and probable ore reserve status depends upon consideration of further drilling and metallurgical testing results, and application of economic and technical feasibility factors, such as mining, dewatering, and processing costs. A small portion of the Crossroads area lies on ground covered by the Company's GSR1 royalty; a majority of the area is covered by our GSR2 royalty; and all of the area is covered by our GSR3 royalty.

Bald Mountain, White Pine County, Nevada

Royal Gold holds a 1.75% net smelter returns royalty ("NSR") burdening a portion of the Bald Mountain Mine, operated by Placer Dome U.S. Inc. During this fiscal quarter, Royal Gold received royalty revenue of approximately $85,388.

At December 31, 1999, at a $325 gold price, the operator reports that proven and probable reserves covered by Royal Gold's royalty interest were 10,226,000 tons (9,274,982

* * * MORE * * *

tonnes), with an average grade of 0.069 opt (2.36 gpt), or approximately 704,000 contained ounces of gold. In addition, the property contains additional mineralization of approximately 8.6 million tons (7.8 million tonnes) of mineralized material, at an average grade of 0.04 opt (1.37 gpt), related to Royal Gold's royalty interest. New reserve and mineralization estimates are expected early in calendar 2001.

Yamana Resources, Argentina

The Company holds a 2% net smelter returns royalty on all mineral production from any of Yamana Resources' current 21 exploration and 19 development properties in Santa Cruz Province, Argentina. Yamana's properties include the high-grade silver property known as the Martha mine at the Bacon prospect, and the high-grade gold property known as Coyote at the Martinetas prospect. Yamana's mineral holdings in the Santa Cruz Province encompass about 365,000 aces (148,000 hectares). The most advanced of these properties is the Martha silver mine. Yamana has informed the Company that construction of a 525 foot (160 meter) decline at the Martha mine began in late October, and that the first shipments of direct shipping ore material to the smelter are expected during the first quarter of calendar 2001.

Mule Canyon, Lander County, Nevada

Royal Gold holds a 5% net smelter return royalty interest on a portion of the Mule Canyon mine, operated by Newmont Gold Company. Newmont has advised that the portion of the mine that is subject to this royalty interest is expected to produce about 24,000 ounces of gold, with production expected to commence in calendar 2001.

EXPLORATION ACTIVITY

Milos Gold Project, Greece

The Milos Gold Project encompasses a gold exploration license covering Milos and three neighboring islands in the Aegean Sea. Reverse circulation drilling commenced in August 1998, and 100,935 feet (30,765 meters) have been drilled to date. A fully-diluted inferred mineral resource for the project was prepared and reported in 1999. At a cut-off grade of 0.029 opt, the resource totals 9,500,000 tons (8,600,000 tonnes), at an average grade of 0.071 opt (2.43 gpt). Additional work is required before this mineralization can be reclassified to a resource or reserve status. A scoping study, including metallurgical test work, a new resource estimate and conceptual mine viability studies has been suspended awaiting environmental approvals.

Royal Gold and Aegean International Gold Inc. have each earned a 25% interest in the project through expenditures of US$2.5 million each for exploration drilling and various scoping studies. Midas S.A. a wholly-owned subsidiary of Silver & Baryte Ores Mining Co. S.A. (a publicly traded Greek mining company), holds the gold exploration license on Milos and the related islands.

In July 2000, Royal Gold was advised by Silver & Baryte Ores Mining Co. S.A. that its affiliate, Midas S.A., received a letter from the Greek Ministry of Environment, Regional Planning and Public Works stating that the Ministry was returning the environmental impact study which had been submitted by Midas S.A. for the purpose of performing further exploration work on the island of Milos, Greece. Midas is currently seeking permission from the relevant Greek authorities for the parties to be able to restart exploration and development work. At this time, we cannot predict when or whether these efforts will be successful.

Buckhorn South, Eureka County, Nevada

Royal Gold holds a 14% net profits interest in the Buckhorn South property, where exploration is being conducted by AngloGold North America.

Other Matters

Royal Gold received notice, on March 24, 2000, that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has identified Royal Resources, Inc. (Royal Gold's corporate predecessor) as one of 22,000 potentially responsible parties ("PRPs"), along with many other major oil companies, for clean-up of a hazardous waste landfill at Casmalia, Santa Barbara County, California, under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("Superfund"). Royal Gold's alleged PRP status apparently stems from oil and gas exploration activities undertaken by Royal Resources in California during 1983-84.

Royal Gold is evaluating its potential for liability in this matter and has provided certain relevant and exculpatory information to the EPA.

* * * MORE * * *

Fiscal 2001 Outlook

The key to Royal Gold's future and our plan for growth is the continuing search for high quality precious metal royalties. Our focus in fiscal 2001 will be to purchase existing royalties and create royalties by mine financing arrangements, with diminished efforts in creating royalty interests by exploration.

Corporate Profile

Royal Gold is the largest U.S.-based royalty company engaging in the acquisition and management of precious metal royalty interests. Royal Gold is publicly traded on the Nasdaq National Market System under the symbol "RGLD," and on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol "RGL." The Company's web page is located at www.royalgold.com.

NOTE: Management's conference call reviewing the first quarter of fiscal 2001, to be held today at 12:00 noon Eastern time, will be simultaneously carried on the Company's web site. A replay on the web site will be available approximately one hour after the call ends.

Cautionary "Safe Harbor" Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: With the exception of historical matters, the matters discussed in this press release are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from projections or estimates contained herein. Such forward-looking statements include statements regarding future revenues, reserves, planned levels of exploration, and other expenditures, and plans to rely more on acquisitions than exploration. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include, among others, unanticipated grade, geological, metallurgical, processing or other problems, changes in project parameters as plans continue to be refined, the timing of receipt of governmental permits, results of current or planned exploration activities, the availability of acquisitions, and changes in the gold price, as well as other factors described elsewhere in this press release. Most of these factors are beyond the Company's ability to predict or control. The Company disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statement made herein. Readers are cautioned not to put undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

* * * MORE * * *

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	Quarter Ended September 30, 2000	Quarter Ended September 30, 1999
Royalty Revenues	$ 1,537,944	$ 2,022,882
Interest and Other Income	$ 61,789	$ 86,087
Total Revenues	$ 1,599,733	$ 2,108,969
Operations	$ 209,827	$ 153,453
Exploration, Lease Maintenance and Holding Costs	$ 133,658	$ 481,157
General and Administrative	$ 385,835	$ 376,977
Depreciation and Amortization	$ 228,491	$ 212,234
Net Income	$ 629,084	$ 855,296
Basic Income Per Share	$ 0.04	$ 0.05
Basic Weighted Average Shares Outstanding	17,740,422	17,222,922
Diluted Income Per Share	$ 0.04	$ 0.05
Diluted Weighted Average Shares Outstanding	17,872,443	17,532,246
Total Assets	$ 16,770,132	$ 16,542,418
Working Capital	$ 6,587,784	$ 3,359,909
Long-Term Liabilities	$ 125,230	$ 74,497
Stockholders’ Equity	$ 16,108,787	$ 13,538,300

* * * END * * *