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GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS CO INC

Form 13F-HR October 26, 2004

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

Form 13F

FORM 13F COVER PAGE

Report for the Calendar Year or Quarter Ended: September 30, 2004

Institutional Investment Manager Filing this Report:
Name: General American Investors Company, Inc.

Address: 450 Lexington Avenue, Suite 3300 New York, NY 10017

13F File Number: 28-461

The institutional investment manager filing this report and the person by whom it is signed hereby represent that the person signing the report is authorized to submit it, that all information contained herein is true, correct and complete, and that it is understood that all required items, statements, schedules, lists, and tables, are considered integral parts of this form.

Person Signing this Report: Name: Eugene L. DeStaebler, Jr.

Title: Vice-President, Administration

Phone: 212-916-8400

Signature, Place and Date of Signing:

Eugene L. DeStaebler, Jr. New York, NY October 26, 2004

Report Type (Check only one.):

[x] 13F HOLDINGS REPORT

[] 13F NOTICE

[] 13F COMBINATION REPORT

List of Other Managers Reporting for this Manager: $$\operatorname{\mathtt{NONE}}$$

I am signing this report as required by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

FORM 13F SUMMARY PAGE

Report Summary:

Number of Other Included Managers: 0 Form 13F Information Table Entry Total: 58

Form 13F Information Table Value Total: \$1,049,614,286

NAME OF ISSUER TITLE CUSIP FAIR SHARES OR
OF NUMBER MARKET PRINCIPAL SH/
CLASS VALUE AMOUNT PRN

INVEST. DISC.
SHARE
SOLE SHARED OTHE
(A) (B) (C)

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Adams Express Company
American International Gro COMMON 006212104
Alkermes, Inc.
COMMON 006212104
Alkermes, Inc.
COMMON 026912101
Alkermes, Inc.
COMMON 026912101
B, 417, 530, 601
B, 94, 090 N X
Alkermes, Inc.
COMMON 026912101
B, 417, 500
B, 255, 000 N X
Annuity and Life Re (Holdi COMMON 029912201
B, 442, 500
B, 520, 000 N X
Apacha Corporation
COMMON 037411105
B, 95, 454, 400
B, 93, 000
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