Merrill Lynch \& Co., Inc. Merrill Lynch CoreNotesSM, Series B Due Nine Months or more from Date of Issue (the "Notes") -------------


"CoreNotes" is a service mark of Merrill Lynch \& Co., Inc.

discretion of the calculation agent and, absent manifest error, will be conclusive for all purposes and binding on Merrill Lynch \& Co., Inc. ("ML\&Co.") and beneficial owners of the Notes.

All percentages resulting from any calculation on the Notes will be rounded to the nearest one hundred- thousandth of a percentage point, with five one-millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards, e.g., 9.876545\% (or .09876545) would be rounded to 9.87655\% (or .0987655). All dollar amounts used in or resulting from this calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent with one-half cent being rounded upwards.

| Proceeds to ML\&Co | 99.850\% |
| :---: | :---: |
| Purchasing Agent. | MLPF\&S |
| Purchasing Agent's Discount </TABLE> | $0.150 \%$ |

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## UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION

The following discussion, which supplements the discussion in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement under the heading "United States Federal Income Taxation", is only a summary of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the Notes.

Under the OID Regulations (as defined in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement), for purposes of determining the yield and maturity of a debt instrument that provides the issuer with an unconditional option or options, exercisable on one or more dates during the term of the debt instrument, that, if exercised, require payments to be made on the debt instrument under an alternative payment schedule or schedules (e.g., an option to call the debt instrument), an issuer is deemed to exercise or not exercise such option or combination of options in a manner that minimizes the yield on the debt instrument. Since the interest rate on the Notes will increase during the term of the Notes on each Interest Payment Date commencing August 8, 2005, from an initial rate equal to $3 \%$ to a rate equal to $4 \%$, under these rules, as of the Original Issue Date, ML\&Co. should be deemed to elect to call the Notes at the first quarterly Interest Payment Date (the "First Call Date") in accordance with the procedures described above. Accordingly, under these rules, the First Call Date (i.e., August 8, 2005) should be treated as the maturity date of the Notes for purposes of determining whether the Notes have been issued with OID for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Solely for purposes of calculating OID for U.S. federal income tax purposes, if the Notes are not in fact called on the First Call Date, the Notes will then be deemed to be retired and reissued on the First Call Date.

Accordingly, under the OID Regulations the amount payable on each Interest Payment Date will be treated a qualified stated interest. Such payments of interest on a Note will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income at the time payments are accrued or received (in accordance with the U.S. Holder's regular method of tax accounting). In addition, based on the foregoing treatment of the Notes, the Notes will not be treated as having been issued with OID and therefore will not be Original Issue Discount Notes (as defined in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement).

Prospective investors should consult the summary describing the principal U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of the Notes contained in the section entitled "United States Federal Income Taxation" in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement.

