<TABLE> <CAPTION>

(Instr. 4)

Beneficial

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FORM 3 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 <S> <C> <C> INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the OMB Number 3235-0104 Expires: September 30, 1998 Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Estimated average burden Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(f) hours per response... 0.5 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 </TABLE> <TABLE> <CAPTION> <s <C> <C> <C> <C> 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person Date of 4. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Event Re-Merrill Lynch Pierce, Fenner quiring Statement The Bibb Company & Smith Incorporated (Month/Day/Year) 06/02/97 5. Relationship of Reporting 6. If Amendment, (Middle) (Last) (First) Person to Issuer Date of Original World Financial Center - North Tower (Check all applicable) (Month/Day/Year) 250 Vesey Street __ Director _x_ 10% Owner ___ Other (specify 7. (Street) 3. IRS or Social Se-____ Officer Individual or Joint curity Number of (give title below) * /Group Filing (Check Reporting Person below) Applicable Line) (Voluntary) Form filed by One New York, NY 10281 Reporting Person x Form filed by More #13-5674085 (City) (State) (Zip) than One Reporting Person TABLE I - NON-DERIVATIVE SECURITIES BENEFICIALLY OWNED </TABLE> <TABLE> <CAPTION> <C> 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Ownership 4. Nature of Indirect Form Direct Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) Securities Beneficially (D) or Indirect (Instr. 5) (I) (Instr. 5) Owned (Instr. 4) Common Stock, \$.01 par value 2,073,779 Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. (over) (Print or Type Responses) SEC 1473(8-92) </TABLE> <TABLE> <CAPTION> FORM 3 (CONTINUED) TABLE II -- DERIVATIVE SECURITIES BENEFICIALLY OWNED (E.G., PUTS, CALLS, WARRANTS, OPTIONS, CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES) <S> <C> 1. Title of Derivative Security 2. Date Exer-3. Title and Amount of 4. Conver-5. Owner-Nature of (Instr. 4) cisable Securities Underlying sion or ship-Indirect

and

Expiration

Exercise

Price of

Derivative Security

(Instr. 4)

Form of

Deriv-

Ownership (Instr. 5)

Date Deri-

> (Month/Day/ Year)

cisable Date

vative Security

(D) or Indirect Date Expira-Amount Exertion Title (I) or

> Number of Shares

</TABLE>

Explanation of Responses:

2,073,779 shares of Common Stock were acquired by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S"), a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. ("ML&Co."), pursuant to an order of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, dated September 12, 1996, confirming the Prepackaged Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization of The Bibb Company ("Bibb") under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Plan") in satisfaction of certain claims against Bibb, which Plan became effective on September 27, 1996.

<TABLE> <CAPTION>

**Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.

See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

<C> <C>

> /s/Richard B. Alsop June 2, 1997 Richard B. Alsop Date

Attorney-In-Fact

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

Page 2 SEC 1473 (8-92)

ative

Direct

Security:

(Instr. 5)

JOINT FILER INFORMATION

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. Name:

World Financial Center - North Tower Address:

250 Vesey Street

New York, New York 10281

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated Designated Filer:

Issuer & Ticker Symbol: The Bibb Company

Date of Event

Requiring Statement: June 2, 1997

Signature: /s/ Richard B. Aslop

Richard B. Alsop* Attorney-In-Fact

* Signed pursuant to a power of attorney, dated November 17, 1995, included as Exhibit B to the Schedule 13G filed by Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. for Walden Residential Properties, Inc. and incorporated herein by reference.

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