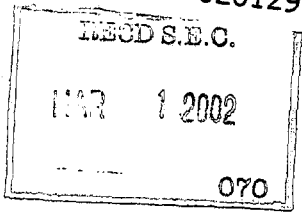




**AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE**  
Equities Options ETFs



02012979



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March 1, 2002

*1-7182*

Ms. Willie Mae Stroud  
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Office of Filing Information & Consumer Services  
Division of Market Regulation  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
Judiciary Plaza  
450 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**PROCESSED**

**MAR 07 2002**

**THOMSON FINANCIAL**

Dear Ms. Stroud:

This is to certify that the American Stock Exchange, (the "Exchange") received from Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. (the Registrant) a copy of the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A for the registration of the following security:

\*% Callable Stock Return Income DEbt Securities "STRIDES"  
(payable at maturity with The Home Depot  
common stock) due March, 2004

We further certify that the above security has been approved by the Exchange for listing and registration, upon official notice of issuance, and understand that the 8A will be immediately effective upon your receipt of same, in accordance with SEC Rule 3a12-11.

Sincerely,