#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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FORM 8-K

#### CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 25, 2003 Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. \_ -----(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter) Delaware 1-7182 13-2740599 (State or Other (Commission (I.R.S. Employer Jurisdiction of File Number) Identification No.) Incorporation) 4 World Financial Center, New York, New York \_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 449-1000

#### ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

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Filed herewith is the Preliminary Unaudited Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 27, 2002 for Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. and subsidiaries ("Merrill Lynch"). Also filed herewith is a statement setting forth the computation of certain financial ratios for the periods presented.

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report.)

### ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS

(c) Exhibits

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- (12) Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends.
- (99) Additional Exhibits
  - (i) Preliminary Unaudited Consolidated Balance Sheet of Merrill Lynch as of December 27, 2002.

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#### SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

#### By: /s/ Ahmass L. Fakahany

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Ahmass L. Fakahany Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

By: /s/ John J. Fosina

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John J. Fosina Controller

Principal Accounting Officer

Date: February 25, 2003

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## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description Page

(12) Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends.

(99) Additional Exhibits

(i) Preliminary Unaudited Consolidated Balance Sheet of Merrill Lynch as of December 27, 2002.

EXHIBIT 12

# MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES COMPUTATION OF RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS (dollars in millions)

YEAR ENDED LAST FRIDAY IN DECEMBER

	THE HADD MOT LEDET IN DECEMBER			
1998	2002	2001	2000	1999
	(52 weeks)	(52 weeks)	(52 weeks)	(53 weeks)
(52 weeks) <s> <c></c></s>	<c></c>	<c></c>	<c></c>	<c></c>
Pre-tax earnings \$ 2,120	\$ 3,757	\$ 1,377	\$ 5,717	\$ 4,206
Add: Fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest and preferred security dividend requirements of subsidiaries) 17,237	9,818	17,097	18,307	13,235
Pre-tax earnings before fixed charges 19,357	13,575	18,474	24,024	17,441
	=====	======	======	======
Fixed charges:    Interest 17,014    Other (a) 354	9,613 396	16,843 451	18,052 465	12 <b>,</b> 987
Total fixed charges 17,368	10,009	17,294	18,517	13,438
=====	=====	======	======	======
Preferred stock dividend requirements 58	53	55	55	56
Total combined fixed charges				
and preferred stock dividends \$17,426	\$10,062	\$17 <b>,</b> 349	\$18,572	\$13,494
	=====	======	======	======
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES 1.11	1.36	1.07	1.30	1.30
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS 1.11	1.35	1.06	1.29	1.29

<sup>(</sup>a) Other fixed charges consists of the interest factor in rentals, amortization of debt issuance costs, preferred security dividend requirements of subsidiaries, and capitalized interest.

# MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES PRELIMINARY UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

(dollars in millions)	Dec. 27, 2002
	<c></c>
ASSETS	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ 10,211 
CASH AND SECURITIES SEGREGATED FOR REGULATORY PURPOSES OR DEPOSITED WITH CLEARING ORGANIZATIONS	7,375 
SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS Receivables under resale agreements	75,292 45,543  120,835
TRADING ASSETS, AT FAIR VALUE (includes securities pledged	
as collateral of \$11,344)  Contractual agreements  Corporate debt and preferred stock.  Mortgages, mortgage-backed, and asset-backed securities.  Equities and convertible debentures.  U.S. Government and agencies.  Non-U.S. governments and agencies.  Municipals and money markets.	38,728 18,569 14,987 13,530 10,116 10,095 5,535
INVESTMENT SECURITIES	111,560 81,787
SECURITIES RECEIVED AS COLLATERAL	2,020
OTHER RECEIVABLES Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$79) Brokers and dealers Interest and other	35,317 8,485 10,581
	54,383
LOANS, NOTES, AND MORTGAGES (net of allowance for loan losses of \$265)	34,735
SEPARATE ACCOUNTS ASSETS	13,042
EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$4,671)	3,080
GOODWILL (net of accumulated amortization of \$984)	4,446
OTHER ASSETS	4,454
TOTAL ASSETS	\$447,928 ======

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Dec. 2 <sup>o</sup> 2002
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20 <b>,</b> 72
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78 <b>,</b> 52
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