

P R O S P E C T U S

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.
NIKKEI 225 MARKET INDEX TARGET-TERM SECURITIES DUE JUNE 14, 2002
("MITTS(R) ")

On June 3, 1997, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. (the "Company") issued an aggregate principal amount of \$255,000,000 (25,500,000 Units) of Nikkei 225 Market Index Target-Term Securities due June 14, 2002 (the "Securities" or "MITTS"). Each \$10 principal amount of Securities will be deemed a "Unit" for purposes of trading and transfer at the Securities Depository described below. Units will be transferable by the Securities Depository, as more fully described below, in denominations of whole Units.

GENERAL:

- . Senior unsecured debt securities . Not redeemable prior to maturity
- . No payments prior to maturity . Transferable only in whole Units

PAYMENT AT MATURITY:

Principal Amount + Supplemental Redemption Amount

The Supplemental Redemption Amount will be based on the percentage change in the Nikkei Stock Average multiplied by a Participation Rate of 140%. The Supplemental Redemption Amount may be zero, but will not be less than zero.

BEFORE YOU DECIDE TO INVEST IN THE MITTS, CAREFULLY READ THIS PROSPECTUS, ESPECIALLY THE RISK FACTORS BEGINNING ON PAGE 3.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") nor any state securities commission has approved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

We expect that the MITTS will be maintained in book-entry form only through the facilities of DTC.

THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

This Prospectus has been prepared in connection with the Securities and is to be used by Merrill Lynch & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, in connection with offers and sales related to market-making transactions in the Securities. MLPF&S may act as principal or agent in such transactions. The Securities may be offered on the New York Stock Exchange, or off such exchange in negotiated transactions, or otherwise. Sales will be made at prices related to prevailing prices at the time of sale. The distribution of the Securities will conform to the requirements set forth in the applicable sections of Rule 2720 of the Conduct Rules of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

MERRILL LYNCH & CO.

THE DATE OF THIS PROSPECTUS IS JULY 7, 1997.

(R) "MITTS" is a registered service mark and (SM) "Market Index Target-Term Securities" is a service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, NOR HAS THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE RULED UPON THE ACCURACY OR THE ADEQUACY OF THIS DOCUMENT.

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Company is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and in accordance therewith files reports and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). Reports, proxy and information statements and other information filed by the Company can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the Commission at Room 1024, 450 Fifth

Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549, and at the following Regional Offices of the Commission: Midwest Regional Office, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1400, Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511 and Northeast Regional Office, Seven World Trade Center, New York, New York 10048. Copies of such material can be obtained from the Public Reference Section of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 at prescribed rates. Reports, proxy and information statements and other information concerning the Company may also be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange, the Chicago Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange. The Commission maintains a Web site at <http://www.sec.gov> containing reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants, including the Company, that file electronically with the Commission.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 27, 1996, Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 28, 1997, and Current Reports on Form 8-K dated January 13, 1997, January 27, 1997, February 25, 1997, March 14, 1997, April 15, 1997, May 2, 1997, May 30, 1997 and June 3, 1997 filed pursuant to Section 13 of the Exchange Act, are hereby incorporated by reference into this Prospectus.

All documents filed by the Company pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act subsequent to the date of this Prospectus and prior to the maturity of the Securities shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

THE COMPANY WILL PROVIDE WITHOUT CHARGE TO EACH PERSON TO WHOM THIS PROSPECTUS IS DELIVERED, ON WRITTEN OR ORAL REQUEST OF SUCH PERSON, A COPY (WITHOUT EXHIBITS OTHER THAN EXHIBITS SPECIFICALLY INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE) OF ANY OR ALL DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO THIS PROSPECTUS. REQUESTS FOR SUCH COPIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO LAWRENCE M. EGAN, JR., CORPORATE SECRETARY'S OFFICE, MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC., 100 CHURCH STREET, 12TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10080-6512; TELEPHONE NUMBER (212) 602-8435.

NO PERSON HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION OR TO MAKE ANY REPRESENTATION NOT CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS AND, IF GIVEN OR MADE, SUCH INFORMATION OR REPRESENTATION MUST NOT BE RELIED UPON AS HAVING BEEN AUTHORIZED. THIS PROSPECTUS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER TO SELL, OR A SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER TO BUY, ANY SECURITIES OTHER THAN THE REGISTERED SECURITIES TO WHICH IT RELATES OR AN OFFER TO, OR A SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER TO BUY FROM, ANY PERSON IN ANY JURISDICTION WHERE SUCH OFFER WOULD BE UNLAWFUL. THE DELIVERY OF THIS PROSPECTUS AT ANY TIME DOES NOT IMPLY THAT INFORMATION HEREIN IS CORRECT AS OF ANY TIME SUBSEQUENT TO ITS DATE.

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MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. is a holding company that, through its subsidiaries and affiliates, provides investment, financing, insurance, and related services on a global basis. Its principal subsidiary, MLPF&S, one of the largest securities firms in the world, is a leading broker in securities, options contracts, and commodity and financial futures contracts; a leading dealer in options and in corporate and municipal securities; a leading investment banking firm that provides advice to, and raises capital for, its clients; and an underwriter of selected insurance products. Other subsidiaries provide financial services on a global basis similar to those of MLPF&S and are engaged in such other activities as international banking, lending, and providing other investment and financing services. Merrill Lynch International Incorporated, through subsidiaries and affiliates, provides investment, financing, and related services outside the United States and Canada. Merrill Lynch Asset Management, LP and Fund Asset Management, LP together constitute one of the largest mutual fund managers in the world and provide investment advisory services. Merrill Lynch Government Securities Inc. is a primary dealer in obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government and its agencies. Merrill Lynch Capital Services, Inc., Merrill Lynch Derivative Products AG, and Merrill Lynch Capital Markets PLC are the Company's primary derivative product dealers and enter into interest rate and currency swaps and other derivative transactions as intermediaries and as principals. The Company's insurance underwriting operations consist of the underwriting of life insurance and annuity products. Banking, trust, and mortgage lending operations conducted through subsidiaries of the Company include issuing certificates of deposit, offering money market deposit accounts, making secured loans, and providing currency exchange trading facilities and other related services.

The principal executive office of the Company is located at World Financial Center, North Tower, 250 Vesey Street, New York, New York 10281; its telephone number is (212) 449-1000.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth the historical ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated:

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

	YEAR ENDED LAST FRIDAY IN					THREE MONTHS
	DECEMBER					ENDED
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	MARCH 28, 1997
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
Ratio of earnings to fixed earnings..	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2

</TABLE>

For the purpose of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, "earnings" consists of earnings from continuing operations before income taxes and fixed charges. "Fixed charges" consists of interest costs, amortization of debt expense, preferred stock dividend requirements of majority-owned subsidiaries, and that portion of rentals estimated to be representative of the interest factor.

RISK FACTORS

Your investment in MITTS will involve certain risks. For example, there is the risk that you might not earn a return on your investment, and the risk that you will be unable to sell your MITTS prior to their maturity. You should carefully consider the following discussion of risks before deciding whether an investment in the MITTS is suitable for you.

THE SUPPLEMENTAL REDEMPTION AMOUNT.

You should be aware that if the Ending Index Value does not exceed the Starting Index Value at maturity, the Supplemental Redemption Amount will be zero. This will be true even if the value of the Index was higher than the Starting Index Value at some time during the life of the MITTS but later falls below the Starting Index Value. If the Supplemental Redemption Amount is zero, we will pay you only the principal amount of your MITTS.

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The Participation Rate equals 140%. If the Ending Index Value exceeds the Starting Index Value, then the Participation Rate will enhance the amount of the interest payment received at maturity. However, if the Ending Index Value does not exceed the Starting Index Value you will receive only the principal amount of your MITTS.

YOUR YIELD MAY BE LOWER THAN THE YIELD ON A STANDARD DEBT SECURITY OF COMPARABLE MATURITY.

The amount we pay you at maturity may be less than the return you could earn on other investments. Your yield may be less than the yield you would earn if you bought a standard senior non-callable debt security of the Company with the same maturity date. Your investment may not reflect the full opportunity cost to you when you consider the effect of inflation or other factors that affect the time value of money.

YOUR RETURN WILL NOT REFLECT THE PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS.

NKS calculates the Index by reference to the prices of the common stocks comprising the Index without taking into consideration the value of dividends paid on those stocks. Therefore, the return you earn on the MITTS, if any, will not be the same as the return that you would earn if you actually owned each of the common stocks in the Index and received the dividends paid on those stocks.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE.

Although the stocks comprising the Index are traded in Japanese yen and the MITTS are denominated in U.S. dollars, we will not adjust the Supplemental Redemption Amount for the currency exchange rate in effect at the maturity of the MITTS. The Supplemental Redemption Amount is based solely upon the percentage increase in the Index. Changes in the exchange rate, however, may reflect changes in the Japanese economy which may affect the value of the Index and the MITTS.

UNCERTAIN TRADING MARKET.

The MITTS have been approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "JEM", subject to official notice of issuance. While there have been a number of issuances of Market Index Target-Term Securities, trading volumes have varied historically from one transaction to another and it is therefore impossible to predict how the MITTS will trade. You cannot assume that a trading market will develop for the MITTS. If such a trading market does

develop, there can be no assurance that there will be liquidity in the trading market. The development of a trading market for the MITTS will depend on the financial performance of the Company, and other factors such as the appreciation, if any, of the value of the Index.

If the trading market for the MITTS is limited, there may be a limited number of buyers when you decide to sell your MITTS if you do not wish to hold your investment until maturity. This may affect the price you receive.

FACTORS AFFECTING TRADING VALUE OF THE MITTS.

We believe that the market value of the MITTS will be affected by the value of the Index and by a number of other factors. Some of these factors are interrelated in complex ways; as a result, the effect of any one factor may be offset or magnified by the effect of another factor. The following bullets describe the expected impact on the market value of the MITTS given a change in a specific factor, assuming all other conditions remain constant.

- . Index Value. We expect that the market value of the MITTS will depend substantially on the amount by which the Index exceeds the Starting Index Value. If you choose to sell your MITTS when the value of the Index exceeds the Starting Index Value, you may receive substantially less than the amount that would be payable at maturity based on that Index value because of the expectation that the Index will continue to fluctuate until the Ending Index Value is determined. If you choose to sell your MITTS when the value of the Index is below the Starting Index Value, you may receive less than the \$10 principal amount per Unit of MITTS. In general, rising Japanese dividend rates (i.e., dividends per share) may increase the value of the Index while falling Japanese dividend rates may decrease the value of the Index. Political, economic and other developments that affect the stocks underlying the Index may also affect the value of the Index and the value of the MITTS.

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- . Interest Rates. Because the MITTS repay, at a minimum, the principal amount at maturity, we expect that the trading value of the MITTS will be affected by changes in interest rates. In general, if U.S. interest rates increase, we expect that the trading value of the MITTS will decrease. If U.S. interest rates decrease, we expect the trading value of the MITTS will increase. In general, if interest rates in Japan increase, we expect that the trading value of the MITTS will increase. If interest rates in Japan decrease, we expect the trading value of the MITTS will decrease. However, interest rates in Japan may also affect the Japanese economy and, in turn, the value of the Index. Rising interest rates in Japan may lower the value of the Index and the MITTS. Falling interest rates in Japan may increase the value of the Index and the value of the MITTS.

- . Volatility of the Index. Volatility is the term used to describe the size and frequency of market fluctuations. If the volatility of the Index increases, we expect that the trading value of the MITTS will increase. If the volatility of the Index decreases, we expect that the trading value of the MITTS will decrease.

- . Time Remaining to Maturity. The MITTS may trade at a value above that which would be expected based on the level of interest rates and the Index. This difference will reflect a "time premium" due to expectations concerning the value of the Index during the period prior to maturity of the MITTS. However, as the time remaining to maturity of the MITTS decreases, we expect that this time premium will decrease, lowering the trading value of the MITTS.

- . Dividend Yields. If dividend yields on the stocks comprising the Index increase, we expect that the value of the MITTS will decrease. Conversely, if dividend yields on the stocks comprising the Index decrease, we expect that the value of the MITTS will increase.

- . Company Credit Ratings. Real or anticipated changes in the Company's credit ratings may affect the market value of the MITTS.

We want you to understand that the impact of one of the factors specified above, such as an increase in interest rates, may offset some or all of any change in the trading value of the MITTS attributable to another factor, such as an increase in the Index value.

In general, assuming all relevant factors are held constant, we expect that the effect on the trading value of the MITTS of a given change in most of the factors listed above will be less if it occurs later in the term of the MITTS than if it occurs earlier in the term of the MITTS except that we expect that the effect on the trading value of the MITTS of a given increase in the value of the Index will be greater if it occurs later in the term of the MITTS than if it occurs earlier in the term of the MITTS.

STATE LAW LIMITS ON INTEREST PAID.

New York State laws govern the 1983 Indenture. New York has certain usury laws that limit the amount of interest that can be charged and paid on loans,

which includes debt securities like the MITTS. Under present New York law, the maximum rate of interest is 25% per annum on a simple interest basis. This limit may not apply to debt securities in which \$2,500,000 or more has been invested.

While we believe that New York law would be given effect by a state or Federal court sitting outside of New York, many other states also have laws that regulate the amount of interest that may be charged to and paid by a borrower. We will promise, for the benefit of the MITTS holders, to the extent permitted by law, not to voluntarily claim the benefits of any laws concerning usurious rates of interest.

THE JAPANESE SECURITIES MARKET.

The underlying stocks that constitute the Index have been issued by Japanese companies. You should be aware that investments in securities indexed to the value of Japanese equity securities involve certain risks. The Japanese securities markets may be more volatile than U.S. or other securities markets and may be affected by market developments in different ways than U.S. or other securities markets. Direct or indirect government intervention to stabilize the Japanese securities markets and cross-shareholdings in Japanese companies on such markets may affect prices and volume of trading on those markets. Also, there is generally less publicly available information about Japanese companies than about those U.S. companies that are subject to the reporting requirements of the U.S.

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Securities and Exchange Commission, and Japanese companies are subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements that differ from those applicable to U.S. reporting companies.

Securities prices in Japan are subject to political, economic, financial and social factors that apply in Japan. These factors (including the possibility that recent or future changes in the Japanese government's economic and fiscal policies, the possible imposition of, or changes in, currency exchange laws or other Japanese laws or restrictions applicable to Japanese companies or investments in Japanese equity securities and the possibility of fluctuations in the rate of exchange between currencies) could negatively affect the Japanese securities markets. Moreover, the Japanese economy may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resources and self-sufficiency.

PURCHASES AND SALES BY MERRILL LYNCH.

The Company, MLPF&S, and other affiliates of the Company may from time to time buy or sell the stocks underlying the Index for their own accounts for business reasons or in connection with hedging the Company's obligations under the MITTS. These transactions could affect the price of such stocks and the value of the Index.

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS.

Under certain circumstances, MLPF&S's roles as a subsidiary of the Company, a counterparty of the Company's hedge, the Underwriter and the Calculation Agent for the MITTS could give rise to conflicts of interests.

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

GENERAL

The Nikkei 225 Market Index Target-Term Securities due June 14, 2002, which are referred to herein as the "MITTS" or the "Securities", are to be issued as a series of Senior Debt Securities under the Senior Indenture, referred to as the "1983 Indenture", which is more fully described in this Prospectus. The Securities will mature on June 14, 2002.

While at maturity a beneficial owner of a Security will receive the principal amount of such Security plus the Supplemental Redemption Amount, if any, there will be no other payment of interest, periodic or otherwise. See "Payment at Maturity" below.

The Securities are not subject to redemption by the Company or at the option of any beneficial owner prior to maturity. Upon the occurrence of an Event of Default with respect to the Securities, beneficial owners of the Securities may accelerate the maturity of the Securities, as described under "Description of Securities - Events of Default and Acceleration" and "Other Terms - Events of Default" in this Prospectus.

The Securities are to be issued in denominations of whole Units.

PAYMENT AT MATURITY

General

At maturity, a beneficial owner of a Security will be entitled to receive

the principal amount thereof plus a Supplemental Redemption Amount, if any, as provided below. If the Ending Index Value does not exceed the Starting Index Value, a beneficial owner of a Security will be entitled to receive only the principal amount thereof. The principal amount for a Security will equal the initial issue price of \$10 per Unit of MITTS.

Determination of the Supplemental Redemption Amount

The Supplemental Redemption Amount for a Security will be determined by the Calculation Agent and will equal:

$$\frac{\text{Ending Index Value} - \text{Starting Index Value}}{\text{Starting Index Value}} \times \text{Participation Rate}$$

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provided, however, that in no event will the Supplemental Redemption Amount be less than zero. As indicated in the formula above, the Supplemental Redemption Amount for the MITTS will be calculated using the principal amount of the MITTS.

The Participation Rate equals 140%. The Starting Index Value equals 20,351.34, which was the closing value of the Index on the Pricing Date. The Ending Index Value will be determined by the Calculation Agent and will equal the average (arithmetic mean) of the closing values of the Index determined on each of the first five Calculation Days during the Calculation Period. If there are fewer than five Calculation Days, then the Ending Index Value will equal the average (arithmetic mean) of the closing values of the Index on such Calculation Days, and if there is only one Calculation Day, then the Ending Index Value will equal the closing value of the Index on such Calculation Day. If no Calculation Days occur during the Calculation Period because of Market Disruption Events, then the Ending Index Value will equal the closing value of the Index determined on the last scheduled Index Business Day in the Calculation Period, regardless of the occurrence of a Market Disruption Event on such day. The "Calculation Period" means the period from and including the seventh scheduled Index Business Day prior to the maturity date to and including the second scheduled Index Business Day prior to the maturity date. "Calculation Day" means any Index Business Day during the Calculation Period on which a Market Disruption Event has not occurred. For purposes of determining the Ending Index Value, an "Index Business Day" is a day on which the New York Stock Exchange and the American Stock Exchange are open for trading and the Index or any Successor Index, as defined below, is calculated and published. All determinations made by the Calculation Agent shall be at the sole discretion of the Calculation Agent and, absent a determination by the Calculation Agent of a manifest error, shall be conclusive for all purposes and binding on the Company and beneficial owners of the Securities.

HYPOTHETICAL RETURNS

The following table illustrates, for a range of hypothetical Ending Index Values, (i) the total amount payable at maturity for each \$10 principal amount of Securities, (ii) the total rate of return to beneficial owners of the Securities, (iii) the pretax annualized rate of return to beneficial owners of Securities, and (iv) the pretax annualized rate of return of an investment in the stocks underlying the Index (which includes an assumed aggregate dividend yield of .75% per annum, as more fully described below).

HYPOTHETICAL ENDING ANNUALIZED INDEX VALUE OF UNDERLYING	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE STARTING INDEX VALUE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE AT MATURITY PER \$10 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SECURITIES	TOTAL RATE OF RETURN ON THE SECURITIES	PRETAX ANNUALIZED RATE OF RETURN ON THE SECURITIES (1)	PRETAX RATE OF RETURN ON STOCKS
8,140.54	-60%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	-
10,175.67	-50%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	-
12,210.80	-40%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	-
14,245.94	-30%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	-
16,281.07	-20%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	-

1.35%	18,316.21	-10%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	-
0.75%	20,351.34 (3)	0%	\$10.00	0.00%	0.00%	
2.66%	22,386.47	10%	\$11.40	14.00%	2.62%	
4.42%	24,421.61	20%	\$12.80	28.00%	4.97%	
6.04%	26,456.74	30%	\$14.20	42.00%	7.09%	
7.55%	28,491.88	40%	\$15.60	56.00%	9.04%	
8.96%	30,527.01	50%	\$17.00	70.00%	10.83%	
10.29%	32,562.14	60%	\$18.40	84.00%	12.50%	
11.54%	34,597.28	70%	\$19.80	98.00%	14.05%	
12.72%	36,632.41	80%	\$21.20	112.00%	15.51%	
13.84%	38,667.55	90%	\$22.60	126.00%	16.88%	
14.91%	40,702.68	100%	\$24.00	140.00%	18.18%	
15.92%	42,737.81	110%	\$25.40	154.00%	19.42%	
16.90%	44,772.95	120%	\$26.80	168.00%	20.59%	
17.83%	46,808.08	130%	\$28.20	182.00%	21.71%	

</TABLE>

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(1) The annualized rates of return specified in the preceding table are calculated on a semiannual bond equivalent basis.

(2) This rate of return assumes (i) an investment of a fixed amount in the stocks underlying the Index with the allocation of such amount reflecting the current relative weights of such stocks in the Index; (ii) a percentage change in the aggregate price of such stocks that equals the percentage change in the Index from the Starting Index Value to the relevant hypothetical Ending Index Value; (iii) a constant dividend yield of .75% per annum, paid quarterly from the date of initial delivery of Securities, applied to the value of the Index at the end of each such quarter assuming such value increases or decreases linearly from the Starting Index Value to the applicable hypothetical Ending Index Value; (iv) no transaction fees or expenses; (v) a term for the Securities from June 3, 1997 to June 14, 2002; and (vi) a final Index value equal to the Ending Index Value. The aggregate dividend yield of the stocks underlying the Index as of May 28, 1997 was approximately .75%.

(3) This is the Starting Index Value.

The above figures are for purposes of illustration only. The actual Supplemental Redemption Amount received by investors and the total and pretax annualized rate of return resulting therefrom will depend entirely on the actual Ending Index Value determined by the Calculation Agent as provided herein. Historical data regarding the Index is included in this Prospectus Supplement under "The Index -- Historical Data on the Index".

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE INDEX; MARKET DISRUPTION EVENTS

If at any time the method of calculating the Index, or the value thereof, is changed in any material respect, or if the Index is in any other way modified so that such Index does not, in the opinion of the Calculation Agent, fairly represent the value of the Index had such changes or modifications not been made, then, from and after such time, the Calculation Agent shall, at the close of business in New York, New York, on each date that the closing value with respect to the Ending Index Value is to be calculated, make such adjustments as, in the good faith judgment of the Calculation Agent, may be necessary in order to arrive at a calculation of a value of a stock index comparable to the Index as if such changes or modifications had not been made, and calculate such closing value with reference to the Index, as adjusted. Accordingly, if the method of calculating the Index is modified so that the value of such Index is a fraction or a multiple of what it would have been if it had not been modified (e.g., due to a split in the Index), then the Calculation Agent shall adjust such Index in order to arrive at a value of the Index as if it had not been modified (e.g., as if such split had not occurred).

"Market Disruption Event" means either of the following events, as determined by the Calculation Agent: (a) a suspension, material limitation or absence of trading on the TSE of 20% or more of the Underlying Stocks which then comprise the Index or a Successor Index during the one-half hour period preceding the close of trading on the applicable exchange; or (b) the suspension or material limitation on the Singapore International Monetary Exchange, Ltd. (the "SIMEX"), the Osaka Securities Exchange (the "OSE") or any other major futures or securities market from trading in futures or options contracts

related to the Index or a Successor Index during the one-half hour period preceding the close of trading on the applicable exchange.

For the purposes of determining whether a Market Disruption Event has occurred: (i) a limitation on the hours or number of trading will not constitute a Market Disruption Event if it results from an announced change in the regular business hours of the relevant exchange, (ii) a decision to permanently discontinue trading in the relevant futures or options contract will not constitute a Market Disruption Event, (iii) a suspension in trading in a futures or options contract on the Index by a major securities market by reason of (a) a price change violating limits set by such securities market, (b) an imbalance of orders relating to such contracts or (c) a disparity in bid and ask quotes relating to such contracts will constitute a suspension or material limitation of trading in futures or options contracts related to the Index, and, (iv) an absence of trading on the TSE will not include any time when the TSE is closed for trading under ordinary circumstances. Under certain circumstances, the duties of MLPF&S as Calculation Agent in determining the existence of Market Disruption Events could conflict with the interests of MLPF&S as an affiliate of the issuer of the MITTS.

Based on the information currently available to the Company, the opening of trading on the OSE was delayed on January 17, 1995 because of the earthquake in Kobe. If such delay had occurred during the one-half hour

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period preceding the close of trading on the OSE, it would have constituted a Market Disruption Event. In addition, because of movements in the price for futures contracts for the Index, the OSE imposed price limits on such futures contracts on January 23, 1995 that were in effect during the one-half hour period preceding the close of trading on the OSE and that would have constituted a Market Disruption Event. On January 31 and February 1 of 1994, prices for futures contracts for the Nikkei Stock Index 225 reached price limits imposed by the OSE, which would have been a Market Disruption Event. Other than the foregoing events, to the Company's knowledge no circumstances have arisen since the inception of the Index that could have constituted a Market Disruption Event. The existence or non-existence of such circumstances, however, is not necessarily indicative of the likelihood of such circumstances arising or not arising in the future.

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE INDEX

If NKS discontinues publication of the Index and NKS or another entity publishes a successor or substitute index that the Calculation Agent determines, in its sole discretion, to be comparable to such Index (any such index being referred to hereinafter as a "Successor Index"), then, upon the Calculation Agent's notification of such determination to the Trustee and the Company, the Calculation Agent will substitute the Successor Index as calculated by NKS or such other entity for the Index and calculate the Ending Index Value as described above under "Payment at Maturity". Upon any selection by the Calculation Agent of a Successor Index, the Company shall cause notice thereof to be given to Holders of the Securities.

If NKS discontinues publication of the Index and a Successor Index is not selected by the Calculation Agent or is no longer published on any of the Calculation Days, the value to be substituted for the Index for any such Calculation Day used to calculate the Supplemental Redemption Amount at maturity will be a value computed by the Calculation Agent for each Calculation Day in accordance with the procedures last used to calculate the Index prior to any such discontinuance. If a Successor Index is selected or the Calculation Agent calculates a value as a substitute for the Index as described below, such Successor Index or value shall be substituted for the Index for all purposes, including for purposes of determining whether a Market Disruption Event exists.

If NKS discontinues publication of the Index prior to the period during which the Supplemental Redemption Amount is to be determined and the Calculation Agent determines that no Successor Index is available at such time, then on each Business Day until the earlier to occur of (a) the determination of the Ending Index Value and (b) a determination by the Calculation Agent that a Successor Index is available, the Calculation Agent shall determine the value that would be used in computing the Supplemental Redemption Amount as described in the preceding paragraph as if such day were a Calculation Day. The Calculation Agent will cause notice of each such value to be published not less often than once each month in The Wall Street Journal (or another newspaper of general circulation), and arrange for information with respect to such values to be made available by telephone. Notwithstanding these alternative arrangements, discontinuance of the publication of the Index may adversely affect trading in the Securities.

EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND ACCELERATION

In case an Event of Default with respect to any Securities shall have occurred and be continuing, the amount payable to a beneficial owner of a Security upon any acceleration permitted by the Securities, with respect to each \$10 principal amount thereof, will be equal to the principal amount and the Supplemental Redemption Amount, if any, calculated as though the date of early repayment were the stated maturity date of the Securities. See "Description of

Securities -- Payment at Maturity" in this Prospectus. If a bankruptcy proceeding is commenced in respect of the Company, the claim of the beneficial owner of a Security may be limited, under Section 502(b)(2) of Title 11 of the United States Code, to the principal amount of the Security plus an additional amount of contingent interest calculated as though the date of the commencement of the proceeding were the maturity date of the Securities.

In case of default in payment at the maturity date of the Securities (whether at their stated maturity or upon acceleration), from and after the maturity date the Securities shall bear interest, payable upon demand of the beneficial owners thereof, at the rate of 6.96% per annum (to the extent that payment of such interest shall be legally enforceable) on the unpaid amount due and payable on such date in accordance with the terms of the Securities to the date payment of such amount has been made or duly provided for.

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DEPOSITORY

Upon issuance, all Securities will be represented by one or more fully registered global securities (the "Global Securities"). Each such Global Security will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), as Depository, registered in the name of DTC or a nominee thereof. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for Securities in definitive form, no Global Security may be transferred except as a whole by the Depository to a nominee of such Depository or by a nominee of such Depository to such Depository or another nominee of such Depository or by such Depository or any such nominee to a successor of such Depository or a nominee of such successor.

DTC has advised the Company as follows: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the Banking Law of the State of New York, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. DTC was created to hold securities of its participants ("Participants") and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions among its Participants in such securities through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of the Participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC's Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations.

DTC is owned by a number of Participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange, Inc. and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to the DTC book-entry system is also available to others, such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants").

Purchases of Securities must be made by or through Participants, which will receive a credit on the records of DTC. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Security ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Participants' or Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase, but Beneficial Owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Participant or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Ownership of beneficial interests in such Global Security will be shown on, and the transfer of such ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to interests of Participants) and on the records of Participants (with respect to interests of persons held through Participants). The laws of some states may require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of such securities in definitive form. Such limits and such laws may impair the ability to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in Global Securities.

So long as DTC, or its nominee, is the registered owner of a Global Security, DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or Holder of the Securities represented by such Global Security for all purposes under the 1983 Indenture. Except as provided below, Beneficial Owners in a Global Security will not be entitled to have the Securities represented by such Global Securities registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of the Securities in definitive form and will not be considered the owners or Holders thereof under the 1983 Indenture, including for purposes of receiving any reports delivered by the Company or the Trustee pursuant to the 1983 Indenture. Accordingly, each Person owning a beneficial interest in a Global Security must rely on the procedures of DTC and, if such Person is not a Participant, on the procedures of the Participant through which such Person owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a Holder under the 1983 Indenture. The Company understands that under existing industry practices, in the event that the Company requests any action of Holders or that an owner of a beneficial interest in such a Global Security desires to give or take any action which a Holder is entitled to give or take under the 1983 Indenture, DTC would authorize the Participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take such action, and such Participants would authorize Beneficial Owners owning through such Participants to give or take such action

or would otherwise act upon the instructions of Beneficial Owners. Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Participants, by Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Payment of the principal amount and any Supplemental Redemption Amount with respect to the Securities registered in the name of DTC or its nominee will be made to DTC or its nominee, as the case may be, as the Holder of the Global Securities representing such Securities. None of the Company, the Trustee or any other agent of the

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Company or agent of the Trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests or for supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests. The Company expects that DTC, upon receipt of any payment of principal or any Supplemental Redemption Amount in respect of a Global Security, will credit the accounts of the Participants with payment in amounts proportionate to their respective holdings in principal amount of beneficial interest in such Global Security as shown on the records of DTC. The Company also expects that payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing customer instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name", and will be the responsibility of such Participants.

If (x) any Depository is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as Depository and a successor depository is not appointed by the Company within 60 days, (y) the Company executes and delivers to the Trustee a Company Order to the effect that the Global Securities shall be exchangeable or (z) an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the Securities, the Global Securities will be exchangeable for Securities in definitive form of like tenor and of an equal aggregate principal amount, in denominations of \$10 and integral multiples thereof. Such definitive Securities shall be registered in such name or names as the Depository shall instruct the Trustee. It is expected that such instructions may be based upon directions received by the Depository from Participants with respect to ownership of beneficial interests in such Global Securities.

SAME-DAY SETTLEMENT AND PAYMENT

Settlement for the Securities will be made by the underwriter in immediately available funds. All payments of principal and the Supplemental Redemption Amount, if any, will be made by the Company in immediately available funds so long as the Securities are maintained in book-entry form.

THE INDEX

All disclosure contained in this Prospectus regarding the Index, including, without limitation, its make-up, method of calculation and changes in its components, is derived from publicly available information prepared by Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc. ("NKS").

GENERAL

Unless otherwise stated, all information herein relating to the Nikkei 225 Index has been derived from the Stock Market Indices Data Book published by NKS and other publicly-available sources. Such information reflects the policies of NKS as stated in such sources; such policies are subject to change at the discretion of NKS.

The Nikkei 225 Index is a stock index calculated, published and disseminated by NKS that measures the composite price performance of selected Japanese stocks. The Nikkei 225 Index is currently based on 225 Underlying Stocks trading on the TSE and represents a broad cross-section of Japanese industry. All 225 Underlying Stocks are stocks listed in the First Section of the TSE. Stocks listed in the First Section are among the most actively traded stocks on the TSE. Futures and options contracts on the Nikkei 225 Index are traded on the Singapore International Monetary Exchange Ltd., the Osaka Securities Exchange and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

The Nikkei 225 Index is a modified, price-weighted index (i.e., an Underlying Stock's weight in the index is based on its price per share rather than the total market capitalization of the issuer) which is calculated by (i) multiplying the per share price of each Underlying Stock by the corresponding weighting factor for such Underlying Stock (a "Weight Factor"), (ii) calculating the sum of all these products and (iii) dividing such sum by a divisor. The divisor, initially set in 1949 at 225, was 9.999 as of May 28, 1997, and is subject to periodic adjustments as set forth below. Each Weight Factor is computed by dividing (Yen)50 by the par value of the relevant Underlying Stock, so that the share price of each Underlying Stock when multiplied by its Weight Factor corresponds to a share price based on a uniform par value of (Yen)50. Each Weight Factor represents the number of shares of the related Underlying Stock which are included in one trading unit of the Nikkei 225 Index. The stock prices used in the calculation of the Nikkei 225 Index are those reported by a

primary market for the Underlying Stocks (currently the TSE). The level of the Nikkei 225 Index is calculated once per minute during TSE trading hours.

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In order to maintain continuity in the level of the Nikkei 225 Index in the event of certain changes due to non-market factors affecting the Underlying Stocks, such as the addition or deletion of stocks, substitution of stocks, stock dividends, stock splits or distributions of assets to stockholders, the divisor used in calculating the Nikkei 225 Index is adjusted in a manner designed to prevent any instantaneous change or discontinuity in the level of the Nikkei 225 Index. Thereafter, the divisor remains at the new value until a further adjustment is necessary as the result of another change. As a result of each such change affecting any Underlying Stock, the divisor is adjusted in such a way that the sum of all share prices immediately after such change multiplied by the applicable Weight Factor and divided by the new divisor (i.e., the level of the Nikkei 225 Index immediately after such change) will equal the level of the Nikkei 225 Index immediately prior to the change.

Underlying Stocks may be deleted or added by NKS. However, to maintain continuity in the Nikkei 225 Index, the policy of NKS is generally not to alter the composition of the Underlying Stocks except when an Underlying Stock is deleted in accordance with the following criteria. Any stock becoming ineligible for listing in the First Section of the TSE due to any of the following reasons will be deleted from the Underlying Stocks: bankruptcy of the issuer; merger of the issuer into, or acquisition of the issuer by, another company; delisting of such stock or transfer of such stock to the "Seiri-Post" because of excess debt of the issuer or because of any other reason; or transfer of such stock to the Second Section of the TSE. Upon deletion of a stock from the Underlying Stocks, NKS will select, in accordance with certain criteria established by it, a replacement for such deleted Underlying Stock. In an exceptional case, a newly listed stock in the First Section of the TSE that is recognized by NKS to be representative of a market may be added to the Underlying Stocks. In such case, an existing Underlying Stock with low trading volume and not representative of a market will be deleted.

NKS is under no obligation to continue the calculation and dissemination of the Nikkei 225 Index. The MITTS are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by NKS. No inference should be drawn from the information contained in this Prospectus Supplement that NKS makes any representation or warranty, implied or express, to the Company, the holders of the MITTS or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the MITTS in particular or the ability of the Nikkei 225 Index to track general stock market performance. NKS has no obligation to take the needs of the Company or the holders of the MITTS into consideration in determining, composing or calculating the Nikkei 225 Index. NKS is not responsible for, and has not participated in the determination of the timing of, prices for, or quantities of, the MITTS to be issued or in the determination or calculation of the equation by which the MITTS are to be settled in cash. NKS has no obligation or liability in connection with the administration, marketing or trading of the MITTS.

The use of and reference to the Nikkei 225 Index in connection with the MITTS have been consented to by NKS, the publisher of the Nikkei 225 Index.

None of the Company, the Calculation Agent and the Underwriter accepts any responsibility for the calculation, maintenance or publication of the Nikkei 225 Index or any Successor Index. NKS disclaims all responsibility for any errors or omissions in the calculation and dissemination of the Nikkei 225 Index or the manner in which such Index is applied in determining any Starting or Ending Index Values or any Supplemental Redemption Amount upon maturity of the MITTS.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE

The Tokyo Stock Exchange is one of the world's largest securities exchanges in terms of market capitalization. The TSE market is a two-way, continuous pure auction market. Trading hours are currently from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. and from 12:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., Tokyo time, Monday through Friday.

Due to the time zone difference, on any normal trading day the TSE will close prior to the opening of business in New York City on the same calendar day. Therefore, the closing level of the Nikkei 225 Index on such trading day will generally be available in the United States by the opening of business on the same calendar day.

The TSE has adopted certain measures, including daily price floors and ceilings on individual stocks, intended to prevent any extreme short-term price fluctuations resulting from order imbalances. In general, any stock listed on the TSE cannot be traded at a price lower than the applicable price floor or higher than the applicable price ceiling. Such price floors and ceilings are expressed in absolute Japanese yen, rather than percentage, limits based on the closing price of the stock on the previous trading day. In addition, when there is a major order imbalance in

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a listed stock, the TSE posts a "special bid quote" or a "special asked quote"

for that stock at a specified higher or lower price level than the stock's last sale price in order to solicit counter-orders and balance supply and demand for the stock. Investors should also be aware that the TSE may suspend the trading of individual stocks in certain limited and extraordinary circumstances, including, for example, unusual trading activity in that stock. As a result, changes in the Nikkei 225 Index may be limited by price limitations or special quotes, or by suspension of trading, on individual stocks which comprise the Nikkei 225 Index, which limitations may, in turn, adversely affect the value of the MITTS.

OTHER TERMS

GENERAL

The Securities were issued as a series of Senior Debt Securities under the Indenture (the "Senior Indenture"), dated as of April 1, 1983, as amended and restated, between the Company and The Chase Manhattan Bank, formerly known as Chemical Bank (successor by merger to Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company), as trustee (the "Trustee"). A copy of the Senior Indenture is filed as an exhibit to the registration statements relating to the Securities. The following summaries of certain provisions of the Senior Indenture do not purport to be complete and are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all provisions of the Senior Indenture, including the definition therein of certain terms.

The Senior Indenture provides that series of Senior Debt Securities may from time to time be issued thereunder, without limitation as to aggregate principal amount, in one or more series and upon such terms as the Company may establish pursuant to the provisions thereof.

The Senior Indenture provides that the Senior Indenture and the Securities are governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

The Senior Indenture provides that the Company may issue Senior Debt Securities with terms different from those of Senior Debt Securities previously issued, and "reopen" a previously issued series of Senior Debt Securities and issue additional Senior Debt Securities of such series.

The Senior Debt Securities are unsecured and rank pari passu with all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Company. However, since the Company is a holding company, the right of the Company, and hence the right of creditors of the Company (including the Holders of Senior Debt Securities), to participate in any distribution of the assets of any subsidiary upon its liquidation or reorganization or otherwise is necessarily subject to the prior claims of creditors of the subsidiary, except to the extent that claims of the Company itself as a creditor of the subsidiary may be recognized. In addition, dividends, loans and advances from certain subsidiaries, including MLPF&S, to the Company are restricted by net capital requirements under the Exchange Act and under rules of certain exchanges and other regulatory bodies.

LIMITATIONS UPON LIENS

The Company may not, and may not permit any Subsidiary to, create, assume, incur or permit to exist any indebtedness for borrowed money secured by a pledge, lien or other encumbrance (except for certain liens specifically permitted by the Senior Indenture) on the Voting Stock owned directly or indirectly by the Company of any Subsidiary (other than a Subsidiary which, at the time of the incurrence of such secured indebtedness, has a net worth of less than \$3,000,000) without making effective provision whereby the Outstanding Senior Debt Securities will be secured equally and ratably with such secured indebtedness.

LIMITATION ON DISPOSITION OF VOTING STOCK OF, AND MERGER AND SALE OF ASSETS BY, MLPF&S

The Indenture provides that the Company may not sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of any Voting Stock of MLPF&S or permit MLPF&S to issue, sell or otherwise dispose of any of its Voting Stock, unless, after giving effect to any such transaction, MLPF&S remains a Controlled Subsidiary (defined in the Senior Indenture to mean a corporation more than 80% of the outstanding shares of Voting Stock of which are owned directly or indirectly by the Company). In addition, the Company may not permit MLPF&S to (i) merge or consolidate, unless the

surviving company is a Controlled Subsidiary or (ii) convey or transfer its properties and assets substantially as an entirety, except to one or more Controlled Subsidiaries.

MERGER AND CONSOLIDATION

The Indenture provides that the Company may consolidate or merge with or into any other corporation, and the Company may sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of its assets to any corporation, provided that (i) the corporation (if other than the Company) formed by or resulting from any such

consolidation or merger or which shall have received such assets shall be a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or a state thereof and shall assume payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on the Senior Debt Securities and the performance and observance of all of the covenants and conditions of the Senior Indenture to be performed or observed by the Company, and (ii) the Company or such successor corporation, as the case may be, shall not immediately thereafter be in default under the Senior Indenture.

MODIFICATION AND WAIVER

Modification and amendment of the Indenture may be effected by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the Holders of 66 2/3% in principal amount of the Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of each series issued pursuant to such indenture and affected thereby, provided that no such modification or amendment may, without the consent of the Holder of each Outstanding Senior Debt Security affected thereby, (a) change the Stated Maturity of the principal of, or any installment of interest or Additional Amounts payable on, any Senior Debt Security or any premium payable on the redemption thereof, or change the Redemption Price; (b) reduce the principal amount of, or the interest or Additional Amounts payable on, any Senior Debt Security or reduce the amount of principal which could be declared due and payable prior to the Stated Maturity; (c) change place or currency of any payment of principal or any premium, interest or Additional Amounts payable on any Senior Debt Security; (d) impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to any Senior Debt Security; (e) reduce the percentage in principal amount of the Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of any series, the consent of whose Holders is required to modify or amend the Indenture; or (f) modify the foregoing requirements or reduce the percentage of Outstanding Senior Debt Securities necessary to waive any past default to less than a majority. No modification or amendment of the Subordinated Indenture or any Subsequent Indenture for Subordinated Debt Securities may adversely affect the rights of any holder of Senior Indebtedness without the consent of such Holder. Except with respect to certain fundamental provisions, the Holders of at least a majority in principal amount of Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of any series may, with respect to such series, waive past defaults under the Indenture and waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions thereof.

EVENTS OF DEFAULT

Under the Senior Indenture, the following will be Events of Default with respect to Senior Debt Securities of any series: (a) default in the payment of any interest or Additional Amounts payable on any Senior Debt Security of that series when due, continued for 30 days; (b) default in the payment of any principal or premium, if any, on any Senior Debt Security of that series when due; (c) default in the deposit of any sinking fund payment, when due, in respect of any Senior Debt Security of that series; (d) default in the performance of any other covenant of the Company contained in the Indenture for the benefit of such series or in the Senior Debt Securities of such series, continued for 60 days after written notice as provided in the Senior Indenture; (e) certain events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and (f) any other Event of Default provided with respect to Senior Debt Securities of that series. The Trustee or the Holders of 25% in principal amount of the Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of that series may declare the principal amount (or such lesser amount as may be provided for in the Senior Debt Securities of that series) of all Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of that series and the interest due thereon and Additional Amounts payable in respect thereof, if any to be due and payable immediately if an Event of Default with respect to Senior Debt Securities of such series shall occur and be continuing at the time of such declaration. At any time after a declaration of acceleration has been made with respect to Senior Debt Securities of any series but before a judgment or decree for payment of money due has been obtained by the Trustee, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of that series may rescind any declaration of acceleration and its consequences, if all payments due (other than those due as a result of acceleration) have been made and all Events of Default have been remedied or waived. Any Event of Default with respect to Senior Debt Securities of any series may be waived by the Holders of a majority in principal amount of all Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of that series, except in a case of failure to pay principal or premium, if any, or interest or Additional Amounts

payable on any Senior Debt Security of that series for which payment had not been subsequently made or in respect of a covenant or provision which cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the Holder of each Outstanding Senior Debt Security of such series affected.

The Holders of a majority in principal amount of the Outstanding Senior Debt Securities of a series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the Trustee with respect to Senior Debt Securities of such series, provided that such direction shall not be in conflict with any rule of law or the Senior Indenture. Before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the Senior Indenture at the direction of such Holders, the Trustee shall be entitled to receive from such Holders reasonable security or indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities which might be incurred by it in

complying with any such direction.

The Company is required to furnish to the Trustee annually a statement as to the fulfillment by the Company of all of its obligations under the Senior Indenture.

CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

Solely for purposes of applying final Treasury regulations (the "Final Regulations") concerning the United States Federal income tax treatment of contingent payment debt instruments to the Securities, the Company has determined that the projected payment schedule for the Securities will consist of payment on the maturity date of the principal amount thereof and a Supplemental Redemption Amount equal to \$4.1078 per Unit. This represents an estimated yield on the Securities equal to 6.96% per annum (compounded semiannually).

The projected payment schedule (including both the projected Supplemental Redemption Amount and the estimated yield on the Securities) has been determined solely for United States Federal income tax purposes (i.e., for purposes of applying the Final Regulations to the Securities), and is not a prediction of what the actual Supplemental Redemption Amount will be, or that the actual Supplemental Redemption Amount will even exceed zero.

The following table sets forth the amount of interest that will be deemed to have accrued with respect to each Unit of the Securities during each accrual period over the term of the Securities based upon the projected payment schedule for the Securities (including both the projected Supplemental Redemption Amount and the estimated yield equal to 6.96% per annum (compounded semiannually)) as determined by the Company for purposes of the application of the Final Regulations to the Securities:

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

ACCRUAL PERIOD -----	INTEREST DEEMED TO ACCRUE DURING ACCRUAL PERIOD (PER UNIT) -----	TOTAL INTEREST DEEMED TO HAVE ACCRUED ON SECURITIES AS OF END OF ACCRUAL PERIOD (PER UNIT) -----
<S>	<C>	<C>
June 3, 1997 through June 14, 1997.....	\$0.0206	\$0.0206
June 15, 1997 through December 14, 1997.....	\$0.3506	\$0.3712
December 15, 1997 through June 14, 1998.....	\$0.3590	\$0.7302
June 15, 1998 through December 14, 1998.....	\$0.3734	\$1.1036
December 15, 1998 through June 14, 1999.....	\$0.3864	\$1.4900
June 15, 1999 through December 14, 1999.....	\$0.3999	\$1.8899
December 15, 1999 through June 14, 2000.....	\$0.4138	\$2.3037
June 15, 2000 through December 14, 2000.....	\$0.4281	\$2.7318

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June 15, 2001 through December 14, 2001.....	\$0.4585	\$3.6334
December 15, 2001 through June 14, 2002.....	\$0.4744	\$4.1078

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Projected Supplemental Redemption Amount = \$4.1078 per Unit

Investors in the Securities may also obtain the projected payment schedule, as determined by the Company for purposes of the application of the Final Regulations to the Securities, by submitting a written request for such information to Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., Attn: Darryl W. Colletti, Office of the Corporate Secretary, 100 Church Street, New York, New York 10080.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and related financial statement schedules of the Company and its subsidiaries included or incorporated by reference in the Company's 1996 Annual Report on Form 10-K, and incorporated by reference in this Prospectus, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche llp, independent auditors, as stated in their reports incorporated by reference

herein. The Selected Financial Data under the captions "Operating Results", "Financial Position" and "Common Share Data" for each of the five years in the period ended December 27, 1996 included in the 1996 Annual Report to Stockholders of the Company, and incorporated by reference herein, has been derived from consolidated financial statements audited by Deloitte & Touche llp, as set forth in their reports included as an exhibit to the Registration Statement or incorporated by reference herein. Such consolidated financial statements and related financial statement schedules, and such Selected Financial Data appearing or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus is a part, have been included or incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports of Deloitte & Touche llp given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

With respect to unaudited interim financial information for the periods included in the Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q which are incorporated herein by reference, Deloitte & Touche llp have applied limited procedures in accordance with professional standards for a review of such information. However, as stated in their report included in such Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and incorporated by reference herein, they did not audit and they do not express an opinion on such interim financial information. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their reports on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied. Deloitte & Touche llp are not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), for any such report on unaudited interim financial information because any such report is not a "report" or a "part" of the registration statement prepared or certified by an accountant within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the Act.