#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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): April 1, 1996

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)

World Financial Center, North Tower, New York, New York 10281-1220 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 449-1000

Item 5. Other Events

Exhibits are filed herewith in connection with the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 33-65135) filed by Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. ("ML & Co.") with the Securities and Exchange Commission covering Senior Debt Securities issuable under an indenture dated as of April 1, 1983, as amended and restated, between ML & Co. and Chemical Bank (successor by merger to Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company) (the "Indenture"). ML & Co. will issue \$300,000,000 principal amount of 6 1/2% Notes due April 1, 2001 under the Indenture. The exhibits consist of the form of Notes and an opinion of counsel relating thereto.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

### EXHIBITS

| (4)        | Instruments defining the rights of security holders, including indentures.                                                                                                                      |  |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|            | Form of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.'s 6 1/2% Notes<br>due April 1, 2001.                                                                                                                          |  |
| (5) & (23) | Opinion re: legality; consent of counsel.                                                                                                                                                       |  |
|            | Opinion of Brown & Wood relating to the 6 1/2%<br>Notes due April 1, 2001 (including consent for<br>inclusion of such opinion in this report and in<br>Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.'s Registration |  |

Statement relating to such Notes).

2

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, thereto duly authorized.

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. (Registrant)

By: /s/ Theresa Lang Theresa Lang Treasurer

Date: April 1, 1996

3

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.

EXHIBITS TO CURRENT REPORT ON FORM 8-K DATED APRIL 1, 1996

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 1-7182

4

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No.<br> | Description                                                                                                                                                                      | Page<br>                           |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (4)             | Instruments defining the rights of security ho indentures.                                                                                                                       | lders, including                   |
|                 | Form of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.'s 6 1/2<br>1, 2001.                                                                                                                            | % Notes due April                  |
| (5) & (23)      | Opinion re: legality; consent of counsel.                                                                                                                                        |                                    |
|                 | Opinion of Brown & Wood relating to the 6<br>April 1, 2001 (including consent for incl<br>opinion in this report and in Merrill Lyn<br>Registration Statement relating to such N | usion of such<br>nch & Co., Inc.'s |

5

THIS NOTE IS A GLOBAL NOTE WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE INDENTURE HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AND IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF A DEPOSITORY OR A NOMINEE THEREOF. UNLESS AND UNTIL IT IS EXCHANGED IN WHOLE OR IN PART FOR NOTES IN CERTIFICATED FORM, THIS NOTE MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT AS A WHOLE BY THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY, A NEW YORK CORPORATION ("DTC"), TO A NOMINEE OF DTC OR BY DTC OR ANY SUCH NOMINEE TO A SUCCESSOR DEPOSITORY OR A NOMINEE OF SUCH SUCCESSOR DEPOSITORY. UNLESS THIS NOTE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC TO MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY NOTE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR IN SUCH OTHER NAME AS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR TO SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL INASMUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

No. R-CUSIP 590188 FW 3 \$

# MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.

## 6 1/2% NOTE DUE APRIL 1, 2001

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., a Delaware corporation (hereinafter called the "Company", which term includes any successor corporation under the Indenture herein referred to), for value received, hereby promises to pay to CEDE & CO., or registered assigns, the principal sum of MILLION DOLLARS (\$ on April 1, 2001 and to pay interest thereon from April 1, 1996, or from the most recent date in respect of which interest has been paid or duly provided for, semiannually on April 1 and October 1 in each year (each, an "Interest Payment Date"), commencing October 1, 1996, at the rate of 6 1/2% per annum, until the principal hereof is paid or duly made available for payment. The interest so payable and punctually paid or duly provided for on any Interest Payment Date will, as provided in such Indenture, be paid to the Person in whose name this Note (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date for such interest, which shall be the March 15 or September 15 (whether or not a Business Day) next preceding such Interest Payment Date. Any such interest which is payable, but is not punctually paid or duly provided for on any Interest Payment Date, shall forthwith cease to be payable to the registered Holder on such Regular Record Date, and may be paid to the Person in whose name this Note (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on a Special Record Date for the payment of such Defaulted Interest to be fixed by the Trustee, notice whereof shall be given to the Holder of this Note not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, or may be paid at any time in any other lawful manner, as more fully provided in such Indenture.

Payment of the principal of and the interest on this Note will be made at the office or agency of the Company maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts; provided, however, that payment of interest may be made at the option of the Company by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the Security Register.

This Note is one of the series of 6 1/2% Notes due April 1, 2001 (the "Notes"). Reference is hereby made to the further provisions of this Note set forth on the reverse hereof, which further provisions shall for all purposes have the same effect as if set forth at this place.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by Chemical Bank, the Trustee under the Indenture, or its successor thereunder, by the manual signature of one of its authorized officers, this Note shall not be entitled to any benefits under the Indenture, or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be duly executed under its corporate seal.

Dated: April 1, 1996

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. This is one of the Securities of the series designated therein referred to in the within-mentioned Indenture.

Chemical Bank, as Trustee

Bv:

By: Authorized Officer Treasurer

### 6 1/2% NOTE DUE APRIL 1, 2001

This Note is one of a duly authorized issue of Securities of the Company, issued and to be issued under an Indenture, dated as of April 1, 1983, as amended and restated (herein called the "Indenture"), between the Company and Chemical Bank (successor by merger to Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company), Trustee (herein called the "Trustee", which term includes any successor trustee under the Indenture), to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights thereunder of the Company, the Trustee and the Holders of the Securities, and the terms upon which the Securities are, and are to be, authenticated and delivered.

The Notes are not subject to redemption by the Company prior to maturity.

If an Event of Default (as defined in the Indenture) with respect to the Notes shall occur and be continuing, the principal of all the Notes may be declared due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

The Indenture permits, with certain exceptions as therein provided, the amendment thereof and the modification of the rights and obligations of the Company and the rights of the Holders of the Securities of each series to be affected under the Indenture at any time by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the Holders of not less than 66-2/3% in aggregate principal amount of the Securities at the time Outstanding, as defined in the Indenture, of each series affected thereby. The Indenture also contains provisions permitting the Holders of specified percentages in aggregate principal amount of the Securities of each series at the time Outstanding, on behalf of the Holders of all Securities of each series, to waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions of the Indenture and certain past defaults under the Indenture and their consequences. Any such consent or waiver by the Holder of this Note shall be conclusive and binding upon such Holder and upon all future Holders of this Note and of any Note issued upon the registration of transfer hereof or in exchange herefor or in lieu hereof whether or not notation of such consent or waiver is made upon this Note.

No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Note or of the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and interest on this Note, at the time, place, and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations set forth therein and on the face hereof, the transfer of this Note may be registered on the Security Register of the Company, upon surrender of this Note for registration of transfer at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, duly endorsed by, or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company duly executed by, the Holder hereof or by his attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon one or more new Notes, of authorized denominations and for the same aggregate principal amount, will be issued to the designated transferee or transferees.

The Notes are issuable only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof. As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations set forth therein and on the face hereof, the Notes are exchangeable for a like aggregate principal amount of Notes in authorized denominations as requested by the Holder surrendering the same. 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 this Note shall be exchangeable or (z) an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the Notes, this Note shall be exchangeable for Notes in definitive form of like tenor and of an equal aggregate principal amount, in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof. Such definitive Notes shall be registered in such name or names as the Depository shall instruct the Trustee. If definitive Notes are so delivered, the Company may make such changes to the form of this Note as are necessary or appropriate to allow for the issuance of such definitive Notes.

No service charge shall be made for any such registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Prior to due presentment of this Note for registration of transfer, the Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company or the Trustee may treat the Person in whose name this Note is registered as the owner hereof for all purposes, whether or not this Note be overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any such agent shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

All terms used in this Note which are defined in the Indenture shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture.

EXHIBIT (5) & (23)

April 1, 1996

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. World Financial Center North Tower New York, New York 10281-1220

### Gentlemen:

As your counsel, we have examined a copy of the Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. (hereinafter called the "Company"), certified by the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware. We are familiar with the corporate proceedings had in connection with the proposed issuance and sale by the Company to the Underwriter named in the Terms Agreement referred to below, pursuant to an Underwriting Agreement dated March 22, 1994 (the "Underwriting Agreement"), among the Company, Merrill Lynch & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") and the other firms named therein, as supplemented by the Terms Agreement dated March 27, 1996 (the "Terms Agreement") between the Company and MLPF&S, of \$300,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the Company's 6 1/2% Notes due April 1, 2001 (the "Notes"). We have also examined a copy of the Indenture between the Company and

Chemical Bank (successor by merger to Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company), as Trustee, dated as of April 1, 1983, as amended and restated (the "Indenture"), and the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 33-65135) relating to the Notes (the "Registration Statement").

Based upon the foregoing and upon such further investigation as we deemed relevant in the premises, we are of the opinion that: 1. The Company has been duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware.

2. The Notes have been duly and validly authorized by the Company and when the Notes have been duly executed and authenticated in accordance with the terms of the Indenture and delivered against payment therefor as set forth in the Underwriting Agreement, as supplemented by the Terms Agreement, the Notes will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company in accordance with their terms, except to the extent that enforcement thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other laws relating to or affecting enforcement of creditors' rights or by general equity principles.

We consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and as an exhibit to the Current Report of the Company on Form 8-K dated April 1, 1996.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Brown & Wood