

ARES CAPITAL CORP  
Form 8-K  
December 12, 2005

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, DC 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) **December 12, 2005**

**ARES CAPITAL CORPORATION**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

<b>Maryland</b>		<b>000-50697</b>		<b>33-1089684</b>
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)		(Commission File Number)		(IRS Employer Identification No.)
<b>780 Third Avenue, 46<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10017</b>				
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)				
Registrant's telephone number, including area code <b>(212) 750-7300</b>				
<b>N/A</b>				
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)				

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

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- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  
  - o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure**

The Registrant issued a press release, filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and by this reference incorporated herein, on December 12, 2005 announcing the declaration of a fourth quarter dividend of \$0.34 per share. The record date for the dividend is December 22, 2005 and it will be paid on January 16, 2006.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(c) Exhibits:

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
99.1	Press Release, dated as of December 12, 2005.

**SIGNATURES**

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.

ARES CAPITAL CORPORATION

Date: December 12, 2005

By: /s/ Daniel F. Nguyen

Name: Daniel F. Nguyen  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
99.1	Press Release, dated as of December 12, 2005.