

BURNS JOHN J JR  
Form 4  
April 27, 2010

**FORM 4**

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
BURNS JOHN J JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION, 7  
TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH  
FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10036

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ALLEGHANY CORP /DE [Y]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
04/26/2010

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |                                   |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code  | V   | Amount   |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 02/02/2010                           |  | G                              | 50  | D   | <u>(1)</u> 69,771  | D                                 |
| Common Stock                    | 04/06/2010                           |  | G                              | 100   | D   | <u>(2)</u> 71,066 <u>(3)</u>                             | D                                 |
| Common Stock                    | 04/06/2010                           |  | G                              | 400   | D   | <u>(4)</u> 70,666  | D                                 |
| Common Stock                    | 04/26/2010                           |  | A                              | 250   | A   | <u>(5)</u> 70,916  | D                                 |
| Common Stock                    | 04/06/2010                           |  | A                              | 400   | A   | <u>(4)</u> 1,264 <u>(3)</u>                              | I Held by trust of                |

which reporting person's spouse is sole trustee

Common Stock 832 <sup>(3)</sup> I By spouse

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price or Derivative Security (Instr. 5) |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares |
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Code   | V (A) (D)   |  |                            |
| Option (right to buy)                      | \$ 300.72  | 04/26/2010                           |  | A                              | 1   | <sup>(6)</sup> 04/25/2020                                | Common Stock  | 500  | <sup>(6)</sup>             |

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BURNS JOHN J JR  
ALLEGHANY CORPORATION  
7 TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10036

X

## Signatures

Christopher K. Dalrymple,  
Attorney-in-Fact

04/27/2010

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Gift to family member who does not share reporting person's household
- (2) Gift to non-family member third party
- (3) Includes shares of Common Stock paid by Alleghany Corporation as a stock dividend on April 23, 2010 to stockholders of record on April 1, 2010.
- (4) Gift to trust of which reporting person's spouse is sole trustee.
- (5) Grant of restricted stock for no cash consideration under 2010 Directors' Stock Plan
- (6) One-third of such option becomes exercisable on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant. The option was granted for no cash consideration.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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