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CIENA CORP  
Form 8-K  
December 22, 2003

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

December 22, 2003  
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Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

CIENA Corporation  
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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|   |                       |                                      |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Delaware  | 0-21969               | 23-2725311                           |
| (State or other jurisdiction<br>of incorporation) | (Commission File No.) | (IRS Employer<br>Identification No.) |

1201 Winterson Road, Linthicum, Maryland 21090  
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(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:  
(410) 865-8500  
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Not applicable  
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(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Exhibit Index on Page 2

Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure.

On December 22, 2003, CIENA Corporation issued the press release, attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1, concerning the redemption of all the outstanding 5%

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Convertible Subordinated Notes due October 15, 2005 The press release is incorporated herein by this reference.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release, issued December 22, 2003.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

CIENA CORPORATION

Date: December 22, 2003

By:

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Russell B. Stevenson, Jr.  
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and  
Secretary