

Fortress Investment Group LLC
Form DEFA14A
February 15, 2017

UNITED STATES
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): February 14, 2017 (February 14, 2017)

Fortress Investment Group LLC

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

1345 Avenue of the Americas, 46th Floor, New York, New York

001-33294
(Commission

File Number)

20-5837959
(IRS Employer

Identification No.)

10105

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(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 798-6100

N/A

(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):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On February 14, 2017, Fortress Investment Group LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (Fortress), and SoftBank Group Corp., a corporation organized under the laws of Japan (SoftBank), issued a joint press release announcing that they had entered into definitive agreements pursuant to which SoftBank will acquire Fortress. A copy of the joint press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

On February 14, 2017, Fortress distributed the communications attached hereto as Exhibits 99.2 and 99.3, which are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------------|---|
| 99.1 | Joint Press Release, dated February 14, 2017. |
| 99.2 | Email to Fortress Employees, dated February 14, 2017. |
| 99.3 | Letter to Fortress Fund Investors, dated February 14, 2017. |

Important Additional Information

In connection with the proposed merger, the Company intends to file relevant materials with the SEC, including a preliminary proxy statement on Schedule 14A. Following the filing of the definitive proxy statement with the SEC, the Company will mail the definitive proxy statement and a proxy card to each shareholder entitled to vote at the special meeting relating to the proposed merger. **SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO CAREFULLY READ THESE MATERIALS IN THEIR ENTIRETY (INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS THERETO) AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS THAT THE COMPANY WILL FILE OR FURNISH WITH THE SEC WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.** The proxy statement and other relevant materials (when available), and any and all documents filed or furnished by the Company with the SEC, may also be obtained for free at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. In addition, shareholders may obtain free copies of the documents filed with the SEC by the Company via the Company's Public Shareholders section of its website at www.fortress.com or by contacting Investor Relations.

This document does not constitute a solicitation of proxy, an offer to purchase or a solicitation of an offer to sell any securities. The Company, its directors, executive officers and certain employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the shareholders of the Company in connection with the proposed merger. Information about the persons who may, under the rules of the SEC, be considered to be participants in the solicitation of the Company's shareholders in connection with the proposed merger, and any interest they have in the proposed merger, will be set forth in the definitive proxy statement when it is filed with the SEC. Additional information regarding these individuals is set forth in the Company's proxy statement for its 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which was filed with the SEC on April 8, 2016, and its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, which was filed with the SEC on February 25, 2016. These documents (when available) may be obtained for free at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov, and via the Company's Public Shareholders section of its website at www.fortress.com.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this Current Report may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are generally identified by the use of words such as outlook, believe, expect, potential, continue, may, will, should, could, would, seek,

approximately, predict, intend, plan, estimate, anticipate, opportunity, pipeline, comfortable, maintain, sustain, achieve or the negative version of those words or other comparable words. Forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but instead represent only the Company's beliefs as of the date of this report regarding future events, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside of the Company's control. Numerous factors could cause actual events to differ from these forward-looking statements, and any such differences could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Such factors include but are not limited to the following: (1) the Company may be unable to obtain shareholder approval as required for the Merger; (2) conditions to the closing of the Merger, including the obtaining of required regulatory approvals, may not be satisfied; (3) the Merger may involve unexpected costs, liabilities or delays; (4) the business of the Company may suffer as a result of uncertainty surrounding the Merger; (5) the outcome of any legal proceedings related to the Merger; (6) the Company may be adversely affected by other economic, business, and/or competitive factors, including the net asset value of assets in certain of the Company's funds; (7) the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the Merger Agreement; (8) risks that the Merger disrupts current plans and operations and the potential difficulties in employee retention as a result of the Merger; (9) other risks to consummation of the Merger, including the risk that the Merger will not be consummated within the expected time period or at all; and (10) the risks described from time to time in the Company's reports filed with the SEC under the heading Risk Factors, including the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K and in other of the Company's filings with the SEC. In addition, new risks and uncertainties emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for the Company to predict or assess the impact of every factor that may cause its actual results to differ from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements.

Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements contained in this Current Report, and you should not regard any forward-looking statement as a representation by the Company or any other person that the future plans, estimates or expectations currently contemplated by the Company will be achieved. The Company can give no assurance that the expectations of any forward-looking statement will be obtained. Such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this Current Report. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

FORTRESS INVESTMENT GROUP LLC
(Registrant)

By: /s/ David N. Brooks
David N. Brooks
General Counsel

Date: February 14, 2017

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