ARES CAPITAL CORP Form 8-K January 18, 2011

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 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) January 18, 2011

ARES CAPITAL CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Maryland (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) **000-50697** (Commission File Number)

33-1089684 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

280 Park Avenue, 22nd Floor, Building East, New York, NY (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

10017 (Zip Code)

N/A

Registrant s telephone number, including area code (212) 750-7300

(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 (<i>see</i> General Instruction A.2. below): | |
|--|--|
| 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)) |
| 0 | 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 January 18, 2011, Ares Capital Corporation issued a press release announcing that it plans to make a private offering of \$300 million aggregate principal amount of its Convertible Senior Notes due 2016. A copy of the press release is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Neither the Convertible Senior Notes nor the common stock that may be issued upon conversion thereof will be registered under the Securities Act. Neither the Convertible Senior Notes nor the common stock that may be issued upon conversion thereof may be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an applicable exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act.

The information disclosed under this Item 8.01, including Exhibit 99.1 hereto, is being furnished and shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing made under the Securities Act of 1933, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits:

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release, dated as of January 18, 2011.

2

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: January 18, 2011

By: /s/ Penni F. Roll Name: Penni F. Roll

Title: Chief Financial Officer

3

Exhibit Index

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release, dated as of January 18, 2011.

4