

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 10-Q

Quarterly report pursuant to sections 13 or 15(d)

Filing Date: **1995-05-10** | Period of Report: **1995-03-31**
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FILER

OHIO BELL TELEPHONE CO

CIK: **73945** | IRS No.: **340436390** | State of Incorp.: **OH** | Fiscal Year End: **1231**
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SIC: **4813** Telephone communications (no radiotelephone)

Mailing Address
45 ERIEVIEW PLAZA
CLEVELAND OH 44114

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CLEVELAND OH 44114
2168229700

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 1995

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission File Number 1-6781

THE OHIO BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

(Incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio)

45 Erieview Plaza, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

I.R.S. Employer Identification Number 34-0436390

Telephone Number - (216) 822-9700

THE REGISTRANT, A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF AMERITECH CORPORATION, MEETS THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN GENERAL INSTRUCTION H(1)(a) AND (b) OF FORM 10-Q AND IS THEREFORE FILING THIS FORM WITH REDUCED DISCLOSURE FORMAT PURSUANT TO GENERAL INSTRUCTION H(2).

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes . No .

At April 28, 1995, one common share was outstanding.

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PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following condensed financial statements have been prepared by The Ohio Bell Telephone Company (the Company) pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and, in the opinion of the Company, include all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair statement of results for each period shown. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such SEC rules and regulations. The Company believes that the disclosures made are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's latest Annual Report on Form 10-K.

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND REINVESTED EARNINGS (DEFICIT) (Millions of Dollars)

	(Unaudited)	
	Three Months Ended	
	March 31	
	1995	1994
Revenues	\$ 535.0	\$537.4
	-----	-----
Operating Expenses		
Employee-related expenses	116.8	119.7
Depreciation and amortization	88.2	95.8
Other operating expenses	160.9	143.8
Restructuring (credit) charge	(37.4)	132.5
Taxes other than income taxes	55.7	57.6
	-----	-----
	384.2	549.4
	-----	-----
Operating income (loss)	150.8	(12.0)
Interest expense	14.4	14.4
Other income, net	(0.6)	(2.5)
	-----	-----
Income (loss) before income taxes	137.0	(23.9)

Income taxes.	46.4	(6.7)
	-----	-----
Net income (loss)	90.6	(17.2)
Reinvested earnings (deficit), beginning of period.	(242.0)	236.8
Less, dividends	45.7	66.4
	-----	-----
Reinvested earnings (deficit), end of period.	\$ (197.1)	\$153.2
	=====	=====

See Notes to Condensed Financial Statements.

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CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS
(Dollars in Millions)

	March 31, 1995 (Unaudited)	Dec. 31, 1994 (Derived from Audited Financial Statements)
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and temporary cash investments.	\$ 106.6	\$ 60.5
Receivables, net		
Customers	310.2	350.1
Ameritech and affiliates.	24.7	25.6
Other	18.8	17.3
Material and supplies.	7.5	3.3
Prepaid and other.	49.9	82.2
	-----	-----
	517.7	539.0
	-----	-----
Property, plant and equipment	5,615.4	5,572.5
Less, accumulated depreciation.	3,292.9	3,213.8
	-----	-----
	2,322.5	2,358.7
	-----	-----
Investments, principally in affiliates.	58.6	65.8
Other assets and deferred charges	155.1	88.0

Total assets.	\$3,053.9	\$3,051.5
	=====	=====

See Notes to Condensed Financial Statements.

CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS (continued)
(Dollars in Millions)

	March 31, 1995 (Unaudited)	Dec. 31, 1994 (Derived from Audited Financial Statements)
LIABILITIES AND SHAREOWNER'S EQUITY		
Current liabilities		
Debt maturing within one year.	\$ --	\$ 0.4
Accounts payable		
Ameritech Services, Inc. (ASI).	108.2	126.2
Ameritech and affiliates.	26.6	38.3
Other	130.5	167.3
Other current liabilities.	351.4	355.9
	-----	-----
	616.7	688.1
	-----	-----
Long-term debt.	834.9	834.9
	-----	-----
Deferred credits and other long-term liabilities		
Accumulated deferred income taxes.	93.8	77.2
Unamortized investment tax credits	49.7	51.9
Postretirement benefits other than pensions.	549.7	547.2
Long-term payable to ASI	17.4	18.5
Other.	78.7	65.6
	-----	-----
	789.3	760.4
	-----	-----
Shareowner's equity		
Common stock (one share issued and outstanding without par value).	1,010.1	1,010.1
Reinvested deficit	(197.1)	(242.0)
	-----	-----
	813.0	768.1

Total liabilities and shareowner's equity . . .	\$3,053.9	\$3,051.5
	=====	=====

See Notes to Condensed Financial Statements.

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CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Dollars in Millions)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	1995	1994
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Net income (loss)	\$ 90.6	\$ (17.2)
Adjustments to net income (loss):		
Restructuring (credit) charge, net of tax . .	(24.3)	86.1
Depreciation and amortization	88.2	95.8
Deferred income taxes, net	(2.0)	(10.1)
Investment tax credits, net	(2.2)	(2.7)
Interest during construction	(0.8)	(0.9)
Provision for uncollectibles	3.9	4.5
Change in accounts receivable	35.4	(5.8)
Change in material and supplies	(4.2)	0.6
Change in certain other current assets	4.0	3.4
Change in accounts payable	(66.5)	(22.5)
Change in certain other current liabilities .	(7.7)	5.6
Change in certain other noncurrent assets and liabilities	3.7	(0.6)
Other	7.0	(3.8)
	-----	-----
Net cash from operating activities	125.1	132.4
	-----	-----
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Capital expenditures	(51.3)	(60.7)
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment	0.1	2.9
	-----	-----
Net cash from investing activities	(51.2)	(57.8)
	-----	-----
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Intercompany financing, net	--	(8.8)

Retirements of long-term debt	(0.2)	(0.1)
Dividend payments	(27.6)	(65.7)
	-----	-----
Net cash from financing activities.	(27.8)	(74.6)
	-----	-----
Net increase in cash and temporary cash investments	46.1	--
Cash and temporary cash investments at beginning of period.	60.5	--
	-----	-----
Cash and temporary cash investments at end of period.	\$106.6	\$ --
	=====	=====

See Notes to Condensed Financial Statements.

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NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Dollars in Millions)

MARCH 31, 1995

NOTE 1: Work Force Restructuring

During March 1994, the Company's parent, Ameritech Corporation, announced its plan to reduce its existing nonmanagement work force. Approximately 11,500 employees are expected to leave under this program, including 2,801 employees of the Company. Under terms of agreements between Ameritech, the Communications Workers of America (CWA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Ameritech implemented an enhancement to the Ameritech Pension Plan by adding three years to both the age and the net credited service of eligible nonmanagement employees who leave the business during a designated period that ends in mid-1995. In addition, certain business units are offering financial incentives under terms of the current contracts with the CWA and IBEW to selected nonmanagement employees who leave the business before the end of 1995. See additional discussion in Management's Discussion and Analysis below.

As a result of the restructuring, a pretax charge of \$132.5, or \$86.1 after-tax, was recorded in the first quarter 1994. In the first quarter 1995, a gain of \$37.4, or \$24.3 after-tax, was recorded resulting primarily from settlement gains from lump-sum pension payments from the Ameritech pension plan to former employees. The cumulative gross program costs through March 31, 1995 totaled \$283.1, partially offset by settlement gains of \$147.3 for an aggregate pretax net program cost of \$135.8, or \$88.3 after-tax. At March 31, 1995, the remaining severance accrual was \$19.9.

As of March 31, 1995, 2,159 employees have left the Company as a result of the restructuring, with 642 expected to leave later in 1995.

NOTE 2: Discontinuation of FAS 71 and Reclassifications

As discussed more fully in the 1994 Annual Report on Form 10-K, during the fourth quarter of 1994, the Company incurred an extraordinary noncash after-tax charge of \$445.2 as a result of its decision to discontinue the application of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 71 (FAS 71), "Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation."

The principal component of the above charge related to a determination that telephone plant asset lives were too long and analog switches were obsolete. The net effect of this determination is causing 1995 depreciation expense to decrease. Long-term, depreciation expense will increase as the effects of shorter lives on plant assets and future plant additions offset the discontinuation of depreciation of analog switches. The following is a summary of average lives of property, plant and equipment after the discontinuation of FAS 71:

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Asset Category	Average Life
Central office equipment	
Digital switching	7
Analog switching	obsolete
Circuit accounts	7
Copper and fiber cable and wire facilities	15
All other	various

Certain additional financial statement impacts occur as a result of no longer following FAS 71, including the provision for uncollectibles, previously shown as a reduction in other revenues, has been reclassified to other operating expenses.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

(Dollars in Millions)

The following is a discussion and analysis of the changes in revenues, operating expenses and other income and expenses for the first three months of 1995 as compared to the first three months of 1994:

Results of Operations

Revenues

Total revenues in the first three months of 1995 were \$535.0 and were \$537.4 for the same period in 1994. The following paragraphs explain the components of that change.

Local service

	March 31		Increase	Percent
	1995	1994	(Decrease)	Change
Three Months Ended	\$298.9	\$294.8	\$4.1	1.4

The increase in local service revenues in the first quarter 1995 was primarily attributable to higher network volumes, resulting principally from growth in the number of access lines, which increased 3.6 percent to 3,650,648 as of March 31, 1995, as well as increased volumes and greater sales of special calling features, such as Call Forwarding and Caller ID. These increases were partially offset by rate reductions of \$9.5 resulting from regulatory proceedings which adopted price regulation in place of rate-of-return regulation and removed limits on intrastate earnings.

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Network access

	March 31		Increase	Percent
	1995	1994	(Decrease)	Change
Interstate				
Three Months Ended	\$112.3	\$109.9	\$ 2.4	2.2
Intrastate				
Three Months Ended	\$ 31.8	\$ 35.5	\$(3.7)	(10.4)

The increase in interstate network access revenues for the three months ended March 31, 1995 was primarily due to higher network usage, which resulted in additional revenues of \$4.2 and a reduction in NECA common line pool support payments of \$2.5. Partially offsetting these increases were net rate reductions of \$4.8. Minutes of use related to interstate calls increased 6.2 percent in 1995. See additional discussion below regarding Ameritech's interstate access price cap filing.

The decrease in intrastate network access revenues for the three months ended March 31, 1995 was primarily due to rate reductions of \$3.5, \$0.8 of which resulted from regulatory proceedings which adopted certain regulatory freedoms as previously discussed. Higher network usage resulted in additional revenues of \$1.5 which partially offset these decreases. Intrastate network access revenues also decreased as a result of a change

in certain billing arrangements with independent telephone companies. Minutes of use related to intrastate calls increased 6.5 percent in 1995.

Long distance service

	March 31 1995	March 31 1994	Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
Three Months Ended	\$42.1	\$47.2	\$ (5.1)	(10.8)

The decrease in long distance service revenues for the three months ended March 31, 1995 was due to a decrease in intrastate network usage. Toll messages decreased 4.4 percent in the three months ended March 31, 1995 as compared with the prior year period.

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Other

	March 31 1995	March 31 1994	Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
Three Months Ended	\$49.9	\$50.0	\$ (0.1)	(0.2)

Other revenues include revenues derived from directory advertising, billing and collection services, inside wire installation and maintenance services and other miscellaneous services. The small decrease in other revenues was primarily due to decreased revenues from billing and collection services of \$1.4. Also contributing to the decrease was a decrease in rent revenues of \$0.8 from a change in methodology in the way the Company accounts for these revenues. In 1995, these revenues were reflected as credits to expense, whereas in 1994, such amounts were included in other revenues. Offsetting the decreases was an increase in inside wire installation and maintenance revenues of \$1.2 resulting from volume increases of \$0.8 and rate increases of \$0.4. Other nonregulated revenues increased \$0.7 primarily due to increased voice mail volumes.

Operating expenses

Total operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 1995 decreased by \$165.2 or 30.1 percent to \$384.2. The decrease was almost entirely attributable to the 1994 work force restructuring, which resulted in a credit of \$37.4 in the first quarter of 1995 related to the net settlement gains previously discussed compared with a first quarter 1994 charge of \$132.5.

Employee-related expenses

	March 31 1995	March 31 1994	Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
--	------------------	------------------	------------------------	-------------------

Three Months Ended	\$116.8	\$119.7	\$(2.9)	(2.4)
--------------------	---------	---------	---------	-------

The decrease in employee-related expenses for the three months ended March 31, 1995 was attributable primarily to the effect of work force reductions over the past year of \$12.8, as well as reduced bonus accruals and other benefits of \$5.6. Partially offsetting these decreases were the effects of increased overtime payments and medical, dental and postretirement benefits of \$15.5.

There were 8,484 employees at March 31, 1995, compared with 9,960 at March 31, 1994.

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Depreciation and
amortization expense

	March 31 1995	March 31 1994	Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
Three Months Ended	\$88.2	\$95.8	\$(7.6)	(7.9)

The decrease in depreciation and amortization expense for the three months ended March 31, 1995 was primarily due to the cessation of depreciation of analog switches determined to be obsolete in connection with the discontinuance of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 71 (FAS 71), "Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation," in the fourth quarter of 1994. This decrease was partially offset by the change in depreciation rates as a result of shortening telephone plant lives following the discontinuation of FAS 71.

Other operating expenses

	March 31 1995	March 31 1994	Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
Three Months Ended	\$160.9	\$143.8	\$17.1	11.9

The increase in other operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 1995 was primarily attributable to higher affiliate services expenses of \$23.8, resulting from increased billings from Ameritech Services, Inc. (ASI) as business unit expenses, especially contract and professional services have shifted to that entity, as well as increased advertising expenses of \$6.1, resulting from increased marketing efforts. These increases were partially offset by a net decrease of \$11.4 in expenses for contract services, discussed above, bad debt expense and other one-time adjustments.

Restructuring (credit) charge

	March 31		Increase	Percent
	1995	1994	(Decrease)	Change
Three Months Ended	\$ (37.4)	\$132.5	\$ (169.9)	n/a

As discussed in Note 1, Ameritech announced in March 1994 that it intended to reduce its nonmanagement work force by 6,000 employees (1,500 at the Company) by the end of 1995. Reduction of the work force results from Company's implementation of technological improvements, consolidations and initiatives to balance its cost structure with emerging competition. Ameritech now expects its nonmanagement work force to be reduced by about 11,500 employees through 1995 instead of the 6,000 originally estimated in March, including 2,801 at the Company. A pretax charge of \$132.5 related to the original estimated work force reduction was recorded in the first quarter of 1994, with additional charges later in 1994. A net noncash settlement gain of \$37.4 was recorded in the first quarter of 1995 associated with lump-sum pension payments to former employees. Future settlement gains (estimated at \$21.0) are anticipated.

Actual employee reductions by quarter were: 365 in the second quarter of 1994, 358 in the third quarter of 1994, 1,362 in the fourth quarter of 1994 and 74 in the first quarter of 1995. Estimates for the remainder of 1995 are 156 in the second quarter and 486 in the third quarter. Cash requirements to fund the financial incentives (principally contractual termination payments totaling approximately \$80.6) are being met as prescribed by applicable collective bargaining agreements. Certain of these collective bargaining agreements require contractual termination payments to be paid in a manner other than lump-sum, thus requiring cash payments beyond an employee's termination date.

This program will reduce annual employee-related costs by approximately \$50 thousand per departing employee. The projected savings may be partially offset by the hiring of new employees with better matched skills to accommodate growth, ensure high quality customer service and meet staffing requirements for new business opportunities.

Taxes other than income taxes

	March 31		Increase	Percent
	1995	1994	(Decrease)	Change
Three Months Ended	\$55.7	\$57.6	\$ (1.9)	(3.3)

The decrease in taxes other than income taxes for the three months ended March 31, 1995 is primarily attributable to lower sales and use taxes of \$1.4 resulting from a change in the method of assessing these taxes, as well as a decrease in property taxes.

Other Income and Expenses

Interest expense

	March 31		Increase	Percent
	1995	1994	(Decrease)	Change
Three Months Ended	\$14.4	\$14.4	\$--	--

Interest expense remained constant for the three months ended March 31, 1995 as compared with the prior year. Lower short-term interest of \$0.3 on borrowings from the Ameritech short-term funding pool resulted from lower average debt balances, partially offset by higher short-term interest rates. Also offsetting the decrease were increased costs related to the corporate-owned life insurance program.

Other income, net

	March 31		(Increase)	Percent
	1995	1994	Decrease	Change
Three Months Ended	\$(0.6)	\$(2.5)	1.9	n/a

Other income, net includes equity earnings in affiliates, interest income and other nonoperating items. The change in other income, net results primarily from decreased equity earnings from ASI.

Income taxes

	March 31		Increase	Percent
	1995	1994	(Decrease)	Change
Three Months Ended	\$46.4	\$(6.7)	\$53.1	n/a

The increase in income taxes for the three months ended March 31, 1995 was due primarily to the change in pretax income as a result of the work force restructuring credit of \$37.4 (\$24.3 after-tax) in the first quarter of 1995 as compared to the work force restructuring charge of \$132.5 (\$86.1 after-tax) in the first quarter of 1994. Excluding these items, income taxes changed in line with the earnings in the business.

Interstate Access Price Cap Filing

On May 9, 1995 in its annual interstate access price cap filing, Ameritech elected the 5.3 productivity factor with no earnings sharing as allowed under the new price cap rules of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). That selection, together with other index changes required by the

FCC's rules, results in annual rate reductions to the Company's customers totaling approximately \$12.8 effective August 1, 1995.

Ameritech filed a waiver request with the FCC to make an additional downward adjustment of its indices that would have the effect of applying the 5.3 productivity factor retroactively back to January 1, 1995. The result would be an additional annual rate reduction for the Company's customers of \$5.1 effective August 1, 1995. In return, Ameritech would be relieved of all sharing obligations for the entire 1995 calendar year.

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PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K.

(a) Reports on Form 8-K

No Form 8-K was filed by the registrant during the quarter for which this report is filed.

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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.

THE OHIO BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

(Registrant)

Date: May 9, 1995

/s/ Richard A. Kuzmar

Richard A. Kuzmar
Vice President and Comptroller

(Principal Financial Officer)

<TABLE> <S> <C>

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THIS SCHEDULE CONTAINS SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE OHIO BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY'S MARCH 31, 1995 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO SUCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

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<F1>SECURITIES ARE NOT MATERIAL AND THEREFORE HAVE NOT BEEN STATED SEPARATELY IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. THIS AMOUNT IS INCLUDED IN THE "CASH" TAG.

<F2>NET SALES OF TANGIBLE PRODUCTS IS NOT MORE THAN 10% OF TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES AND THEREFORE HAS NOT BEEN STATED SEPARATELY IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO REGULATION S-X, RULE 5-03(B). THIS AMOUNT IS INCLUDED IN THE "TOTAL REVENUES" TAG.

<F3>COST OF TANGIBLE GOODS SOLD IS INCLUDED IN COST OF SERVICE AND PRODUCTS IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE "TOTAL COST" TAG, PURSUANT TO REGULATION S-X, RULE 5-03(B).

</FN>

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