

MESS CHARLES F  
Form 4  
December 17, 2004

**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 \*  
MESS CHARLES F

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SANDY SPRING BANCORP INC  
[SASR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
MESS, CHARLES F., 18111  
PRINCE PHILLIP DRIVE

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/15/2004

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

(Street)  
OLNEY, MD 20832

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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) Code V Amount (D) Price                                |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 11,732  | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 975   | I  | Self Dir Pension Plan             |

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

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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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. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$ 14.54   |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/13/2000 12/13/2010                                    | Common Stock  | 1,082                         |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$ 31.25   |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/11/2002 12/11/2012                                    | Common Stock  | 756                           |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$ 32.25   |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/21/2001 12/21/2011                                    | Common Stock  | 704                           |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$ 38  | 12/15/2004                           |  | A                              | 1,299   | 12/15/2004 12/15/2014                                    | Common Stock  | 1,299                         |
| Stock Options (Right to buy)               | \$ 38.91   |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/17/2003 12/17/2013                                    | Common Stock  | 1,103                         |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| MESS CHARLES F<br>MESS, CHARLES F.<br>18111 PRINCE PHILLIP DRIVE<br>OLNEY, MD 20832 |               | X         |         |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Theresa A. Cornish  
by POA

12/17/2004

\_\_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).

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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