

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

A fee is being paid with this statement.

Name of

Issuer: POLO RALPH LAUREN CORP

Title of Class

of Securities: Common Stock

CUSIP Number: 731572103

1) NAME OF I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF REPORTING PERSON

The Prudential Insurance Company of America 22-1211670

2.) MEMBER OF A GROUP: (a) N/A

(b) N/A

3) SEC USE ONLY:

4) PLACE OF ORGANIZATION: A mutual insurance company organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY REPORTING PERSON WITH:

- 5) Sole Voting Power: 145,900 See Exhibit A
- 6) Shared Voting Power 1,443,050 See Exhibit A
- 7) Sole Dispositive Power: 145,900 See Exhibit A
- 8) Shared Dispositive Power: 1,818,650 See Exhibit A

9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED:
1,964,550 See Exhibit A

10) AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES SHARES: Not Applicable

11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9):
5.73 See Exhibit A

12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON: IC, IA

ITEM 1(a). NAME OF ISSUER:

POLO RALPH LAUREN CORP

ITEM 1(b). ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S EXECUTIVE OFFICES:

POLO RALPH LAUREN CORP
650 Madison Ave
New York, NY 10022

ITEM 2(a). NAME OF PERSON FILING:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America

ITEM 2(b). ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE:

751 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102-3777

ITEM 2(c). CITIZENSHIP:

A mutual insurance company organized under the laws

of the
State of New Jersey

ITEM 2(d). TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES:

Common Stock

ITEM 2(e). CUSIP NUMBER:

731572103

ITEM 3. The Person filing this statement is an Insurance Company
as defined in Section 3(a) (19) of the Securities
Exchange

Act of 1934, and an Investment Adviser registered
under

Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP:

(a) Number of Shares

Beneficially Owned: 1,964,550 See Exhibit A

(b) Percent of Class: 5.73

Number

(c) Powers Of Shares

Sole power to vote or 145,900 See Exhibit A
to direct the vote

Shared power to vote or 1,443,050 See Exhibit A
to direct the vote

Sole power to dispose or 145,900 See Exhibit A
to direct disposition

Shared power to dispose 1,818,650 See Exhibit A
or to direct disposition

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF 5% OR LESS OF A CLASS:

Not Applicable

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN 5% ON BEHALF
OF ANOTHER PERSON:

See Exhibit A

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE
SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING
REPORTED ON BY THE ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY:

Not Applicable

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS
OF THE GROUP:

Not Applicable

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP:

Not Applicable

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION:

By signing below, the Prudential Insurance Company of America
certifies that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the
securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course
of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not
have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the
issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection
with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose

or effect.

The filing of this statement should not be construed as an admission that Prudential is, for purposes of Sections 13 or 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the beneficial owner of such shares.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of its knowledge and belief, The Prudential Insurance Company of America certifies that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

By: Karen L. Shapiro
Vice President, Corporate Compliance

Date: 02/10/98
As of: 12/31/97

Exhibit A

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America ('Prudential') may have direct or indirect voting and/or investment discretion over 1,964,550 shares of the Issuer's common stock which are held for the benefit of its clients by its separate accounts, externally managed accounts, registered investment companies, subsidiaries and/or other affiliates. Prudential is reporting the combined holdings of these entities for the purpose of administrative convenience.

These shares were acquired in the ordinary course of business, and not with the purpose or effect of changing or influencing control of the Issuer. The filing of this statement should not be construed as an admission that Prudential is, for the purposes of Section 13 or 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the beneficial owner of these shares.