COMMERCE BANCORP INC /NJ/

Form 4 April 10, 2003

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

FORM 4

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

 $|_|$ Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

| - | | · | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| (Print of Type Responses) | | | |
| 1. Name and Address of Repo | orting Person* | | |
| Hill, II, | Vernon | W. | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | |
| Commerce | Bancorp, Inc. 1701 R | oute 70 East | |
| | (Street) | | |
| Cherry Hill | NJ | 08034 | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | |
| | | | |
| 2. Issuer Name and Ticker | or Trading Symbol | | |
| Commerce Bancorp, Ind | c. (CBH) | | |
| 3. I.R.S. Identification Nu | umber of Depositing De | man if an entity (well) | |
| 3. I.R.S. Identification No | miber of Reporting Fe. | rson, if an enercy (voic | .iicary) |
| | | | |
| 4. Statement for Month/Day, | Year | | |
| April 10, 2003 | | | |
| 5. If Amendment, Date of On | riginal (Month/Day/Ye | ar) | |
| | | | |

^{6.} Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable) |_| 10% Owner |X| Director |X| Officer (give title below) |_| Other (specify below) Chairman, CEO and President 7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable line) |X| Form Filed by One Reporting Person |_| Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person ______ Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned ______ 4. Securities Acquired (A) or 1. Date any -----(mm/dd/yy) (mm/dd/yy) Code V Amount Title of Security (Instr. 3) (D) Price Common Stock 10,000 s/s A \$37.27 Common Stock 4/10/03 Common Stock

| Common Stoc | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|------------|---|------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Common Stoc | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Stoc | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | lass of securit | | ficially | | |
| * If the 4(b)(v | | filed by | more than | one repo | orting person, | see Instr | ruction | | |
| 1(2) (| , • | | | | | SEC 1 | .474 (9-02 (Over | • | |
| number. | | | | | | | | | |
| FORM 4 (con Table II | Derivati (e.g., p | uts, call | s, warran | nts, optio | sposed of, or I | le securit | ies) | | |
| FORM 4 (con Table II | Derivati (e.g., p | uts, call | 3A. Deemed | nts, optio | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) | le securit | ies) | 7. Title as of Under Securit. | |

Right to Buy \$4.39

Stock

12/31/94 12/31/03 Common 126,622

| Right to Buy | \$5.87 | | 01/02/05 | Stock | · |
|--|---------|----------|----------|-----------------|------------------|
| Right to Buy | | 01/02/97 | 01/02/06 | Common Stock | 95 , 712 |
| Right to Buy | | 12/18/97 | 12/18/06 | | 303 , 874 |
| Right to Buy | | 12/16/98 | 12/16/07 | Common Stock | 289,396 |
| Right to Buy | | 06/29/99 | 06/29/08 | Common Stock | 275 , 620 |
| Right to Buy | | 12/15/99 | 12/15/08 | | 220,496 |
| Right to Buy | | 12/21/00 | 12/21/09 | | 209,998 |
| Right to Buy | | 01/31/02 | 01/31/01 | Common Stock | 200,000 |
| 5.95% Convert Trust Preferr Securities of Commerce Capital Trust | ed | (1) | | Common Stock | 3,791 |
| 5.95% Convert Trust Preferr Securities of Commerce Capital Trust | ed | (1) | (1) | Common Stock | |
| Right to Buy | | 02/18/04 | 02/18/13 | Common Stock | 37 , 500 |
| Right to Buy | \$42.80 | 02/18/05 | 02/18/13 | Stock | |
| Right to Buy | | 02/18/06 | 02/18/13 | | |
| Right to Buy | | 02/18/07 | 02/18/13 | Common Stock | 37,500 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Each 5.95% Convertible Trust Preferred Security (each a "preferred security") is convertible at any time on or after the occurrence of the events described below and prior to 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the business day immediately preceding the date of repayment of such preferred security, whether at stated maturity (i.e. March 11, 2032) or upon redemption, at the option of the holder thereof, into shares of Commerce Bancorp, Inc.'s common stock at an initial conversion ratio of 0.9478 shares of Commerce Bancorp, Inc. common stock for each preferred security, subject to adjustment under certain circumstances. The preferred securities are convertible into shares of Commerce Bancorp, Inc. common stock if: (a) the closing sale price of Commerce Bancorp, Inc. common stock for at least 20 trading days in the period of 30 consecutive trading days ending on the last trading day of any calendar quarter beginning with the quarter ending June 30, 2002 is more than 110% of the preferred securities conversion prive then in effect on the last day of such calendar quarter, (c) the assigned credit rating by Moody's of the preferred securities is at or below Bal, (c) the preferred securities are called for redemption (which may occur on or prior to March 11, 2032), or (d) specified corporate transactions have occurred as set forth on the Indenture dated March 11, 2002 between Commerce Bancorp, Inc. and the Bank of New York, as Debenture Trustee.

** Granted under the Company's 1984, 1994 and 1997 Stock Option Plans, which are 16b-3 plans.

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

| /s/ Vernon W. Hill, II | 4/10/03 |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| | |
| **Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

The filing of this Statement shall not be construed as an admission (a) that the person filing this Statement is, for the purposes of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (as amended), the beneficial owner of any equity securities covered by this Statement, or (b) that this Statement is legally required to be filed by such person.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed.

If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.