WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549				
FORM 4 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BE	NEETCIAL OWNERSHIP			
() Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.				
Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).				
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person				
HERVEY, JAY R				
BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC.				
245 MAIN STREET				
P O BOX 626				
BASSETT, VA 24055 USA				
2. Issuer Name and Ticker	or Trading Symbol			
BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC				
BSET				
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)				
###-##-###				
4. Statement for Month/Year				
MAY 1997				
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)				
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)() Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other				
(specify below)				
VICE PRESIDENT, GENERAL COUNSEL AND SECRETARY				
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) () Form filed by One Reporting Person				
() Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
() Form filled by More than one keporting Ferson				
Table I Non-Derivative	e Securities Acquired, Disposed	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1. Title of Security	2. 3. 4.Securities Ad	aguired (A)	5.Amount of	6.Dir 7.Nature of Indirect
1. Title of Security	Transaction or Disposed (Securities	ect Beneficial Ownership
		01 (D)	Beneficially	(D)or
	i i ii	A/	Owned at	Indir
	Date Code V Amount	D Price	End of Month	ect(I)
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Table II Derivative Co	ecuritites Acquired, Disposed of	f or Ponoficially	Ounad	
Table II Delivative 26	cuitities Acquireu, Dispuseu o	i, or belief totally	OWITEU	

|5.Number of De |6.Date Exer|7.Title and Amount

|Expiration |

|Date |Expir|

|-97 |2007 |

|11-07|5-06-|COMMON

|Date(Month/

|Day/Year)

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of Underlying

Title and Number

11500

Securities

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Amount

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|8.Price|9.Number

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End of

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|10.|11.Nature of

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Explanation of Responses:

*GRANTED UNDER THE 1993 LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN, WHICH IS A RULE 16b-3

|5-06-|A

97

Transaction

|Date |Code|V|

Security

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)|22.625

1. Title of Derivative |2.Con-

version

or Exer

|Price of

|Deriva-

cise

|tive

|Secu-

|rity

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

JAY R. HERVEY

DATE 5-16-97