

NEW JERSEY: SOLID WASTE MANAGER FOR CAPE MAY COUNTY IS LINKED TO MAFIA CRIME FIGURES.

"The Cape May County MUA, in a split vote Wednesday night, decided not to fire Solid Waste Manager Thomas J. Hroncich in spite of him admitting an association with alleged organized crime figures in a previous job. The vote followed four hours of discussion delving into a recent report by the Pennsylvania Crime Commission that linked Hroncich with alleged organized crime figures who operate in Long Island, N.Y. Hroncich was commissioner of environmental control in Islip, Long Island, until 1986 and then owned a trash consulting business in the area and another company that tried to locate a landfill in Pennsylvania...Among other things, the crime commission's report indicates that a waste consulting firm Hroncich formed did business with alleged crime figures, including **Salvatore Avellino**, an alleged soldier for **Anthony Corrallo**, the boss of what the report calls the '**Lucchese La Cosa Nostra Family**.' Avellino bought stock in his company and eventually owned 35% of it. Hroncich said he had no credit history and needed investors...'I was encouraged to go into business with Salvatore Avellino by the town of Islip, the state of New York, and the newspapers. You can't get your garbage picked up without them,' said Hroncich. 'I'm not a brain surgeon. I like garbage. I want to stay in garbage. It's an accepted practice up there (New York),' said Hroncich, noting that all his dealing were 'above board' and he did not try to cover anything up ...Hroncich also told the authority commissioners if they want to end such associations they would have to cancel a lot of contracts they have. Commissioner Robert E. Manifold asked if the county is doing business with organized crime, to which Hroncich said the county has contracts with people who have contacts with organized crime...(a letter) from an Islip garbage official said organized crime allegations are common on Long Island and a federal civil RICO suit is pending against Avellino and 131 other defendants on alleged racketeering practices [see **Waste Not #64**]...New York lawmen have said Avellino runs the Lucchese crime family's garbage business in Long Island. Hroncich said he was hired for his experience in the waste industry and this experience includes 'associating with these people'..." The Press, Atlantic City, NJ, 12-7-89.

NEW YORK: MAFIA SEEKING LANDFILL SPACE IN THE NORTH EAST.

"Two organized crime families are so worried about running out of landfill space for their waste-hauling companies in the New York area they are seeking to gain control of valuable dump sites in Pennsylvania, law-enforcement officials say. In the last two years, high-ranking members and associates of the **Lucchese** and **Genovese** crime families have acquired control or developed ties with Pennsylvania waste-carting companies that have access to landfills, officials in Pennsylvania said. The Mafia groups, the officials said, are transporting garbage from New York City and northern New Jersey to landfills near Pittsburgh, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre and to garbage compacting plants in the Philadelphia area. Investigators believe that the Mafia groups have a long-range plan to obtain 'a monopolistic stranglehold' over the remaining landfills in the Northeast with the prospect of 'making millions of dollars every year through this domination,' said Michael J. Reilly, the chairman of the Pennsylvania Crime Commission. Investigators in Pennsylvania said that an important link between Mafia-controlled carting companies in the two states is being run from a tiny storefront office in South Brooklyn [556 Fourth Avenue] by an organization called **Tiger Management Inc.** 'With landfill space disappearing in New York and New Jersey, we believe these organized-crime people are trying to position themselves for the future, Mr. Reilly said...Obviously what Pennsylvania has to offer the mob is unfilled land space,' Mr. Reilly added. The **Lucchese** and **Genovese** factions have long had widespread influence in the waste carting industry in New York City, on Long Island and in New Jersey, according to state and Federal law-enforcement officials and testimony at Federal trials in Brooklyn and Manhattan. But like municipalities and legitimate carting companies, the Mafia groups

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are running out of landfill in southern New York and New Jersey as dumps are closed because of environmental hazards, investigators say...Mr. Reilly identified two reputed high-ranking figures in the **Lucchese family**, **Peter J. Chiodo** and **Salvatore Avellino Jr.**, as playing significant roles in the expansion into Pennsylvania. He said an important figure for the **Genovese family** in Pennsylvania is **Carmine A. Franco** ... (Mr. Chiodo is) a principal investor in **Tiger Management**... In Pittsburgh, **Ronald Faherty Sr.**, the president of **Tiger Express Company** in Pennsylvania, said in a telephone interview that he paid commissions to **Tiger Management** in Brooklyn..." *New York Times*, 11-11-89, page 29.

NEW GREENPEACE REPORT: "THE POLITICS OF PENTA." This is an outstanding report, written by Carol Van Strum and Paul Merrell and published by **Greenpeace**. This report is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the history of EPA's collusion with industry in the attempt to continue production of pentachlorophenol or "Penta." Penta is an organic chemical produced by reacting chlorine gas with phenol, used primarily in the U.S. for wood treatment. Penta is highly contaminated with chlorinated dioxins and is chemically very similar to numerous other chemicals also known to be harmful, such as trichlorophenol, tetrachlorophenol, 2,4,5,-T, and silvex. "Both Penta and dioxins are extremely toxic to fish. Penta causes illness and death in fish at low concentrations; it is soluble in water and because it concentrates in sediments, can persist in aquatic systems for years. TCDD [dioxin] is toxic to fish at levels as low as **one part per quadrillion in the water**, below current levels of detection, and fish such as carp and rainbow trout are as sensitive to its lethal effects as guinea pigs, the most sensitive mammal tested. Because dioxins concentrate in sediments and particulate matter in the water, and further concentrate in fish tissue to **159,000 times the levels in water**, bottom feeders and predators that feed on contaminated fish consume concentrated doses of dioxins..." Countries that have banned Penta are: Sweden, Denmark, Greece, Egypt, Italy, Liechtenstein, Nicaragua, Panama, and Switzerland. West Germany also banned the chemical in 1989 and the German State Prosecutor has initiated a criminal investigation of executives of 40 chemical companies "for poisoning thousands of people" with a mixture of pentachlorophenol and Lindane, used as a household wood preservative. The release of this report coincides with the EPA's current deliberation over proposed hazardous waste regulations for the wood preserving industry. These proposed regulations have been significantly weakened by an industry lobby described in this report. Available for \$10 from **Greenpeace Penta Campaign, 4649 Sunnyside Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98103.**

VIDEO AVAILABLE ON PAPER PULP MILL POLLUTION. This 15 minute video illustrates the environmental damage faced by British Columbians as a result of pulp mill pollution. Produced by the West Coast Environmental Law Research Foundation, the video, titled "**Poison in Paradise**" outlines the action necessary on part of government, industry and individuals to solve pulp pollution problems. Available for \$20 for individuals and \$35 for institutions from WCELR, 1001-207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1H7, Canada. Tel: 604-684-7378.

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"WORMS EAT MY GARBAGE", a thoroughly wonderful book by Mary Appelhof containing all you need to know about composting and worms. Especially illuminating is the kitchen-based worm box. This and other items, including redworms, bumper stickers (Worms Eat My Garbage), worm castings, and worm boxes, are available from The Philadelphia Worm Company, PO Box 9586, Philadelphia, PA 19124.