

## Briefly

of the national association, who wanted to keep a low profile, the Concopra decided to go on the offensive, and finally the national association backed the lawsuit. Those charged in the suit are *Espresso* magazine, the committee that organized the referendum, the Italian Communist Party, and Italia Nostra, the premier environmentalist organization in Italy.

If found guilty, the defendants will have to pay millions in damages to the apple producers and will have to change their posters.

### Environmentalism

#### OECD seeks role as ecology enforcer

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), meeting in Paris at the end of May, took upon itself the task of providing "firm analytical data to facilitate environmental decision-making. It will, for example, assess the economic costs and benefits and resource implications of environmental proposals. . . . Until now, there has been no repository of expertise to tell policymakers what environmental action will cost in terms of economic growth," reported Peter Norman of the London *Financial Times* June 5.

A major focus of the OECD effort will be to "spread the industrialized world's green concerns to a developing world where economic growth has failed to keep pace with growing populations and rising indebtedness."

### Health

#### New York City to log names of AIDS carriers

New York City Health Commissioner Stephen Joseph announced June 5 that the city has adopted a new policy of centralizing the names of AIDS carriers, in order to track their drug and sex partners. The plan will go into effect as soon as new studies are published showing the alleged effectiveness of

new AIDS treatments.

The new policy effectively ends the era of anonymous testing, and represents a small concession to the need for public health measures to control the epidemic. "We will have no choice but to change some of our most basic HIV-related policies," Joseph said in a speech prepared for delivery to the Fifth International AIDS Conference in Montreal.

"Aggressive contact tracing will become standard public health applications for controlling infection," he said. Joseph also indicated in his speech that he plans to move away from "voluntary" testing. He said it is becoming necessary to do "routine" testing.

### Corporate Strategy

#### Tiny Rowland in court on contempt charges

Tiny Rowland, the industrial thug and dirty tricks expert for the British Crown, appeared before Britain's "Law Lords" on June 6, to begin what is expected to be a two-to-three-week hearing on contempt charges. Rowland, the chairman of Lonrho Corp., was accompanied by a battery of 12 Queen's Counsels, several Lonrho board members, and Donald Treford, editor of his *Observer* newspaper.

The charges are that Rowland and the *Observer* illegally published material regarding the decade-long takeover battle over the House of Harrods, and sent it to members of the House of Lords in an attempt to shape the outcome of that battle.

Rowland is reported to be terrified at the proceedings before the House of Lords' legislative committee—Britain's equivalent of the U.S. Supreme Court—from which there is no appeal. In preliminary hearings the week before, Rowland personally showed up every day, though the proceedings were largely technical and he was informed he did not have to come. A highly informed Rowland watcher commented, "That shows you how scared he is. He is the only guy at Lonrho who makes any decisions, and here he is sitting in court all the time. It is so bad, that even his lawyers have lawyers."

● **U.S. TRADE** with Communist nations has soared to a record \$19.2 billion in 1988, up from \$13.8 billion in 1987, according to figures released June 5 from the U.S. International Trade Commission, an independent agency. Reuter reports that the rise was due chiefly to "increased exports of farm goods to major nonmarket nations and an increase in manufactured goods from China."

● **AIRPLANE PRODUCERS** cannot keep up with demand. Three thousand new planes are on order worldwide, because of the effort to replace decrepit airplanes before more fall apart in mid-air. The orders amount to about \$203 billion.

● **THE U.S. SUPREME** Court, in a June 5 ruling, rejected without comment an appeal filed by former junk bond king Michael Milken and two other employees of Drexel Burnham, whose object was to remove Judge Milton Pollack from their fraud case. The ruling clears the way for Drexel to plead guilty to six felonies and pay a \$650 million settlement for charges made under the RICO (racketeering) law.

● **CORPORATIONS** have spent \$400 billion on technology to cut auto pollutants 90%, take lead out of gasoline, filter out industrial soot and remove sulfur from coal combustion gas, since the Clean Air Act was enacted in 1971, according to the June 5 *Washington Post*. But much to the government's embarrassment, to this day, not a single scientific or medical report has documented a single case of lead poisoning due to auto emissions.

● **U.S. CONGRESSMAN** Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) has proposed a bill that would ban about 20% of pesticides used in farming. The bill would require that human beings be exposed to no more than a "negligible risk" from an agricultural pesticide, meaning chances of the pesticide causing cancer could be no greater than one in a million.