Recent amendments to the federal Superfund law will have an
important side effect: putting enormous sums of money into the
pockets of eight major companies who have already captured 50% of
the Superfund cleanup business. The effect will be to tighten the
grip these eight companies are developing over the entire U.S.
industry.

Total expenditures for Superfund cleanups in 1986 were $602
million but by 1996, ten years later, annual Superfund expenditures
are expected to rise to $23.1 billion. This means the industry is
expected to grow 36% each year. To put this into perspective, the
entire waste industry, which is considered a rapidly expanding
growth represents phenomenal growth (a doubling in size every two years!) and a
phenomenal opportunity for high rollers.

Industry analysts believe these high-growth conditions will favor
the eight major companies that already dominate the Superfund cleanup
business. These companies are much more likely to grow than smaller
companies because their size, their financial strength, and
their aggressive style allow them to acquire expensive assets like
landfills, which are often owned by organized crime syndicates.
The eight large companies will grow by buying their smaller
competitors. Probably a few of the big eight will, themselves, be
absorbed by the largest and most aggressive. The surviving
companies are likely to be arrogant, ruthless, fabulously wealthy
and aggressive as pit bulls.

The eight are: American Ecology Corp. of Agura Hills, CA;
Browning- Ferris Industries (BFI) of Houston, TX; Chem-Clear
of Wayne, PA; Chemical Waste Management of Oak Brook, IL;
Environmental Systems Corp. of Redlands, CA; International
Technology Corp. of Torrance, CA; Rollins Environmental
Services of Wilmington, DE; and U.S. Pollution Control Inc. of
Oklahoma City, OK.

For more information, request a copy of THE SUPERFUND
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY from
Beverly Christensen, Lyon Research Co., 55 Broadway, New York,
NY 10006; phone (212) 482-2284.

--Peter Montague

3000 EVACUATED FOR REFINERY LEAK

A leak of 1,260 gallons of hydrofluoric acid at Marathon
Petroleum's oil refinery in Texas City, TX, Oct. 31 sent 260 people
to the hospital, seriously injured 52 of them and caused the
evacuation of 3,000 others in the community. Hydrofluoric acid,
which is corrosive enough to etch glass and causes severe burns to
skin, eyes and lungs, is used to make benzene.

--Peter Montague

SUPERFUND CONTRACTS WILL HELP CONSOLIDATE THE
WASTE INDUSTRY INTO HANDS OF EIGHT SUPER GIANTS

Recent amendments to the federal Superfund law will have an