

DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT RECORDS

BOX 1 OF 16

FOLDER 32

BLACK AMERICAN

BROTHERHOOD UNION BABU

SUPPORT

BABU

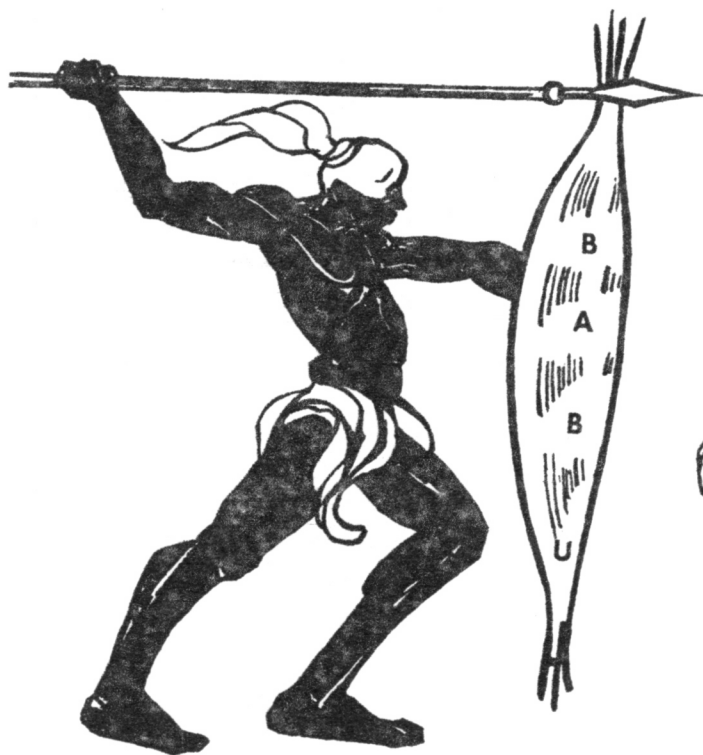
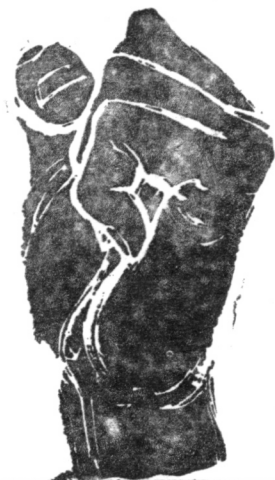
AND

CHERISH

BLACK PEOPLE

BABU

BLACK AMERICAN
BROTHERHOOD UNION



Giant Tiger



Join BABU and struggle against white
racist exploitation

CALLING ALL

BLACK PEOPLE

In the first issue of B.A.B.U. we attempted to enlighten the Black community to the conditions which black workers labor under at Giant Tiger Stores. It was as late as 1962 or 63 when black workers were first employed in Giant Tiger Stores. At that time the starting wages were \$1.80 per hour but as soon as black people began to come in numbers, wages dropped to \$1.65. When the store's majority of workers were white stocks options were offered.

The first black employees were greeted with gross harassment and intimidation and were many times called niggers by the white racists administration, workers and managers. Some of the same name-calling white racists who managed the stores then, are managing now. Persaki who was an assistant manager in 1962 and was known to the employees as "Pat and Pick" Persaki for his obscene fondling of our black sisters, is now the manager of the store on Miles.

"Red Neck" Zimmerman who has been quoted as shouting "Get that nigger off of the register" back in 1963 when one of our black sisters had been placed in a cashier position. Zimmerman was a store manager then and is district manager now enforcing his same racist designs upon all of the stores in the district.

Under these same die - hard white racist conditions have gotten progressively worse for black workers. Black workers are switched around at will and even into secretarial positions for which they are not trained and held accountable. They are forced to do two or more jobs to function as clerks, cashiers, stockmen, sales and security. Many of our black brothers and sisters are afraid to speak out against conditions because management has purposely hired people on A. D.C. and Welfare whom they know cannot afford to speak out.

DOWN WITH

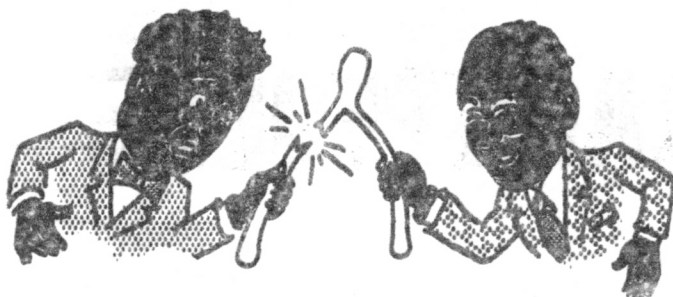
GAINT TIGER



WHITE RACIST



CHICKEN SUCKING PREACHER



In the wake of such degrading conditions we are calling again upon all segments of Black community to support our black brothers and sisters at their Giant Tiger Stores. The Black community cannot tolerate any sell-out settlements, such as the so-called Giant Tiger, Rev. Osborn Pact obviously negotiated in the closet after dark and hidden from the black workers at the stores and the black community. All agreements must be made publicly before the eyes of the community so all can see and not by any chicken sucking preacher known to

QUINCY SAVINGS BANK



sell us out for 30 pieces of silver in the Quincy Savings Bank or a piece of chicken.

Black employees who do speak - out are transferred from department to department and store to store until finally they are discharged. Black workers are underpaid. There are at least 10 black workers who are presently underpaid at the store on Euclid alone, while the owners extract super profits from the Black community.



Wirth is the highest paid manager in the chain taking home \$300 weekly in salaries and possessing untold amount of stocks in the Company. The white owners have tried to make the Black community believe that the Giant Tiger chain is in danger of going bankrupt. But just last year there was talk of expanding two of the chains in the black community. We are not so naive to believe that stores are run as a service to the community and not for profit.

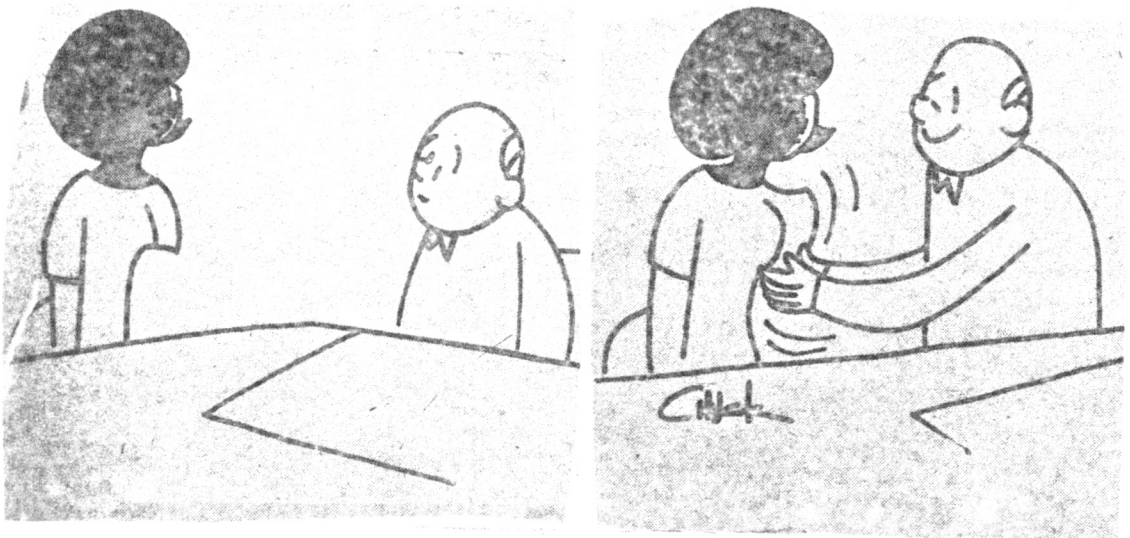
The store on Euclid and 82nd was managed for a period of time by a black brother, John Wycle, who carried the store through its most difficult period and the black workers there had no serious dispute with him. He has been busted down to a stock department at the store on St. Clair and replaced by Wirth.

Wirth starts the day off at the Giant Tiger Store on Euclid brainwashing tactics by announcing over the loud speaker "Now give the Company a good days work because it is the company that gives you your bread and butter. Be good to the Company and the Company will be good to you." When Wirth first took over the store on Euclid he had four white department heads but in an attempt to clean up he busted them to stock positions after the conditions in the store had been brought to the attention of the Black community. Wirth has even been over - heard stating that if the workers at his store were white that they would not tolerate such working conditions.

Under Wirth and Zimmerman one black brother was fired for standing near a cigarette butt and had a restraining order taken out on him to prevent him from even re-entering the store. At the same time the shipping and receiving clerk smokes a pipe in the store all day long.

A black sister was fired for being 10 minutes late for work because she had trouble finding a baby - sitter. A security guard has been forced out because he was sympathetic to the rest of the employees and respectful to them. Two black secretaries were forced to quit for not complying with the manager in write ups on the steward. Black workers working in leased out departments are even forced out

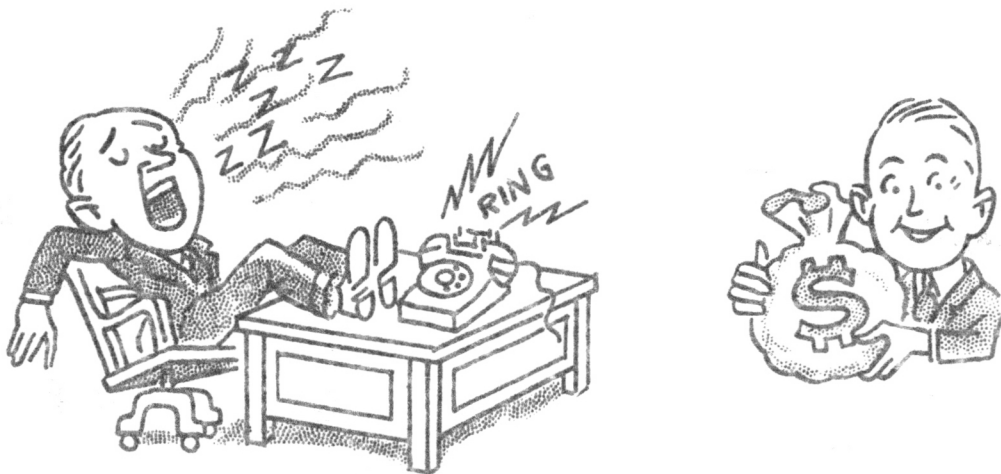
by pressure applied by Wirth and Zimmerman on their respectful employers. Wirth is also engaged in under handed activities pitting black against black. One so - called black sister with only 5 or 6 months seniority, earns \$1.95 an hour working in the Drug Department at the store on Euclid while other employees with 5 and 6 years seniority do not earn that much. She also takes weeks off at a time without sick leave while other black workers are fired for being a few minutes late. It is believed that this is the tigers play den, that the manager Wirth and this so - called sister are involved in night life activity. Is Wirth talking white and sleeping blacks? Is one of the assistant managers playing cupid?



, i'd like a raise. . ."

Giant Tiger Stores come under the Retail Employees Union Local 880. The agreement is supposed to be closed shop policy but there are some white employees at the stores who refuse to join the Union and have gotten away with it. There are 3 Giant Tiger Stores in the Black community which employ about 250 black employees. These employees must pay \$25.00 initiation fee and \$5.00 a month Union dues.

In Union dues black workers alone pay about \$1100.00 monthly and in return there has never been a Union meeting and no elections for any official except stewards. In reality black workers at these stores feel as though they have no Union or at best a Company Union. The Union has done nothing but gotten richer at the expense of black workers.



Mean while, the Company presses ahead with its racist designs unchecked by so - called Union representation. Gladstone the Vice-President of the Giant Tiger chain has himself stated that all of his assistant managers at the Euclid Store, Miller Wilkinson and La Rue can hardly read or write and that it will take 4 or 5 years before they are ready to become managers.

B.A.B.U. knows that this is not true and that all black people are ignorant in the eyes of white racist.

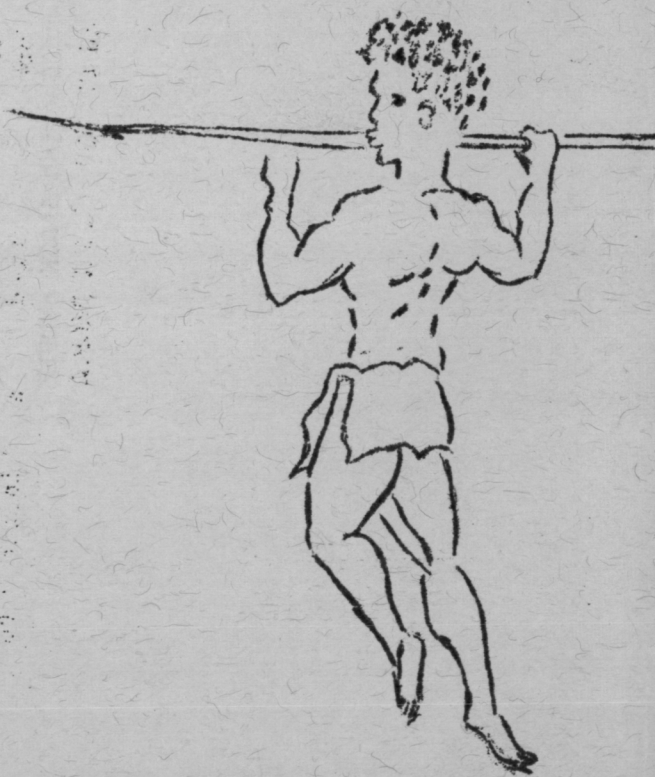
SUPPORT

B.A.B.U.

and Chemists

Black People

Black Panther Party



Black American
Brotherhood Union

J O I N B. A. B. U.

We call on all segments of the Black Community to join and support B.A.B.U. (Black Americans Brotherhood Union). What is B.A.B.U.? B.A.B.U. is a movement by Black Workers to establish independent Black Unions wherever they work.

Why was B.A.B.U. formed? B.A.B.U. was formed to combat and bring relief to Black Workers from the oppressive conditions they are forced to work under.

What are some of these conditions? The conditions at Giant Tiger stores in the greater Cleveland area provide just one of the examples of these conditions.

There are seven Giant Tiger stores in the greater Cleveland area. These stores are managed by the Cleveland district manager, a white racist named Gladstone. Three of these seven stores are within the Black Community, the worse of the three being the store at 82nd and Euclid, which is managed by another white racist named Worth.

Under the leadership of Gladstone and Worth, Black Workers are forced to work for "chump chang wages" (\$ 1.65 per hour) and are either fired or are forced to quit when they ask for higher pay. It is a known fact that Giant Tiger takes in over \$30,000 or more dollars in sales from Black People daily. When the sum goes down the white racist like Gladstone and Worth take our people's \$30,000 to the West side of town, and leave our people \$55.00 weekly wages for slaving forty hard hours. Black workers are wantonly discharged and laid off for speaking out against working conditions. Black Workers are treated as though they are puppets on strings and switched around to various departments irregardless of classification. Black Workers are laid off before they are able to build up enough seniority to join the Union and even the Union Steward has been discharged three times for trying to offer representation for Black Workers.

Over and above the aforementioned injuries heaped upon Black Workers the same white racist partnership of Gladstone and Worth are exploiting the Black Community further by selling second and third rate merchandise at high quality prices. The Giant Tiger stores are supposedly discount houses but are actually higher in some areas than the normal outlets, i.e. drug stores are cheaper than some Giant Tiger drugs. During sales the Giant Tiger stores in the white community carry the best of the so-called discount products.

These conditions have lead to previous actions by elements in the Black Community. Baxter Hill of the Community Relations Board and PRIDE, the so-called liaison man between the white power structure and the Black Community negotiated a sell-out settlement with the racist duo of Gladstone and Worth. The so-called settlement involved the supposedly going all the way to Detroit Michigan to find a so-called qualified Negro manager for the Giant Tiger store on Euclid. This is madness to go all the way to Detroit to find a so-called qualified Negro Manager. But it has offered us an opportunity to see Baxter Hill for what he is, "Little Black Sambo", running around and around the ghetto to city hall with a Giant Tiger in hot pursuit.

These are the conditions that have forced us to call on all the segments of the Black Community to support and join B.A.B.U. in denouncing these conditions at Giant Tiger and wherever Black Workers are forced to labor in order to eat.

SUPPORT B.A.B.U. and Cherish BLACK PEOPLE