

DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT RECORDS

BOX 16 OF 16

FOLDER 22

TENANTS UNION

DETROIT

FEB 27, 1977

PUBLIC HOUSING

18843 JOY Rd. TENANTS UNION Ph. 382-4663

TELL HUD — NO EVICTIONS

Housing is going to evict HUNDREDS of people. Why? The tenants and their Union believed that the Courts were honest. We thought the Courts would put aside the lies of Housing, and Housing's puke, the present BTA.

Because of the all out effort of the Tenant Union, the Court decided to stay evictions, but only until Tuesday. The Court will then hear HARDSHIP cases and proceed to EVICT. The Court is doing what Housing could not do; that is, to evict tenants who are fighting for a better life thru safe, decent housing.

PUT THE HEAT ON H.U.D.

If we can get HUD to put these evictions off, we will have some time to gain strength for our struggle. How do we get HUD to do this? By calling Western Union at 1-800-325-5300 and sending the local HUD director a Mail-a-gram (as shown below) demanding NO EVICTIONS, For No Heat.



The Detroit HUD Director will make the decision on whether to put into effect Washington HUD notice #H7-77. This notice directs local HUD offices to STOP EVICTIONS for 90 days. (See page 2 for further details) The only way he will put this into effect is if we PUT THE HEAT ON AT HUD.

Call his office at 226-7900 or send a Mailgram.

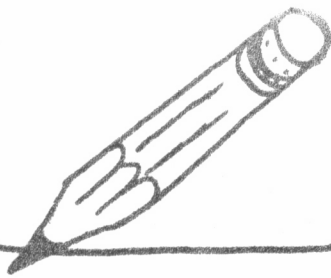
Mr. Kistanic
Director, Detroit HUD
447 Michigan Ave.
Detroit, Michigan 48226

**WESTERN UNION
1-800-325-5300**

Please initiate national HUD directive #H77-7 (PHA) regarding no evictions in PHA owned housing projects. Your cooperation in notifying Detroit Public Housing of your decision is greatly appreciated.

Sign your name

FACT { THE ONLY CITY IN THE COUNTRY TO HAVE HUD HOME FORECLOSERS STOPPED (A MORATORIUM) IS DETROIT. THE DISASTER IN PUBLIC HOUSING CANNOT BE IGNORED. THE TENANT UNION SUPPORTS THE MORATORIUM ON FORECLOSERS ON HUD HOMES AND DEMANDS THAT THE SAME MORATORIUM BE APPLIED TO THE DETROIT PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS: NO EVICTIONS. } **FACT**



MR POSTMAN!

PLEASE READ this letter
to MR. JORDEN, so he
GETS the MESSAGE!

D.P.H.T.U.



Dear Commissioner Jorden:

Please join the circus and run away with the rest of the clowns! The tenants of public housing wish to deal with the real bosses of the public housing mess.

Yours truly,
Parent Union
Tenant Union

P.S. We would offer you transportation, but understand you are an excellent skater from years of dealing with tenants.

Attend the monthly union meetings.
JOIN THE TENANT UNION

For more information call:
Brewster-Pam - 822-6329
Charles -Maxine - 369-9283
Herm.Gard-Pat - 581-6925
Jeffries-Charlene- 833-5453
Parkside-Lilly - 331-6193
Smith -Regina - 535-4773

We Need Each Other

The following is an excerpt of the directive sent from the national HUD office to all local HUD offices in the country.

* * * * *

TO: Public Housing Agencies
NOTICE #: H77-7 (PHA)
SUBJECT: Weather Emergency Policy

Date; 2-19-77
Expires; 8-18-77

- 2- Any other county or city for which the area - insuring office director makes a determination that assistance is necessary as a result of severe winter weather after a consideration of the following factors...
- b) Significant loss of income caused by factory and business closings due to the shortage of fuel for heating and operation.
- c) residences being vacated because of weather related problems.
- d) average residential heating and fuel - energy costs substantially in excess of average costs in the locality in the past several years.

Evictions---

No evictions shall be commenced in PHA - owned low - income housing projects unless the PHA is certain that the person or persons to be evicted are able to move into decent, safe, sanitary and satisfactorily heated housing. Any pending eviction actions shall be suspended. In cases where evictions derive from non payment of rent and it can be reasonably demonstrated that the families inability to pay is the result of increased tenant supplied utility costs, the rent of such families may be adjusted thru revision of utility allowances to reflect the extra burden of the increased costs.

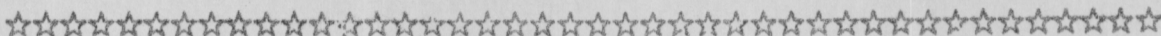
The following HUD policies will remain in effect for three months, unless terminated earlier.

* * * * *

In summary, what this means is that if any of the above points b,c,d, happened to you and you live in Public Housing, you should not be evicted. The local HUD office has been directed NOT TO EVICT FOR THE ABOVE REASONS.

PUBLIC HOUSING

TENANTS UNION DEC 19, '78



HOUSING ATTACKS WELFARE FAMILIES

At various times during the year, the welfare department demands that its recipients be requalified for payments. One of its requirements is a verification of housing and rent to be filled out by the landlord of the recipient. This pre-Christmas season is one such period of requalification.

Over the past two weeks, the housing office at Jefferies has consistently refused to fill out these forms from welfare for anyone on rent strike or behind in rent. This blatant attack on Jefferies residents by Ms. Campbell and her crew has already resulted in people losing their rent payments. They obviously feel they can use any method to make any person who lives in Jefferies do as they want.

The JEFFERIES TENANT UNION organized a mil-

itant demonstration against this ILLEGAL attack by the representatives of HUD. Because we are organized, these attempts to break the tenant union have failed. Once again we see that housing is not our friend while the TENANT UNION IS FIGHTING TO MAKE THE PROJECTS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE.

AN ATTACK ON ONE IS AN ATTACK ON ALL!
FIGHT FOR MORE AND BETTER PUBLIC HOUSING!
JOIN AND SUPPORT THE RENT STRIKE!

Thanks to the efforts of the Jefferies Tenant Union, Housing probably won't try this same trick at the other Projects. To make sure that these tricks are kept to a minimum, people that can be trusted should be elected to the Board of Tenant Affairs. At election time, remember who your friends are.

Cut the Commissioners--NOT HEALTH CARE

The Wayne County Board of Commissioners approved a budget cut that will make social service clients travel to Wayne County General Hospital (WCGH) in Westland for treatment of non-emergency illnesses. WCGH is 30 miles ONE WAY for people living out by Parkside Projects and 18 miles from Brewster Homes. Bus travel will be a minimum of 2 hours.

Just imagine, your child has a fever, maybe a cough, you're worried it might be more than a cold. Instead of going to Detroit General, you will now have to go WCGH because it looks like

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 2.



A Disco Party...
Friday, Dec 17, 9 AM - 2 AM
Oenes Lounge - 8202 Fenkell
THE DETROIT EQUAL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
DETROIT PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS UNION
CALL 582-4665 or come by,

18643 JOY RD. near SOUTHFIELD

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WELFARE EMPLOYEES UNION
U. of D. URBAN LAW & HOUSING CENTER
LANDLORD TENANT CLINIC
NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES
MICHIGAN LEGAL SERVICES
OPERATION P.U.S.H., LABOR DIVISION



CHUCK HOLT ON:

PBB - CANCEROUS

Three years ago 500 to 1,000 lbs. of polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) was mixed "accidentally" with cattle feed and later sold to some Michigan farmers.

In the aftermath of that single mishap, more than a million cattle became ill and thousands of them either died or had to be killed. Millions of chickens and their eggs and other farm products were infected.

As if this financial and psychological burden were not enough, farm families themselves soon began to experience the same chilling effects that they saw around them in their livestock.

While the state Agriculture Department has been saying for three years that there is no connection between the farmers' ailments and PBB, the farmers have been trying to stop the spread of this poisonous meat to our communities.

They were told to sell their cattle even though the cattle were sick and dying of PBB, even though they knew that there was the strong possibility of killing a million people. PBB is a cancer causing agent. The farmers refused to be a party to mass killing and the sickness this meat would cause and they began shooting their cattle. Gov. Milliken's Agriculture Department asked for and received a court injunction making it illegal for the farmers to kill the cattle. In an attempt to ease the conscience of the farmers, they told the farmers,

"We are dumping this meat on the inner city, so stop worrying." But the farmers still worried. They believe that poisoning people is morally wrong.

But let the consumer beware. Thousands of diseased cattle are on the market today.

In the next issue of the DPHTU, Chuck will conclude this article on PBB AND tell us where and how Tenant Union members can get a discount on non-contaminated meat.

PBB - Cattle gate - bigger than Watergate

SMITH HOMES

Ms. Regina Ready

CHRISTMAS TREATS FROM THE TENANT U.

The T.U. at Smith Homes has something everyone will like in their Christmas stocking this year! Delicious PEANUTBRITTLE, crisp PEANUT CRUNCH, chocolately TURTLES & CANDY BARS. These fine candies will be available by the 18 of December at the regular T.U. meetings at Smith Homes. These candies can also be ordered from REGINA READY, by calling her at 535-4773. Candy prices range from 75¢ to \$2.00. Money raised will go to the support of the Detroit Public Housing Tenant Union, an organization dedicated to a better life in the projects.

REMINDER

The Childrens Christmas Party is just around the corner. Call Betty Johnson for further information.

CONTINUED PAGE 1

Cut the Commissioners - NOT HEALTH CARE

a non-emergency case. There is no bus service between 10 at night and 9 in the morning on Sundays and holidays and none between 12 at night and 6 in the morning the rest of the week days. Cab fare would cost approximately \$13.00 !!!

How many children will get worse waiting for busses in the cold winter weather? How will it effect old people who have arthritis or sugar, when they have to be out all day in the cold, on busses for hours? What will mothers do with other children if they will be gone most of the day? What happens if you must leave your loved one at the hospital, they become critically ill in the middle of the night and the hospital needs your written permission to do surgery to save a life? How

do you get there with no busses running, no money for a cab? What friend or neighbor has a car to take you on a 60 mile round trip?

The Wayne County Commissioners raised their salaries to \$14 thousand dollars per year for a part-time job, while they cut the ground from under the people they are supposed to serve.

- 1) RECALL THE COMMISSIONERS WHO VOTED FOR THIS
- 2) DEMAND THAT DETROIT GENERAL STAY OPEN TO TAKE CARE OF US
- 3) DEMAND FREE, UNIVERSAL MEDICAL CARE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE MILITARY BUDGET!!

Call the Tenants Union for the name and phone number of your commissioner.

INKSTER TENANTS RIGHTS ORGANIZATION



ROLL BACK THE RENT HIKE TENANTS UNITE TO FIGHT

CITIZENS OF INKSTER!

THIS CITY IS NOW IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY. UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE HIGH COST OF LIVING EFFECT ALL OF US. We, the people who must sell our labor to survive, have reached the limit. We can no longer be robbed of everything that we need to survive. The Inkster City Government, through its bootlicking stooges, the Inkster Housing Commission, has forced us to lower our standard of living, so that they can make a profit on our misery by switching money, that we badly need, from the cold and bloody hands of Social Services (WELFARE) to the greedy and sticky fingers of the City Government. They try to cover this criminal act with the same old tricks. The Department of Social Services only include a small amount in the recipients budget to pay rent that has increased from 50 to over 200%. One family in Lemoyne Gardens for example (five members) lives on a fixed income of less than \$450 a month, and from this income they have to pay rent, buy food, buy clothing, pay for maintenance of their home, and pay utilities. The mother and father are unemployed and have three school age children. This is an impossible situation at the very least judging by the Economic situation in 1976. The family WAS paying \$57 per month for rent of a three (3) bedroom unit. As of February 1, they MUST pay \$142. An increase of \$85. Social Services readily agreed to pay \$125 towards the rent. (Where was that \$ 85 extra when the family needed it for the rising cost of living?) This leaves \$ 17 dollars that the family must SQUEEZE out of their pockets. Squeeze they may but nothing drops out. They were paying \$ 52.50 for food stamps, now \$61.50 for the same amount. Double the gas bill and see how that adds up. Break a window, have a plumbing problem, damage THEIR property and at the end of the month you are so far in the hole you can't see daylight. They take back all they give you and then some.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

Some of us are on fixed income, most of us are unemployed, the rest of us have rip-off jobs that don't pay enough for our basic needs. One week they raise the price of foodstamps, the next the price of food. The next week the utilities are jacked up, the following week they raise the rent. One week hired, next week fired (most of us are last hired, first fired).

WE, employed and unemployed people, are under constant attack. The line must be drawn. Millions of people around the country are now beginning to fight these attacks. The Stella Wright Public Housing Project in New York is a shining example of what the people can do when they're united. They REFUSED to pay that high rent. They had a Rent Strike. They used the badly needed money to care for their families. This government cares more for property than people. Time for a change !

The buck stays here. WE WILL NOT PAY ONE PENNY MORE TO THE BANDITS AT CITY HALL OR ANY OF THEIR AGENTS. WE DEMAND AN IMMEDIATE ROLLBACK OF THE LATEST RENT HIKE WITHOUT LOSS TO THE PEOPLE INVOLVED, WE ALSO WILL take full control of our destiny by taking our lives from under the thumb of Social Services and the Inkster Housing Commission.

WE CALL OUT TO ALL INTERESTED AND CONCERNED PEOPLE TO JOIN the peoples demonstration, 7:00 PM, Monday, March 15 in front of City Hall and step forward with the I.T.R.O. to VOICE the people's demands. They do to us only what we let them do. They say cut back, WE SAY FIGHT BACK.

DARE TO STRUGGLE, DARE TO WIN !!!

For information on RENT STRIKE, EVICTIONS, BUILDING, MAINTENANCE, COMPLAINTS ETC. Contact offices: 729-1684

Transportation: 326-9683

721-8840

729-1807

Call any of the above numbers

Meeting Sun. Mar. 14
3:35 Henry Ruff
6:00 P.M.

Have you joined the INKSTER TENANTS RIGHTS ORGANIZATION ?

There will be transportation pick-up service at the Lemoyne Garden Committee Center and the Denby Terrace Center at 6:15 PM

TENANTS UNITE TO FIGHT !!!!!

DEMONSTRATE!

AT

INKSTER

CITY HALL

7:00 PM, Monday March 15

INKSTER TENANTS RIGHTS ORGANIZATION

TENANTS REFUSE TO PAY !!!

Tenants living in PUBLIC HOUSING, here in Inkster, have complained time and again about two BIG PROBLEMS, THE HIGH RENT and POOR MAINTENANCE. WE'VE complained to MUMFORD and FOSTER and even to the INKSTER CITY COUNCIL, ALL WITH NO RESULTS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The most recent RENT HIKE on INKSTER PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS has FORCED MOST TENANTS to pay as much as 50% of their income on RENT and UTILITIES. THIS IS A CRIME!!!! A CRIME THAT HAS FORCED THE PEOPLE TO MAKE UNNECESSARY SACRIFICES.



Justice
7-28-84

Are you on lay-off? Where do you get the EXTRA MONEY?? Are you working and still can't pay it??? WHAT WILL YOU DO?????????????? Have you had problems with maintenance at LEMOYNE GARDENS, DENBY TERRACE, or SENIOR CITIZEN PROJECTS??? Have you been CHARGED for maintenance work??? Can you get maintenance work done???

WILL YOU PAY THE NEW HIGH RENT INCREASE??? CAN YOU PAY THE NEW INCREASE??? HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU ASKED YOUR CASE WORKER FOR MORE FOOD and CLOTHING ALLOWANCES(MONEY) WITH NO RESULTS? BUT THEY DID GIVE YOU SOME MORE HIGH RENT MONEY, DID'NT THEY??????

What must POOR and OPPRESSED PEOPLE DO WHEN THERE IS NOWHERE TO TURN??? WE MUST LOOK TO EACH OTHER FOR HELP, SO THAT WE CAN UNITE!!!! This is WHY, on February 29th, the INKSTER TENANTS RIGHTS ORGANIZATION(ITRO)was formed.

TENANTS UNITE TO FIGHT

The INKSTER TENANTS RIGHTS ORGANIZATION held a VERY SUCCESSFUL DEMONSTRATION, on Monday March 15th, in front of City Hall just before taking the ITRO'S DEMANDS to the Inkster City Council inside City Hall. Nearly 200 Tenants stepped forward to voice their complaints concerning, the High Rent, High Court Charges for late rent, and poor maintenance service. At this Council Meeting, The City Government refused to take a real stand on the side of the TENANTS. They(the City Council) Promised to meet the following Thursday to work out ways and means of "HELPING" TENANTS in their fight to ROLL BACK THE RENT HIKE. The Thursday meeting was filled with a lot of EMPTY PROMISES and HOT AIR on the part of the Inkster City Council.

ROLL BACK THE RENT HIKE

THERE WERE TWO(2) IMPORTANT CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY THE TENANTS THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE LEMOYNE GARDENS COMMUNITY CENTER. ONE, THE COUNCIL SHOWED THAT THEY WON'T ROLL BACK THE RENT HIKE AND RELIEVE THE PRESSURE ON THE PEOPLE. THE OTHER, THAT THEY LACK ANY LOVE OR "DO SOMETHING" CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE. IN FACT, COUNCILMAN DAVIS SAID, "I'M IN OFFICE FOR THREE(3) MORE YEARS AND THERE IS NOTHING YOU PEOPLE CAN DO ABOUT IT". THIS WAS THE ATTITUDE OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT. "YOU PEOPLE". SOUND FAMILIAR?

IN THE FACE OF THIS "DO NOTHING" KIND OF ATTITUDE FROM THE CITY GOVERNMENT, THE ITRO PLACED ITS DEMANDS SQUARELY IN FRONT OF THE COUNCIL FOR ALL TO HEAR AND SEE!!!!

Tenants lined up, Monday and Thursday night, to protest their horrible living conditions. While the City Council WAS LYING THRU ITS TEETH by telling the people how NICE things are on the PLANTATION, the Tenants got down to the REAL facts concerning their situation.

TENANTS UNITE TO FIGHT

One Tenant said, "I just want to see exactly who is taking food from my children's table, and who's ripping the clothes right off their backs. Another Tenant stated that she had reached the final limit, her family would either pay the rent or GO HUNGRY!!! Other Tenants were saying that when ever they wanted to voice their complaints there was always someone out to lunch. OUT TO LUNCH. THE INKSTER CITY GOVERNMENT'S WHOLE BUSINESS DAY SEEMS TO BE ONE BIG "LUNCH BREAK". THE TENANTS FINALLY DECIDED TO TAKE MATTERS INTO THEIR HANDS, FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT. MANY TENANTS SAY THAT THEY WILL NOT PAY THE RENT NOW OR EVER BECAUSE IT'S TOO HIGH AND THREATENS THEIR FAMILIES.

THEREFORE, The ITRO IS CALLING FOR A RENT STRIKE. The ITRO is now mobilizing to go door to door to explain what a RENT STRIKE is and eliminate any fears people may have concerning the RENT STRIKE. THE TENANTS UNITED WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED!!!!!!

CAN THE INKSTER HOUSING COMMISSION JUST THROW YOU OUT FOR NOT PAYING THE RENT? NO!!! YOU MUST RECEIVE A HEARING, AND AT THAT TIME YOU CAN EXPLAIN YOUR SITUATION AND DEMAND JUSTICE.

CAN WELFARE MESS WITH YOUR CHECK? NO!!! CERTAIN PROCEDURES MUST AND WILL BE FOLLOWED!!!!

THESE AND MANY OTHER QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED AT THE ITRO'S NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24th, 1976, 7:00 PM. PLEASE COME AND JOIN US. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!!!!!!

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24th 7:00 P.M.

3835 HENRY RUFF

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING RENT STRIKE, EVICTIONS, MAINTENANCE AND OTHER COMPLAINTS, CALL THE ITRO CONTACT OFFICES.

CONTACT OFFICES: 729-1684
326-9683
729-7259
721-8840
729-1807