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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

At this point the major obstructions to the building of Kawaida Towers are the racist unions and it is important that these unions purposes be demonstrated to the Black community at large.

The Teamsters union has backed Imperiale from the start and has even donated \$1,000 to handle expenses for the picketing. They have vowed also not to cross the picket line. The Carpenters Union and the Electricians Union have also made it plain that they are in full support of the racist obstructions to Black housing development. Even when skilled Black union carpenters and electricians show up at the Locals #52 wanting to be sent to the site of Kawaida Towers, they were told by the Business Agents that the job is unsafe.

Black workers from New York Locals have been refused permits to work in violation of international union rules. On one occasion a Business Agent from the Electrical Workers approached a Black Electrical Foreman willing to go into Kawaida Towers and told him that he would never work anywhere else again. It is critical that the Black community and progressive people all over the world understand that the big unions have become part and parcel of the racist exploitative system against which we are struggling.

In answer to this racism we have begun to organize Black Hospital Workers, Security Guards, and Maintenance men who are in Locals #286 and #97, to begin to withhold their dues from the Teamsters until the Teamsters union begins to support Black development. There are also other groups of Black union workers who, in sympathy with the need for Black housing, will also begin to protest in their Local and take appropriate job actions where that is necessary until the unions begin to cooperate with the Black community.

Communication has been sent to Secretary of Labor Peter J. Brennan advising him of the blatant anti-Black attitude which currently characterize the big unions and asking at what level he proposes to get involved with this situation, since we have heard nothing from elected officials throughout the state or from the Labor Department or the Offices of the big Unions.

Our attorneys are also looking into the possibility of legal movement against the unions who at this point in the development of Kawaida Towers and the overall Black community to gain technological Self-Determination are the chief obstructions.

It is also interesting to note that the American Nazi Party has announced plans to picket the offices of 502 High Street, apparently in sympathy with the role the other racists who are in obstruction to Kawaida Towers are taking. We doubt that they will picket very long.

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