

STATEMENT ON SOJOURNER TRUTH HOUSING PROJECT

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We strongly protest the barring of Negro defense workers from the Sojourner Truth housing project as an act disruptive of the unity of our people, which jeopardizes the defense of our nation.

The Sojourner Truth project was expressly planned for and promised to the Negro defense workers of our city, in recognition of the especially critical housing problem faced by this group. A Negro manager had been chosen for the project; not only that, but a substantial number of Negro families had already been selected for occupancy in it.

In his recent message to the Congress and the American people, President Roosevelt warned us that if we are to achieve victory in our war for freedom "We must guard against divisions among ourselves... We must be particularly vigilant against racial discrimination in any of its ugly forms."

The denial of the Sojourner Truth project to the Negro defense workers for whom it was originally intended is precisely the sort of dangerously divisive action so strongly condemned by the President. We demand that this discriminatory decision be reversed.

SIGNED:

Mrs. G. H. Attarian, Cosmopolitan Womens Club  
Rev. Charles P. Bayless, William Ford Memorial Methodist Church  
Mrs. Pauline Bass  
Walter G. Bergman  
Rev. W. F. Bostick, Redford Baptist Church  
Fred M. Butzel  
Mrs. Harold G. Coyer, League of Women Voters  
Mrs. Christine De Weerd, Executive Secretary, Russian War Relief, Inc.  
Tracy M. Doll, President, Greater Detroit & Wayne County GIO Council  
Mrs. Ira Field, Board of Education of Highland Park  
Rabbi Leon Fran, Temple Israel  
Dr. Leo M. Franklin, Rabbi Emeritus, Temple Beth El

Philip Gentile, Youth Director, Metropolitan Methodist Church  
Mrs. Philip Gentile  
Mrs. Josephine Gomon  
Ernest Goodman, Attorney  
Herman Jacobs, Director, Jewish Community Center  
Charles Livermore, Council of Social Agencies  
Charles C. Lockwood, Attorney  
Benjamin Marcus, Attorney  
Prof. Edward W. McFarland, Wayne University  
Nathan L. Milstein, Attorney  
James Montante, Attorney  
Mrs. C. Rudolph Mueller, Consumers League of Michigan  
Hon. Gerald L. Murphy, State Representative

Walter M. Nelson, Attorney  
Rev. P. Ray Norton, Preston Methodist Church  
Hon. Stanley Nowak, State Senator  
Mrs. Fanny S. Pope  
John E. Porter, Principal, McMichael Intermediate School

Jack Raskin, Executive Secretary, Civil Rights Federation  
August Scholle, President, Michigan State CIO Council  
Dr. Jay J. Sherman, Wayne University  
Nedwin L. Smokler, Executive Secretary, National Lawyers Guild, Det. Chapter  
Rev. Robert C. Stanger, Bethel Evangelical & Reformed Church  
Rev. O. G. Starrett, Central Methodist Church  
Donald M. D. Thurber, Metropolitan Detroit Youth Council  
John E. Zarembo, International Union, UAW-CIO.

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