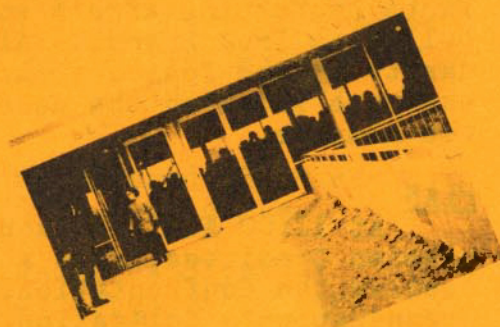
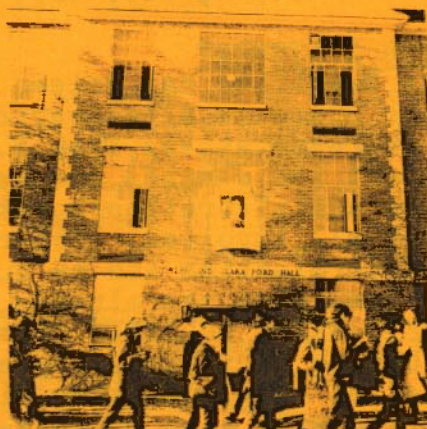
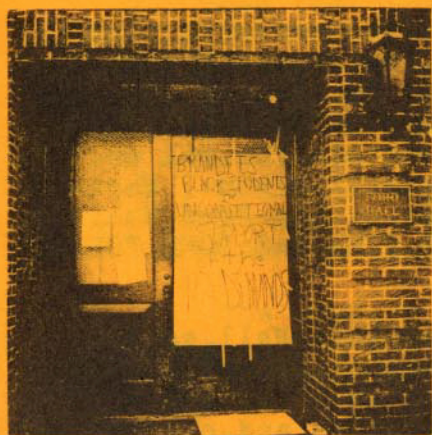


BRANDEIS BLACK BULLETIN

no.2



Photos by Manny Russell

FROM MALCOLM X UNIVERSITY

January 13, 1969

MALCOLM X UNIVERSITY BULLETIN
from Ford Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUPPORTERS

To all who support us in our struggle: In light of the evidence that we have presented and will present in our bulletin below, we hope you can make a decision as to whether or not you are convinced it is time to act. (It is clear to the Afro-American Organization that president Abram is lying and double-dealing with all parties to attempt to maintain control and force us to our knees. All communications media are supporting him.) Whatever action you take, we support you---as far as possible within Ford Hall. The decision and form of action are yours, but act. THE TIME HAS COME TODAY.

MALCOLM X UNIVERSITY

The Afro-American Organization officially designated Ford Hall as Malcolm X University at 12:01 A.M. at official inaugural ceremonies on January 13, 1969. Classes will begin later this morning. See the last section of this bulletin for the Board of Trustees, officers, and faculty and classes.

FORD HALL SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

The Ford Hall Solidarity Committee has arisen with the express goal of augmenting the struggle of the Brandeis Afro-American society. Its membership which includes over 50 representatives from B.U., M.I.T., Harvard, and Northeastern, etc. fully support the demands and actions of the Brandeis Blacks and are outraged by the administration's action in suspending them. We demand complete amnesty for all involved. Their action is part of a larger struggle for Black self-determination and as such is more than just a local issue. The solidarity committee has already agreed to distribute ten thousand copies of the BRANDEIS BLACK BULLETIN from FORD HALL. This was issued by the Blacks in an effort to facilitate the circulation of the true facts concerning Afro's struggle. The committee will continue to distribute bulletins from Brandeis Afro and will also organize demonstrations of solidarity in the Boston area. The aim of all such actions is to impress upon everyone involved the necessity for the immediate implementation of Afro's ten demands.

PLAN

At 11:00 A.M. on January 12, 1969, Randy Bailey, Chairman of the Discussion Committee, read a plan that the Afro-American Organization felt could resolve the confrontation. (The Discussion Committee is the Afro-American Organization's delegation to clarify to the president our ten demands, what they entail and how to implement them) The statement of the plan is as follows:

You choose two faculty members to accompany you to a meeting in Ford Hall at your convenience to discuss the ten demands and how they can be implemented.

We will choose two faculty members in whom we have confidence to also participate in the discussion. They are: Dr. Allen Grossman and Dr. Philip Slater.

We suggest also that Dr. Spiegel and Dr. Fisher of the Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence be present as observers. These men, we feel, have a commitment against violence on this campus whether perpetrated by students, which is unlikely, or by the administration, which will be ill-advised.

This plan that the Afro-American Organization presented to the president was merely another in a series of earnest attempts to resolve this confrontation. The president responded, but not to our plan, with his own plan. This plan was to set up three committees one of which would deal with the first demand for an autonomous African and Afro-American Studies Program, another with the other nine demands, and the last with determining a timetable of evacuation of Ford Hall. The members of the Afro-American Organization responded to this plan by sending him a copy of the plan we first submitted with this paragraph preceeding it:

The members of the Afro-American Organization feel that this issue can be solved without further committee discussions. WE want to proceed NOW under the arrangements we earlier suggested.

President Abram responded with this letter:

Dear Randy:

I would be happy to meet in my office with Drs. Grossman and Slater whose views I have heard expressed in the faculty meetings which have occurred since the seizure of Ford Hall. I have listened carefully to the speeches of Drs. Grossman and Slater and have been strongly impressed by their sincere desire to make education relevant for Black students at Brandeis.

These two distinguished professors may be amongst the 12 who did not vote with thier 207 colleagues on January 11 and the 18 who did not join thier 153 faculty colleagues on January 8 in the overwhelming expressions of the sense of the faculty on the issues posed by the seizure of Ford Hall. Of course, I shall be very pleased to have the private views of these faculty members "in which (you) have confidence".

Dr. Spiegel and the Lemberg Center have already offered their advisory services which are appreciated and will be continuous.

On the seizure matter--how to get the basic issues resolved--I repeat that your original suggestion which I accepted in my earlier note of today is sound and I urge you to accept your own approach to detail the items of agreement and non-agreement. I thought that proposal represented an extremely important and constructive step and that is why I accept it once again.

It is difficult, of course, for either you or myself to convey the full sense of what we may be trying to accomplish through the written word. Therefore I will be glad to have representatives meet with you forthwith to structure arrangements for a continuation of efforts to resolve the conflict.

Sincerely yours,
Morris B. Abram

This letter is a whole lot of words which boil down to Abram's saying that he wants us to change our plan and accept a suggestion the Black delegation (the Discussion Committee) put to the executive vice-president Saturday night.. Nothing about accepting our latest plan, but a good deal of attempting to feel the Afro-American Organization out and attempting to see what issues the administration can divide the organization on.

We sent back to the president a copy of our plan of 11A.M. January 13, 1969 along with the following letter:

Dear President Abram:

If you are really sincere about reaching a solution to this problem and if you are sincere in all your statements to the press about "good faith" we ask that you demonstrate this good faith as we Afros have done in sending representatives to you. We ask that you come here under the conditions outlined to you in Afro's letter to you sent earlier today and signed by Randy Bailey.

Sincerely yours,
Randall C. Bailey

Abram then stated that he would come over as an individual if we would submit questions beforehand. He still in effect refused to accept our plan; he still refused to come over and attempt to resolve this confrontation.

Abram is-- to put it mildly and colloquially-- a fork-tongued Georg Cracker. This man who has been on the Afro-American Affairs Advisory Council (the body set up in April to implement our demands) as an unofficial and official participant since July 1, 1968 says that 8 of our 10 demands have been university policy since April 1968. Do we have an autonomous African and African-American Studies Program with an independent budget and a Black director? What we had prior to January 8, 1969 was the promise--the promise of an African and Afro-American Studies concentration. Do we have Black professors? Do we have Black people here without a B.A., M.A., or Ph.D.? Do we? NO! The press has obviously favored Abram to the extent that words never spoken at a press conference are what is written in the papers. Pictures two days old are along side articles of today. The truth and forked tongue lose each other in front of the microphones and cameras.

The Afro-American Organization is depicted as wanting control of personnel and employment in the Black Studies Program by using an eight member selection board of seven Black students and one Black scholar advisor. LIES LIES LIES GENERATED BY THE PRESIDENT TO GET SYMPATHY AND JUSTIFY taking violent action. FACT FACT - The Afro-American Organization wants the selection board to choose the director only. Once the director is chosen, he, the director, runs the department, not the selection board. The selection board functions only to select the Black director. The selection board was composed of seven Black students and a Black scholar. The Afro-American Organization has decided that in realistic terms of judging a man's qualifications for directing, among other things, an academic program the selection board should be made up of three black scholars and three Black students.

MORE ABOUT THIS TOMORROW

