

Aborigines Are Feted In China

Peking. — A group of nine Australian Aborigines here as guests of the Chinese said they were being treated like human beings "for the first time in our lives."

The group, who arrived in China for a month's visit a week ago, said they had taken every opportunity during their stay to tell their Chinese hosts "about the plight of the Aboriginal people in Australia."

Miss Cheryl Buchanan, an attractive 18-year-old student from Brisbane, said: "It's all so marvelous, there's just no pressure on us. We are being treated as human beings for the first time in our lives. At home we are treated like animals or inferior beings."

Another member of the group, also from Brisbane, Miss Lilla Watson, said this is my first trip out of Australia and it makes you realise what a racist country Australia is.

Leader of the group, Mr. Charles Dixon, of Sydney, has been asking for Chinese help in forming an international lobby to pressure the Australian Government into recognising Aborigines' needs.

The group, whose expenses here are being met by Chinese hosts, are staying at the plush Peking Hotel, the most comfortable in the capital and reserved for specially honored guests.

The visitors have been riding round in the city in style in a fleet of

Chinese-made Shanghai limousines and attending banquets, organised in their honor, at which they have told guests about what they term the "cultural genocide" in Australia.

The group has also shown to Chinese films

of living conditions of Aborigines in Australia, especially on reservations.

The party is scheduled to leave here to-day for inner Mongolia to study conditions among Mongolians, a national minority group in China. — A.A.P.-Reuter.