

# Aboriginals back



Gerry Bostock, a member of the Aboriginal delegation to China, recites one of his radical poems on his arrival at Sydney airport last Sunday.

vast difference between the poverty and degradation on the Hong Kong side of the border and the total lack of poverty and degradation on the Chinese side.

Mrs. Hammond told the press that there was absolutely no restriction on where they went or whom they spoke to.

Lyn Thompson told Tribune of the emotional farewell when the delegation left China. "We had a wonderful farewell party in Canton and wept most of the time in Hong Kong at the thought of leaving them," she said.

The delegation was particularly impressed by the health of the people: "The healthiest people in the world", said Chika Dixon. The children were particularly so, and full of confidence and friendship. "That's how we'll have to make our kids", said one of the Aboriginal women there to welcome the delegation.

Speaking on the lessons the delegation drew from the visit for the emancipation of the Black people of Australia, Mr. Dixon said that it could be summed up as "self-reliance and self-assertion". He added that they would need two weeks to reflect on their visit to draw all their lessons, they had been so overwhelmed by what they had seen. The Chinese hosts had not offered any advice on the way to Black liberation but had simply explained how they had made their own revolution.

The Sydney members of the delegation plan to report back to the Aboriginal community throughout NSW and to a public meeting.

After handing over the delegation's press statement to a reporter, Mr. Dixon said: "Don't lose that — that's Aboriginal history."

And that seemed to sum up a very important new advance in the struggle for Aboriginal rights, which is now more than ever before an international question.

"It was like entering a new world", said Mr. Chika Dixon, leader of the Aboriginal delegation to the People's Republic of China on the return of four members of the delegation at Sydney airport last Sunday morning.

An enthusiastic crowd of 40 Black militants and supporters chanted "land rights now" when Mr. Dixon, Mrs. Lyn Thompson, Mr. Gerry Bostock (all from Sydney) and Mrs. Ruby Hammond (Adelaide) came out of customs. The other five members of the delegation returned directly to their own States.

The delegation had spent a month in China visiting widely separated places in the country. The longest single stay in any one place was four days in Peking.

All members of the delegation were overwhelmingly enthusiastic about the achievements of the Chinese revolution, and particularly about the way national minorities were treated.

During the delegation's visit to Inner Mongolia and discussions at the National Minorities University in Peking, Mr. Dixon said that they were impressed by the way the 54 national minorities were "actively encouraged to keep and expand their own culture and ways and participate equally in society" Moreover, "unlike racist Australia, not only were their cultures being created rather than destroyed, but the mass of the Chinese people were also educated in the national minorities' cultures and taught to respect them."

Gerry Bostock spoke of the