

TEERRE

â\200\224

Eity- 0 to discriminate; but it has not

Why Bok
discrimina .
but not in 1912

bur
sburg

te to

can
day

approach to racial disc

| of the South African legis

| ' i rtsâ\200\231

burg attorney TIM TROLLIP looks at the !\lstory of the cou
eyt rimation in SA and America â\200\224 and the e:ï-\201?ct
latureâ\200\231's destructive intervention in the Fifties

ACIALLY discriminatory
by-laws could not have
~ been passed in 1912 â\200\224 not
even in Boksburg. Seventy-

{five years ago a South African
| court was asked whether a
| racially discriminatory by-law

was validly passed by a local

i â\200\231u'thority.â\200\230

In a bizarre historical echo, the

local authority that passed the dis-
criminatory law was the Boksburg

' municipal council. A Mr Moses suc- -

cessfully challenged the discrimina-

tory by-law, which was struck down

- by the Transvaal Supreme Court.

Transvaal's Judge President Mr

Justice De Villiers referred to the principle repeatedly followed in

court that where a by-law, in

the absence of any authority in the

enabling statute, discriminates between classes, such by-law is bad.

The by-law prohibited any person, without the permission of the Boks-

burg municipal council, from estab-

lishing or maintaining any compound not being for the use of

domestic servants.

Giving judgment to the same case,

Mr Justice Wessels said: If we look

at the by-law it is clear that it places

under one category natives and coloured people and leaves white

under another category ...

Now unless the enabling ordinance

gives the municipality the right to make the discrimination between white people and coloured people, the by-law is ultra vires.

The Judge President said: The magistrate's reasons are bad, upon the ground that it is advisable, having regard to the well-known habits of coloured people, that a discrimination should be made. If that be so, it is a matter for the legislature. If the legislature considered it advis-

able to discriminate between white

and coloured persons it could have done so, and enabled the municipal-

to do so.

Judicial statements like these declared statutorily unauthorised discrimination to be unlawful, and they contain no reference to the separate but equal doctrine which for more than half a century represented the policy of the American Supreme Court. :

Thus, in 1912, the US lagged behind SA following the establishment of the separate but equal doctrine in 11:1Ã@gs case of Plessy v Ferguson in

In this case, the Ap, ruled that the constitution of the US was not violated by a statute which required separate but equal accommodation for white and coloured persons on US trains.

In SA the tide turned in 1934, when acting Chief Justice Mr Justice Stratford, commenting on a by-law which segregated the post office at Pietersburg, said a by-law could not be invalid on the sole ground that it divided the community â\200\234for such conclusion runs counter to accepted principles and good senseâ\200\235.

â\200\234The effect of the instructions was to divide or classify the community to be served into sections for the purpose of rendering that service,

-and I am unable to appreciate how the operation is all or unequal between these divisions or classes when we have the definite admissions that they were not,â\200\235 he said.

Thus the â\200\234separate but substantially equalâ\200\235 doctrine was ushered into South African history.

~In 1953, a Mr Lusu entered a â\200\234Europeanâ\200\235 railway waiting room

contrary to regulations. His defence â\200\224 that the facilities allocated to â\200\234non-Europeansâ\200\235 were substantially inferior â\200\224 was upheld by the appellate division. g

Die Burger announced the decision with a banner headline: â\200\234Apelhof teen apartheid op Kaapse stasieâ\200\235 (Appeal Court against apartheid in Cape station). _

In the same year, â\200\234corrective legislationâ\200\235 came from the Nationalist

__government in the form of the Reser-

vation of Separate Amenities Act. The legislation was patently racist. It epitomised the spirit and purpose of the Nationalist government and, indeed, of the white Parliament of the day.

The Separate Amenities Act defines public premises very widely, and states that a person in charge of

or in control of public premises may
set apart or reserve such premises

il Gormt â\200\230; for the exclusive use of persons be-
longing to a particular race or class.

The Act specifically provides that
â\200\234setting apartâ\200\235 shall not be invali-
dated on the â\200\234grounds merely thatâ\200\235
no such premises have been demar-
cated for the exclusive use of persons
belonging to any other race, or that
the premises are not substantially
similar to the reserved premises.

SA was regressing and now fell
short of American standards.
In the same year as this enact-

ment, the American Appeal CourtÂ®
rejected the separate but equal doc-
trine.] ;

In the case of Brown v Board of
Education of Topeka, Brown and
his co-petitioners were denied ad-
mission to state public schools atten-
ded by white children _Iâ\200\230.:l:lid;r s:g;:
laws requiring or permittin :
gationÃ@a(i:(:ording to race. The Board
of Education advanced the separate
but equal argument. _

The court noted that â\200\234tangibleâ\200\235
factors â\200\224 such as buildings, curricu-
la, qualifications and salaries of
teachers â\200\224 had been sed.
ever, the court noted that â\200\234we must
consider public education in the light
of its vfulf development and its pre-
sent place in American life through-
out ttâ\200\230:e nation. Only in this way can it
be determined if segregation in pub-
lic schools deprives these lamtlffâ\200\231s
of the equal protection of the lawâ\200\235.

â\200\234Today, education is perhaps the
ualised. How-

AVI939.2.L.5

To P, 4%

BUSINESS DAY, Wednesday, July 5 1989

COMMENT

AR

Election spendi

of the National Party, except-

ing only the State President

who was ill, anticipated an election before winter. Indeed, they pressed President Botha as hard as

EARLY in the year the leaders

they could â\200\224 as hard as it was decent to do â\200\224 to set an election date before the end of May. The State President, when he recovered, realised he had been the victim of a power play and refused to co-operate, saying that a redelimitation of constituencies was necessary. In the end, September 6 was set as a compromise date.

Against this background it is possible to understand more easily why government spending went into orbit during the first quarter of the year, especially in March. The Reserve Bank, abandoning its usual laconic tone, says in its quarterly bulletin that real consumption expenditure by general government â\200\234raced ahead at an uncommonly rapid paceâ\200\235 in the first quarter.

Some of the spending was caused by the improved conditions of service in the civil service which were

implemented in January; some of it

was attributable to the usual gaiety in the TBVC states; but, says the bulletin, the rise in spending

stemmed mainly from a splurge on

goods and services â\200\234other than the remuneration of employeesâ\200\235. In simple terms, the highly politicised mandarins of the civil service, seeing an election on the horizon, spent money as though it were going out of style. For the quarter as a whole, government spending was almost a third of gross domestic product. The

increase in expenditure was the big-

' ,gest, in percentage terms, in 10

fiscal years. -

That this flew in the face of gov-

. ernmentâ\200\231s own frequent statements
. of policy hardly needs to be reiter-

- ated. What perhaps does need to be
emphasised is that it sacrificed the

prudence which the Reserve Bank

- deemed necessary, in the national

interest, to cover possible debt
repayments to foreign lenders.

As recently as February 14,
Reserve Bank Governor Gerhard de
Kock had warned that we faced pos-
sible debt repayments of \$1,7bn this
year, \$2,1bn next year, and \$1,5bn in
1991. Admittedly, he said, this was a
worst-case scenario â\200\234but the only
prudent course for the monetary
authorities to follow is to provide
for current account surpluses in the
next three years that will be large
enough to finance whatever debt
repayments may be requiredâ\200\235.

He added: â\200\234Such surpluses are
well within reach, but only if the
mix of monetary and fiscal policy is
adequately restrictive in the period
ahead.â\200\235

For the politicians and the man-
darins, both equally ignorant of the
issues and equally careless of the
national interest, this was a signal
to squander money in their usual
pre-election fashion, running down
the national savings and putting at
risk the ability to meet debt repay-

~ ments. The price, of course, is paid

by the nation as a whole when the
economy must be forced into deep-
er recession to rebuild depleted
national reserves.

Once again, future sorrows are
being - manufactured for us in
Pretoria.

Last-minute hitch overcome

chamber and

INEâ\200\231S

NUM reach

S w1927

wage accord

THE Chamber of Mines and the NUM
reached agreement yesterday on 1989
wage increases for union members on

chamber-affiliated mines after a last- -

minitâ\200\231xte hitch had put the settlement in
doubt. '

The NUM notified the chamber of its
acceptance of the 13,5% to 21,3% revised
final offer made at talks last Friday.

But general secretary Cyril Ramaphosa
later warned of future industrial action
aimed at eliminating continuing wage dif-
ferentials between mining groups.

Yesterdayâ\200\231s agreement provides for
some differential increases according to
mining house, job category and sector
(gold or coal).

Withdrawn

Chamber senior GM, external affairs,
Johann Liebenberg said the hitch was over
the NUMâ\200\231s desire to link its sug%ort for
extending certain exemptions from the
Basic Conditions of Employment Act to
further negotiations on employment con-
tract issues.

The NUM had eventually withdrawn the
linkage, and the chamber had agreed to

ate negotiations soon'on these issues..
iebenberg said the negotiations hau

not been easy, but were notable for the
fact that they had been conducted at the
highest level of so%l;istication. ,
â\200\234Both sides can roud of what they
have achieved,â\200\235 he said.

Ramaphosa said the unionâ\200\231s general sat-
isfaction at the outcome was marred by
the increased gap between the m(ï-\201:fs paid
in the lower job categories by erent

mining groups.

â\200\234These negotiations have highlighted

{ ALAN FINE - |
-r

the need for a uniform wage structure in the industry, and we plan a multi-pronged strategy to bring this about," he said.

"We will now concentrate our organisational efforts in those areas where we are weak. Once we achieve that, we will be ready to take action to bring the low-paying groups into line, and this will have to involve industrial action."

Ramaphosa said industrywide negotiations with the chamber were a farce in that the union was effectively negotiating separately with each mining house.

He said the union was unhappy at being unable to negotiate equal wages and benefits for members doing the same work.

The present system was also unsatisfactory because the chamber negotiated off the lowest common denominator, and this helped to drag its overall offer down, he said.

Liebenberg responded that the system "amply demonstrates the flexibility of the chamber as an employer organisation capable of catering for the needs of its individual members."

"He added that had the chamber been rigid it would have ceased to be the centralised bargaining system for the mining industry. "»

Miners at Anglo American, JCI, Gencor and Rand Mines coal division are to receive identical increases in monetary terms. Because Gencor's base in the lower job categories is lower than that of the other three, it is to pay the highest percentage increases.

The offer from Gold Fields, and from Rand Mines gold division "where NUM

[0 To Page 2

Accord 3

representation is minimal "is lower in

both monetary and percentage terms.

| The minimum monthly wage at gold mines for surface and underground workers respectively at Anglo and JCI goes up this month to R420 and R480; at Gencor to R356 and R420 (although R3 lower on its rî-\2011lar'zginals); and at Gold Fields to R323 and 357.

The NUMâ\200\231s opening demand was for

O From Page 1

minimums of R543 and R600.

The negotiations on the contract of employment to be held soon will revolve around NUM demands that include a standard industrywide contract, the elimination of compulsory overtime work, restrictions on evictions from hostels, .â\200\231 negotiations over retrenchments, " two * monthsâ\200\231 notice of termination of contact, 3

and matters related to medical care. 4

Th
of

SOWETAN
Reporter
STANLEY Mutlanya-
ne Mogoba has come a

r
anl

long way since 1963 wee

when he was arrested
after the Sharpeville
massacre, detained for
eight months before
being charged with 14
others and found guilty
of being a member of
the banned Pan Afri-
canist Congress and
furthering its aims.

He was sentenced to
three yearsâ\200\231 imprison-
ment, serving his time on
Robben Island, South
Africaâ\200\231s infamous island
prison. }

It was after he had |
been held for five months
in solitary confinement
on the Island, as Robben
Island is known to former
inmates and in extra-Par-
liamentary circles, for |
five months that former
teacher Mogoba â\200\224 he
was a classmate of Arch-
bishop Desmond Tutu â\200\224
decided to enter the min-
istry.

JÂ»gurney

He trained at the Fed-
eral Theological College
in Alice to become a min-
ister in the Methodist
Church of Southern
Africa.

That was the begin-
ning of his journey to the
top of the Methodist
Church. Today he is not -
only the presiding bishop -

of the church, but also
president of the South *
African Institute of Race
Relations.

Last week he became â\200\230
the first black man to re-
ceive a Doctorate of
aws degree from South
Africaâ\200\231s oldest and most
famous university, the
University of Cape
own. -

It was a great honour
and privilege to get a de-
gree from a university as
illustrious as UCT, he
said. He regarded the
awarding of a degree â\200\234to

L

someone such as myself

by a South African -

university to be a
significant milestone in
our journey to a new
society in our land,â\200\235 he
said.

Mogoba said a degree
was a symbol of reconcili-
ation and a growing
sign of nationhood.

â\200\234I have come a long
way from the other type
of â\200\230educational institu-
tionâ\200\231 with all its noto-
riety, Robben Island, to
this' elevated platform
today. I accept this -
honour on my behalf as
well as on behalf of mil-
lions in our land, who al-
though not with us
today, stand with me this Â°
moment.â\200\235

Dangerous

He said South Afri-

cans had to move away
from the dangerous and
selfish notion that only
two parties will be in-

involved in thrashing out a
new constitutional dis-
pensation. Â\$
Excluding any inter-

ested party from nego-

tiations would diminish

the possibility of a lasting

settlement, he said at the first of two University of Cape Town graduation ceremonies yesterday.

â\200\234When I say all people must be involved, this- must include the entire

political spectrum â\200\224 not |

Just the African National Congress, but the Pan Africanist Congress too;

not just organisations |

such as Inkatha, but the United Democratic Front and the Azanian Peopleâ\200\231s Organisation;

not just the National |

Party but all the other political parties and | interested groups too.â\200\235

â\200\224 o s

Sharing

He said the Govern- | ment must be prepared to

share power in a mean- |

ingful way â\200\224 â\200\234not Jjustby making theoretical promises, but by fulfilling their promises in a practical way so that people are given real hopeâ\200\235,

The implication was | that â\200\234it must also be pre- .

-pared to share the risk | with all the people of South Africa in releasing | political prisoners and | detainees including men like Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Jeff Ma-

samola and Thomas. Manthata so that obstacles Preventing blacks from taking part In negotiations could be removedâ\200\235, he said.

Testimony

Recognised commu-- nity leaders must also accept their responsibility to share their knowledge of African culture so that a greater,

better South Africa in .
which all â\200\234can have an |
improved quality of lifeâ\200\235
could emerge.

People had to grasp
the nettle of reconcilia-
tion and negotiation,

â\200\234I have borne testi- |
mony to the fact that this /

is not an easy thing to do"
because the challenges of
reconciliation and nego-
tiation go much further
than people think.â\200\235

He had noticed â\200\234from
the surliness with which
we treated each other in
our shopping mallsâ\200\235
through to the grotesque
â\200\234hit and run assassina- |
tions and bomb blasts in
our citiesâ\200\235 that there was
something deeply and '
pathologically wrong |
with â\200\234our psycheâ\200\235 as a
nation, he said.

1985 .
ogoba

However, there is a
healthy residue of racial
tolerance in the land. â\200\234]
want to suggest that this
exists because of a deeply
rooted African culture
which places a high value
on the ethic of sharing.â\200\235

Freedom

UCT knew what he
meant if he said that
academic freedom must
have as its root a com-
mitmentâ\200\230to protect the

STANLEY MOGOBA

y The Star Wednesday July 5 1989

Quitting SA a
vote for revoltâ\200\231

Staff Reporter

The kwaZulu Chief Minister, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has condemned the Mobil Oil Company for its decision to quit South Africa, describing the move as â\200\234hideously wrongâ\200\235.

Speaking at a lunch in Ulundi for Mobilâ\200\231s vice-president, Dr Sal Marzul-lo, the Chief Minister said yesterday that South African blacks saw every withdrawal by overseas companies as a vote in favour of violent revolution.

â\200\234There must be an end to this stupidity before too much damage is done by those who claim to be doing something for our benefit,â\200\235 he said.

Large companies which continued to invest in South Africa were by extension allied to the forces which would

~ bring the changes that nobody else could produce.

Acknowledging that Mobil had committed itself to assisting black interests in South Africa, Chief Buthelezi said some international companies showed no interest, once they had left, in continuing with projects they had started ostensibly to improve conditions. â\200\234I find it brutal that morality is so relative,â\200\235 he said.

If it had been right for the Sullivan Code signatories to be here because the Reverend Leon Sullivan correctly said that they could help by remaining, then they should still be here.

Their input had been positive, despite their assessment that the SA Government needed a push. He asked: â\200\234But why push the South African Government with the pain of our poverty?â\200\235.

T~

~ By Sue Valentine,
Education Reporter

Black students desire to attend universities in preference to technical colleges is one of the problems facing South African education which should be producing technically skill people, according to top black educationist, Mr Wilkie Kambule. ,
* Mr' Kambule taught in the mathematics department at Wits, was elected to the Wits Council in February and is headmaster of Pace Community college in Soweto.

In an interview with The Review, he discussed some of the difficulties facing a

Technical skills vital for black students
university attempting to serve the community.

He said a university degree' was the aim of all black students who completed school because they felt their chances of making an impact on society would be much greater.

All too often they were disappointed when they were not accepted at Wits.

I've been trying to tell them there are other universities ... I gave them addresses of technicals and said your options are not only university, we need

technocrats for the future.

\

Mr Kambule said the academic points system which often limited black admission to Wits should be scrapped.

Students expect that anyone

who gets a matric exemption
should have a university place.

â\200\234 Students would accept an
entrance exam as fairer than
the points system.

â\200\234At least they would be satis-
fied that it was fair if they
failed.

â\200\234But even then the universi-
ties should not pitch the en-
trance level too high. -

dren who are perfectly capable â\200\224â\200\224

of university work, but who
have missed the fundamentals.â\200\235
On the issue of how the uni-
versity can help make up the
loss suffered by black students
in the present education scenar-
io, Mr Kambule said he would
want to see the college system
being used to bridge the gap.
This system was geared to
take the pressure off the normal
curriculum by spreading it over
four or five years, while also
giving students credit for what
they pass. â\200\234At present, many

â\200\230can read and write

after school, can you get me a
job? I ask: â\200\230What sk';%s are y.oâ\200\230\i
ring, my boys? They say,
ot s g ...lcando

clerical work.â\200\231 I say: â\200\230You can

| pick up anybody in the street

' who can read or write, those are
' : not skills.â\200\235

â\200\234There are many schoolchil-

school students are put straight-

into the morass of university
life. Some of them just get des-
troyed...

â\200\234There are two types of peo-

ple involved in black education -

now. There are those who are finding alternatives, and those who accept the State's scheme: 'The State has produced a revolt and this is going to carry on until the state collapses. We want an education system which is geared for an entirely different set up. This is coming. The present system won't save us.' Mr Kambule said he believed Wits was not sufficiently aware

it was in a Third World country. It should be preparing whites and blacks for a new society.

Mr Kambule said he _vgamgd before the Soweto uprising in June 1976 that there were too

many schools which were aca- |

demicall orientated when more should the been Qevoted to the trades and professions.

Speaking of Pace College, he

said: 'Some of the students

come here and say: Tl be here pace Kambule

'It is very sad to think of the great volume of people in Soweto,. just sitting waiting for a revolution. They haven't got skills. It breaks my heart.'

Mr Kambule is concerned for those students fighting to change the order of things who are not being educated.

When he speaks to these students he warns them that things will change, but when they do, they will be left out.

'You'll be saying, 'we followed the revolution, we completed it, but nobody knows about us, because you'll be uncated.'

headmaster Mr Wilkie

... believes college

system should be used to bridge the education gap.

L

* "Pageâ\200\235 11
Pullot W

a vote for
revolution d/d
Buthelezi F"

â\200\230ULUNDI, â\200\224 South Afri-
can Blacks saw every act
of withdrawal from this
country by overseas com-

rmredewn mu s vertw fas fa v

of violent revolution,
KwaZulu Chief Minister
Mangosuthu Buthelezi
said here yesterday,

He was speaking at a
luncheon for Dr Sal Mar-
zulle, vice-president of'
Mobnl Oil,

Mobil announced re-
cently it was pulling out of
South Africa.

He said he knew that
| Mobil's withdrawal was
based on many complex
factors!

28 " |, Neverthelass, he said,
S the decigion to guit was
â\200\230 â\200\234hidecusly wrongâ\200\235 for
yeeri | South Africa, for the free
10, | enterprise system and for
'i Mobil\itsslf. :
mqâ\200\230 â\200\234T find it brutal that
urt- | morality is so relative,â\200\235
el | hesaid.|

;hî-\201 If it had been right for
he | the Sullivan Code signa-
ld | tories to be here because
t. | the Rev:Leon Sullivan

k\ w | had correctly said that
b : thc?r could help by re-
A\ ; | maining, then they should

-1 still be here,
â\200\234of What they had been
doing was still right, de-

spite their assessment that
I t e South African\ Gov-
â\200\230â\200\234imment needed Asom',e. iy
: -~ -1 ind of a push. But, he
asked, â\200\234Why pushi the : ,

b 1 'South- Africen Govern- 3
 2" | ment swith the pain of our :
 i v poveny?qn bt el
 [y | It was ecomomic redliy ~
 i . which was endorsing,
 ' | 'mpartheid' â\200\230out of . exist- -
 | | ence. Large companies
 | which continued to invest
 | in this country were by
 extension sallied to the
 Â«4 forces which would bring
 sthe changes that nobody
 : else could produce,
 i Chief Buthelezi said
 Â¢ Black politics would be-
 come & dominating force -
 -] in establishing a new and
 | just society.
 9, . â\200\234We see evÃ©ry act of
 o | Withdrawal from South
 ini | /Africa as a vote of no con-
 in | fidence in forces working
 i ad | for really meaningful i
 4 ' } change thmugh non-viel-
 j) cre | â\202¬0t medns,â\200\235 he said. j : \
 Â¥ " U d Â¢ | 'Every act of withdrawal | 3 \ X
 P : T een. | 18 sÂ¢en by us as a vote in ' A Lo

b e, o o A | favour of revolution.â\200\235 gl Nin o et i b BT .

Angry end ti

Â® Mrs Jenny Parr and Mr Cliff Reece at Government House to meet Sir Geoffrey.

LOBBYISTS vowed to step up their fight for the right of abode in Britain after an angry departure from a meeting with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Mr Cliff Reece who attended the meeting at Government House described Sir Geoffrey as

disinterested and arrogant.

He wasn't listening. He looked at his watch five times and was arrogant enough to tell a Hongkong Chinese delegate he had 60 seconds to finish what he had to say."

Mr Reece, senior manager of a consultancy firm, was a co-organiser of the expatriates rally in Chater Garden on Sunday in support of the right of abode which attracted more than 500 foreigners.

Spokesman for the Hongkong People Save Hongkong Campaign, the Rev Lo Lung-kwong, called on the general public to sign the campaign's petition. Over 600,000 signatures have been collected so far and a delegation will deliver it in Britain next week.

Mr Lau Chin-shek, also of the campaign, said he told Sir Geoffrey that he did not come to see him to beg but to claim back his right.

Mr Reece said: "Sir Geoffrey wasn't prepared to give each of us more than two minutes to state our case. We are not talk-

Srondand Â\$/7/aq

o0 Howe

ing about silly issues but
an issue of life and death,
peopleâ\200\231s future.

â\200\234We asked for an exten-
sion of time which he
would not give us, he even
added an insult. He said
he had other business to
attend to, non-Hongkong
business.

â\200\234As far -as I am con-
cerned it is now a semi-
racist issue. It has noth-
ing to do with logistics or
with economics. They
just do not want the
Chinese people.â\200\235

Mr Reece said Sir
Geoffrey was not pre-
pared to consider views
other than those he ex-
pressed himself. *â\200\234The
whole thing was disgrace-
ful,â\200\235 he said.

Ten of the 12 people
invited to the session
turned up to meet Sir
Geoffrey for the 30 minute
meeting. All had organ-
ised protests to mark the
arrival of the foreign sec-
retary on Sunday.

The meeting, much of
which was spent on the
right of abode, also
touched on the pace of
democracy and the de-
mand for a human rights
bill to be introduced be-
fore 1997.

Mr Reece said that dur-
ing the meeting, Sir
Geoffrey appeared to be
â\200\234polite, disinterested and
disdainful. He was ag-
gressive at one stage be-
cause we kept pushing a
pointâ\200\235.

Mr Reece said they
were stressing that even

lobby

in the worst case â\200\224 based
on experiences in
Vietnam and China -
only 500,000 people would
leave Hongkong.

He said the meeting was
a waste of time".

But what he did do
was make us very strong
in our resolve that this is
not the end.

He said he would write
to the heads of all Com-
monwealth countries to
put their case.

Rev Lo said it was mis-
leading for the British
government to say most
people would leave after
1997. We don't want to
leave. There is no such
precedent in history, not
even during the riots in

1967. Only a handful of

people had left before
Britain's door was
closed, he said.

A spokesman for the
Right of Abode Del-
egation, Mr Albert Cheng,
said they would press
ahead with their fight.

I believe Sir Geoffrey
got a clear message from
all those at the meeting
that the efforts will con-
tinue and nobody will give
up, said Mr Cheng.

Mrs Jenny Parr, an-
other co-organiser of the
expatriates' rally, said Sir
Geoffrey told them their
views were not new.

His visit at this par-
ticular time has been
counter-productive, she
said. It has reinforced
the people's fears, and re-
inforced their despair.

Ext atrlates

Bexsih, Crana, Mom\

V2 5/7(89

ashame

dat

Howeâ\200\231s stand

By JOHN TANG

EXPATRIATE support-
ers of the right of abode
campaign lashed out at Sir
Geoffrey- Howe yesterday
for failing to listen to local
views during his three day
fact-finding mission.
â\200\234Everybody here, includ-
ing the expatrates, are very

very annoyed about the way -

it (the visit) hds been tackleâ\200\235
â\200\224 I am absolutely ashamed
to be British and I know a lot
of people in Hongkong feel
the same way,â\200\235 Mr Cliff
Reece said after meeting Sir
Geoffrey.

Mr Reece was one of 12
people invited to a hastily
arranged half-hour meeting
with the British Foreign Sec-
retary yesterday morning.

The meeting was agreed
to after Sir Geoffrey was ac-
cused of ignoring local opin-
ion by not attending a num-
ber of rallies held on Sunday
to coincide with his arrival.

Sir Geoffrey â\200\234was not
there to listen to our viewsâ\200\235,
Mr Reece, who helped or-
ganise a Sunday rally by ex-
patriates in support of the
call by locals for the right of
abode in Britain, said.

Mr Reece said each of the
12 delegates had about two
minutes each to speak dur-
ing the half-hour encounter.

At one point, one of the
local delegates was told by
Sir Geoffrey that he had 60
seconds to speak, according
to Mr Reece.

â\200\234On five different occasions he looked at his watch
â\200\224I'mean, the man is just not interested in hearing our views,â\200\235 Mr Reece said.

â\200\234As far as/I am concerned, this whole thing has got beyond the stage of discussion anymore with Sir Geoffrey Howe.

â\200\234He has said his mind and he is not going to move,â\200\235 Mr Reece said. -

â\200\234He would not answer our questions, said the senior manager of a ' management consultancy.

â\200\234It was actually a shameful reaction to our scnous problem.

â\200\234We asked whether the right of abode can ever be raised as a possible solution to the question here in Hongkong. His answer was the right of abode issue is dead, there is no chance ever of Hongkong British Dependent Territory Citizen passport holders getting the right of abode in Britain.

â\200\234His rationale for that is still the three million myth, that three million Hongkong Chinese people would suddenly descend on Britain within a week-and create problems.

â\200\234This tactic is based on racism, used by a small minority of people in Whitehall. It is not held by the British public and certainly not by the British people in Hongkong.

â\200\234We donâ\200\231t blame the British public. They have

. Justice said they were disap-

been given the three million ' figure to try and scare them of an sudden influx of Chinese people into Britain, | which is totally wrong.â\200\235

Mr Reece said he would launch a letter campalgn

urging expatriates to write to Commonwealth heads of state.

Delegates from other groups, including Hongkong People Saving Hongkong Campaign, the Federation of Civil Service Unions, the Hongkong Observers and the Hongkong Branch of

pointed with the meeting. The Reverend Lo Lung-kwong of the Hongkong People Saving Hongkong Campaign, accused Sir: Geoffrey of being insincere. Mr Lo said he was angry and disappointed that Sir Geoffrey believed Hongkong people should put their trust in the Joint Declaration and the Chinese Government even after the Tiananmen Square massacre.

â\200\234When we asked whether

. Britain would have signed
â\200\230the Joint Declaration if the

massacre had happened in |
1984, he could not answer. |
He is either ignorant or trying to shed responsibility,â\200\235
Mr Lo said. -

He added that his group would send a 10-member delegation to London on Sunday on a 10-day mission to lobby the British public.

Another delegate from the expatriate lobby, Miss Jenny Parr, said she planned to set up a coalition with other organisations to continue the fight.

Miss Parr said Hongkong

_needed a united front to con-

tinue to press the British public, the British Government and the international community to resolve the territoryâ\200\231s confidence crisis.

Miss Parr, the founder of the Hongkong Kidney Patients Trust, said so far 3,000 members of the expatriate community had indicated support for the Hongkong peopleâ\200\231s demand â\200\230and-the

group was growing daily.

IR Geoffrey Howe's

three-day crusade to re-

store Hongkong's confidence in the British Government was shot down as soon as flight CX250 touched down at Kai Tak last Sunday.

The whirlwind tour is his

eightth visit to the territory to assess the anxiety of the community after the events of June 4, may well have backfired. Its achievements have already been questioned.

In fact, Sir Geoffrey managed to incur the wrath of nearly every section of the community from politicians to pop stars, who placed harshly-worded full-page advertisements in newspapers denouncing the British Government's handling of the issue; and from expatriates to the Vietnamese boat people, who showed strong opposition to forced repatriation

during his visit to the White-head detention centre in Sek Kong.

His visit got off to a poor start when the hundred or so newsmen gathered at the airport gave the Foreign Secretary a taste of things to come. After reading a prepared

statement, in which he said he was here to listen to the views of

Hongkong people as well as to

explain the British Government's position, Sir Geoffrey was heavily booed and jeered when he flatly refused to answer a barrage of questions.

The visit, said Sir Geoffrey in his initial statement, was designed to discover what the British Government could realistically do to meet the anxieties of local residents over the future.

You have no st h

THE three-day visit to Hongkong by

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe raised a storm of protest. Now that the dust has settled, EAMONN FITZPATRICK looks back on the whirlwind trip.

piece of bullshit speech made by Geoffrey Howe, one which did not give us any kind of assurance, stormed Mr Lee, who, together with seven others, was then escorted from the hall by plain-clothes Security

Sir Geoffrey feels the heat

speak to Sir Geoffrey. It was a familiar tale.

I told him I wanted to go to the United States and not to Britain. But I forgot to ask him for a passport, she said.

His final encounter during

Branch officers to a ing

Und

speakers urged a boycott of
BLriusp businesses and mer-

friend than Britain,â\200\235 he told the
territory on his arrival, adding
that he appreciated the con-
cerns felt by the people of Hong-
kong following the recent
events in China.

Outside the airport termi-
nal, it was obvious the people of
Hongk did not appreci
his concern for the territoryâ\200\231s
future.

dise if their d ds for
right of abode were not met.

Even behind the walls of

Government House, he was un-

able to escape Hongkong's dis-
isfictiod. with the sitcatl

as 300 demonstrators barked

slogans calling for Sir

s texienash

two-minute audience with Sir
Geoffrey.

The meeting prompted a
new barrage of criticism that Sir
ffrey was not even slightly
interested in what Hongkong
had to say.

Mr Cliff Reece, who repre-
sented 3,000 concerned expatri-
ates, alleged that one of the local
del was told by Sir Geof-

Geoffreyâ\200\231
After initial refusals, he
gvcntullly w to meet the

A

during

About 10,000 protesters

who lined the route of his motorcade.

Protesters from the airport shouted - But his attempt to deflate ac-

cused him and he admitted that he had failed to

persuade Britain to accept its right to listen to local views during his
visit. His fact-finding mission proved

Across the territory, emotion and anti-British sentiment
overflowed at rallies and marches staged to coincide with
his arrival. Banners with slogans such as "The British Govern-
ment is just an opium

trader" were held high while..

counter-productive and won him few, if any, friends within
the community.

- On Tuesday morning, 12 delegates from organisations
that had strongly demanded right of abode for the people of
Hongkong were each granted a

minute he had 60 seconds to make his point.
On five different occasions he looked at his watch. I mean, the man is just not inter-
ested in hearing our views. As far as I am concerned,

the whole thing has gone beyond

the stage of discussion with Sir Geoffrey, said Mr
Reece.

During his first official public - a lunch

with 200 business, professional
people. Sir was
pleased to meet from

eight leading figures of the community, who walked out in disgust.

While nearing the end of his speech at the lunch, hosted by Sir David Wilson, Sir Geoffrey was accused of having insulted the intelligence of the people of Hongkong.

The Hongkong Convention and Exhibition Centre rang with the shouts of Kwai Tsing District Board chairman Lee Wing-tat, who also unfurled a banner inside the hall that read; 'Shame on the Thatcher Government' and 'Irresponsible and hypocritic Government',

'We have just heard the

\$.

of applause.

d, Sir Geoffrey quickly shrugged off the upset and continued his speech, which focused on the Tiananmen Square massacre and touched slightly on the nationality issue.

'I'm not in the least em-

, that's free speech, although it is not a very elegant way of exercising it,' he said later.

He later managed to take time off from his tight schedule to do what he came for to meet the 'people' of Hong Kong.

After inspecting the progress

Harbour Cross-

ur

ing on Monday, Sir Geoffrey opted for a sweltering afternoon stroll down Jardine's Bazaar in Causeway Bay, where he had his first of two encounters with members of the pub-

o

Escorted by countless minders and police, who kept hundreds of newshounds at bay during the walkabout

cine shop although he missed the overhanging sign that read: 'Emigration, big clear-

Bt afcr viitingthe sh
t visiting the shop, a
fruit stall, and a noodle shop,
Sir Geoffrey emerged with
ook vt 8 e o ey
a of mangoes,
but not much in the line of pub-
lic opinion.

â\200\234Hedidnâ\200\231t talk about the na-
tionality issue,â\200\235 said Mr Tong
Bing-woon, proprietor of the
herbalist shop, who added he
had no intention of emigrating
to ili-inin. & .

s Chan Ngan-ling, owner
of the Pak Shing Chngx Chau
noodle shop, was the first to

t, Sir Geof-
freystopped at a herbal medi- -

the 30-mi was
with fruit stall owner Ms Poon
Chai-ling, who made use of her
entrepreneurial talents by sell-
ing Sir Geoffrey six mangoes at
\$5 each, slightly above the nor-
mal tourist price.

A Monday night dinner
meeting with Executive and
Legislative Councillors was
spent â\200\234candidlyâ\200\235 discussing the
passport issue and the anxieties
of Hongkong citizens.

The criticism remains that
the views of Hongkong have
fallen on deaf ears and Sir Geof-
frey did not spend sufficient
lljin'le with members of the pub-
ic.

His itinerary was composed
mainly of meetings with
Omelco members, civil ser-
vants and briefings with offi-
cials.

Some feel that his brief en-
counters with three shopkeep-
ers and 12 community leaders
and delivering two one-way ad-
dresses to local businessmen
and professionals over lunch
has far from achieved Sir
Geoffreyâ\200\231s intended aims.

In his 11 press confer-
ence, Sir Geoffrey offered a so-
called â\200\234flexibleâ\200\235 scheme to al-
}.?;\;â\200\230zeruin.;negories of

ongkong residents to qualify
for the right of abode in Britain,
although he refused to reveal

any more.

The scheme, covered in a seven-point plan of action which he then took back to London, is seen to offer little or no consolation to the territory.

Sir Geoffrey's visit, Britain's last opportunity to show that it is concerned about the future of the territory and an attempt to boost badly shaken confidence, appears to have done little to ease the tension.