

Afr. Studies

23-7-59

Professor H.R. Burrows,
Principal,
Fort Hare.

Dear Professor Burrows,

Re: Visit to Serowe.

I have the honour to report briefly on my visit to Serowe in connection with the death of Chief Tshekedi Khama, a former of Fort Hare.

I arrived there on Sunday, July 19th and left on Tuesday, July 21st. During my stay there I was taken to see the grave of Tshekedi who lies buried in the family cemetery next to his father the great Chief Khama III. This cemetery is situated on a hill overlooking the town of Serowe in which these chiefs rendered such distinguished service to their people.

The African Authority in charge of tribal affairs, Rasebolai Khamane, Tshekedi's nephew, Seretse Khama, also a former student of Fort Hare and the family of the late Tshekedi were deeply touched by the expressions of sympathy with them in their sad bereavement which had come from all over South Africa and from abroad, but they were particularly appreciative of the interest of Fort Hare in the matter. Tshekedi was such an outstanding figure in the affairs of the Bamangwato tribe in particular and of the tribes of the Bechuanaland Protectorate in general that it is difficult to see how he will be replaced, but I was asked to convey to the College the thanks of the tribe for the share Fort Hare had had in producing such a worthy man.

In conclusion I must thank you having made it possible for me to follow up our telegrams and letters of condolence with a personal visit in accordance with the usual practice among Africans. I want to assure you that this was highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

J. K. M. M. M.