TU, Elsie

Elsie Tu (née Hume) was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in the United Kingdom in 1913 and later moved to Hong Kong as a missionary under the Christian Missions in Many Lands in 1951. Tu was known for her strong antipathy towards colonialism and corruption, as well as her relentless work the underprivileged.

Interview date: 2009/02/20; 2009/03/13
Keyword: 1967 Riots, Handover, ICAC, Politics, Social Issues

Discusses her experience as a teacher and activist against political and legal corruption. Comments on Murray MacLehose, the establishment of the ICAC and other political happenings such as the 1967 riots. Details her involvement in the Urban Council, and further discusses poverty, inflation, public housing problems as well as other social issues such as sexism and racism in colonial Hong Kong. The interview also comprises Tu's own view of democracy and party politics, and her description of the Handover period and the reaction of the Hong Kong people during that time.

Interviewer: Amelia Allsop

I281, I284