

IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

WAI 72.

IN THE MATTER

of a claim by
Haniata Gordon for
and on behalf of,
Ngati Paoa.

BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF EDWARD THOMAS
BIRCH.

Solicitors:
Morton Tee & Co.
Takapuna.

Counsel:
Charl Hirschfeld / Tavake AF
Level 1, 4 Kingston S.
P.O. Box 7728
Auckland.

MAY IT PLEASE THE TRIBUNAL :

1. my name is Edward Thomas Birch or otherwise known as Eru Taipari Paati I live at Mauinaina otherwise known as Paamure, Tamaki. I am a full-time student.
2. I am a descendant of Wi Hoete
3. I am not very knowledgeable in alot of transactions made by my many tupuna. But I do know that regards to the confiscation at East Waikato my tupuna Wi Hoete objected ~~to~~ to this confiscation on behalf of Ngati Paoa.
4. I refer to the letter of my tupuna Wi Hoete to the crown where he states in part: " That the confiscations at East - Waikato have been wrongfully taken from the non-combatants of Ngati-Paoa for punishment of the sins of Waikato.
5. I wish to express the point that the wrong doing against Ngati Paoa in the confiscations of lands at East Waikato by the crown and referred to in Wi Hoete letter still applies today.
6. ~~Therefore~~ This is not fair, a time period of 135yr has passed and in doing so I see that the ~~Govt~~ crown have not responded to Wi Hoete call for justice for Ngati Paoa.

6. (Continue)

essentially saying that the Crown were right in doing what they did to Ngati Paoa, therefore my tupuna Wi Hoete ~~when~~ was wrong in his letter of objections to the Crown.

I say my tupuna Wi Hoete was not wrong in objecting he was a well regarded rangatira who signed the Treaty in Tawaki and therefore the Tribunal should without hesitation consider his letter of objection to:

(a) be held to be valid.

(b) given full consideration.

(c) and acted upon ~~without~~ haste.

"i riro whenua atu hoki whenua mai."