

T. 13

IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

WAI 72

IN THE MATTER

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

BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF JOSEPH MICHAEL
BIRCH, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS HOHEPA
TAIPARI PAATI.

Solicitors:
Merton Tee & Co
Takapuna

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

MAY IT PLEASE THE TRIBUNAL:

1. My name is Hohepa Taipari Paati. I am currently a student at the Waikato Institute of Technology. I am a trustee of the Taumatanui o te Maru o Paoa and I also work for the Ngati Paoa Whanau Trust.
2. I am the descendant of Wi Hoete.
3. Wi Hoete was a signatory to the Treaty of Waitangi for and on behalf of Ngati Paoa.
4. My tupuna Wi Hoete, on several occasions made clear his position and the position of Ngati Paoa in relation to the confiscations at East Waivora.
5. It is my belief that Wi Hoete's submissions were not given proper consideration by the Crown as is the Crown's obligation under the Treaty of Waitangi.
6. I want to maintain that his grievances are still relevant today and relative to the welfare and well being of Ngati Paoa.
7. I maintain that the confiscations and subsequent compensations made were by no means fair, just or final.