

17th September 1987  
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I, Stephen Taitoko White of Pukearuhe (North Taranaki) spokesman for the Ngatitama Tribe, hereby lodge a CLAIM with the Waitangi Tribunal, for all lands originally owned by our Tribe and which were taken from us.

Specifically those Blocks of land which are OUTSIDE the confiscated areas already under CROWN consideration. I CLAIM that our Tribe was, and is therefore to this day, prejudicially affected by the following practises, policies, Acts, etc., done by the CROWN, with respect to our lands. One example, the Mokau-Mohakatino No. 1 Block....in chronological order -

Firstly, the Native Land Court Order vesting ownership in the Ngati-Maniapoto Tribe while our tradition clearly indicates our Tribe's possession of these lands.

2. "The Special Powers and Contracts Act 1885" item 17...which allowed Mr.

J. Jones to have his lease exempted from "The Native Land Alienation Restriction Act 1884" so that negotiations re the lease could be completed.

3. Mr. J. Jones being exempted by the Mokau-Mohakatino Act. 1888 from the requirement to have unanimity in the vendors.

4. While the lease "take" is one basis for our grievance more painful are the transactions involving Herman, Bowler and the Mokau Coal Estates Co. Ltd, which in 1911 was granted freehold of much of the land to Bowler by the Waikato Maniapoto Maori Land Board (of which Bowler was a member). During liquidation of this Company in 1927 the land was offered to the Crown.

5. Much of the Ngatitama lands in the Mokau/Awakino was acquired by D. McLean in 1854/57 and various reserves were set aside...yet from 1903 - 1911 many were taken as Scenic Reserves by Proclamation.

6. To this day, the Block has remained, until recently, when the CROWN had proposed under the State-owned-enterprises Act.1986 to allocate this land to Landcorp but a submission to the Allocation Committee has asked that it be allocated to the Dept. of Conservation.

7. Our grievance is then, that the legal process whereby our Tribal lands were first leased, then sold, and were also taken by Proclamation as scenic reserve