

In the Waitangi Tribunal

Wai 207

Wai 785

Under **the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975**

In the Matter of **the Northern South Island Inquiry (Wai 785)**

And

In the Matter of **a claim to the Waitangi Tribunal by Akuhata Wineera, Pirihira Hammond, Ariana Rene, Ruta Rene, Matuaiwi Solomon, Ramari Wineera, Hautonga te Hiko Love, Wikitoria Whatu, Ringi Horomona, Harata Solomon, Rangi Wereta, Tiratu Williams, Ruihi Horomona and Manu Katene for and on behalf of themselves and all descendants of the iwi and hapu of Ngati Toa Rangatira**

BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF RANDALL PATETE HIPPOLITE

Dated 9 June 2003

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BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF RANDALL PATETE HIPPOLITE

Introduction

- 1 My name is Randall Patete Hippolite. I am currently employed at Tautoko Services as a Co-ordinator. I hold a Bachelor of Laws and Philosophy from Te Wananga o Raukawa. I was born in Porirua and have lived most my life in Takapuwahia. I am of Ngati Toa, Ngati Koata and Ngati Kuia descent.
- 2 My whakapapa connections to Tutepourangi of Ngati Kuia, Mauriri II and Turi Te Patete of Ngati Koata, and Nohorua and Te Rauparaha of Ngati Toa (as shown in Chart 1).

Matua

- 3 My grandmother on my father's side is Erama Pukohu Kawharu. She was born in Te Tau Ihu and lived on Rangitoto ki te Tonga and Whakatu most of her life, and then lived in Porirua for the remainder of her years.
- 4 Erama had my father Frank Taimona Hippolite at Te Haukawakawa, Rangitoto ki te Tonga. He spent a lot of his early years in Te Tau Ihu with the Ruruku, Hemi, Elkington and Hippolite and Kohe whanau of Ngati Koata, Ngati Kuia and Ngati Toa. In whakapapa terms, those families were more closely related to my mother, but they actually had a closer whanau relationship with my father. My father also spent a lot of time with his parent's whanau in Matapihi, a settlement midway between Rai Valley and Rangitoto ki te Tonga. He met my mother in Whakatu, married her at Takapuwahia marae in May 1954 and together they lived here in Takapuwahia until they left for a church labour mission in Hamilton.
- 5 My mother, Takuna Horomona was born and raised here in Takapuwahia amongst Ngati Toa. Her granduncle, Ratapu Elkington married Wetekia Ruruku and their whanau lived in Te Tau Ihu. This is the close whakapapa link to the Hemi, Elkington and Hippolite families. In her young adult years my mother spent a little time with her Ngati Koata cousins in Nelson.
- 6 During their time in Hamilton they had my two older sisters. Once their church labour mission was completed they moved to Nelson. They never

stayed in Nelson for very long and moved to Takapuwahia where they lived the remainder of their lives.

Frank and Takuna Hippolite Whanau

- 7 In addition to my two sisters who were born in Hamilton, my other four sisters, two brothers and I were born here in the Wellington/Porirua region.
- 8 Because of our parents' strong connections with Te Tau Ihu we travelled to D'Urville and Nelson from Takapuwahia on a regular basis. Our parents made every effort to maintain their whanau relationships with those who lived in the south and made particular efforts to ensure we knew our Te Tau Ihu whanaunga and that they would always be welcomed into our family home in Takapuwahia.
- 9 At various times members of my Hippolite whanau would go to Nelson for holidays. Prior to our grandmother Erama Kawharu moving to Porirua, my older sisters spent school holidays in Whakatu. When Grandma moved to Porirua, we would spend time with our uncle, Rangi Elkington. While there our father would take some of my brothers and sisters and we would spend the day on our uncle's launch dragging for scallops.
- 10 We also stayed with Aunty Tuo Hippolite who is another of Ratapu Elkington's children. I was there on holiday when her husband uncle Ben Hippolite passed away. He was another uncle that my father spoke fondly of.
- 11 My father would take us to Matapihi and holiday with his father's brother Bill Hippolite and his cousin Paki Hippolite. From there we would go and visit Whangarae, another old settlement where many of his family lived when he was growing up. It is here at Whangarae that my mother's grandmother, Takuna has land interests.
- 12 As children we stayed on Rangitoto ki te Tonga with Uncle Pene and Aunty Hazel Ruruku. My parents valued the relationship with this family.
- 13 We often stayed at French Pass with the Webber brothers and Aunty Ngawai Webber (nee Hippolite). My father spent a lot of time at French Pass with that family and became very close friends with the Webber brothers.

- 14 In 1976 many families from Takapuwahia attended a big family reunion at French Pass. There were other reunions such as aunty Tuo's birthday and also sports days.
- 15 Te Towaka sports are an annual sport event held around the French Pass area; now and then my father would attend and take some of his grandchildren.
- 16 Our parents also became involved with many others in the building of the whare Tupuna and the kaumatua flats at Whakatu.
- 17 Our father would always look for opportunities to go to Whakatu or French Pass to visit with his relations. Not long before our father passed away he took us and many of his mokopuna to French Pass. While we were there the Webbers took us on a day trip around Rangitoto. As we came out we visited Matapihi also. Only a few weeks later he passed away and I have always seen that trip as his farewell to the area in which he was brought up.

Maintaining whanau relationships

- 18 As I was saying earlier, my parents were driven by strong family principles. They sought to ensure that our Hippolite family kept strong links with whanau in Te Tau Ihu and wanted us to know our Ngati Kuia, Ngati Koata and Ngati Toa relations by name.
- 19 Today, our Hippolite whanau tries to consistently uphold those principles. We journey south with other whanau to events and tangi. We all have a responsibility and obligation to maintain our whakapapa connections.
- 20 With the passing of generations, our Hippolite whanau has had to foster relationships with our generation of cousins. Because our parents and grandparents set those foundations, we have not experienced any undue barriers to maintaining our relationships with our Ngati Koata, Ngati Kuia and Ngati Toa whanau in Te Tau Ihu.

Tutepourangi

Hinekawa
|
Te One McGregor
|
Hinekawa = Taare Hippolyte

Ihakara Hippolyte = = = = = Erama Pukohu Kawharu

Frank Taimona Hippolyte = = = = = Takuna Solomon

Randall Patete Hippolite

Mauriri

Matiu Te Maako
|
Rangiaukaha
|
Hona Kawharu
|
Mokau Kawharu

Erama Pukohu Kawharu

Nohorua

Waitokorau = = Horomona = Riria Te Kahurangi

Marara
|
Ratapu Elkington
|
Te Rangihoungariri = Te Iringa

Takuna
|
Te Iringa

Ringi Horomona = = = = = Ria Te Uira

Te Rangihoungariri = Te Iringa

Te Rauparaha

Karoraina
|
Te Uira
|
Wineera Te Kanae
|
Ria Te Uira