

Wai 1750 #A30 – *War and Raupatu 1840–1871 Report* by Tony Walzl

Questions of clarification

Source	Quote from report	Question(s)
Para 3.57, page 334.	The [New Zealand Settlements] Act provided for a four-stage process as described by the Taranaki Tribunal: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. To declare, before 4 December 1867, districts where land could be taken on account of the rebellions. The declaration was to be effected by executive discretion without the need for an independent inquiry. More particularly, the Governor, once satisfied that ‘any Native Tribe or Section of a Tribe or any considerable number therefore’ had ben ‘engaged in rebellion against Her Majesty’s authority’ since 1 January 1863, could declare their land a district under the Act. 	1. What evidence was required for the Crown (whether by way of executive or Governor) to declare a hapū or other group as having been in rebellion?
Para 3.104, page 355.	Increasingly, therefore, in the press, Ōpōtiki Māori were being labelled and associated with ‘rebellion’.	2. Did your research discover any evidence of impacts on Ōpōtiki Māori — for example, with regard to their reputation, trade, economic activity, etc. — at the time, as a result of the misinformation printed in the press?
Para 3.105, pages 355–356. (See also paras 3.106–3.109)	Rumours swelled to such a level that in an editorial of the <i>New Zealand Herald</i> of 8 April 1864, it was proposed that a firing incident that had taken place upon Durham redoubt in Tauranga six days earlier on 2 April from the range of a mile and a half did not actually come from local Māori but from Ōpōtiki Māori. Having recorded the view provided the editor with an opportunity to present a diatribe of half-truths and hyperbole. The significance of this editorial, is that Ōpōtiki were firmly labelled as being a centre for ‘rebellion’. Of course, the editorial was reprinted around the country.	3. Is there any indication that this characterisation was perceived at the time as a stigma by those Ōpōtiki Māori whom it was applied to?

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Waitangi Tribunal

25 Oct 24

Ministry of Justice
WELLINGTON