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PRIMARY PRODUCTION SELECT COMMITTEE
soldiersclaim



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Overview

Members of the Select Committee thank you for this opportunity to provide an overview of our research and discuss the petition regarding an illegal bankruptcy that was tabled in parliament on the 6th day of September 2016, by NZ First party member, Mr Fletcher Tabuteau. My name is Tanya Peterson and I am here today on behalf of my 98 year old Father, Noel William Peterson and my Grandfather William Magnus Peterson.

The evidence we have submitted to you for viewing is a sample of what we have with us today. Documents supporting and strengthening our petition are available and can be provided on request.

Over the past 8 years my researcher, Wayne Duggan and I have dedicated thousands of hours researching and identifying information held in documents from archives to Hansard, showing how treasonous activities took place between the Government and various people businesses, which impacted on Returned Servicemen allocated Soldier's Settlement Land, under the contract of The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915. We seek redress of these grievances that affected not only my family, but many New Zealanders who also served off shore, as our forefathers did before them. They sought to protect our shore and our Country, for the freedom we enjoy today.

This petition concerns my grandfather, Mr William Magnus Peterson, holder of Soldier's Land through ballot and the Government disallowed the fulfilment of his contract, under section 6, Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915. The forfeiture of the family's land subsequently lead to an illegal bankruptcy.

The laws for The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, of 1915 were put in place to protect our Returned Servicemen from the ruthless speculators as per the Arbitration law 1912 -1913. This has also been recorded in the Hansard debates of 1914. The Government introduced amendments to the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915 and our research has revealed that activities were undertaken prior to the amendments being brought into law, suggesting an attempt was made to justify what amounts to treasonous actions against The King's representatives. Certain Land Laws and Memorandums pertaining to sections and land blocks were changed under The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915. This was motivated purely by greed. Evidence presented shows a series of events and decisions that affected my Grandparents and Father from the 1920's. These actions being contrary to the Discharged Soldier's Settlement Act of 1915, were taken under subsequent acts that were given precedence over the original 1915 Act, and should not have been applied with respect to my Grandparents' circumstances over land and native forest they received by right through ballot. These amendments passed by Parliament disadvantaged Returned Servicemen (my grandfather and others) and provided financial gain for people who were not involved in active

service.

Our concern is with respect to WWI Servicemen and how people in positions of influence manipulated laws and the Government of the day.

The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act was ONLY for Returned Servicemen who had served in the Expeditionary Forces. This Act was NOT for civilians to forecast forfeiture on Soldier's Estates and take advantage of the soldiers who were also without proper legal representation.

An injustice of considerable magnitude was perpetrated on my grandfather by persons with authority who could and did advantage themselves by way of land holding and/or possession of milling rights of native forest on that land. This was made worse with the removal of royalties from timber and the dropping of land boundaries.

Small amounts of overdraft or debt were often used as reasons for exercising distress notices, which saw land and holdings change ownership while still under the Deed with His Majesty The King, his Heirs and successors. Disturbing is the manner upon which attempts are being made to have the actions of those responsible made valid, with a Judicial view suggesting how the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915 should be applied retrospectively.

Our Petition does not seek retrospective application of any Act. It simply requests that the conditions and law as per the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915, which the Government accepted, be applied. Basically, to have the

principle and protection which had been granted to Returned Servicemen upon their signing to serve at the time to be upheld.

The duty of the Government of the day was to honour the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915 in the manner the Servicemen assigned oneself to serve and honour his King and Country. Our Servicemen did just that!

Actions by others in positions of authority subsequently affected the livelihood of our Returned Servicemen, including my grandfather's family and these grievances need to be seriously addressed with respect to the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915.

The circumstances of the recent Judicial review should be seen as belatedly trying to justify the misappropriation of property, (land and native forest) by those largely responsible for these injustices. Most involved in this case involving my Grandparents forfeiture of land and forest, were in positions where they could influence decisions and actions to obtain a result for their collective and/or personal gain. In this case we question the legality of the action taken to repossess our family's holding of land, forest and rivers. To retrospectively justify the actions taken as the recent Judicial Review attempts, is to be acknowledge misappropriation of said land, forest and rivers. Acts brought into and passed by Parliament do not take precedence over Acts already set by Parliament, then being applied. Nor do decisions belatedly announced, 100 years later, to modify interpretation of how the Act was applied

by Government representatives at the time. This is at variance with clauses and stated requirements for The Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act of 1915. We have identified a number of requests for help from my Grandparents, to ensure success, were withheld. This led to the illegal bankruptcy of their Estate. They were effectively held to ransom for grass seed. The sum of 33 pounds came into force later, and was used again under duress to force an illegal bankruptcy. The property was sold to a civilian for one third of the price, who was also given extra privileges to assist.

This goes against all the rights of my ancestors who sacrificed their lives for King and Country.

These were Treasonous Acts that took place upon our Soldiers and our King. As this is Returned Soldier's (BLOOD LAND) I know you will do right, with respect and dignity towards my grandparents, my father and his family for future generations on soldier's land. We conclude from all our research the Government needs to put a caveat over Crown holdings, Native lands, rivers, and forestry, and to investigate the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Accounts, starting with my family's estate.

Presently Government needs to fulfil the original contract, compensate the present occupiers, and return the land to my father, who is next of kin and in his 98th year.

We seek justice on my father's behalf, by way of compensation, for the illegal milling of all virgin native

forestry taking into account the loss of productivity over the last 89 years.

Given the background of the petition any Crown Lawyers who work on this petition, on our behalf, will have information provided to enable them to become conversant with all aspects of this claim.

A wrong does not become a right nor a lie become truth just because it is accepted by the majority.

Lest we forget.

Presented by Tanya Peterson and one other.