

Today in History

◀ 25 May ▶



1978 Bastion Point protestors evicted

Police and army personnel removed all 218 occupants of Bastion Point, above Auckland's Waitematā Harbour, ending an occupation that had lasted 506 days. Local iwi (tribe) Ngāti Whātua were protesting against the loss of land in the Ōrākei Block, which had once been declared 'absolutely inalienable'.

Protesters occupied Bastion Point in January 1977 after the government announced a housing development on former Ngāti Whātua reserve land. The reserve had been gradually reduced in size by compulsory acquisition, leaving Ngāti Whātua ki Ōrākei holding less than 1 ha.

Following a Waitangi Tribunal inquiry, much of the land was later returned to or vested with Ngāti Whātua.

There were similar protests during 1978 at Raglan, where Māori land had been taken during the Second World War for an airfield that was never built. Instead of being returned to its former owners, some of this land had been turned into a golf course in 1969. The land was eventually returned to the Tainui Awhiro people.

Internal links

Treaty events since 1950 – Treaty timeline

External links

The loss of the Orakei block (Waitangi Tribunal) 1977 Bastion Point occupation (RNZ) Ngāti Whātua and the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Ara) Joe Hawke image (Te Ara)

This Week in History



4 April 2001
Silvia Cartwright becomes Governor General



5 April 1932
Death of Phar Lap



6 April 1864 Pai Marire ambush in Taranaki



7 April 1856 First state secondary school opens in Nelson



8 April 1873 Julius Vogel becomes Premier



9 April 1932 Unemployed disturbances in Dunedin



10 April 1968 Sinking of the Wahine

Timeline Section

Month Calendar View

Today in History

What happened

See historic events from the year by entering a year below. Why not try 1914?

DD/MM

Visit the

Kiwi of the Year



Julius Vogel

Premier Julius Vogel's great plan was to borrow heavily to build infrastructure and to lure migrants. It was controversial, but the money and migrants stimulated the economy and created a viable consumer market for producers.

more

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THIS WEEK'S QUIZ

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NZ IN THE WORLD

War and Society

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OTHER CONFLICTS
WAR MEMORIALS

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