

Apartheid Label 'Abhorrent'

NZPA Whangarei Hinewhare Harawira
New Zealand should were undesirable.

not be portrayed at "And why just black
international forums as nations? If we are so
a nation which "prac- undeserving as a nation
tises apartheid," says a to hold the games, why
spokesman for the Mu- not all countries?" he
riwhenua tribes, the Hon asked.

Matiu Rata. Mr Rata said the two
women were seeking
world support when they
did not have the man-
date of the New Zealand
people.

Mr Rata said he treated with abhorrence
comments made by
Maori representatives
at a United Nations
meeting in Geneva
earlier this month call-
ing on black nations to
boycott the games in
Auckland because New
Zealand "practises
apartheid."

Mr Rata, former Min-
ister of Maori Affairs in
the third Labour Gov-
ernment, has returned
from Hawaii where he
lectured students. Yes-
terday he addressed
Northland school pupils
on race relations.

He said statements
made by a Ngati Te Ata
spokeswoman, Mrs
Nganeko Minhinnick,
and a Waitangi Action
Group member,

Mr Rata said sport
presented a positive
aspect of New Zealand's
mixed cultural society
and he did not want to
see that structure ended.