

Findaid 1/1/232

ENT

Entschädigungskommission

1906-1907

Compiled by W. Hillebrecht, December 2007
Updated February 2014

National Archives of Namibia
Findaid 1/1/232: Entschädigungskommission (ENT)
Compiled by Werner Hillebrecht
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Entschädigungskommission (ENT) 1906-1907

Introduction

The “Entschädigungskommission” (claims commission) was established in 1904 to compensate settler farmers and other white residents for losses sustained through war action in the war of 1904-1908. It was chaired by “Ansiedlungskommissar” Paul Rohrbach.

Almost the entire archives of the commission was destroyed together with other German records by South African officials in 1919 (see the file ARG 1, fol.1).¹

It could not be established why and how the present few case files and the claims register book survived the destruction. They might have been accidentally misplaced, or were spared destruction for an unknown reason. Most of the surviving case files concern British citizens residing in the far South of Namibia.

The present files were found, together with other fragmented and orphaned files of the German colonial period, in unaccessioned material at the National Archives of Namibia during 2007. They consist of 1 box with 10 files and 1 register book.

All files have been indexed in the FILES database.

Werner Hillebrecht, December 2007 / February 2014

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¹ See the annexure to this finding aid

Storage unit 1.

Case files

No.301 Frachtfahrer Jan Wessels

No.313 Farmer Marthinus Andries Enslin, Kabib

No.314 Bur Mattheus Lorenz, Abiquapütz

No.315 Frachtfahrer Dirk Bower, Gibeon

No.316 Farmer P.S. Marais, Kheis am Oranje

No.317 Bur Jacobus Andries Jooste, Nabus

No.318 Farmer J.H. Lerm, Kheis / Ukamas

No.376 Bur A.P. Schalkwyk

No.382 Daniel de Kerk, Osis

No.387 Gebrüder Myer, Schlangenkopf

Storage unit 2.

Register book

Register book of claims submitted by farmers, indicating the claimed amount, the approved amount, and the actually rendered assistance.

(Large format book, 40x28x6 cm, with embossed inscription “Preis-Buch”)

This register covers only claims from southern Namibia. No register from central Namibia has been found.

Annexure

Facsimile of the record of the destruction approval of the Entschädigungskommission archives (no.5 in the list) [Group ARG, Storage unit 1, file 1, fol.1]

GERMAN RECORDS IN BASEMENT.

Secretary
In approval
as follows please

The Director of Works.

Reference to our conversation regarding the above.

1. In approval
to hand over
to Mr. Kastl.
Keep one set
in. Longman
archives.

In No. 6 in the basement there are some cases of records, furniture etc belonging to Dr Range, now in Germany. I think that Mr. Kastl has already applied for their removal to Germany.

2. In approval
to park in G.B.
+ place in basement
yes.

Furthermore there are the late treasury records. I do not think for one moment that we have any use for them as they refer to the years 1898 to 1908. They may be removed to the loft.

3. In approval
please.
yes.

Some ten cases of customs records which were gone through by the late Director of Customs, Mr Muller who declared to me that they were useless for him as well as for us. I suggest that they be burned.

This action will clear room No: 6.

~~Room No: 3. 5 cases of Military Ordinance maps and a lot of loose ones may be removed to the Stationary Department~~

4. In approval.
yes.

Some 10 cases of civil court records belonging to Swakopmund should now be removed there. They are useless for us. Furthermore all records pertaining to the claim Commission (Herero rebellion 1904) should be either burned or removed to the loft.

5. In authority
to burn

This would also clear room No: 3.

6. In authority
to burn
yes.

In room No: 4 there are about a ton of customs records (valueless for us) They can all be burned.

W. Hamand.
to file
27.10.19

If you intend to have these rooms cleared please submit to the Secretary for approval as to the suggestions above.

W. Hamand.
27/10/19

On 16.5 rooms would examine them & take out anything of interest. Rest may be burned.

Mr. Minder/ Please carry out as above & advise completion. J.P.

Minder.
27/10

P.
27/10/19