

Findaid 2/086

A.0306

P.B. Clements

**Compiled by Werner Hillebrecht
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P.B. Clements, ca. 1918

Private Accession A.0306 P.B. Clements

Introduction

The “Accession P.B. Clements” was donated by his daughter Ms. M. Clements, in 1977. While mostly consisting of papers collected by P.B. Clements during World War I, the scrapbook accompanying these documents was apparently assembled by M. Clements partly from photos and memorabilia of World War I, and partly from later newspaper cuttings.

Of particular interest are the account of the Battle of Sandfontein (no.3), and the minutes of a meeting with Kwanyama *omalenga* after the death of King Mandume (no.6).

In 2008 the accession was enriched with a description of other P.B. Clements manuscripts.

The Accession has been digitised and is available in-house as a PDF file. The original is in fragile condition and restricted.

Biographical note:

Major P.B. Clements (1866-1946), whose full name could not be established from the available sources, came from a British army family; served in the 10th Royal Hussars from 1884-1893; joined the Imperial Corps, the Bechuanaland Border Police; and took part in battles in the South African War; at the outbreak of the First World War he was an officer in the 1st SAMR. He was taken prisoner by Germans after the battle of Sandfontein, and remained prisoner of war until July 1915. He was appointed military commandant of Swakopmund, 1915, and adjutant of his regiment in 1916. In 1917 he took part in the war against Mandume expedition. In 1918 he was appointed Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master General, and retired in 1921. P.B. Clements died in 1946.

Contents

Section A. Loose papers

- 01 Parole signed by Dr. Seitz, former Governor of German South West Africa, on 3 November 1915. Typewritten form with handwritten amendments and Seitz' signature.
1 fol. + 2 typewritten copies
- 02 Der Südwestbote (newspaper), issue 2 October 1914. With report on the Battle of Sandfontein.
1 fol.
- 03 Account of the engagement at Sandfontein with the German forces on 26th September 1914
4 fol. handwritten; 2 typewritten copies (3 fol. each)
- 04 Agreement made and arranged through and between the German Governor of German South-West Africa as representative of His Imperial Majesty the Kaiser of Germany, and General S.G. Maritz ... signed at Keimoes on 17 October 1914 by Maritz and von Zastrow.
1 fol. handwritten copy and 1 fol. typewritten copy
- 05 The Ovamboland Expedition 1917. Typewritten brief note about the role of Lieutenant Ross in the Mandume Campaign
1 fol.
- 06 Verbatim report of a meeting held at the Government Residency, Namakunde on the 14th February 1917 between Colonel M.J. de Jager, O.C., Ovamboland Expeditionary Force and various headmen of the Ovakonyama Tribe [sic].
Typewritten, 7 fol.
- 07 Reminiscences of Dr. Seitz, ex-Governor of German South West Africa.
Typewritten, 3 fol.
- 08 Extract from letter dated 18th September, 1914 addressed to Mr Volmer by representative of Messrs Woerman,, Brock & Co, Swakopmund.
Typewritten, 2 fol. with identical text
- 09 Letter from the Baroness von Maltzahn to Lieutenant Clements, dated 22.7.1916, re her horse.
Handwritten, 2 fol.
- 10 Extract from a letter from Oberlt. E. Mansfeld at Okawayo to his wife at Swakopmund dated 25.8.1914.
Typewritten, English translation, 1 fol.

- 11 Translation of letter from "Wolfgang" to Axel Heinrich, Santiago, dated 4.12.1914.
Typewritten, 1 fol.
- 12 Translated extract from letter written by Mr. Eugen Mansfeld to his wife, Karibib
13.8.1914
Note: Missing Oct.2004
- 13 Public requisition dated 14.9.1914. Typewritten English translation of
Landsturmaufgebot
2 fol.
- 14 Copy of news posted up in Swakopmund, 20th September 1914.
Typewritten, 2 fol. with identical text
- 15 Translation of letter addressed by "Rudolph" to Mrs. Suttner, Würzburg, Bavaria.
Typewritten English translation, 1 fol.
- 16 Translation of letter from a Sergeant of Coast Defence, Swakopmund, 13.12.1914 to
Sgt. Brauer, Walfish Bay.
Typewritten translation from German, 1 fol.
- 17 Bombardment of Swakopmund. Extract from log of signal station at the lighthouse.
Typewritten translation from German, 1 fol.
- 18 Service record of Major P.B. Clements. Published 30.1.1926 in unknown newspaper
on the retirement of Clements; with portrait and handwritten notes
1 fol.

Section B. Scrapbook

- 19 Scrapbook with note "Miss Clements. South West Africa" on cover. The scrapbook
consists of 10 leaves with photos and papers pasted on, and 20 empty leaves.

Contains:

- Some original photos from the British occupation of Namibia in World War I,
including portraits of Capt. W. Jeary, H.P. Woodby, P.B. Clements;
- Two original caricature pencil drawings of Major Dr. Holdcroft, Captain Welby and
Baron von Stein;
- Business card of Theodor Seitz and letter from Seitz to P.B. Clements dated
15.2.1916;
- "Seitz money" banknote 5 Mark;
- Concert programme "Windhuk Glee Party" 19.10.1917;
- German postcards from Namibia;
- Photo of the dead Mandume ya Ndemufayo with British officers;
- Newscuttings photos of Namibia, apparently from the 1920s;
- Some photos and postcards apparently from the 1960s.

Section C. [Later addition, 2008]

- 20 Description of P B Clements' manuscript "Five campaigns & a raid" plus his diary of the GSWA campaign and war prisonership 1914-1915, which were on sale in the autograph trade in 2008. (2 fol.)