

# Maltahöhe and its history

**A historical collection of material by**

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( Foto Jäger 1914 )

## Introduction

The small village of Maltahöhe, on the Black Rim began its existence after the foundation of the auxiliary post office in 1899 by Henning von Burgsdorff. With individual administrative buildings, the village grew very hesitantly in the first 15 years. Maltahöhe had almost exclusively the task to supply and administer the whole district. After the end of the 2nd Witbooi uprising in 1907, commercial buildings, workshops, and hotels were built. By 1913, there were only 13 built-up properties in the village. A significant number of residential houses in the western part of the village were built only after the First World War. At the same time the "Werft" or "Lokasi" grew. In 1962 the werft was named "Andreville" after the baster Andres Berger. A new part of town is called "Blikkiesdrop" because of the little houses made of corrugated iron. Two thirds of the colored people there came from the surrounding area (mostly Witbooi and Nama) and one third came as "contract workers" from the north (Herero and Ovambo). Maltahöhe was of great importance for the district. Post office, administration, cattle auctions, transport of goods and social contacts found their center here. Karakul farming brought prosperity to the region from the 1930s and required colored workers, most of whom moved to the farms with their entire families. Nevertheless, the number of white inhabitants in Maltahöhe (about 300) and their houses remained very small around 1926. It was not until after World War II that several new streets with about 50 homes were added. However, the growth of the Maltahöhe district stagnated, due to the change of fashion. Around 1970, the demand for karakul fell dramatically. Today the western, the "white" district has a little more than 100 houses with mixed population. The proportion of manufacturing farms in the district is steadily declining but tourism is flourishing.



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### **The history of the book**

At the beginning there was the idea to find out something about the history of Maltahöhe for my own family book. During the search I realized that nobody had discovered the topic of Maltahöhe yet. So the idea was born to bundle everything that could be found about the history of Maltahöhe in a collection of material. First there were only smallest puzzle pieces, the booklet of a Mr. Ingo Walter to the jubilee of the Maltahöhe hotel that was to be found laboriously in a German library. Then I got hold of an essay of about 20 pages by the Schutztruppier Otto about his fate. A little later I could buy the small booklet of Alhard von Burgsdorff "Der Hauptmann" for a horrendous price over Ebay. Efforts to reach the von Burgsdorff family failed.

Many local people supported the collection of material with many small and also larger contributions. It began to be fun and whetted the appetite for more. Even the little information directly related to Maltahöhe about colored residents and their fate found its place. Each piece of information came from a different angle. That's just the way we humans are. Unfortunately, there are then those who limit themselves to criticizing instead of passing on their thoroughly impressive knowledge. The compiled information about events of 100 years ago could not be checked 100%, despite all care. Nevertheless, it has been possible to create a book from reports, books, lists of people involved, which gives those searching an impression of the history of the district. The many names of people and the attempt to present their fate seems at first to overload the book. But it is a collection of material in which readers and researchers can find something. The book is like an uncovered ancient excavation site.

Interesting was where and how information was found. At first, much began with the Google search and the keyword Maltahöhe in all variations. People in Facebook groups were contacted and gave several small contributions and hints. Then a first personal conversation with Mr. Gert Heussen the so-called "Mayor of Wlotzkasbaken", who gave me some old photos from 1950 and opened the door to his sister Christa Schemmer. She sent me extensive material. Mrs. Schemmer is a real connoisseur of the history of Southwest Africa. Among other things she sent the first pages of the Schwarzkopf book and the wonderful notes of the pioneer Bernhardt about the first days of Maltahöhe. This was complemented in detail by a very accurate report about the "raid" on Alt Nomtsas which probably Mr. Voigts von Schütz had put on the Internet. The sources formed the basic framework for further research and inquiries. From this one could extend the stories backwards with different articles about the prehistoric times, the missionaries and explorers like Sir Alexander. It turned out that Grootfontein South played an important role and so the editors came across wonderful articles by Peter and Marilyn Bridgeford, which also referred to the pioneer Kirsten. Then I found some reports about the German Shepherd's Society and old Hermann which also fitted into the events. In the wonderful Interetseiten of Mr. Uwe Albert and the Poststempelliste of Peter Vogenbeck there were numerous references to the organization of the field post and the postal system.

The war activities are abundantly described in the internet, but quite little about the first settlers and the construction of the region. On the other hand, there was some literature about fragments that complemented each other. For example, the construction of Duwisib and also about Adriaan Esterhuizen and a small booklet about the Voigts on the farm Ababis (by Walter Moritz). With an old farm map and the Digital Colonial Address Books of the University of Frankfurt, as well as the huge data directory of Klaus Dierks, I then first traced the stations of the surveying party of Hugo Voss according to the diary of his wife. This book was published by Mr. Gralow. It gave the first insight how it was on the farms and which meaning Maltahöhe had. The chance discovery of the description of the first years of the war in 1915 by Pastor Siebold showed the mood of the Germans. With this first manuscript I dared to ask questions to various people. Through a hint from Trudi Stols, of the Swakop Library Scientific Society, I came across the Breiting couple of the Gamis farm, living in their retirement home in northern Germany. They kindly gave me an account of the history of Gamis Farm, including wonderful old photographs. This information allowed insights about the northern part of the district. In the meantime I had also received a hint via a somewhat adventurous chain of people interested in history that there was a Mrs. Wolter in a small town in northern Germany who was related to the "von Dallwitz". So I called there a random craftsman on good luck, who explained to me that in that place everybody knows everybody. On the same day, an elderly lady called me. She was a great-granddaughter of "Malta von Dallwitz" and actually still had files and photos of her. Thus I could bring the first photos since 100 years about the name giver of the place into the public and thus establish further contacts. The response was remarkable. With my 200-page manuscript, I therefore turned to various forums with the offer to distribute it to interested parties. The manuscript also found a place with the so helpful and competent Trudi Stolz in the Swakopmund Library and can be viewed there. Fruitful contacts, corrections and additions occurred. For example with Mrs. Marlitz Strydom Wandrag, Berndt von Kunow, Mr. Du Toit, Christian Frank-Schultz, Christian Murmann, Gunther von Schumann, Leonhard von Dobschütz, Renate Esslinger, Mr. Just (90), and many more.



Thereby I saw that one of the interested people had contact with a Mrs. Von Goldfus. So I reached by telephone, on winding ways Mrs. von Goldfus in the deeply snowy Bavaria. The nice lady promised me with your 80 years to use her contacts to the southwest. She opened me a golden gate ....And then unexpectedly came from Günter Langmaak wonderful material. Recent old address books from 1973 and especially the 200 page diary of Mr. Kurt Schwarzkopf about the Breckhorn farm. This required a lot of knowledge, because the many names could not be classified by a normal reader. So I made a summary with additions and pictures. The book turned out to be the glue which connected many so far laboriously won smallest puzzle pieces. Thus also the meager realizations over the farm Voigtsgrund could be extended clearly. Further contributions and photos ,which came from Mrs. Marlitze Strydom Wandrag, together with the book about Adriaan Esterhuizen, gave further insights into the history of the Burian farms. Genialogie forums allowed, especially in the case of the Burian, but also German families, to include whole family trees including portraits in the book. Systematic photographs of gravestones of Maltahöhe Cemetery in the forum eGGSa Library offered a lot of data. A particularly bizarre contact came about through the German biologist and lithologist (" Der Lithopforscher") Dr. Jainta, who enabled me to contact the owner of the Kalkhügel farm Mr. Du Toit, a lawyer. Du Toit was also able to contribute information about his Burian ancestors to the book. It turned out that through intermarriage there was a high degree of interconnectedness between the individual families.

Old photos with reference to Maltahöhe I got mostly from addressed persons over Internet or could be copied partly also from the Internet from old postcards. All photos were carefully analyzed. Especially photos of the old buildings had to be compared with the old site plans to prove the described development of the place. The town plan from 1913, which Hugo Voss had surveyed and drawn, proved to be very helpful. I found this map in a doctoral thesis published on the Internet. Through reports about the ecclesiastical development of the werft in Maltahöhe there were also hints about the life of the colored population. Unfortunately too little. The comparison of the Colonial Address Book 1936 with the farmer map of 1973 allowed supplemented by some information to trace the ownership of the farms also during and after the 2nd World War. I did not want to report about the more recent time from 1960 on, because it concerns too many personal rights of still living persons. Picture material and naming of still living persons after 1945 I tried to avoid except for a few persons.

What is really still missing is better historical research on persons of color who participated in the construction of Maltahöhe. Unfortunately, despite several attempted inquiries to colored Maltahöhe people, the editors were unable to get any response.

An older extensive pre-colonial standard work of Heinrich Vedder "Das alte Südwestafrika" 1934 in Berlin published, is based mainly both on protocols of oral sources , which are stored in the archive in Windhoek , and on writings of the Rhenish missionaries , which are to be found in Wuppertal at the Protestant mission . These are said to have been further transcribed and cataloged by missionary Vedder himself in Wuppertal during the war. Vedder's remarks are, as was often the case in this period, colored with racist statements that were unfortunately common at the time.

This book "Maltahöhe" does not claim to meet today's usual scientific standards. It is a collection of material of relatively well checked facts, which the author has gathered. Unfortunately, this compiled information is often not too reliable. For example, the information from the transcripts by Farmers Bernhardt and Schwarzkopf is very subjectively put on paper from old memories many years after the events. Information from the Colonial Collection of the University of Frankfurt, from heroized accounts of soldiers, and also from colonial address books were also subject to errors. Names of places and persons were changed. Place names such as Huams, Swartmodder, Rietfontein, Grootfontein, Aub referred to different places with the same name and were often not precisely assignable. Several times, therefore, all names and facts were checked against the Colonial Collection of the University of Frankfurt and the University of Bremen as well as the transcripts of Witbooi and Leutwein and other literature.

Institutes and Libraries of Namibia were well accessible online, and on international standard of cooperation. The National Archives of Namibia, formerly so well maintained by Mr. Hillebrand, was unwilling to email me records in response to multiple requests. On an international level, this is unusual for a national archive.

#### Evaluation of German colonialism

The rights of the displaced and bloodily decimated indigenous people of Namibia, the Bushmen and Damara are and have been, in my opinion, hardly taken into account.

The Herero, Orlam and the Nama conquered bloody the country from the Damara and San. In the 18th and 19th century the strongest had the legal right. The Germans in their turn conquered the land and finally the British conquered Southwest Africa, which in the beginning was the land of the Bushmen. One wrong stands here on the shoulders of the other wrong.

One after the other, they all took the land that belonged to the Bushmen before. The German Empire recognized the right of the conquerors, hence the Herero and Nama to the land at first and made treaties with them based on that and took more land on top of that. Nothing was changed by the subsequent British conquerors. All heroes, regardless of skin color brought death and suffering to the country. Each pointed to the guilt of the other with a bloody knife in his hand and yet was an executioner himself. All these executioners were and are unjustly revered in historiography. Depending on the political colour, on all sides, at all times, unscientific, unclean methods of ascertaining facts and figures of little evidence were used.

As a child of my time I disapprove of the German colonization, the killing of so many Herero and Witbooi, but also the pre-colonial slaughter among the tribes. To the settlers who built up farms, wells, roads and cities in generations and actually only wanted peace, whatever the color of their skin, belongs my respect. However, the wheel of time cannot be turned back and today we must build on the consensus that all people who have lived in Namibia for generations, whether black, half-black, or a little yellow, or white, have a right to this land in which they were born and which they and their ancestors have built up.

## **The pre-colonial history of the Maltahöhe district in the Stone Age**

About 40000 years ago people lived in the Maltahöhe area. These were not the ancestors of the Namib Bushmen. However, the so-called "Bushman drawings", as described by District Chief Seydel during his expedition through the Namib in 1909, originate from this population. Researchers and farmers have discovered artifacts in several places in the Maltahöhe District, especially after 1945. They found artifacts in caves under rock outcrops and in open areas. Stones from different rocks were found shaped into mittens, striking stones, scrapers or pointed blades. In addition, scientists recovered bone material, ostrich eggs, and ceramics. Scientists also discovered paintings that do not originate from today's Bushmen. There must have been several periods when the land had much more water and vegetation and the sandy desert was narrower. Proof of this is the Totevlei behind Sossusvlei with its dead ancient trees. A beautiful stone age cave is located on the farm Zebrarevier Farm No. 122 with a direct view of the area. People had lived here in different settlement periods. It is astonishing that especially many artifacts are found at the Namibrand and in the Namib while towards the Fish River the frequency of finds decreases. Namibia is said to have been deserted for several thousand years until 500 years ago. On what this frequently mentioned knowledge is based is unknown.

## **Bushmen in North Bethany**

Bushmen of the Kalahari are the oldest existing species of Homo sapiens with their own language and lived already 20000 years ago in the south of Africa. Until around 1500 the south of Namibia is without provable settlement for a long time. Then the Namib Bushmen came from the south. There lived in North Bethany the Huini in the Huib plateau and the Koma and Ganin further north of it. The IGainin lived on Namibrand, in the Namib and on the coast.

The Namib Bushmen possessed the same customs as the Bushmen of the Kalahari, but according to the researcher Hans Schinz 1886, were very much mixed with Namas but also other ethnic groups. The Namib Bushmen did not differ visually from the Namas, according to Trenk and Vedder. They originally came to Namibia from the Cape country around 1500. Missionary Vedder also supported these views in his standard work of 1935. However, the first research probably went back to the missionary Brinker in 1864. He referred to this group as Nama Bushmen. In northern Bethany, the Namib Bushmen were also called IGeinin. These bushmen of the Namib moved nomadically in small independent groups through the country. They hunted only what they needed and also foraged for crops. They did not accumulate stock or possessions and they knew no concept of ownership in the European sense. In contrast, the Cape Namas were more localized cattle herders with substantial herds organized in large groups. Due to the Nama, Baster, and Orlam groups that migrated from the Cape country into Southwest Africa in the 18th and 19th centuries, the Bushmen in the Maltahöhe area were displaced into the Namiband areas up to the coast. Since they stole little but constantly cattle they were despised, persecuted, enslaved and also systematically killed by the immigrant groups. Missionary Albat even spoke of "purges" and missionary Pabst described about July 1881 the extermination of a bushman's werft by Grootedoden Nama and Baster at the height of Nomtsas. Schutztruppler Trenk and Seydel reported from their own knowledge that the few Bushmen were living on Namiband and the unreal Atlantic coast in 1909. District Chief Seydel estimated the population of these Bushmen in the Maltahöhe district at well under 400 in 1909, and the Jahrbuch über die Deutsche Kolonien mentions an armed group of 200

individuals. The same book also mentions persecutions of Bushmen after cattle thefts by patrols. In 1908, Külz estimated the number of Namib Bushmen at several hundred. Bushmen assisted the German troops as land-savvy trackers and water seekers, but did not lend themselves well as laborers or cattle herders. From the British Mandate on there are no more references to Bushmen in the Maltahöhe District.



Bushmen photo from Leutwein's book

Bushmen

postcard from Gibeon 1909

### **The pre-colonial history about the time of immigrations by Namas, Orlams, Bastards , Boers and Germans.**

The Nama of the Cape are descended from KoiKoi and were called Hottentots. They moved north from the Cape in about the 17th century and founded the Red Nation with its headquarters at Hoachanas north of Gibeon. They displaced Bushmen and Damara. The Red Nation also claimed the area of Maltahöhe (North Bethany) and Bethany. From the Red Nation (Nama) further tribes split off Topnaar /Walfishbay, Fransman-Nama / Gochas, Veldschoendrager /Koes, Bondelswarte/ Warmbad, Swartboois / Franzfontein, Tseibschen Nama, Groote-doden / Schlip, Keetmanshooper Nama.

Around 1800, the Nama chief captain Games of Hoachanas (near Gibeon) ruled in the south. In the north, the Hereo, a Bantu people around 1800 (according to Bolling and Vogelsang 2002, p145 ff.) had invaded the Damara territory from the northeast to present-day Okahandja. The origin and history of the Damara, who lived in the central and northern part of Namibia well before 1800, is not clear. The Damara, similar to the Bushmen and San were organized in small independent groups and did not offer any organized resistance against the occupation, expulsion and enslavement by the Herero.

A sub-tribe of the Koisan, the Orlams are mixed bloods of Nama women and burish men and spoke Afrikaans (Cape Dutch) and Nama. They learned writing, reading, crafts, European rules and customs, as well as how to handle horses and modern weapons in the Cape. In the 19th century, the Orlam pushed from the Cape to Namibia. They divided themselves into: Bethany (Boois/ ! Aman ) ,Witboois / Gibeon ,Lamberts /Gobabis (Bethany, Leonardsville), Bersebans (Goliaths) ,Afrikaners / Windhoek. With them came trade, modern weapons and the missionaries who founded the first towns in what is now Namibia. The Bethany, Afrikaners,Witboois and the Lamberts lived on the robber economy. That is, the prosperity of these tribes was particularly characterized by the conquest of territories and robbery of cattle using modern British guns and horses. They referred to their bloody raids and raiding parties as "commandos."

Designation problem. : In older and newer literature, Orlam are consistently referred to as Nama and are not distinguished from them. There is also a designation problem with the Herero, mainly in pre-colonial literature.

These are called Damara by some authors, because they came from Damaraland. With the designation Bushmen and Bushmen it is also not clear whether they were not often nomadic possibly outcast Nama groups.

North Bethany, the area of today's Maltahöhe District, was a very sparsely populated, remote, unappreciated part of the country. Few displaced nomadic Bushmen, isolated Damara and impoverished Nama, sometimes called Nama Bushmen, lived there. Through the area passed the Ox Trail from the south across the Naukluft ("Il OGein") to Walfishbay. From this ox trail, one path led to the Rehoboth area and another along the Hutup to the east to Gibeon. North Bethany extended west to the Atlantic Ocean. Sporadically displaced Bushmen lived in Namibrand, but also in the Namib and along the coast.

Bethany was the starting point for the new settlement in the 19th century of the later Maltahöhe District. In 1804, on the instructions of the Nama chief captain Games of Hoachanas, the Red Nation, the Orlam group, which had migrated from the Cape, settled in Uigantes under Captain Kobus Boois. With the Orlam, a distinctly European group arrived in the country. The settlement place "Ui#gandes" was renamed by the Orlam to "Klipfontein" (Bethany). At that time there was a Namakapitän in the proximity named Namimap-Zabuk, from whom Kobus Boois bought this land around Bethany. In 1812 a Klipfontein captain traveled to the Cape and requested a missionary for the place. The requested missionary was Johann Heinrich Schmelen of Bremen from the London Missionary Society, who arrived in June 1814. He brought from the Orange about 150 Orlam with Captain Aamral Lambert to "Klipfontein". Schmelen's diary records that he built the first church of stones in 1819 for lack of wood. Missionary Albat reports that in 1815 another Orlam tribe with Daniel Boois as leader settled north of Bethany (Maltahöhe area). From here they had made raids as far as Swakop. The Boois changed their family name and called themselves Frederiks from then on. In 1816 still the Orlam tribes of the Goliath's and Isaak's of the Oranje came to Bethany. These later founded Berseba. Jan Jonker Afrikaner son of Jonker was born in Bethany in 1820. Whether Jonker Afrikaner stayed longer in Bethany is unclear.

The Boois (! Aman) from Bethany at that time also claimed the land in the north, North Bethany, the later Maltahöhe district. Jan Boois also called Jan Frederiks was recorded on old maps as captain for the area in 1840.

In 1821 Schmelen explored north to Walfishbay with Wesleyan missionary James Archbell to establish more missions. Toppnaar and intermittent Europeans had settled in Walfisbay. In the same year James Archbell and Jacob Links founded a mission in Grootfontein South (Gai Aus) at the Haseweb Precinct. They were the first Europeans to settle in what later became the Maltahöhedistrict. Vedder reported that Archbell was invited by a chief Tsaumab to come to Bosfontein the later Grootfontein South, and that the cleansing of this area of Bushmen by the Nama was still in full swing. (Vedder The Old SWA 1934 S196 ,201). There were disputes between 3 tribal groups at Bethany in 1822. The station in Grootfontein and Bethany had to be abandoned by the missionaries because of this. Archbell fled to Lüderitzbucht and from there by ship to South Africa. Schmelen also fled. Also his wife had to flee supported by the Baster in Keetmannshoop. In 1825 Schmelen made another expedition with Amaral Lambert to Walfishbay. He recommended to establish a mission in "Scheppmannsdorf" today Rooibank.



**James Edward Alexander** reached, 15 years after Archbell, with 50 men of his expedition March 1937 coming from the Cape the today's area of Maltahöhe. Henrick and Jan Boois from Bethany accompanied the expedition. They met only one bushman family. The trek passed through a place called Kei Us (Grootfontein South). There grew big trees, there was open water and rhinos were grazing nearby. A little further on they passed through the plain called Kei Kap (Gei Gab Plain) (Groot plaas) and from which to the east could be seen an indentation in the mountains 20 miles away called "Isa coodee taos" (=beautiful girl pass). This could have been the black rim at Maltahöhe. Finally they reached the Hutoprevier (Hutup) (Spinging River) with many big trees. There was great danger of being attacked by lions and bushmen. Alexander had a bush kraal built around the camp. That night the first documented crime in the Maltahöhe district occurred when one of the Nama attacked a bookman's girl. On 26.03.1837 the trek passed through the Blumen Fischrevier=Arigha`Oup (The northern part of the Fischrevier is so called). There not long before bushmen had attacked a Namatreck (Orlam?). Alexander's trek also lamented the nightly theft of several oxen. A little further on, while crossing the Naukluft Alexander named a mountain Mount Michell after Surveyor General Charles Collier Michell of the Cape. Alexander's expedition continued on to Walvisbay and met Jonker Afrikaner near Windhoek, who entertained him amicably.

About the height of Rehoboth to Keetmanshoop, Herero attempted to push the Namas of the Red Nation south about 1820. A group of Hereros had established themselves in the area of what later became Gibeon about 1830 and were only driven out by a pack of the Red Nation's chief captain Games with the Orlam tribe of Jonker Afrikaner. Jan Jonker pushed far north and founded Winterhoek (later Windhoek), named after a farm near his birthplace later Tulbagh. In 1840, missionary Hahn and Kleinschmidt still saw Jonker as an ally of the mission and guarantor of a more peaceful development, but then changed their minds as Jonker Afrikaner expanded his power through wars and devastating bloody raids. In Walfishbay and from the Cape, Jonker Afrikaner bought firearms and paid the traders with stolen cattle that he had robbed from the Hereros, but also from the Namas. At that time the Orlams already possessed the new British breech-loaders. Jonker defeated the Herero with the Namas of Hoachanas. The Hereros had lost their independence with the agreed "Peace of Okahandja" on 24.12.1842. Nevertheless, a massacre of Hereros occurred at Okahandja in 1850 by Jonker. Jonker also declared the Topnaar his subjects and extended the Bayweg from WDK to Walfishbay, which shortened freight transports by weeks. Trade in copper ore, animals, alcohol and guns via Walfishbay now took on the greatest importance.

For the Nama of Hoachanas of the Red Nation, Jonker Afrikaner (!Hôa-laramab) became a danger. To which the last of the Orlam tribes under Kido Witbooi (‡A-lêib) migrated to Namibia in 1855, also practicing predatory economics. The new Nama chief captain Cornelius Oasib (!Na-khomab) wanted to avoid the merger of the Orlam tribes. There were several battles in the area of Gibeon and Hoachanas.

On 09.01.1858 the peace treaty of Hoachanas was signed between Oasib and Jonker Afrikaner. Jonker Afrikaner was now the undisputed ruler of the northern territories with 2000 armed warriors. He continued to hold the Hereros in his power.

European influence on the country increased. The English Jewish trader De Pass bought land in Angra Pegena from David Christian v. Bethany in 1854 and traded in cod liver oil, fish and guano.

His employee Sinclair managed the copper mine named after him on the southern border of Maltahöhe County in about 1863. North Bethany was the name then given to this sparsely inhabited section of country, up to the Fish River, with a few named watering places along the thoroughfares. Records of the Swedish merchant Anderson state that in August 1861 (1862?) he drove a large herd of cattle, of 4000 head south through the Maltahöhe area from the north with permission from Jonker Afrikaner. Orlam Captain David Christian would not let him cross Bethany, but he was allowed to continue through Aus. Anderson possessed 2 cannons with a poisonous charge to gain respect. It turned out a year later that the cattle he had driven to the Cape were infected with pneumonic plague and had infected other cattle.

Jonker Afrikaner died in 1861. His son Christian now led the "Afrikaners". In the meantime, the Herero under Maharero secretly supplied themselves extensively with British Westley-Richard rifles through the port of Walfishbay. The Herero, thus reinvigorated, allied themselves after the death of Jonker Afrikaner with the private army of the Swedish merchant Karl J. Andersson in Ojimbingwe and the Red Nation in Hoachanas. Christian "Afrikaner" raided Maherero at his headquarters in Ojimbingwe. In the process, Christian was crushed and killed on 15.07.1863. His brother Jan Jonker Afrikaner had to retreat with the remaining members of his tribe to Windhoek, from where he made smaller raids. For example he drove the Swartbooi (Nama) together with missionary Kleinschmidt out of Rehoboth in 1864 and wiped them out almost completely. They had to flee to Franzfontein in the north.

In the meantime Kido Witbooi (Orlam), coming from the south, had finally settled in 1863 at the Fish River on the place Khowesin. The place was named after the original tribe "IKhowesin", the Witbooi. The Rhenish missionary Jacob Knauer named the place Gibeon in 1863. After Knauer, Olpp took over the mission. There followed 3 raids on Gibeon on 03.12.1864, 17.7.1865 and 1866. The Witboois were able to control the ammunition transports from South Africa. They were skilled in warfare with horses and modern British breech-loaders. After several battles with Oasib (IOaseb) in which Gibeon was destroyed several times, the Witbooi allied with the Bethanians and defeated the allied Nama and Afrikaners at Rehoboth 25.9.1866. Oasib fled to Hoachanas. When Oasib died shortly after, the "Peace of Gibeon" between Kido Witbooi, David Christian Frederiks and Paul Goliath was signed on 19.12.1867. With this peace treaty the 3 Orlam tribes took over the power over the whole Namaqualand. The Witboois saw themselves by the right of the conqueror as legal successors of the Red Tribes of Hoachanas and thus as suzerain over the whole of Namaqualand. However, the fullness of power of this suzerainty was not recognized by the other tribes (Berserba, Bethany, Warmbad).

During raids in Walfishbay, the Dane Inverson died. The European traders in the Herero capital Otjimbingwe were also threatened by robber bands of Jan Jonker Afrikaner (half-brother of Christian Afrikaner) and Jan Boois. As a result, the Europeans, 87 women and 31 men, requested protection from the Cape Governor at a conference in Otjimbingwe on July 7, 1868. The South African politician Palgrave took up the cause. The Rhenish Mission also turned to Bismarck on their side. Two British warships initially took up positions off Walfishbay. As a result, Southwest Africa also became an international issue between the German Empire and the British.

The Cape Government sent a commissioner Piers on 09. 10.1868 to Bethany .The captains in Bethany (" I Aman"), Berserba (ǀHai-ǀkhauan) and Gibeon he exhorted on behalf of the South African Administration urgently but to deal with the European traders and big game hunters amicably. In particular, the behavior of Jan Jonker Afrikaner and James Boois should be regulated by the chiefs. After renewed incidents, Captain David Christian of Bethany then first conducted an action in the south against the Bushmen who had robbed the Sinclair Mine on the border of the Maltahöhe area.

When the Cape Government passed a law around 1860 denying land ownership to the Baster families and the whites evicted the resident Baster , many Baster migrated north . One of these groups of 90 families under Hermanus van Wijk crossed the Orange River about 1868 and looked for a place to settle first at Keetmanshoop ,but moved on to the heights of Berserba . Then the trek made an amazing U-turn across the Fish River and in a big curve across the Baiweg to Chamis in the Bethany-land . At the end of 1870 there was a treaty, in Okahandja mediated by missionary Hahn between van Wyk and Abraham Swartboi about the Rehoboth area. The verbal treaty was concluded with the knowledge of Maherero and David Christiaan in September 1870. The Swartbooi had left the area long before and found refuge in the north. The Basters moved north from Chamis across the Maltahöhe area. On 23.06.1875 David Christiaan of Bethany and Baster captain Claas Zwart concluded a lease agreement for the land of Grootfontein -South. Signatories were Claas Zwart and the Orlam -captains David Christiaan, Willem Boois, Joseph David Frederiks II Boois (ǀNaixab), Adam Lambert. (successor of Amaral Lambert). The boundaries of North Bethany were the Fish River in the north in the south the watershed at Chamchawib, in the west from north to south the Black Rim to Breckhorn, Tsubgaris and in the west the Atlantic Ocean. 4 Baster families settled in Grootfontein South and built houses, gardens, and wells there.

At the same time (31/12/1875) Kido Witbooi (91) died in Gibeon and his son Moses (ǀGâbeb ǀîmab-ǀîmab) took over the leadership in Gibeon. In 1876/1877, South African Inspector Palgrave came to Walfishbay and traveled through the country and also through Maltahöhe territory to negotiate peace with the feuding tribes as well as to offer treaties of protection under the auspices of the Cape government. He had little success. Palgrave also negotiated with the captain of Grootfontein South Claas Swart in April 1877.



Photo of Palgrave passing through Grootfontein in 1878( Note: Palgrave's logs, photos and diaries located in the Cape Town Colonial Archives were published in 1991/2004).

The missionary from Gibeon Johannes Olpp was in charge of the Grootfonteinners until 1878. At that time he was the teacher of Hendrik Witbooi (!Nanseb !Gabemab) in Gibeon and had even baptized his grandfather Kido in his old age. Olpp also reported about his trek from Gibeon to Grootfontein in the book " Erlebnisse im Hinterlande von Angra Pequena". On 23.04.1877 the trek started towards the west. To the !Han-=/=ami plateau via the waterhole IGaris near the later Voigtsgrund . From there it went ,so Olpp in a big curve again briefly to the east (?) until they reached the IIHutop (Hutup) and again westward on the 3.day the water place IKarichab reached. The trek had to continue for days through scree and stones to the plateau edge from which they had a wide view to the east and south. Here the mountain pass was broken by a gigantic gate. They came downhill to an area called Daweb. There lived some basters. Early in the morning they reached Grootfontein where they were greeted by Captain Zwart. Wells and buildings, even a bush church were under construction. 12 church services followed in the next time until Olpp went back to Grootfontein on 07.05.1877. At Daweb he describes the encounter with an old "bushman" who had a costume in which he looked like an ostrich. With this costume he could approach the shy birds for hunting. On 12.05.1877 the trek returned to Gibeon after 5 days of travel .Source :( <http://sammlungen.ub.uni-frankfurt.de/dsdb/content/pageview/8983148>)

In 1878 the British annexed Walfishbay. However, there was little interest on the British side in the rest of South West Africa. Increasingly, European merchants came into the country.

The Basters of Grootfontein South requested a missionary. Heinrich Pabst arrived from Germany in 1877. On 27.04.1878 the missionaries of the Rhenish Mission, Herrmann Kreft and Heinrich Pabst started to build up a mission in Grootfontein South. In his diary missionary Pabst reports about the establishment of the small settlement. The Grootfontein Basters built several houses made of mud bricks, gardens and several wells. The cattle grazed in the entire Grootfontein depression between the Zarris Mountains and the Black Rim (" I Han:Ami " Plateau). A sub-captain named David (or Daniel) Boois from Bethany had gathered around him about 120 bushmen as " servants " and made raids as far as the Swakop. They also robbed and murdered in Grootfontein South. In 1881 hired bushmen killed, among others, the Baster James of Zyl and the mail boat of Missionary Rust on the way to Grootfontein South . There was a loss of over 1000 animals. In addition, the water from the wells in Grootfontein South dried up from time to time. Tormented by these setbacks and the droughts, many Baster families left Grootfontein South.

From 1878 the Herero invaded more and more the area of the "Afrikaners "near Windhoek, because of a drought. On 25.08.1880 the Hereros finally destroyed Jan Jonker`s domicile in Windhoek and drove the Afrikaners to Rehoboth. Jan Jonker fled further to the Gamsberg. In August 1880 serious skirmishes took place at the Gamsberg and then near Windhoek between the Orlam captains of the south led by Moses Witbooi and the Herero. Mutual warlike raids followed in the following years. The ally David Christian Frederik of Bethany fell on 12.12.1880 in the battle of Otjikango near Gross Barmen against the Herero as reported by the missionaries Pabst and Olpp. Involved were Wilhelm Maharero against Jan Jonker Afrikaner. Days later Moses Witbooi was also defeated east of Okahandja and fled.

Wilhelm Maherero died from his injuries. Joseph Fredericks became the new captain at Bethany. (The surname Boois was replaced by Fredericks. Sometimes Frederiks).

Missionary Pabst wrote that in 1880 he had to leave Grootfontein South with his Baster community because of continuing bloody robberies by David Boois with his bushmen. A small part of Grootfontein's Baster fled to Rehoboth and the largest part of the community moved first with missionary Pabst to Bethany and further via Keetmanshoop and Warmbad to Rietfontein (South) at the border in today's South Africa . About this reported the missionary Pabst in his diary . (!There are more than 3 Rietfontein) . In 1881 there was again a battle at Osona between Ovaherero on one side and on the other side Jan Jonker and Moses Witbooi. Defeated, Jan Jonker Afrikaner fled to the Gamsberg and Moses Witbooi to Gibeon. The Swartboois, displaced by Jan Jonker, moved north to Franzfontein. On 23.06.1881, under the leadership of Rhenish missionaries, Captains Ovaherero, Jakobus Isaak / Berseba, Manasse / Hoachanas and Hendrik Windstaar /Grootedoden conclude a peace treaty in Hoachanas. Moses Witbooi and Jan Jonker Afrikaner did not participate. Probably in December 1882 Jan Jonker attacks the remaining Swartboois at Rehoboth.

The first decade of German colonial rule with reference to Maltahöhe

With the contracts of 01.03.1883 and 25.08.1883 the 21 year old German Heinrich Vogelsang acquired for the merchant Adolf Lüderitz from the Orlam captain Joseph Fredericks II of Bethany 1. the bay of Angra Pequena ( former Golfo San Christovao) and 7 "German" miles inland and with a 2. contract the whole desert strip up to the Oranje. The missionary Bam, who knew the language, brokered the contracts. The owner of the Pomona mine near Lüderitzbucht, the English Jewish family with Spanish roots De Pass later sued against the acquisitions of Lüderitz and made a claim himself. His employee Sinclair had already acquired parts of this land in 1863. Another employee a Mr. Spencer had also already done business on the coast. Spencersbay was named after him. A dispute between the British and the Germans followed. The Germans then put the whole country under their protective rule on 07.08.1884. David Radford from Colchester /Essex also registered his claims. Since 1860 he had lived permanently in the small bay near Lüderitzbucht named after him and had signed contracts with David Christian Frederiks.

Under whose had an older brother named Isaac, Hendrik Witbooi encouraged to come north with his followers. Hendrik Witbooi moved in 1884, still during the term of his father Moses of Gibeon with 300 men on 14.06.1884 against Maherero near Windhoek. In the process he destroyed Windhoek. A peace treaty was signed and Maherero left Windhoek.

For lack of money Moses Witbooi sold the farm Goamus to 100 Burian families from South Africa under the leadership of Willem Spangenberg. Moses allowed the 100 families to settle there. Moses later revoked this contract.

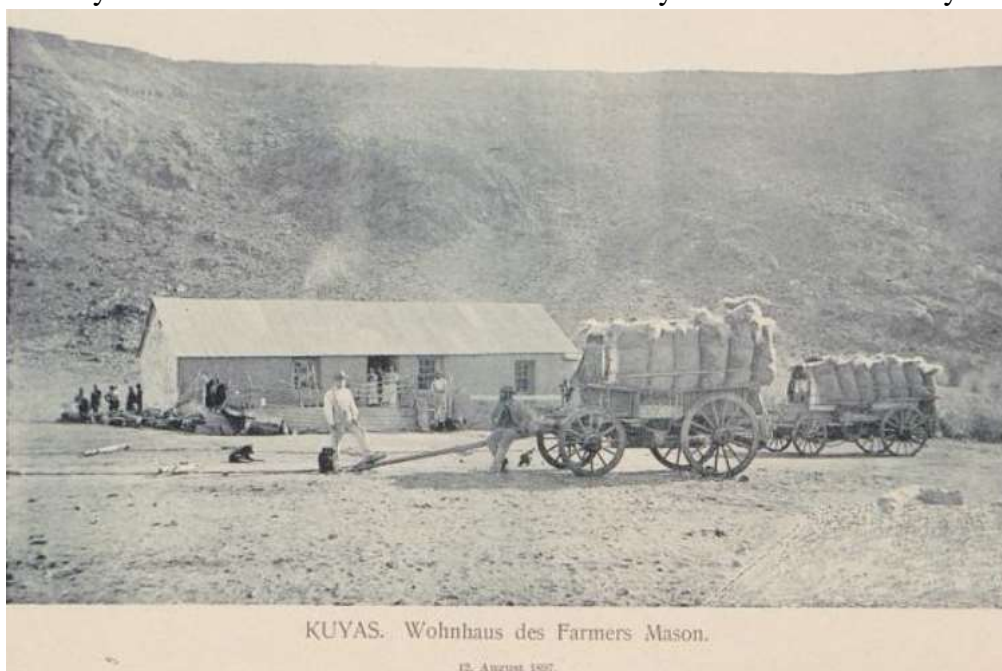
For the first 10 years of German rule, the Germans had little power in the protectorate. Nevertheless, on 15.09.1885 the Rehoboth Baster, on 28.10, 1884 Fredericks from Bethany and on 21.10.1885 the Hereros signed first protection treaties with the German Empire. The Witbooi's rejected these treaties. The unrest in the country between the colored inhabitants continued.



On 18.10.1885, during a "peaceful" advance of the Witbooi to the north, despite a peace treaty, a serious shooting between Hendrik Witbooi and Maherero had occurred at Osana near Okahandja. Hendrik had to retreat with great losses, among them 2 sons.

At the same time German traders, prospectors, settlers and adventurers explored the country and also reported on the area of North Bethany, today's Maltahöhe.

In March 1885 the Swiss botanist Prof. Dr. Hans Schinz from Zurich, on behalf of Adolf Lüderitz had already walked the way from Bethany to Grootfontein -South and was robbed there by 15 Nama bushmen on riding oxen. They could also have been Witbooi-posten. He reported the deserted country and the ruins of the abandoned village of Grootfontein-South. North Bethany still belonged to Johan Fredericks of Bethany at that time, but Hendrik wanted suzerainty over Gr. Namaqualand and also laid claim. Therefore many Baster families who actually wanted to return to Grootfontein South stayed in the safe Bethany-land near Aus.



Mason's House 1897 ( Farm Kunyas )

Mr. Ludwig Conradt and his expedition column also trekked through North Bethany from 18.09.1885 with 3 ox carts. First they went from Aus over dunes to Tiras, Kamachas to Khonias (farm Kunyas) near the Sinclairmine where the merchant John Robert Mason had his stone house. This must have been not far from today's Helmeringshausen. Sinclair had had wells made here many years before and had raised over 1000 head of cattle. Further on the trek moved mostly at night along dry river courses, through Ob and Ublup, Remhogde past Kamramale (Near Maguams). In the area of the later Maltahöhe the road became better before Oris and led to Kleinfontein via the waterhole Amhub (Green Land). Conradt reported that Kleinfontein was deserted, flat, surrounded by mesas and had fertile clay soil. Bastards (Claas Swart) had lived here before, whose houses could still be recognized. With much diligence the Bastards would have built wells. The trek continued to Grootfontein-South. Conradt reported that the abandoned village had also been inhabited by Baster in the past. 12 ruins he could still recognize. Each house had a garden, surrounded by stone walls. There still grew fig trees. Further the trek led over the plain Rundum (height Karab?), west past Nomtsas, to Xurareb and Garib over the Bloomfischrevier, Kurush, Pavianskranz

to the Gamis werft. The men of the werft had been detached to Hendrik Witbooi. (Travelogue in the Deutsche Kolonialzeitschrift of 1887).

Until 1881sollll have lived on the territory of Nomtsas for 11 years a German and a Burian trader Mr. Fish and Mr. Rickets ( Riketts). (History of German Colonial Society) Ricket may have been the previous owner of Tsub Garis.

Hendrik camped near Rehoboth for several weeks and again attacked the Hereros at Okahandja on 17.04.1886, was again defeated and had to retreat to the Gamsberg. Afterwards he raided Nama tribes in order to be able to buy weapons again.

During this time Adolf Lüderitz himself undertook an expedition to the Orange River in 1886 on the land he had bought and wanted to sail back to Angra Pequena on the open sea with his seamanly experienced companion Steingröver. The last to see Lüderitz alive in October 1886 was Rainier Coetzee, a Burian farmer on the Oranje. The German Colonial Society took over the contracts of Lüderitz and renamed the place Angra Pequena in Lüderitzbucht in his memory.

On 14.04.1887 and on 03.06.1887 Hendrik Witbooi attacked the Herero in Otjimbingue. In 1887 alone Hendrik had attacked Otjimbingue 3 times and at Nossob he robbed herds from the Herero. Hendrik tried in vain to obtain ammunition from the Germans and elsewhere. Finally, the Bethany allegedly gave him ammunition. With this he attacked the Groot-Doden and the Feldschuhträger. In the meantime Moses Witbooi had to give up his captaincy to Paul Visser. On 22.02.1888 Visser sentenced his brother-in-law Moses Witbooi (81) to death and had him shot in Gibeon. Thereupon he declared himself Witbooio senior captain. Several times he attacked Hendrik Witbooi, who in turn attacked and robbed Nama tribesmen on the run. In Gr.Namaqualand there was incessant tribal warfare.

In the Deutsche Kolonialzeitung No. 27 1889 Hermann reports about his first expedition in September 1888 to North Bethany. Coming from Windhoek via Rehoboth, Hermann's trek encountered a Witbooi group of 100 men heading north to rob Herero cattle (Hermann also referred to the Witbooi as Nama). Hermann, accompanied by a cousin of the Bethany captain (Josef Frederiks), got as far as Hutupsenke unscathed. There he spent a few days in the abandoned Grootfontein South, in the house of the late Ari van Wyk. (Ari van Wyk had large livestock in Lidfontein) Hermann reported the ruins of the houses, the church, the lime kiln and the wells. The valley was deserted for hundreds of miles except for a few almost starving bushmen. The inhabitants, fearing raids by Witbooi, had abandoned the plain. At Bethany, Hermann met the missionary Bam. The latter told him that the Grootfontein area had been promised to the Baster (?) as soon as the war was over. Hermann also visited Baster Captain Claas Swart, who had settled with his Baster clan (30 families), since the escape 8 years earlier on the road to Aus. Hermann bought for the German Colonial Society the sheep wool of the Baster who were delighted about it. They persuaded him to send a petition (19.09.1888) to Göring (Reichskommissar) asking for German protection to return to Grootfontein. Herrmann even held out the prospect of arming the Basters to defend themselves.

In 1888 the Herero cancelled the protection treaty with the Germans, because the promised German protection with only 21 soldiers was not granted. The imperial commissioner Göring had to flee to Walfischbay for a short time in October 1888.

Raids also, on the Namaqua tribes enabled Hendrik to buy weapons. 12.08.1888 (12.07.1888 according to Vedder) Hendrik Witbooi attacks Paul Visser and kills him. With this he became

the captain of the Witboois. However, the recognition of Hendrik as captain of the Namaqualand by the other captains failed to materialize. On 14.11.1888 until April 1889 Hendrik attacked the Nama captain Manasses in Hoachanas, the former ally of Visser several times and defeated and plundered him.

Scottish arms dealer Robert Duncan was married to a Witbooi woman and owned a werft at Haruchas south of Stampriet. He delivered arms to Hendrik in December 1888. Hendrik ordered from Duncan 4crates of Henry Martin, 4crates of solid bullets, 4crates of Wesleyricks, 2crates of Schneider, 1crate of Wesleyan cartridge paper, 1crate of Winchester, 100 sachets of gunpowder, 1500 rods of lead. He also received weapons from a Boer named Spannenberg. Hendrik set up his headquarters at Hornkranz which belonged to the Baster, in March 1889, threatening the Rehoboth community. The Baster became impoverished during these war years.

In January 1889, Kamaherero attacked the Hornkranz, displacing and killing women and children. On Aug. 10, 1889, Hendrik attacked the fleeing Orlam tribe of Jan Jonker at the Battle of Tsaobis. Phaniel, the son of Jan Jonker Afrikaner, who defected to Hendrik, shot his own father during peace negotiations in Hendrik's camp. With that, the "Afrikaners" ceased to exist.

Goering initiated a general arms embargo in March 1890, with the agreement of the British, and unsuccessfully asked Hendrik Witbooi on 20.05.1890 not to attack the Hereros again.

In 1890 Hermann successfully campaigned in Germany for wool sheep in DSWA. German Schutztruppen were now requested by the Colonial Society. The German Empire sent only 21 soldiers under the leadership of C.v.Francois. Francois built the first fortress in deserted Windhoek, but had no means of power to control the country.

The Witbooi alone had about 2000 experienced fighters at the same time. Tolerated by Cecil Rhodes, according to Hendrik Witbooi, the arms dealer Duncan sold 70000 cartridges, 12000 pounds of powder, to him in 1890. With these weapons Hendrik robbed 4000 head of cattle near Otjikango far in the north. In the process he lost 200 of his own fighters and most of his booty in the fight against the Herero. Further raids took place again at Ojimbingwe and Omaruru and at the Nossob. Despite the embargo in 1891, Hendrik was able to raid Okahandja. In 1892, despite the arms embargo, Hendrik had a German (or Burian) trader bring 8 ox wagons of ammunition and weapons from South Africa to Gibeon. Hendrik then raided Ojimbingwe again, Omaruru, then the Nossob region again. The situation continued to resemble a civil war. The German Schutzmacht was powerless in the face of its few soldiers. Maherero called Witbooi's Komandos " theft" while Witbooi called them Orlog=war to justify himself. Hendrik always presented himself as the attacked one, never attacking of his own will. His argumentations are difficult to understand from today's point of view. On 07.04.1892 1000 Hereros surrounded the Hornkranz. Although the Witboois could repel the attackers, they had no more ammunition. On 08.06.1892 Hendrik asked by letter the arms dealers Mertens & Sichel in the British Walfishbay for his weapons ordered there. Francois threatened Hendrik with military consequences if he did not stop attacking allies. Hendrik's supply of livestock and ammunition was at an all-time low.

His people were starving. 04.08.1892 Hendrik wrote seeking help to the British in Walfishbay. The arms embargo worked and a peace treaty was surprisingly signed in November 1892 with the cooperation of the Rehoboth Basters between the new Herero captain

Samuel Maherero and the Orlam tribes led by Hendrik Witbooi. The beginning influx of Burian farmers in the south, which the Germans induced and welcomed, worried Maherero. On 01.11.1892 he asked Hendrik to do everything to prevent this. Curt von Francois did not advise any German settlers to settle in Namaland. He described the Boers as more suitable for this. Therefore he advocated their immigration up to the 26 degree of latitude (Maltahohe lies at the 25 degree of latitude), i.e. up to Keetmanshoop, Berseba, Bethany.

The German Colonial Society began to establish the experimental farms Kubub and Nomtsas under Hermann's direction in Namaqualand. The D.K.Gesellschaft and the government committee invested a total of 54000.- Marks for these experimental farms. On 22.09.1891 Hermann von Carna in South Africa brought the first 1200 sheep to the experimental farm Kubub. Hermann leased the land from Captain Josef Frederick for 20 years. On 01.01. 1892 Hermann started on the farm Nomtsas but had to withdraw the cattle because of the threats of Witbooi. The colonial company stocked the farms with about 3000 sheep, 300 cattle and some horses. The horseman Talheim and sergeant Morhenne were requested as aids by Hermann. Hermann used Morhenne for the extension of the landing place Lüderitzbucht to be able to ship the wool better. For the management of the farm Kubub Hermann got further support from the former Schutztruppler Max von Quitzow.

Captain Josef Frederiks von Bethany (Orlam) had sold and leased the first large farms to German settlers around 1890. "Inachab" to Ferdinand Gessert in the south and in the north "Nomtsas" to Hermann. Hendrik Witbooi did not agree with selling or leasing land to the Germans. He considered himself as chief captain and therefore sole owner of the Namaqualand and wanted to dictate to the independent captains what they had to do.

Quotations mutatis mutandis: 20.05.1892 H.Witbooi to Hermann:..." I do not accept that they settle in Nomtsas... "12.06.1892 Hermann to Witbooi "...I asked Captain Frederiks of Bethany ---Nomtsas belongs to Bethany--- Josef Frederiks rented me the land..." 27.06.1892 H.Witbooi to J.Frederiks "...I don't want you to give the land to a white man---"12.06.1892 Frederiks to Witbooi---we have already signed a contract with the Germans giving them free access to our land---the land is already His (Hermann's).... ".Hendrik Witbooi to Josef Frederiks 07.08.1892 ...As for the farm (Nomtsas), I repeat: "I consider it mine according to the law of conquest. All the lands and possessions of the old IOaseb became mine, as you know very well."

**Comment:** At this point I would like to insert a small evaluation of Hendrik Witbooi, so heroized today.

*The fact that the father Moses and afterwards also Hendrik Witbooi rejected the protection treaties and thus the "subjugation" before 1894 and Hendrik at the age of 80 in 1904 joined the majority opinion of his sub-captains, the liberation struggle of other groups, like Jakob Morenga ennobles him, in today's politically opportune view as a "**liberation fighter**". Along with Samuel Maherero, Hendrik Witbooi is today the untouchable symbolic figure of the resistance and the struggle for freedom.*

*Everyone who actually reads Hendrik's vita recognizes, Hendrik had other sides. Hendrik robbed "own" tribes, like also the Hereros for economic reasons and reasons of the power receipt. Hendrik had justified his territorial claims on the land of others with religious "revelations". He was never recognized as the supreme ruler among the Namaquas. He*

*destroyed large parts of attacked tribes. For example the Topnaar, Groot doden, Afrikaner, Feldschuhträger, Namas of Hoachanas and Swartboois. Hendrik also decimated his own tribe with his raids and replenished the ranks with men e.g. from Cornelius and the Afrikaners. The editors do not succeed in recognizing heroic action in this. The also controversial national hero Samuel Maherero called Hendrik's raids theft and Hendrik said war to it. Hendrik opposed the Germans because they wanted to prohibit him from robbing. Robbing other tribes was a main component of his robbery economy. Whenever Hendrik came into conflict with the ethical limits of his own religion, he justified these transgressions with his divine instructions from the "Lord". (Predatory Economics: See Rule and Everyday Life in Pre-Colonial Central Namibia 2011 Henrichsen Dag) (Christine Hardung, " God, the Warlord and the Way of the Ancestors ", Civilisations [Online], 63 | 2014,)*

*In 1884 Hendrik signed the protection treaty and willingly helped the Germans for 10 years. Governor Leutwein had very few soldiers at his disposal. He depended on Hendrik's help to put down the many colored uprisings in the south. Without Hendrik the colonial subjugation of the colored tribes in Namaqualand would not have been possible in such a drastic way. I see in Hendrik`s vita a historically significant person, but very rarely his overriding role as a liberation fighter. He fought for the economic needs of his tribe and his own preservation of power. Hendrik was certainly one of the most important pillars of the DSWA colonial system from 1884 to 1904.*

#### *End of Comment*

On behalf of the Grootfontein Basters, the German farmer August Körler wrote petitions (8/13.2.1893) to C.v.Fancois to authorize an official return to Grootfontein South. At the same time the Rehoboth Basters feared attacks from the Witbooi and asked C.von Francois to establish a Schutztruppen post at Rehoboth. The Germans then trained Baster soldiers.

On 16.03.1893 211 German soldiers arrived in the English Walfishbay. For the first time, the German Empire had a significant number of soldiers in DSWA. With them, on April 12, 1893, Governor Curt von Francios surprised the Witbooi at their ancestral home the Hornkranz. 85 Witbooi, among them many women died. Hendrik Witbooi could escape with almost all warriors to the Gamsberg. There was clear criticism in Germany. Hendrik robbed a supply column of the Schutztruppe with 20 wagons at Horibes and also several Baster freight drivers and had killed all, some of them cruelly, reported missionary Heidemann (20.09.1893).

In this time Hendrik Witbooi must have used the place, later called **Neuhof**, west of Nomtsas to accommodate his horses because of the horse plague in the rainy season. Later this was the reason for the Witbooi's claim to North Bethany.

Joseph Fredericks of Bethany died on 02.10.1893 and his son Paul Fredericks, the cousin of Cornelius took over the leadership of the Bethany. Before that there was a dispute about the rule which Paul won. Hendrik Witbooi was personally in Bethany to settle the dispute, but was reportedly not strong enough for his son-in-law Cornelius to intervene. Cornelius then joined Hendrik with his followers. (See Leutwein). On 06.11.1893 Hendrik Witbooi attacked the model farm in Kubub with 100 men on Bethany territory, robbed the cattle and destroyed the farm.

Hendrik Witbooi's claim to power obviously extended to Bethany. The Bethany had hardly any ammunition while the Witbooi still managed to get supplies mainly via Nolloth/SA. The



German Empire unintentionally favored the Witbooi through the arms embargo. Hendrik meanwhile considered Nomtsas and also Grootfontein-South as his country. Hendrik traded the 150 cattle, 3000 sheep and 20 horses looted from Kubub to Duncan, a trader living near Gibeon, for weapons. Hendrik moved with his troop unimpressed by the Germans to the south via Keetmanshoop to Klipfontein the seat of Spangenberg and was received there like a sovereign. There he was given fresh horses. Hendrik offered 6 million acres of land in the south to the Baster and Nama in Upington and SA to support his fights against the Schutztruppe. (Deutsche Kolonialzeitung of 18.04.1894 p.69/70). His search for support in the south had no success and he moved back to the Naukluft. On Jan 12, 1894, there was a battle at Bethany between the pro-German Bethany under Paul Frederiks and Hendrik's son-in-law, Cornelius Frederiks. Cornelius had to retreat. The later Maltahöhe area was a pure, uninhabited transit area of the hostile parties. The Grootfontein basters had fled south from the unsafe place. Mr. Voigts von Schütz reports that on Jan. 12, 1894, in an altercation with the Witbooi, Albert Mouton, a Rehoboth baster, was killed on Nomtsas. (See entry on the war memorial in WDK.)



1884 Expedition under Leutwein and Francois read

Meanwhile, the Germans under Leutwein and Francois built a system of military stations from Swakopmund, Otjimbingwe through Windhoek, Gibeon to Keetmanshoop and Bethany. This cut off Leutwein from larger supplies of arms to the Witbooi, but also reduced the striking power of his force, which he needed to attack Hendrik. Lieutenant Ziechten was put in charge of the Bethany station. There was probably already a German military post at Grootfontein South at that time or shortly thereafter. A camp was also established at Tsubgaus near Gibeon. On 24.04.1894 Leutwein of Tsubgaus started the advance on Witbooi. He moved along the Hutup via Namseb, Nomtsas to the Naukluft. A small allied baster patrol from Rehoboth raised a bushman's kraal and used these bushmen to spy on the enemy. The escaped Grootfontein basters and the Bethany did not provide Leutwein with any men.



Camp in front of the Naukluft 1894

Leutwein used the lively exchange of letters to find out the position of the enemy. Leutwein wrote Hendrik on 05.05.1894 that he could have peace if he retreated into his territory (Gibeon) and did not attack and rob the tribes with which the German Empire had protection treaties. Leutwein also wrote: "I know that you have done nothing to us whites". Hendrik mostly took care that cattle robbed by white farmers were returned by mistake. However, Hendrik did rob Hermann's farms. Still in May 1894 the Witbooi's robbed the, with the Germans allied Rehobother Baster 1000 cattle during the postal peace negotiations. In the Naukluft there were also again and again small skirmishes. After arms dealer Dunken was arrested in Keetmanshoop on 21.05.1884 Hendrik lacked the supply of cartridges. On 24.05.1884 a temporary ceasefire was reached. Commandos of the Witbooi nevertheless rode past the Germans to Bethany to supposedly buy coffee and tobacco, but were arrested there by Lieutenant Ziethen. Paul Fredericks of Bethany was on the side of the Germans. During negotiations with Leutwein, Hendrik described that his grandfather Kido had conquered Grossnamaland from the Red Nation (1863) and that it was therefore his inheritance. Leutwein delayed the attack by stalling negotiations until the reinforcements, which landed in Swakopmund on 17.07.1894 under Estorff and Burgsdorff with 225 men, arrived in the Naukluft in mid-August. On 20.08.1894 Leutwein announced his attack. In the meantime, the Naukluft was completely surrounded and the Rehoboth troops took part on the German side. The blockade of the ammunition supplies and the following fights from 27.08.1884 brought Hendrik with his whole tribe into a hopeless situation. Witbooi's main camp was at "Tsams- Ams". The fights were very costly on both sides. On 03.09.1894 the last waterhole near Gurus fell into the hands of the Germans only one side to the waterless desert remained open. Leutwein could have achieved the destruction of the Witboois by his guns and soldiers in the south of the Naukluft, but at the cost of even greater own losses, but he relied on diplomacy. He decided, knowing full well what criticism the raid on the Hornkranz had provoked, not to crush the Witboois, who were completely exhausted. Many demanded the shooting of Hendrik Witbooi. Leutwein did not want this. On 15.09.1894 the self-injured Hendrik Witbooi signed the "protection contract" in the Witbooi camp.

The Witbooi were so weakened that they first asked for and received food from the Germans. According to the contract, Hendrik was obliged to submit to the Germans, to follow the army and to resettle in the area of Gibeon.



Photo 1894 Schutztruppe with "captured Witbooi Hottentots 1894".

Hendrik did this amazingly in the following 10 years with a lot of his own initiative. Without his support it would have been questionable whether the German Empire could have held its ground. (Hendrik supported the Germans: 1895 against the Khauas, 1896 against the Mbanderu, 1897 against the Afrikaners, 1898 against the Swartbooi, 1901 against the Grootfonteiner Baster, 1903 against the Bondelswarts, 1904 against the Herero at the Waterberg).

North Bethany in particular Nomtsas, was claimed by both Josef Frederiks and Hendrik Witbooi before 1894. The Grootfonteiner Baster had only a lease with the Frederiks. Leutwein no longer recognized the Bethany claim to power in northern Bethany. But this also meant that the German Colonial Society and its partner Hermann had no claim to Nomtsas. Negotiations ensued. In 1895, Hermann and the Koloniale Gesellschaft were each granted a part of Nomtsas in a settlement. The Colonial Society was later awarded the Gorab place as compensation for the loss of Kubub in 1902 (finally only in 1907). Leutwein allocated the territory of Grootfontein to the clan of Zwart Claas on 18.11.1895 through the "Station Chief" of Grootfontein (Bernhardt). A contract for the support of the German troops with bast soldiers was signed by Claas on 28.09.1896. Kleinfontein was given by the Germans to the Boers. This was also reported by water engineering expert Professor Rehbock in 1896.

The second decade of German rule with reference to Maltahöhe

After 1894, the Hereros, Basters and other tribes also agreed again to the terminated protection treaties. The captains, with restrictions, continued to have their ancestral sovereign rights to their land, people and property. During the next 10 years of German rule, a network of police and administrative stations was developed throughout DSWA under Leutwein, and treaties for land purchases were signed. Much land was recognized by the Germans as ownerless, therefore crown land, and in turn sold to settlers. In addition, European settlers purchased land and mining concessions from captains under dubious circumstances. Things apparently quieted down in the DSWA. Cunning merchants let the coloreds buy a lot on credit until they could pay their debts only with their own land. The German Empire did not protect the colored civilian population enough. The colored people became visibly impoverished and suffered from hunger. There were many unjust, humiliating decrees, judgments and punishments by the German justice system against colored people. The once wealthy gentlemen became beggars. The colored population felt cheated and the trust in the protecting power sank. Riots broke out on several occasions.

Major Leutwein ( governor from 1894 ) and Major Francois ( governor until 1893 ) had appointed Lieutenant von Ziethen as station chief with 2 sergeants and 20 men at Bethany in early 1894. In addition, 7 other police stations were established. Von Ziethen was ordered to establish a police station in the abandoned Grootfontein South in 1894. The first crew included Sergeant Neuweiger with the riders Quenow, Hoch and Gerlow. They occupied the empty house of the murdered Baster Ari van Wyk. This was thus the first station in what is now the Maltahöhe District. North Bethany to the Atlantic Ocean was declared crown land in 1894. The main task of the police station was to ride patrols, to show presence, to secure the Baiweg and to explore the deserted area for water places as well as to map. In 1895, the station Grootfontein-South was placed under the command of Captain Burgsdorff in Gibeon. On February 15, 1895, Private Adolf Bernhardt was ordered by Burgsdorff to ride from Gibeon to Grootfontein, in order to replace the existing crew from Bethany four weeks later. Thus Bernhardt, Karl Kirsten, Schneider and the Swabian Wendlinger formed the new garrison. If one should follow the explanations of Bernhardt, then he was at first in the function of the district chiefs of Maltahöhe. Now, according to Leutwein, from mid 1895 the Grootfontein (South) Basters, who had again fled to Bethany during the Witboois riots, dared to return to their previous leased settlement area. The Baster families under Captain Claas Zwart were named: Ockhuizen, Bezuidenhout, Pieter, Jarman, Smit, Dentlinger, Olivier, Schwartz and others. Leutwein expressed his disappointment that the Basters did not help him against the Witboois. Nevertheless he gave them the land near Grootfontein for lease. Demanded for it only army succession.

In 1896 lived in: Grootfontein-South. 5 Germans, 1 Bure, 70 Baster isolated bushmen. In Gibeon lived 34 Germans 4 British and 34 Transvaal Boers and about 3000 Witboois. In Bethany lived 4 Germans 2000 Orlams. In Kubub lived 2 Germans 5 Portuguese, 24 Cape Boers.

To Grootfontein South came another Bur named Bande (Martinus Benade?), a schoolmaster and a preacher. The Baster congregation grew again to about 100 people and there were even church services and a mission school that taught 32 children in 1897. The kitchen woman at the police station, who was also the translator, was named Male (Nama).

The freight drivers complained that there was hardly any grass left on the Baiweg between Bethany and Grootfontein South due to the herds of the Baster families. Bernhardt therefore received orders from Windhoek to clarify the ownership situation and to refer the Basters to their ancestral leasehold areas of Nam, Zaris, Plattfontein and Grootfontein-South. The Basters actually wanted to claim the entire district of what later became Maltahöhe. This Bernhardt refused to do on behalf of Windhoek. At Gibeon in 1896 the Burian families Roussouw, Nohe and Van der Merve were camped. Bernhardt was ordered to settle these families in the Kleinfontein area. Later, other Burian families Esterhuizen, van Niekerk and van Lill came to more easterly places near Gorab.

After the suppression of the Witbooi uprising in 1894, Hermann was able to use the Nomtsas farm for the German shepherding company. In 1894 he also bought the Neuras farm and established gardens and fields there. The first registered farms in the Maltahöhe district were Nomtsas, Daweb, Packriem, Urusis, Gorab, Nam, Karichab, Turlousie, Kleinfontein, Namseb and Kleinpens in the northwest.

At the end of March 1896 there was an uprising near Gobabis. On the German side Hendrik Witbooi, v.Estorff, Bernhardt, v.Burgsdorff, the Voigts brothers and Hermann took part in the suppression of the uprising..



Witbooi-Hottentotten auf dem Marsche im Feldzuge 1896  
(auf deutscher Seite).

On 15.10 1896 Paul Frederiks officially recognized the "10 German miles" from the 1884 treaty as now binding. In 1896 "old" Hermann came with a larger number of sheep from the south through Grootfontein-South to stock the farm Nomtsas. The station manager of Grootfontein, Bernhardt got the order to make the Baiweg more passable. Among other things, he also had to have the ascent at Breckhorn from the Hutup to the Schwarzrand prepared by a few riders. In 1896 Leutwein himself, guided by Bernhardt, came through Grootfontein South. During this time Steffans Roussouw had already settled the farm Kleinfontein, formerly owned by Captain Claas Swart. In 1897 the district extended the so-called "Bayweg" from Lüderitz to Gibeon. From 1898 onwards, district head Burgsdorff introduced land registers.

In the west, a new district had to be established, as ordered by the administration in Windhoek. For this purpose, Burgsdorff, accompanied by his wife, looked for a place for the future administration. Around 1899, during a ride with his wife, he found a suitable place on a hill near the Baiweg near the present Burgsdorf farm. He named the place Maltahöhe. When the Foreign Ministry inquired about the unusual name, Burgsdorff explained that he had named the place "Malta" after his wife. The ministry was content with this. At first there was probably an ox cart with a tent on the square as a post and police station with a heliograph. It is astonishing that in 1900 2044 letters were sent there. So there was a greater bustle in the area after all. In 1899 Bernhardt finished his military service and went to Germany in July 1899 to look for a wife. (In 1899 the war of the British against the Boers broke out) Already on 22.03.1900 Bernhardt came back from Hamburg via Capetown to Lüderitz and bought the farm Namseb. At the end of 1900 the 26 year old Lieutenant Egmont von Lekow took over the police station Grootfontein. Several of Grootfontein South's Basters had been trained as soldiers by Captain Burgsdorff and had to follow the army in case of war, according to the contract. The new arrogant station chief Lekow should (order of 05.12.1900), in this context, on instruction of the Windhoek administration, count the horses of the Grootfontein basters. The eccentric Captain Claas Swart refused the undiplomatically presented request. Lekow then demanded the return of the service weapons. Leutwein hurriedly sent Oblt. Mueller to pacify the situation, but after 15 Baster fired the first shots at Patrol Buchert on 05.02.1901 at 17.00 this was no longer possible. Three German patrols (including Reer, Otto Junga, Karl Busse, farmer Karl Bergemann) supported by Witboi soldiers escaped armed groups of Baster from Gorab through Nam and Urusis and others to Bethany.



Claas Swart died in a gunfight on the farm Lahnstein (!Usib) by a bullet of the policeman Van der Westhuizen. (See also D.Kolonial Z 09.05.01 p.183).Lieutenant Colonel Friedrich Demmle represented Captain Burgsdorff at that time and suspected expansion of the Grootfontein uprising and mobilized (08.02.1901) larger troops, but the Basters of Rehoboth assured Leutwein of their loyalty. The Portuguese Jonni Annis helped Lekow in correspondence with the insurgents.

Theodor Leutwein wrote: "In 1901 there was again a serious shooting in a place where we would have expected it last of all, namely at the bastards of Grootfontein (South) belonging to the district of Gibeon". Leutwein had made it possible for the Grootfontein bastards to settle again on the leased land they had left 10 years before and expected loyalty.

During the investigation by Oblt. Mueller, he sharply rebuked von Lekow in front of other officers for exceeding his authority. Nevertheless, Captain Claas Swart's behavior was inexplicable. On the German side, Reiter Reer (+07.02.1915) and the Nama Jan Links died in the uprising. There were about 25 armed men on the side of the Baster. After the suppression 22 men were brought before the Rehobot court martial on 14.03.1901, where Leutwein was personally present. He did not want to spoil it with the Rehoboter Baster because they gave him loyal allegiance. Seven rebels were acquitted, the others received prison sentences and 3 of them the death penalty, which Governor Leutwein commuted to prison sentences. The Grootfontein Basters, who actually belonged to the Rehoboth Basters, Leutwein punished very severely as a collective. The settlement area granted to them by Leutwein in 1894 was revoked and they had to move to their relatives in the Basterland. Probably 70 to 100 Baster lived in Grootfontein-South in 1901. Leutwein confiscated almost all the cattle and gave a share to Hendrik Witbooi ,the Rehoboter Baster and the Bethany. At the same time it turned out that the Baster had hired Nama bushmen to kill German settlers, including Farmer Maiwald. The case was investigated by Lieutenant Colonel Müller at Maltahöhe. The recorder of one of the interrogations of a Bushman was Fromm, who later became the district leader. Burgsdorff expressed (05.06.1901) his incomprehension of Fromm,(in view of the balance of power of the German troops against the few Grootfonteiner Baster) about the actual cause of the uprising and suspected the Boer preacher Jakobus Benade son-in-law of Claas Swart of sedition.

Grootfontein. Militärposten, in der Geigab-Ebene, 1400 m ü. d. M. 5 Deutsche.

Unter den Bastards dieses Platzes war 1878 durch Missionar Pabst eine Missionsstation errichtet, nach dem Tode des Häuptlings David Christian, der auf dem Schlachtfelde fiel, mußten die Bastards den räuberischen Buschleuten weichen und zogen mit ihrem Missionar nach Südosten in das Gebiet von Warmbad.

Benutzung: 1 Unteroffizier, 4 Reiter der Schutztruppe.



A collage This is how Grootfontein South might have looked in about 1900

District Chief Lekow moved the Grootfontein police station to the site of the present Maltahöhe at Hutup in 1901, according to Bernhardt, after a heavy rain. District Chief. Burgsdorff was in Germany and did not return until July 1901. In December 1901 Lekow left for Germany and Fromm became district chief. The present place Maltahöhe was called in the name language "Daweb! Gab" named after the shade trees in the river. The place Maltahöhe was located on the territory of the farm Daweb, which the former Schutztrupppler Karl Kisten had acquired already in 1896. Kirsten protested against the taking away of the farm piece and thereupon allegedly received a piece of land in the south of his farm as compensation. Thus, there was initially a police station at Hutup and at the Burgsdorf farm, each with the name

Maltahöhe. In 1901, the first station building was erected. In the following years, administrative buildings were added. (Annual report on the development of the protectorates in Africa and the South Seas 1901/1902)

Many former Schutztruppers bought a farm and brought a wife as well as furniture and equipment from Germany. On the first day of the bride's arrival in DSWA, marriage had to take place either in Swakopmund, Walfishbay or Lüderitzbucht because of the good customs. On 05.07.1901 Bernhardt got married in Swakopmund.

Rittmeister von Heynitz had leased the farmland of Grootfontein-South from 1902 (1901?) after the departure of the Baster and also settled there with the farm administrator Redlich and Fräulein Kersebaum. Otto Redlich (later Farm Karab) studied in Witzenhausen and arrived from Germany in July 1903 and managed Grootfontein until 1904. According to the Colonial Trade and Address Book, Mr. Glose owner of the farm Nam had operated a store in Grootfontein-South in 1902. Heinitz hired Gert Bezuidenhout, who had been sentenced to death in the Baster Uprising and pardoned by Leutwein, as a farm laborer in 1902.

In 1902 Burgsdorff and the Philipp Holzmann company from Frankfurt / Main investigated the possibilities of building dams to dam up the huge water masses of the rainy season. Burgsdorff had 4 drilling machines towed in from South Africa by ox wagons. Until 1903, 94 wells were drilled on the farms with Burgsdorff's support. This provided reliable water for the draft oxen along the trails and also aided in the expansion of the farms. In the Maltahöhed District in 1904 there were 26 farms, 21 houses, 34 wells, and 7 dams. (By 1907 there were 46 farms in Maltahöhe).

In 1903, bushwhackers led by "IGab" killed Mr. and Mrs. Hunter on the Zarris farm. A patrol pursued and killed the 6 bushwhackers. (Freiburger Zeitung, 21.1.1904 1. sheet 1. page 1). (According to another account, it should have been a Damara band under the leadership of a "IHaiha" or "Blauberg". This assertion is probably an untrue legend. What is certain is that the gang had already undertaken many raids. Already the later district leader Captain Fromm had pursued the gang with the 2nd field company, but only a Witbooi patrol under Lieutenant Müller von Berneck's, assembled by Leutwein himself in 1903, took up the pursuit and after 6 weeks killed the 6-headed gang in combat).

Burgsdorff, together with Leutwein, complained about the behavior of European merchants when colored people bought on credit. Thus debts accumulated, especially among the black population, which the traders had paid for with land. Many became impoverished as a result. It came to the decree of the sovereign Leutwein that debts which were not balanced within one year expired.

In 1903 Burgsdorff participated with Hendrik Witbooi in the defeat of the Bondelswarts uprising. This war of liberation in the south had only been put down with the help of Hendrik Witbooi, but it continued to rumble there. In early 1904 Burgsdorff and Hendrik Witbooi also participated in the suppression of the Herero uprising at the Waterberg. The beginnings of the liberation war against the Germans were only ever put down with Hendrik Witbooi's help.

But shortly after the battle of the Waterberg was won, the Witbooi changed their mind. The Witboois put themselves at the head of the rebellious captains and declared war on Germany. Salomon Sahl murdered, as the widow Martha "Malta" reports, the unarmed Henning von Burgsdorff on 04.10.1904 whom Sahl had previously lured into an ambush with a fake

message to the old almost 80 year old friend Hendrik Witbooi. According to legend, Salomon was wounded near Stampriet and died of thirst in April 1905 at Nanibkobis in the Kalahari.

After the murder of Burgsdorff, Mrs. Malta mentions that she is convinced that Hendrik Witbooi knew nothing about it.

All the farmers around Maltahöhe fled to the station and erected stone walls to defend themselves. Von Heynitz moved his cattle to the Nomtsas farm in 1904 because of the uprising and fled to Germany.

### **The summary of the records of Friedrich Adolf Bernhardt / Namseb farm with additions Maltahöhe 1894- 1906.**

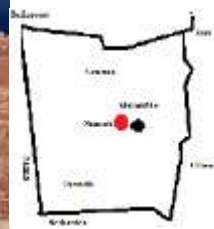
The records of Adolf Bernhardt of Namseb Farm, from the point of view of an early settler, illustrate very accurately the formation of the town and district of Maltahöhe from 1894 to 1906. These records are said to have been written in the internment camp around 1940. The text thus describes events that in part took place 45 years ago. The editors added small additions and prepared the text in such a way that even non-Maltahöhe residents can understand it. The text partly repeats already written things from Bernhardt's point of view. (Namseb can have the meaning " look around" (because the place is so beautiful))



Ruins of the old Namsebhaus of Bernhardt.



(Image: Guido von Weitersheim )



In 1894, the German Reich was looking for volunteers to come to DSWA to reinforce the Schutztruppe against the rebellious Witboois. Bernhardt and also Kirsten agreed. (The German Reich sent additional soldiers to reinforce the only 212 Schutztruppeler to fight the Witboois in the Naukluft). Thus it went after festive farewell in Hamburg on high sea. As a reward after 5 years of service a farm of at least 5000 hectares lured to special conditions. With the passenger steamer "Lulu Bohlen" the crew of 225 men with Captain Estorff and Captain Sach as well as Burgsdorff and Lieutenant von Diestel landed in the lonely, foggy, cold Swakopmund on July 17, 1894. The landing was life-threatening because of the shallows and rough seas. There was still no harbor or Pierre only a few miserable little corrugated iron shacks on the bare beach and nothing but sand as far as the eye could see.



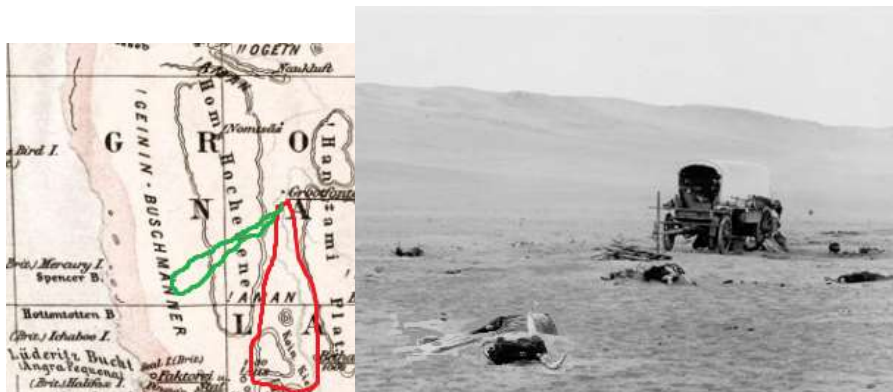
Swakopmund

The march led laboriously through waterless inhospitable stony, but also sandy areas, directly to the embattled Naukluft 300 kilometers away, a winding, dry, rocky mountain range with many gorges and small waterholes. The guerrilla war of Hendrik Witbooi was bloody and brought many losses to the German troops and the Witbooi's. Lieutenant Diestel, with his careless patrol, also came under fire in a narrow gorge, through his own fault. All but one of them died. Hendrik immediately left his hiding place and looked for a new one. After the discovery of the new hiding place, guns had to be dragged up the hill. Since the oxen could no longer do the job, the soldiers had to do it. The soldier Noak, who probably later also lived in Maltahöhe, boasted of having carried a cannon barrel up alone. The first shot with a grenade was well aimed, but the clever Hendrik was already gone. A passable gorge leads through the mountains. Captain Burgsdorff and his men had sealed off the southern exit of the Naukluft at "Blässkranz" and the Ababis station the northern one. Finally it was the hunger and the lack of supplies that forced the Witbooi to give in. Hendrik signed the "protection contract" with Major Leutwein in his camp on 14.09.1894. The contract stated that Hendrik was to receive a salary as head of the Witbooi from the German Reich and that he was to settle with his tribe on old tribal territory near Gibeon. Furthermore, he was to follow the German troops if necessary. From the Naukluft the group of Burgsdorff, to which also Bernhardt and Kirsten belonged, rode with the clan of Hendrik Witbooi over the area of the farms Nomtsas, Namseb, Breckhorn, Voigtsgrund to Gibeon. (The way was described by Hendrik Witbooi andesrs). Burgsdorff had the task to build up a garrison in Gibeon with 50 men. (Governor Leutwein himself discussed the expansion of the settlement with Hendrik Witbooi and Burgsdorff in Gibeon on 06.02 1895). Burgsdorff used the abandoned mission as the first station building. The construction of the new garrison building could begin. From mud bricks, which the soldiers made at the Fish River and carried up the hill, the first houses were built. Hendrik Witbooi brought the whole tribe to Gibeon according to the contract. Burgsdorff once expressed surprise at how many people there were. (Leutwein in his book expressed concern about the poor supply situation of the approximately 3000 Witboois).

Because of a small disgruntlement Burgsdorff transferred soldier Bernhardt to Grootfontein-South. There a small police and auxiliary post station had just been established. The first house of the station was the abandoned house of Captain Ari van Wyk, who was shot during the raids. At that time the station near Grootfontein-South was called Haseweb and a branch near Daweb was called Orkub. On 18.02.1895 Bernhardt reached his new home. There, Sergeant Neuweger received him, but Lieutenant von Ziethen was in charge at Bethany. This first crew Hoch, Dunow and Gerlof originally came from Bethany in Nov.1894. Bernhardt took over as station manager in Apr.1895 with the crew of Kirsten, Schneider, Dentlinger. The first visitor was the large farmer Ferdinand Gessert who had to go to Windhoek. Bernhardt's duties at Grootfontein-South included, according to his report, reconnaissance of water points and mapping with monthly reports to Gibeon. At the Grootfontein-South station Bernhardt was ordered to direct the Baster families roaming along the "Bayweg" to their ancestral places and also to regulate the ownership in the name of the Windhoek administration. The cargo driving treks had complained that along the so-called "Baiway", i.e. the way to and from the coast, there was not enough grass for the oxen. So in the Bernhardt with the stubborn captain Clas Swaart, agreed that the Baster were allowed to settle on the area Grootfontein-South, Plattfontein, Nam, Zarris and Gorab.



The Baster came in August 1895 and Claas' son-in-law was among them. It was the studied (preacher) Bure Bernade. Also in this group was the impoverished Hat trooper Lengfeld. In June 1896, Bernhardt made a reconnaissance ride towards Hottentottenbay, about 100 km north of Lüderitz, on orders from Captain Burgsdorff. He went with a bushman, who however had never sat on a horse, in the direction of the Namib. Through the area of Duwisib to a spring called Ginnas, to the Khareb Mountains and over dunes to a place called "Kungeub". There they met a Hottentot with family (Namabush people) who collected narra fruit to exchange them for tobacco and food on the coast. He led them to a place where bastards from Berseba had tried to find a way and had to abandon their ox cart in order not to die of thirst. The wind and sand had by now completely worn down the ox cart. In short, there was no way to the coast here. On the way back, Bernhardt reports, they passed the remains of a mysterious sailboat.



Reconnaissance rides of the soldier Bernhardt 1895

After 9 days of hardships Bernhardt and the bushman arrived back in Grootfontein-South. They had found enough water points to enable Burgsdorff to make the journey again, even with a larger expedition of 6 horsemen and an ox cart. But Burgsdorff also came to the same conclusion that the way to the coast was impossible here. (In the booklet about the captain it says that Burgsdorff narrowly escaped a catastrophe and was lucky not to die of thirst).



Grootfontein –Süd 2019 ( Bild M:Raves)

In 1896 there was the uprising in Gobabis and Bernhardt had to come along. Hendrik Witbooi as an ally of the Germans also provided 300 men against the rebellious Herero. In Gibeon, at the assembly point, Bernhardt was given the task of instructing a Burentreck to settle in Grootfontein-South with the permission of the government. The families Rossouw, Nolte and Van der Merve coming from South Africa were a welcome addition to the Hutupebene. On

May 1, 1896, Captain Estorff set off in the direction of Gobabis. (Hermann was also there with a gun battery. Also involved v. Ziechten and v. Kagenneck). Bernhardt got the task to lead a patrol, which searched and also found the enemy werft. (so Bernhardt!?) Burgsdorff and Leutwein were briefed in detail during the night. The soldiers silently carted the cannons and at dawn the shells crashed into the pontoks. After a quick victory, the troops also liberated the station at Gobabis. (Otjumda assault 06.05.1896) . With the order to drive 300 captured battle oxen to Gibeon the commander had entrusted Bernhardt on the way back. From there Bernhardt rode back to Grootfontein -South.

In September 1896, old Hermann, coming from the Cape, drove a large flock of wool sheep along the Schwarzrand via Grootfontein-South to his farm Nomtsas. In the same year (1896) the Schutztruppler Kirsten bought the farm Daweb. In 1896 the gambling passion of the soldiers of Gibeon increased to such an extent that embezzlements in the garrison treasury occurred. Burgsdorff therefore detached the reliable Bernhardt to manage this treasury in Gibeon for the time being. Burgsdorff himself had to go to Warmbad to fight an uprising of the Bondelswarts and Hendrik Witbooi accompanied him with 100 men. During this time Bernhardt even had the command over the whole district of Gibeon for a short time. Immediately afterwards Burgsdorff assigned him as a country expert to lead Governor Leutwein's small expedition group. Leutwein wanted to explore the area from Bethany to Rehoboth. Despite bouts of malaria, Bernhardt completed his task and Governor Theodor Leutwein (1894- 1921) promoted him out of rank from sergeant. (The sergeant's button was thus added to the collar of the uniform).

In 1899 old Hermann shot a Witbooi out of anger. This led to a trial in Keetmanshoop, but without consequences for Hermann. The first investigation was headed by Bernhardt. The latter judged the incident as "outright murder." (The lenient treatment of whites in court on the one hand and the harsh, humiliating punishments of coloreds on the other led to strong tensions. Even Leutwein criticized this practice of the courts).

Bernhardt had his years of service full and returned to Germany, borrowed money, bought an ox cart and all sorts of useful things and returned to Lüderitzbucht on March 15, 1900 with a lot of material and the ox cart. On the farm Osis, which was awarded to him, Bernhardt did not find any water even at a depth of 20 feet (approx. 7 meters). But at the 2nd attempt on Farm Namseb it worked and he settled there. On 10.11.1900 Bernhardt got the farm Namseb in the Gibeoner Amt signed over.

In order to earn money Bernhardt accepted transport orders with the ox cart. On a return trip from Lüderitz he heard that the Grootfontein Basters were starting an uprising. (District leader Leukow put down this uprising with the help of the Witbooi). On July 22, 1901, Bernhardt married his bride (Bertha Scheiblich?), who had just arrived from Germany, in Swakopmund before District Judge Dr. Hannemann. The newlyweds took a boat from Swakop to Lüderitz where Bernhardt's ox wagon was parked. The journey continued from there, as usual with freight to the east via Kubub and then north past the Tiras Mountains and Schwarzrand to Namseb Farm, which they reached on August 24, 1901. Bernhardt continued to work, as did his neighbor Kirsten, as a freight driver to earn money for the construction of the farm.

The sergeant Jäger spent a week with the Bernhardt's shortly after. Jäger turned all warnings to the wind and settled with his wife on the Zarris farm, which was far from civilization at the time. The farms on Namibrand were located in the very sparsely populated area claimed by bastards and bushwhackers. Shortly after Jäger's visit to Namseb, a rumor spread among the natives that the house was open and that Jäger's had been murdered. The Maltahöhe police station, like the German press, did not take the rumor too seriously. Nevertheless, Gibeon sent a patrol, which did not find the couple. Herr von Suchodoletz, who was searching for a settlement site, found the bodies buried not far from the house. The man shot the woman beaten to death. Everything from the house scattered around. In Windhoek it was concluded that the murderers were Bushmen and, according to Bernhardt, they were declared outlaws.. Von Suchodoletz took over the Zarris farm.

In 1903, according to Bernhardt, all the important captains of the country, including the Hereros, met in Berseba 200 kilometers south of Maltahöhe in the greatest secrecy. (Berseba is untruthful) A new uprising was brewing. First in Warmbad in the south, then the Hereros in the north.

Meanwhile (1904) Bernhardt got a freight order from the administration in Gibeon. Farmer Kirsten took over the supervision of Bernhardt's ox wagons, as he did not want to leave his wife alone. The trek was to bring supplies from Lüderitzbucht to Kubub, where it was then escorted by Burgsdorff's men on to Keetmanshoop. In the meantime, rumors began to circulate that the loyal ally Hendrik Witbooi (under the influence of the preacher Scheperd Stuurmann) was also changing sides. Burgsdorff became enraged against Bernhardt when he reported this to him. Burgsdorff trusted his friend Hendrik. Burgsdorff, the district leader, was ambushed unarmed and shot (on 04.10.1904 by Salomon Saal). Bernhardt heard days later about Burgsdorff's murder and grabbed his wife and the little daughter and barricaded himself in the two buildings of Maltahöhe. The Boer farmers also came. Jan Smit, Russow, V.d. Merve, Holländer, De Klerk, Van Lill. So there were 16 guns. In Maltahöhe there were 2 houses and away from them a churchyard. Hastily Bernhardt and the Boers built a cliff wall 200 meters from the station house on 06.10.1904. A first attack on 10.12.1904 of the Witbooi's with 100 men from the church square could be repelled well. The attackers destroyed Daweb and retreated to the farm Uibis in the Hutuprevier, where the owner of the farm (Rudolf Otto) could just escape in his underpants to Gibeon. The command at Maltahöhe was taken over after Bernhardt by a reserve lieutenant Richter, actually a treasurer from Windhoek. Felix Hermann from the Nomtsas farm replaced him and promptly had the station horses stolen. Colonel Deimling detached the 2nd Reserve Company under Captain Baumgärtel to protect Maltahöhe. Felix Hermann and Bernhardt were thus able to return to their farms. In December 1904, Lieutenant Ritter's company, coming from Gibeon, shelled the Witbooi camp at Uibis, whereupon they moved south. At Namseb, the military set up a camp. Lieutenant Colonel von Bülow stopped here to attack the werft on Huams in the south with 8 horsemen. He and his 8 horsemen died. In June 1905 Witboois shot down the horse guard at Maltahöhe and stole the company horses. Thereupon von Trotha dismissed the captain (Baumgärtel?) and deported him to Germany.





Monument at the black rim of the 8th company 04/ 05 March 1905 Patrol battles at Maltahöhe at the black rim mountains

At Namseb's farmhouse, site plans were spread out and Mrs. Bernhardt brought coffee and crumble cake, (Bernhardt loved crumble cake) while the officers prepared an attack on the large Andreas (Herero) werft southwest in the Nubib Mountains behind Zarris Farm.

(Captain Andreas' large group had been badly beaten shortly before at Kub and escaped to the west and on to the Zarris Mountains. Captain Baugärtel had taken up the pursuit. Parts of the 1st and 4th Replacement Companies occupied Maltahöhe, Nomtsas and Nauchas. Andreas had united with other Witboois (Elias) at Nubib about 80 kilometers southwest of Maltahöhe).

On 13.09.1905 the large-scale attack against Captain Andreas and his 300 Witbooi (Elias) and Herero warriors began, during which Major Maerker and Senior Physician Korsch and 10 other Schutztruppler died. Andreas was badly beaten. His remaining 100 men fled to Walfishbay in English territory. There they were able to hide. However, the British took all their weapons from them. On November 3, 1905, Hendrik Witbooi, almost 80 years old, was also killed after being shot in the thigh. One day a Major von Uthmann came from the General Staff Berlin to the farm Namseb and wanted to talk to farmer Bernhardt. The Foreign Office had the order to find out what the reasons for the uprising were. Bernhardt was of the opinion that the white traders and merchants were to blame. With their prices, sometimes increased by a factor of 10, they took advantage of the simple-mindedness of the Namas and the Witboois. They got into debt and had to sell their land. This led to many Witbooi becoming impoverished and unable to support themselves.

End. So much for the summary with additions to Farmer Bernhardt's records. (I have made the records available to the Library in Swakopmund).



09.09.1905 A field postcard from a signalman G. Leumann , who was quartered on the farm Namseb . The picture itself is from Windhoek but the card was sent on 01.09 . 1905 from Maltahöhe and arrived on 30.10.1905 in Metz. The city of Metz is located in Alsace Lorraine and belonged at that time to the German Empire .

The Namseb farm in 1907 had eight water banks , 4 dug wells and was stocked with 40 cattle and 645 sheep. The Berhardt couple had three children in 1907. In 1909 the employees Erhard Weidlich and Emil Hildenbrand worked on the farm.

**1902 Maltahöhe [Bez. Gibeon].**

*Distriktschef:* Fromm, Oberleutnant; 2 Unteroffiziere, 2 Mann.

*Posthilfsstelle:* Busse.

*Ansiedler u. Viehzüchter:* Kirsten (Daveb); Bernhardt (Namseb); Bergemann (Urusis); Meinig (Narobmund); Landsrath, Meiwald, Sauber (Kleinpens).

## Henning von Burgsdorff



Karl Henning Konrad von Burgsdorff was born on 19.02.1867 in Demmin (Frankfurt Oder region) as the son of Rittmeister Karl-Ehrenreich (11.06.1824-07.05.1880) von Burgsdorff. He came from a well-known, old German noble family, with a long military tradition. Henning had 2 brothers and 4 sisters. With the passenger ship "Lulu Bohlen" he came on 16.07.1894 with 225 men of the Schutztruppe, as reinforcement for governor Theodor Leutwein's troops to Swakopmund. As already mentioned, the rebel Hendrik Witbooi had entrenched himself in the Naukluft. Burgsdorff got the first contact with the future district in August 1894 when he secured the south side of the Naukluft with his 30 horsemen and guns. In September 1894, after heavy fighting, both sides signed a peace treaty. Due to the "protection treaty" Hendrik had to move with his tribe to the assigned area around Gibeon. To secure the peace, the Schutztruppen under the leadership of Burgsdorff built a garrison with initially only 30 horsemen in Gibeon. The soldiers had to personally participate in the construction of the garrison. The town was a completely deserted place with the ruins of the old mission station. In the west, Burgsdorff took over the police station in Grootfontein -South in today's Maltahöhe area. In 1896 von Burgsdorff officially headed the administration of the Gibeon district to which the Maltahöhe district belonged. He married 15.06.1896 in Walfisch Bay the divorced Martha Beathe Luise Andrée née von Dallwitz. (born 01.01.1860 in Alt-Görzig, district of Posen, + 20.03.1947 Berlin-Friedenau) .

The employed housekeeper (Nama) could not pronounce the word Martha". So she said "Malta". This gave rise to the nickname. (This is probably only a legend) In 1895 several police stations were established in the Hutup Basin, Zaris Mountains and on the Black Rim up to Bethany. These were initially tents or mud-brick houses manned by two or three men. In the western part of the Gibeon district, Burgsdorff was to establish an administrative station on instructions from Windhoek around 1899. Burgsdorff therefore established a provisional police and post station at Hutup Breakthrough on Daweb Farm in 1895. The place was probably called in the name language Daweb! Gaus. According to the booklet "Der Hauptmann" Burgsdorff named this police station after his wife Malta in 1900 (1899). When asked by the Foreign Office in Berlin why the new station should be named "Maltahöhe", Burgsdorff gave the answer: "Because he had chosen this place with his wife Malta (Martha)". The authorities were satisfied with this, according to the official version.

After 1894, in peacetime, von Burgsdorff had respectfully befriended his former opponent Hendrik Witbooi and the Witboois in Gibeon. From 1894 to 1904, Witbooi, residing in Gibeon, sold about 30 percent of the land allotted to him in the peace treaty to European farmers.

Such sales had to be approved by the administration in Gibeon (Burgsdorff). From the mid 1900s to the end of 1901, Burgsdorff received legal training in Germany. By 1903, Burgsdorff had 94 wells drilled and was improving oxen trails. By 1903, 78 farmers had settled in the Gibeon and Maltahöhe districts. In 1904, the great uprisings occurred.

After the Battle of Waterberg, H. Witbooi changed fronts. The former ally H. Witbooi, sent a declaration of war by letter to the German Empire in 1904. During supposed peace negotiations the Witbooi Salomon Sahl murdered the unarmed district chief von Burgsdorff on 14.10.1904. The body could not be found for a year. The Witboois had buried and hidden it in various places with dignity. Hendrik Witbooi also died in 1905 while still on his horse after being shot in the thigh. The body of Burgsdorff was finally found by Herr von Kleist respectfully laid out in a cave.

Martha von Burgsdorff, who gave her name to Maltahöhe, returned to Germany with her husband's coffin on the "Ernst Woermann". In Hamburg there was a funeral parade prepared by the military and the funeral took place in Hohenjesar, with all honors under presence of Theodor Leutwein near Frankfurt Oder, at the ancestral seat of the family. Mrs. Burgsdorff continued to own the Goamus farm near Gibeon, which had been devastated by insurgents. However, she had to return to DSWA and farm there to be eligible for compensation.

Note: From the Colonial Address Book (after 1904) : *Goamus [Gibeon District]. Farm: Mrs. von Burgsdorff, owner; Piet v. d. Westhuizen, tenant, and family: N. Smit and family; Nel and children; Fr. Smit and family.*







Henning von Burgsdorff



Hohenjesar



Malta von Burgsdorff born von Dallwitz



## Sohn:

Johann Moritz Ottomar, \* Kunersdorf 12. 10. 1828, † Posen 20. 5. 1876, Agent;

× ... 9. 5. 1859 Bertha Lange, \* Berlin 9. 3. 1831, † Berlin-Schöneberg ... 1909, T. d. ... u. d. ...

## Töchter:

(1) Meta (Mislawa) Adelheid Margaretha, \* Posen 25. 2. 1856, † ... (zwischen 1926 u. 1930), vorm. Schauspielerin.

(2) Malta Bertha Luise, \* Alt-Görzig, Kr. Birnbaum, 1. 1. 1860, † Berlin-Friedenau 20. 3. 1947;

× I. Berlin (?) 13. 1. 1881 Otto Andree, \* ..., † ..., Dir. in der AllianzVers. AG. (gesch. ...);

× II. Walfischbai 15. 6. 1896 Henning v. Burgsdorff, \* Demmin 19. 2. 1867, ♂ bei Marienthal, SWAfrika, 4. 10. 1904, Kais. deutscher BezAmtmann in Deutsch-SWAfrika.

(3) Johanna Bertha Ella, \* Alt-Görzig, Kr. Birnbaum, 14. 6. 1862, † Swinemünde 11. 10. 1943.

Auszug aus dem Taufregister	
Kirche in <u>Birnbaum</u>	
Jahrgang <u>1860</u> Seite <u>122</u> Nr. <u>22</u>	
In Abrechnung wichtiger Angaben, die in den vorhergehenden Eintrag enthalten sind, weisen die beiden auf andere Einträge hin, jedoch zur Aufklärung nicht zurückgegriffen werden.	
Name, Vorname, Geburtsort, Geburtszeit	
von <u>Dallwitz</u> , <u>Bertha Louise Martha</u> geboren: <u>1. Januar 1860</u> in <u>Altgörsig</u> getauft: <u>13. Februar 1860</u>	
Name (Geburtsort des Vaters), Vorname, Sohn, Vater, von	
von <u>Dallwitz</u> , <u>Joh. Ottomar Moritz</u> , wang. <u>Wirtschaftsbeamter</u>	
lange <u>Mathilde Carl. Bertha</u> , wang.	
a. E. Angaben über den Entzogen des neugeborenen Kindes, über Falsch- heit als Vorzeichen des Tadelns erachtet sind etc.	
Sprache des Urkunden: <u>deutsch</u>	
den <u>21. Januar 1881</u>	

Original documents

The editors owe this information and photos to a great-granddaughter of Marta, Marianne Christiane Wolter née Andree from Schleswig Holstein.

Bertha- Louise- Marta "Malta" Dallwitz was born on 01.01.1860 in Altgörsig Kreis Birnbaum in Posen / Prussia (Germany) and baptized Protestant on 13. February. Her parents were Johann-Ottomar-Moritz von Dallwitz, an economic official and her mother Lange, Caroline-Bertha. Malta had 2 siblings Meta and Johanna.

Malta married on 13.01.1881 the director of the Allianzversicherung Otto Andree. The marriage produced 2 children. Otto-Moritz-Max Andree Justice Secretary born 03.01.1884 and Hans-Otto-Max Andree 22.07.1887 (grandfather of the informant) The marriage was divorced and the children remained to Marta's sorrow in the care of the father. In Southwest Africa Martha married a second time on 15.06.1896 the district chief of Gibeon Henning von Burgsdorff born in Demmin / Mecklenburg. On 20. 03. 1947 Malta (Marta) died in Berlin-



Friedenau in her apartment Stubenrauchstrasse 48. Her son Otto- Moritz Andrée found her in her apartment.

Rumor: In South West Africa the rumor held itself stubbornly Maltas (Marta) first husband would have been, the north pole researcher Salomon August Andrée (18.10.1854 - October 1897), which wanted with a balloon to the north pole and died thereby. This could disprove now the great-granddaughter, a born Andrée. The rumor probably came about because the explorer with the same name died during his expedition in 1897 and of course it was in the newspapers worldwide. Marta did not speak publicly about her first marriage. Her grief over the loss of her children, who lived with her ex-husband in Berlin, was too deep. The unusual French name Andrée for a German goes back to the expulsion of the Huguenots from France ca.1660. (Withdrawal of the Edict of Nantes).



Marta ca. 1896



Martas adopted daughter (oilpainting ca 1900)



In the booklet by Alhard von Burgsdorff-Garath "The Captain" Malta tells how she landed in the English Walfishbay coming from Germany in 1896 and married there Henning von Burgsdorff. In the British Walfishbay many German ships landed before 1900, until Swakopmund got its own port. With an ox cart and 40 head of cattle as well as the lad Fritz Kries from Voigtsland and some drivers they drove eastward through the most desolate desert with sheer endless dunes and through the mountains for 3 weeks inland to Windhoek. There, Lindquist received them in the Feste and entertained the couple in the casino.



Feste Windhoek ca 1900



Friedrich von Lindquist

From there they trekked on for nearly 400 kilometers, 3 weeks through more beautiful country with occasional green areas and lots of wildlife to Gibeon. Burgsdorff's troop gave the arrivals a warm welcome in the just completed military station on a hill high above the Fish River. After a short time, the young woman was also able to make her own home beautiful. First, she hung the many bridles with which Burgsdorff had trapped the dining room in a more suitable place and referred the house baboon of Henning to the accustomed premises under Burgsdorff's bed. The commander Estorff praised Malta's tasteful furnishings. Mrs. Malta (



Marta) brought European culture to the wilderness. At her invitations, the gentlemen officers, like Estorff, had to appear in hopeful suits. In time Marta took to a little black girl and spoiled her like a daughter. Marta's great-granddaughter still owns an oil painting of her.



Gibeon 1897 Still everything under construction. Below like three pontoks of the Witbooi

In 1900 the Burgsdorff's took a vacation in Germany. Burgsdorff learned legal basics for running the district from a Berlin lawyer. In the spring of 1901 there was the Grootfontein (South) Baster uprising which Lekow put down. In July 1901 the Burgsdorffs returned to Gibeon. Mrs. Malta had a larger house built directly on the fishing grounds including an office, dining room with 12 chairs and a tea corner, guest room and veranda. The couple celebrated Christmas in peaceful fellowship with 500 Witboois camped by the river. During this time the couple had probably also acquired the farm Goamus in the east.



### **Oberstleutnant von Lekow**

The old German noble family with Slavic origin came from East Prussia.

In the Colonial Zeischift January 1902 Lekow's homecoming to Germany was mentioned. Further reports in May 1902 told of his leaving the Schutztruppe and joining the German army. Leutwein brought him back for the battles in 1904. After some reported actions he and 7 men of his patrol fell in the battle of Waterberg.

About the relocation of Maltahöhe

The "Post Station Grootfontein -South" was established by Burgsdorff on 01.09.1899. (Source Klaus Dierks and Dr. Hansjürgen Kiepe). From 01.12.1899 (01.10.1899) Lekow moved this postal auxiliary station to Maltahöhe. Probably there was only one tent in the beginning. It is provable that the first postmarks with the name "Maltahöhe" are from 01.10.1899. Absolutely astonishing is the fact that in the year 1900/1901 2041 letters left the Maltahöhe post office, some of them as registered mail. This indicates significant activity at this place where, according to the colonial address book, only a handful of people lived.

After the Baster Uprising ca February 1901, Lekow also moved the police station to today's Maltahöhe at Hutup (and improved the well there).



**Sensational** the postmark 08.11.1899 !! a postcard postmarked in Grootfontein South ü. Gibeon 5 days later. The postal aid station existed but only from September to November 1899 and was then replaced by a postal agency in Maltahöhe.



First postmark from Maltahöhe 1899 This is what the first postal station might have looked like  
Still in 1912 there were 2 places with the name Maltahöhe.

If one follows the records of Farmer Bernhardt, the military station of Grootfontein-South was moved by Lieutenant Colonel Lekow in the rainy season 1901, directly after the uprising of the Baster, to the northeast of the farm Daweb, thus the today's Maltahöhe. In the dry season of 1901, Lieutenant Colonel Lekow's soldiers extended the Maltahöhe well, which Kirsten had probably already constructed in 1896. Thus Lekow built the first structure in what is now Maltahöhe, still in the absence of von Burgsdorff (representative Demmler), who returned from Germany only at the end of 1901. Lekow was detached to Germany at the end of 1901 and arrived there in January 1902.

The presumption of the editors is that the high-altitude police station on the Schwarzrand, to the north of the Burgsdorff farm, was first called just Maltahöhe. This police station was therefore also called "Alt-Maltahöhe" for a short time around 1913. But this name and also the proposed name "Wittenberg" were rejected by the administration. Since then the farm was called Burgsdorf.



(Quelle :Dr Paul Rohrbach Deutsche Kolonialwirtschaft Bd. 1 Berlin-Schöneberg 1907 Seite 160)

## War for Maltahöhe 1904 the "Hottentot war".

The term "Hottentots" chosen by the Germans, the term of abuse for the Nama, is completely wrong. It would be more correct to speak of the war with the Orlam, the main actors. Olams are descendants of Boers with Nama women. 04.12.1903 Comandant Leutwein first reports of smaller uprisings. In Warmbad the Bondelswarts revolted and Herero began to attack German troops in the north. The German Emperor then sent more troops. At the Waterberg, under the leadership of Lothar von Trotha, the decisive battle against the Herero took place on August 11, 1904, in which the Witboois and the Baster also participated on the German side. An estimated 60000, also civilian Hereros died on the run because of the hard-hearted attitude of v. Trotha. Jakob Morenga, who was already present at the Bondelswarts Uprising, started first attacks in the south on July 10, 1904 and at Kauchanas on August 30, 1904. He victoriously defeated Stempel's force. Simon Kooper Franzmann-Nama also participated in the uprising in the south in October 1904. In November 1904, the Witboois were influenced by a preacher of the "Ethiopian Movement" in such a way that they also wanted to free themselves from German rule and participated in the uprising.



Farewell of the Schutztruppe in Hamburg in the hall of the German East Africa Line 25.03 .1904



After Hendrik had addressed in writing the declaration of war on 03.10 1904, to the German empire Witbooi's men, in the north Bethany-land and Gibeon all farmers, also Boers began cruelly to murder. They usually spared women and children respectfully, but not always. Even clergymen like the missionary Holzapfel and Boers massacred the Witboois most cruelly according to reports. The captains banded together. James Morenga and John Christian of the Bondelswarts with 400 men, Jan Hendrik Witbooi with 200 men, Simon Kooper of the Frenchman Nama with 700 men, Cornelius of Bethany with 400 men, and Manasse of the Red Nation (Nama) with 100 men. Collusion among the captains existed, but a leadership role by the Witbooi is not necessarily evident. This role would rather be attributed to Morenga and Cornelius.



Morenga

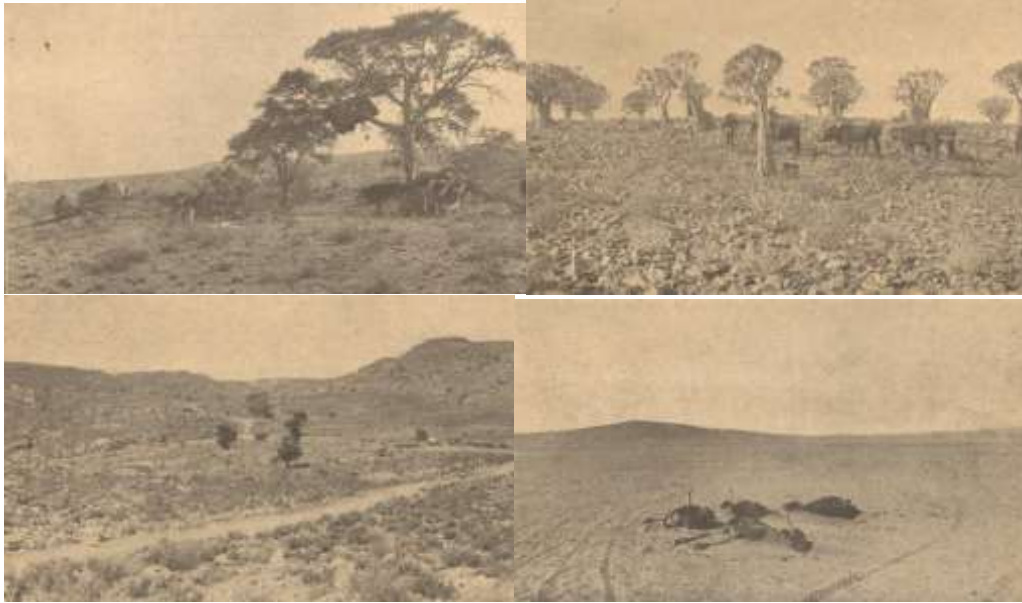
Simon Kooper

Cornelius

Hendrik Witbooi

Burgsdorff himself was murdered on 04.10.1904. On 13.10.1904 Hendrik's men shot Ernst Hermann and other German farmers on the Nomtsas farm. Hendriks men killed P.van Westhuizen with his 10 year old son on Zwartmodder on 10.10.1904 and on 23.10.1904 the rider Pilarski on a patrol. A patrol from Bethany under Sergeant Raabe wanted to reconnoiter the situation in the north and was almost completely shot down. Governor Leutwein himself was ordered to defend the south and first secured Basterland, which remained loyal to the Germans. The first reinforcements ,coming from Windhoek, arrived in the Maltahöhe area under the leadership of Lieutenant of the Reserve Steffen at Nomtsas at the end of October 1904, while most of the company under Captain von Krüger secured Kub. They were also joined by 40 Boers. South of Kub there were skirmishes in the Packriem district on 27 Oct 1904 with the 2nd Reserve Company/ v. Krüger. A bastard division under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Böttlin secured Nomtsas. No farm was left undeserted. In 1904, 2 bullets hit the young farmer Otto in the back on Uibis near Maltahöhe. He was able to escape to Gibeon. Colonel Deimling marched from the north on 18 .11.1904 with the 4.Company to Kub. On 22.11.1904 the battle of Kub took place 145 kilometers south of Maltahöhe. The Witbooi ( Elias ) against Lieutenant Deimling and von Krüger . 11 Boers fell in this battle, but Kub could be held by the Germans. Meanwhile more and more German troops arrived in Swakopmund. In total, the German Reich sent 14500 soldiers. A Bethany group under the leadership of Cornelius ( son-in-law of Hendrik Witbooi) moved north at the beginning of December 1904 and established itself with about 400 men in Hutup. They thus threatened the weakly garrisoned German station at Maltahöhe. An initial attack at Maltahöhe by 100 Witboois was thwarted by a partrouille rushed from Nomtsas in a 7-hour battle. Coming from Gibeon, First Lieutenant Ritter Cornelius Werft attacked with guns at the farm Uibis at Hutup on 21.12.1904. The engagement lasted 11 hours and Lieutenant Colonel Ritter managed to rout Cornelius and Elias men. Ritter moved on to Maltahöhe and from there back to Gibeon. Nevertheless, the battered group around Cornelius and Elias continued to hold on to Hutup. On 27.12.1904 the Witbooi's attacked the farm Tsub-Garis the later Voigtsgrund. On 06.01.1905 there were patrol skirmishes first at Blutpütz in the south and then on 08.01.1905 at Gorab under Lieutenant of the Reserve Lothar v.Trotha with Bethany. Against the

extremely mobile Hottentots, who knew their way around, the sluggish German troops had problems especially with the supply of water, food and ammunition.



Pictures : Dr. H. v. Ortenberg doctor of the Schutztruppe 1905 from the south of the district Maltahöhe /Gibeon

January 1905 the military had ordered the chief physician St.A. Engels with the 7th field hospital to Maltahöhe. (The 7th field hospital remained in Maltahöhe until 06.11.1906 ). In February and March 1905 there were more German actions along the Hutup both from the farm Nomtsas, and from Gibeon. Involved were Lieutenant von Gilsa , Lieutenant Colonel Ritter , Lieutenant Colonel Webel , Lieutenant Lorenz , Lieutenant von Trotha, Captain v. Zwehl. Stationed at Grootfontein South in April 1905 was the 10th Company of the 2nd Field Regiment, the 2nd Replacement Company, and the ½.Battery under Captain von Zwehl. From here they tried to advance against Cornelius, who had fled to the south.



Removal of the medical tents 1905

Medical station in Kub 1905

On Easter 23.04.1905 Oberleutnant von Bülow and von Zwehl with about 40 soldiers on horseback moved out the Baiweg to the south to search for Cornelius. It came to the battle of Huams at the Schwarzrand on 27.04.1905. When Captain Baumgärtel with the 2nd spare company wanted to help it was already too late. First lieutenant von Bülow (born 1871

Schwerin) Kopitzki and Wendt died. Injured were Fischbach, Pell, Petersen, Reinke, Hauptmann. With the expulsion of the strategically extremely gifted Cornelius to the south, the fighting in the Maltahöhe district was not over. On 27.04.1905 a patrol skirmish resulted at Farm Karichab No.39 15 km east of Maltahöhe. Rider Schemschies (b.1882 in Mingill) was shot in the process. Elias continued to hold on the upper Tsub. Von Zwehl took up the pursuit of Cornelius to the south and there was another skirmish with about 150 Bethany at Kumakams on the southern border of the Maltahöhe district on 01.05.1905. During the further pursuit by the 2nd Replacement Company, they captured 900 head of cattle and 2500 head of small livestock. On 25.05.1905 the German Army Command sent 5 ox wagons with medical tents from Kub to Maltahöhe to support the Meister Division. The transport took 7 days to cover the 145 kilometers.

The situation of the Hottentots: The tribes of the south led the liberation struggle against the Germans as individual groups acting almost independently. Since the war reports were written exclusively by Germans, the suffering of the colored civilian population must also be seen here. Often, as with Hendrik, Cornelius and the group around Andreas, the women, children and cattle were present while the men fought. Also during the battles, for example at Haruchas, the bullets hit in the middle of the civilians. One can only speculate about the number of deaths due to collateral damage. Fueled by the destruction of the White farms and the murder of the farmers, the actions of the German troops were marked by revenge, not restraint. The Germans no longer acted as a force of protection and order but as avengers and conquerors. Nama women and children were often left without water and food and were given nothing by the Germans on the understandable but inhumane grounds that this would also provide for the enemy warriors. The fighting clans often had no choice but to deport their women and children into German captivity. The German conditions for the tribes' surrender were shortened to: water in exchange for the surrender of weapons and bread in exchange for work. This meant imprisonment under bad conditions which resulted in the death of many colored people. Heroizing and glorifying the heroic deeds of this war is not appropriate on either side. Even Leutwein, Deimling and Estorff criticized German actions.



Alfred Tiemann died 07.07.1905 he came from Bielefeld (picture W.Dörscheln)

07.07.1905 Isaak's and Elias men attacked the horse post of the 2nd replacement battery in Maltahöhe, robbed 43 horses and killed the guard soldier Bunge (b.1882), Hoppach, Tiemann and wounded Klinge, Lohmeyer, Ramolla of the 2nd replacement company. 23.07.1905 Rider Schuhmann was shot at the cattle post on Büllsport at the Naukluft in the north. 24.08.1905 there was a battle around Gorab. Lieutenant von Schweinichen against the Witbooi of Elias. There were wounded Reiter Kriews and Uhlan Hake. Elias diverted to the Achab Mountains and united with Andreas. By August 1905, Maerker's division established a defensive line from Kleinfontein through Maltahöhe to Breckhorn. This line had the task of intercepting the Witboois driven from the north. In the meantime, the military doctor Dr. H. v. Ortenberg reported in his diary that his troops had ridden from Windhoek via Kalkrand down the Fish River to the south and then across the high plateau to the west into the Maltahöhe district. At Amhub the troops slipped down the Schwarzrand on 29.08.1905 and followed the Hawaseb district north to the plundered Boer farm Kleinfontein. They were followed by von Estorff's detachment. Over the next few days, Estorff's detachment marched south from Kleinfontein through Chamchawib to Chamis and back again to secure the Baiweg. In this area the Witbooi

also murdered several Burian farmers. The destroyed building at Kleinfontein had to be made makeshift to serve as a station. The troops also found Tourlosie and Nam farms destroyed. On Nam, soldiers set up a station. (A little north of Nam lies the present Uitkoms, which at that time was still called Rietfontein). The farming couple of Nam (Glose ?) had fled to Maltahöhe and were very lucky because they had married shortly before and the dowry was still safely stored in the port of Lüderitz. Elias and his men moved in August 1905 from their hiding places at the Leber River to the west into the inaccessible Achab Mountains west of Zaris. On 02.09.1905 under Baumgärtel there was a skirmish in Gorab that shifted to Zaris under Buchholz and Meister in the Nubib Mountains. In September 1905 the field hospital No.7 was established in Maltahöhe. There were medical stations in Groofontein South, on the Zarris Mountains, in the Naukluft and on the heights of Uibis and Gibeon. The transport of wounded to Windhoek took place via Maltahöhe and Kub and lasted 18 days. For primary care, there was a surgical section at Maltahöhe. Mehnert reports that the sick in Kub suffered not only from terrible war wounds but also from dehydration, scurvy and typhus.



Eberleutnant Wilm mit der Kompanie von Zaris nach Kamib marschierend.



Blick von der Namib auf die Achab-Berge.

Rare photos .1905 between Zaris and Namseb. Photo Dinklage 1905 Achab mountains

The divisions Maerker, Meister, Uthmann operated in September between Sesriem, Zaris and the Nubib Mountains. In the night of 13.09.1905 the patrol of sergeant Klinge, who belonged to the division Maerker, found the long sought yard of Andreas near Nubib at the Haruchas Gorge ( close to Hammerstein) and could discover 50 campfires. The Herero leader Andreas had united with Orlamtruppen of Hendrik Brandt, Elias and Gorub and had pinned down behind Zarris in the Achab Mountains. Georg Märker attacked the werft in the "Gefecht von Nubib " on 13.09.1905 in the morning. Reiter, Gross and Hauptmann were shot and Major Maercker, Arzt Korsch, Winzer, Ritsche and others were wounded. Many Hereros and Witbooi died. Andreas fled south to Morenga. Parts of Andreas' troop are said to have fled to Walfishbay in England. A large number of women and children were taken prisoner by the Germans and transported together with the cattle first to Maltahöhe. The field doctor of Ortenberg describes that he saw these women there on Karichab.



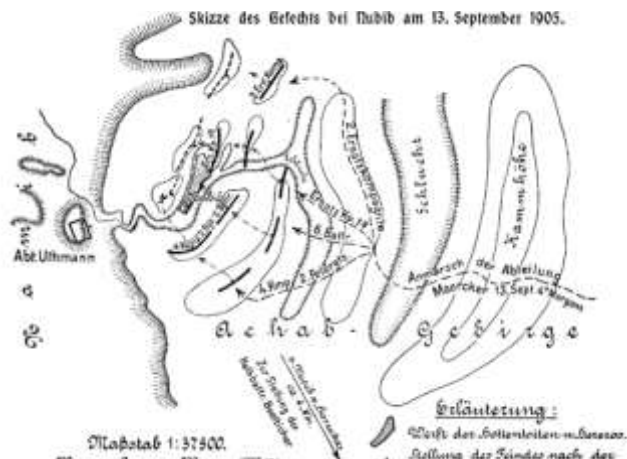


Site plan during the war 1905



Site plan of medical stations 1905

Heinrich Single a simple, voluntary, Bavarian soldier reports how his company fought from WDK eastwards to Rehoboth, Hoachanas, Aminuis (Kalahari) and then westwards via Gibeon, Tsubgaris, Karicharis(?) to Maltahöhe. September 1905 the troop rested on Namseeb. Over flat terrain they then proceeded westward to mountainous Zaris to Swartmodder farm. They heard the guns of M. (Maerker) Division and advanced eastward to the Namib to thwart Andrea's men's escape. End of the summarized extract from the report. (Report 1911 Plieningen)



Battle map 1905



1905 Haruchas

(Attention !!! there are 2 other places with the name Haruchas)

The Witbooi Sub-Captain Gorub and his men fled after the battle in the Nubi Mountains via Schwarzmodder and tried to steal cattle on Urusis. On 06.10.1905, near Dirichas in the north, he encountered Lieutenant von Linsingen who attacked and chased him away, supported by a Baster column (Rehobother). Lieutenant Heres died in an exchange of fire on 12.10.1905. On 23.10.1905 Cornelius tried to enter the Zaris Mountains from the south. Here the 5th Replacement Company at Blutpütz opposed him, whereupon he evaded to the east in the direction of Huams, but even there he was pushed further south by the German troops.

Private Eckl fell on 26.10.1905 at Uibis east of Maltahöhe. On 29.10.1905 Hendrik Witbooi fell in battle east of Gibeon near Vaalgras at the age of about 80. Several tribes surrendered thereupon and gave up their weapons in Gibeon. Also Witbooi Sebulon's group, who were hiding at the Schwarzrand, surrendered with 105 men and 172 women and children in Gibeon.

on 11.12.1905. On 29.10.1905 there was a battle under the leadership of Resse in the Chamchawib district at the southern border of the Matahöhe district. On 19.11.1905 Trotha was "whistled back" to Germany and replaced by Berthold von Deimling as supreme commander. Friedrich von Lindquist took over DSWA as the new governor on 28.11.1905. The war continued, however, especially in the east and in the south.

The uprising against the Schutzherrschaft was a war of liberation. In Germany, the art of warfare of the Nama, Witbooi, and Bethany was often admired. Some of them acted in large formations, but in the next moment they broke up into small groups and plundered in small attacks. The frugality of the Orlam and Nama made them far more independent of water and provisions than the Germans. Cornelius (Bethany) was an exceedingly strategically gifted opponent and fled from Huams to the Bethany area. His 400 warriors moved constantly in large rounds past Keetmannshop, then west again, high north to the Tsarris Mountains partly in loops past Bethany, for a year to escape the German pursuers. In February 1906, Cornelius again came from the south through Blutpütz on the southern border of the Maltahöhedistrict's and was again pushed southeast. Captain Richard Volkmann, who was experienced in bush warfare and had already fought against the Witboois in the Naukluft in 1893, was able to force Cornelius to surrender on March 3, 1906. Cornelius' whole tribe was taken prisoner. Far more than 1000 prisoners died because of the inhuman camp conditions in Lüderitzbucht. Cornelius also died on Shark Island in 1907. Prisoners were used to extend the tracks from Lüderitzbucht to Keetmanshoop. 1300 died of disease and malnutrition. (Literature : NAN, ZBU-File 456, D IV 1.3: Campaign against the Hereros, 1905 - 1906: Prisoners of War, 1904 - 1913, vol. 5; in : Zimmerer/Zeller, p. 83. from an article by Walter Nuhn )



Capture and removal of Cornelius and his tribe to Lüderitz Bay 1906

With the decree of 26.12.1905 the German Empire expropriated all rebels by a law concerning the "dissident tribes". In the south, this mainly affected the Bondelswarts, Namas, Bethany and Witboois. As a result, farms on the Schwarzrand could be sold preferentially to Schutztruppler. These imposed reparations are still disputed today. Only the Berserbianians who had not participated in the war were allowed to keep their land. Von Estorff became commander of the Schutztruppe on 01.04.1907. His first order was the transfer of the prisoners from the inhuman Shark Island (Lüderitz) to the mainland. He and the Rheinisch Mission had strongly criticized this treatment of prisoners. The German parties fell out over the issue of financing and running the colonies to such an extent that in 1907 Reich Chancellor von Bülow and the Kaiser dissolved the Reichstag. New elections were held which became known as the "Hottentot elections."





Maltahöhe Cemetery . Fallen of the 2nd Nama Uprising Otto Belune 25.01.1882- 02.10.1905 E. Kotze 07.06.1884-28.10.1905 Stephan Panitz 28.12.1881 -27.03.1906. Eckl, Rupprecht Private died 26.10.1905at Uibis

Postmark of the field post from Maltahöhe 1904 to 1906 (source: petervogenbeck.de)



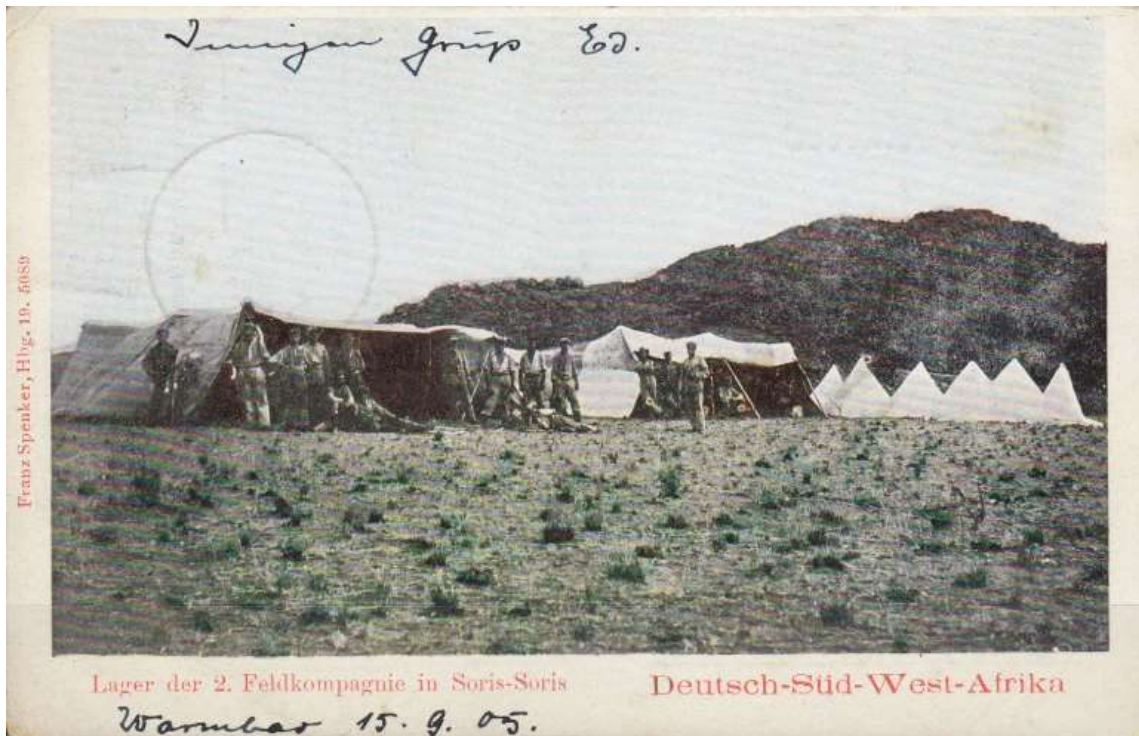
Etappen Komandantur Maltahöhe C96 cannon from Rheinmetall Maxim ,precursor of the Mg8

Stationed at Namseb Farm from 1904:

1 non-commissioned officer 10 horsemen , 10 men column detachment , 2 heliographs , 3 men protective guard , 26 men of telegraph detachment , the 4th company under captain Ermekeil 5th company under first lieutenant von Wittenberg , semi battery under lieutenant Stuhlmann , major von Heydebrek, major von Estorff , major Märker, major von Meister, major von Lindequist .

Stationed in Maltahöhe from 1904:

The 2nd Replacement Company quartered in Maltahöhe September 1905 to June 1907 . Likewise the 2nd Field Regiment from July 1906 to November 1907 ,the 3rd Field Company December 1907 ,the 7th Company from March to July 1906, the 5th Field Company from April 06 to December 1907 and Etappenkomandantur from January 1906 to September 1907 .



2nd Field Company at Warmbad 16.09.1905 .This is how it looked at Maltahöhe. A tent city.



Postcard dated 01.09.1905 from Maltahöhe to Metz .At that time Metz still belonged to the German Empire .  
The sender sergeant field belonged to the signal department





On 13.05 1906 field mail from Maltahöhe from the 5th field company to Glauchau near Chemnitz . The photo motif is probably the officers house in Maltahöhe and in the foreground the Hutuprevier with water.



Soldiers graves at the Maltahöhe cemetery: BARTSCH August 1869-1894 27.8 nauk , BEHME O. 1882-1905 02.10 malt, BOCK Adolf 1870-1894 nau, BOSKER -1905 29. 09 naruchas, BUNGE F. 1882-1905 07.07malta, BUR Karl -1905 10.09 haruchas, DANNEMANN F. 1879-1906 28.03, DIESTEL Friedrich 1862-1894 , ECKHARD Karl 1871-1894 07. 09 ,ECKL F. -1905 20.10 uibis, FLEISCHER Hans 1873-1894 17.09Tsams, FREI G. -1894 02.09 gurus, HOLSCHER Wilhelm -1894 31.01 Reiter, HOLTERMANN August 1873-1894 2. 9 riders, HOPPOCH J. 1881-1905 7.7 riders, JARVELD Koos, v. maltahöhe, KLAUSSEN -1905 , KLINGE Oskar 1879-1911, KOTZE E. 1884-1905, KRAMARZ Richard 1869-1894

## Fallen in Action Schutztruppler in DSWA Distrikt Maltahöhe / Gibeon

Diese Liste ist unvollständig.

Brehme ,Otto	Reiter 25.01.1882. Oberthal 02.10.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> Lungenentzündung
Bottcher ,Heinrich	Sergeant 19.03.1885. 27.04.1915.	Gibeon gefallen
Bosker	29.09.1905 Narucha	
Buhr,Karl	Gefreiter 11.09.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b>
Bunge F.	1882- 07.07.1905	<b>Maltahöhe</b>
Dannemann,F	.Unteroffizier 08.10.1879. 29.03.1906	<b>Maltahöhe</b> Typhus
<b>Diestel ,Friedrich</b>	Reiter 01 .06.1862 02.09.1894	<b>Maltahöhe</b> b.Gurus gefallen
Ebner ,Heinrich	Reiter Kemps 31.03.1905.	Gibeon Station gefallen
Eckl .F	1905 20.10	Uibis
Eckhardt ,Karl	Reiter 04.10.1871.	
FLEISCHER Hans	1873-17.09 1894	Tsams
FREI G.	-02.09 1894	Gurus
Girtner ,Gustav	Techniker. 11.06.1852. 04.10.1904.	Gibeon Station von Witboois ermordet.
Grober ,Theodor	Reiter. Messkirch 05.10.1904.	Gibeon Station ermordet
Grob,Johann	Sergeant 13.09.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gefallen
Hermann ,Wilhelm	Sergeant 1905.	Gochas gefallen bei Kalkfontein
Hermann ,Justus .	Gefreiter 26.03.1905.	Gibeon Station gef. bei Krantzplatz
Heyden ,Paul	Reiter. Gustrow 13.01 .1906.	Gibeon Station Schlangenbiss
Holscher,Wilhelm	Reiter 31.01 .1894.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gef. Naukluft
HOLTERMANN	August 1873-1894	
Hoppoch,Johann	Reiter Hoppach 05.10.1881. 07.07.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gefallen
Horn,Dr.Karl	Arzt 18.04.1878. Grüneberg 27.06.1905.	Bethanien gefallen
JARSVELD Koos, v.	bei.Maltahöhe	
Junga,Otto	Messgehilfe 20.12.1873. 04.10.1904.	Gibeon Station ermordet
Klausen,Jürgen	Reiter 12.10.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gefallen
<b>Klinge,Oskar</b>	Feldwebel 23.07.1879. 29.09.1911.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gef. bei Gorasib
Kotze,Engelbertus	Reiter 07.06.1884. 28.10.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gefallen
Kramartz Richard	1869- 1894	Naukluft
Läthe,Friedrich	Reiter 19.01 1882. 02.12.1905.	Kub gefallen
Lang,R.	Reiter 02.03.1905.	Gibeon Station gef. Hudab
Lange Karl	Reiter 24.01.1873. Alt Jorgenow 12.09.1894.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gefallen
Lange,Max	Reiter 13.11.1905.	Gibeon Station gefallen
Leistriz,Fritz	Gefreiter 17.03.1881. 02.06.1905.	Bethanien gefallen
Mierzwa	Polizei Sergeant 09.05.1909	
Naumann,R.	Sanitätsgefreiter vermisst -08.02.1907	Lahnstein
Nesch,Julius	Unteroffizier Volmaringen 07.11.1905.	Bethanien gef. bei Gandaus
Noe ,Johann	Reiter Obern End. 11.05.1905.	Gibeon Station Malaria
Panitz,Stephan	Gefreiter 26.12.1881. 27.03.1906.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> Nierenentzündung
Pinzke ,H	Reiter -07.09.1894	Gurus
Rocher,R.	Reiter -27.09.1894	Naukluft
Ruhnke,Rud	Sergeant -28.01.1911	Maltahöhe
Schemschies ,Otto	Reiter 22.09.1882. Mingill 27.04.1905.	<b>Karichab</b> gefallen
Schlitz	02.09.1894. gefallen bei	<b>Maltahöhe</b> Gurus
Seidler ,Albert	Unteroffizier 04.09.1894. 04.09.1894.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gefallen. bei Lauchabtat
SEILER,K.	Unteroffizier -31.01.1894	Rietwasser/Naukluft
Sess ,Karl	Reiter -24.02.1881. Plaputt 14.09.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> Nubib gefallen
Skolik ,E.	Reiter – 31.01.1894	Rietwasser /Naukluft
Stahnke ,Karl	Reiter 13.04.1882. Sagard 07.06.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> Lungenentzündung
Stollwerck ,Bruno	Gefreiter 13.11.1905.	Gibeon Station gefallen bei Deutsche Erde
Tubenrauch,	Sergeant 22.12.1882 Berlin 22.05.1897.	Gibeon Station verstorben
Voigtländer K.	Reiter- 29.09.1905.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> gefallen. bei Naruchas
<b>Thiemann</b> Alfred	Dragoner † 07.07.1905 bei Maltahöhe auf Pferdewache 4. Eskd	
Geb 22.04.1884. 07.07.1905.	Kriegerdenkmal in Lüneburg	
Weber ,Friedrich	14.01.1868. 21.03.1902.	<b>Maltahöhe</b> verstorben



Winzer ,F.	Unteroffizier -23.10.1905	Maltahöhe gefallen
Wittmann ,Alois	Polizei Sergeant 19.08.1877-10.04.1911	Maltahöhe gestorben
Zahn,U.	Reiter -18.07.1905.	bei (H) Naruchas gefallen

### Fallen colored fighters and civilian colored victims in the Maltahöhe district

There are no substantiated estimates or lists of Herero, Nama, Witbooi and Bethanian casualties in the Maltahöhe district. Prisoners were forced to help with the construction of the railroad from Lüderitzbucht to Aus. In the process, 1300 forced laborers died. Several hundred combatants probably died as a result of direct combat operations. Civilian casualties will have numbered several thousand colored dead. Many civilian prisoners, including women and children, died due to the intolerable conditions in the prison camps, especially in Lüderitzbucht and Swakopmund. On 10.4.1907 Estorff wrote to the administration in Berlin when he took over the command of Shark Island: "For such executioner's services, with which I also cannot charge my officers, I do not take any responsibility,.....". The camp was dissolved.

It can be assumed that the last Bushmen in western Namaqualand, on Namibrand, were almost wiped out by the indirect effects of this and previous wars, since literature rarely mentions individual Bushmen after 1904.

### Gibeon (Khaxa-tsûs) ( Kachatsus)

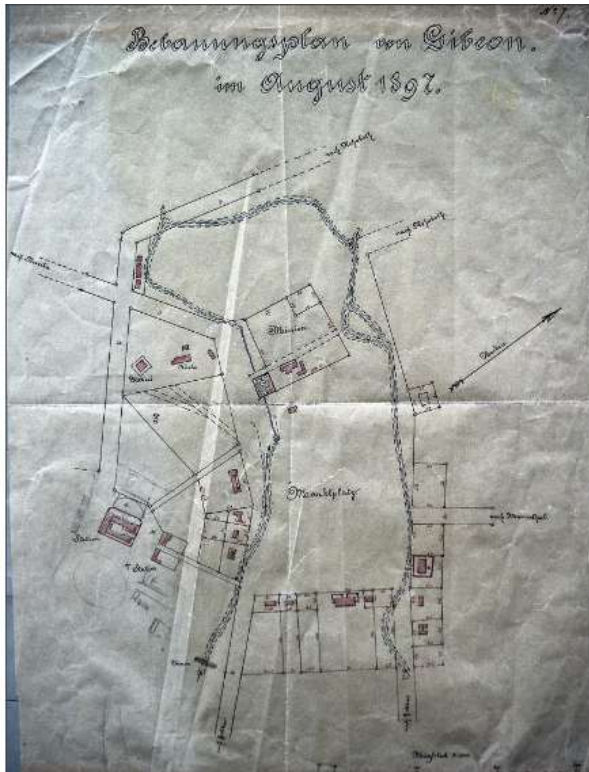
The city of Gibeon had been founded on 28.12.1863 by missionaries and Witbooi, but was completely abandoned when in 1895 H.von Burgsdorff got the order to build up a garrison there and to administer from there the district of Gibeon, to which also the district of North Bethany, the later Maltahöhe, belonged. Only walls of the old mission still stood and served for the first accommodation of Schutztruppler. In 1898 there was a first census. According to this, in 1898 there were 2000 Europeans in DWSA and in 1903 there were already 4600 whites and about 1000 of them Boers. In the district of Gibeon lived 220 Boers and 286 Germans. In Gibeon town itself lived in 1903 48 whites and in the village Maltahöhe lived 6 whites. The number of Nama and Orlam was estimated at 20000 and the number of Bushmen at less than 400.

(1906 proportion of population in the south of DSWA.70% Boers, 25% Germans, 5%

*Schutztruppe:* Dr. Maafs, Assistenzarzt.  
*Landmesser:* Gärtner.  
*Hautechniker:* Finke.  
*Regierungsschule:* unbesetzt.  
*Postagentur:* Röder, Postagent.  
*Ev. Mission:* Rheinische Missions-Gesellschaft.  
*Vorsteher:* Christian Spillmeyer, Missionar, und Frau.  
*Kaufleuten:* F. W. Krabbenhöft; F. Kriefs; G. A. M. Angelbeck.  
*Gattwirtschaften:* F. W. Krabbenhöft; F. Kriefs.  
*Gärtner:* Burzinsky.  
*Schmied u. Wagenbauer:* A. Molzahn.  
*Maurer:* Blume.  
*Schneider:* Bake.  
*Angehöriger:* Ww. Kriefs mit Familie; Hoffmann; Kohn; Jan Smit; Kotze.  
*Kapitän der Witbooi:* Hendrik Witbooi.



Out of "Kolonialen Handbuch"



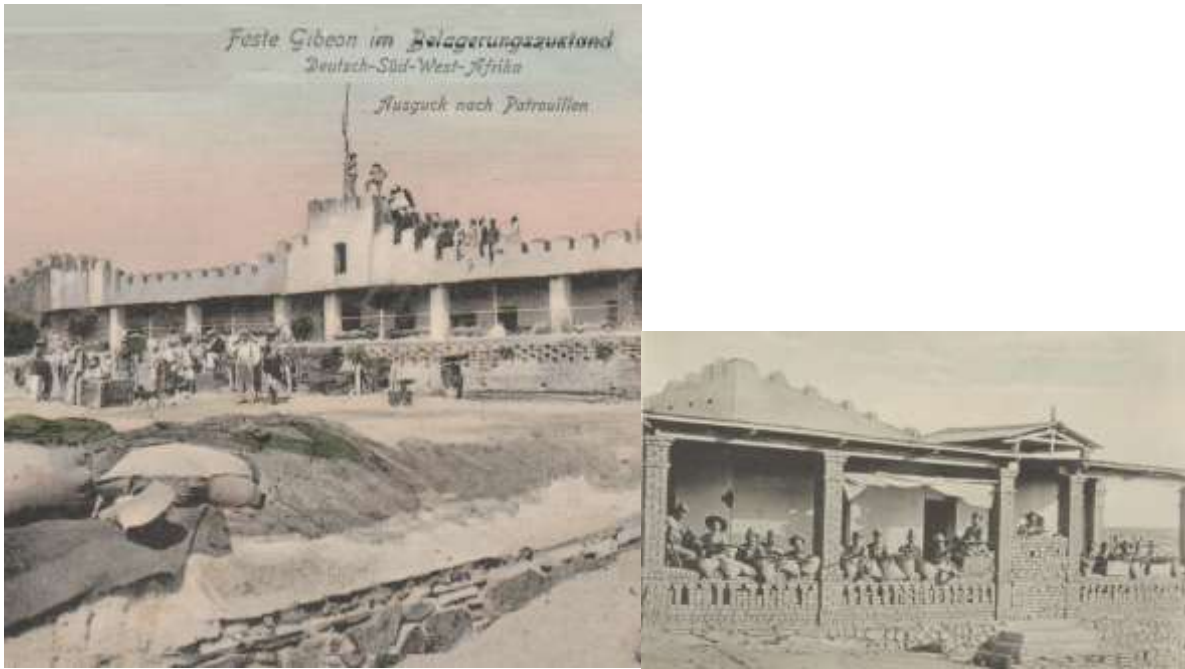
The development plan of Gibeon 1897



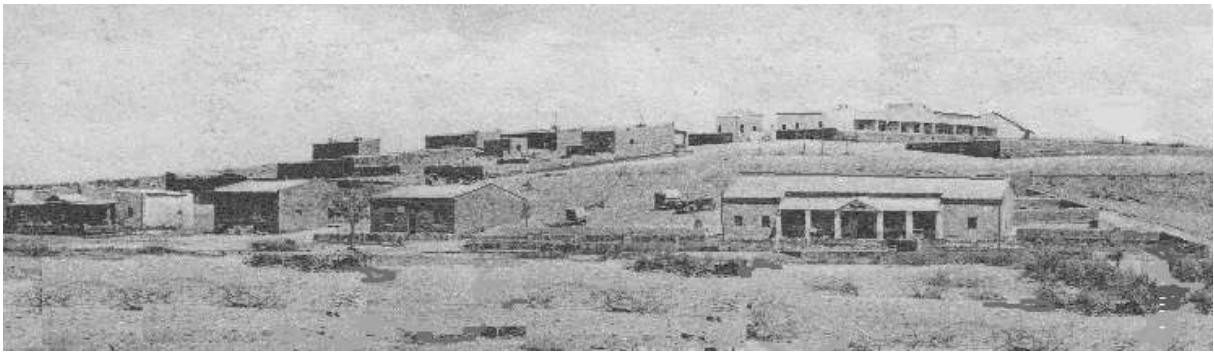
1897 Everything still under construction



ca 1904



The garrison in anticipation of an attack in 1904



ca 1905



ca 1905



ca.1910





The Lazarett ca. 1907

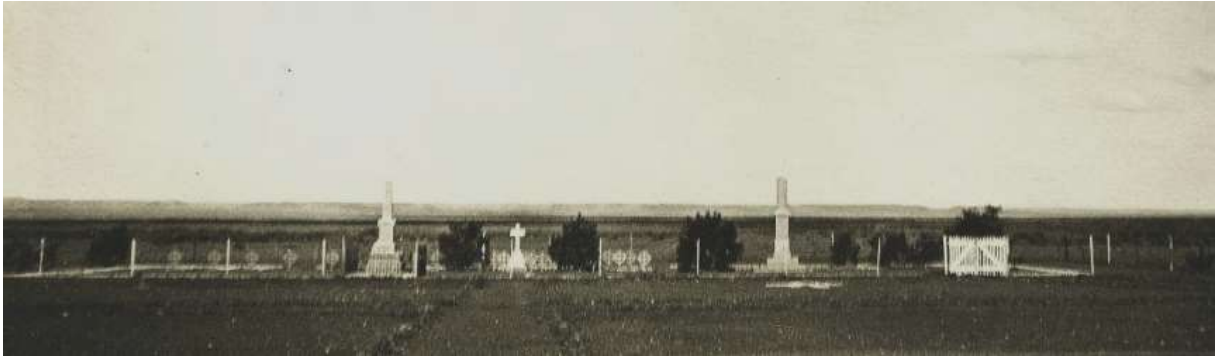


Gibeon 1912 Water tower and mission



Gibeon 1910 with pontoks in front





Memorial stones and gravestones 27.04.1905 Raid on Gibeon railroad station. 41 dead. Photo 1919 Dr Kränzle



Station in Gibeon 1919

### About Khowesin

Khowesin was the old name for the place of the later Gibeon. According to the colonial encyclopedia of 1920, Khowesin ( IKhowsin) was a collective term for the old Orlam tribes from the Cape region. The term means "dispossessed". Accordingly, the Witboois also came from the Khowesin tribe and they also called themselves that way. Only later the term Witbooi developed. The term "Booi" ,a condescending term of the European settlers towards their servants. The Therminus "Wit" denotes the descent of the tribe from white fathers.

Wilhelm Külz, in turn, claims that the place Gibeon was previously called Kachazus.

On Maltahöhe 2 places of purchase have established themselves. One belongs to the merchant Heinrich Glose who intends to turn to agriculture later. The other store is a branch of the company Georg Hesselbach . Both have a liquor license. The former rider of the Maltahöhe station has opened a blacksmith's shop and wagon repair shop in a respectable corrugated iron house. Thus a lack that has been felt for years has been remedied, since with the opening of the railroad Lüderitzbucht - Aus (city) the freight wagon traffic is again turning to the south, Maltahöhe will retain a lively through traffic and the installation of the blacksmith's shop will also be of use for the freight drivers.





Ox cart on the Bayweg from Lüderitz to Maltahöhe

Before 1904, supplies for the farms came arduously by ox wagons 2-3 weeks from Lüderitzbucht to Aus and then via Helmeringshausen, Grootfontein-South to Maltahöhe and Gibeon. One ton of freight cost 600 Reichsmark.

The 1904 war brought the stage command to Maltahöhe. At the time of the 1904 uprisings, the military stationed several hundred soldiers at Maltahöhe and the surrounding farms and expanded the infrastructure. Due to the war, roads and telegraph lines were built from Kub to Maltahöhe via Namseb. In Maltahöhe they built the officers' house and the barracks. In 1906, the hastily built southern railroad from Lüderitz to Aus shortened the route for freight drivers. This also caused an increase in the transport of goods to Maltahöhe and made it cheaper.



Südbahn ca 1907

The late farmer Hermann had laid the foundations for the use of the land by sheep farms. The farm sites freed by the annexation of the Witbooi land were sold to many European settlers. The number of Europeans in the Maltahöhe area multiplied. The Witbooi and Bethany, on the other hand, could only exist as laborers on the farms. However, their numbers had also dwindled considerably due to the war. On the Maltahöhe site, Mr. Ernst Glose had built a commercial building on lot no. 2. On plot No. 3 blacksmith and wagon maker Riemann built his workshop in 1906. In the first time only a corrugated iron hut stood on the property. In 1907 the company Hesselmann bought the property No.1 for 25 Pfennig per square meter and built approx. 1909 a hotel of Maltahöhe beside the police station. A Mr. Graete, managing director of Hesselmann signed 09.05.1907 the contract of sale of the plot No.1 in Gibeon district office. But there was already a smaller building with liquor license on this plot before

, as reported by District Chief Lieutenant Colonel Fromm in 1906 . The business Hesselmann managed Herbert Hassenstein.

In 1908, there were only 63 white males living in the entire district, according to official figures. There were 46 farm owners of whom 28 were married and had 95 children. 19 farms were Burish, So 169 persons . (Annual Report on the Development of Protected Areas in Africa (1907)). In addition, there were still many uncounted white families on the farms, so that the editors assume 300 white inhabitants in the district about 1908. The 46 farms were stocked with about 26000 sheep. The government official Dr. Wilhelm Külz visited Maltahöhe in 1908. He describes the district in his book after an inspection trip in August 1908. "The place is insignificant as such ". Külz mentioned on the square Maltahöhe two to three stores. The district office a shelter ( house) for officers and some walls piled up from natural stones, which had served as accommodation for the 5th company together with tents. He also described the abandoned ruins of Grootfontein and the burned farmhouse of Nomtsas next to which Felix Hermann was building a new house. According to von Külz the colored population consisted of (154?) whites, 200 Hereros ,100 Bergdamaras ,300 Hottentots and some hundred nomadic bushmen at Namibrand .Source : Wilhelm Külz "Deutsch-Südafrika im 25. Jahre Deutscher Schutzherrschaft" Berlin 1909

In 1908 Maltahöhe became an independent district. On 01.02 .1908 Seydel took over the office of the district chief. In the same year the foundation stone of the school was laid. On 29.04.1908 the district got the order to establish its own registry office. The registrar was the district chief Seydel. From 28.10.1908 the telegraph line, which was used purely for military purposes, could also be used by farmers. Each word cost 5 pfennigs. In 1908, the connection of the newly opened southern railroad from Lüderitz to Keetmanshoop to the railroad line to Gibeon and Windhoek accelerated and cheapened the transports.



1908 District office with post office and the mail cart from Gibeon (From the booklet Ingo Walter 1987)

The high secretary of state of the Reichskolonialamt Dernburg, coming from Germany, inspected the place on 27.07. 1908. He came with the first automobile which ever drove through this area. District Administrator von Wolf gave a speech at the celebration. From August 31, 1908, there was a regular mail cart service between Gibeon and Maltahöhe. The construction of the government school started on 05.09. 1908 opposite to the turn-out place.

The whole area south of Maltahöhe on the Schwarzrand was given by the administration to old fighters and new settlers. These were all wild unfenced and unsurveyed areas without boreholes. The inaccurate maps and location information as to where the farms actually were now led to fatal errors. According to Bernhardt, on the Schwarzrand: 1908 Hans Sandberg and Gustav and Philipp Lazerus moved to Huams. Gustav Berner to Kudis, Paul Grasop to Maguams and Christian Noechel to Kuteb. Surveyor Koschmann who surveyed the farms there found out that Noechel had established his farm on the completely wrong place Haucharib (Wartburg). Von Dinklage bought the farm Kampe named by him. The farm Breckhorn was bought (again) in the middle of 1907 by von Heynitz who had leased Grootfontein-South before the uprising. The construction of Breckhorn was taken over from July 1907 by the administrator Hubertus Mehnert a former reserve officer.

Around 1908 A.Voigts bought the store from Glose in Maltahöhe. A.Voigts owned one of the largest farms in DSWA "Voigtsgrund " and was part owner of " Wecke & Voigts" with his also successful brothers. In 1909 the Maltahöhe district elected its first municipal council. In 1909 the German government school opened. The head of the school was the government teacher Heinzig. He had arrived in the country via Lüderitz on 06.10. 1909. In 1909 the district association established a small nurses' home in Maltahöhe. The district nurse was housed there. The first to work there was a Mrs. Sauber, then Mrs. Hassenstein, Margareta Müller and finally Sybille Feld. In 1909, the district physician Dr. Kränzle built a sanatorium three kilometers west of Maltahöhe, perched high above Hutup on the road to the west. From the tax money the district had guaranteed him 10000.- Reichsmark income per year. In return he had to look after the district and run a pharmacy. In 1910, the Imperial Governor recognized Maltahöhe as a "locality", which thus had to levy dog taxes. A jail with a yard annex was built. In 1912, on April 25, the district association decided on the personal head tax. Each man had to pay 50 Reichsmark, women and children did not.



Maltahöhe from the southeast in 1912. In the foreground on the right the school with the teacher's house. In the middle the administrative buildings. On the left Hotel Hesselbach and the Voigtshaus. Far left the police station.



(Clipping from the Lüderitzbucher Zeitung)



District Manager Fromm ca 1904.

Mehnert acquired Nababis in 1909 after the applicant Achim Vibrans withdrew from the purchase and von Kleist acquired the farm Kainuchas. About 1910 the district physician Dr. Kränzel bought the farm Wildpark in the north and his later father-in-law Richter bought the

neighboring farm Sandhof. Vibrans had first worked for v. Heynitz with Mehnert on Brechhorn. He later became an agricultural expert for East Africa.

March 1910 they elected A. Voigts as a member of the district council. His farm Voigtsgrund established itself as a model farm with a training center for young farmers and a breeding station. Voigts also ensured that well-funded individuals invested in the area. In 1908, Mr. Stauch discovered diamonds. Hundreds of adventurers but also professionals were attracted to Lüderitzbucht. Voigts persuaded August Stauch to buy the Rietrevier farm in 1910, which had previously belonged to Mr. Franz Melchior. Then Stauch bought with Voigts help the farm Haribes from the company Hesselmann and the farm Kainuchas from Mr. von Kleist. Voigts started breeding cattle in 1906, then wool sheep and finally in 1907 the first Karakul sheep bred in Germany. The first Karakul breeding was supervised by Constantin Mehnert. (born 07.03.?) Constantin was the brother of Hubertus. Around 1913 Constantin worked for Stauch with his family on the Haribes farm. (In 1921 Constantin took over the hereditary farm Kraußnitz north of Dresden).

In 1911 Hesselmann moved to Germany and appointed Herrmann Henning as manager of the hotel. The latter bought on 06.06.1911 again 800 sqm to the property of the hotel and built a residential house. On 20.01.1913 he bought another 800 sqm.

The blacksmith Riemann sold his workshop to Albert Maraun in 1911. However, the colonial address books listed the name Riemann as a wagon maker in Maltahöhe for a long time afterwards. During this time, the Angelbeck goods store of the Swakopmund trading company m. b. H; G. A. M. Angelbeck; Seidel & Busch also established itself in Maltahöhe.

In 1911 Christian Heydt moved to Zackenberge and Mr. Sandberg to the farm Kamagams which he sold to von Wolf in 1914. (Kamagams was managed by Brüggemann in 1923).

By 1913 Maltahöhe counted only 13 developed plots. In 1913 the surveyor Hugo Voss drew up a new development plan for Maltahöhe.

On 04/16/1913 there was a meeting of the Maltahöhe Farmers Association.

Abbreviated minutes: Farmers Bernhardt and Bergmann resign. New vice chairman F. Baumgarten Farm Elisenhof. Topics: High costs of water development. Too little subsidies from the state. Farm sizes below 10000 Ha are below subsistence level in the South. Transfer of Karakul herd from Farm Fürstenwalde (Farm Fürstenwalde near Windhoek) to State Farm Burgsdorf. The herd was in bad condition due to lung worms. Another topic: The payment of the district veterinarian.

On 08.11. 1913 elections for the agricultural council and district council in the Maltahöhe district took place.

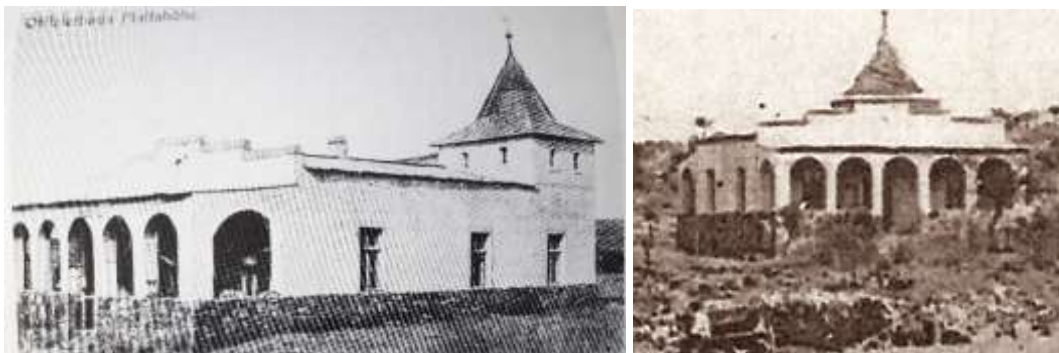
Abbreviated minutes: As agricultural councilor they elected Mr. Friedrich Baumgarten from the farm Christiania. As deputy Mr. Farmer in the service of von Wolf Farm Duwisib. Mr. Lazarus and the merchant Hassenstein left the district council.

District Council of Maltahöhe District 1913: Members were Bergemann Urusis, Mr. Grashop Maguams, Berner Kudis, Captain Duwisib, substitutes Friedrich Baumgarten Farm Christiania, Kirsten Farm Daweb, Bernhardt Farm Namseb, Ernst Glose Farm Nam elected as substitute Mr. Berner in the service of von Wolf Farm Duwisib.



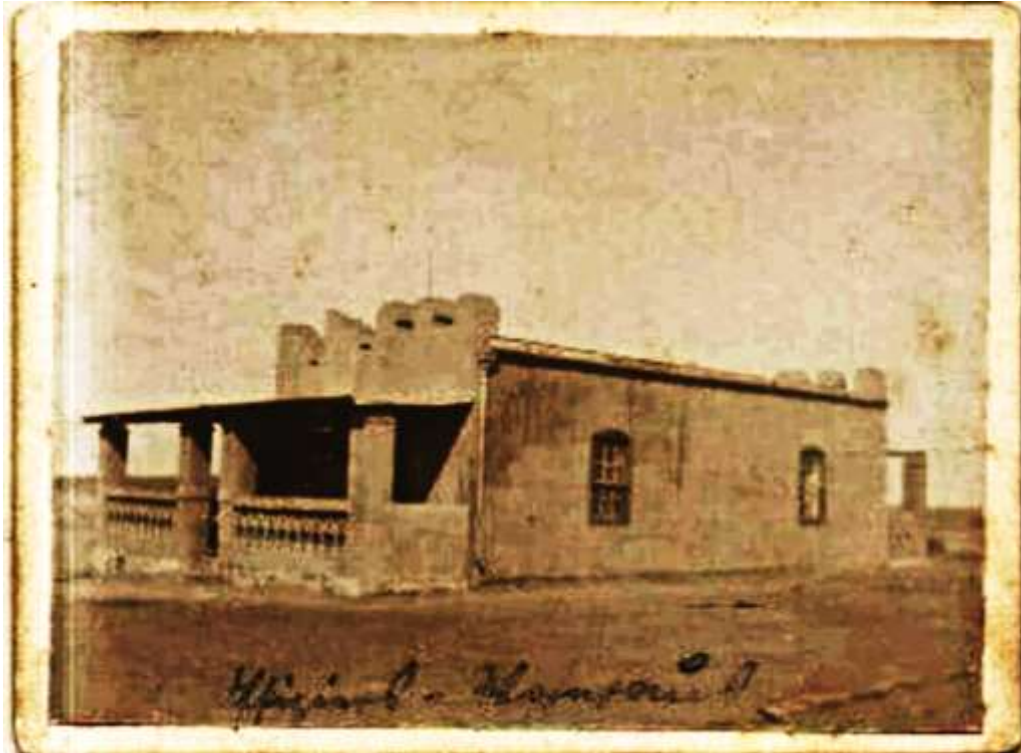
## Maltahöhe`s first buildings

According to Berhardt`s transcripts, in 1901 Lekow moved the Grootfontein-South police station to the present site of Maltahöhe and extended a well there. Probably only a tent stood on the square as a military station for years after that. The first permanent building was probably the officers' house , which is today quite hidden and unnoticed behind the Maltahöhe Hotel. In 1904, according to Bernhardt, there were 2 buildings . The war made Maltahöhe the seat of the stage command. According to a soldier's report, this officers' house was already standing in the 1905 war. Its windows initially consisted of the bottoms of wine bottles. The crew still lived in pontoons and behind makeshift stone walls. Bernhard reported that already in 1904 in Maltahöhe stone walls were piled up for defense. Shortly after 1905 the district office with outbuildings and the barracks were built. In the annual report 1906 of district chief Fromm the buildings on the property Hesselbach ,the shed of Riemann and the department store Glose are listed. In 1907 Hesselbach bought more land on lot 1 to build a hotel on it. According to the report of Külz 1908 there were 5 houses in the village. The school was built in 1909. After that the Hesselmann hotel was built in its present form. Mr. Voigts bought the Glose department store and also offered overnight accommodations. On 20.03.1910 Mrs. Voss reported that she had rented a room there with her family. Around 1911 the officers' residence was built. In 1913 the surveyor Voss drew 27 buildings on thirteen plots. The first buildings were only houses on plots along Johann Albert Street from the officer's house to the east and the 3 official houses on Post Street. North of the Amtsstrasse there were no houses until 1914. The cross streets were called: Postsrasse, Steinstrasse, Breite Strasse. Then there was the Brunnenplatz, in front of the hotel and at the school the Ausspannplatz. The availability of water along the Hutuprevier`s determined the orientation of the village.



(Picture from the booklet by Ingo Walter) The officers' house ca. 1909 behind the Maltahöhe Hotel





The officer's residence ca.1910 . Obviously still under construction.It was built after 1909 west behind the officers' house.



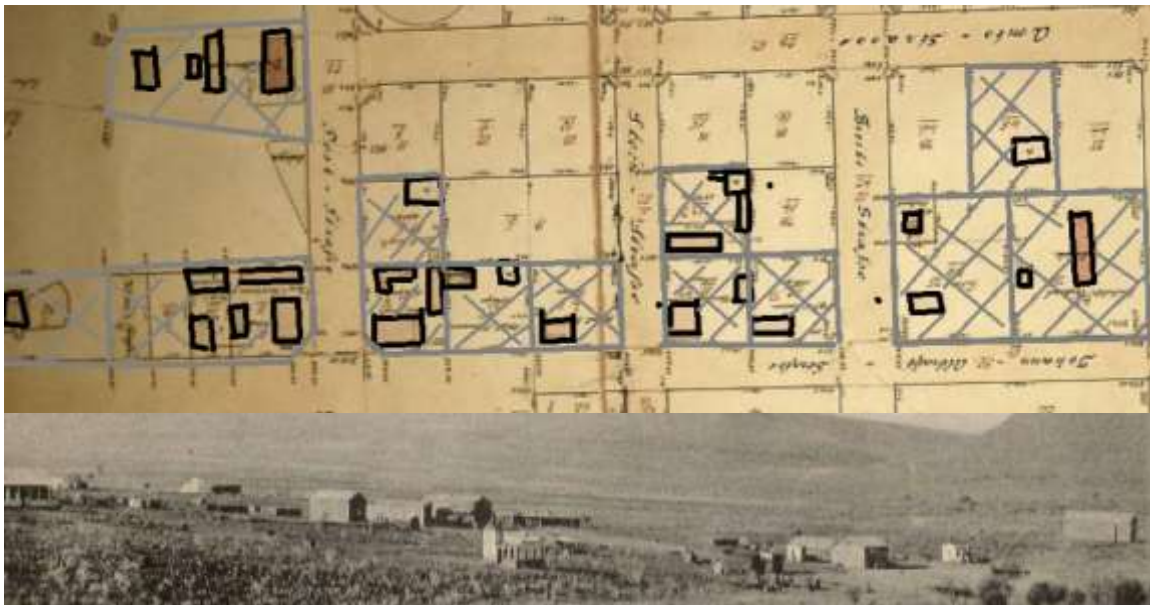
The barracks Maltahöhe ca.1907 stands about 100 meters north of the officers' house and west behind the magazine.



On the left the magazine and on the right an administrative building behind the district office



Distriksamt Maltahöhe ca.1914 at the Poststrasse. Behind it is an administrative building and the magazine.



Maltahöhe 1909 from the south . On the far left the barracks. To the right of it the 3 small buildings are unknown. Further to the right, the three large houses are the magazine, to the right of it an outbuilding and of it to the right the district office on Poststrasse. Below it with the white turret is the officers' house. The officers' residence belonging to it was built later. At the place of the later Hesselmann Hotel, in the middle there is still a small building which was demolished later. In front of it stand about 5 pontoks. To the right of the center are the 2 large gray houses of Voigts. The white house to the right is probably Riemann's workshop. On the far right is the large new school building under construction, still without the teacher's house. In the foreground the Hutup River. (Due to the fact that the photo shows the almost finished school building, whose opening is well documented and at the same time on the place of the hotel Hesselbach is only a shed, it is obvious that the hotel Hesselbach was not completed in 1907 but only after 1909).





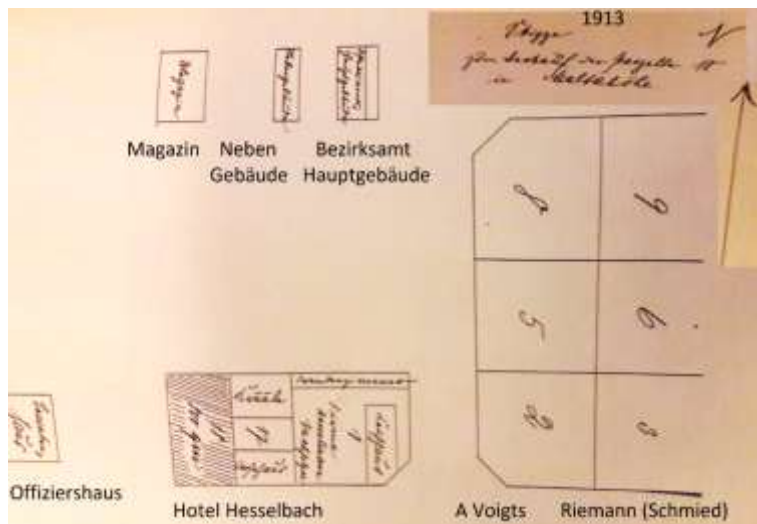
The laying of the foundation stone of the school (right) was on 05.09.1908 . Mrs. Voss reports in her diary that on 28.08.1909 the family was accommodated in the school, which did not yet have a teacher. On her later return trip via Maltahöhe she reports about a teacher family at which they were invited. The photo clipping shows on the right the school in 1909 still without a teacher's house. The school was officially inaugurated on 25.01.1910.



Maltahöhe Hotel 1911(no trees) Left the officers house ,then right the Maltahöhe Hotel 1913 and in the foreground the 2 houses of the department store A.Voigts .Above right of center the barracks



Maltahöhe Hotel ca 1914



1913 above the magazine , outbuildings , district office . Below officers house ,hotel , A Voigts business house



Department store A.Voigts 1912 from south west

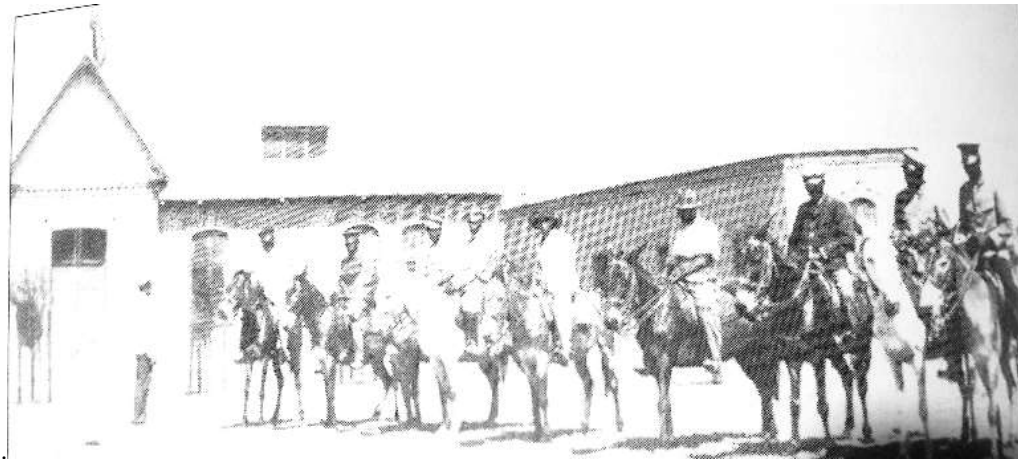


The school with the teacher's house on the left 1912



Maltahöhe from the north ca. 1914 on the right the officer's residence built ca. 1912 on the left of it the officer's house built ca 1903 with the turret. The left house is the after 1909 newly built Maltahöhe Hotel with outbuilding from the company Hesselmann





Mule race for the Emperor's birthday 27.01.1913 in front of the Maltahöhe Hotel (From the book v.Gralow)



Maltahöhe from southwest 1908/1909



Ca.1911/1912 The officers house and hotel on the left and the new school on the right ,view from southeast. 1909



ca.1912 ( Picture probably from publisher Tielmann)

In the center you can see construction work on the officers' residence to the left of the white tower. To the right of the center, with the large white roof, stands the Maltahöhe Hotel. To the right of it you can see the Voigts house and further to the right you can see building activities. On the far right is the school with the teacher's house.



The Hutup canyon near Maltahöhe View from the hotel to the southeast ca 1914



Hutup canyon west of Maltahöhe looking west 1919



near Grootfontein South 1919

### Colonial address books

#### 1902 Maltahöhe [Bez. Gibeon].

*Distriktschef:* Fromm, Oberleutnant; 2 Unteroffiziere, 2 Mann.

*Posthilfsstelle:* Busse.

*Ansiedler u. Viehzüchter:* Kirsten (Daveb); Bernhardt (Namseb); Bergemann (Urusis); Meinig (Narobmund); Landsrath, Meiwald, Sauber (Kleinpens).

#### 1903 Maltahöhe [Bez. Gibeon].

*Distriktschef:* Fromm, Oberleutnant; 2 Unteroffiziere, 2 Mann.

*Posthilfsstelle:* Busse, Unteroffizier.

#### 1907 Maltahöhe [Bez. Gibeon].

*Distriktschef:* Oberleutnant Fromm.

*Posthilfsstelle:* Sergeant Busse.

*Kaufläden und Schankwirtschaften:* Ernst Glose; Georg J. Hesselmann.

#### 1908 Maltahöhe [Bez. Gibeon].

*Distriktschef:* Oberleutnant Fromm.

*Posthilfsstelle:* Polizeisergeant Drews.

*Kaufläden und Schankwirtschaften:* Ernst Glose; Georg J. Hesselmann.

*Schmiede:* Riemann.

*Verein:* Farmverein Maltahöhe.

#### 1909 Maltahöhe [Distriktsort].

*Distriktsamt:* Bezirksamtssekretär Seydel, Distriktschef.

*Polizei:* Busch, Polizeiwachtmeister; Drews, Rade, Wittmann, Abierzwa, Polizeisergeanten.

*Regierungsschule:* Regierungslehrerstelle zurzeit noch unbesetzt.

*Zweite Kompanie der Schutztruppe:* Hauptmann Mansfeld, Führer; Freiherr von Stein zu Nord- und Ostheim, Oberleutnant; Freiherr von Haxthausen, Stoebe, Leutnants; Rassau, Oberveterinär.

*Postagentur:* Polizeisergeant Drews.

*Gastwirtschaft:* Ernst Glose.

*Kaufläden:* Ernst Glose; Georg J. Hesselmann (Herbert Hassenstein, Vertreter); Albert Voigts (Johannes Schmieder, Vertreter).

*Schmiede und Wagenbauerei:* Fritz Riemann.

*Verein:* Farmverein Maltahöhe.



1910

**M a l t a h ö h e** (Ma), Distrikt:  
 Distriktschef Ernst Seydel, Robert Bold, Hermann Bracke, Adolf Busch, E. Dennerlein, Karl Freygang, Ernst Ganz, Herbert Hassenstein, A. Höppner, Adolf Landzik, Johann Linkowski, Bruno Platschek, G. Rach, Fritz Riemann, Karl Rudat, Emil Ruh, Hans Sommer, Emil Schmidt, Johannes Schmieder, Artur Wegner, Alois Wittmann, Albert Zielske.

### Colonial address books Maltahöhe 1911 :

Ernst Seydel was the district chief. The district treasury was managed by Johannes Löffler,

Police officers were: Busch Adolf, A Höppner, Boldt Robert, Ernst Ganz, Landtig Adolf, Lindowsky Johann, Platschek Bruno, Richard Rach, Schmidt, Wegner Athur, Wittmann Alois, Slotke Johann. (later still Eggergluß Heinrich, Grah Ernst (Neuhof), Linkowski, Wieder Max,)

Building contractor: Rudat Karl , from 1912 Leichert Wilhelm

Well drillers: Meilwes Wilhelm and Enshle Albert. Later also Heydt Christian and Dlamky Franz., Birnbaum Ernst ( Later still Grüsshaber Chr.,)

Carpenters from 1913 :Jensen Siegfried ,Heine Adam,Plötz Fritz ( Farm Hyas)

Midwife from 1913: Lena Kaewel

### 1913 Maltahöhe ( Auszug aus dem Kolonialen Adressbuch)

(Bez. Gibeon). **Distriktsamt:** E. Seydel, Distriktschef, verh.; G. Altemann, Wirtschaftsirräulein; Joh. Löffler, Kassenbeamter, verh. **Bezirksrat.** **Posten der 5. Kompanie der Schutztruppe.** **Polizeistation:** Heinr. Eggersglüss, Pol.-Wachtmstr.; Arthur Wegner, Karl Rosner, Max Wieder, Wilhelm Krey, Pol.-Serg. **Reg.-Arzt:** Dr. Kraenzle. **Regierungsschule:** Reg.-Lehrer Fritz Heinzig. **Postagentur.** **Baugeschäft:** Wilhelm Leichert. **Brunnenbauer:** Albert Ensle. **Hebamme:** Schwester Lena Kaewel. **Kaufläden:** Georg J. Hesselmann (Herb. Hassenstein, Vertreter; Rudolf Thielemann, Kaufmann); Herm. Hillmann (Joh. Schmieder, Geschäftsführer); Alb. Voigts (Geschäftsführer Rübenstrunk); Herm. Bracke. **Maurer:** Heinrich Knoche; Paul Leichert. **Maler:** Aug. Bukowski. **Schmiede und Wagenbauerei:** Alb. Maraun. **Schneiderin:** Anna Lidke. **Tischler u. Zimmerleute:** Siegfried Jensen; Adam Heine. **Verein:** Farmervereinigung Maltahöhe (Goerch, Schriftführer); Kriegerverein; Ortsgruppe des Flottenvereins.

1913 Police stations : On the government farm Büllsport occupied by T.Bülow and E.Kuhn . On the government farm Burgsdorf manned by Eduard Endres. On the farm Neuhof Nord in Zarrisgebirge. Occupied with Richard Bach,Hans Kaschube , Julius Fischer . Lahnstein occupied with Fritz Waldow,Johann Linkowski, Emil Schmidt.

Names from 1910 -1915. police sergeants: From 1910 Adolf Busch, A Höppner, Robert Boltens Ganz, Adolf Landzig, Johann Linkowski, Bruno Platschek, Grach, Emil Schmidt, Artur Wegner,Alois Witmann, Johann Slotke,From1912:Kaschube ,Vorwald , From 1913:Wieder ,Endres, Richard Rach, Heinrich Eggergluß ,Nofs,Rasch,Fischer,Rosner ,Plaschek. Teacher Fritz Heinzig ,Doctor: Dr. Kränzle, Blacksmith: Riemann, Freygang, Karl, Maraun, Contractor: Karl Rudat, Wilhelm Leichert , Bricklayer: Emil Ruth Merchant: Bracke ,Dennerlein, Hassenstein, Hans Sommer ,Johannes Schmieder. Wheelwright: Albert Zielske ,Carpenter :Siegfried Jensen, Midwife: Lena Kaewel, Margarete

Müller, Mrs. Sauber, Sybille Feld. (She helped with the birth of Toni Landsrath in 1911 on Lahnstein ). From 1909 the midwives were housed in the "Südwester Häusschen" which belonged to the district association.

### Expansion of the farmland in the Maltahöhe district

Grootfontein-South in the Geigab plain belonged to the Baster until 1901. The first German farm in the district was Nomtsas at the Blumenfischrevier around 1893. After the 1st Witbooi uprising: Kirsten bought the farm Daweb in 1896, Bernhardt the farm Namseb in 1899, Bergemann the farm Urusis, Meinig the farm Narobmund, Landsrath, Sauber and Maiwald bought the farm Kleinpens. In the area of Duwisib and Kleinfontein, Burian settlers had settled around 1896. The Zaris Mountains and Gorab were considered bushman country. Zaris was the westernmost farm around 1902. On Gorab and Nam there were military stations that secured the farm area to the west. From 1904 the number of farms increased to 46 farms and in 1914 to 51 farms. Half of them were in Burian hands. Secured by the strong military presence, settlers dared to farm Gorab and the Zaris Mountains up to the Achab Mountains from about 1907.

In 1911, there were only 4 areas running from north to south that remained free of farms: The southern black rim (Hanamiplateaus). A smaller area 20 km west of Maltahöhe from Nutupsdrift to Grootfontein -South. The watershed along the Zaris Mountains from Hauchabfontein to Duwisib and a strip about 30 km wide from north to south along the Namib.

From 1907 onwards, the administration allocated the Schwarzrand to protection troops and after 1921 until 1936 settlers also bought farms west of the Zaris Mountains. However, the Namibrand remained uncultivated. Only a few bushmen and Damara lived at the Namibrand. Only after the 2nd World War the administration gave until 1955 also the last farm area of the Zaris Mountains and the Namibrand farms.



map ca. 1908



## **The German district leaders of Maltahöhe 1894 -1914**

North Bethany belonged to Bethany until 1894 and was under the rule of Captain Josef Frederiks. Leutwein declared North Bethany a crown land after the defeat of the Witbooi because the Bethany had not defended the land against the Witbooi. Initially, in 1894, Lieutenant von Ziechten in Bethany had the task of establishing a police station in Grootfontein with a crew of 3 men. This police station took over the administration of Gibeon in the same year. Bernhardt was the head of the station until the end of 1899. The first "district chief" in Maltahöhe designated as such was First Lieutenant von Lekow in early 1901. After the suppression of the Grootfontein (South) Baster Uprising, Lekow had moved the district police station to Maltahöhe. At the end of 1901, Lekow was recalled to WDK. The other heads of the district office in Maltahöhe were called Lieutenant Colonel Graf von Kagenneck (According to Leutwein .Kagenneck was also district chief in Warmbad from 1902), then Lieutenant Fromm. According to Bernhardt, there were 2 houses (office buildings) in Maltahöhe at that time. Under District Chief Fromm, the Maltahöhe police station was staffed with only 2 sergeants and 2 men. Mr. Busse was in charge of the post office. In the early days of the war in 1904, first Felix Hermann and then Reserve Lieutenant Richter are said to have taken over the management of the station for a short time. From when Lieutenant von Lehor headed the district is unclear. (Lehor mentioned p.10 at I.Walter) Seydel took over from 1907 on. 1908 the district became an independent district which Seydel administered. Under district chief Seydel there was the first civilian development of the village with hotel, blacksmith shop and school. The military withdrew Seydel in 1915 because of the First World War and Dr. Paul Vageler took over Maltahöhe. (Dr. Paul W.E. Vageler born 30.10.1882 in Maeken / Prussia died 03.12.1963 in Sao Paulo Brasil.) . Vageler, a lecturer of the University of Königsberg, geologist and soil scientist placed himself at the disposal of the German troops after his research trips in Angola, 1914 and took over the office of the district chief until he too was interned in May 1915. According to Hubertus Mehnert, the former district chief Fromm is said to have been killed in action on the Western Front in France during the First World War. He is said to have said the following as an official in WDK in 1911 about the lack of farm workers: "Whoever can treat people always has workers."

## **The Maltahöhe Post Office**

With the establishment of the post office 01.10.1899 in Maltahöhe, farmers could send letters, postcards, telegrams and parcels up to 10 Kg. For the development of the farms the fast communication about prices, cattle auctions, orders, social contacts and the like meant an enormous progress. As of 01.01.1906, postal orders could be made from Maltahöhe, thus avoiding cumbersome monetary transactions. For the military, quick information about insurgents brought decisive advantages. As early as September 1908, regular mail deliveries were made every two weeks by a mail cart from Gibeon. This took 2 days for these 100 kilometers. 2 passengers could also be carried for the price of 50 gold marks per person. Parcels up to 3 kilos via England to Germany cost 4.95 Reichsmark. Mr. Busse managed the post office in Maltahöhe in the beginning. There was also a heliograph and telegraph connection. Communication meant so much to the farms that the district council of Maltahöhe decided July 17, 1914 to pay the 35,000 gold marks for the construction of the telephone line from Bethany via Maltahöhe to Kub, to the postal administration. However, it did not come to this because of the beginning of the war. (Deutsch-Südwestafrikanische Zeitung 17. Jahrgang Nr.66, 19. August 1914, p.2.)



Distriktsamt Maltahöhe (Verlag Tielmann)



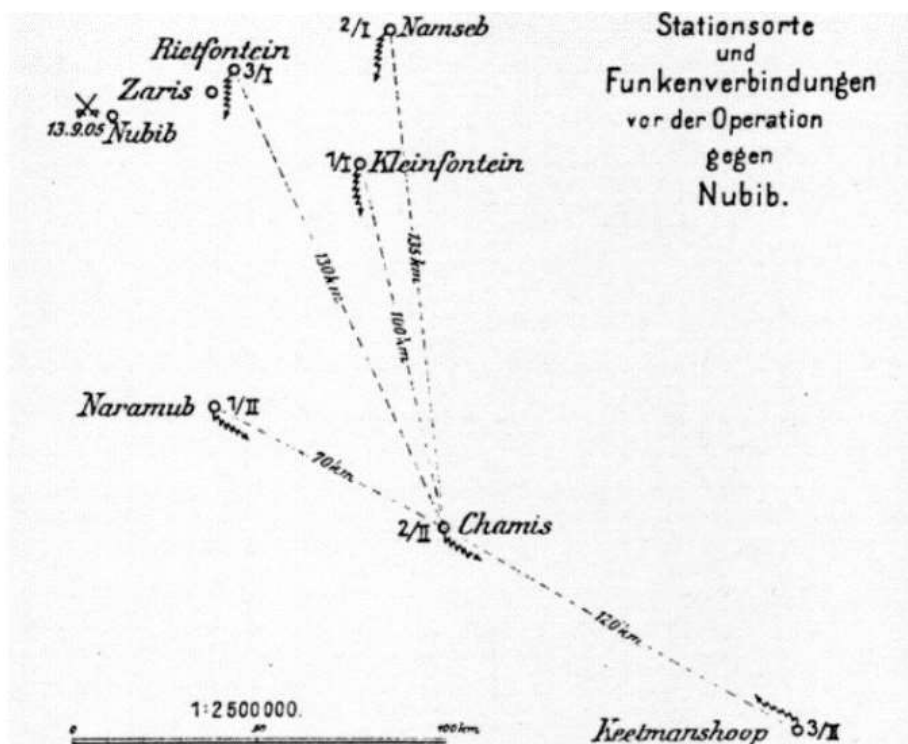
1910 The postal cart in front of the post office ( district office ) Maltahöhe in Poststrasse



The mail cart 1903 near Gibeon.



A typical field postcard of a Schutztruppeler of the 2nd Company from Maltahöhe to a comrade in Ditterswind in Lower Franconia / Bavaria. The postmark of Maltahöhe from 13.02.1907 Entry postmark in Germany on 01.04.1907



### Heliograph stations 1905

This map of the heliograph stations shows the 250 km long connection from Keetmanshoop via the Chamis police station to the Maltahöhe area. Within less than an hour information could be exchanged over this long distance. The station Rietfontein near Zaris is today completely forgotten.



Heliographs and radio operators 1905



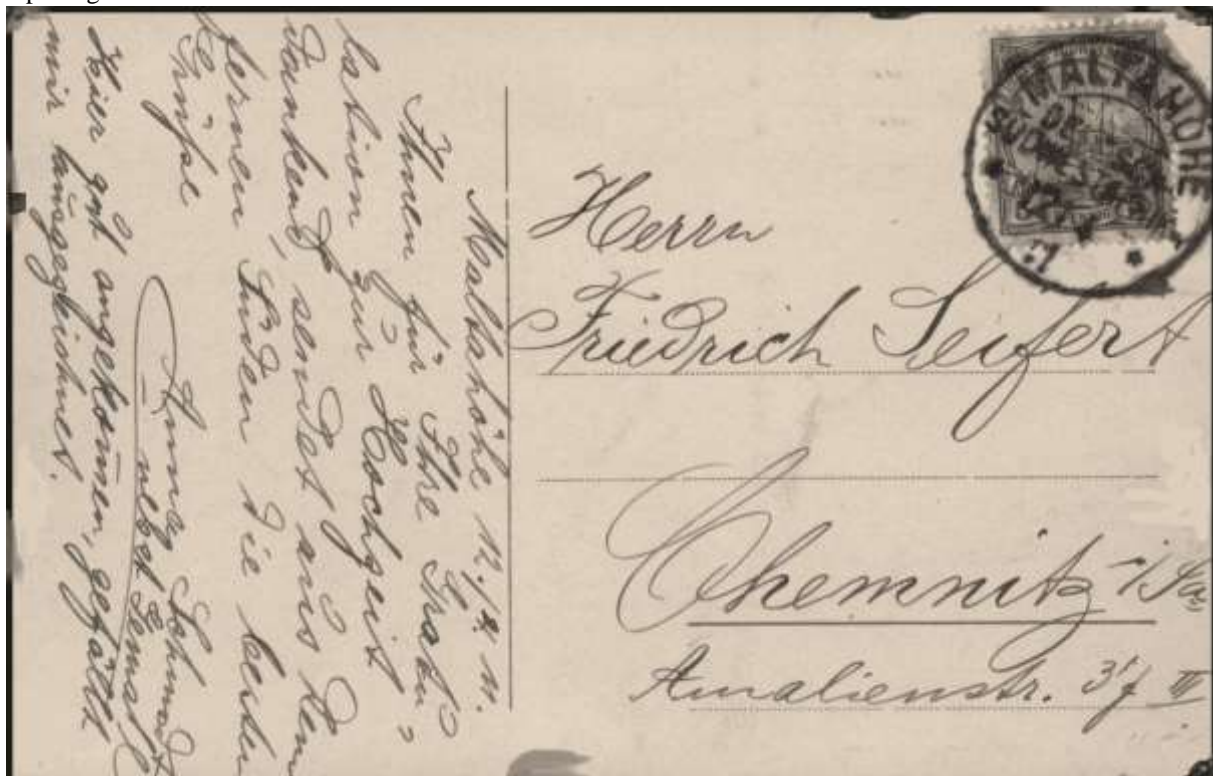
Field

postcard . 28.09.1905 from Maltahöhe from a Rider Lym of the 7th Battery to Lieutenant Findeis in Brandenburg an der Havel (near Berlin). Findeis belonged to the I Field Artillery Division III Field Battery in the Hottentot War and at the Waterberg. They were part of the reinforcements that landed at Swakopmund in April 1904. Findeis was an experienced specialist on Rheinmetall's C.96 guns. Probably the sender had just returned from the Battle of Nubib 13.09.1905..





Optical telegram 1905 from Windhoek to Berseba (150 km south of Maltahöhe) to Trotha during the Nam Uprising



The postcard from 12.04.1911 of the wife of Maltahöhe policeman Schmidt. A Georg Schmidt had the liquor license from 01.04.1919 to 18.11.1919 until Otto Westphal took over the hotel as C.O..

## Shool in Maltahöhe



Maltahöhe School 1912



Teacher Just ca 1924

According to the annual report of the Rhenish Mission, in 1903 there were about 5600 colored Christians in Namaland who were served by 9 missionaries 5 colored preachers and 23 auxiliaries. In 10 schools the mission taught about 250 colored boys and 350 colored girls. Bible teaching and singing came far before reading and writing. Hendrik Witbooi was an early advocate of Bible teaching and also called for missionaries. Also the Boers had since 1903 Afrikaans schools on the farms Zwartmodder, Gorab, Noib and the village Kub, but with very limited teaching. In 1903, Emil Just taught burish children in Gibeon.

On the Duwisib farm there was a school (for whites) under the direction of the priest Josef Kleemann, later Bishop, in about 1912. From May 1914 there was also a school there for thirty Herero children. Inspired by this success, Bishop Krolikowski, with the help of District Administrator H. v. Wolf, also had a mission ("Herz Jesu") built for colored people in Maltahöhe. Wolf also arranged for the construction of a hospital for colored people in Maltahöhe. In September 1914 a priest and 2 sisters came for the hospital. classes for colored children took place in the church.

From 1907 the German administration built a government school in Kub and in Maltahöhe. Maltahöhe received 30.000,-M ( Reichsmark) for the construction of a school. The school building and the teachers' house were built under the district head Seydel. The laying of the foundation stone was on 05.09.1908. The ceremonial opening of the school took place on 25.01.1910. The first board of directors were Kirsten, Bernhardt, Bergemann, Jan Shmit, Hermann, Jan Coetzee and Riemann. At first there were only 5 students who were boarded. 1 boy and 4 girls. In 1913 there were 13 pupils of whom 12 lived in the boarding house. The state pension aid per child was 400 marks in the beginning, later 550 marks per year. The first government teacher in 1910 was Fritz Heinzig. He received 4500.-M per year.

The German government also wanted to assimilate the burish children in the German government schools. When the burish farmers heard that because of their lack of interest in the German government schools, compulsory education was to be introduced in the German schools, their spokesman Farmer Rossouw turned to the district chief to avert this. After an investigation by a Windhoek inspector of the school conditions in the burish schools, the burish children had to go to the German school in Maltahöhe. According to the German account, the burish schools on the farms Noib and Gorab had former workers from the Cape as teachers, who essentially taught singing and religion. The children could not properly calculate, read, and write. The district council expanded the boarding school building because of the many burish children. This cost another 10000.-Mark. The school costs / boarding school costs amounted to 850.- M/ pa. for each child. of which the German Reich finally paid 550.-M/pa. for each "poor" (white) child. The Burian farms were considered very poor but with many children. The boarding school was supervised by the teacher. In May

1912 there were 10 Burian and 2 German children in the Maltahöhe school. Right at the beginning the school had to close for 6 weeks because of a typhoid case. Teacher Fritz Heinzig left in 1914 for a home leave in Germany. According to the reports of Mr. Kurt Schwarzkopf, from 1915 during the war the English Mandate Government took over the school and gave lessons in English. In 1921 the German children had to go to a temporary school building first to teacher Rottger on the so-called Hillman property . In 1924, teacher Peter Paul Emil Just taught in Maltahöhe. In 1924 there was still a teacher J.Graliam and a teacher W.Leonhard there. The boarding house in Maltahöhe was run by Mrs. Maraun and later Mrs. Hacke until the German school was closed in 1924. German children had to go to the German school in Gibeon after 1924.

### The surveying in DSWA and in the Maltahöhe district



Map of 1899



war map of 1904

Boundary disputes arose before 1900 due to the purchase of unsurveyed farm land. In the Maltahöhe district, farms had no fences until World War 2 . The government in Berlin therefore commissioned surveyors. Officials in Gibeon provisionally entered unsurveyed land and farms into a national map after sighting a sales contract. However, only surveyed farms could be registered in the land records and thus mortgaged. The Namas and Witbooi did not know any individual property in the European sense and understood the first sales contracts rather as durable contracts of use against a payment. There it was long to describe . " From the mountain to the river and from that to the white stone back there". The situation changed with the claim of protection of the lands acquired by Germans, that is, with the arrival of German protection troops with their German administrative system. Accurate definition of the claim to acquired lands included surveying and documentation. First inaccurate incomplete strategic maps with mountains , waterholes , ox trails , rivers created the Schutztruppler like Bernhardt himself . A first professional triangulation chain south from Windhoek to Nauchas farm on the Naukluft , was carried out by Lieutenant Wettstein from 1896 and continued by government land surveyor Schiller south to Bethany in 1903. The land survey came to a halt in 1904 due to the Witbooi uprising . Insurgents even murdered a survey party near Mariental in 1905. After the end of the uprisings in 1907, more and more Schutztruppler bought farms, some of which were poorly surveyed or not surveyed at all. One of the surveyors coming from Germany, the well-known Hugo Voss trekked with his whole family from 1907 to 1913 in the area of Gibeon ,Schwarzrand up to the Naukluft and south to Duwisib to survey the land, the farms and the places. In 1913 he prepared the first accurate development plan of Maltahöhe. The first binding large map of Rehoboth/ Maltahöhe District was published in 1910. The exact legal claim of the farms was ultimately based on these

maps, which were calculated and drawn up in Berlin. Since the German administration kept many documents in Berlin, it came in the first world war to the fact that legal claims of German farmers on their country of the English occupation, in addition, from the banks were often not comprehensible. Therefore, the banks could not or would not grant the necessary loans. The farmers had to pay a discount to the German administration for the survey in advance. This was especially bitter for the farms that had not been surveyed before the occupation by the South Africans. They lost their down payment. Only after 1920 Berlin gave these files and maps to the South African authorities. In the meantime, many farmers had to have their farms resurveyed at great cost.

### **Survey expedition of the Voss family 1909**

Diary of Mrs. Gertrud Voss. (Author K.D.Gralow 2017) Summary and additions.)

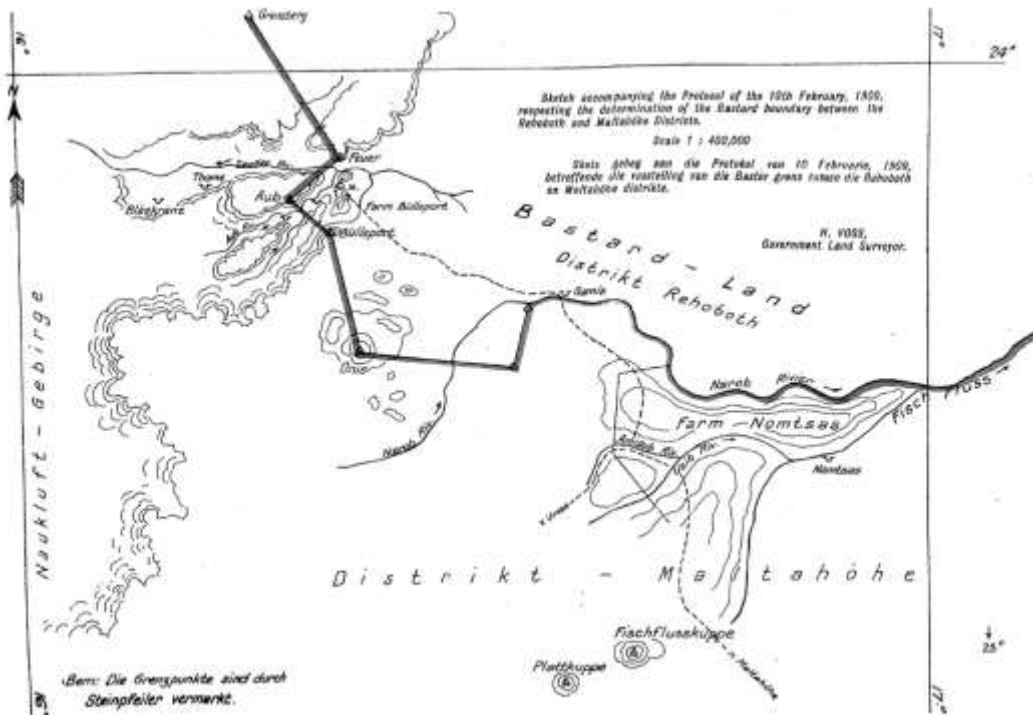
Hugo Voss came ashore in Swakopmund on 07.08.1907. In WDK, Governor Bruno von Schuckmann equipped him for his surveying expedition with an ox cart together with 20 draft oxen, a flatbed cart, 4 horses and 4 mules and the necessary equipment. In addition, Schuckmann assigned him 5 Herero helpers and a white surveyor's assistant. The Hereros were accompanied by their families a total of 20 women and children. The first way led to Gibeon. There, the experienced land surveyor Löwenich instructed him in the local conditions. Government land surveyor Gustav Löwenich (Löwenich) worked in DSWA from 1900-1914. A year later in 1909, Mrs. Voss and the children also came to Gibeon via Lüderitzbucht.

The Voss family lived in a nice house in Gibeon where they were also visited by the district chief Seydel von Maltahöhe and his wife. On 17.08.1909 the Voss family started an expedition from Gibeon with 80 goats and the surveying team. First 4 days, over farms already surveyed by VOSS (for example Voigtsgrund) to Maltahöhe. The empty school of Maltahöhe served the family Voss some days as accommodation. Opposite the animals recovered at the Ausspannplatz. At that time there was no teacher in the newly built school Maltahöhe. He came only a few months later. The food was cooked by Mrs. Seydel, whose husband was on Trenk's famous expedition with the camels through the Namib. Seydel published his findings about the Bushmen and the Namib in 1910. After days of rest at Maltahöhe, the survey party trekked north to Mr. Wede's farm Gamis on the border of the Rehoboth district. The family found accommodation in the farm building. During the survey work, Seydel and his wife visited the Voss family there on official business. The next stop of the trek Büllsport offered only a hut with bare walls and dirt floor covered by rushes. Rain, wind, cold, heat, insects of every kind, dirt and dust accompanied the expedition. The nearby police station helped to improve the roof with some corrugated sheets. Mail and missing provisions came from Maltahöhe regularly, but rarely. The survey of the farms at the entrance to the Naukluft at the beginning of October 1909 was physically demanding, especially since Hogo Voss suffered from bouts of malaria. Against it he took quinine. In mid-October, the ox cart suffered a broken axle while passing through the gorge. The troop had to haul all the material by mule cart to Ababis, a farm of A. Voigts, at the northern exit of the Naukluft. In the process, they encountered diamond prospectors in search of the fabled "Bushman's Paradise". (Probably they were stragglers of Trenk's expedition). The manager of the Ababis farm was named Endris. It took many weeks for the axle to find its way back welded at Malta height. In the meantime, surveying continued in the mountains and on the farms. The helpers tirelessly set up small beacons (survey mounds of cairns) and Hugo triangulated one farm after another. In

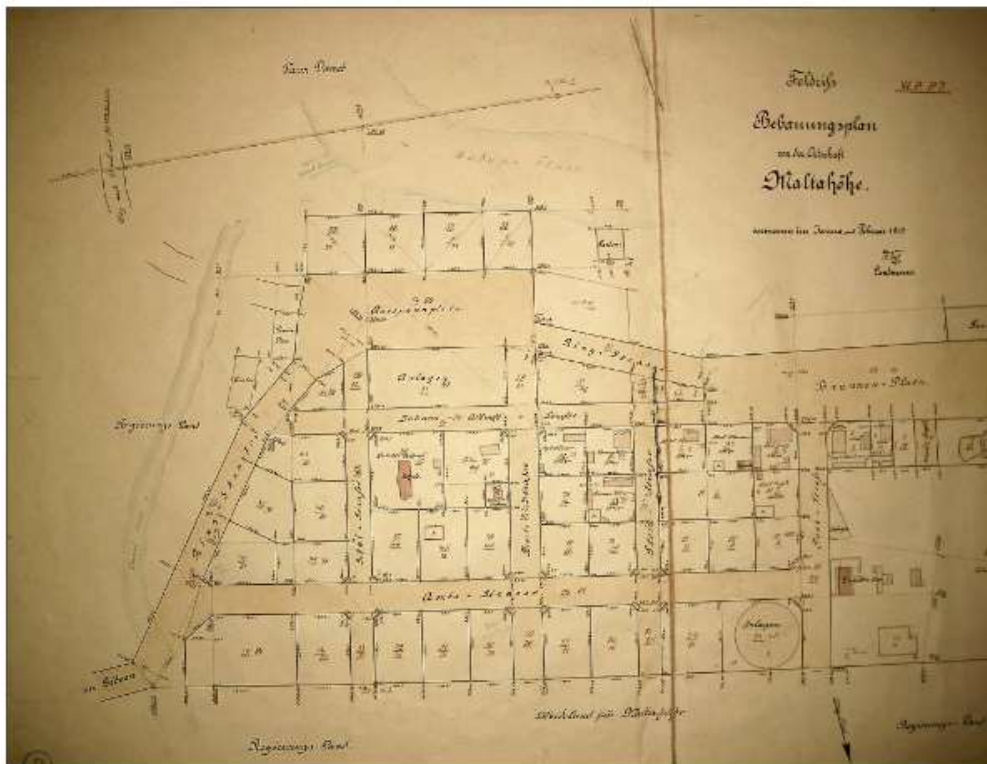


early December 1909, the family's tent on Blässkranz hosted a distinguished visitor from Maltahöhe. Inspector Lieutenant Colonel Freytag, who was inspecting the Büllsport police station. (He had fought with the mountain guns on the Oranje in 1905). The next stop, the farm Onis and Haruchas (then owner Mr. Sauber) was about 20 km further south. There the troop got a visit from, the administrator of Nomtsas, Mr. Meyer. Herrmann Sauber provided a room and the family celebrated Christmas with Mr. Sauber and Mr. Meyer with an artificial tree magnificently decorated. There were even cucumbers and lettuce on the farm. On New Year's Eve, Mr. Endris came 50 km from Ababis to celebrate. Then the next farms Kamkas, Hoheacht, Lahnstein and surroundings, that is the middle north of the district were surveyed. Residents of surrounding farms often visited or invited the Voss family. Kilometers and time probably did not matter at that time. At Whitsun (14.05.1910) Mrs. Seydel from Maltahöhe invited. That meant 80 kilometers in 8 hours with the horse cart. In Maltahöhe they also met the new teacher (probably Mr. Heinzig) and the doctor (probably district doctor Dr. Kränzle) with his nurses (Sybille Feld and..) from the military hospital there. In Maltahöhe there was another invitation from the Namseb farm to Bernhardt's. That meant 2 hours drive and in the afternoon several hours back to Nomtsas in the north. Then the survey party moved to the middle part of the district and surveyed in the area of Niederhagen, Kleinfontein. In April 1910, Mrs. Voss reports that they were invited to the Boer Van der Merve, farm Gorab and encountered a large crowd of people there with many children. All were dressed up to the nines. For them as guests there was latte and pancakes. The others watched. They made music with the harmonium. The Boers were poor but hospitable. On 07.04.1910 the team finished the measurements in the north and the middle part of the district and started the journey home via Maltahöhe to Gibeon. Shortly before Voigtsgrund the axis broke again. After 5 days on Voigtsgrund, Theo personally mounted the new axle, which was carted in from Gibeon. The wheel was a little bit wobbly, but the family reached exhausted their rented house in the district capital. There, thanks to the rail connection, they again had much to spare on the expedition.

During her stay in Africa Mrs. Voss wrote incessantly letters and a diary. Many of these writings are still preserved. The Africa expert and author Klaus-Dieter Gralow transcribed some of these writings and published the book "Unterwegs mit Theodolith und Ochsenwagen" Publisher: Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Swakopmund, Namibia 2010. Gralow also published the book "Postadresse Landmesser Voss Ochsenwagen DSWA". Publisher: Nordwest Media Verlagsgesellschaft mbH. Grevesmühlen, 2017.

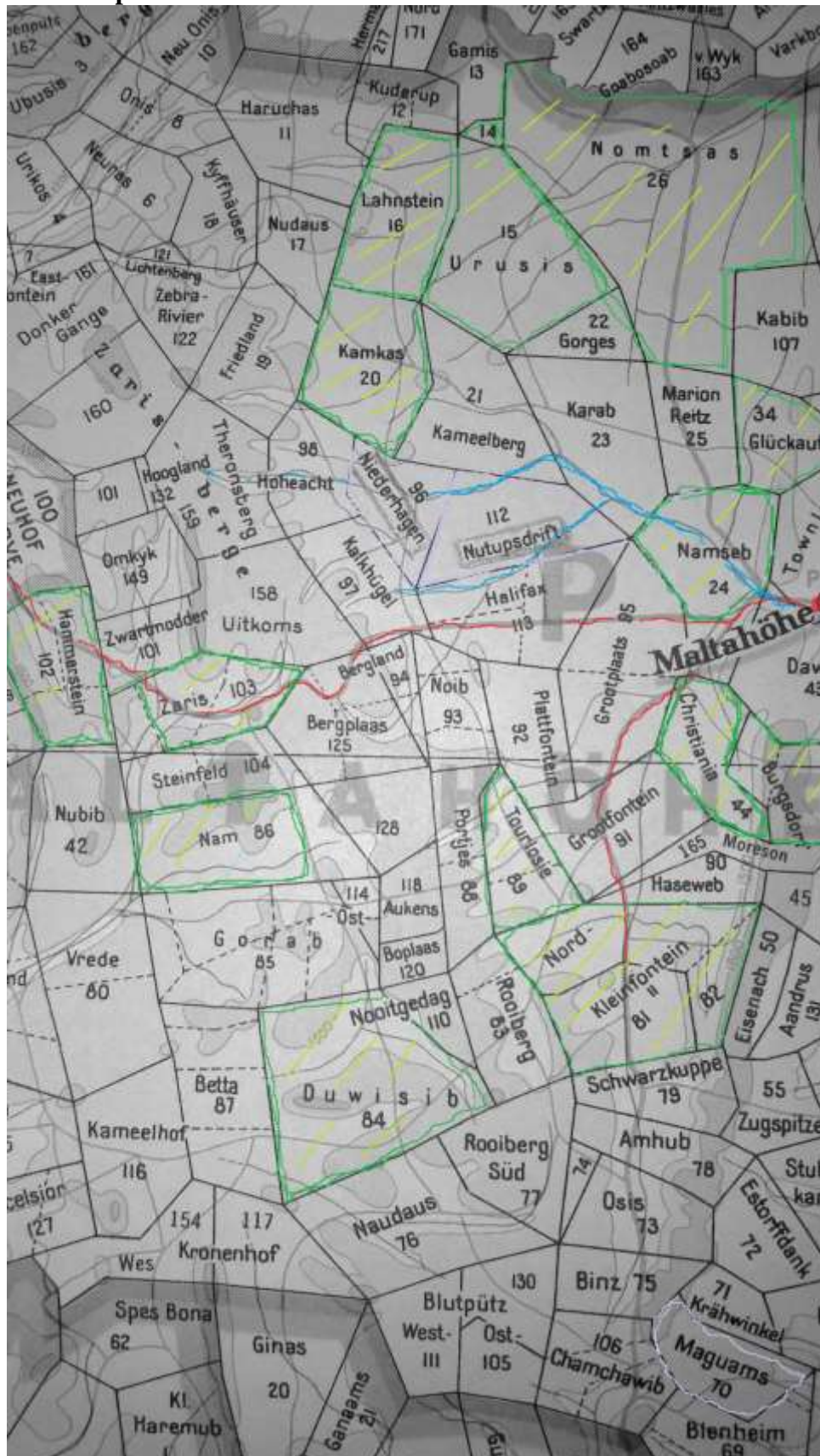


Farms surveyed by Hugo Voss in 1909 in the north of the Maltahöhe District.

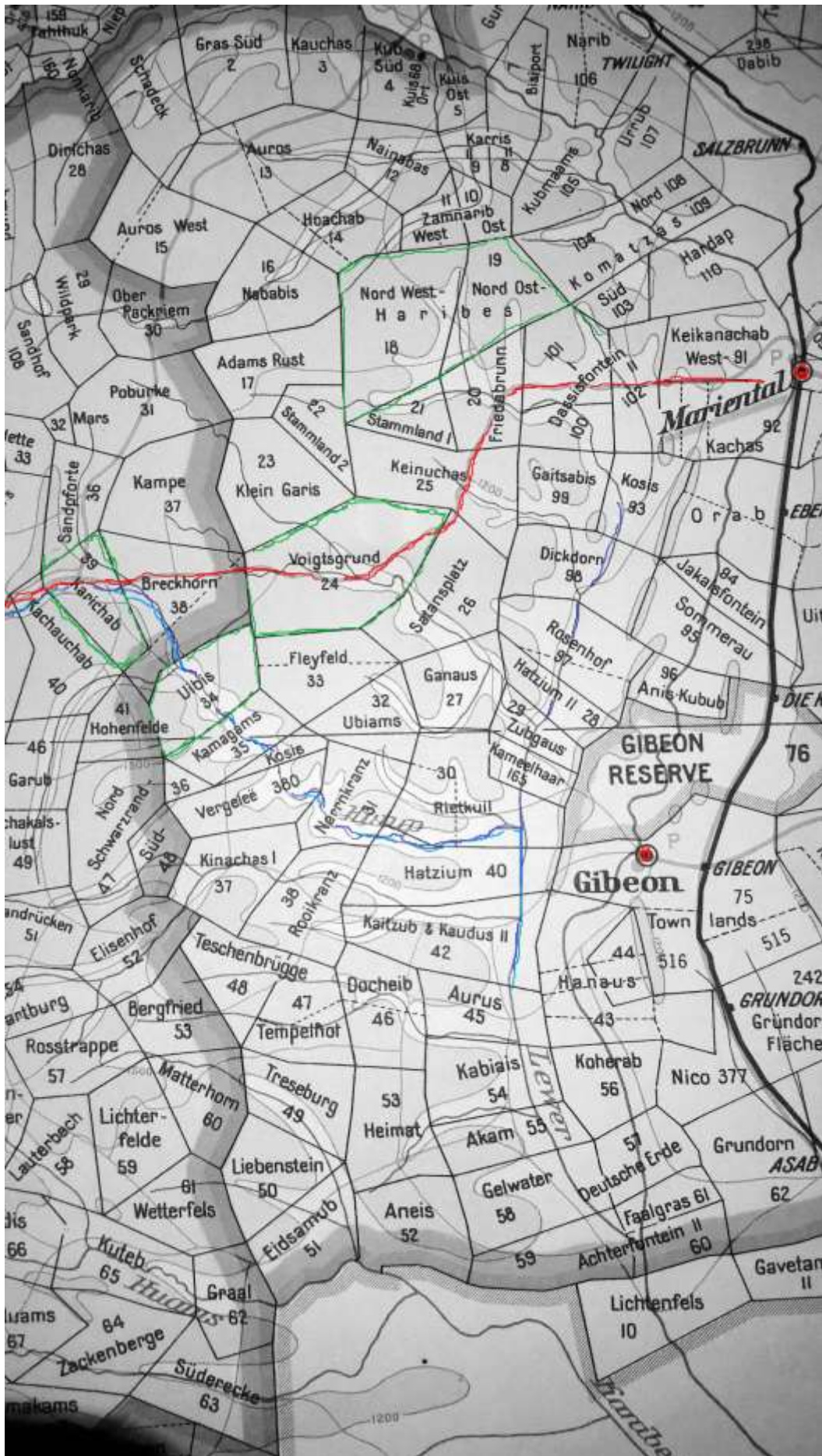


1913 Development plan of the city of Maltahöhe by Hugo Voss (picture from the dissertation by Jana Moser)

## Farm map extracts







Maltahöhe district has a size of 24000 square kilometers and Gibeon district 46000 square kilometers



## Mosaic pieces of the history of Maltahöhe

# Jahresbericht

## Entwicklung der Schutzgebiete in Afrika und der Südsee

im Jahre 1907/08.

Nr.	N a m e der F a r m	Vor- und Zuname des Eigentümers	Größe der Farm in ha
1	2	3	4
1	Dalweb	Karl Kirsten	14 607
2	Drachas	—	5 000
3	Gamis	Martin Wede	10 000 davon 5 100 ha zum Beitzsamt Gibeon gehörig
4	Gückauf	Adolf Maiwald	10 347
5	Haruchas	Hermann Sauter	—
6	Kachachab	Joseph Vengfeld	9 487
7	Kamfas	Wilhelm Kürschner	20 000
8	Karab	Otto Redlich	20 000
9	Karichab	Johannes Coegel	11 033
10	Kleinfontein-Süd	Jan Smit sen.	12 192
11	Kleinfontein-Nord	Stephanus Roffouw	15 284
12	Lahnstein	Anton Landsrath	20 000
13	Nam	Ernst Gloje	10 000
14	Namieb	Adolf Bernhardt	19 324
15	Naudaus	Jonni Annis in Bethanien	5 000
16	Nomfas	1. Felix Hermann 2. Otto Gadegast (Stammesherferei Nomfas)	49 163 20 000
17	Neuras	Felix Hermann	15 000
18	Noib	Jakobus Alwin v. d. Merbe	9 855
19	Onis	Philipp Koge	5 000
20	Rooiberg-Nord	Gendrik Jakobus Smit	12 517
21	Sandpforte	Jacobus Coegee	10 000
22	Schwarzkuppe	Jan Smit, jun.	6 613
23	Tourloffe	Jakobus, Gendrik v. d. Merbe	10 468
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24	Urusis	Ferdinand Bergemann	25 000
25	Zarris	Bernhardt von Eudodolek	10 000

Notes and reports on farms and individuals associated with the Maltahöhe District at the time of DSWA.

The following chapter collected information on farms and farmers and individual incidents in the Maltahöhe District during the period from 1890 to the beginning of WWI. A comprehensive record of all farms and their development before World War I could not be realized due to lack of records. Like an incomplete mosaic, the editors therefore recorded individual pieces of information, arranged them, and thus give the reader a glimpse of what was missing. Thus the reader receives a very exact picture of the structure of the farms and the city Maltahöhe.

About the situation of the colored population unfortunately only little information was found.

The fates of women could also only be poorly portrayed, because women's stories at that time were largely only mentioned in connection with their husbands. The colonial address books until 1919 showed only men's names.

### **Farm and police station Büllsport**



Police Station Büllsport Ca.1909

( Picture Bülow )



ca.1904



ca.1909

In the very north of the district, in the southern entrance to the passage of the Naukluft to Swakopmund lies the farm Büllsport. Named after the mountain that with imagination looks like a bull's head. In Nama this place is called Kopumnaas and among the Namib Bushmen //Göb-am!nas. Already in 1820 missionary Schmelen and after him in 1837 Sir Alexander came here with their expeditions through this area. The Tsona River flows through the middle

of the farm. In 1894 and 1904 the farm was in the center of fights of the German Schutztruppe against the Witbooi's. At first Büllsport belonged to the imperial stud farm "Nauchas", together with the farms Blässkranz and Ababis. In 1900 A Voigts bought the farm Ababis from a Baster widow and in 1902 he bought Büllsport which belonged to the Baster leader Dirk van Wyk. In return he got the farm Dirichas. The German administration also wanted Büllsport in 1902 and came to an agreement with Voigts. Voigts finally gave 10 hectares to the government with a contract dated 15.10.1908. The government built a small station house next to the old post house by mason Josef Eberenz. The first police sergeant was named Siegmann and from Nov.1909 came Sergeant Rudolf Rogge, who befriended a Damara woman who bore him 2 daughters. In February 1915, while the Uniostruppen were already approaching, the Bastersoldaten had to hand over their service weapons. After it did not come to the agreement with the Basterrat this ordered on 19.04.1915 German farms to attack. So Niclas van Wyk together with others shot the unarmed Rogge on 20.04.1915 while working in the garden and then moved to Ababis to kill the farmer there the next day. The hastily summoned district commander of Vageler Maltahöhe and the district clerk Löffler found the body near the plundered station. The commander Franke ordered the detachment Hans Hensel from Maltahöhe to Büllsport which arrived there on 23.04.1915. A patrol under Freiherr v.Bodenhausen followed on 27.04.1915. On Rogge's gravestone the date of death 22.04.1915 was chiseled.

On February 22, 1888, Georg Kisker was born in Bielefeld, the son of the wealthy S.Wilhelm Kisker. As a student he distributed political leaflets in Mainz and Darmstadt because of the 1907 Reichstag election. Kisker's fellow student Friedrich Plugge was already familiar with DSWA. With his help, he traveled out to German South West Africa and leased the government farm Büllsport. Kisker was helped in the management by a veteran Schutztruppler Wilhelm Eickmeyer from Bielefeld who already knew Büllsport from the battles against Witbooi in 1893. He belonged to the former provision guard in the old post house. The destroyed ruins of the post house served as the first shelter, provisionally roofed with corrugated iron. Previously, the surveyor Voss 1909 was also briefly housed in this cottage. About .500 yards from the police station, Kisker erected a farmhouse with a store about 1910. Basic foodstuffs such as sugar, flour, tea, tobacco, salt, but also fabrics, pants and shirts could be bought here. Since there was no store far and wide, his income grew by leaps and bounds. However, he had problems with his cattle herd due to the drought in 1913, so Kisker built a dam which was immediately destroyed by heavy rain in 1914. When Rogge went on patrol, Kisker guarded the armory. Kisker's imaginative plans to generate electricity with wind energy and to install an electric stove and lamps could not be realized. In this way he wanted to prevent the deforestation of the few trees. From today's perspective, this ecological consideration was a century ahead.

In 1915, Kisker borrowed equipment to drill wells in Maltahöhe. But before that could happen, he was drafted into the military because of the war. After the capitulation in 1915 Kisker was released from English captivity under certain conditions, but the leased farm did not belong to him but to the German state. The English War Magistrate had confiscated all crown land and his house had been robbed by the Baster in the meantime. So he had to work as a simple farm laborer during the war years.

(In 1916 he was a teacher in Rehoboth and in 1918 he worked for the Deutsche Farmwirtschaft Gesellschaft FWG in Windhoek. There he married Charlotte Ulrich. In addition, he also worked as a teacher in the German Realschule in Windhoek. In 1922 he returned to Bielefeld with his wife and daughter. After the death of his wife and a remarriage in Germany, he came back to South West Africa in 1926 with his new wife and 2 daughters and

worked as a manager in Windhoek for the German Federation , then for the Allgemeine Zeitung and finally as a teacher again. In 1931 he bought a sisal farm in Angola which he named "Kiskerhof" where he died in 1972. )

(Source: "Africa calls" Barbara Frey Frigga Tiletschke 2008)

(THE MILITARY ROLE OF THE REHOBOTH BASTERS DURING THE SOUTH AFRICAN INVASION OF GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA, 1914-1915 GJJ.OOSTHUIZEN Department of History, Potchefstroom University for CHE)



### **Blässkranz** Wecke & Voigts

On the northern border of the Maltahöhe district, at the mountainous entrance to the Naukluft Passage in the Rehoboth area, lies the old ruins of the Büllsport police station. A little to the north a place is called Aub at the Aubrevier. Shortly after the entrance to the Naukluft Passage there is a small valley with the farm Blässkranz ,where horses were bred by the company Wecke & Voigts before the Hottetotten Uprising in 1904. It is said that the farm once belonged to Weissenburg. In late 1909, Hugo Voss's survey party trekked along here through the Tsonab (C14). They found small springs and bushman and dripstone caves everywhere in the gorges . "Bless" is a mountain after which the farm is named.



(Map of Büllsport 1909 by Hugo Voss)

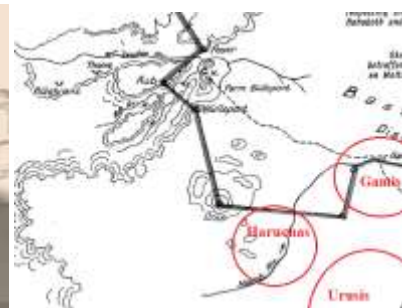


Blässkranz ca. 1904





## Haruchas Nr.11 Mr.Sauber



In 1898 Mr. Sauber probably came into the country with the Schutztruppe via Lüderitzbucht. Before 1901 Sauber had bought the farm "Tsoromas" probably a part of Kleinpens in the Maltahöhe district. The name Tsoromas still existed in 1910, and whether Haruchas (Nama language = rush place) is just a changed name for the farm is also unknown. During the Nama Uprising in 1904, the Witboois destroyed the house in Aub. According to the map of Hugo Voss, Aub is located near the farm Blässkranz. In 1907, Mr. Sauber built a new house on the farm property on the road to Maltahöhe. In 1907 the farm had a water bank, 2 wells and was stocked with 37 cattle and 272 sheep. On May 31, 1909, Sauber participated in the national exhibition in Windhoek with 3 mares of his horse breeding. Hugo Voss the surveyor and his family spent Christmas 1910 in Haruchas. The new farmhouse was still under construction. Mrs. Voss reports: "There was sour milk, cucumbers and beet and for Christmas an artificial Christmas tree with a few presents. Even confectionery at this hot time of year. In 1910 the German Women's Association reported: "Alwine Gerasch from Bennigsen near Hanover as a hostess to Mr. Farmer Sauber, Haruchas". On 09.05.1911 Herrmann Sauber married the nurse Hedwig Rauer in Maltahöhe. On 19.12.1912 their son was born. According to a note, a Mrs. Anna Sauber née Luft worked as a midwife in Maltahöhe. On 17.08.1912 a daughter was born to the stud manager Heinrich Endriß at Haruchas. (Anna Sauber 23.10.1885 -10.10.1978 Swakopmund).

## The other place Haruchas on the farm Nubib No.42



Attention. There is another place behind Zaris and another 3rd place on the Aob River called Haruchas. Two significant battles took place behind Zaris and on the Aob River in 1905.

Because it is so hard to find, the editors show a prepared battle map from 1905 where the place Haruchas is located in the Acha Mountains where the legendary battle of Nubib with

Captain Andreas took place on September 13, 1905. The divisions Maerker, Meister Uthmann acted in September between Sesriem, Zaris and the Nubib Mountains..



### **Tsams West Nr.1, Farm Gras Carl Woermann**

Originally there was a werft of Hendrik Witbooi on Tsams for a short time in 1894. The farm Tsams west was uninhabited until 1915 and belonged to Carl Woermann. The farm is located 200 km from Maltahöhe on the western Naukluft north of Ubuis and the Lemoenpütz site. Several Stone Age artifacts have been found here. The farm is named after the Tsamsrevier. Carl Woermann (1885-1950) came from the well-known Redereifima. He also owned the farm Gras in the east. There he had a beautiful farmhouse built. Probably he had bought both farms in 1907. In 1928 Sextas-Victor Smith is listed in the address book as a resident of Tsams. In 1973 the owners of Tsams were Archer and Liebenberg.



Farm Gras 1917

(picture NLeo Waibel)



Corn harvest on the Farm Gras 1917

(picture NLeo Waibel)



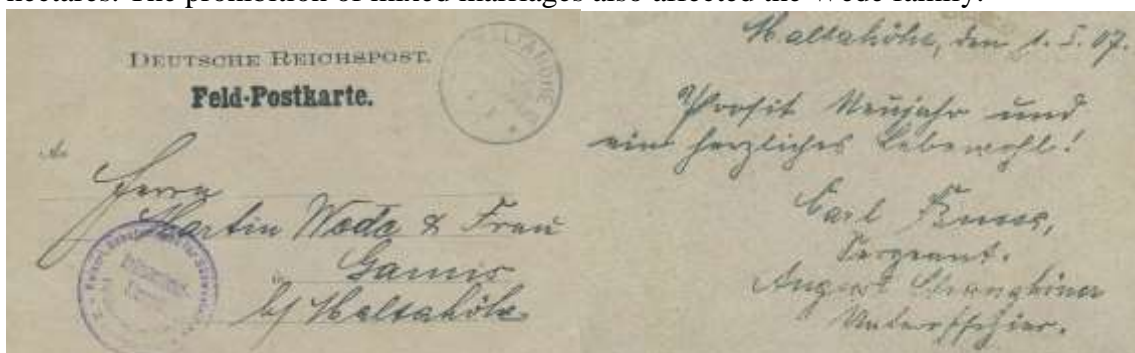
### Farm Nudaus Nr.17 August Stranghörner

Schutztruppler August Stranghörner and wife Anna had in 1907 the farm Nudaus Nr.17 first in lease and 1909 bought ( Not to be confused with the farm Naudaus Nr 76 in the south) . The sons Hans-Paul Stranghörner and Hubrecht ,twins, born in WDK in 1917 were at school in Lüderitzbucht and WDK. In 1936 the family is still listed on the farm in the address books together with Hans Barwitzki. The drought of 1946 brought heavy losses of livestock . In 1973 the farm was still owned by the Stanghörner family. (Anna Stranghörner born 19.10.1893- 21.01.1965 Swakopmund) (Hans -Paul died in 1998 and Hubrecht in 1996) On the farm Nudaus were also found ancient cairns, so-called "Heitsieibeb graves". These are not graves but ritual cairns of the Nama.



### Farm Gamis Nr. 13 Martin Wede

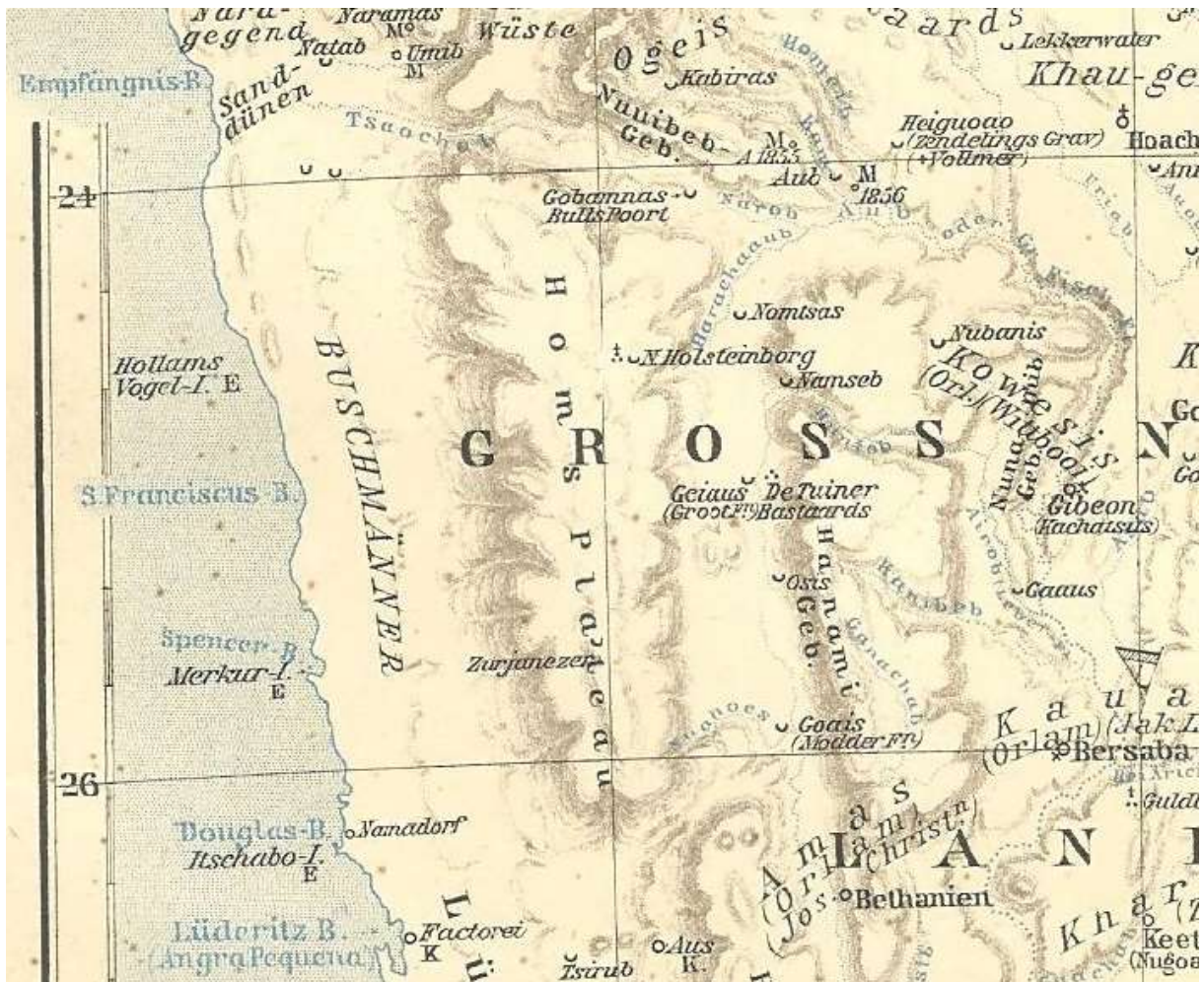
The Gamis farm is divided into two parts. One part is located in the north on Rehoboter territory and the southern part belongs to Maltahöhe district. The captain of the Schutztruppe Martin Wede married on 24.03.1897 with unofficial approval of Leutwein, Sophia, the daughter of the Basterführer Johannes Diergardt, (fallen on the German side on 27.08.1894 at Ugunis) from the Rehoboth district. She owned the farm Gamis-Nord with about 7000 hectares. The prohibition of mixed marriages also affected the Wede family.



New Year's greetings 1907 from Sergeants Carl Busse and Sergeant August Stanghörner from Maltahöhe. On 25.06.1907, 16.09.1913 u. 06.02.1914 Wede wrote in this matter to the Governor. The petitions in 1914 did not lead to the recognition of his 5 children as citizens of the Reich. Elisabeth, Ida, Martin, Maria and Sophia (jun). Elisabeth even graduated in 1909 from the Agricultural Domestic School in Hadermarschen (50km west of Kiel). Wede continued to be tolerated in the farmer's and the warrior's association. He himself still acquired the farm Gamis-Süd with approx. 10000 hectares at the Narob Revier. Wede tore down the adobe pontoon on the farm and built a stone house with a porch facing south in 1910. Wede started a lucrative general store. His clientele was primarily basters. Business was booming and he was



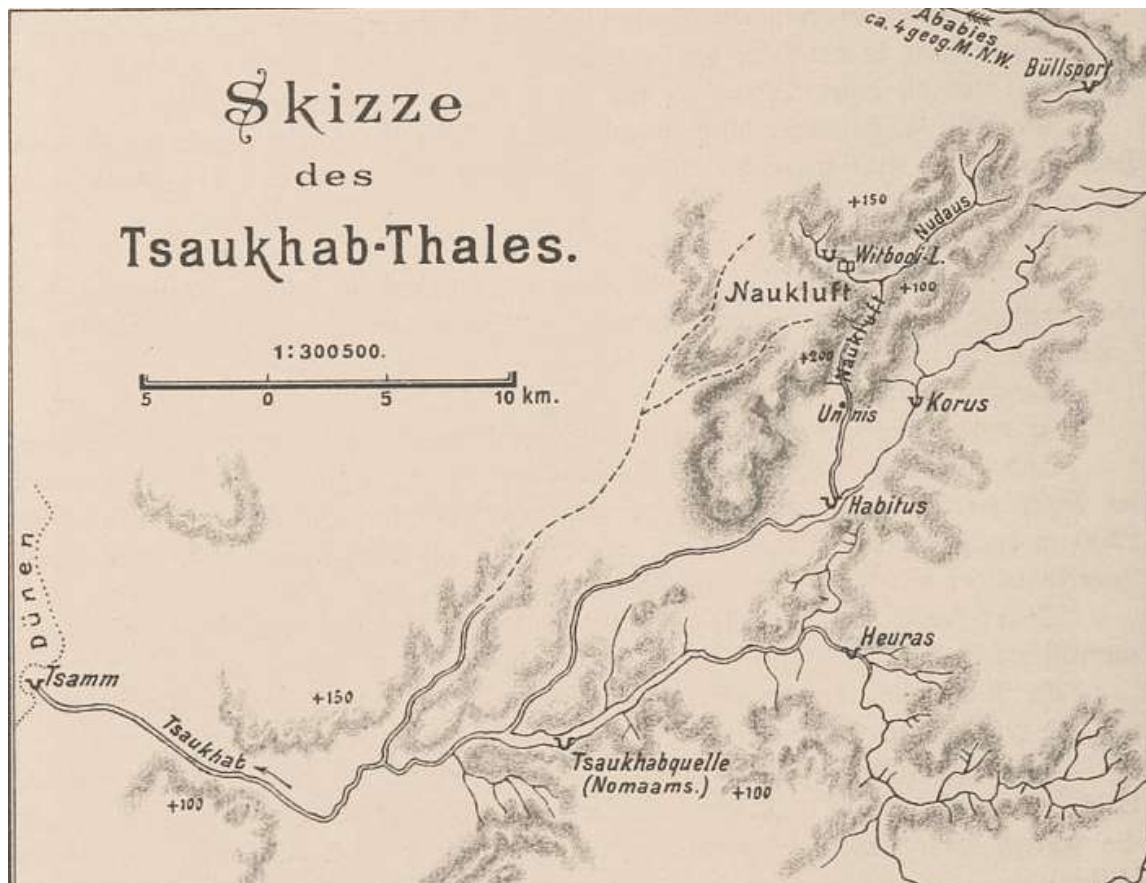
making good money. This enabled him to buy a larger number of merino sheep on credit from the manager of the shepherding company on Nomtsas. During the First World War, however, the Basters under Captain Van Wyck drove him off the farm and he had to seek shelter on the Nomtsas farm. After the war, Wede returned to his completely destroyed farm. In 1922, he had to give the insolvent farm to Breiting. In the following years, however, he again acquired a farm near Rehoboth with the name "Awasab". (According to a misinformation Wede should have married Katharina Goliath).



Map from 1896

On this map a mysterious place is noted. According to it, there was an abandoned mission station called Neuholsteinborg a few kilometers west of the Neuhof farm. (Hosteinborg is a town near Copenhagen.) Nowhere else in the literature is this place recorded.





Map of 1896 Farm Urikos, Nudaus Büllsport, Naukluft and the Tsaukhab. Several names were changed later.



### Neuras Nr.6 E.Hermann

Translated from the Nama language, the place means "place of free water". The farm has 5 artesian springs and is located directly at the Tsaucha Reef. On the farm area about 25 km east of Sesriem researchers found 500 million years old fossils. In Neuras E. Hermann had established gardens about 1894. After his death in 1904, Felix Hermann owned the 15000 ha farm. In 1910, the Colonial Address Book lists Jakob Human as the occupant and from 1914, the German Shepherd's Company as the owner. Hugo Voss also surveyed this land with his associates in 1909. Several Boers had settled in this area. On old maps from 1896 Neuras was called Hauras, Sesriem was called Tsamm, and Hauchabfontein was called Nomaams (Tsaukhabquelle). It is unclear whether these were name confusions or other namings. In 1913 Bernd v.d. Westhuizen leased the farm Neuras. In 1923, Alfred Schwarz managed Neuras for the Schäfergesellschaft. 1942 Landsrath bought the farm. 1943 Mrs. A Landsrath / Lahnstein bought the farm Neuras. (hired Richard Putzier 1947) (Attention!!! there is a Neuras also in the Rehoboth area).

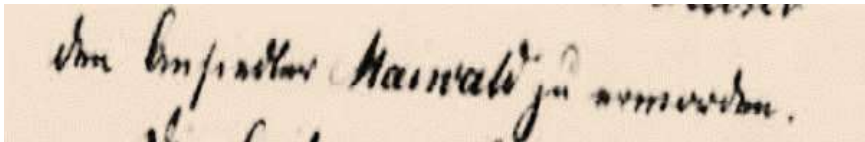
In 2015 investigations of Stone Age artifacts took place on Neuras, Zebrarevier and Urikos. Literature: Namibia Palaeolithic Research Project (NAMPAL) University of Liverpool.



#### Urikos Nr.4 Farmer Maiwald later Farmer Ziegenbein

"**Kleinpenz**" was the name of the whole area west of Nomtsas. Maiwald acquired a part of the place before 1900. This part was called "Urikos" from about 1907, but sometimes also "Weissquelle". Coming from the Naukluft Mountains, 2 tributaries of the Haucha River join here. During the interrogation of a bushman in 1901, it was discovered that the Grootfonteiner (South) Bastards had recruited bushmen to murder German settlers. Among the chosen farmers was Maiwald.

Dr. Breustedt was in charge of a field hospital on Urikos in January 1906. On 06.02.1906 the horseman Ernst Seiter was killed on the farm. From 1908 Mr. Fritz (Friedrich) Ziegenbein owned the farm Urikos. His wife's name was Clara. Mr. Maiwald bought the farm "Glück Auf" near Maltahöhe in 1908. Fritz Ziegenbein died in 1931 and his widow continued to run the farm in 1945.



Excerpt from the protocol of First Lieutenant Fromm 1901 : "...to murder the settler Maiwald".



#### Hauchabfontein Nr.5 Paulsmeier Heinrich „Johann Albrechtsquelle „

On the farm, the Zebra district joins the Tsaucha district, which flows through a canyon into the desert to Sossusvley. 1911- 1915 Hauchabfontein is registered under Heinrich Paulsmeyer with the note "in Johannesburg". It looks like Heinrich Paulsmeier had renamed the farm to "Johann Albrechtsquelle ". In 1923 Paulsmeyer is still registered in Hauchabfontein. In 1936 Paulsmeier lived with his wife Frieda née Brück and family in Klein Windhoek. (Sometimes Paulsmeyer with y)



#### Hyas Nr.99 Fritz Plötz (Klinge)

1910 /1913 Oskar Klinge was the owner of Hyas. 1910- 1913 Plötz lived in Gibeon as a carpenter. In 1913 he returned from a vacation in Germany via Lüderitzbucht and bought the farm Hyas in 1914. The manager was Gustav (Johannes) Lichtenberg. In 1923, Plötz is still listed on Hyas. By 1928, the farm was unoccupied. There is an entry in the 1926 address book: Ploetz, Fritz, carpenter. Kolmanskop, S.W.A.. In 1936, Fritz Plötz was a farmer on Orab Mariental. (Hyas was the son of Atlas in Greek mythology).



#### Lahnstein Nr.16 Anton Landsrath

A.Landsrath,(born 19.06.1870- died 16.08.1939 Lahnstein) landed with another 100 Schutztruppler on 09.04.1895 with the "Janette Woerman" in Swakopmund. He was a clerk in Mariental in 1901, bought a part of "Kleinpens" in the same year and named it after his birthplace Lahnstein on the Rhine. Kleinpenz (Little Belly) had a small spring that looked like

the milk stomach of a sheep. The farm with 20300 hectares had in 1907 a water bank, 2 dug wells, 1 tube well and was stocked with 52 cattle and 1072 sheep. The 1909 survey by surveyor Voss cost 6 Pfennig per Ha. (1218.-Mark). In 1910 there was a dwelling house, a blacksmith shop and 9 wells on the farm. Anton married Anna Rickmann on 15.12.1910 on Urusis. Their children were named Anton-Karl Jr ("Toni" b. Sept. 06, 1911 d. Nov. 04, 2007 Swakop.), Ruth (b. 1913 Hutubtal) and Magdalene ("Malena" 1918 Lahnstein). Toni and Ruth went to school in Maltahöhe (1921-1923) and later 5 years in Cottbus. The farm had a police station. 1910 sergeants were named: Ernst Janz (later in Aus), Otto Rauft, Heinrich Odenwald, Max Wieder. 10.04.1911 the policeman Alois Wittmann died on the farm at the age of 33. 1928 a Hermanus Pieters lived on Lahnstein. In 1939 Toni was also interned and the father died of gall bladder cancer. Anna Landsrath ran the farm alone and bought the farm Neuras from the money she earned with homemade soap. There were in the Maltahöhe district the "4 Annas". Anna Landsrath, Anna Etzold, Anna Sauber and the Anna Gebser. Later Malena married Alfred Maraun.



Lahnstein in Germany 1900



Farmhouse Lahnstein



#### **Farm Kamkas Nr.20 Wilhelm Kürschner, 24°35'S. 16°29'E**

From 1903 Wilhelm Kürschner was registered as the owner of the farm. The farm had a 1 well in 1907 and was stocked with 26 cattle and 1024 sheep. Also a Friedrich Kürschner and in 1910 a well driller Mr. Dreyer B. lived on the farm. On 19.12.1912 another son was born to the married couple Kürschner to the 4 children. It is mentioned that (06.02.1906) the Schutztruppier Seiter fell on Kamkas. (On Kamkas mineralogists found 168 kg of the Gibeon meteorite before 1960.

Story from the diary of Mrs. Voss 1910:

On Easter 1910, the Voss family (surveyors) who camped on the farm grounds, met the Kürschner family with their young children for lunch and for coffee they had plum cake. The two women then sewed a little dress for one of the daughters on the sewing machine. Kürschners wife was called Sophie. The daughters were called Lieselotte, Annemarie, Ursula.



#### **Kyffhäuser Nr.18**

In 1923 Isaak van der Merve, in 1928 J.C. Smit and J.J. Swartz were registered. The farm belonged to the governorate. The name may have come from the inn "Kyffhäuser" in Bielefeld. There the Colonial Society in Germany had met. In Bielefeld there is also the ancestral home of the von Carl Woermann. But it is also possible that the name goes back directly to the legendary mountain Kyffhäuser in Thuringia. According to legend, Emperor Barbarossa has been sleeping in this mountain for over 1000 years, waiting to be awakened. See also Dreyer. [www.kyffhauser.com](http://www.kyffhauser.com)



### **Hoheacht Nr.89 Farmer Franz Wieczorek**

The owner of Hoheacht until 1912 was Franz Wieczorek. The farm is located quite flat in the plain and is named after the highest mountain in the Eifel. After 1912 the farm was owned by Count Max von Lüttichau. The farm was surveyed by Hugo Voss in April 1910 and later owned by the Etzold family.



1914 Farm Hoheacht



### **Friedland Nr.19** Son Manfred Etzold ca. 1950



On Friedland no one was registered until 1915 . The Landermesser Voss had named the farm after his hometown in 1910 .

In April 1928 Etzold got married. The wife's name was Anna. He probably owned the farm Hoheacht at that time. Etzold was still co-owner of Friedland in 1973. Part of the farm belonged to the Etzold family and another to the Theron family. (This section may contain errors).



### **Farm Urusis Nr.16 Ferdinand Bergemann**

(Karl?) Ferdinand Bergemann founded the farm in 1899 with 25000 ha. In 1907 he had 97 cattle and 1188 sheep, 3 dug wells and 2 boreholes with wind motors. Around 1900 prospectors searched for gold on the farm without results.

Ferdinand Bergemann married Johanna Dora née Kophamel (Kophaniel) in 1904. On 24.08.1911 and on 02.10.1912 two sons were born to F.Bergemann and on 12.03.1914 a daughter. On 16.12.1911 a 3 months old and on 22.06.1914 an 18 months old son died. Presumably Bergemann's surviving children were named Grete, Luise and Paul. After World War I, son Paul Bergemann continued to run the farm. Bergemanns were in the 30's also owners of the farm Goabosuab, Karab and Kleinfontein North. A Bergemann was on the school board in 1910 and the district council in 1913. Daughter Luise Bergemann had married Mr. Visser. They lived on the Karab farm.

In 1909 the Berthold Koch family and volunteer Hans von Götz lived on the farm, and in 1913 W.Döhring worked on the farm.

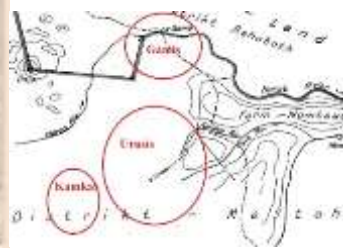
500 million old are the Swartpuntia fossils from the Urusis formation found on the farm.





Ferdinand Bergemann and wife

Golddigger



Letter dated January 1917 from Bergemann Urusis / Maltahöhe .Postmarked by Maltahöhe Post Office, censored to Lüderitzbucht. Recipient was Wilhelm Kakeldey, former Governorate Secretary at the Lüderitzbucht District Office.

Note: From the Colonial Address Book 1927

Bergemann, Ferdinand, Farms: Gorges No22, Urusis, Kalkhuegel. P.O, Maltahöhe, S.W.A.

Bergemann, Paul, Farm Urusis. P.O, Maltahöhe, S.W.A.



### **Farm Niederhagen Nr.69 Max von Lüttichau**

Hugo Voss surveyed the farm in April 1910 and named it after a town near Rostock. The owner of Niederhagen from 1912 was Count Max von Lüttichau. In 1913, the farm's landlady was named Henriette Cramer. Lüttichau also managed the Duwisib farm in 1914 until the outbreak of World War I. Lüttichau was active in the Farmwirtschaftsgesellschaft in 1920, to which Breiting also belonged.

Lüttichau's farm administrators from Niederhagen were: 1913 Otto Kratzenberg, 1928 Otto Redlich, 1935 Krafft von Kunow, 1936 Jännike o. Jaenecke and until 1939 Herr Grässer. In 1944 the farm, confiscated during the war, was then auctioned to the Gebser family. Walter Gebser was the owner until the 1990s.

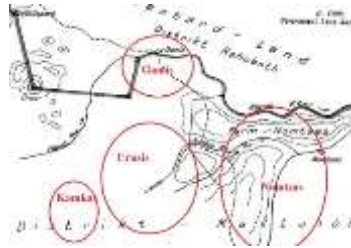
### **Kamelberg No.21 U.Goerch**

North of Niederhagen, on the farm Kamelberg lived the farmer U.Goerch since about 1912. He was also the secretary of the farmer association in that time. On the land there is the mountain visible from far away whose two crests look like the humps of a dromedary. On maps from 1955 Kameelberg is written with two ee. (In Vienna this was the fashion)

## Ernst Hermann Farm Nomtsas Nr.26



Falkenburg in Pommern



Ernst Herrmann was the first to build up the farm economy in the south of the DSWA. He gave up the Falkenburg estate near Köslin in Hinterpommern because of the death of his wife. He had placed his young sons Felix, Kurt and Peter in a home. He came to DSWA in 1887 for the German Colonial Society DKGS. In 1888, coming from Windhoek via Gibeon, he made his first expedition through northern Bethany. In the deserted Grootfontein -South he stayed several days. The Grootfontein Basters had fled to Bethany because of the Witbooi wars. In Bethany he met with the Baster captain Clas Zwaart. Hermann found the land exceptionally suitable for sheep breeding. In 1890 Hermann promoted in Berlin (to Bismarck) on the basis of his experience the use of the Gr.Namaqualand by breeding wool sheep and established as a representative of the DKGS the first experimental farms Kubub and Nomtsas. Hermann and the sheep breeder Gadegast founded the "Deutsche Schäfereigesellschaft Nomtsas" in Dresden in 1891. Gadegast was a manor owner in Mannschatz, between Leipzig and Dresden. He already had experience from Australia and had Merion sheep brought from there to DSWA. Gadegast himself was in DSWA in 1903 and 1908. On 22.09.1891 Hermann bought the first flocks of sheep for the German Colonial Society of Carnavon / South Africa and Friedrich Thalheim brought them to the farm Kubub. In April 1892 Hermann leased 250 square miles of land from Captain Joseph Frederiks of Bethany for 20 years. On Jan. 01, 1892, he began raising wool sheep on the Kubub farm, but also established a fig orchard at Bethany. Hermann also took care of an extension of the harbor in Lüderitzbucht for the transport of the wool. For Kubub he got support from the former Schutztrupper Max von Quitzow. However, all this did not suit Hendrik Witbooi, as he considered the land not far from the Hornkranz, but also Kubub as his sphere of influence. He communicated this, but at the same time said that he had no objections to an Englishman as a tenant. Correspondence with Hendrik Witbooi .

Excerpts mutatis mutandis:

20.05.1892 H.Witbooi to Hermann. --- *I write in good intention-I do not accept that they settle in Nomtsas---- I beg you Good friend----*

12.06.1892 Hermann to Witbooi--- *Your letter makes no sense ----I asked Captain Frederiks of Bethany ---Nomtsas belongs to Bethany--- Frederiks rented me the land*

On 06.11.1893 Hendrik Witbooi attacked the farm of the German Colonial Society in Kubub with 100 men and destroyed it. He took the cattle with him. Hermann fled to Lüderitzbucht. There he initially continued to trade in seal falls. After the subjugation of Hendrik Witbooi, North Bethany became crown land. In 1895 Hermann separated from DKGS. In a settlement he initially received about half of Nomtsas. Governor Leutwein was very interested in this development of the farms. He reports in his book about Hermann's efforts to cross Angora goats from Asia Minor with Herero goats on Nomtsas in such a way that they give good wool. In addition, Hermann also bred Merino sheep that yielded about 3 kg of wool per year. One kg of wool brought one mark. In 1903 a Merino sheep cost 40 Marks, an Angora goat 100 Marks and a good ram 400 Marks.

Leutwein further describes that in 1903 a piglet cost 5 marks and a chicken 3 marks. In 1894, Hermann also bought the Neuras farm and established gardens and fields there. He also experimented with establishing a silk spinner plantation and planted mulberry trees. Hermann brought a larger quantity of sheep from the Cape about October 1896, and Bernhardt reported that Hermann drove the flock north through the Maltahöhe area. In colonial journals Hermann wrote articles about his plan to stock Nomtsas with 10,000 sheep. The uprisings in Gobabis interrupted Hermann's cattle breeding. On 07.05.1897 Hermann led under Leutwein as a premier lieutenant of the reserve a battery of 3 guns in the campaign near Siegfeld / Gobabis. Approximately in 1899 an incident occurred on the Nomtsas which ended in court. Old Hermann tried to expel a troublesome, talkative Jakob von der Beyl, because he kept his workers from their tasks. But when v.d.Beyl defiantly refused to leave, Hermann stumped him and the Witbooi immediately drew his knife and wounded Hermann in the head so that the blood dripped down. Hermann furiously fetched his rifle and shot v.d. Beyl sitting between women in a pontok. This incident had to be reported by Bernhardt directly to Windhoek via the Grootfontein-South police station. Bernhardt interrogated Hermann and forwarded the report to WDK. The outcome is not known. Bernhardt assessed the incident as a murder. Hermann was too important for the agricultural development of the Gr.Namaqualand. He continued to work on his farm unmolested. In an article from 1901 Hermann reported about the Baster uprising and the relocation of the Baster to the Basterland. This is consistent with Bernhardt's statements. At the time Hermann was running the farm with a German assistant and 70 laborers Nama and Damara. Coloreds got rations and 10-15 marks/month. 1Kg meat cost 1M, 1Kg coffee 2M, 1Kg tobacco 8M, 1Kg flour 1M. In 1903 Hermann imported Merino sheep for the Nomtsa sheep farm from the sheep farm of Otto Gadegast near Dresden. Already in 1904 the farm produced 5000 kg of wool per year. Many other farmers joined the wool production. German spinning mills processed the wool further.

This came to an abrupt end in 1904 when Hermann along with other farmers were shot by the rebellious Witboois under the command of Elias. Another account of events reports that Hermann was shot with a Schroot rifle during a night watch and the Witboois set fire to the thatched roof of the farmhouse of Old Nomtsas, where the neighbors, veterinarian Dr. Albrecht, Fräulein Breuer and the owners of Amhub No.78 and Dirichas No. 28 had taken refuge. All of them died. An unproven report states that those trapped in the burning house shot themselves in fear. Previously, reports circulated of inhumane torture, massacres by the Witbooi of German and Burian farmers, missionaries and soldiers. The dead of Nomtsas found their final resting place in the old cemetery in Nomtsas. On October 23, 1904, Lieutenant Steffen and his patrol led an investigation of the incident, after Ferdinand Bergemann from the neighboring farm had already tried to clear up the situation. Rider Pirlaski was shot in the process. Another patrol under sergeant Rabe started on 24.10.1904 from Bethany. Only one survived. soldiers were stationed on Nomtsas. There was even a separate postmark for the Nomtsas stage.

In 1904 first son Felix Hermann took over the administration of the farm. Administrators followed from 1905: Harry Melchior von Schoenermarck from the Colonial College of Agriculture Witzenhausen and until 1910 a Mr. Meyer administered. Rittmeister von Heynitz had leased Grootfontein-South after the Baster Uprising in 1902, but moved all his cattle to Nomtsas in 1904, immediately after the beginning of the uprisings. It was not until July 1907 that his employee, Hubertus Mehnert drove Rittmeister von Heynitz's cattle from Nomtsas to the Breckhorn farm. Otto Gadegast and Felix Hermann founded the "Schäferei Nomtsas GmbH" in Dresden on January 18, 1910, to which the Scheidthof and Neuras farms also belonged.



Gadegast wrote an article about wool sheep breeding in DSWA in the report "Verhandlungen des Deutschen Kolonialkongresses 1910". Germany had to import large quantities of wool to meet the demand. Furthermore Gadedast writes that in 1901 2600 Kg and in 1903 already 75000 Kg of wool were produced by Nomtsas and the neighboring farms. Hereros, Hottentots and also bushmen worked on the farms as shepherds. The shepherds and their families built a pontok in the field for this purpose and had to herd up to 1000 animals per shepherd. In 1908 the farm had 7 dug wells and 2 water banks for watering the animals.

Gadegast was registered as the owner of Nomtsas -East in the address books, but lived in Germany. Nomtsas -East and -West was managed as a whole.

From 1911 Paul Keller, from 1913 Siegfried Bötcher and finally in 1915 Horst Henning are registered as farm managers in the Colonial Address Books, while in 1913 Alfred Breiting is designated as farm administrator. In 1910, a Fritz Gadegast, nephew of Otto Gadegast also worked on the farm along with Richard Feldmann, Heinrich Hübsch and Hans Meyer. (The district manager of Okahandja/ Rehoboth Ralph Zürn was related to Gadegast).

In 1910, Alfred Breiting had initially come to Nomtsa's farm as a volunteer.

From 1913 he managed Nomtsas and Neuras, as well as the farms Aida and Scheidthof near Rehoboth, which also belonged to the shepherding company until they were taken over by the South African government in 1922. Alfred Breiting then took over the over-indebted Gamis farm from Mr. Wede as farmer in 1922. From 1923 the farm managers of Nomtsas were G. Jackson and O.S.Redeler. (Since 1944 until today the farm is owned by the Voigts family).

Colonial Address Book 1912

Entry colonial handbook 1901 :Nomtsas .farm place northeast of Grootfontein (South)2 German 70 Hottentots. On the Blum fishing grounds. Owner Hermann raises cattle and merino sheep and establishes a silkworm farm with mulberry trees.

Entry in the Colonial Handbook 1906 : "Nomtsas [Distr. Rehoboth]. Farmer: Felix Hermann (A. Grundmann, M. Adams" J. Meyer, employees)."

In the colonial address book 1919 the following persons are registered on Nomtsas; Police Sergeant: Max Wieder, Emil Schmidt Volontär: Max Bernhardt, Gadegast Leiter: Horst Hennig, A.Breiting, Schmied: Fritz Riemann, Alfred Schwartz



Watercolor by Hans Gebser Old Nomtsas ca 1950 soldier letter stamp stage Nomtsas ca.1905



Dipping plant for sheep in Nomtsas 1913

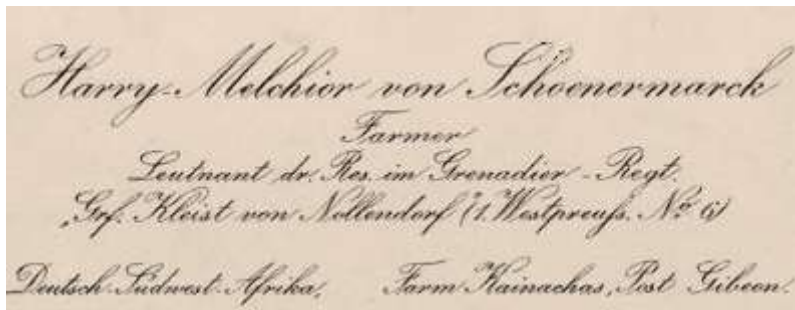




### Max Kuno von Quitzow

Max stammte aus einer mecklenburgischen Adelsfamilie und kam 1889 als Schutztruppler zu DSWA. Nach 4 Jahren Dienst half er Hermann in Kubub auf dem Versuchsgut. Seine englische Verlobte hieß Agnes Hill und stammte von dem großen Bauernhof Gründorn bei Hogloog. Sie wartete bereits in Keetmanshoop, als die Nachricht eintraf, dass Max von Lüderitz aus mit zu wenig Wasser aufgebrochen war und sich aus Verzweiflung vor dem Verdursten umgebracht hatte. Er war noch keine 30 Jahre alt.

### Harry Melchior von Schoenermarck Verwalter auf Nomtsas 1905 "Der Nama-Schädel".



Business card from 1905

After graduating from the German Colonial School in Witzenhausen near Kassel, young Harry was able to find employment on Nomtsas through the mediation of his father, Captain v. Schoenermarck. However, in DSWA during this time he also had to do his military service from 1904 to 1905. He therefore participated with the 1st Field Battery in the Battle of Waterberg and in the fighting north of Bethany. After that, at the end of 1905 Harry worked as a farm administrator in Nomtsas, but moved back to Germany in 1907. In his luggage was the skull of a 20 year old woman which he donated to his colonial school. The origin of the skull is disputed. This skull was returned to the Namibian authorities by the Witzenhausen Museum in 2014 for burial. In German museums other bones and skulls were found which altogether caused a big scandal. Literature reference : Marion Hulverscheidt " The trace of the skull" 2018



### Narobmund Nr.27 /Meining/Dr.Martin Baumgart

The farm is located northeast of Nomtsas named after a branch of the fish river.

In the colonial handbook 1903 only one European was registered on Narobmund. Ernst Otto Meining born 1872, 1895 rider of the Schutztruppe. 1904 Meining owned 110 Merino sheep. He became engaged to Clara Bräuer. Both were killed on 14.10.1904 on Nomtsas during the Witbooi uprising. During the war, the supply trains of the Schutztruppe used this place as a resting place on their way to Maltahöhe, because of the large supply of water and the shade trees. Dr. Baumgart the district veterinarian of Rehoboth was the owner of Narobmund from 1909 and a Gustav Witte the tenant.



Grabsteine auf dem Farmfriedhof von Nomtsas

(Bild aus [www.farm-nomtsas.de](http://www.farm-nomtsas.de))

### Dirichas Nr.28 Friccius /Langhinrichs

Dirichas owned in 1905 a waterhole located in the Fish River with very sulfurous water. Cornils Friccus born in Dresden 1872, Schutztruppler from 1895 was only briefly married to Berta Voigt and owner of the Dirichas farm when he also died in the raid in Nomtsas on 14.10.1904. Martin Langhinrichs (Langhennrichs) and Friedrich Baumgarten (u.K.Weinheger?) bought the Dirichas farm and owned the land from 1908 to 1914. The farm with 5000 ha was in 1907 stocked with 20 cattle and 1005 sheep and had 1 dam and a waterbank. Kirsten from Daweb farm bought Dirichas farm in 1914. In 1915 the owner was Georg Petri and the tenant was Gustav Witte from Narobmund. 1928 the manager was J.Gerigk. 1936 Fritz Weigemann was the manager of Dirichas farm. His wife was called Marie.



### Farm Gras-Süd Carl Woermann

In 1906 C. Woermann had bought the farm and was still the registered owner in 1923.

An Englishman (Stanley?) allegedly ran the farm after the war in about 1920. Carl Woermann had built a very nice house with outbuildings on the farm. (see Tsams North)



### Farm Kabib Nr.107 Kopke, Alfred 15431 Hektar

Registered 1910-1915 to Kopke. A. Kopke no longer appears in the 1926 and 1936 Colonial Address Book. From 1913 to 1915 K. Freygang worked on the farm. Josef Lengfeld had bought the farm Kabib after his return from Germany in 1927.



### Farm Poburke Nr.31 Mehl, Karl 17011 Hektar

The farm is named after a town in Posen. Mr. Mehl probably came from Zemlin in Posen between Stettin and Kolberg. There he probably owned a manor with sheep breeding. Mehl had established a regular sheep farm in the farm Poburke. The sheep were even presented at the national exhibition WDK 1909. After the 1st World War Mr. Mehl is no longer listed. G.M.T. Kirsten was the owner in 1928 and D.J.E Schalkwyk was farm worker on the farm.



**Heinrich Glose store in Maltahöhe Farm Oberpackriem No.77**  
**Ernst Glose store in Grootfontein Farm Nam No.86**



Building plan 1907

department store Glose later A.Voigts

Probably the gentlemen Ernst and Heinrich Glose had come to DWSA with the Schutztruppe and had acquired around 1900-1904 the farms Nam at the Zarris Mountains and ca.1910 the farm Oberpackriem (11832 Ha) at the Schwarzrand.

Before 1900 the farm Nam, west of the Zarris Mountains was a military post and heliograph station manned by 3 Germans. Already in 1902 (until at least 1910) there was a store in Gootfontein registered in the Colonial Handbook by Ernst Glose. The military doctor Dr. von Ortenberg reported that he found this beautifully situated farm Nam devastated during the uprising in 1905 and the newly married farmer couple (Glose ?) fled to Maltahöhe. They were lucky, as the wife's trousseau was still stored as luggage in Lüderitz. But all cattle had been stolen. Ernst Glose had bought the farm Nam. But when is not clear. The name Nam comes from the spring the Bushmen called "Tnam ". The farm had a dug well and a spring in 1907 and was stocked with 37 cattle and 272 sheep. There was still a Hermann Glose (father?). On the property No.2 in the village Maltahöhe Mr. Heinrich Glose built a business house with a bar. In 1909 Mrs. Glose and child arrived on 02. 06.1909 from Hamburg in Lüderitzbucht. One of the Mr. Glose was a member of the Maltahöhe district council. About 1907 Heinrich sold the department store to A. Voigts. In the building of the department store there were also guest rooms for rent. This department store was located directly across the street from the Hesselmann Store/Hotel. In March 1909 Glose's son was born. Shortly before the beginning of the war, the woman and child sailed on the "Feldmarschall" from Lüderitzbucht to Hamburg on February 26, 1914. It can be assumed that she, like many Southwesterners, was stuck in Germany during the war. It is reported that Heinrich Glose died in 1941 on the farm Oberpackriem No.30. The strange name means Packriemen, hence natural belts which were very curly and therefore as curvy as the Packriem area. Oberpackriem was called Gheikaub in Nama.



### Farm „ Wildpark „ Nr.29 Dr. Paul Theodor Kränzle



**Wildpark, Post Maltahöhe.**  
Farm; Bes. Dr. P. Kränzle, Maltahöhe.

Dr. Paul Kränzle was born 20.03.1870 in Altenstieglach near Stuttgart and died 17.09.1939 probably in Maltahöhe. Presumably he came to DSWA with the Schutztruppe after his medical studies in 1904. His wife Johanna Jakobina Richter married him at Maltahöhe on 10.05.1912 when she was only 17 years old. Paul was a district physician at the time at the age of 32. They had children. Hanna A, the later Dr. med Heussen and Eleonore called " Lore " the later wife of Gerhard Maraun . ( son of Albert Maraun ) In 1909 Kränzle acquired the farm Wildpark. There he was registered as owner. As a district physician Kränzle built a hospital 3km west of Maltahöhe on a hill above the Hutuprevier in 1909 and also lived there. The place was called "Hudupstal". In his function he also had to take care of a pharmacy and provide appropriate medicines for the whole region. Furthermore, he also had the obligation to take care of the health of the colored population. The hospital for colored people opened in 1914 under the direction of the church. In 1914 Kränzle was drafted in the war against the South African troops. In March 1915 he worked in Warmbad as a senior physician of the reserve.



The Hospital from Dr. Kränzle ca.1914





Dr. Kränzle in Warmbad ca.1915



Warmbad Lazarett 1919

The South African troops occupied the country and thus from 1915 Kränzle's guaranteed salary as a district doctor fell away and he had to work in Koolmanskoppe for the C.D.M.. From 1916 Heinrich Richter Jr. is listed as the owner of Wildpark in the colonial address book.

It is reported that Dr. Kränzle found it beneficial if his patients had a glass of champagne or wine daily, while his colleague preferred raw onion consumption for the patients. The poor sisters of Kolmanskoppe had no choice but to eat a clove of garlic in the morning to put up with the patients' stench. Kränzle was still working as a general practitioner in Lüderitzbucht in 1936.



Johanna Jakobina Kränzle née Richter 1913 Dr Kränzle with Hanna and Johanna in Maltahöhe



1912 visitors and Dr Kränzle

Frau Alt...?



ca 1919



### Farm Sandhof Nr.108 Heinrich Richter

(.The information gathered could not be 100% verified).

Heinrich Richter was born on 20.12.1862 (in Frankfurt a.Main / Oberrad?). (Heinrich Sen. was still registered in Sandhof in 1939). His wife Susanna Karolina (née Kaufmann) was born on 25.03. 1869. According to a photo Susanna was still living ca.1950. About 1910 the Richter family came to the farm Sandhof in DSWA. They were the parents of Johanna Jakobina Richter (born 11.05.1894 from Oberrad in Frankfurt am Main? -died 1978 in Swakopmund) .

The farm Sandhof is home to a natural wonder. Once in a good rainy year at the beginning of the year the shallow vlei runs full of water. Within a few days millions of violet-pink amarillis bloom on about 700 hectares as far as the eye can see. Only here are there such numbers of these flowers. "Crinum paludosum" means in Greek translated "Lily of the swamps" also in the vernacular "Bushveld Vlei Lily" called. However, after 2 weeks everything is over again and disappears in the dry clay soil. Similar Ammarilis are found throughout southern Africa and only begin to bloom when covered with about 300 mm of rainwater. The cooked onion had used different Bantu tribes, but also the Romans as a remedy for very different diseases.







Ca1890 Oberrad / Frankfurt am Main



Susanna Richter ca1950

### Farm administrator Johannes Lichtenberg Farm Lichtenberg No.121

Johannes Karl Gustav Lichtenberg was administrator of: 1909 Duwisib , 1910 of Daweb, 1912 of Nam, 1913 Elisenhof , 1914 of Hyas, 1923-1927 of Kachauchab, 1936 Duwisib. Possibly he was the owner of the farm Lichtenberg with only 877 hectares at the zebra district. This farm and zebra range were still government land in 1911. J.H.Van Schalkwyk was the owner of the farm Lichtenberg No. 121 in 1973.



### Heynitz / Breckhorn Nr. 38 und Mariannenhof Nr.37



Georg Friedrich Ernst von Heynitz born 17. 12.1840 in Weicha Saxony - died 20.03.1912 in Berlin. (Marriage 1865 Dresden m. Marie von Kottwitz.. 8 children) He fought for Prussia in several wars. E.v.Heynitz owned the manors Dröschkau and Neuhausen in Saxony.because of disputes with the families he moved to DSWA on 30.09.1896. On recommendation of A. Voigts, whom he knew from Cottbus, Heynitz bought the farm Breckhorn (Kohanas) (on 22.08.1898?) 1902 from Hendrik Witbooi and Samuel Isaak with permission of Distrktschef Burgsdorff. Between 1899 and 1910 von Heynitz was also registered in the Colonial Handbooks as tenant of the farm Grootfontein-South. According to Bernhardt, in 1902 von Heynitz settled on the leased area of Grootfontein South with his steward Reedlich and Fräulein Kersebaum. In 1901, a Portuguese and 9 Cape Boers were still living on Grootfontein South and Glose operated a store there.



From 1896 to 1911, Heynitz traveled to Hamburg and back at least once a year, sometimes with daughters Margarete and Charlotte. He organized as a representative of the Red Cross and the Order of St. John the concerns in the care of the sick and the expansion of the military hospitals in DSWA. Many thousands of kilometers he traveled mostly on horseback with over 60 years through the country. In 1906 he met Mr. H. Mehnert in Cottbus and hired him as administrator for the Breckhorn farm. Heynitz had housed his cattle in Nomtsas during the war.

### **Summary with additions from records of Ernst von Heynitz:**

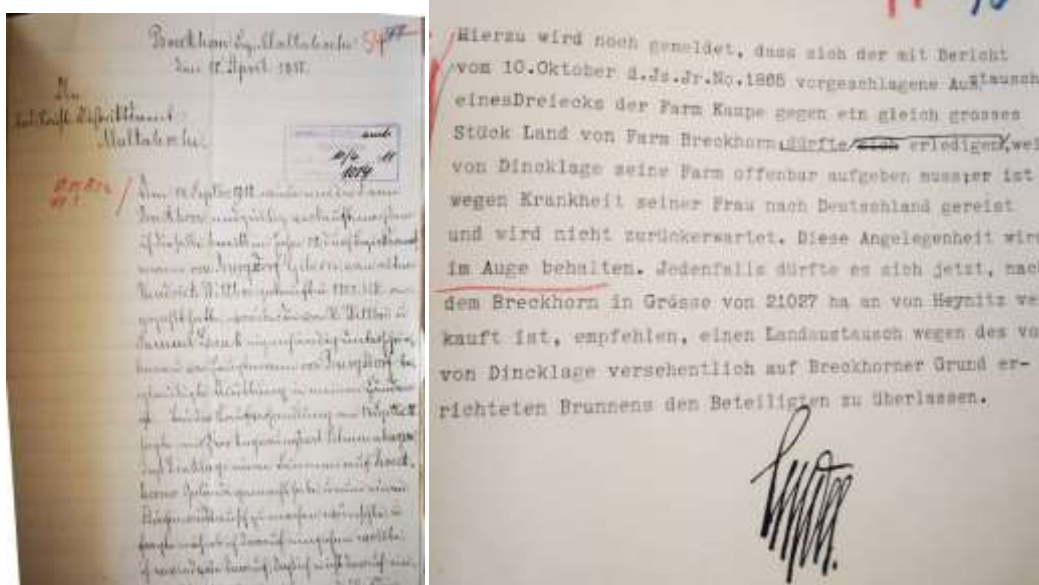
Back in DSWA, Heynitz picked up so-called "Liebesgaben" (donation packages) for the soldiers in Lüderitzbucht in March 1907. On 17.03.1907 he left by train for Aus. Lieutenant Colonel Fromm, District Chief in Maltahöhe picked him up with the donkey cart in Aus and they drove to Kubub and Bethany. There they met District Chief Wasserfall and discussed the establishment of a sick collection center and also his private interest in buying land. On March 24, 1907, they continued to Keetmanshoop where they organized the expansion of the lazaretto with Estroff in Keetmanshoop. The trip continued to Gibeon for talks with the new district leader Von Groeben. Again with the subject of lazaretto expansion and intended land purchase. (Mrs. Groeben was indisposed and died a short time later on the trip to Germany). In Gibeon they also met Deimling who had just been promoted to General. On 1.04.1907 they reached Tsubgaus (Tsubgaris) and stayed overnight at A. Voigts. A Mrs. Schrotmann was also present. The Voigts' house was under construction. A. Voigts also intended to buy the neighboring farm of Bogislaw von Kleist. On their onward journey they reached the still undeveloped farm Breckhorn, which Heynitz had bought from H. Witbooi, on 03.04.1907 and immediately moved on via Karichab to Maltahöhe. There, Captain Eugen von Mannsfeld lent Mr. von Heynitz a cart for the journey to Grootfontein-South. He found the place desolately destroyed. Arrived in Nomtsas, Heynitz settled with the administrator Schoenmarck and Felix Hermann on 07.04.1907, because his cattle stood in Nomtsas during the war time. Heynitz still owned 182 cattle and 1275 small livestock there which Mehnert was to take over as administrator from Breckhorn. Heynitz traveled further north via the Dirichas / Langhinrichs farm. In Windhoek he met with Estroff and Lindquist for talks. With Lindquist Heynitz also discussed the compensation proceedings of Frau von Burgsdorff and also his own, for losses in the Nama Uprising. Heynitz also welcomed to WDK his future farm administrator Mehnert, who had arrived from Germany, and gave him a cart and some Herero employees for Breckhorn. While Mehnert moved to Breckhorn, Heynitz trekked all the way north as an agent of the Red Cross. (Source: Prof. Dr. Leonhard von Dobschütz and Herr Gunter von Schuhmann). In July 1907 Mehnert picked up the cattle coming from Windhoek in Nomtsas and drove them (according to Bernhardt) via Maltahöhe to Breckhorn. District chief Fromm provided him with a guide who knew the area in order to find the hidden spring of Breckhorn. (More. See p.112 in Mehnert) The purchase of Breckhorn from Hendrik Witbooi was not recognized by the German administration, so for the time being Heynitz was only considered a tenant of the farm. Heynitz wanted more land for his Arabian breed (horses) and bought the neighboring farm in the name of his 29 year old unmarried daughter Marianna Alexandra von Heynitz (later von Kuenheim) and named it Mariannenhof. Marianne, accompanied by Mehnert, signed the purchase contract with the district manager von Groeben in Gibeon on September 21, 1908. Marianne also had contact with the family of surveyor Voss on the Breckhorn farm during these days. Marianne probably left the country shortly thereafter. However, Heynitz could not farm the Mariannenhof without her presence because of settler regulations.

In August 1908, Mrs. Voss reports, her husband (surveyor) surveyed the Breckhorn farm. During that time they lived in the stone cottage of the administrator Mehnert directly at the Hutup. At that time, Mrs. Voss reports, there were many cattle on the farm. Fat-tailed and Persian sheep, goats, cows, horses. On the farm, the Voss family received a visit from Mr. District Chief Seydel and Lieutenant Colonel von Milchewski on 31 .08.1908. (veteran of the battle of Karasburg).

Letter from E.v. Heynitz to the district office 1911.

In which Heynitz writes that he has been the definitive owner of Breckhorn since 14.09.1910, but that he had actually already bought the farm from Hendrik Witbooi and Samuel Isaak in 1902 and that he is in possession of the copy of the receipt for the down payment of 1000 Mk, certified by Captain von Burgsdorff.

And further he writes that Regierungsrat Blumenhagen had pointed out to him that Mr. von Dinklage had built the well on the Breckhorn property (by mistake) and that he proposed an exchange of land. ( End of the letter)



1911 Letter from von Heynitz Official note about Breckhorn signed by Seydel

In 1908 Heynitz lost a lawsuit in Cottbus and with it a lot of investment capital. Heynitz had bought several plots of land in Windkoek around the later Heynizburg and the Schwerinburg and at the Avidsam. In May 1912 E.v. Heynitz (72) went to Germany and died of cancer in Berlin. His last resting place is the garrison cemetery there. (In 1933 A.Voigts visited the grave). Heynitz daughter Margarete, later Countess of Schwerin was the heiress of Breckhorn. Her sister, Charlotte von Heynitz b.23 Apr 1883, in Neuhausen married Hans Wolf von Pritwitz on 12 Jan 1909 in Neuhausen. They bought the farm "Omburu" near Omaruru in 1908.

### Summary of records about Farm Breckhorn

These are excellent records about Breckhorn Farm written by Mr. Kurt Schwarzkopf in the internment camp "Andalusia" on the typewriter June 1942 to July 1943. Mr. Rübenstrunk "Rubi" and Mr. Adolf Bernhardt and probably also Mr. Mehnert had also contributed. Mrs. Jakobi, née Schwarzkopf, probably passed on these reports in 1950 / 1960. Further documents come from the transcripts of the farmer Bernhardt, Mehnerts and the colonial address books. The former purchase of the farm Breckhorn from Hendrik Witbooi (1902) was not recognized by the German administration in 1909, similar to the farm Uibis (Otto). Heynitz had to buy the farm Breckhorn from the administration again in 1911 and lived there temporarily with his administrator Mr. Fett from Hamburg and Max Roth from Pforzheim, probably because of the regulations. The unsociable administrator Fett sold cheese, eggs, vegetables and smoked Hutupwelse (Fish) to Maltahöhe. Fett left the country on 01.09.1909. The neighboring farm, the

Mariannenhof, was sold to Freiherr von Dinklage-Campe in 1911 due to the absence of the owner Marianne. He changed the name of the farm to "Kampe". However, Mrs. von Dinklage fell seriously ill and had to return to Germany with her husband. Dinklage had to sell the farm again in 1912 to Mr. Grundmann. Grundmann was the administrator of Breckhorn after Mr. Mehnert. In 1913 the administrator Dresselhaus took over Breckhorn. He did not manage to be interned in 1915 due to illness. He diligently sold cattle to the British during the war and so the livestock had dwindled greatly when he was released. The Breckhorn farm, which had thus deteriorated, was declared a "Lootposten" in 1915 and placed under the South African administration at Maltahöhe. Administrator was J.Coetzee the brother of the owner of Karichab. The cattle of Hester (farm Helmeringshausen) and Redlich (farm Karab) were now on Breckhorn until they were released from internment. After 1915, some German policemen who were released from internment were placed on Breckhorn. They had to support themselves there. The National Bank, as the new administrator, leased the farm to Boer Smith after the war. The heiress Margarethe (nee Heynitz) was able to recover the already annexed farm by court in 1919. In the 1923 address book, Margarete the Countess v.Schwerin, is still listed as the owner of Breckhorn. However, the Bur Smith paid his rent very irregularly. The managing bank gave him notice and divided the farm into an east and a west part. In 1926 the Schwarzkopf family bought the west part under the mediation of A.Voigts and then the Von Bach family bought the east part.



### Hubertus Mehnert Farm Breckhorn und Nababis



<https://www.namibiana.de/namibia-information/uploads/pics/mehnert-gottreich-hubertus.jpg>

Gottreich Hubertus Mehnert was born on 26 November 1880 as the son of the landowner Christian Gottreich Mehnert in Ammelgoswitz, district Torgau on the Elbe. His 5 siblings were named: Gotthilf, Constantin, Käthe, Marie, Helene. Motivated by a quarrel with his father, Mehnert joined the Schutztruppe on 20.08.1904 in Torgau. It was said that his father threw a bottle of best wine after him when he heard that.

With 812 Schutztruppler, 450 horses and 32 officers Mehnert came from Hamburg to Swakopmund. Swakopmund, that was three corrugated iron houses, a wooden house, a stone house with a sandy beach without a harbor. From there he went to Windhoek to fight the rebellious Herero and then to the south against the Witboois. He belonged to the troop of Estorff. About this Hubertus wrote a book "War Stories from DSWA". Very vividly Mehnert described the hardships of the treks to Hoachanas in the south where the ox wagons got stuck

in the sand, provisions and water were often missing and animals and people perished. A constant companion was the deadly typhus disease.

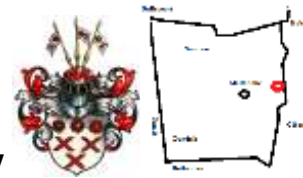
Mehnert came to Germany in 1906 on home leave and met Rittmeister von Heynitz in Neuhausen near Cottbus, whom he knew from the Herero uprising. He offered him the position of farm administrator at Breckhorn. In July 1907 Hubertus Mehnert took over the cattle herds of Rittmeister von Heynitz on the farm Nomtsas and drove them over Maltahöhe to the farm Breckhorn No. 38. Captain Fromm gave him a native guide in Maltahöhe, who knew the only spring, which lay directly in the Hutuprevier. The location of the spring was very hidden in the hunting ground between a lot of bushes surrounded by high rocks. Mehnert first had to remove the bushes and expose the water. Mehnert built the first house of stones and clay nearby on flood-proof ground. Due to the lack of corrugated iron, there was no roof in the first years. For the cattle, Mehnert had the Namafamily, who worked for him, build bush cranes out of thorn branches, which offered protection against predatory cats and thieving bipeds. The construction of the first farm buildings and the development of the completely wild terrain was completely left by von Heynitz to his administrator Hubertus Mehnert. The Schwarzkopf text mentions "Lene" the ancestress of the Hottentot clan already working for von Heynitz in Grootfontein-South. She is probably the "Male" (name) who cooked and translated for the station manager Bernhardt already in 1895. In the same section the bushman family "Zachib" is described whose men had 6 fingers and also worked for Mehnert.

With good advice from neighbor Lengfeld of farm Kachauchab No. 40 and Jan Coetzee of farm Karichab No. 39, Mehnert managed to increase the livestock healthily and make a profit. Also to Breckhorn came in July 1909 the high government official Dernburg from Germany and inquired about the economic possibilities of the country. For dinner that day he served delicious catfish from the Hutup. Dernburg's guest room, however, had the largest roof in the world, because there was still not enough for a piece of corrugated iron for the roof of the house.

In the area of the farm of Burgsdorff, Goamus east of Gibeon had taken place 1905 quite a few battles and thus also the farm was completely devastated. Mrs. Malta von Burgsdorff was the owner as a widow and demanded compensation for her inherited farm Goamus like all other farmers. However, for legal reasons she had to officially start some kind of farming operation. Von Heynitz allowed her to farm on the Breckhorn farm as a tenant for several months in 1909. So Mrs. "Malta" built a primitive house in the "Hartebeest style", that got the name "Villa Malta" and moved in with her partner Fräulein Kannengiesser and farmed ca.1909 actually until she got her severance pay.

In the meantime Mr. Mehnert had even planted date palms at the Hutup and had blasted more wells. He could not use every water hole, because some contained too much salt. After 2 years, Mehnert bought the farm Nababis near Oberpackriem in 1909. Bezirksamtman von Groeben in the office of Gibeon directed the rewriting. As Schutztruppler, Mehnert paid 30 Pfennig per square meter for the first 5000 hectares and one Reichsmark per QM for each of the remaining 10884 hectares. He received the usual "Anssiedlerhilfe" of 5000 Reichsmark as a long-term loan.





### Von Dincklage-Campe Farm Kampe (Mariannenhof) Nr.37



Friedrich Freiherr von Dincklage-Campe was born on July 25, 1839, on the Campe estate near Osnabrück. He completed his military career as a lieutenant general in 1892. He wrote about the fighting against Morenga (1905) during his time in DSWA in 1908. Dincklage purchased the Mariannenhof farm from Marianne von Heynitz in about 1909. At the time, Dincklage and his wife were living on the neighboring farm, Voigtsgrund. He renamed his farm after his German ancestral home, Kampe. He accidentally had the first well drilled on Breckhorn ground as the surveyors discovered. In 1910 shortly after buying Kampe, however, Dincklage moved back to Germany because his wife Frieda (née von Mergersen) became seriously ill. The farm Kampe, the former Mariannenhof was then sold to Mr. Grundmann. Lieutenant General von Dincklage died on 21.02.1918 in Berlin. He had written several books. Titles: "How we acquired our Iron Cross" (1895), "From old and young days" (1901)", "German Riders in the Southwest" (1909), "Seasick!" (1914) .

Until 1915, according to the address lists, the Kampe farm was owned by Alfred Grundmann. Grundmann came from Nergeln in Saxony. He was first a freight driver in Keetmannshoop, from 1908 employee in Nomtsas and also briefly administrator of Breckhorn. From 1916 to 1919, the Schröder family leased the Kampe farm. Carl Georg Schröder killed the colored employee Johannes Xatjindu on 24.12.1915. He fired 3 shots with the revolver at his employee after a quarrel. He died of it in the hospital 6 weeks later. Schröder's statement that he was attacked with a stone was disregarded by the court and he was sentenced to 2 years in prison. After the Schröder family was deported to Germany, Grundmann sold the farm to Brink, a Boer, in about 1919 and also moved to Germany. Brink's whole family moved from South Africa to Breckhorn. From 1919 the Smith brothers leased the Kampe farm and part of Breckhorn. In 1928 an A.Grundmann in Keetmannshop is registered as owner of the farm Stampriet.



### Hermann Johannes Löffler , district councilor of Maltahöhe.

On 01.06.1909 police sergeant Mr. Löffler sailed from Lüderitzbucht to Hamburg with the "A. Woermann" Coincidence or not? On the same ship was also a Mrs. Westphal from Maltahöhe with child. Probably Mr. Löffler had looked for a wife in Germany. Mr. Löffler, a

former Schutztruppe, meanwhile district clerk of Maltahöhe married Marie Varenholz on 05.11.1910, the day of her arrival from Hamburg in Lüderitzbucht. With the same ship also the district chief Mr. Seydel with his wife and A.Voigts arrived.

On 12.06.1912 Löffler sailed from Lüderitz with the "Rheinania" to Hamburg. This was probably a visit to the old homeland. Back again Löffler held the office of the police sergeant as well as the office of the district treasurer and had the chairmanship of the warrior association Maltahöhe. In his functions he must also have been in close contact with the surveyor Voss. Mrs. Löffler was in charge of the school boarding house. On Whitsun 26.05.1912 Dr. Kränzle invited the Löfflers together with Mr. and Mrs. Maraun and others. In elegant dress with large hats they sat high above the Hutup on the veranda of the sanatorium.



On 26.03.1913 the daughter was born. In December 1913 Mrs. Löffler went by ship from Lüderitz to Hamburg. She visited her homeland as if she had guessed that she would die already on 10.08.1913 from the consequences of a burn in her kitchen in Maltahöhe. Her unadorned gravestone still stands today in Maltahöhe. On 02.10.2013 Sergeant Löffler sailed together with Maltahöhe Sergeant Hassenstein on the passenger ship Eduard Woermann from Lüderitz to Cuxhaven. On 21.02 1914 Löffler married the economist Emmy Kobelt in Maltahöhe. Their son Hans-Horst was born on 08.06.1914 and died after 5 months on 02.12.1914. In the Colonial Address Book 1916 Löffler is still registered as a district official. Further is not known from Löffler. With high probability he was expelled to Germany after the war. (The First World War began 28. 06 .1914).



Letter to Herrn Löffler 11.2.1913

**Eheschließungen:**  
 Bezirksschreiber Johannes Löffler in Maltahöhe  
 mit Maria Varenholz am 5. Oktober 1910.



At Whitsun 1912 with Dr. Kränzle

**Nachruf.**  
 Am 30. dieses Monats verstarb in Maltahöhe an  
 im Haushalt erkrankten Brandkassen die Leiterin des  
 Schützengenießes.  
**Frau Marie Löffler**  
 geb. Varenholz.  
 Die Verstorbene, Ehefrau des Gouvernementsbe-  
 zirkten Löffler, war Ende 1912 vom Reichsamt am  
 Pensionsbeamtentum geschäftlich worden und ist immer eine  
 treue Pflegerin und Beschützerin der ihr anvertrauten  
 Kinder gewesen. Des Disziplinarverdienstes bedient hat  
 das pötrliche Hinscheiden der jungen, pflichtbewußten  
 Frau, und wird ihr Andenken hoch in Ehren halten.  
 Maltahöhe, den 16. August 1913.  
 Der Vorsitzende des Distriktsverbandes.  
 Srydel.

Obituary Mrs. Löffler



Gravestone 11.8.1913



### Murder of Oskar Klinge Farmer of Swartmodder Nr.101

Swartmodder in the Zarris Mountains allegedly belonged to a Mr. Walter before 1903 and then to Oskar Klinge from about 1908. (There are other farms with the same name for example in the district Gibeon). Sometimes the farm was written with "Z" Zwartmodder.

Oskar Klinge 23.07.1879 - 29.09.1911. He probably came from East Prussia 200 km east of Danzig. During the China campaign in 1900 against the rebellious Boxers, Kaiser Wilhelm II also sent German troops to which Oskar Klinge belonged. In 1905 Klinge came to DSWA as a sergeant to fight the Witbooi uprising. He was involved in the 1904 fighting under Major Meister in the Naukluft and Zaris, and had also found the hidden wharf in Andreas' Haruchas Gorge. He then worked as an escort for cargo drivers such as Aandries Esterhuizen of Lüderitzbucht. Klinge acquired the Zwartmodder farm in the Zarris Mountains 60 km west of Maltahöhe in about 1907. Klinge also owned the farm Hyas in Maltahöhe and the farm Nabis in Gibeon. (1910)

A first diamond fever arose already before 1908 by wild stories around the so-called bushman's paradise, which were in circulation. The "diamond missionary" Kreft came across diamonds at Aus as early as 1855 and another missionary Tönjes found a prospector (former employee of Mertens&Sichel) dead near Walfishbay with a poisonous bushman's arrow and diamonds in his pocket in 1902. When diamonds actually turned up in Lüderitz in 1908 prospectors searched the entire Namib for more diamonds.

Klinge had also caught the diamond fever. To realize his plans he borrowed 20000 Reichsmarken from Wolf. Von Wolf had the ulterior motive to acquire the farm Zwartmodder, should Klinge go bankrupt. Max Ewald Bärlicke, former Schutztruppe and

diamond prospector, reported that he had seen Klinge in Kuibis (west of Aus) in 1910. Klinge had the whole cart full of rock samples, which he showed to the Giessen professor Dr. Fried, Erich, Wilh. Kaiser (1871- 1934). Klinge collected these samples at Namibrand near Zwartmodder in the hope that a great discovery would make him rich. Klinge is said to have operated a small copper mine on his farm.

One day (29.09.1911) men found Klinge (West of Gorasib) shot in the bush with his rifle, the murder weapon and a few diamonds in his pocket. Thereupon the persecutors of the murderer concluded that the deed was carried out by a bushman. A white man would have taken the diamonds, a Witbooi the rifle, so all that remained was a hired bushman who could have committed the deed without robbing. Allegedly, a hired bushman named "Doikarab" was the killer. The pursuing patrol from Maltahöhe caught a group of bushmen. Due to communication difficulties, a firefight ensued. The Bushmen died except for one who escaped. All officials were relieved to have found the "murderer". One wanted to lure settlers and investors into the country and could not use bad press. Whether one had caught the correct murderers one doubted already at that time. The district chief suggested allegedly to distinguish all policemen, also the colored helpers.

The friend of Klinge, Mr. Robert Blank, accused Mr. von Wolf in a public letter to the district clerk and executor of the estate, Mr. Löffler, of also having had a motive. Thereby he avoided to mention v. Wolf's name. But everyone knew who was being talked about. Klinge had borrowed considerable money from Wolf. On 27.02.1912 the bankruptcy proceedings took place in Keetmanshoop. The farm "Zwartmodder" was then sold to Mr. von Wolf with an exemption from the administration in WDK. Now Von Wolf owned 70000 hectares of land. This was normally not allowed. District Clerk Löffler informed the father about the murder of his son Oskar in the Namib. The father was Royal Hegemeister (forester) in Kölpin near Lauken (East Prussia?). Furthermore, Löffler, in his letter, described the search for the alleged murderer. He wrote that a camel patrol had put the gang of bushmen at the waterhole Chowachasib, in the Namib but the actual murderer escaped wounded. Seydel sentenced an accomplice to death by hanging. (Chowachasib is a granite mountain in the middle of sand dunes 25°13' S - 15°45' 0 where Stone Age artifacts were found).



The obituary in the Lüderitzer Zeitung



The Cross of Honor for Schutztruppler Klinge in Maltahöhe The gravestone in Maltahöhe

## Freight driver Adriaan Esterhuizen, Oskar Klinge and bushmen

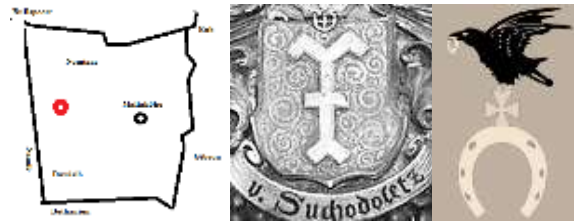
In his book "Survival in the Namib" Willem Esterhuizen describes the life of his father Adriaan as a freight driver. Adriaan trekked from Lüderitz to Aus and further north to Maltahöhe. As escorts, a few Schutztruppler came along with each convoy. One of them named Oskar Klinge became friends with the young Adriaan. Both settled in the Maltahöhe



district around 1907. They also had neighborly contact with H.von Wolf, who built up the Duwisib farm during this time, while Klinge, as a former Schutztruppler, acquired the Zwartmodder farm. Klinge was an adventurer and searched for diamonds and minerals. He was particularly interested in the Namibrand, the last refuge of the Bushmen, and so in 1911 he undertook expeditions to the mountains lying behind the first dunes of the Namib (Chowachasib) together with Adriaan. They were accompanied by bushmen who were familiar with the area. The author describes the murder of Oskar Klinge almost like a novel. According to Oskar Klinge, while prospecting, he is supposed to have smashed a sacred stone that bushmen had brought into the desert from a completely different area. This saw the accompanying bushman "Mager -Piet " and shot Oskar Klinge from behind with his own rifle. Adriaan and his bushmen suspected nothing when they were suddenly also shot at by the angry bushman "Mager- Piet ". Adrian decided not to search for the body but to return to his farm Houmoed (Gorab) because of the low water supply and informed the police in Maltahöhe. They formed a patrol and pursued and "avenged" the death of their former comrade. Interesting is the legend about the bushman " Mager Piet". He and two other bushmen were discovered one day at the Navon (?) by Witbooi's and he and another bushman were stretched by the Witbooi with long ropes between two horses and so pulled through the bushes and stones until from the legs the sinews hung down. With the third younger bushman one of the tormentors had something "different" in mind. This shows very drastically the relationship of the Witbooi to bushmen in general.

In the novel "Lady of the Savannah" by Eduardo Garriguez (a former Spanish ambassador), based on true events, the events around Oskar Klinge, the diamond search and the Bushmen are described.

In 1909 a diamond expedition started from Duwisib to Namibrand in the direction of Sesriem. They passed the farm Zwartmodder, owned by the cunning Oskar Klinge, who traded ostrich feathers, hides and stones for tobacco with the Bushmen. Klinge had his own plans and gave the expedition the bad advice to search where others had not yet been. On the objection that there would be no water there, he calmed the expedition and referred to the water places Anuis, Awisib, Guinasib, Haib. Participants of this expedition were Mr. Baericke, Mr. Hartkopf, Lieutenant Koppel. The Nama Traugott acted as guide. However, he was so afraid of the bushmen who defended their last retreat with poisoned arrows that he disappeared in the night and fog. In the desert, all water points were dry and only the courageous Lieutenant Koppel had the strength to reach a water point at the very last minute and drag a water bag back to the expedition members. The novel goes on to describe how Oskar Klinge was murdered a short time later. Because of the special circumstances, a group of bushmen was officially suspected. When the suspected Bushman group was to be arrested, they fought back with their poisoned arrows and the patrol had no choice but to open fire and kill almost all of them. On their return, the patrol under Lieutenant Stempel celebrated the "successful " action in the banquet hall of Duwisib Castle. The life of a bushman did not count for much. The novel is based on correspondence from the time.



### **Zaris Nr. 103 Bernhardt von Suchodoletz**

In the records of Farmer Bernhardt it is reported that he advised the young Private Jäger in 1902 to buy the remote farm Zaris. Jäger nevertheless moved to the farm with his wife. Bushmen brought the rumor of the murder to Maltahöhe shortly thereafter. A first patrol found only an open farmhouse. The buried bodies were finally discovered by B. von Suchodoletz, who was on a farm search. The man shot, the woman beaten to death. The perpetrators are said to have been bushmen. Zaris was until 1908 the westernmost farms before the Namibrand area. Probably there were already Burian settlers living in the area at that time (Esterhuizen, v.d Merve, v.Lill, Coetzee). The Namibrand area was considered as wild bushman country. Von Suchodoletz took over the Zaris farm despite the danger. Suchodoletz came from old East Prussian nobility with a Slavic name. He had previously worked for the Krabbenhöfft company in Gibeon, according to farmer Bernhardt. Suchodoletz must have died before 1922. F.J.Archer leased the farm ca.1923. ca.1928 A.P.Esterhuizen operated the farm and c.a. 1937 Adriaan Esterhuizen bought the farm through mediation of Mr. Rübenstrunk for 2000 pounds from the community of heirs in Germany. The contracts were drawn up by the lawyer Willi Kirsten from Mariental.

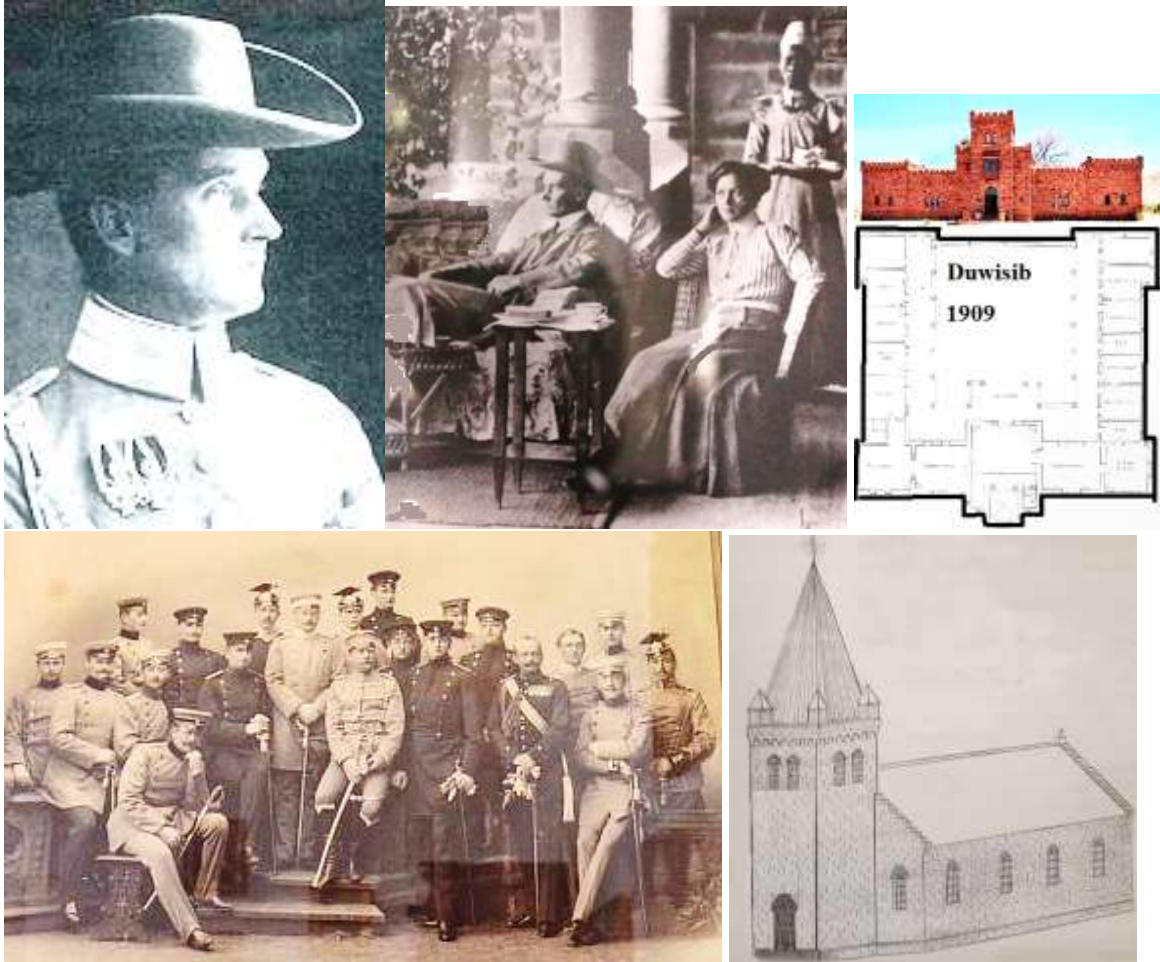


### **Nam Nr. 86 Ernst Glose**

The farm was named after the spring that the Bushmen called " Tnam". The Nam River flows from the Zarris Mountains westward to the dunes. In 1901 there was a military station with 3 soldiers on Nam. Glose operated a store at Grootfontein South in 1902. Just before the 1904 war, a couple had settled on Nam. They were able to escape to Maltahöhe just in time to escape the Witboois. The Witboois robbed the farmhouse and devastated everything. Luck in misfortune. The wife's dowry was still in Lüderitzbucht. Since 1910 Ernst Glose is listed as owner in the address books until 1915. In 1910, besides Glose, the policemen Johann Slottke, Albert Schmidt, Ernst Vorwald, Höppner as well as the farm manager Johannes Lichtenberg were registered on the farm. In 1928 the farm was managed by van P.W. Heerden but belonged to the family E.Glose. ( Lichtenberg was administrator of Daweb in 1910 ,Nam in 1912, Elisenhof in 1913 . 1914 of Hyas, 1923 of Kachauchab, 1936 Duwisib. Possibly he was the later owner of the farm Zebrarevier No.122).



### Hans Heinrich von Wolf Farm Duwisib Nr. 84



Hansheinrich and friends

planned Missionchurch

Heinrich von Wolf was considered a descendant of a Baltic noble family. Therefore he was often written with two "ff"s at the end. This no longer corresponds to the current state of knowledge, according to which the Saxon noble family von Wolf with one "f" is to be regarded as independent. Also the title "Baron" or "Count" are missing.

Von Wolf born on 11.01.1873 in Dresden made a career in the military and came so 1904 with the passenger ship "Gertrud Woermann" to DSWA. The ship stranded on 19.11.1904 10 km north of Swakopmund. There it is stuck in the sand until today. Despite the misfortune the passengers were not harmed. From there it went to Maltahöhe, where v.Wolf commanded the 2nd replacement battery. The next stop was Cochas, where he led the 5th Gun Company under Estorff. A retreat maneuver on 17.05.1905 in the fight against the Simon Kooper at Kowes (about 120 km south of v.Gibeon) in which he lost a valuable gun, became his trauma. He was officially exonerated, but behind held hand accused of cowardice.

On April 8, 1907 he married in Dresden the beautiful, rich stepdaughter of the American consul Jayta Humphreys (born 1881 New Jersey/ USA) and emigrated again to DSWA. There he bought on 25.11.1907 the farm "Duwisib" which was called before Black Sheep and Black Sheep Duwisib. Allegedly this place was called "Naguseb" which translated means black

sheep. On 06.08.1907 the Voigts couple visited the newcomers. Architect Sander built a knight's castle on the site in 1909. The materials were brought by the freight driver Adriaan Esterhuizen from Lüderitzbucht. Von Wolf's ambition was to acquire a total of 120000 ha of land. This was refused by Colonial Councilor Dernburg in 1908 and the Windhoek administration under Governor Schuckmann. By the tricky acquisition of the farms "Naudaus" from Jonny Anni on 02.05.1908, "Rooiberg Süd" from Smit on 11.12.1909 and "Zwartmodder" in 1914 he had acquired in the end 70000 hectares.

The Italian Franz Rapelli applied for Duwisib mining rights for precious minerals on 13.05.1910. Perhaps he was looking for diamonds.

Extract from the 1912 address book : Cartella Aurelio, Wilhelm Büttner, Johannes Fröhlich, Victori Gothardi, Ernst Herrschel, Siegfried Jensen, Herrmann Keßler, Hermann Menke, Pietro Odscheloni, Franz Rapelli, Willy Sander, Hans Heinrich von Wolf.

The first farm managers were Otto Bullmann and Karl Kessler and the horse keeper Hans Fröhlich. Later, among others, Mr. Farmer and Mr. Hauptmann came as employees and even got themselves elected to the Maltahöhe District Council. Von Wolf himself was elected district councilor in 1909. Once a month Hansheinrich drove to Maltahöhe and celebrated there with vast quantities of alcoholic beverages....

By 1911 von Wolf was already breeding Karakul sheep, horses and camels for the army. In 1911 he had 8500 sheep and over 300 premium horses on the farm. Initially, water had to be carted from Naudaus until, after unsuccessful attempts by Albert Ensle and Christian Grüsshaber, the district drillmaster Christian Heydt drilled a productive borehole. Outbuildings and a forge were built. The blacksmith was Mr. Visser. On the farm with 100 Herero employees v. Wolf, although himself Protestant, built a Catholic mission station and a school for 30 Herero children. The parish priest Josef Klemann arrived in May 1913 (1930 Bishop of Keetmanshoop). The foundation stone of the church "Franz Xaver", planned with 50000 Marks, was laid on 03.12.1912. The windows were bought by Jayta's mother in America. On 01.08. 1914 the ship "Muanza" with the materials for the church had to turn away from Lüderitz due to the war and go back to Germany.

Von Wolf escaped internment by ship and reached Germany in an adventurous way via England and Holland. His friend Count Max von Lüttichau, from Niederhagen Farm, and the accountant W. Frenzel administered Duwisib from 1914 until mobilization in 1915. Pastor Kleeman took over the administration in 1915 and Mr. Hassenstein was the accountant appointed by the South African Union. The farm was classified by the British as " enemy property ". During the period of looting by the SA army, some horses escaped and disappeared in the Namib. Further research and DNA analysis ruled out the theory that they were the ancestors of the Namib wild horses.

04.09.1916 Hans-Heinrich von Wolf, who was almost 2 meters tall, fell in the war against France at La Foret on the Somme. Duwisib filed for bankruptcy in 1919. The farm and the castle were bought in 1921 by the Swede Murmann together with the expensive collection of paintings. (The descendants still live in South Africa and Gothenburg /Sweden.) The widow Jayta made it a condition that the paintings had to remain inalienably in the castle. After the death of the Swede in 1938, Duwisib passed to Duwisib Farming Co. The owners were Dr. Paul Holländer, senior partner of the Th. Thorer company in Leipzig, Duke Friedrich von Mecklenburg and Meyer Weisspflug. In 1941, Weisspflug was shot down as an aviator in



action and his share fell to Thorer. Jayta Humphreys never returned to Africa. She married a diplomat a second time and moved to Switzerland. In 1963, she died in New Jersey. There is a novel, based on historical events, about her life in DSWA "The Lady of the Savannah" by Eduardo Garrigues the former Spanish Ambassador to SWA. There is another good booklet by former German Ambassador Harald L Nestroy." Duwisib". The farm was confiscated by the administration during WW2. After 1945 Thorer bought the farm back again. Pictures: <https://www.namibiana.de/namibia-information/uploads/pics/duwisib-die-deutsche-ritterburg-in-namibia-und-ihr-burgherr-hansheinrich-von-wolf-nestroy.jpg>



### Estorffdank Nr.72 Coetsee

( Estorff )

This farm was named after the commander of the German Schutztruppe from 1907 to 1911 Ludwig von Estorff. Probably Hendrik Adams Erasmus Coetsee (from Upington/ Farm Leverkranz) was the owner of the farm after World War 1. Today the farm is still owned by the Coetsee family. (Info from Christa Engels)

About 1960 Walter Gebser discovered a Lithops species ("Living Stones") on the farm. Listed under Cole No.165 Lithop Schwantesii Gebseri.



### Wilhelm Kophamel Kalkhügel Nr.79

Father Christian Wilhelm Kophamel was born on 18.08.1843 in Kappeln and lived with his wife Katharina Christina Magdalena as a butcher in Buchholz Lindenstrasse 10. The wife died in 1899. 3 daughters Christine (née Putensen), Johanne- Dora (née Bergemann) and Mary (née Offen) emigrated with him to DSWA and married there. Wilhelm bought ca.1912 the farm Kalkhügel from Olson and died in 1912. Wilhelm bought the farm Kalkhügel from Olson, but returned to Buchholz /Flensburg and died in 1919. Johanne-Dora (06.06.1881- 26.06.1964) married on 25.03.1904 Karl Friedrich Ferdinand Bergemann from the farm Urusis. She inherited the farm Kalkhügel. Their 9 children were named Johanna, Paul, Mariechen, Gertrud, Ferdinand, Walter, Grete, Erika, Luise (Lieschen). One girl died at birth.



Source: Andrea Eisenring (great-granddaughter of Johanna-Dora Bergemann. Granddaughter of Lieschen Visser Farm Karab .daughter of Eike Visser)

Kalkhövel [Bez. Gibeon, Distr. Maltahöhe]. Farm: Karl Ohlsen, Besitzer.

2. Der Farmer Willy Kophamel in Kalkhügel für seine im Distrikt Maltahöhe liegende Farm Kalkhügel, Flurkarte von Kalkhügel.

(1910)

(1912)



### Familie Rudolf Otto sen. Farm Uibis



### Summary and completion of the family saga part I

Rudolf Otto born 14.10 1877 in Waren, died 18.11.1946 in Uppington/ Farm Steenkampspan. In the Maltahöhe area the Otto's were probably the best known and largest German family. Rudolf Otto was from a peasant family and had 3 sisters Minna (the later Mrs. Heydt), Auguste, Franziska and 2 brothers. They lived in the town of Waren right on the lake in Mecklenburg 100 kilometers south of Rostock. Rudolf's father had a shoemaker's workshop where Rudolf learned the trade. This still had meaning in his later life. During the Witboois uprising in 1894 and after, the Imperial Military was looking for volunteers. Rudolf volunteered for the Schutztruppe in 1899. In Koblenz on the Rhine and Kolmar (Kolmar in Alsace Lorraine belonged to the German Empire) drilled the young troops and then it went from Hamburg on the high seas with the "Adolf von Bohlen" to Lüderitz Bay.



Bare rock, few cottages, no drinking water. Water had to be carted from a spring 15 kilometers away. In Lüderitzbucht there was the first riding course for the recruits. After

weeks, the group, led by Moltzahn, marched through the desert for a week along the "Baiweg" 450 kilometers via Bethany to Gibeon. The later farmers Kirsten, Bergmann, Heydt, Lehmann were also there. In Gibeon the fort for 50 men was just being built. Moltzahn built his wagon construction workshop. In 1901 Krabbenhöft & Lampe had already opened a general store in Gibeon. Otto built himself a small saddlery out of unbaked mud bricks and shortly thereafter he had acquired a flatbed wagon with 4 oxen and was trading with the Witboois and the military. Thus he was able to buy the land of the farm Uibis at Hutup from Hendrik Witbooi and breed cattle. The first years went well.

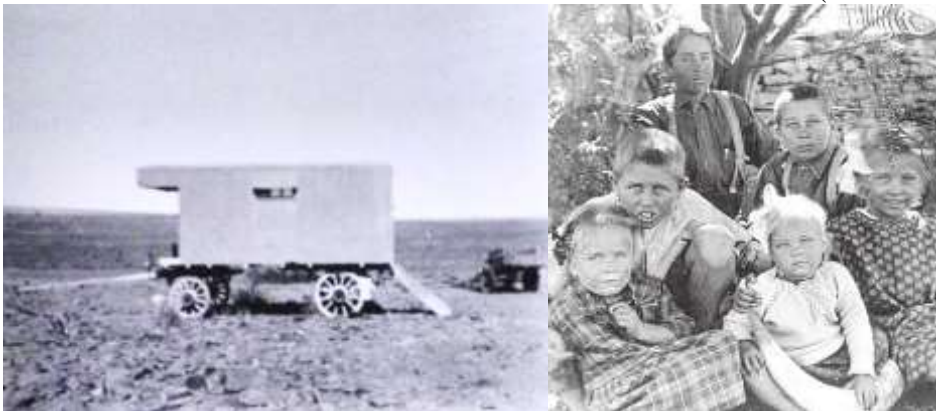
According to another version of the story, some regular customers (Witboois) got into such debt through their purchases of goods from Otto that Otto claimed from them the farms Uibis, Kosis and Narrenkranz as debt compensation.

Right at the beginning of the second, so-called "Hottetottenaufstand" in 1904, two Namaku bullets hit Otto in the back near the farm Uibis. Actually, he had no more changes due to the loss of blood. He hid bleeding from the Witboois searching for him in the abandoned den of a porcupine. In the night he ventured out and escaped by an adventurous flight from Hutup via Ganaus to the liver district in Gibeon. A woman Elli Blume nursed Rudolf Otto until he got back on his feet. On 21.12.1904 it came between the Bethany Cornelius and the troop of Leutnant Ritter to the battle of Uibis. (Attention at that time there was still an Uibis near Keetmanshoop).

The German administration did not recognize the purchase contracts with the Witboois after the uprising. So Otto had to buy again his farm Uibis at Hutup with 14000 hectares for 14000.- Goldmark just like Rittmeister von Heynitz ca.1909. Rudolf received orders from Krabbenhöft & Lampe to bring freight from Lüderitz and met the freight driver Adriaan Esterhuizen who brought freight for the construction of Duwisib. At the same time the surveyor Voss was surveying the farms Uibis to Satansplatz (September 1908). Until 1908, freight driving provided a good income, but was not without danger because of the many robberies by gangs. Robberies and cattle rustling were a regular part of everyday life in DSWA. The few police stations could not provide security. In 1908, the southern railroad from Lüderitzbucht to Keetmanshoop was connected to the tracks leading from the Oranje to Windhoek. This replaced the freight trips with ox wagons. Rudolf had to work elsewhere on farms. For this he owned a closed ox wagon in which he lived during this time. In 1911 Rodolf went on home leave and married Lina Schäfer, a teacher. He bought all the household goods including a plush armchair and piano in Germany and came via Lüderitzbucht and then with the newly built railroad line first to Gibeon and further by horse cart 100 kilometers to the farm Uibis. A new house had to be built. It still stands today.



This was the beginning of a very large family. His children: Rudolf jun. 1912, Wilhelm 01.11.1914, Lieselotte 1916 (died of scarlet fever 1919), Karl -Ludwig 1918, Lina 1919, Kurt 1920, Gertrud 1924. In 1925 the family had traveled to Germany / Erfurt there Elfriede was born. In this time Mr. Sale was the administrator of the farm. (Continue in the 2nd part)



Ox cart from Rudolf Otto 1912

the Otto children



### **Hauptmann von Kleist Farm Kainuchas ( Bezirk Gibeon )**

Von Kleist was involved as a first lieutenant in the battles at the Waterberg and in Namaland. In 1905 he found the body of the district chief of H.von Burgsdorff. In 1907, according to Emil von Koenen, Kleist resigned from active service in the Schutztruppe. According to the Lüderitzbuchter Zeitung this was only in 1909. On the recommendation of Major Deimling he probably bought from Germany the neighboring farm of Voigtsgrund, Kainuchas and went to DSWA by ship. By chance he met Mr. von Koenen on board who was looking for a farm. On his farm Kainuchas arrived von Kleist inquired and mediated von Koenen the southeast neighboring farm of Voigtsgrund, the farm Satansplatz on 09.01.1908. In July Koenen got high visit of the colonial council Dernburg, governor v. Schuckmann and secretary Dr. Rathenau and von der Groeben. (Rathenau became German Foreign Minister after the war and was shot by an assassin in 1921).





Von Koenen, Dernburg, Schuckmann, Sekretär Dr Rathenau, von der Gröben on the farm Satansplatz 30.07.1908.

Back to Kleist. In 1910 Kleist sold his farm under mediation of A. Voigts to the diamond king Stauch. In the war against the South Africans Kleist commanded the resistance in Keetmanshoop and also the retreat on 19.04.1915 via Gibeon and the Basterland to the north. In Gibeon on 27.04.1915 there was a fierce battle of the 4. Feldkompanie, the 1. and 2. Reservekompanie as well as the Halbbatterie Kuntze, together 700 men against 14500 motorized soldiers of the South African Union. Von Kleist managed to escape to the north. (Literature: Report by Hans Siebold 1916 Potsdam)



### **Albert Maraun blacksmith and wagon maker Farm Nr.25 Marion Reitz**

(Albert b. 26.03.1882-dest. 08.04.1957 Maltahöhe.). Albert learned his trade in Gibeon. Blacksmith and wagon maker Riemann built his workshop in Maltahöhe in 1909, which he sold to Albert Maraun in 1911. Albert Maraun had married Martha Sprengel (b. 24.08.1884- d.01.11.1969 Maltahöhe.) coming from Germany on 20.08.1912, directly when he picked her up in Walvis Bay. The children were named Gerd, Alfred, Ulla, Ernst. In the first time Albert Maraun built and repaired ox carts. After the First World War the repair of cars was added. The last ox wagon was built by Albert Maraun in about 1940 for Hans Gebser to build the farm Nutupsdrift. Martha Maraun died on 01.11.1969 in Maltahöhe.

Her sons Alfred and Gerhard continued the business. Gerhard Maraun (1915-1967) married Hanna Kränzle the daughter of the district doctor. Alfred Maraun (b. (1917.?) - died.06.02.1985 Maltahöhe.) worked for a time in 1927 as a roadway attendant in Mariental and married Malena Landsrath (Lahnstein). Thus the families Kränzle, (Heussen), Richter, Landsrath and Maraun were related by marriage. Alfred Maraun had a habit. He always played with a cartridge in his hand. It exploded one day and injured his eye so much that it went blind. In 1936 Albert owned the farm Marion Reitz No.25 which Gerhard managed. He died on 06.02.1985. The graves of the old Marauns can still be found in the Maltahöhe cemetery. Gerhard Maraun's grave is in Swakopmund. There was another Ernst Maraun the 3rd son of Albert who was married to Elfriede Maraun (30.01.?) née Müller. The daughter of Albert Maraun Ulla Maraun was a nurse in the Elisabethenhaus in Windhoek.



Schmiede Maraun



Albert Maraun



Frau Maraun



### Glückauf Nr.34 Adolf Maiwald (Meiwald)

Adolf Maiwald first owned the farm Urikos at the Naukluft from 1900. In 1901, according to a bushman in Rheoboth, he and other settlers were to be killed by paid assassins. It did not come so far. In 1906 Maiwald changed farms and bought Glückauf. His manager's name was Kopke. The farm had a dug well in 1907 and was stocked with 62 cattle and 198 sheep. In 1910, an Albert Johann Lohoff was registered on the farm. Maiwald married Gertrud Ackermann on July 19, 1913. During the First World War Lengfeld managed the farm Glückauf. After his expulsion ca.1919 Mr. Enßle was registered on the farm 1923 as administrator. In 1927 Bracke is also said to have bought the Glückauf farm and Karl Marx was the overseer. In 1943 the Otto family bought the Glückauf farm. In 1973 the farm belonged to Y.v.Schütz. There was still a Fritz Maiwald. A former student in Lüderitzbucht born 28.02.1921 fallen on 07.04.1945 as a soldier in Germany. a relative of Adolf Maiwald .?

### Kachauchab Nr.40 Lengfeld 9487 Ha

**Kachauchab** [Distr. Maltahöhe].  
Farmer: Lengfeld.



Kachauchab means "water that runs dry in the sand". Joseph Lengfeld (b.30.10.1870 d. 21.01.1951) owned the farm Kachauchab from 1901 (1897?). The co-owner O. Kahmann left in 1902. (Otto K. baker in Gibeon ?) The farm had a dam in 1907, 1 well and was stocked with 53 cattle and 482 sheep. There was also a spring on the farm. On 11/30/1911 Lengfeld married Auguste Otto (5/20/1885-8/17/1848). On 04.12.1912 son Paul was born and died 3 months later. Also the 2nd son Adolf died early with less than 2 months on 25.06.1914. In the I. WK. Lengfeld was interned and 1919 expelled. Lengfeld returned about 1923 and bought the farm Kabib. Bracke bought the farm Kachauchab before 1926. From about 1936, Lengfelds lived in Swakomund and were buried there in 1948 and 1951.



### **Friedrich Baumgarten , Elisenhof Nr. 52 Schwarzrand II Nr.47**

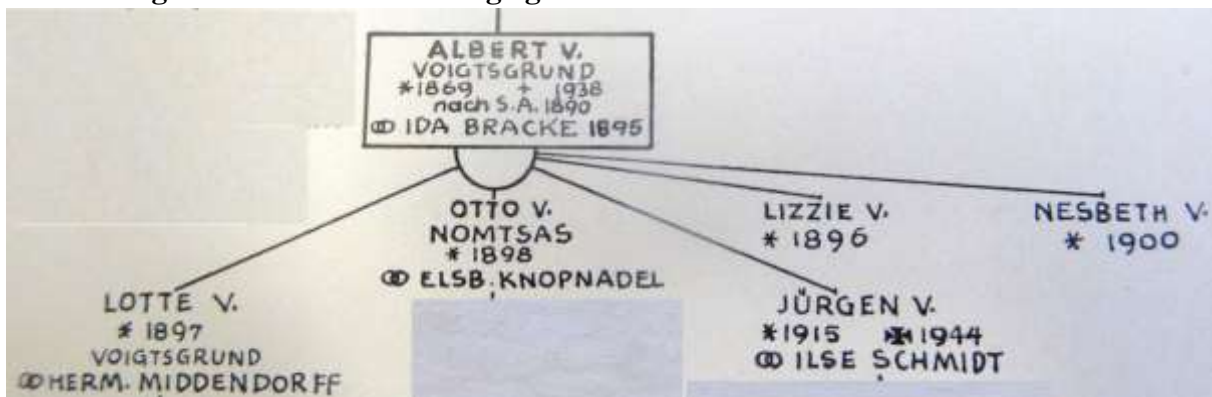
The renaming of the farm Ober Keitzub to Elisenhof was approved on January 18. 1910. The name of the owners is not known.

Friedrich Baumgarten owned the farm Elisenhof in 1913. He was vice-chairman of the Maltahöhe Farmers' Association on 16.04.1913 and also a member of the Agricultural Council. In 1913 Baumgarten also worked at the Christiania farm. In 1916 Baumgarten operated the Schwarzrand II farm as a tenant farmer.

The Elisenhof was bought by Otto Voigts in about 1934.



### **Albert Voigts 1869-1938 Farm Voigtsgrund**



(Bilder aus dem Buch „Ababis“)

Albert Voigts from Meerdorf northwest of Braunschweig came with his brothers Gustav and Richard to Southwest Africa around 1885. The eldest brother Heinrich had inherited the farm on which they grew up. The three brothers founded the trading company Wecke & Voigts with Fritz Wecke, their employer, in 1892. Their first home was Okahandja. The brothers had tremendous commercial and political skills, as well as success.

In 1895 Albert traveled to Brunswick and married Ida there. In 1902 Albert bought the farm Ababis at the entrance of the Naukluft to breed horses. In 1903 Albert Voigts was commissioned to negotiate compensation in Germany for the farmers' losses in the first Witbooi Uprising. In 1907 Albert Voigts moved to the farm Tsub-Garis in the district of Gibeon. The name Tsub-Garis means "pasture by the river". Tsub is the name of the district that flows through the farm and ends in the Liver River. Tsub-Garis belonged in 1904 to a Mrs. E. Ricketts, a European, whose husband or father had bought the land 06.07.1886 from Moses Witbooi. (15.10.1904 Ricketts claims were negotiated in Keetmannshoop under supervision of E Seydel). The farm Tsubgaris named A.Voigts Voigtsgrund. In 1908, A. Voigts was the first to breed Karakul sheep, supported by the Thorer and Lindquist company, and bought more farmland. He also bought the Glose trading house in Maltahöhe in about

1908. Before 1914, he completed a first large dam at the "Tsub" precinct. The family spent the First World War with 5 children in Germany. Albert served on the Eastern Front.

Albert's wife was Ida Margarethe Elisabeth née Bracke. Born 02.10.1874 in Braunschweig, died 28.04.1952 in WDK. Her father Wilhelm Bracke was a well-known founding member of the Social Democrats and a member of the Reichstag in 1877. 30000 people gave him their last respects after his early death at the age of 37. Ida was only 6 years old. Most likely, Mr. Bracke, who ran the store in Maltahöhe, was a relative of Ida.

Voigtsgrund reached the dimension of a small town after the war. From 1930 there was no bigger farm with 17000 Karakul sheep. Albert Voigts was not only a farmer but also a member of parliament elected in 1926, who was especially active for the rights of the German population as chairman of the German Confederation ("Deutschen Bundes").



Voigts wool trade ca 1925 (pictures Wikipedia) The Voigts brothers



Farmhouse Voigtsgrund



Rebuilding the dam 1934





horses and sheep



acre of Voigtsgrund



### **Farm Karab Nr.23 Otto Redlich**

Otto Redlich was the administrator of von Heynitz/ Grootfontein (South) before the Witboois uprising in 1904. Afterwards he was listed in the address book as the owner of the farm Karab. The farm had two dug wells in 1907 and was stocked with 10 cattle and 265 sheep. During his internment in World War 1, his cattle were on the Breckhorn farm. In 1923, Redlich managed Nomtsas. After 1926 the Bergemann family acquired Karab. In 1936 Otto Redlich managed Niederhagen farm. Luise Bergemann had married Gerrit Visser. She inherited the farm Karab.



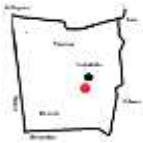
### **Farm Plattfontein Nr. 92 Pächter August Bauer**

On the farm Plattfontein settled Burian families. Farm Plattfontein is a neighboring farm of Grootfontein South. The farm had good water from springs and an irrigation system in 1910. Radishes, cabbage, pumpkin, potatoes ect. grew here. In Plattfontein, Tourloise, Kleinfontein, and Grootfontein-South the Schutztruppen had moved into stations in September

**Alt-Maltahöhe,**  
Post Maltahöhe.  
Polizeistation. Polizei-Sergeanten  
Arthur Wegener, Bruno Pta-  
schek.



1905. **Burgsdorf** „Alt-Maltahöhe“



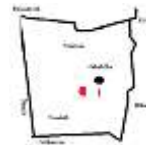
In 1910 Arthur Wegener and Bruno Plaschek are listed in the address book. The farm and police station was called "Alt Maltahöhe" until 1912. According to the Governor's Register (ZBU 2000 A 11 70i p. 137 ged. July 20, 1912) there were several rejected attempts to name the police station "Alt-Maltahöhe" or "Wittenberg". The official gazette lists a well drilling in 1912 in Alt-Maltahöhe. From 1913 the place was called Burgsdorf. It is interesting that it is spelled with only one f and probably had no farm number. Other sources refer to farm number 45.

In April 1913, the Farmers' Association decided to move the Karakul herd from Fürstenwalde to Burgsdorf.

The Colonial Address Books listed Krey, Graham in 1913, and Mr. Plaichek in 1914, probably residents of the Burgsdorf farm.

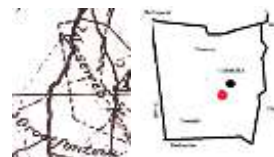
In 1916, the Colonial Address Book listed the following police sergeants at Burgsdorf Farm: August Ptaichek, Kosmer Kaschube, Georg Krey.

Today the farm is owned by the Kirsten family



#### **Farm Portjes Nr.88 Hollaender, Carel Phillippius**

The name means port wine. Hollaender applied for land registration in 1911 and is registered on this farm in 1911-1915, 1927 and 1936.



#### **Christiania Nr.44 Steenkamp Benjamin**

The minutes of a district council meeting in 1913 state that Baumgart (of Elisenhof) worked at Christiania. With the name Haseweb Nord named after the precinct, sometimes at the same time before 1914 a part of the farm Christiania was called. From 1911 until after 1928, Steenkamp is recorded as the owner. (However, the address book says Steenberg). Christiania was the official name for Oslo/ Norway in 1900.

#### **Haseweb No.90 Benjamin Steenkamp**

In 1911 Gert Bosch is employee on the farm. In 1912 Steenkamp applied to rename Haseweb Nord to Christiania (See Official Gazette). In 1923 Steenkamp was still owner of the farm. In 1928 James-Nel Rossouw is listed in the address book.



### **Kudis Farm Nr.66 Berner ,Gustav**

In the south , in a Huams loop (precinct) lies the farm Kudis. The name word Huams supposedly means "sand mouth". The following photo of the farm building from 1912 was owned by Dr. Kränzle. The farm belonged to Gustav Berner from 1908 until at least 1915 and was managed by Joseph Schneider. On June 7, 1912, a son was born to Mr. Berner. Berner was a member of the Maltahöhe Farm Council in 1913. After the war, according to the colonial address book, the hotel manager Westphal Co. of Maltahöhe owned the farm. In 1930 Kurt Schwarzkopf trekked with his cattle from Breckhorn to Kudis for a few months and built a post house there. In 1936 Wilhelm Nöchel and his wife Emma née Klose were registered as owners . The brother of Mr. Nöchel had the neighboring farm Kuteb . The mail came through Huams . In 1962 Alewyn Owen Thomas Coetzee allegedly bought the farm from a Mr Nighel ( Nöchel?) . Kudis is today owned by the Fam.Coetzee .



Kudis ca 1915



(picture: Johann Coetzee 2018)



### **Huams Nr.67 Gustav Lazarus**

On 27.04.1905 there was the battle of Huams in which Lieutenant Colonel von Bülow died. In 1908 Gustav and Philipp Lazarus moved into the farm Huams. In 1910 Hans Sandberg is also registered on Huams. Gustav married Frieda Wilhelmine Auguste Lemke on 14.10.1911 in Huams. G.Lazarus was an elected district councilor in Maltahöhe in 1912 together with Bernhardt. In 1936 Gustav was still owner of the farm. (1973 owner Mr. Winter)



### **Maguams Nr.70 Paul Grasop**

#### **1. Teil**

In 1908 Paul Grasop acquired the farm Chamchawib No.106 and sold it again in 1911 . From 1911 until after 1927 Grasop owned the farm Maguams. Grasop married on 21.05.1912 Ida Hofrichter who landed the day before on 20.05.1912 from Hamburg in Lüderitz. Grasop was a member of the Maltahöhe district council in 1913. On 06.06 1922 son Ernst Grasop was born on the farm Maguams. Probably at the beginning of the world economic crisis Grasopp had to

sell the farm to Erwin Serrer. Ernst Grasop went to school in Lüderitzbucht. On 20.02.1945 he was killed as a soldier in Germany. Chamchawib belonged 1923 to J.Bouwer.



### **Kumakams Nr.68 Mr. Sandberg**

Sandberg moved to the farm in 1911. On 14.06.1913 Hans Sandberg married Louise Müller in "Hudupstal", 3 km west of Maltahöhe. In the same year Sandberg borrowed a hand drill, but probably did not have much success. Von Wolff ordered the drilling team III to drill on the farm already in the second half of 1913. In 1913, Erich Schulte is reported as a farm hand. In 1914 Sandberg sold the farm to H.von Wolf. In 1915 Mrs. Ackermann managed the farm. Hans Sandberg ran the Gibeon Hotel in 1928 and the Sandberg Hotel in Mariental in 1936. August Allers owned Kumakams in 1936.



### **Zackenberge Nr.64 Christian Heydt sen.**



Christian Heydt born 03.05.1883 in Geisingen ( Stuttgart) came as a Schutztruppler together with Farmer Otto 1899 to reinforce the garrison in Gibeon, via Lüderitz into the country. He was first a drilling assistant in Kuibis and moved to his farm Zackenberge in 1911. Christian Heydt worked as a governorate drilling foreman and tapped the waters of Duwisib and Naudaus, for example. Christian Heydt built his own dam on the farm from natural stones. With the water he could irrigate fields with alfalfa and vegetables. His wife was called "Minna" Otto born 20.07.1892 in Waren, died 15.10.1935 on Zackenberge (43years). She had 9 children. ( Hildegard ,Christian-Karl , Irmgart,Otto-Ernst....) Christian senior died April 1945 in internment camp at 62 years in Pretoria. The farm is still owned by Ilse's son Volker Heydt. A son of Christian Heydt Sr. married Ilse Serrer. Ilse passed away in Walfishbay in 2017. Serrer's farm, Maguams, is just 20 km west of Zackenberge.

Christian Heydt Jr. b.27.02.1926.d.16.02.1992





The reservoir on Zackenberge ca 1930

Gravestones on Zackenberge of Christian and "Minna



The Ottos and the Heydt family in 1928 on the Zackenberge farm

### Farmers unknown

There are several farms in the southeast of the district that are not known.

**Blenheim No.69** (castle near Oxford), **Binz No.75** (town near Rügen), **Zugspitze No.75**, **Aandrus No.131**, **Eisenach No.50**, **Wartburg No.54**, **Bergfried No.53**, **Lauterbach No.58**, **Lichterfelde No.59** (district of Berlin), **Wetterfels No.61**, **Graal No.62**, **Südereck No.63**,

### Farm Rosstrappe No.57 Tielmann Strydom owner 1973

The history of the farm is unknown. Owner Tieleman died in 1997, Tielmann's father was "Coen" Conrad Strydom from the farm "Adam Rust". The name comes from the Rosstrappe a mountain near Thale in the Harz Mountains. (Barbara Mayer is a daughter of Tieleman).



### **Farm Wartburg Nr.54 Kuteb Nr.65 Christian Noechel**

**"The mix-up".** Unlucky Christian Noechel bought the farm in 1908. He found by mistake not his farm Kuteb at the precinct Huams but developed the farm Wartburg (Hauchenabib). Possibly he was married to a daughter of old Bernhardt / Namseb.

#### **Notes:**

The entry in the Colonial Address Book from 1910 Chr.Nöchel ( Farm) Kosis Gibeon.

The entry in the Colonial Address Book from 1911to 1915 reads Nöchel Farm Kuteb.

Colonial Address Book 1926 Noechel, Christ. farm Kuteb. P.O, Maltahoche, S.W.A.

Colonial Address Book 1936 Noechel, Christ.W.C. (Sibylla née Bernhardt) Farm Kuteb. P.O, Maltahoche,



### **Farm Osis Nr. 73/74 Max Klein (Adolf Bernhardt)**

The farm initially belonged to Bernhardt, who, however, did not move into it in 1896 due to lack of water, but preferred the Namseb farm. In 1911, 2 boreholes with a depth of 65 meters each were drilled on the farm. That was really deep. In 1912 the farm was up for sale under the mediation of A. Voigts. In 1911, Max Klein operated the Osis farm. Otto Bräuninger worked on the farm in 1912. The farm remained in state ownership until the First World War. Apparently, no one wanted to buy it. In 1923 the new owner or tenant was J.W.Viljoen. In 1928 a worker J.D. du Plessis and farmer W.J.Viljoen still lived on the farm.

**Farm-Verkauf.**  
**Farm Osis** 10000 ha, Distrikt Maltahöhe, mit einer Wasser fähren-  
 den Bohrung, ist preiswert und zu günstigen  
 Bedingungen zu verkaufen. Anfragen an A. Voigts, Maltahöhe.  
 Lüderitz buchter Zeitung 1912

Excerpt from the Colonial Address Book ca 1901:Osis bei Maltahöhe [Bez. Gibeon]. Farmer: Adolf Bernhard.

Hans Lühl, Post Maltahöhe " strange!?"

According to the Colonial Address Book of 1914 and 1915, Lühl owned the farm Garib on the edge of the Kalahari at the height of Rehoboth and received his mail strangely enough via Maltahöhe.

### **Boers in Maltahöhe district before 1914**

The pre-1914 Boers in the Maltahöhe region were descendants of various waves of refugees from South Africa. In 1906, the Boers made up 70% of the white population in the south of DSWA.

When diamonds and gold were found in the Boer Republic near Johannesburg in about 1886, this again aroused the desires of the British. Displaced by the British streaming into the Cape, Boers moved into the southern part of South West Africa as early as 1870 to Warmbad, Keetmanshoop and then as far as Gibeon and Kub. In 1899, the 2nd Boer War broke out. The

British had considerable losses at first and were not able to defeat the Boers. Queen Victoria said: *"Please understand that there is no one depressed in this house; we are not interested in the possibilities of defeat; they do not exist"* and Kitchner therefore deployed about 10 to 30 thousand colored militiamen against the Boers and used the tactic of "dead earth". At that time it was a scandal (sacrilege) that the British, who pretended to be the protecting power, used black militiamen against white Boer women and their children. General Lord Herbert Kitchener set up barbed wire fenced camps in open fields, which he was the first to call "concentration camps". Then he had 160,000 white women and children captured and imprisoned in these camps. Mercilessly, tens of thousands starved to death or died of disease. Farms with only women and children were looted and burned by the British and their colored militia. All animals were killed by the British troops. Many Boers therefore sought shelter in DSWA. The Germans welcomed the influx of Boer families, as they seamlessly integrated into the colony as farmers and stabilized it.



Ca. 1899 Fleeing Boer women and children without oxen pulled the wagon fleeing the British.

At that time, the Germans also regarded the Boers as Low Germans who had to be protected against the British and their colored militiamen. There were therefore also German volunteer corps from the south of DSWA who, under the leadership of Richard August Runck, defended the Boers against the British. During and after the Boer War, German Red Cross volunteers in South Africa, with the blessing of the Kaiser, Wilhelm II, provided the largest overseas humanitarian effort in their history.



German Red Cross in the Boer War on the side of the Boers

In 1880-1902 waves of refugees from the Piketberg area pushed north. Among others, Henry Smith organized a trek with 30, others say 13 families from Piketberg to DSWA on

October 6, 1890. Still another text says that the trek started from Piketberg on December 7, 1890 with Hendrik Smit, the Westhuizen's, Frans Smit, Pieter Brand, Jasper Coetzee and Hendrik Turner. There were other known refugee groups led by Gert Alberts, du Plessis, Jan Greyling, Gert Mair, van Rensburg who trekked to DSWA. The first Boers from Maltahöhe District settled in the Kleinfontein area in 1886. They were probably descendants of 7 large families who had settled in the area of later Keetmanshoop then "Swartmodder". Around 1901 the Boers already built small dams and gardens on farms, farm buildings and even small schools. The first school was on Zwartmodder with the teacher Kooi. (There are other places with the name Zwartmodder in Keetmanshoop and Rehoboth).

**From the Colonial Trade and Address Book 1901 "Kapburen in Maltahöhe".**

According to the Colonial Trade and Address Book 1901, the following were registered in the Gibeon District : Farm Karichab 10 Kapburen, Farm Tourlosie 8 Kapburen, Farm Zwartmodder 12 Kapburen, Farm Kameelhaar 17 Kapburen, Farm Gaus 21 Kapburen, Farm Riedfontein (that was near Farm Zaris) 21 Kapburen, Farm Rietkull 12 Kapburen, Farm Pezip 15 Kapburen, Farm Liedfontein (?) 5 Kapburen, Farm Kleinfontein 26 Kapburen, Farm Grootfontein(South) 9 Kapburen, place Mariental 14 "Transvalburen". In 1901 German farmers were still a rarity in the Maltahöhe district. According to the Deutsche Kolonialzeitung 1901 85 Boer families came to the south of DSWA and another 150 wanted to follow.

In 1903 in Kleinfontein 35 Boers, Toulouse 11 Boers, Grootfontein -South 14 Boers.

Probably there were considerably more Boers. The editors estimate the number of Boers around 1904 in the district of Gibeon / Maltahöhe at 300 persons.

A list of Boer farms in the Maltahöhe district before 1904.

From a list about treckburen in the Maltahöhe district before 1903 ( Unknown author ):

Cornelius Brink- ( Tsubgaris) Zubgaris, Dirk Coetzee -Rietrevier, Jan Coetzee Karichab. De Klerk -Kleinfontein, Hendrik N. Fourie Kleinfontein, Hendrik N. Fourie - Kleinfontein, Holländer - Poortjie, Jakobus (Koos) Kotze - Onis, Andries Piek 2. Dorslandtrek - Kub, Stefan Andreas Rossouw -Kleinfontein, Willem Rossouw-Kleinfontein, Jan Andries Smit-Kleinfontein, Johannes B. Steenkamp-Kleinfontein, Willem Andries van der Merve-Tourlosie, Barend van der Westhuizen -Karichab, Van Jaarsveld -Karichab,

**Story:** Quelle <http://www.oocities.org/> *Afrikaanse Trekkerboere het ongeveer 1870 die land begin binnekom. Die gesinne het getrek vanaf Piketberg, soos Hendrik Smit wat die 7 Desember 1890 met 'n dertigtal gesinne onder andere die van der Westhuizens, Frans Smit, Pieter Brand, Jasper Coetzee en Hendrik Turner gekom het. Die Maritzers het in 1897 van die Ghaap se Berg getrek. Daar was toe alreeds heelwat gesinne gevestig van die Karrasberge tot by Gibeon en Kub. Oorsake van die trek was in die geval van die Maritzers die Runderpes toe hulle al hul osse verloor het en toe 'n beter heenkome gesoek het.. Na die Anglo-Boere oorlog van Oktober 1899 tot 1902 het nog boere hierheen getrek net om hulle 'n jaar later weer in 'n ander oorlog te bevind.*

Meaningful translation: African (Burische) treckburen moved across the Great River (Oranje) around 1870. The families emigrated from Piketberg (South Africa). Among others Hendrik Smit, who came on December 7 with thirteen families, including the Van der Westhuizens, Frans Smit, Pieter Brand and Hendrik Turner. The Maritzers moved in 1897 came from the Ghaap's Mountain. Jasper Johannes Coetzee came from Vanrijnsdorp (north of Piketberg) in 1888. The van der Merve family came from Schaaprevier (west of Piketberg). The family around Coenraad Strydom trekked from Calitzdorp near Odshoorn to Kub in about 1899. (This article could not be 100% verified).

There were also families from Transvaal who first trekked north with the Dorslandtrek and now moved south again to Maltahöhe and Mariental.





The church of Vanrijnsdorp in SA ca.1890.

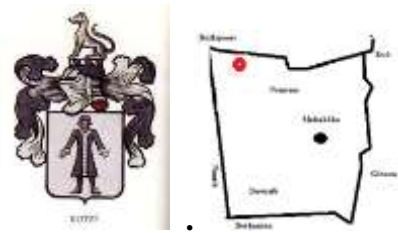
### **Burian schools in Maltahöhe district**

From 1902 on, there were private burish schools in the district of Gibeon/Maltahöhe (?) in Swartmodder (it is not quite clear which Swartmodder was meant. Probably in the district of Gibeon), then also in Noib and in Gorab. The Boer children learned Afrikaans, singing, praying, less often reading and writing. Hendrik Smit is said (according to Dirk Heinrich) to have recruited Albertus Kooij, then 30 years old, as a teacher from Cape Town to teach in Swartmodder in 1902. At the same time, the burish community also established a school in Kub in the house of Stoffel Coetzee and recruited the Kooij couple from Swartmodder. The school is considered the first Burian school in DSWA. The wife Sijke Adriana Kooi née Visser looked after the home and taught housework. She died of pneumonia in Kub on 09.05.1904. On 22.11.1904 the "Battle of Kub" took place. The Witbooi against Colonel Deimling. Eleven Boers who fought on the German side were killed. After the war, the German colonial government approved the construction of the government schools in Kub and Maltahöhe in 1907. Both government schools were completed in 1910.

The book about the Esterhuizens shows that the financially weak teacher Kooi was co-owner of the farm Gorab and taught 9 children there ca. 1908.

The German administration forced about 1910 also the Burian and German children to attend the German government schools. Mrs. Voss reports that her daughter was also ordered to attend the school by district chief Seydel. Farmer Rossouw protested unsuccessfully against compulsory German schooling as a representative of the Buri community. For the Burenkinder the colonial government took over almost the entire school costs in the amount of 550 Reichsmark. In 1910 there were 25 pupils in Kub and 12 pupils in Maltahöhe. The colonial government's aim was to "Germanize" the Boers. The first teacher in Maltahöhe was Fritz Heinzig and in Kub Wilhelm Vogelbruck. From 1912 teacher Paul Hermann took over the school in Kub. Both schools were closed during the war. After the annexation of DSWA by the British and South Africans, the school in Kub was opened in 1917 under the teacher J.C.Strydom from Calitzdrop. Probably this was the farmer from the farm "Adams Rust" Coenraad Strydom. After the war there was also a farm school on Amhub under the teacher Botha.

## Burian farms in Maltahöhe district

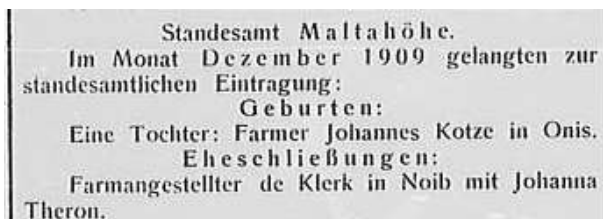


### Farm Onis Nr.8 Kotze Philipp F

According to an entry in the Colonial Address Book 1910-1915 Philipp Kotze owned the farm Onis Nr 8. The farm is located just before the Naukluft crossed by 2 precincts. On a list of Trekburen the first owner was named as Jakobus (Koos) Kotze. Possibly the father of Phlipp. The Kotze family may have been Dorslandtrecker. The de Klerk and Theron families also lived on the farm. The small farm (5000 ha) had a dug well and a spring in 1907 and was stocked with 3 cattle and 992 sheep. In 1910 when surveyor Voss and his party surveyed the farms there were a total of 22 Burian people on the farm. The farming couple had 12 children and 3 grandchildren. They owned a lot of cattle and an extensive garden with beans, lettuce, squash, watermelons, grapes, figs.

A daughter was born to Johannes Kotze in 1909 and a son on March 11, 1912 in Neu-Onis. A daughter of Philipp, Anna Kotze married Johannes v.d. Merve who managed the farm in 1936. The farm Onis is said to have been owned by "Wagner" for a while. Unfortunately, nothing further is known about this except a note.

Notes:



Lüderitzbucht Zeitung 1909



Isak Johannes v.d.Merve was the son of Jakobus who owned the farm Tourlosie. Born 27.05.1886 died 30.03.1957 in Windhoek, buried in Maltahöhe . The gravestone is still there. Izak Johannes van der Merve was listed in the 1936 Colonial Address Book as a farmer in Onis. His wife was a Kotze by birth. Kotze's father-in-law had probably owned the farm before.

Notes:

- Entry in the farmer list 1910 Izaak,J.V.d.Merve Farm Nieverust Maltahöhe
- Entry in the Colonial Address Book 1910-1915: Onis Nr 8 Kotze Philipp

„Koloniales Adressbuch“ 1936 (Adress book):

**Van der Merve, Izak, (Anna), F a r m e r , Onis, Post Maltahöhe/Mariental.**



The son of Izak was Isak Jakobus Hendrik van der Merve junior born on 04.06.1916 in Maltahöhe and died on 19.08.1979 Aranos /Hardap. In 1943 his father divided the farm he had looked after for 40 years to his children. Izak named his part of the farm Vyeboom (fig tree). He married Alida Margrieta Maria du Toit. His 4 children were born between 1944 to 1948 in Maltahöhe and Mariental (Geni). Around 1960 he owned about 1500 sheep 300 goats and about 100 cattle

### **Farm Sesriem No.137**

Boers, supposedly Dorslandtrecker, who came from the north settled Sesriem. From Gamsbocledier they needed six straps until they could draw water with the bucket in the Tsauchabrevier Canyon. This is supposedly how the name came about.



Sessriem Canyon



However, there is another story how it came to the name of Willem Esterhuizen. According to this story, the Schutztruppler Giel Rossouw should have come from the Cape with his parents to DSWA in about 1890. In 1894 he is said to have participated as a scout in the Naukluft battles. Always at his side was the Damara helper Jefta. At the Tsaucha area there was the Abu spring which the first Schutztruppler called Johann- Albrecht spring. There lived a Damara man with the name "Andreas". Giel asked Andreas to make him leather straps from the skin of gemsboks. He shot the bucks and Andreas received as much meat as he wanted and began to make the straps. On a large overhanging branch, probably 5 meters high, he hung the straps and weighted the lower ends with tied branches. There were six belts. Later the six belts and the place at the Tsauchab were remembered and so the name "Seisriem" was born.



### **Tourlosie Nr. 89 Jakobus Hendrik van der Merve**

Jakobus H v. d.M Senior born on 18.03.1856 in Calvinia, died on 15.08.1932 in Maltahöhe. Originally this branch of the family came from Piketberg. Calvinia is 400 kilometers north of Cape Town and over a thousand kilometers from Maltahöhe. The wife of Jakobus v.d.M. was called Alida Helena Schwartz born 01.01.1862 and died in Maltahöhe on 12.11.1953. Jakobus Hendrik v.d.M. is registered in the colonial address lists in 1901 and also still in 1908 to 1915. The van der Merves came to the country with the Nolte and Rossouw families in 1895. In 1901, according to the Colonial Address Book, the Tourloise farm was inhabited by 8 Cape Boers. They had already built a small dam and had a good spring. So they could already build a big garden around 1900.

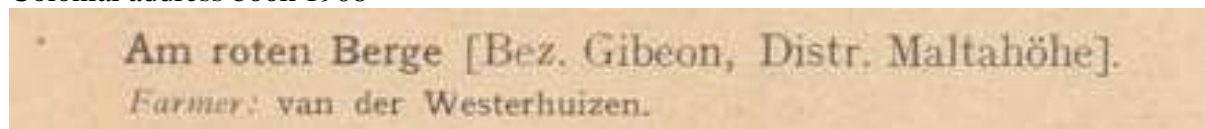
A son was born to one James v.d.Merve on 20.07.1912.

The farm had 2 dug wells in 1907 and was stocked with 41 cattle and 927 sheep.

### **Farm "Am roten Berge" van der Westhuizen**

The farm is unknown. It was probably located in the south of the district. It is also possible that the name is the Germanized form of Rooiberg.

Colonial address book 1908



### **Swartmodder/ Zwartmodder Nr. 101** ( Sometimes spelled Swartmodder with S )

At the eastern border of Hammerstein lies Swartmodder named after the former name for Keetmanshoop. In 1908 Mr. Klinge moved into the farm. In 1923 Mr. B.Vorster and in 1921 A.P.Archer were registered as farmers. In 1928 farmer H.J.K.Weber lived on the farm. The Archer family still owned the farm in 1973. (There are other places with the name Zwartmodder in Keetmanshoop and Rehoboth)





### **Farm Hammerstein Nr. 102 Drews, H. ( Koetzee) .**

In 1912, the German drillmaster Drews farmed first at Farm Neuohof No.100 and then at Farm Hammerstein. The area was still claimed by the Bushmen at that time and was considered dangerous. On the farm Hammerstein also the Burian family Koetzee settled. When the family came to the farm could not be clarified. Like most of the Burian families in the area, they came from the Piketberg region of South Africa. In 1928 there are 4 married couples of the Koetzee family registered on Hammerstein.

Marthinus Petrus Johannes Albertus Melck Brand Coetzee

M.Coetzee born 18.05.1842 in South Africa settled as one of the first Boers from the Piketberg area in the Maltahöhe district. He died on the farm Hammerstein. His wife was Maria Johanna Catharina Coetzee born 20.04.1830. The daughter of M. Cotzee was Belia Maria Jacoba Coetzee (01March, 1867- 29 September, 1945).

Belia's husband was named Tielemann (Tielmann) Nieuwoudt Van Lill born 13.04.1865. The daughter of Tilemann v. Lill was named Maria Catharina van Lill born 18.08.1896 died on the farm Houmoed.

On 27.02.1927 the twins Christina and Johannes Koetzee (Coetzee) were born on the farm Hammerstein and died shortly after on the farm. Johannes on 12.03.1927 Christina on 04.03.1927. The father's name was Hendrik Johannes Francois Koetzee (Coetzee). Infant mortality was much higher than today. There were neither doctors nor sufficient hygiene. The bacterial load of the water was often very high.

The first emigrant from this family "Coetsee", "Coetse", "Couche", "Coussé" was born in 1655 in Kampen in the Netherlands and died in Capeland in 1725. The name suggests a Huguenot, i.e. French origin of the family. The spelling of the family name changed very often.

Remark about Hammerstein: 1. There was also a Leutnant Freiherr von. Hammerstein-Gesmold. He fought with the Schutztruppe. Suppositions he could have played a role in the naming of the farm Hammerstein in the Zarrisgebirge are probably wrong. 2. a Hamerstein couple also lived in Gibeon. 3. there is on the farm allegedly a stone which looks like a hammer without handle. G. von Schumann assumed in 1986 that the name comes from the village of the same name east of Neustettin in Pomerania. The editors prefer this assumption.



### Karichab Nr.39 Jan Cotzee and Jaarsfeld



On Karichab. Merion sheep at the "dipping " against Rheude ca.1914 (Picture: Bülow).



Hutup near Karichab Merion sheep Pontoks and sheep Ca 1914 (picture Bülow)

Karichab, in the northwest of the Hanami Plateau, is mentioned as a watering place by missionary Olpp as early as 1864. From about 1899 (1897?) the owner was called "Jan Karichab" /Jan Coetzee. In 1900 there were 10 Kapburen living on the farm. There was a mud house with a well on the farm. Jan's first wife must have died before 1907, leaving 3 minor children. The farm in 1907 had four dug wells, 1 tube well and was stocked with 58 cattle and 442 sheep. The farm also grew a lot of alfalfa and corn in 1907. In mid-1910, a daughter was born to Conrad Cotzee on the farm. On Nov. 10, 1914, Adam Erasmus Coetzee, 86, died on Karichab b.1828. Jan C. died in March 1930 at age 77. His 40 years younger wife Arianne gave birth to a son 4 days later. This was the cause of several rumors about paternity. In 1934, the young woman had so much debt that no one would give her credit. After the death of Jan Cotzee, Mr. Bracke bought the indebted farm from the bank.

#### Jarsfeld

A tenant farmer in Karichab was named Van Jarsveld Niklaas. In October 1904 a daughter was born to the family. The grave of one Koos van Jarsfeld is in the Schutztruppler cemetery at Maltahöhe. From this it can be concluded that he was a German citizen and a member of the Schutztruppe. William Brown married Anna van Jarsveld on Karichab on 08.07.1912.

4 Dec 1909



### **Sandpforte Nr.36 Jacobus Johannes Christian Coetzee**

The farm had a dug well in 1907 and was stocked with 25 cattle and 1350 sheep. In 1907 Jacobus Coetzee was listed as the owner of Sandpforte. He was born in Glenwilliam in 1882. In 1893 the whole family had moved to Gibeon before the German seizure of ownership and were farming there. He too had probably fought for the Schutztruppe. James married Claudia Coetzee in 1913. They had one son. The family still lived on the farm in 1960.



### **Sandrücken Nr.51 Gideon Rossouw**

Tensions between the British at the Cape and the Boers led to fears of another Boer war after an assassination attempt on Ohm Kruger in 1895.

The Rossouw family came to Gibeon with two other Boer families Nolte and van der Merve in 1895. According to Bernhardt von Burgsdorff instructed him to settle these 3 families at Grootfontein- South .

According to Esterhuizen a Giel Roussouw together with Oskar Klinge should have taken part in the fights as Schutztruppler near the Naukluft.

In 1909 Stefanus Rossouw is registered on the farm Kleinfontein North. In the course of time at least one Rossouw became naturalized , that is German citizen . Gideon Rossouw got the farm Sandrücken in 1910. However, he never operated the farm. Instead he traded with cattle. This was not in the sense of the German authorities. They demanded that the owners expand the farms. Ausba meant: a well, a house, and cattle pens were to be built. After the declaration of war in 1914, the German mobilization also took place in DSWA. The few men fit for military service were drafted. According to an unconfirmed note, a Russow deserted and the farm Sandrücken was confiscated.

Whether this happened exactly like that is no longer comprehensible. But it is possible in the temporal context.

### **Môreson Nr .165 Rossouw**

Descendants of the Rossouw family still live in Maltahöhe. Currently, a Rossouw farm that has been in the family for 4 generations is called Môreson.

The name comes from a place near Stellenbosch. The accent circumflex above the ô, like the name Russouw, indicates a Huguenot origin of the name.



### Farm Kleinfontein Nr.81 Nr.82 Farmer Rossouw und Smit



Kleinfontein 1911 and the black rim in the background

In very early times the farm was said to be called "Holfontein" and was a watering place on the Bayweg at the foot of the "Red Mountain". The first tenant was Baster Captain Class Swaart. In 1886 Bernhardt occupied the farm with 3 Boer families. Prof. Rehberg reported about the farm in 1886. In 1903 there were 35 Boers living on the Kleinfontein North and South farms. Rossouw, De Klerk, Johannes B. Steenkamp, Jan Andries Smit, Smit Jr, Jan Smit, Hendrik and others. On the farm the Witboois murdered Hendrik N. Fourie together with his 10 year old son on 05.10.1904 during the uprising.

**Kleinf. South** : owner Jan Smit sen. Previous owners were Nolte and Gresse. The farm of 12192 Ha was in 1907 stocked with 56 cattle and 532 sheep and had 2 dug wells with 2 wind engines and a dam. Inhabitants: Holländer Karl, Smit Jan, Smit Hendrik Farm workers: Beukes Gert, Visser. James

**Kleinf.Nord**: owner Stephanus Roussouw. The farm with 15284 ha was in 1907 stocked with 110 cattle and 1690 sheep and had 3 dug wells and 2 wind engines. In 1910 there was an ostrich breeding on the farm as well as cranes and peacocks for the production of hat feathers. At that time lived in Kleinfontein North: Russow Stefanus, Steenkamp Benjamin.



Ostrich feathers 1910 (Chanel)



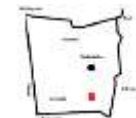


A family James Peter Rossouw possible wise at Karasburg ca 1930



#### **Schwarzkuppe Nr. 79 1905 Smit, Jan .Andr.**

The owner was called Jan Smit junior in 1905. According to the official gazette, a daughter was born to him on 08.02.1911 and a son on 22.03.1912 on the farm. A son of the prospector Maximilian Jense was born on the farm on 09.04.1911. In 1928 Jan jun.Smit was listed in the address book as farmer of Schwarzkuppe. The farm had a dug well in 1907 and was stocked with 36 cattle and 360 sheep.



#### **Amhub Nr. 78 Paul Smit ab1912**

Amhub is already registered at the time of Sir Alexander's expedition on the Baiweg in old maps from about 1840. In the colonial address book Farmer Langhinrichs is registered in 1904 and from 1912 Paul Smit. On 04.04.1911 Paul Smit married Catarina Schwartz from Rooiberg -North. Approx. September 1911 the drilling team South encountered water at 45 meters with 1300 liters/min. On 22.06.1913 a son of Paul Smit was born on the farm. In 1914 Smit applied for the registration of the farm in the land register. In 1928 there was a farm school in Amhub under the teacher B.D.Botha. A married farmer L.C.Müller lived on the farm in 1928.



### **Rooiberg-Nord Nr.77 Rooib.-Süd Nr.83 Farmer Smit, Hendrik.**

Rooiberg North: owner Smit Hendrik Jakobus (Rux Jan). The farm had a dug well in 1907 and was stocked with 36 cattle and 380 sheep.

Rooiberg South: tenant Sudheim Wilhelm. Hansheinrich von Wolf bought Rooiberg South from Hendrik Jakobus Smit on Dec. 11, 1909 for 25000 marks. Sept. 1912 the 3rd drilling column found water in 59.30 meters depth. After 1928 the owner of Rooiberg South is F. Pretorius.



### **Farm Naudaus Nr.76 Jonni Annis / Von Wolf**

Initially, since 1904, the farm belonged to John Annis, a Portuguese who was married to a Baster woman, a daughter of Captain Claas Zwart. They lived in the Bethany district in 1907. H. v. Wolf bought Naudaus in 1911. (Kl. Haremub/Beth. was also bought by v. Wolf and leased by John Annis. He still lived there in 1923).

In 1928 Arnoldus Vlock was living on Naudaus. About 1930 Mr. Thorer bought the farm Naudaus. Mr. Spitzner, brother-in-law of Jürgen Thorer appointed Dr. Helmut Gundert as administrator around 1960. Gundert wrote about it in his book "Baustelle Zukunft". In Germany he worked for many years as a well-known alternative for "Bread for the World".



ca 1955

Kl. Haremub, Farm ca. 120 km nördlich von Aus. Besitzer: Hauptmann v. Wolf-Duwisch, Pächter: John Annis.  
Post- und Polizeibezirk: Aus.

### **Family Van der Merve**

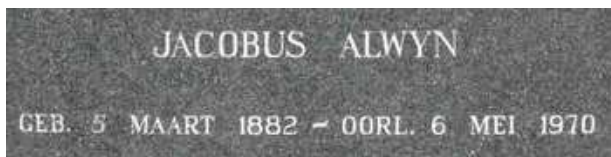
Ancestor Willem Schallhz van der Merve, born in 1640, came to the Cape in about 1670. He came from Gauda / Netherlands and his wife from Cologne. A branch of the family moved to Piketberg and Calvinia. Pressed by the British, a small group of the descendants of Jakobus Alwyn v.d.Merwe came from South Africa to Maltahöhe in about 1895. Jakobus Alwyn v.d.M. was nicknamed "Kwaai Koos" and was born in Calvinia in South Africa in 1804..





### Farm Noib Nr.93 Jakobus Alwin van der Merve

Alwin v.d.M. born 06.03.1856 in Calvinia. His brother Jakobus Hendrik v.d.M. is said to be born 18.03.1856. Here is probably a number error. But it is important that he was the brother and both probably came together from Calvinia 1895 to Southwest Africa. The family was very poor. The farm had a dug well in 1907 and was stocked with 20 cattle and 148 sheep. The name James Alwyn had been passed down from father to eldest son for generations. According to the Colonial Address Book, the Tourlosie and Noib farm were registered as owned by the two v.d.M. brothers from 1910 to 1915. In 1909 the clerk de Klerk married Johanna Theron on the farm Noib. In 1912 Franz Theron his wife and daughter Jakobina were also registered on Noib. Noib was still owned by the V.d Merve family in 1923. According to the address book, Gideon Swartse was also registered on Noib in 1923, Hendrikus-Marinus Kotze and Gideon Swartz (s) in 1928.



Gravestones in Maltahöhe. Probably 1910 the owner of Noib and nephew of Jakobus Hendrik v.d.Merve. The gravestone of the oldest Burian settlers Alida V.d.Merve. born .1862.



### Farm Kalkrand, today Kalkhügel Nr.97 Karl Olsen

Karl Olsen owned the farm from 1909 until 1910, when he probably had to give it up due to illness. Mrs. Voss reported that in April 1910 they sought refuge in the Olsens' farmhouse, soaked by the rain. Karl Olsen was in hospital at Maltahöhe and the wife had a child on "Noib" her parents' farm. Mrs. Olsen was born van der Merve.



gravestone in Maltahöhe

The farm had been renamed by Karl Olsen from Kalkrand to Kalkhügel. There was probably much confusion with the small town of Kalkrand on the road to Rehoboth. Koli van der Merve, the freight driver also lived at Kalkhügel.

From 1912 the farm belonged to Wilhelm Kophamel. Gert Beukes was registered as a tenant on the renamed farm "**Kalkheuvel**" in 1912. Through marriage, the Bergemann family became owners of the farm. In 1928, Gert Tenus Bosch managed the farm. Finally, the du Toit family acquired the farm.



### Andries Gerhardus du Toit Kalkhügel Nr.97

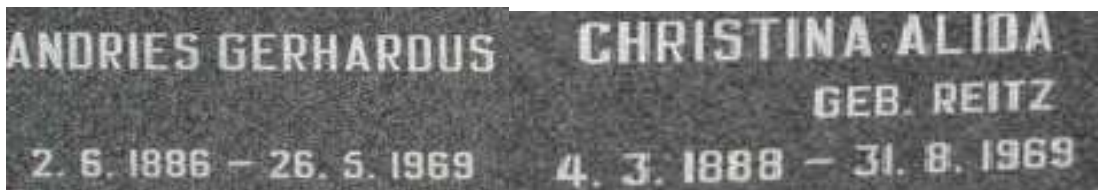


Fraserburg SA ca 1900

Lithop Schwantesii Variation Urikosensis / Christinae



Andries Gerhardus du Toit born 02.06.1886 died 26.05.1969 (07.03.1886?) Christina A. du Toit (Reitz) born 04.03.1888-died 31.08.1969



Gravestone in Maltahöhe ( Unfortunately the dates in the Geni forums are different )

Andries Gerhardus du Toit senior came from Fraserburg SA. When he came is unclear (1930?). Andries G.d.Toit senior had first leased the farm Kalkhügel from the government and bought it about 1940. His wife's name was Christina Alida du Toit née Reitz. Although she had a German father, she spoke only Afrikaans. A species of Lithops was named after her. (*Lithops christinae* or *L. schwantesii*. Cole No. 107) The couple had 9 children, 4 sons and 5 girls.

In 1959 Andries Gerhardus du Toit junior bought a part of the farm from his father and named his part "Klipkolk". After the death of Andries G.d.Toit senior, Andries G.d.Toit bought the other part of the farm in 1972.

Christina d.Toit's father, Karel Reitz was born in 1851 in Knüllwald near Kassel and emigrated to South Africa / Fraserburg. There he died in 1915.



The daughter of Andries G. d. Toit senior, Alida Margarita Maria d.Toit. was born on 30.04.1919 still in Fraserburg and married probably in Maltahöhe the Jakobus Hendrik van der Merve. A sister-in-law of Andries G. du Toit senior was district physician in Maltahöhe in 1970. Her predecessor was called Dr. Heussen.



### **Wereldsend Nr.115 Jabus du Toit**

The youngest son of Andries G. du Toit senior, Christian Reitz du Toit (06.09.1925 - 05.01.1999) owned around 1960 the farm Wereldsend No.115 ("World's End") at Namibrand directly at the "Eckberg". The mountain is with 1400 m the highest of the area. **Farm Gorab**



### **Nr.85 Familie Tielmann van Lill,**

(Tielmann was often also written Tillmann, Tielemann Tilmann or possibly Thielmann).

In 1901, a military post with 6 soldiers is registered in the Colonial Manual on the farm Gorab. In 1902 Gorab was offered to the Colonial Society as compensation for the loss of Kubub and was finally granted in 1907. Apparently, the Colonial Society sold the land on. It was from the Gorab military post that Trenk's famous camel expedition with district chief Seydel set out for the Namib in 1909.

According to Bernhardt, Van der Merve, Van Lill and Rossouw trekked from the north of South Africa to Gibeon in 1895 and on the instructions of the administration to Maltahöhe. In different colonial trade and address books first Jakobus Alwin van der Merve and then from 1910 to 1915 Andreas Esterhuizen and Tilemann van Lill and for a short time also Kooy Albertus are registered as owners of Gorab. Gorab was later divided into several parts with different owners / tenants, from the families Esterhuizen and van Lill with different farm names.

The water from the Zarris Mountains pressed through the limestone banks at Gorab. Tielmann built the first well on the banks of the Zaris Range to the south of the farm and Andries Esterhuizen to the north. The farm buildings of the Esterhuizen`s and the Van Lill`s were close to each other. Kooy was the teacher of the children.

Tielman Nieuwoudt van Lill senior (pioneer)

Born 13.04. 1865 (13.04.1869?) in Piketberg, died 04.04.1925 in Khomas. His wife was named Belia Maria Jacoba Coetzee 01.03.1867 - 29.09.1945.

The daughter was named Maria Catharina van Lill born 18.08.1896 - died 29.12.1931 on the farm Houmoed (part of Gorab). She was married to Adriaan Pieter van Niekerk van Lill. Adriaan's (v.N.v.Lill) sons were named: Jakob Johannes v.Lill.born 16.03.1887, and Tielman Nieuwoudt junior v.Lill born 10.01.1891. T.N.v.Lill`s daughter was born 15.06.1910 on Gorab.

Tielmann died on 27.12.1926 after drinking spring water in the mountains of Gorab. Probably from typhoid fever. He is buried on Gorab.

Farm Betta No.87 Van Lill. (The farm Betta is also a part of Gorab)

(Note: The first of the family in Africa, was a Jakob van Lill born in Rotterdam in 1795 and came to Cape Town around 1800).

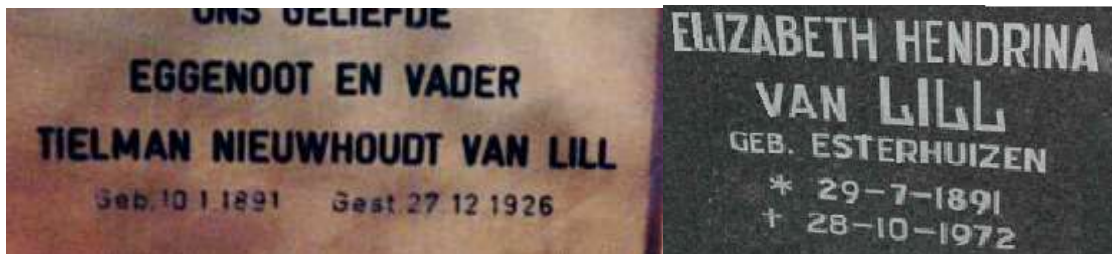
Tielmann junior van Lill born 10.01.1891 married Elisabeth Hendrina Esterhuizen called after the farm "Oma Betta". Oma Betta was born on 29.07.1891 and died on 28.10.1972 in Maltahöhe.



Tielmann N. van Lill

ca 1925

Family Van Lill ca 1930 on Farm Betta



Gravestone on Gorab "Grandma Bettas" family gravestone in Maltahöhe



"Betta" and her 9 children

(Information is from the mstrydom77@gmail.com . Her Gandmother was Gloudina Susanna Van Lill born March 28, 1922).

The 9 children of Tielman Nieuwoudt Van Lill und "Betta" Elizabeth Hendriena Van Lill (née Esterhuizen) This information came from Marlitze Stydom Wandrag.

**Their Children: They have 10 children but one died by birth:**

**Beluh Maria Louw** (neé Van Lill) (Mother of **Broer Louw** from farm **Aandster** Maltahohe district. She is buried in the Strand in the Cape Province of South Africa)



**Tielman Nieuwoudt Van Lill** 28.03.1913 geb .Gorab  
(Whether he passed away just after birth of whether it was a still birth I do not know. However he is buried in the farm cemetery on the farm Gorab)

**Alleta Johanna?** (Neé Van Lill) (Known as Lettie and she is buried in the Maltahohe town cemetery)

**Elizabeth Hendrina?** (neé Van Lill) (Buried in the farm cemetery on the farm **Uitkoms**)

**Tielman Nieuwoudt Van Lill** (Buried in Goodwood cemetery in the Cape province South Africa)



This is a picture of the grave of his son who died at age 7 because of a shooting accident. He shot himself with his father handweapon.

**Andries Petrus Van Lill** (Buried in the Oudtshoorn cemetery in the south cape Cape Province South Africa)

**Martinus Albertus Van Lill** (Buried in the Maltahohe town cemetery)

**Gloudina Sussanna Strydom** born 28. 03.1922. neé Van Lill)(My grandmother) (Marry Coenraad FJ Strydom son of **Coenraad Strydom Snr from Farm Adams Rust** nr 17. She is buried in the Okahandja cemetery.)

**Jakob Jacobus Van Lill** (Buried in the Maltahohe town cemetery)

**Willem Christoffel Van Lill** (Buried in Windhoek and his widow ant Meisie is in her nineties and live in Windhoek.)



Adriaan Esterhuizen und die Familie van Lill



Jakob Jakobus , Martha Maria van Lill

### **Farm Vanlillsville ( part of Gorab)**

The brother of Tielmann N.v.Lill Junior Jakob Jakobus van Lill, born 16.03.1887 (13. 03. 1894?) married at the age of 23 on 07.09.1917, another daughter of Esterhuizen, the only 16-year-old Martha Maria Elizabeth Esterhuizen. They had six children. One son was again named Tielman Nieuwoudt. All of them grew up on the Gorab farm. They named that part of the Gorab farm "Vanlillsville." In 1923 on Gorab were Jakobus, Tielmann sen. ,Tielmann.jun and Chr.-Joh. were listed in the address book. In 1940 they built themselves a spacious house. The family continued to live there after WW2 as Karakul farmers. Jakob died on Vanlillsville on 08.12.1977.

### **Farm Stellarine ( part of Gorab)**

The farm Stellarine is probably a part of Gorab. After the 2nd World War Jakob Jakobus van Lill had at first only leased this area. The farm was later bought and Jakob v.Lill Junior took it over. He named the farm after his only daughter Stella.

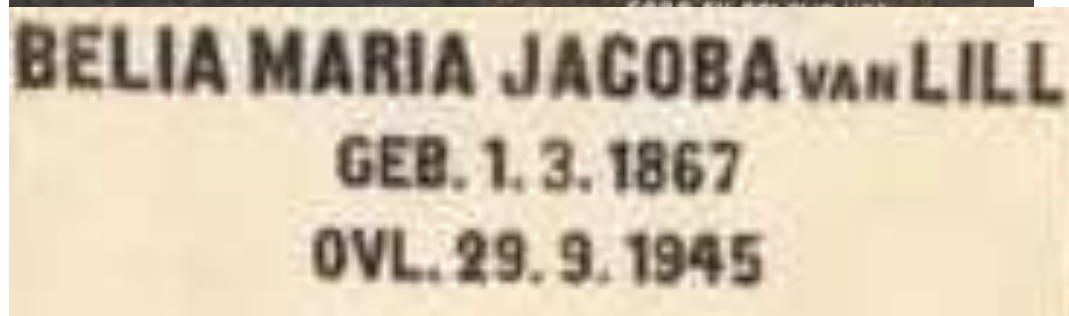
There is also a small publication by Alida van der Merwe the daughter of Atti van Lill..



### **Kronenhof West Nr.154 Ost Nr.117 Christian Johannes van Lill**

Christian Johannes van Lill was born in WDK in 1898 as son of J.N.van Lill. He went to a farm school and married Susanna Sophia Jakoba Westhuisen (Westhuizen?). They had 3 sons and 2 daughters. In 1930 he took over the farm Kronenhof from his father. The family still owned the farm in 1960.

### **Farm Kronenhof Nr.117 C.J. Van Lill**



**Belia Maria Jakoba van Lill** born 01.03.1867 died 29.09.1945 on the farm Kronenhof. Her father's name was Marhinus Petrus Johannes Albertus Melk Coetzee (born 18.05.1842 i. Piketberg - died on the farm Hammerstein.) Her mother's name was Maria Johanna Catharina Coetzee née Brandt. Her husband was called Tieleman Nieuwoudt van Lill born 13.04.1865 died 1918 (1925) in WDK. Her daughter was Maria Catharina van Lill born 18.08.1896 died



29.12.1931 in Hoemoed. Her husband was called Adriaan Pieter van Niekerk van Lill.



Graves at Farm **Kronenhof** . (Foto Magda van Lill)



#### **Farm Saffier Nr.148 Tielmann Jood van Lill**

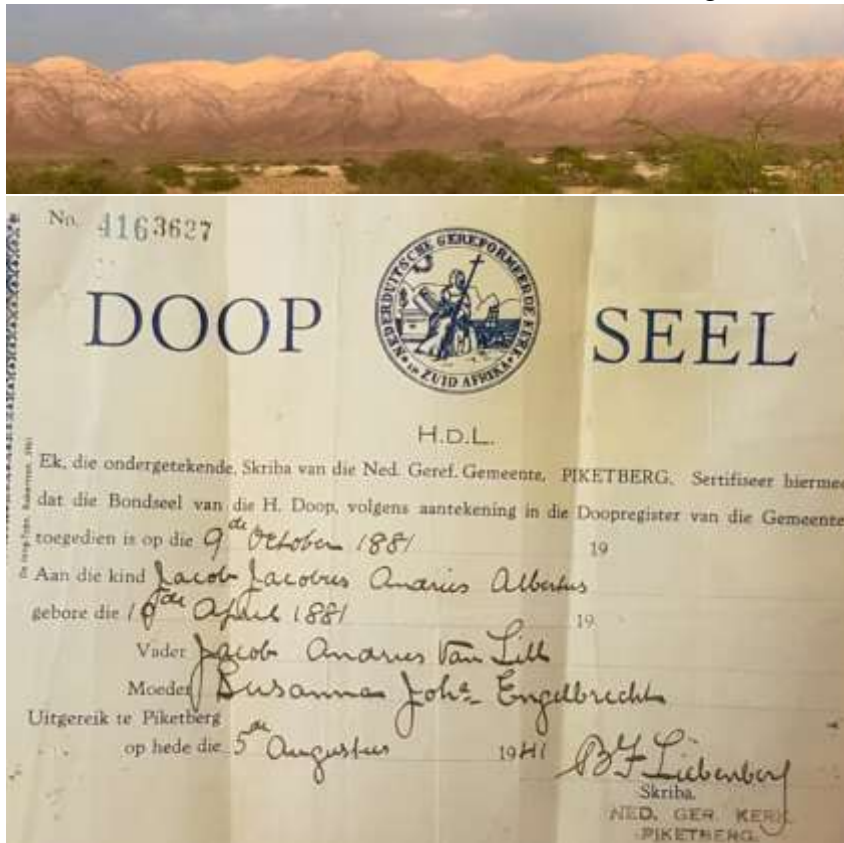
Tielmann Jood van Lill was born as son of T.v.Lill and Elizabeth nee Esterhuizen, went to school in Maltahöhe and had to help on the farm already at the age of 17 because of the early death of his father. From 1939 to 1945 he was active in the army. He married Gertruida Coetzee and built his own farm Saffier. They had one son and three daughters. He had 3000 sheep around 1960.

#### **Aandster Nr.147 Broer Louw**



**Aandster** was already surveyed in 1955 with 20000 hectares. Presumably, Aanster (Evening Star) initially served as an alternative farm. The former owner was probably called Broer Louw. His mother was called Beluh Maria Louw (née Van Lill). Her father was called Thilmann N.van Lill.

**Wetvrede** (Distrikt Rehoboth) **West of Naukluft** (Foto Magda van Lill)



Jakob Jakobus Andries Albertus van Lill was born on 09.10.1881 in Piketberg/SA and married Susanna née Engelbrecht. He lived in "Weletfrede ". Presumably this is in connection with the farm Weltevrede at the edge of the Naukluft. **This is not completely clarified.** But there is also a town in South Africa called Weltefrede.

[illegible]

(This compiled information is uncertain could not be 100% verified)

### **Farm Houmoed** (part of Gorab)

#### **Adriaan Pieter van Niekerk Esterhuizen, Fate of a burish freight driver and his family tree**

Cornelis Gerritsz van Niekerk born 1667 in the Netherlands came around 1690 from Nijkerk, Gelderland as a settler to the Cape Province founded in 1752 by Jan van Riebeck. From the place of origin Nijkerk the surname "van Nieuwkerk" and later "Van Niekerk" developed. Cornelis died in 1711 at the age of only 44 in Tulbagh 100 kilometers north east of Cape Town. In 1795 the British occupied Cape Town and ousted the Boers. In 1836 16000 "Voortrekkers" moved to the north and founded a new Boer republic. In 1794 the great grandson of Cornelis, Adriaan Pieter van Niekerk (see picture below) was born in Drievontyn near Tulbagh. (at the time of the French Revolution )



Adriaan's daughter Aletta Johanna van Niekerk married Andries Esterhuizen in about 1845. She named her son Adriaan Pieter van Niekerk Esterhuizen, born May 17, 1887, at Mesklip, near Springbok in northern South Africa. This family also moved northward to Maltahöhe, pushed by the British.



At the age of 14, Adriaan van Niekerk Esterhuizen took part as a soldier under General Manie Maritz in the 2nd Boer War from 1899 to 1902 against the British. Fearing the British, he moved north to a farm in DSWA after the lost war and started as a sheep keeper. The pay consisted of three sheep plus board and lodging. After a short time he obtained a license as a freight driver "conductor". He brought, before and during the Witbooi-austand with the ox wagon, freight from Lüderitzbucht over the desert track through the shifting dunes to the place Aus and further north to Bethany. The ox wagons were loaded with 22 oxen. It is almost unbelievable what courage these freight drivers had and what hardship they took upon themselves. Through this access to the sea, the "Baiweg", came the first European settlement of the south as far as Keetmanshoop, Gibeon and Maltahöhe. Every wind engine, every drilling rig, beds, chairs, sheep, cattle, seeds, everything had to pass through this eye of the needle first. There were about 500 ox wagons in "South West". Esterhuizen settled in the Maltahöhe district on the Houmoed farm, part of the Gorab farm. Houmoed meant "Have courage / keep courage". On 12.05.1912 he married the 16 year old Maria Jacoba van Lill (born 18.08.1896 ). Adriaan built a typical small 2 room house for his family of 6. On Adriaan's farm there were farm services twice a day. Adriaan made expeditions to the Namib rim area with his friend Oskar Klinge. Mrs. Maria and Adriaan were also neighbors when H. von Wolf built Duwisib Castle. Adriaan brought all the material from Lüderitzbucht with the ox wagons and Maria led a singing and bible group among the farm workers. Water for the Houmoed farm had to be carted in daily from Gorab. The drilling foreman Graeft did not tap water at a depth of 100 meters for the Houmoed farm until about 1921. Father Adries died on the farm Gorab in 1918. Adrian inherited the Hoemoed farm in 1921. Gorab Farm became a

staging area for Burian families from the Union of South Africa around 1920. Lill, Esterhuizen, Marais Truter, Liebenberg, Frederik and more. Maria Esterhuizen died of childbed fever on Dec. 29, 1931 a month after the birth of her 9th child. The child survived. Adriaan married again on 13.05.1933 the 19 year old daughter of a friend Coenraad Strydom from the farm Adams Rust, Maryna Strydom (Danieline M.J. Strydom). They had 5 sons and 7 daughters. With Maryna and the family Adriaan Esterhuizen moved to the farm Vrede No.80 which he bought in 1935. In 1937 Adriaan bought the farm Zaris through the mediation of Mr. Rüberstrunk " Rubie" from the Maltahöhe Hotel, who approached the community of heirs of Mr. von Suchodoletz in Germany. The contracts were drawn up by the lawyer Willi Kirsten. In 1945 Daantjie Oosterhuizen surveyed the farms at Namibrand on behalf of the government and also divided Adriaan's farms into 5 parts so that he could give each son a farm. Vrede, Eckberg, Houmoed, Asbakkies (a part of Zarris) and Zaris. Adriaan died on 25.06.1966 at the age of 79 on the farm Vrede No. 80 near Maltahöhe.

**Willem Christoffel Esterhuizen** a son of Adriaan was born in 1924 on Houmoed (mother v.Lill) He went to school in Maltahöhe and Windhoek. He studied in Pretoria in 1947 and after his studies he worked on his father's farm. He married his wife Hester Jochina Kamfer in 1951 and they had 2 daughters. From 1950 he developed his own farm Asbakkies near Zarris with boreholes and a 100 cubic meter dam. About 1960 the farm Vrede had 25 boreholes and three earth dams

(The compiled information from lists and books could not be checked 100%.The information often comes from lists and smallest comments from the Internet and books and were compared to their conclusiveness with lists .It is to be expected that small errors have crept in. For example, with names ( Cotzee, Jarsfeld, Smit ) different spellings from 1900 to 1915 are not at all uncommon).

The first immigrant from the Esterhuizen family in the Cape Province was Christoffel "Estreux" or "Easterus", supposedly born in the Netherlands in 1666. He died in 1724 at the age of 58 at Bottelary / Stellenbosch. There is the name Estreux for a place on the French-Belgian border. Thus a Huguenot origin of the family from France would be probable.

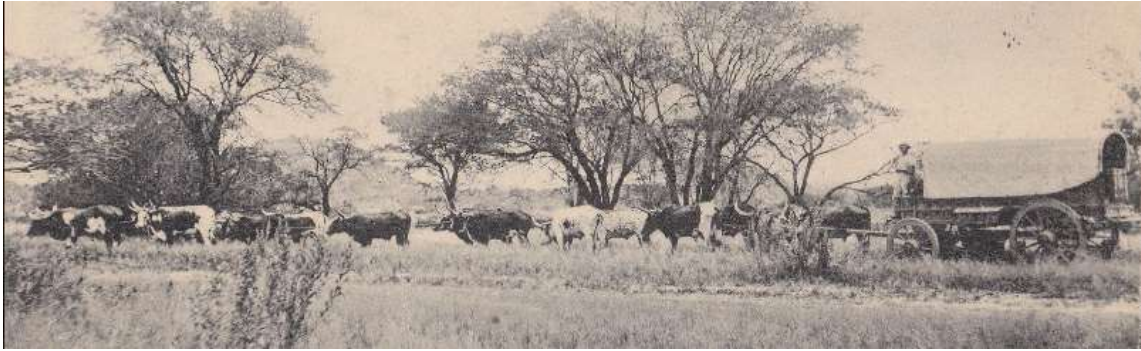
On the cemetery in Maltahöhe still exist three old graves of A.P. van Niekerk 1885-1954 and Gileam Hendrik van Niekerk, 1897-1971 and Elizabeth Hendrina van LILL, nee Esterhuizen 1891-1972.

On the farm Hoemoed died in 1931 the daughter Maria of the pioneer Thielmann van Lill.

Maria Catharina van Lill had married Adriaan Pieter van Niekerk van Lill. Literature : Survival in the Namib. Experiences of the freight driver Adriaan Esterhuizen and family tree "GENT".







### Farm Adams Rust, Coenraad Strydom

The Strydom family probably originally came from the Oudshoorn/ Calitzdrop SA area. Coenraad Strydom Sr. born 14.06.1884 married in 1910 Alida Niewoudt born 24.03.1890, (in Clamwilliam?) died 1982 (92). They had 10 children and lived on the Adams Rust farm. Conraad Stry.sen. transported material to build Duwisib with Adriaan Esterhuizen around 1910 to earn money. He bought the farm Adams Rust (Gibeon No.17) on 21.02.1921. The house was finished in 1928. Alida lived on the farm for 67 years. Coenraad could also have been the first teacher after the 1.W.War in Kub.



The farmhouse of Adams Rust

The name Adam Rust cannot be explained despite intensive search. There was once a German missionary named Heinrich Rust who died in Gochas in 1894.



Coenraad Strydom sen . his wife Alida



gravestone of Regina Strydom

**Prices for the construction of a farm in 1914.**

(Source: Farmwirtschaft in DSWA Dr. Josef Schneider).

Recommended working capital for the purchase of a farm 50000.-Mark for 2 years.

Cost of living for a farmer 100.- monthly. Rate for the purchase price government land 10% / pa. equal to 500.- to 1000.-M. For 30 cows and a bull 7000.-M. 100 sheep 2000.-M. 30 chickens 200.-M. 6 pigs 150.-. 16 donkeys 1600.-M. A bricklayer earned 10.-M / tgl. Cement cost at 300 km transport 30.-M. Ox cart 2000.-M. A cart 800.-M. Well extension some thousand marks. Three weeks in the hospital 100.-M.

## Persons and events of Maltahöhe history until 1915

### Ernst ( Traugott?) Seydel district chief of Maltahöhe



Laurentius church in Zöpen ca.1870

Unfortunately there is no photo of Ernst Seydel

Unfortunately, there is neither coherent information nor a picture of this, for the construction of the civil Maltahöhe so important man.

In 1872 Seydel was born in Germany, the son of a priest from Zöpen, south of Leipzig. He was a captain, later lieutenant in the Schutztruppe and inactive since 1904. Around ca.1904 he was district office secretary first in Gibeon and from ca.1905 in Keetmannshop. From 1907 to 1914 Seydel held the office of district chief of Maltahöhe. In 1909 the Maltahöhe district became independent. Seydel's wife, Lydia, was a teacher. Seydel also researched the legal system and customs of the Bushmen in his district during his tenure and made several expeditions to Namiband.

Notes:

----1907 During a night patrol, it is reported, Seydel happened to meet Wilhelm Külz, the Reichskommissar from Windhoek. He had actually already retired to the field and was on his way from Gibeon to Maltahöhe. The next day Külz inspected the offices in Maltahöhe and found everything in perfect order. It turned out during the conversation that Külz and Seydel were from Saxony and that the parents of the two also knew each other. The father, Pastor Seydel was probably the godfather of a sister of Mr. Külz.

---1908 Maltahöhe got on 27.07.1908 further high attendance. The government commissioner Dernburg from Germany. At that time Maltahöhe had barely 40 inhabitants. Seydel rode to meet him on the road with his sergeants. Entering the town, the sergeants, all in white uniform, formed a guard of honor. In the middle of it, with a huge brown plume of dust, roared the four-wheel Mercedes named after Dernburg. At Maltahöhe, District Administrator H.von Wolf gave the welcoming speech. Dernburg was very important for the region and the whole country. (That Dernburg came with the Mercedes is a fable it was a horse cart because the car was on strike again).

----1908, shortly after Seydel took office as district chief, he arranged for the construction of the new government school at Maltahöhe. During this time Hugo Voss, the surveyor accompanied by his family had also been surveying in the area from Gibeon to the Naukluft. Seydel and his wife visited Voss several times in the Feldkamp and invited him to Maltahöhe. At Maltahöhe, the Voss family stayed a few days in the school that had just been completed.

----1909 Lieutenant Trenk undertook an expedition with camels through the Namib. Seydel accompanied him and published a diary of this expedition together with an account of Bushmen and their legal customs. ("A Namib Expedition with Description of the Habits and Legal Views of the Namib Bushmen " .Noske Leipzig 1910)

----1910 the married couple Seydel made vacation in Germany and came on 05.11.1910 with the ship from Hamburg back to Lüderitzbucht. On the same day Marie Varenholz also

married the district clerk of Maltahöhe Löffler in Lüderitzbucht. She had also come on the same ship.

----1911 the Women's Association of the German Colonial Society reported the arrival of a housemaid in the magazine "Kolonie und Heimat" under the heading "Mädchenausreise nach Südwestafrika". Anna Knappe from Bad Sulza (about 60 km west of Leipzig) as a support (maid) to district chief Seydel at Maltahöhe. She arrived in July from Germany with the "Feldmarschall" to Lüderitzbucht. Probably Dr. Liddy Forkel of the Frauenbund Keetmanshoop had mediated in this case.

----1911 Deputy Governor Hintrager from Windhoek wanted the officials to pay special attention to the learning of native languages of the natives. The heads of the regional administrations, including Seydel were therefore required to report on the language skills of their staff. The head of Maltahöhe District, Seydel said the following about this in an official letter, "The few police officers in this district have neither enough talent nor time to learn the Nama language." There were only just under 70 police stations in DSWA, mostly staffed by only one or two policemen.

--- 1915 Seydel as a Captain in the Reserve remained free on parole and did not have to spend the war in the South African Internment Camp.

----17.06.1919 Wrote a letter to Liddy Forkel, the wife of Judge Dr. Otto Forkel of Keetmanshoop, whom he knew from his time as District Officer in Keetmannshoop in 1905. Shortly thereafter, Seydel and his wife were deported. From then on his trace is lost.

---There is still a vague unverified clue about Seydel's whereabouts. E.g. Colonial Address Book 1926 Seydel, Dr. Ernst, Dresden-Blasewitz, Scaria-Str, 11

Notes :



1911 A report from Seydel to the Imperial Sovereignty regarding overpaid amounts..



signature of Seydel



**Mystery.** While searching for material, the editors found a copy of a receipt signed by district chief Seydel. It was about a payment from Windhoek of 50000.- Marks to the district treasury. This was 2 months after the beginning of the war (28.07.1914). On 08.08.1914 the mobilization of DSWA took place. The receipt certificate is dated 21.09. 1914, for 50000 Marks from the Gouvernmenthauptkasse-Windhoek.

From 24 April 1915, the post office in Maltahöhe was already closed due to the war. On 03 May 1915 a group of the Natal Mounted Rifles allegedly under Captain London occupied Maltahöhe. The last district chief Dr. Vageler was interned by the South Africans in May 1915.

What were they planning to do with such a large amount of money just before the occupation? Was this amount used to pay the soldiers in the district? With 50000.-Mark one could buy 2 farms at that time.

### **Heinrich Eggersglüss " Murder in Maltahöhe "**

Eggersglüss came as a police sergeant from Mariental. Probably right at the beginning of his career in Maltahöhe on 14.03.1913 the patrol of Eggersglüss succeeded to place the bushman "Wilhelm" and to shoot him in "self-defense". Wilhelm is said to have shot prospector Jonen. Prospectors in Namibland were searching heatedly for diamonds and the competition was not squeamish. Since 12.02.1913 bankruptcy proceedings were pending against the missing Heinrich Jonen in Lüderitzbucht. Jonen owed his creditors 5692,30 Reichsmark . Among the 4 arrested members of the "Wilhelmbande" was also the wanted, presumed colored murderer "Franz" of Mr. Groenevelds. Groenevelds could be the merchant Gronefelds, who disappeared in Bethany in 1909, against whom a merchant G. Britze had successfully sued for 956,20 Reichsmark in Keetmanshoop.

Mr. Eggersglüss sailed on 14.08.1913 with the "Admiral " to Hamburg and returned on 01.01.1914 with the "Bürgermeister". He brought his wife with him. He was very likely interned in 1915 and expelled in 1919. In 1926 a Heinrich Eggersglüss is listed in the colonial address books as a state secretary in Hannover as a " former ".

### **Bernhard Dernburg Colonial State Secretary**

Born July 17, 1865 in Darmstadt, died October 14, 1937 in Berlin.

He first started as a banker became Colonial Secretary of State and ultimately a member of parliament in the Weimar Republic. As colonial secretary of state and former banker, the emperor had entrusted him with explorations of the usability of the colony. Dernburg's special interest was the new diamond discoveries in Lüderitzbucht. A poor railroad employee, Mr. Stauch from Thuringia, who had only immigrated in 1907, had found the first diamonds near Lüderitz and secured the first claims. In 1908, Dernburg traveled through the south of Africa in a four-wheel drive Mercedes. He also inspected the area from Gibeon to Maltahöhe and analyzed the economic situation on the farms Nomtsas, Voigtsgrund, Breckhorn, Satansplatz, among others. In Maltahöhe he met Seydel and Landrat von Wolf. According to the Deutsche Kolonialzeitung, he visited Maltahöhe on July 27 and Nomtsas on July 28. In his travel report Nomtsas and Voigtsgrund were mentioned but Maltahöhe was not. Probably the place was still too insignificant.



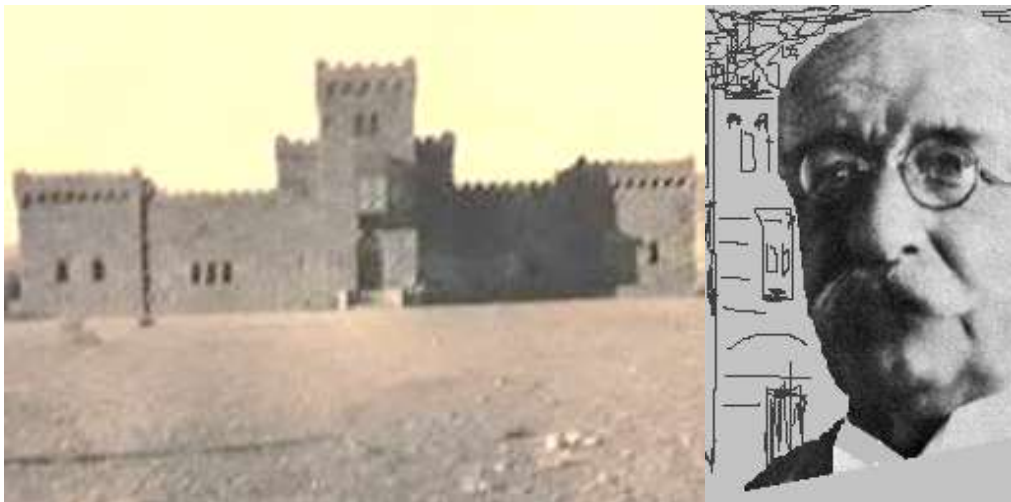
[https://www.mercedes-fans.de/thumbs/img/News/14/47/00/p/p\\_normal/der-dernburg-wagen-das-erste-allrad-auto-von-daimler-die-aeusserst-durchdachte-konstruktion-von-paul-daimler-hat-allradantrieb-und-sogar-eine-allradlenkung-4714.jpg](https://www.mercedes-fans.de/thumbs/img/News/14/47/00/p/p_normal/der-dernburg-wagen-das-erste-allrad-auto-von-daimler-die-aeusserst-durchdachte-konstruktion-von-paul-daimler-hat-allradantrieb-und-sogar-eine-allradlenkung-4714.jpg)



30.07.1908 Von Koenen, Dernburg, Schuckmann, **Rathenau** on the Farm Satansplatz Bezirk Gibeon

### **Wilhelm Sander 1860-1930 the architect of Duwisib Castle near Maltahöhe**

Sander was born on 10.12.1860 in Berlin and died on 29.11.1930 in Lüderitzbucht. Sander was a member of the Schutztruppe in 1904. Among other things, the architect built the Duwisib Castle. He coordinated the construction measures on site in 1908. Furthermore, he also built the railroad station and the district court in Swakopmund as well as in Windhoek the "Ink Palace" (Tintenpalast) the "Heynitzburg", the "Sanderburg", the Elizabeth House called "Stork's Nest".



### **Thorer and the Karakul sheep**

Theodor Thorer 1828-1894 founded the Thorer smoking company in 1853. Around 1883, the company began to import Russian karakul skins. The sons also joined the company and the third son Paul Thorer took over the Russian business. Paul Thorer brought Karakul sheep from Bukhara (Uzbekistan) to Halle for the first time in 1903. The good relations of Kaiser Wilhelm II with his cousin Tsar Peter at that time played a role. From Germany the Thorers spread the breeding internationally. The Thorers were the driving force in the international production of Karakul fur. Thorer sent the first Karakul sheep to DSWA in 1907. Landowner Lindquist promoted this new idea. The Karakul sheep arrived in Swakopmund on 24.09.1907. This was the beginning of breeding and production of pelts in Southwest Africa under the later trade name SWAKARA. In New York Thorer & Hollender founded another company about 1920.

The first Karakul sheep were entrusted to Albert Voigts. On the farm Voigtsgrund the first breeding attempts began. Also in Duwisib H.von Wolf bred Karakul sheep, which came from A.Voigts farm. However, the great success came only 20 years later. Until 1930 the Thorer



company bought all SWA skins and shipped them to Leipzig for further processing. In 1945 came the end of the old Thorer company due to the communist, East German nationalization in Leipzig. In the same year, however, the company "Thorer und Hollender Kg" was founded in Hamburg.

**Theodor Thorer**  
 Leipzig C 1, Brühl 70, Fernruf: Sammelnummer 71471, Kommanditgesellschaft.  
**Vorstand:** Generalkonsul Dr. Paul Hollender,  
 Arndt Thorer.  
 Gegründet: 1862.  
 Handelsunternehmung in Afrika: SWA. Karakul-Zentrale (1928) Ltd. Windhuk, Südwest-  
 afrika, Postfach 16. — Leitung: Carl List, i. Fa. Ohlthaver & List Trust Co. Ltd.,  
 Windhuk. — Niederlassungen: Windhuk, Kalkfeld, Mariental, Keetmanshoop. — An-  
 zahl der durchschnittl. im Jahr laufend beschäftigten Europäer: 12, Farbigen: 10.

### Animal diseases in Maltahöhe district

There were devastating animal epidemics such as rinderpest (Cattle plague), foot and mouth disease, lungworm, rheud, distemper, horse fever, East Coast fever. The German administration took measures to prevent the mass death of breeding animals. Robert Koch personally came to S.A./DSWA in 1886 and huge herds of cattle were saved by his vaccination methods. In 1897, rinderpest led to the complete impoverishment of the colored tribes and accompanying riots and thefts. In 1898, the administration established a disease institute in Gamams near Windhoek to combat the epidemic. From 1901, all imported livestock had to be quarantined for 23 days. Nevertheless, in August 1910 sheep pox ravaged Gibeon and Maltahöhe, costing up to 75% of the herd. Glanders caused little damage in Maltahöhe that year. In 1912, veterinarians complained that there were not enough dipping facilities for Rheude in the Maltahöhe district.

**Bekanntmachung.**

Im Distrikt Maltahöhe sind wegen Ausbruch der Schafpocken die Farmen Narobmund, Dirichas, Nomtsas, Kabib, Sandpforte, Karichab und Breckhorn gegen jeden Verkehr mit Kleinvieh gesperrt.

Wegen Rotz, bezw. Rotzverdacht sind die Farmen Huams, Kuma Kams, Maquams, Kudis und Kutep gegen jeden Verkehr mit Einhufern gesperrt.

Maltahöhe, den 14. September 1910. 628

**Kaiserliches Distriktsamt.**  
 I. V.  
 Trenk.



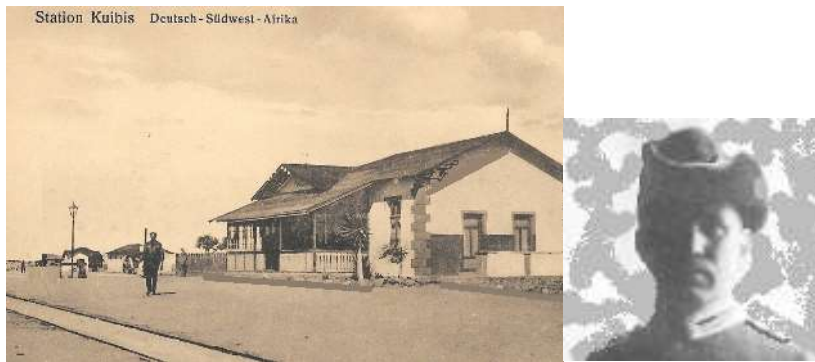
Dippingplant in Karichab



Dipping plant in Nomtsas 1913



## Max Ewald Baericke



Baericke had written several autobiographical books about his time in DSWA. In the construction field, the former Schutztruppler worked for a company Berger in Kuibis. He also reported about his meeting with the owner of Swartmodder, Mr. Klinge in Kuibis, who brought rock samples from the Namib to the professor Dr. Kaiser from Giessen. It is known of Baericke that he was looking for diamonds and that he started from Duwisib with Mr. von Wolf's help to search for the legendary Bushman's Paradise, allegedly crossing the Namib. In the Lüderitz address book, Baericke is registered as a merchant in the mining town of Pomona in 1914. As a reservist, drafted in 1914, Baericke served the army in the Franke Division. He became a prisoner of war during the attack on Angola. In the post-war years he emigrated from Germany to Angola again. Where he died is unclear.

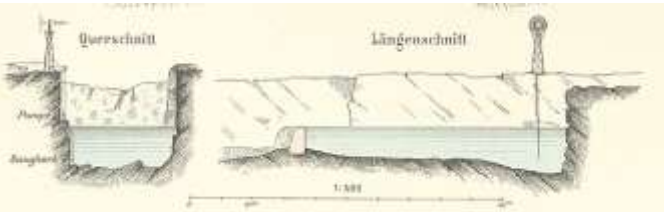


## Wilhelm Külz Reichskommissar

Külz, born on 18.02.1875 in Borna, studied in Leipzig and Tübingen. In 1907 Külz became Reichskommissar. He developed the self-government of German Southwest Africa in Windhoek in 1907. He had designed the local government of DSWA, which was introduced in 1909. In his function he traveled the country on horseback. On June 22, 1908, he reported in his diary about his visit to the farm cemetery in Alt Nomtsas. On his further way to Maltahöhe he met district chief Seydel. Wilhelm Külz was spending the night in the field when two armed Witbooi approached his camp in the darkness. Upon his request to lay down his arms, the two responded in a friendly manner and declared to be the advance party of District Chief Seydel. Shortly thereafter, District Chief Seydel also came riding through the night with his patrol. In the course of the conversation it turned out that both were from Saxony and that their parents even knew each other.

After his return to Germany in 1908, Külz was elected mayor of Zittau and later 2nd mayor of Dresden. In 1926, during the Weimar Republic, he made it to the position of Reich Minister of the Interior. In 1931 he held the office of Lord Mayor of Dresden. Külz died in 1948.

## Prof.Dr.Theodor Rehbock



Theodor Rehbock (12.04. 1864 - 17.08.1950) professor in Karlsruhe made an expedition to DSWA in 1896/97. He also examined the situation in the Maltahöhe district. As early as 1898, the renowned hydraulic engineering expert Theodor Rehbock had proposed to build dams on the Osis farm. He also proposed a system of dams along the Fish River. Among others, the Neckarthaldamm. In his diary he also reported meeting the Boer families who had "recently" (1896) settled in Kleinfontein and the 70 Basters of Grootfontein.



## Graf von Kageneck Distriktchef 1902

**Alfred Count of Kageneck** (born 11.8.1871 Bleichheim near Freiburg ). The noble family came from Alsace Lorraine. On 26.3.1896 Kageneck arrived with the reinforcement for the Schutztruppe with the passenger steamer "Gertrud Woermann" in Swakopmund. In 1898 he fought in the Zwartbooi campaign. In 1900 he was on home leave. After Lekow, Kageneck was district chief at Maltahöhe in 1903 and then at Warmbad, succeeding v. Estorff. In 1904 he fought against Morenga as a first lieutenant. In June 1905, Kageneck returned to Germany because of a wound or illness. In 1910, the 38-year-old left the Schutztruppe as a captain.

Kageneck's story during the Hottentot War is immortalized in the well-known novel "Morenga ", which was made into a film.

(Leutwein wrote in his book, and this was also taken over by K.Dierks, that Kageneck was district chief in Maltahöhe before the Bondelswarts uprising. When exactly this was cannot be said clearly).



A registered letter to Count von Kageneck from Windhoek to Bleichheim 1901



From Maltahöhe 30.07.1903

### Camel expeditions through the Namib. Lieutenant Trenk and M. Stillger.

In 1895, Sergeant Bernhardt and Captain von Burgsdorff had tried to go from the farm Duwisib southwest through the desert to the sea to the Hottentot Bay. After the second attempt they gave up. There were about 100 kilometers missing to the sea. The dunes, which were up to 300 meters high, did not allow a quick progress and the expedition was dying of thirst.

The Foreign Ministry of the German Reich was very interested in finding a shorter way through the desert to the interior and to explore the desert for oases.

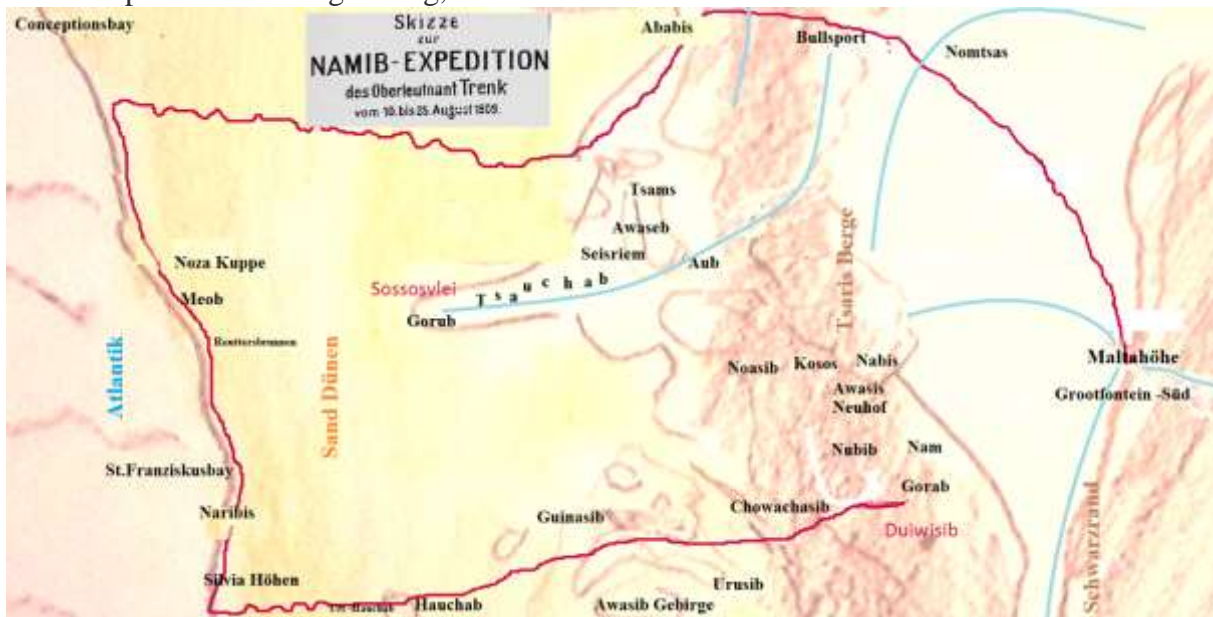
Lieutenant Rudolf van Eckert had already tried in 1894 to find the "Bushman's Paradise" at Sossusvlei with the alleged diamonds. But he died of thirst in the process as the "prophecy" of the Bushmen predicted. In 1905 the veterinarian Johann Regge tried it and also died of thirst. Then came the diamond rush in 1908. Now many prospectors tried to cross the Namib north of the 26th parallel and searched the entire coast.

On February 12, 1909, Walter Trenk and 15 men on horseback reached Sossusvlei, which lies in the middle of the Namib. The Tsaucha district runs from the Naukluft through the Sesriem Canyon and then spreads out in a wide flat district surrounded by sand dunes until it ends in a vlei in the middle of the desert. But rarely does the precinct have water and even more rarely does it fill the vlei. In the precinct there were many camel thorn trees, tamarisk and narra bushes. Here actually lived bushmen who fed on the narra fruits and springboks. (Sossus means "dead river" in Nama and Vlei is a salt and clay pan).

The Lüderitzbuchter Zeitung of 19. 06. 1909 reports about Georg M. Stillger. He started in April 1909 from Bethany with camels and reached Sesriem one month later. There were already several prospectors. From there, it went along the Tsauchabrevieres westward to Sossusvlei and then for 6 days 85 kilometers over the dunes to the sea. That was on 06.06.1909 at the height of "Holam Birds" island. From there it went partly chest-high through the sea water in the direction of Lüderitzbucht. This expedition had covered a total of 650 kilometers. On June 13, 1919, diamonds were found in Spערcebay. Prospectors searched the coast as far as Meob. Governor Schuckmann, who visited Maltahöhe in 1909, arranged for



Lieutenant Trenk to get camels at the Gorab farm to conduct an expedition, in which District Chief Seydel also participated. On August 10, 1909, the expedition started. District Chief Seydel described the expedition in the *Deutsches Kolonialblatt* XXI 1910. Herr von Koenen of Satansplatz wanted to go along, but missed the connection and turned back with his camel.



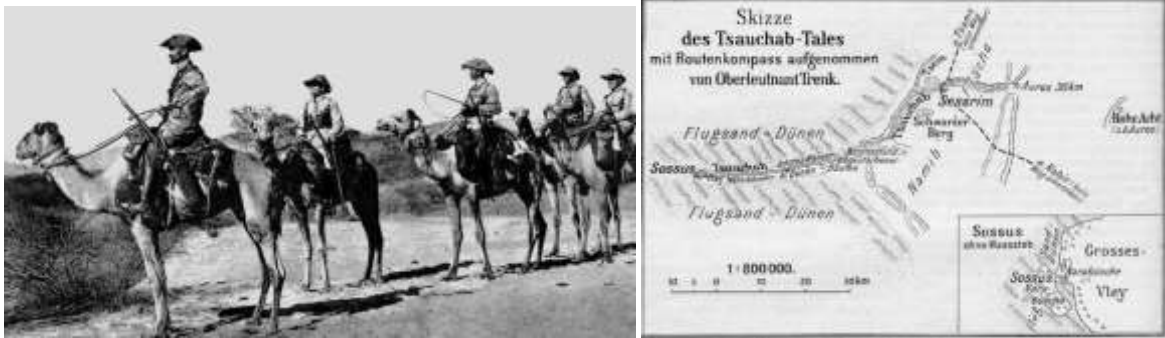
Led by Lieutenant Trenk with 59 camels, they went from Gorab Farm near Maltahöhe to the Nubi Mountains, where they met a group of prospectors in search of diamonds. The prospectors gave important clues. Thus, on 13.09.1909, marching westward over Chowachasib and the first high dunes, the Karvane reached Hauchab. This is a mountain 55 kilometers from Chowasib. There, in the middle of the Namib surrounded by dunes, there was little water. Here they met other prospectors who had created several prospecting fields. (Researchers later found several artifacts (arrowheads, etc.) from the Neolithic period). In the rocks Seydel explored bushman drawings. The trek continued across the dunes, zigzagging the last 45 kilometers, which lengthened the route to 55 kilometers, heading west. During the night, the Bushman leader "Au Gaib" fell off the camel due to old age and died. Now the younger bushman "Novosab" led the expedition to the uninhabited coast near Francis Bay. The dunes drop 50 meters very steeply to the water. Only at low tide was there a small accessible strip of beach that was washed over at high tide. On the coast they found several wagon tracks. With the help of the bushmen they reached Naribis on the coast. Naribis had enough fresh water for the many camels. From there they headed north along the coast. The expedition met a police station and other prospectors. At the place Meob there was again enough water and also grass. Flowing under the dunes here ends the Tsauchab coming from Sossusvlei in the sea. Meob means "source of reeds". There also lived a small bushman clan. They spoke Namadi dialect. "Au Habib" was the name of the leader. Many assume that this is the place the Bushmen call Bushman's Paradise. Only the legendary diamonds were missing. On 19.09.1909 we continued north towards Conception Bay. And after about 50 kilometers the group turned east. After greatest strains the expedition reached Tsams at the Naukluft on 24.09.1909 and recovered on the farm. Trenk later crossed the Namib more often. After all, it was diamond territory and its exploration enjoyed the highest priority. On 22.09.1908 the entire coastal area from Swakobmund to Lüderitzbucht (northern fields) was declared a restricted area. In 1909 Captain von Rappard from Ohamis and then allegedly an expedition of Herr von Wolf succeeded in reaching the sea.

Literature: 1910 Jahrbuch über die deutschen Kolonien page 34 ff. Can be found in the digital colonial collection of the University of Bremen.

Notice:



At Meob an old wreck with coins of the East India Company from 1746 was already found in 1908.



Sketch of the Namib Expedition of First Lieutenant Trenk from August 10 to 25, 1909, 1:800,000 (NNA, Map Collection No. 2694).



1909 The camels on Chamis with police station





1906 in the Namib



### **The Bushmen of the Namib**

First mentions of the Namib Bushmen, the "IGainin" came through missionary Schmelen ca. 1820, Sir Alexander 1837 and from missionary Pabst 1870, as well as through reports from sailors on the Atlantic coast. After his expeditions, Trenk and Seydel published their findings on the Namib Bushmen in 1910. Also the farmers Berhardt and Esterhuizen describe a couple of bushmen who lived at the Namibrand around 1894 and 1910 and served as guides and trackers.

Dr. Hans Schinz ca. 1884, Trenk 1910 and also missionary Vedder 1935 stated that the Namib Bushmen were not a pure race but a mixture mainly of Namas. They differed from the Kalahari Bushmen who had their own language. The Namib Bushmen spoke Nama. They had almost the same nomadic, hunting, gathering, and freedom-loving lifestyle as the Kalahari Bushmen. Several authors, including Trenk and Vedder expressed the assumption that Namib Bushmen migrated from South Africa to Namibia around 1500 and then were pushed into the peripheral areas of the Namib by the following Nama around 1750, the Orlam around 1800 and the Baster around 1870. The Bushmen were despised, subjugated and persecuted in an organized way by the Nama and the Basters for stealing cattle. With their anarchistic attitude toward systems of order, they repeated these cattle thefts even when faced with the harshest consequences. One bushman laughingly told a sergeant, "and if he kept beating him, when he got hungry he would steal cattle again." This behavior resulted in the deaths of either the bushmen or those who were robbed.

Sir Alexander reported in 1837 of a single Bushman family he encountered at the height of Grootfontein South, while Missionary Pabst reported in 1870 that a group of 120 Bushmen led by an Orlam sub-captain raided from Bethany to Swakop. Leutwein mentioned a group of Bushmen near Nomtsas who served as scouts for him against the Witbooi in 1894. In the Colonial Address Book 1901 no Bushmen are mentioned in Maltahöhe but there are small

hatched areas on a map of 1905 where Bushmen lived. At Chamchawib, Gorab, Hammerstein, Nomtsas, Naukluft and in the desert. Presumably the small groups of Bushmen were further displaced by the war campaigns of Hendrik Witbooi around 1890 and the later settlers. Trenk estimated the Namib Bushmen from the Swakop to the Orange River at less than 1000 individuals and predicted assimilation by the Nama. Seydel estimated the number of Bushmen in the Maltahöhe area at far less than 400 individuals. In Rehoboth, Maltahöhe, and throughout the DSWA, mixed-race patrols were constantly on duty to curb cattle rustling by the Bushmen. As of 1914, no comments are found about Bushmen in the Maltahöhe district. Bushmen, if they did not serve a master, lived in hard-to-reach areas in very small completely independent groups. Usually one family settled at a waterhole around which they had their hunting ground, which had to be respected by other Bushman families. If another family wanted water, or to hunt in the area of another clan, they had to pay a fee. Within a clan there were few hierarchies. However, there was a division of labor between men and women. Men hunted and women gathered wood and crops, such as narras and tsams. For hunting, men used *Euphorbia virosa* - extract to poison arrowheads. With *Euphorbia* branches they sometimes also poisoned waterholes to kill zebras, but also pursuers. Property hardly existed for the bushmen. Some blankets, a Kiri (club), bow and arrow. From time to time they bartered with Europeans and Nama. Especially tobacco and sugar they traded for ostrich feathers and narras. Cattle breeding and agriculture were alien to them. Their dwellings consisted of the simplest pontoks. Rules about social coexistence existed. Monogamous marriages could be contracted and divorced. Punishments for adultery, theft and murder also existed. In the dry seasons, the clans retreated into the mountains. Trenk reported gatherings in the Nubib, Zaris, and Naukluft mountains. The Neuhoof No. 100 reserve was probably created to allow the Bushmen to retreat. Quite a few Bushmen enlisted the Germans to work in the diamond fields. Bushmen could be motivated by tobacco, meat and alcohol. In German times, the freely nomadic Bushmen were often perceived as a nuisance that could not be controlled. They attracted attention again and again by small cattle thefts, against which the farmers whether Namas, Baster, Boers or Germans defended themselves. Everyone was afraid of their poisoned arrows. This led to excessive counter-reactions. In 1908, the district chief Seydel complained to the administration in Windhoek about the Bushmen not settling down. : "Cattle rustling is the Bushmen's trade " and further Seydel reported, "The farmer protects himself (here) by bartering with the Bushmen, in which the Bushman is the more receiving." The protective power failed and the farmers had to pay covert tribute to the Bushmen to avoid being robbed. The Bushmen did not recognize ownership of game and livestock and took the farmers' livestock without remorse when they were hungry. In the north of DSWA the vigilante justice of the farmers led to small massacres. Protocols about this were later published by the British. Nama and other colored people had a very negative attitude toward Bushmen. Thus, in mixed laborer and prisoner groups, serious assaults against the Bushmen occurred quite frequently. Such vigilante justice also took place after World War 1. However, nothing of this kind is known from Maltahöhe. But it can be assumed that also here farmers killed bushmen and vice versa. The Bushmen had a reputation for contract killings and contract thefts. For example, in 1902 Bushmen had received an order from the Baster to kill the farmer Maiwald and other Germans for money. Another example could have been the 1902 murder of the Ehepäär Jäger and the 1909 murder of Herr Klinge.

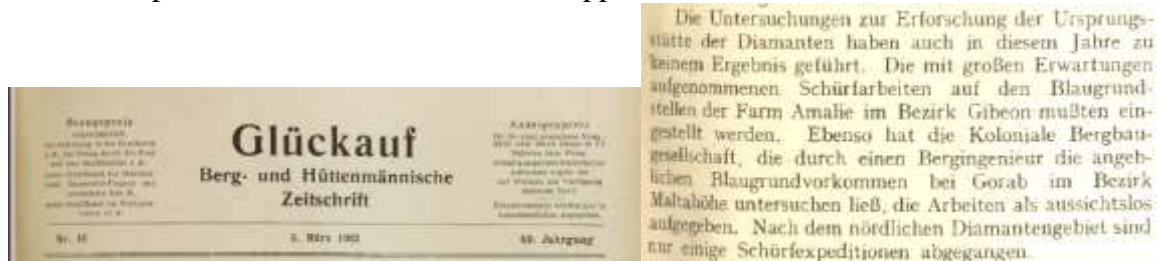
Literature: 1910 Yearbook on the German Colonies page 34 ff.

Official report by Seydel 17.03.1909 on Trenk's patrol: "3 bushwhackers, including the murderer of the cattle guard at Zaris, were shot while trying to escape."

In case of resistance or escape during the arrest of cattle thieves, the use of firearms was officially ordered. if not otherwise possible.

### "Blaugrund "(Kimberlite) Diamond search on the farm Gorab No.85

Already in Burgsdorff's times one searched for diamonds and found Blaugrund. Also single small diamonds made hope at first. The Colonial Mining Company investigated in the area of Gibeon and also on the farm Gorab the blue ground occurrence. Unfortunately without result. The search was stopped in 1913. The exact mineralogical match with the volcanic blue ground of Kimberley led to the search for the diamond point of origin. Promising volcanic channels existed at Sinclairmine, Swartmodder, Nam and at Rietfontein. Rietfontein was about 1900 a place near Zaris whose name disappeared still in German time.



Journal from 08.03.1913

### Hermann Hillmann store, hotel, tavern. in Maltahöhe

Hillmann was a manager of a copper mine in Lüderitz Bay in 1910. In 1911 he stood unsuccessfully for election to the office of municipal councillor, but held the office of Lüderitzbucht municipal councillor in 1912. As a businessman, he had a merchandise business in Maltahöhe and Lüderitzbucht. In early 1914 this merchandise business in Maltahöhe even had a liquor and hotel license. The reason for the 3rd tavern and hotel license in Maltahöhe was the insufficient space for the farm club days in Maltahöhe. During the First World War, the German School was housed on Hillman's property in Maltahöhe.



Ca. 1900 Lüderitzbucht



### Friedrich Riemann, ox wagon constructor from Maltahöhe and Gibeon



A blacksmith's shop in Gibeon ca. 1904 Riemann blacksmith's shop in Maltahöhe 1909

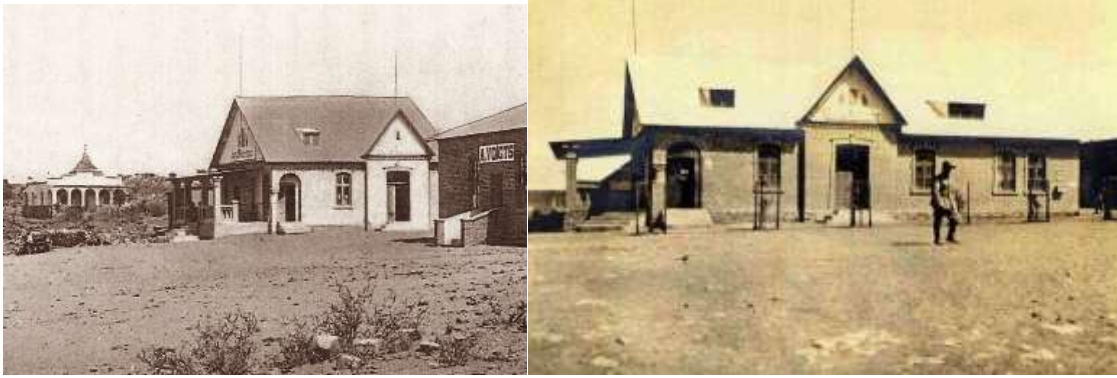
Friedrich Riemann was one of the first Schutztruppler. In Gibeon, as Farmer Bernhardt reports, he first built up a wagon-making business, but then moved to Maltahöhe. In 1906, the county recorder reported in the annual report that there was a blacksmith shop on lot 3 in Maltahöhe. This was initially a corrugated metal house probably for safety reasons. (There was still a blacksmith named Karl Freygang in Maltahöhe).

The Lüderitzbuchter newspaper reports on 29.05.1909 the arrival of Riemann from Hamburg by ship. Probably he came back from vacation in Germany. On 11.11.1910 a Johanna Riemann (heavily pregnant) married in WDK the Maltahöher sergeant Robert Bold and one month later, on 28.12.1910 her daughter was born in WDK and on 09.06.1912 her son in Lüderitz. In 1911 Albert Maraun bought the forge. Friedrich Riemann worked in 1927, reported as a blacksmith in Kolmannskop. From a report in the Lüderitz newspaper about a ship passage it appears that there was a Fräulein Berta Riemann. Possibly his daughter. Probably a brother of Friedrich, Fritz Riemann worked as a blacksmith on Nomtsas in 1913. The Colonial Address Book 1927 shows that Fritz Riemann lived on Halifax Farm No. 118 (P.O Maltahöhe). In 1928 Mrs. Riemann and J.Coetzee are listed as owners of Halifax.

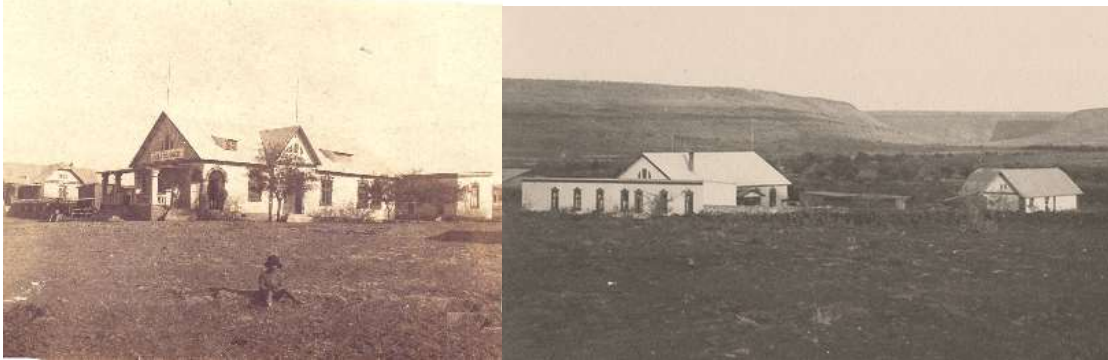
## Georg J. Hesselmann and the Maltahöhe Hotel



Georg Hesselmann had already come to DSWA in 1894 and had established himself as one of the larger businessmen in the colony. Hesselmann owned branches in many towns. Swakopmund, Gibeon, Maltahöhe, Lüderitzbucht. In Lüderitzbucht he had an agency for arranging ship passages and freight transport and the ice factory which supplied the refrigerators of the residents in Lüderitz with ice sticks every morning. Around 1904 Georg Hesselmann ran a small store with a bar in front of the officers' house in Maltahöhe. There were just 5 houses in the later town and quite a few troops had their quarters here due to the war. On May 9, 1906, the Hesselbach company filed a petition in the district office of Gibeon to purchase a plot of land and build a hotel opposite the officers' house in Maltahöhe. A representative of the company, Mr. Gaerte had submitted the petition to the Imperial District Office in Gibeon and finally signed the purchase agreement on March 27, 1907. In the annual report 1907 of station manager Fromm mentioned, stood on the property 1 1906 a small house for store purposes until 1909. The opening of the Maltahöhe Hotel as we know it today probably took place only after 1909. 1912 was built on the property the so-called (guest house?) "Villa Pickenstiel". Merchant Herbert Hassenstein, who had married Elfried Hilche on July 5, 1912 in Maltahöhe, managed the hotel until May 1914. Hassenstein was also a member of the Maltahöhe district council until 1913. In 1911, Hassenstein was commissioned to significantly expand the hotel and add 2 by 800 square feet. District Clerk Löffler drew up the contract. In a 1912 advertisement, reference is made to a Hesselmann successor. Presumably, Mr. Hesselmann was not well. Herrmann Henning took over the management of the Hesselmann company. In 1912, Hesselmann had retired to Germany. From May 1914 to 1915 Mr. Rudolf Thielemann managed the hotel and during the war the management was taken over by Richard Eckert and Georg Schmidt until 1920. During the 1st World War Georg Hesselmann died. The business during the 1st World War of the Hesselmann company continued. The English military magistrate gave Mr. Westphal the liquor license on 11.09.1919. From 01.01.1921 to 1931 Mr. Westphal managed the hotel as C.O.. In 1931 Albert Burald and Mr. Rübensrunk were appointed as liquidators for C.O.. Westphal appointed The year of origin of the following photos could only be estimated vaguely based on the growth of the trees in front of the hotel.



The Maltahöhe Hotel ca.1910 (without trees) Schutztruppler in front of the hotel ca. 1911 ( small trees)



(Bigger trees in front of the hotel ) ca.1913 ca. 1914 The hotel from northwest



The hotel with Mr. Hassenstein ? Mr. Westphal 4th from left managed the hotel from 1920 (large trees) " Publishing house v. R Thielmann . Maltahöhe "

Mysteries !? . Rarities, postcards with motifs of Abbabis, at Karibib, but also of Gibeon bore the note "Verlag v. R Thielmann. Maltahöhe " . The photos of ca.1905 came from the well-known photographer Fr. Lange from Windhoek. A publishing house in Maltahöhe !?? .... but this can not be traced. Such a publishing house probably did not exist. However, in 1912 there was a merchant Rudolf Thielmann in Maltahöhe who ran the Hotel Hesselmann from May 1914 to 1915. It is possibly the same person.



## Notes:



Ca 1905 narrow gauge station Ab(b)abis Farm Hanaus near Gibeon (Image: [www.deutschsuedwester.de](http://www.deutschsuedwester.de))

Photographie v. Fr. Lange, Windhuk. Verlag v. R. Thielmann, Maltahöhe

### Bracke and beet drink in the store of A. Voigts from 1908



Bracke

Rübenstrunk

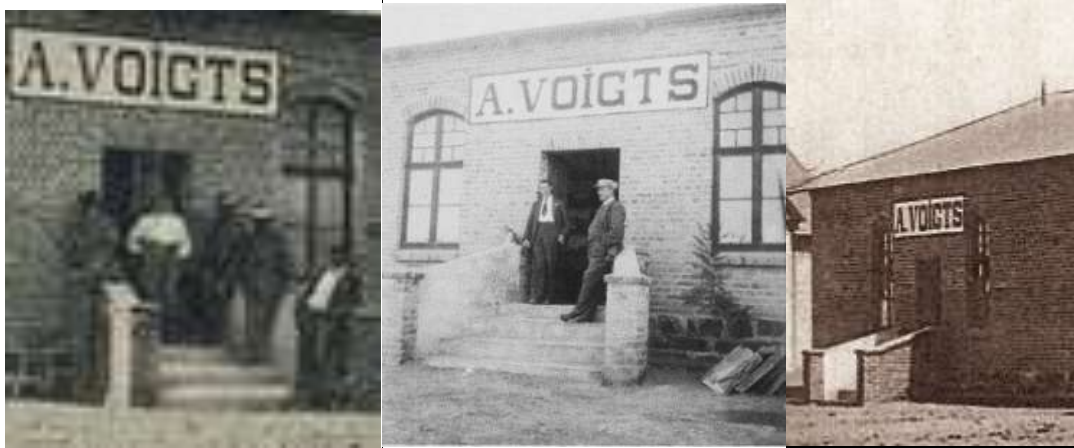


The Glose department store was built in 1905 opposite the much smaller Hesselbach shed. Until 1908 Mr. Heinrich Glose operated this store in Maltahöhe with a liquor license and rentable rooms on the property No. 2. After the sale of the house to Albert Voigts in 1908, Mr. Bracke continued to run the store with Mr. Johannes Schmieder. Schmieder left the store in 1909 and Bracke went on vacation to Germany in 1910. During this time Mr. E.Seattele represented him. After returning, Mr. Bracke first managed the store of A.Voigts in the city of Aus, which was liquidated by the accountant Richard Wegener on behalf of Voigts. Bracke then returned to the store in Maltahöhe and was reinforced in March 1912 by Mr. Rübenstrunk, called "Rubi". From 06.07.1913 to 20.12.1913 Bracke went on vacation in Germany again. From May 1914 until the outbreak of war, Rübenstrunk managed the store for the 120 black workers and their families on Voigt's property. Dam construction was in full swing there. In 1915, Bracke was drafted into DSWA by the German Army.

After the surrender of DSWA Rübenstrunk continued to work in Voigts store until he was interned in Kimberley on 04.05 1915 together with 3 German policemen and former Schutztruppler. After his return ca.1919 Rübenstrunk and Bracke looked after the store of A.



Voigts until Rübenstrunk went with his wife to Germany in 1926. There his wife died. In September 1925, Hans Moeser arrived with his wife and child to manage Voigts' store and hotel business until his internment in December 1940. In 1928 Rübenstrunk returned and took over the Hotel Hesselmann. Bracke had meanwhile taken over the management of the Glückauf farm for the expelled Lengfeld from 1926 and bought the Karichab farm in May 1933. In the hotel Voigts celebrated on 03.05.1940 Anna Hanke her wedding with Willibald Wittig. From September 1940 Mrs. Moeser continued to manage the business house.



Treppe vor dem Kaufhaus Voigts Südseite



Voigt's department store in Maltahöhe north side ca. 1908

## Christian Spellmeyer 1913



The missionary Christian Spellmeyer was the leader of the Rhenish Mission of Gibeon from 1903 to 1939. He gave the colored people, against the will of the whites, bigger tasks in the church. In 1909 he founded a mixed choir that sang for the Emperor's birthday. Spellmeyer also sent the preacher Eliphas Katuairua 04.03.1913 to the werft werft in Maltahöhe to preach and teach colored children. Spellmeyer occasionally came to Maltahöhe himself to baptize. During the war he was not allowed to leave Gibeon. In 1923 the cornerstone of the Lutheran Church was laid and it was dedicated in 1926. The donations came only from the colored population.

Bishop Klemann, Josef born 07.05.1871 in Hamburg. Klemann was ordained a Catholic priest in Vienna at the age of 41. At the end of 1912 he came first to Lüderitzbucht and then to the mission in Duwisib, which Mr. von Wolf was building up. His congregation initially consisted mainly of the 100 colored workers on the farm. He remained there with a short interruption until 1930, when he was promoted to Vicar Apostolic of Greater Namaland and titular bishop with residence at Keetmanshoop. His episcopal consecration took place in St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna on 16.04. 1931. In 1942 he resigned as vicar and worked as bishop in Gabis near Karasburg. Klemann died on 21.03. 1960 at the age of 89 in Overbach/Germany.

The colored population of Maltahöhe and the native passport

For the passport system, for natives the authorities, also Maltahöhe from ca.1907 issued registered, numbered passport stamps made of brass. The colored population, from 8 years of age had to wear the passport stamps around their necks and show them to any white person when needed. If a colored person had to leave the district, the district office cancelled this stamp with a second hole and issued a passport instead. For the duration of any employment, Natives each received a "service book" from their company. Offenses against the passport law were severely punished. Before 1912, the natives of Maltahöhe wore passport stamps of Gibeon because they were assigned to this district. On 17.06.1912 Maltahöhe ordered 3000 own passport stamps with the inscription Maltahöhe Passport from the company Beck&Co Leipzig. In the beginning the numbers were stamped and later embossed. The Mandate Government / British also adopted this system initially until 01.04.1917. For this the SA Union removed the German imperial crown from the stamp.

Literature about this from : Werner H. Stahl and Taschenbuch f. SWA 1908 // Kolonialblatt 18.08.1907  
The passport stamps reach today a collector's value of over 400.-€.



### The Baster Uprising 1915

The Basters were actually armed allies of the Germans shortly before. In order not to go under they had to change sides because the South Africans threatened with retaliation. On 01.04.1915 Bastar Captain, Cornelius van Wyk and also Neels van Wyk met secretly with General Botha in Walvisbay, England. At the same time there were negotiations between the Bastar Council and the Germans for the return of the weapons of the Bastar soldiers. During the return, which was approved by the Baster Council, the Baster Cotzee resisted and on 19.04.1915 there was a shootout. On that occasion, already captured basters escaped. One of these escaped prisoners Petrus Beukes died by a shot. (D. de Waal, Report pp.11, 29; R.Henning, Dt.-Siidwestp.220.) Niklaas van Wijk then murdered with 2 Bastersoldaten on 20.04.1915 the policeman Rudolf Rogge in Büllsport, Adam Heine of Ababis and farmer Richard Puzier. Farmer Wede, Kisker and the inhabitants of Ababis had to flee. The Maltahöhe magistrate asked Windhoek by telegraph for reinforcements. On 22.04.1915 Battery Hensel, coming from Aus, found the body of Rogge. The Basters were a great threat to the German women and children left on the farms during the retreat of the troops. After bestial farm murders (Georg Eberhardt +22.04.1915), (family Carl Bauer+ end of February 1915) also on German farmers and their women and children, German troops, still during the retreat before the Union troops, attacked the Baster on 24.04 1915 at the "Battle of Nauchas". The punitive action was led by Count Saurma-Jeltsch. Captain Seydel led an attack with the 3rd Replacement Company on the railroad near Rehoboth. During the German punitive action several Baster died. On 08.05.1915 after the battle at Sam Khubis the German troops had to flee from the Rehoboth area because the SA Union troops under Brigadier General Mackenzie were approaching. The Rehoboth people still celebrate this day as "Liberation Day". The irony of the story is that the Rehoboth Basters completely lost their extensive independence under British rule. In the so-called "Blue Book" their view of the things was published, which contains however after today's analysis of the file situation reservedly said, many omissions and embellishments. During and after the retreat of the German troops, Basterführer Dirk van Wyk gave orders to murder all Germans on the farms. (Eduard Wenzel+ 03.05.1915) The South Africans considered the Baster as allies. On 17.09.1920 the spokesman for the Germans in Rehobot brought up these unpunished murders of civilians before General Smuth without success.

(Allgemeine Zeitung. 21.09.1920). (More info.at Kuno Budack, "Krieg und Frieden im Basterland", WDK 2015 p.373 ff.)



Mackenzie , Botha



Plakat 15.09.1914

### **Maltahöhe and the War with the South African Union Army in 1915**

In the Congo Conference of 1884-85 neutrality of the colonies was agreed among the colonial powers. Shortly after the beginning of the war in Europe, Berlin sent a telegraphic message to Windhoek in 1914 that DSWA had nothing to fear from this neutrality agreement.

Although the Boers and Botha had previously been supported by the Germans in the 2nd Boer War and in reconstruction through the German "Boer Aid League", they faced the Germans as enemies on the British side. Governor Seitz still assured the Boers on posters that he did not want to wage war against Boers.

Before the outbreak of the war, old Boer generals thought that the time had come to liberate the Boer Republic from the British. So did General Maritz and General C.R. Andries de Wet, Wessell Wessells, Rocco De Villiers, Niklaas van Rensburg. A group of Boers from DSWA joined the rebels from the Cape. Among them was Adriaan Esterhuizen.

The attack of the South African Union surprised the Germans in DSWA. For the Germans it was more inconceivable when the Boers, whom the Germans had supported under Botha, overran the small Schutztruppe of DSWA with the almost 20 times stronger Union troops. There were several battles with heavy losses. The British-Burish press saw the events in a completely different light. They judged a small police action at the border, in which a German policeman died, as a war-triggering enemy attack. The British were attracted by the prospect of gaining possession of the diamond mines.

On 19.04.1915 the post office in Keetmanshoop closed. Maltahöhe sent the 7th Company (Camel Company) to Gibeon. On 23.04.1915 there were still hopeless battles in Gibeon with heavy losses. Under command of Captain von Kleist the hasty retreat via Gibeon and the Baster area to the north took place. On 29.04.1915 the post office also closed in Maltahöhe. Maltahöhe, manned only by a handful of officials and policemen, was spared from fighting. On 30.04.1915 the Union troops occupied Maltahöhe and a South African Military Magistrate took over the administration. The South Africans were very interested in maintaining the infrastructure, i.e. the telegraph and postal stations.

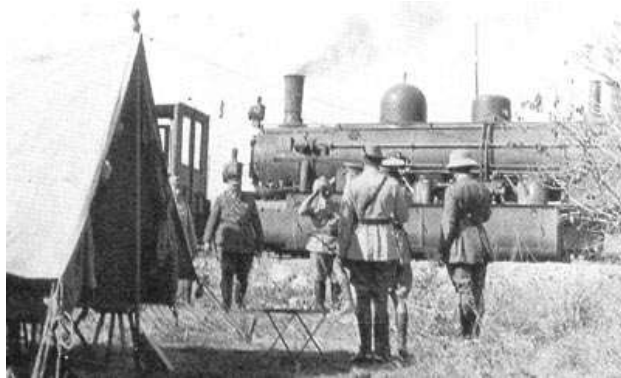
### **The end of the German rule after 30 years**

In the first decade of German rule, there was little settlement by the Grootfontein Basters in the Maltahöhe district because of the constant raids by the Witbooi. The second decade saw



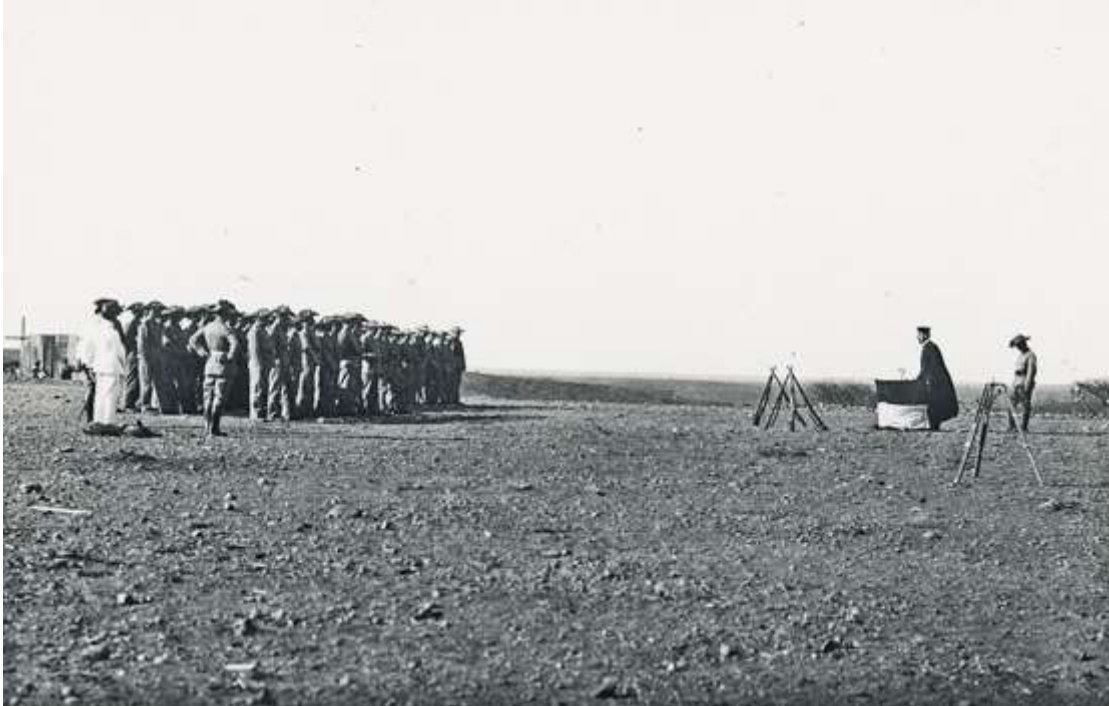
the arrival of a few Burian and a few German farmers as well as the returning Basters to the Maltahöhe area. And the third decade, after the suppression of the uprisings, brought the disenfranchisement of the colored people, colonial expansion of the district, and extensive settlement by Europeans. This continued under British rule.

### **The surrender of DSWA July 9, 1915**



The surrender treaty, written in English, was signed at Otavi on July 9, 1915. The Germans came by train from the north. Some policemen and officers, Lieutenant Colonel Bethe, because he could read English, as well as Governor Seitz and Lieutenant Colonel Franke. From other side Botha appeared with his men. After the signing, the martial law of the British victors was in force. All about 1500 soldiers of the Schutztruppe interned the South Africans at Aus. The camp was fenced with barbed wire in an open area with tents. Most officers and officials, however, were interned only Farm and were allowed to move about relatively freely under conditions and often kept a weapon for self-defense. Governor Seitz had farm internment at Grootfontein and Franke had farm internment at Okawayo. The first military governor of Southwest Africa as of June 11, 1915 was Percival Scott Breves.

### Hans Siebold Pfarrer (evangelical) in Keetmanshoop ca. 1912-1915



1914 Field service with pastor Siebold in Kranzplatz near Gibeon 3. Battery

In his booklet "Southwest under English Rule 1916", to be found in the colonial collection of the University of Frankfurt, Pastor Siebold describes the occupation of DSWA from the German point of view. Pastor Siebold had been active in the South since at least 1912. In September 1915, he amazingly arrived in England on an English ship from DSWA and from there returned to Germany in November on a Dutch ship via the Netherlands.

He describes how at the outbreak of war he was just in the Maltahöhe district on a farm trip. More specifically, he was holding church services on the farms. It took him 2 ½ days to get from Gibeon to Maltahöhe by mule cart. On Sunday August 02, 1914, after his service, the farmers were just founding the "Maltahöhe German Protestant Congregation" when the news of the declaration of war on Russia arrived. Via the telephone line Gibeon Maltahöhe the farmers were informed of the current events. The Germans, mostly old Schutztruppler were at first patriotically enthusiastic. Later, they became more thoughtful when England also turned against Germany. On 08.08.1914 the mobilization of DSWA took place. Approximately 3500 German Schutztruppler on horseback, conditionally ready for action, now stood against 80000 British, Burian soldiers equipped with automobiles and the most modern cannons. Siebold describes how the south was cleared of German farmers and the immense superiority of Union soldiers occupied Gibeon. Siebold described the behavior of the English/Burish soldiers, after the occupation toward the civilian population as uncouth and rapacious but largely moderate. The British had confiscated the cattle illegally at first, but had to return them to the civilian population. Rarely, however, did the farmers actually get their herds back in their entirety.

### Maltahöhe in the war years 1915-1919

On 29.02.1915 the post station Maltahöhe closed. From the devastated Behanien came troops and farmers. Among them also the local missionary Wilhelm Peter. On 03.May.1915 (30.04.1915 ?) a group of the Natal Mounted Rifles (Natal light Horse) under Captain London occupied the place. In the following days they interned among others Mr. Rübenstrunck, Mr. Lengfeld, the district chief Dr. Paul Vagele three policemen and some former Schutztruppler. Some, as well as the Lüderitz civilians had to go to the internment camp at Kimberly S.A.

From the Otto family it is known that in June or August 1915 South African Union soldiers under the leadership of a major rode onto the farm Uibis and ordered all Germans in the area to assemble on "Voigtsgrund ". With the ox cart the family left their farm and camped on Voigtsgrund together with other farmers. The major had probably the task to intern certain persons and to collect weapons. Weeks later, the farmers were allowed to return to their farms under conditions of martial law. The employed colored people on Uibis had already settled in the farmhouse. As of 12.11.1915, Lieutenant K.G. Mackenzie was appointed to replace Major Forsbrook as military magistrate in Maltahöhe. In the Gibeon district Major E. Manning and in Bethany Lieutenant C.E. Wimble were assigned as military magistrates. District Chief Seydel and Kageneck are known to have been, under conditions, in farm internment. The British had promised a lot to the coloreds and the Basters before the war and let them go unpunished in the first time when they murdered and stole cattle from German farmers. Farming in the Maltahöhe District, as well as economic and public life, continued on a small scale during the war in Europe. Children were born and attended schools the post office reopened, merchants did business. The German school had been closed by the magistrate and incorporated into the English school. The Germans offered Cissy Willich, who had not been able to leave the country in time before the war began, a teaching position in Maltahöhe. But she declined. There were only 3 German children to teach in 1916 anyway.

Von Wolf died in a battle in France during the war. On his farm Duwisib there were 100 Hereros, workers with families. Von Wolf actually wanted to build a church before the war. However, the ship " Munza" arriving from Germany in Lüderitz had to turn back to Germany on 01.11.1914 with the material for the church, due to the war. The pastor Josef Klemann took over the administration of Duwisib for a short time in 1914/ 1915. There were also reports of looting by the British / South African Army and runaway horses. The Maltahöhe Hotel was managed after Mr. Hermann Henning in 1915 by a Mr. Robert Eckert for the Hesselmann Company from 1916 to 1919.

In 1915 there were about 56 farms in the Maltahöhe district. Of these, half were owned by British. About 300 white people of which about 60% were Boers lived in the district. The South African government saw the opportunity to give impoverished Boer families a new home in the conquered DSWA. The Germans had made the land habitable through the many boreholes / water points, roads and communication systems. On 10.01.1920 the Treaty of Versailles came into force. The new government annexed several German farms including Büllsport, Nomtsas and Duwisib.

Several South African Boers came as farmers to Maltahöhe. There they soon formed the absolute majority of the white population. The Boers had a rather strained relationship with the farm-interned Germans. Especially the British-led South African administration made life difficult for the German farmers.

Excerpts from the "Bluebook" with reference to Maltahöhe

1918

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

## REPORT

ON THE

# NATIVES OF SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

AND

## THEIR TREATMENT BY GERMANY.

Prepared in the Administrator's Office, Windhuk,  
South-West Africa, January 1918.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.  
*August, 1918.*

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1918.

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In 1915 the SA Union captured the DSWA and produced the so-called "Bluebook" in which the misdeeds of the Germans against the "natives" were recorded. The correct title of this book is:

"Report on the natives of South West Africa and their treatment by Germany."

This book was published in London in 1918 in the Royal Printing Office with the blessing of the two "Houses of Parliament". It was intended to show the inability of Germany to run a colony. The British were given the mandate over SWA.



After the suppression of the Bondelswarts uprising in 1922 by the British with 100 dead Nama, the book was increasingly seen as a propaganda tool of the war. The banning and thus the active destruction of the book, also in Great Britain, was unanimously decided in 1926 at the request of German-born members of the SWA with the votes of the South African members of parliament. The repressions against colored inhabitants found their continuation under another flag and called themselves after the second world war "Apartheid" up to the so-called liberation in the nineties. The Bluebook was republished a few years ago.

There is a demagogic German reply to the demagogic Bluebook : Reichskolonialamt 1919 Berlin "Die Behandlung der einheimischen Bevölkerung in den kolonialen Besitzungen Deutschlands und Englands".

The crudeness of the colonial powers in their treatment of the so-called native population is staggering from today's perspective. When it came to German defendants in DSWA, even outright murder resulted in acquittals. Cruel beatings on the part of Germans of colored people, in which the entire back looked like minced meat, had no consequences for white Germans. Even Governor Seitz recognized this injustice and unsuccessfully threatened consequences for the German criminals as early as 1912. The fact that this system did not improve under British leadership does not change the enormity of this situation. The hatred of the colored people, however, grew and led, as is well known, to riots.

KAISERLICHER GOUVERNEUR VON DEUTSCH-SÜDWESTAFRIKA,  
J. No. 14200.

Geheim !

Windhuk, den 31. Mai 1912.

An den Herrn Kaiserlichen Bezirksamtman, Distriktschef *persönlich !*

In den letzten Wochen sind mir von verschiedenen Seiten Nachrichten zugeworfen, wonach unter den Eingeborenen in einzelnen Gegenden des Landes in der letzten Zeit eine verzweifelte Stimmung um sich greifen soll. Als Grund wird mir übereinstimmend die Tatsache bezeichnet, dass sich rohe Ausschreitungen Weisser gegen Eingeborene—es haben sich leider in einzelnen Fällen auch Polizeibeamte derartiger Vergehungen schuldig gemacht—bedenklich mehren und oft nicht die dem Rechtsgefühl der Eingeborenen entsprechende Sühne vor Gericht finden. Die Eingeborenen, die an der Unparteilichkeit unserer Rechtsprechung verzweifeln, würden dadurch in einen blinden Hass gegen alles, was weiss ist, und im Endresultat zur Selbsthilfe, d.h. zum Aufstand getrieben. Das derartige Gefühle des Hasses unter den Eingeborenen, wenn nicht energisch Abhilfe geschaffen wird, über kurz oder lang zu einem erneuten verzweiferten Eingeborenen-Aufstande und damit zum wirtschaftlichen Ruin des Landes führen müssen, liegt auf der Hand. Es ist also im Interesse der gesamten weissen Bevölkerung, dass Elemente, die in wahnsinniger Roheit gegen die Eingeborenen wüten und ihre weisse Haut als Freibrief für brutale Verbrechen betrachten, auf jede Weise unschädlich gemacht werden. Denn ein Volk, das Anspruch darauf macht, als Herrenvolk betrachtet zu werden, muss vor allen Dingen seine eigenen Reihen reinhalten. Wenn die Verbrechen Weisser gegen Eingeborene keine oder keine genügende Sühne finden, ist es auf die Dauer nicht möglich, bei Verbrechen von Eingeborenen gegen Weisse mit derjenigen Strenge vorzugehen, die im allgemeinen Interesse geboten ist.

Es steht mir kein Einfluss auf die Rechtsprechung über Weisse zu, ich werde aber im Wege der Verwaltung, soweit es mir möglich ist, dafür sorgen, dass den zweifellos vorhandenen Missständen entgegengewirkt wird. Vor allen Dingen werde ich von Fall zu Fall anordnen, dass solchen Weissen, die sich fortgesetzter Brutalitäten gegen ihre Eingeborene schuldig machen, keine Eingeborenen mehr als Arbeiter überwiesen werden dürfen.

Eine wirksame Abhilfe aber wird nur dann möglich sein, wenn die weisse Bevölkerung selbst, die, wie ich weiss, derartige Brutalitäten roher Elemente auf das Schärfste verdammt, über ihre Stellungnahme solch gemeingefährlichen Individuen gegenüber keinen Zweifel lässt und tätig mitwirkt, um derartigen Verbrechen vorzubeugen und dieselben, falls sie geschehen sind, zur Bestrafung zu bringen.

Da ich überzeugt bin, dass es den Bezirksräten möglich ist, in diesem Sinne auf ihre Mitbürger einzuwirken, ersuche ich Euer Hochwohlgeboren, dem Bezirksrat in der nächsten Sitzung den Inhalt dieses Schreibens streng *vertraulich* mitzuteilen. Ich hoffe, dass es möglich sein wird unter Mitwirkung der weissen Bevölkerung Zustände zu schaffen, die den Eingeborenen das Vertrauen zurückgeben, dass auch sie bei den Weissen Abhilfe gegen brutale Ausschreitungen Einzelner finden.

Den Empfang dieses Erlasses bitte ich, mir zu bestätigen.

(gez.) SEITZ.

### Three cases from the Bluebook with reference to Maltahöhe

The many interviews, letters, reports and other documents from the book are, despite all the subjectivity of the questioners, still today an important authentic indication of the situation of the colored population interviewed at that time.

However, it is not the purpose of this book to analyze this subject. Therefore, the editorial staff only reproduces the 3 cases with reference to Maltahöhe in their own words, but recommends the interested reader to read for himself. The cases are published in the original under the link. [http://www.lac.org.na/projects/lead/Pdf/nativesSWA\\_germans.pdf](http://www.lac.org.na/projects/lead/Pdf/nativesSWA_germans.pdf)

A case from the Bluebook p.190. Court case: Carl Georg Schroeder Farm Kampe Nr.37 who was sentenced by the British military magistrate on 10.04.1916 for manslaughter to 2 years imprisonment.

Meaningful summary: On Christmas Day 1915 farmer Schroeder had an altercation at the employees' cottages. It was over the loss of sheep. The enraged Schroeder first hit his employee Johannes Xatjindu with a pubic ram and then shot him 3 times with a revolver. 6 weeks later the employee died in the hospital as a result of the act. Schroeder's excuse that the clerk had a stone in his hand was not accepted by the judge.

Excerpt from Bluebook S191 : Court case of 10.10 1916: Rape 1916 on the farm Grootfontein. (1928 owner of Grootfontein G.J. Rossouw) (Jan Hendrik van der Merve and D.R. de Klerk were owners of Nieuwerust in 1928).

Summary: At 7.00 a.m. on 02.04.1916 a Nama girl left the farm Grootfontein No.91 in the direction of Nieuwerust where her mother worked. The same morning Max Willi Frenzel left the farm Nieuwerust, where he had spent the night, on horseback in the direction of Grootfontein. So both met on the road and the rape took place. When the girl arrived at the Nieuwerust farm she was bleeding. Mr. van der Merve followed the blood trail to the scene of the crime. Since it had rained earlier, they were the only traces and v.d. Merve therefore considered the crime proven. Frenzel was the only one on the road at the time and arrived at the farm Grootfontein at that time. Before reaching the farm he is said to have washed his clothes in a puddle of water. After his arrest, the accused shaved himself in such a way that the girl did not recognize him. The accused claimed that he had already encountered the girl injured. However, since Van der Merve had not definitively followed the trail to Grootfontein, the defendant's statement could not be refuted and he was acquitted.

(At the time of the crime Maltahöhe was already under the administration of the South African occupation. Willi Frenzel worked as a steward on Voigt's land in 1914 and as a steward on Duwisib in 1916. After the war Frenzel farmed possibly wisely in Otavi).

Excerpt from the Bluebook p.196 . Murder case near Maltahöhe District with death sentence. Accused were on 15.05.1917 Jakobus Markus, John Annis, Albert Schmidt.

Meaning summary: Schmidt was a German farmer of the Chamis South farm. His neighbor, Annis was a son of a Portuguese and a Baster woman and Markus was a half-breed who worked as a shepherd for Schmidt. The Nama Lindip who worked for Annis found out that Schmidt owned a rifle and ammunition. This was forbidden for Germans. On 06.10.1916

Annis and Schmidt agreed on a plan. Anni sent Lindip into the field. Markus meanwhile got the rifle from Schmidt and the three followed Lindip. After a conversation, Markus shot Lindip in cold blood. The police were notified that Lindip had disappeared. A short time later, Markus used kerosene to burn the body. The other colored employees became suspicious and Hans Lukas followed the tracks and found the ashes. He reported this to the police sergeant Enslin in Chamis. Mark noticed this and made a full confession to the police. Sergeant Coetzee in Bethany took the confession. Annis and Schmidt were arrested. During the trial, Markus tried to explain that he had shot Lindi by accident, but he was sentenced to death. In the further trials they all incriminated each other and were sentenced to death. (The owner of Naudaus No.76 in 1910 was also named John Annis who sold his farm to von Wolf in 1911. The convict could have been a son of this J. Annis of Nudaus). Über die Repressionen ,Prügelstrafen, Umgang mit Schusswaffen, Gefangennahme, Ankettungen der Deutschen Polizei gegen die farbige Bevölkerung empfehle ich ein neueres Werk. **Muschalek** Marie Anna The Police in German Southwest Africa 2014 (Diss. Cornell Univ.)

### **The post office of Maltahöhe and surroundings in the war 1915-1918**

As of April 24, 1915, the German post office at Maltahöhe was closed due to the war. During the war from 1915 to 1918, the South African occupation modified the German postmark of Maltahöhe and continued to use it.



OCC Stempel 1915-1923  
Occupation Council



Letter left of the company Hesselmann in the 1W. War 31. May 1916 from Tses to Keetmanshoop with registration number 29 and South African stamps. Hesselmann was already living again in Germany.



Letter right On 09. Aug 1915 from Gibeon to Aus (internment camp) and from there via Windhoek to Swakopmund. Marked "prisoner of war". E. Meckelburg had come a year earlier 21.05.1914 with the "Prinzregent from Hamburg to Lüderitz and from there with his wife on 10.06.1914 with the "Swakopmund" to Swakopmund. Further is not known.

### **Maltahöhe after the war years from 1918 onwards**

In 1918, 50 million people worldwide died of the Spanish flu during the war. DSWA was also affected. Wardens and German prisoners in Aus also died from it. The Herero called the disease "Kapitohanga" which also raged among the Nama, Ovambo and Baster. There were probably more than 10000 dead in DSWA.

On 11.11.1918 the first world war ended. In 1919, the unconditional surrender of the Germans was dictated in the Treaty of Versailles, and at the same time, in 1920, the mandate right for Southwest Africa was handed over to the British.

The South West African Administrators of SWA in Windhoek from 1919 were Gysbert Hofmeyr until 1926, Albert Werth until 1933, David Conradie until 1943.

All British commentary on the past German administration in DSWA was anti-German. Half of the Germans were expelled. Ettliche German companies and farmers such as on Büllsport, Duwisib and Nomtsas lost everything through expropriation. Nomtsas was taken over by Tiger Oats. The remaining German farmers had a very hard time and many gave up.

#### **Maltahöhe in the twenties**

From Maltahöhe, Gibeon and Bethany 75% of the Germans were expelled. After the deportation of about 6000 Germans, the administration encouraged the settlement of initially 700 poor Boers from South Africa. The economic system collapsed completely in 1922. Cheap imports from South Africa caused prices in SWA to fall. In addition, there was a drastic decline in the sale of diamonds. Even the most necessary food for colored and white people became scarce. The German population was politically blamed for the economic misery. Hereros and Nama became restless because land reforms and benefits promised by the British were not implemented. The territories of the Herero, Nama and Witbooi, once confiscated by the Germans, were not returned by the new administration and were distributed to Boers. Repressions against the colored population increased steadily. The Maltahöher Farmers' Association, for example, demanded regular medical examinations for colored workers to detect venereal diseases. (Petition to Hofmeyer v 03.03.1921). 1922 an uprising, the Bondelswarts against the enormous increase dog tax by South African troops under Gysbert Reitz Hofmeyr was bloodily put down. There were 100 colored dead also women and children. Also the Bondelswarts captain Morris died. The Bondelswarts as well as the Rehoboth Baster had fought in 1915 still at the side of the British against the Germans. The British regime largely deprived the Rehoboth Basters of the independence they had enjoyed during the German period. In 1925, there was an unsuccessful rebellion of the Rehoboth Basters against the SA administration.

Food shortages continued among many poor whites and the coloreds. Especially the farms in the Namibrand area and around Gorab, but also the farm Breckhorn got new Burian influx from South Africa. The administration in Maltahöhe and the bank inspectors regulated important loans for the acquisition of breeding cattle. Those who were not profitable did not get credit. Animals purchased on credit were under the supervision of the magistrate and could not be sold. The administration rigorously curbed emerging livestock epidemics. At Rheude, for example, all sheep had to be "dipped" in a dipping plant under the supervision of a policeman. The drought often forced farmers to trek with their cattle to other grazing grounds. A district veterinarian was responsible for the animals. There was no doctor for the population in the Maltahöhe district. The sanatorium from German times of Dr. Kränzle had



long since fallen into disrepair. The nearest medical care was in Gibeon or Mariental. Operations or deliveries under medical supervision were possible in Windhoek, as Schwarzkopf describes. Typhoid fever and amoebic dysentery were particularly dangerous. The high infant mortality rate was often caused by malnutrition and contaminated drinking water. The Boers in the Namib region fared particularly badly. They had mostly mud-brick houses with two rooms in which the entire family lived and often had to fetch their drinking water from far away. They were very religious and prayed three times a day. The Burian and German farmers lived together in Maltahöhe largely without much social contact but relatively without conflict. Despite little financial resources, the Boers built their church buildings and farm schools. The Boers preferred decentralized schools in order to be closer to their children. Barnie van der Merve, for example, taught the children of the families Lill, Marais, Truter, Esterhuizen, Liebenberg on the farm " Houmoed " (Gorab). Maria Esterhuizen took care of the children. There was also a farm school on Amhub. At Maltahöhe, the teacher Leonhard taught at the elementary school. His wife ran the home. The German private school in Maltahöhe had been moved to the property of Kaufmann Hillmann in 1921. The pension father of the German school was teacher Wilhelm Röttger (son was born in Maltahöhe in 1918), then the Maraun family and finally Miss Hacke (who married Feldmann). The German teacher coming from Gibeon was Emil Just in 1923. In 1924 this German school also had to be closed by order of the Maltahöhe magistrate. Many German farmers sent their children from elementary school to Germany because they could not afford to pay for their children's education.

In 1926 the Advisory Council stopped the immigration of poor Boers from SA. In the slowly growing Maltahöhe, the German economic influence remained. Voigtsgrund, in particular, encouraged the education of young German farmers and the staffing of farms in the region with Germans who had to bring at least sufficient assets to buy and farm. Immigration from Germany was only permitted when sufficient economic resources were available, as was the case with Serrer, the Schwarzkopf family, and Anna Gebser. The policy known as "de-Germanization" lasted until the London Agreement of 1923. The Germans were then given British citizenship and called German Namibians with British nationality. About 3000 Germans accepted the offer of naturalization and 250 refused it. There was a lot of financial support for Germans from the German government, despite the financial crisis. The colonial idea had not been abandoned, which did not suit the British. Nevertheless, the ethnic Germans and the British-led government came closer together. Around 1926, the Germans were reintegrated as full (white) citizens of the country. The German party was called " Deutscher Bund "under the leadership of Albert Voigts.

#### **Colonial hand and address book 1926.. 1927** (clippings with reference to Maltahöhe)

Bergemann, Ferdinand, Farmen: Gorges Urusis, Kalkhuegel. P.O, Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Bergemann, Paul, Farm **Urusis**. P.O, Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Bergemann, Richard, Ref. i. Reichsentschäd.-Amt. Bln.-Steglitz, Bergstraße 13 I, [Tsigt,]  
 Bergemann, Ferd., Farm **Goabosoab**. Urusis, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Bernhardt, Adolf, Farm **Namseb**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Bracke, Herrn., Kfm, Farm **Kakauchab**, Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Brink, J., Farm Kampe. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Brüggemann, Albert, Farm **Varkbosch**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Enßle, A., Farm **Glückauf**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Eupler, Albert, Bauunternehmer, Maltahöhe, S.W.A,  
 Gebser, Hans, Hotelangest. Windhoek, S.W.A.  
 Glose, Ernst, Farm **Nam**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.

Glose, Heinr., Farm Ober Packriem. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Goesch, Ulrich, Farm **Kameelberg**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Grasop, P., Farm **Maquams**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Greite, A., Wirtschaft, in Farm **Voigtsgrund**, P.O. Mariental, S.W.A  
 Hammerstein, geb. Busse, Erna, Wwe. Gut Schreiberzmühle b, Lychen i.Um. [D.O.A.]  
 Hammerstein, Erich, Stettin, Augustastraße 46 III. [D.O.A.]  
 Hester, H., Farm Helmeringhausen. P.O. Bethamen, S.W.A  
 Hollaender, Carl, Farm **Poortjes**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Kaempffer, Frau Dr., Farm **Helmeringhausen**, P.O. Brthanien S.W.A.  
  
 Kirsten, Karl, Farm **Daweb**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Knoche, Heinr., Maurer, Farm **Huams**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Krumme, Gustav, Farm **Niederhagen**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
J ä n e k e, Herbert. 27/29. Niederhagen, Post Maltahöhe, Südwest-Afrika.  
 Kürschner, Wilh.. Farm **Kamkas**, P.O. MaltaWhe, S.W.A,  
  
 Landsrath, A., Farm **Lahnstein**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Lazarus, Gustav, Farm **Huams**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
M ö c k e l, Hilde, geb. Ziemke. Farm Alis Post Kombat SS. 23, S.W.A.  
M ö c k e l, Kurt. 19/20 u. 22/23. Farm Okanjanga P.O. B. 62, Windhuk, S.W.A.  
 Möckel, Kurt, Farm **Voigtsgrund**, P.O. Mariental, S.W.A,  
M i d d e n d o r f, Hermann. 04/06. Voigtsgrund, Post Mariental, S.W.A,  
 Noack, W., Schuhmacher, **Haruchas**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Noechel, Christ., Farm **Kuteb**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Otto, R., Bohrmeister, Farm **Uibis**, P.O. Mariental, S.W.A.  
 Paulsmeier, Heinrich, Farm **Joh, Albrechtsquelle**, P.O. Maltahöhe,, S.W.A,  
Paulsmeier, Walter, Kfm. b. Woerm., Brock & Co., L'bucht. 1914  
 Rand, du, Jac. Abr. Farm **Groß Daberas**. P.O. Keetmanshoop, S.W.A.  
 Rand, du, E., Farm **Unterland**. P.O. Bethanien, S.W.A.  
 Rand, du, J., Farm **Rooiberg Sued**, P. O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
**Redlich, Otto**, Farm **Karab**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A. Vor 1904 **Grootfontein –Süd**  
 Richter, senr, Heinr., Farm **Sandhof**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Riemann, Friedr., Schmied, Kolmanskop, S.W.A.  
 Riemann, Fritz, Farm **Halifax**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Riemann, K. H., Kfm, Hamburg 23, Marienthaler Str. 140 II r. [Kam.]  
 Sandberg, Hans, Farmverwalter. P.O. Aus, Farm Aruab, S.W.A.  
 Sandberg, Jos., Farm Gaobis. P.O. Warmbad, S.W.A.  
 Sandberg, J. B., Farm **Haruchos**, P.O. Kl. Karras, S.W.A.  
 Sauber, Herm, Farm **Haruchas**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A  
 Stranghöner, Aug., Farm **Undaus**. P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Voigts, A., Warengeschäft. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Voigts, Alb., Farm **Voigtsgrund**, P.O. Mariental, S.W.A,  
 Voigts, Gerh., Kfm. Angest. Windhoek, S.W.A.  
 Voigts, Gust., c/o. Wecke & Voigts, Windhoek, S.W.A.  
 Voigts, Otto, Farm **Voigtsgrund**, P.O. Mariental, S.W.A.  
 Voigts, Rich., c/o. Wecke & Voigts Okahandja, S.W.A.  
 Voigts, Rich, Braunschweig, Schleinitzstraße 18. [S.W.A.]  
 Weiss, H., Farm **Urusis**, P.O. Maltahöhe, S.W.A.  
 Westphal, C. O.( Warengesch., Hotel. Maltahöhe, Farm Kudis, S.W.A

## Maltahöhe's officials 1923 / 1928

In 1923 a teacher was named Emil Just and the magistrate was Douglas Forsyth. The sergeants were called Wentzel, B. Heerden and M.J. Greef. In 1928 the magistrate was J.A. Kuys, the court and post officer was E.c. Du Plooy, the teacher was Du-Plessis and the teacher was S.C. Engelbrecht. The principal of the school was named Maurice Leonard and Frl. E. Kirsten worked as a telephone operator. The sergeants were J.N. Terblanche, H.G. Theron, Charl. Triniman, M.J. Greef.

<b>Maltahöhe, 1923</b>			
<b>Magistrate:</b> Douglas Forsyth Esq.	<b>Malergeschäfte:</b> (Painters): August Bukowsky Fritz Plötz	<b>Regierungsschule und -Pensionat:</b> Brit. Principal: W. M. Leonard Deutscher Lehrer: E. Just	<b>Tischler — Joiner:</b> Fritz Plötz
<b>Post und Telegraph:</b> C. W. Schreve	<b>Bau-Unternehmung:</b> (Building Contractor): H. Knoch & Tambourini aus Atilio	<b>Hotel:</b> <b>Warengeschäfte:</b> (Stores and Hotels) A. Voigts C. A. Westphal	<b>Schmiede — Blacksmith</b> R. Henaies Fritz Riemann
<b>Polizei — Police:</b> Post Commander S. W. A. P. L. W. T. Wentzel, Sergt. I. c.			<b>Telephon-Teilnehmer Telephone Renters:</b> 4. Magistrate 3. Voigts, A. 2. Westphal,



1922 Hans Gebser with "Indian Scout" Ca. 1929 Johann Stelzmann with family and 2 policemen

## Maltahöhe in den dreissiger Jahren

In Maltahöhe District, of the 233 Germans before the war, only 78 remained after 1926. Poor Boer families were settled on the empty farms. With the arrival of the South African Army, the first significant number of automobiles came to Maltahöhe. For example, Hans Gebser, who worked as a cook in Maltahöhe in 1926, owned a "Trojan". It looked very similar to the famous Model T from Ford. Schutztruppler Johann Stelzmann, a Mr. Müller and Hans Gebser ran small stores in Maltahöhe and Kub around 1926. The road system was now building passable roads from the ox pads for cars. The government created the first "Padschrabber". From 1926 on, the S:A:S Transport Company also had regular truck transports from the station in Mariental to Maltahöhe. Mariental gained in importance. Hans Gebser drove his truck twice a week in 1928 for his General Store from Maltahöhe to the railroad station in Mariental to pick up and bring goods. He stopped at every farm. The farms thus received their ordered supplies. Hans Gebser also handled all types of freight and passenger transportation in the Maltahöhe area, as reported in the Schwarzkopf papers. However, the farmers continued to transport some freight by ox wagons. There were still regular connections with ox wagons in the SWA for a very long time. The farms did not have fences yet and the game,

as well as the cattle, could run where they wanted. Nevertheless, in 1929, at a meeting in Maltahöhe, the farmers voted against a fencing law. Of course, there was a constant search for cattle that had lost their way. Not infrequently, disputes arose when the cattle in the neighboring farm ate the pasture. This had to be settled by the magistrate and there were compensation payments for the aggrieved farmer. Unknown cattle found by a farmer had to be immediately driven to a collection center of the magistrate. There were dramatic penalties for cattle theft. Each farm had a state-registered branding iron.

In these post-war years, the world economic crisis was felt in Southwest Africa. In addition, there was a terrible drought around 1932, and Southwest Africa remained a sparsely populated country. The *Koloniale Rundschau* of 1931 issue 9/10 reported only 8875 white civilians in South West Africa. Of these, 375 whites were in Maltahöhe and of these again 78 were German and 20 British. The great majority in Maltahöhe were the 277 Boers. According to unconfirmed estimates, there were 800 colored inhabitants in the Maltahöhe yard. Maltahöhe remained the only place in this large district.

From the rainy year of 1934, the economy in Maltahöhe went uphill. The demand for Karakul fur grew and traders from Mariental bought up everything, mainly for the Thorer company, but also for English fur traders. Farmers could afford much more. Telephones, radios, cars, doctor's visits. Farm equipment such as turf dams, dipping plants, shearing houses, battery houses, wind engines, and gasoline-powered water pumps increased. Almost every farmer owned a car or truck by about 1935. But still many farmers, mostly the newly arrived Boers, came to Maltahöhe with their donky carts. Voigts Grund again became of outstanding importance for the development of Maltahöhe. The Voigts' working farms covered 70000 hectares with 17000 Karakul sheep. Several General Stores were established in Maltahöhe and sold everything the farms needed. At the same time a whole network of Farmstors like in Gamis, Nutupsdrift, Huams, Voigtsgrund was established, which also took over the function of gas stations. Thorer, with the help of Mr. List, bought the farm Duwisib from the Murmann family just before the war. (Duwisib was expropriated during the war).

The demand for labor increased. Especially men from Ovamboland and Herero were recruited. Thus the werft at Maltahöhe also increased in size. The magistrate controlled the labor contracts and movements of the colored population very bureaucratically closely. But the colored people could also go directly to the magistrate to complain about injustices. Meanwhile, the South African government had established native reservations such as in Neuhoof, Tses, Kranzplatz, Berserba. Colored people were allowed to own some cattle but were still not allowed to purchase land.

Unfortunately, the editors could find little material about the life of the colored Maltahöher. Several inquiries to colored inhabitants of Maltahöhe remained without response.





Cargo transport 1828

**German 1930 in Maltahöhe**

After 1922 the economic situation in SWA was very bad. The Mandate Government rejected 90% of all German immigration applications around 1930, mostly because of insufficient capital stock. Germany provided considerable support to the Southwestern Germans. Thus, despite the world economic crisis, Germany paid, among other aid, over 90% of the school fees of German children, for example in Gibeon. The German Foreign Office supported the maintenance of German schools, farms and companies with 500000 Reichsmark in 1936. Germanism continued to be cultivated in Maltahöhe. The majority of Germans were sympathizers of the 3rd Reich, but most German farmers did not want a political conflict with the Boers and British. They hoped for the return of the German colony. Only 10% of the Germans were members of the NSDAP. German Days, celebrations of Hindenburg's birthday and other festivities with a German background took place steadily in Maltahöhe. In 1930, veterans' associations established a German military cemetery in Maltahöhe. The Maltahöher also founded a German Scout Association. Their "Südwesterlied " got the meaning of a secret national anthem.



German school in Gibeon 1934

### The reburial of some Naukluft soldiers to Maltahöhe ca. 1930

Despite the preponderance of immigrant Boers, the Germans were anxious to keep nostalgically their old cultural identity. Ca.1930 the old Schutztrupperverschein reburied fallen comrades from the Naukluft to Maltahöhe. For this occasion, the veterans put on the old imperial uniforms. So lie in the cemetery 40 Schutztruppler.



1931 Reburials in Maltahöhe of soldiers who had fallen in the Naukluft.



1931 unknown farmer family with a " Chevrolet Tourer "

Karakul sheep in Maltahöhe1930



### **Farm Duwisib after the First World War .**

There are 2 interpretations of the word Duwisib. According to the word Dubusib " roaring turning water hole " or " waterless place with white rocks ". Another theory is that before 1904 lawless robber gangs were hiding on Duwisib and this was probably expressed by the term "Dubu-sieb " .

The American widow of Wolf allegedly agreed to the sale in 1921 of the confiscated farm and the castle together with the expensive collection of paintings to the Swede Murmann. She made it a condition that the paintings and antiques had to remain inalienably in the castle. Murmann moved in with his 2 sons and his wife the same year. After the Swede's death in 1937, Duwisib passed to Duwisib Farming Co. The owners were Dr. Paul Holländer, senior manager of Th. Thorer in Leibzig, Duke Friedrich von Mecklenburg and Meyer Weisspflug. In 1941, Weisspflug was shot down as an airman in action and his share went to Thorer. Thorer apparently had to buy his farm, which had been confiscated again, from the state again after the war. After 1946 Krafft von Kunow and from 1968 Berndt von Kunow managed Duwisib. B. v. Kunow was breeding inspector of the Karakul Association in 1963. The well cared for castle was sold in 1979 with 51 hectares of land after the decline in demand for Karakul pelts and unfortunately the inventory was also sold. The farmland belonging to the castle (51Ha) was finally bought in 1987 by Jochen Frank-Schultz (descendants of von Klitzing), who is still the owner today. The castle itself belongs to the governmental "Namibian Wildlife Resort".



Approx. 1926 A Chevrolet or Ford year of construction approx. 1924 Mr. Murmann

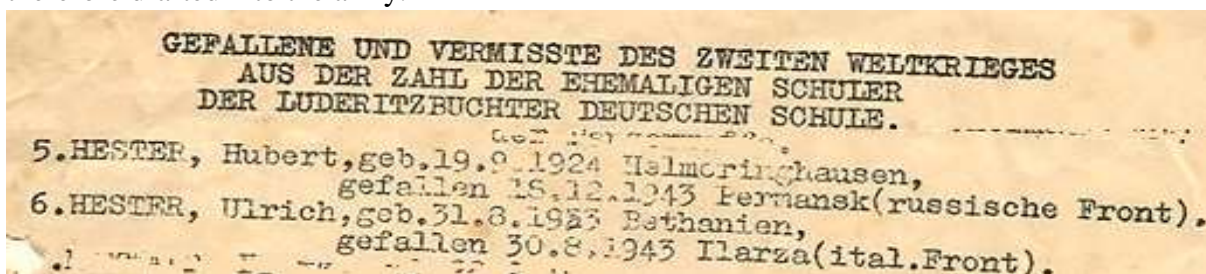


Ca. 1937 A Chevrolet Year of construction ca. 1935 Inner courtyard of Duwisib presumably family Murmann



### Farm Helmeringhausen      Hubert Hester

The next place after Maltahöhe to the south is Helmeringhausen near the Tirasberge and is already on the territory of Bethany. Hubert Hester born on October 30, 1885 came in 1907 as a Schutztruppler from Helmeringshausen in the Sauerland west of Kassel. According to the colonial address book he lived on Farm Kresslerbrunn in 1912, on Dabis in 1913, on Goais in 1914 and finally on Helmeringshausen in 1916. A Schutztruppen Traditionsverband dates Hester's purchase of the Helmeringshausen farm to 1913, others say 1918. The farm is said to have previously been owned by "Browns." In 1922 Hubert Hester married Luise née Kaempffer. To build up the farm he often trekked to Bethany with the ox wagon and brought mail and material for the neighboring farms. The farm had a small store with a gas station for the surrounding farmers. Thus the farm acquired an importance as a central place for the surrounding area. Here in the middle of nowhere, Hester raised Karakul sheep and cattle. With only a few buildings, Helmeringshausen was and still is the smallest village in Southwest Africa. In 1943, a hard blow of fate hit the family 2 times. 2 sons, Hubert Hester and Ulrich Hester died in Europe on different fronts as German soldiers. Presumably they were in Germany at the beginning of the war because of vocational training and were therefore drafted into the army.



From a list of fallen from 1949





ca. 1914 View from west on the black rim on the horizon from the farm Kamelberg /Bes. U.Goerch.

### **Johann "Scheng" Stelzmann the last Schutztruppler**

The fate of a simple man. Scheng, born in Rheindorf near Cologne in 1897, was one of the last German Schutztruppler sent to DWSA. Three months before the start of the war, still in Germany, he had allegedly managed to get to Africa as an 18 year old soldier to reinforce the Schutztruppen in the fight against the British South African troops.

Probably months later he was interned in Aus and deported to Germany in 1919. There he probably married and emigrated again to Southwest Africa. Under a slightly falsified name ("Jean") "Scheng" reappears in the address list in Lüderitzbucht in 1931. The entry in the address list for SWA reads: "1931 -1932 Stelzmann Jean General Dealer Lüderitzbucht". With Mr. Müller and later with Hans Gebser he operated a small store in Maltahöhe and Kub. Later entries in the address books show that he lived with Charlotte Stelzmann (née Daum), an accountant, on the Haribes farm near Mariental. With Charlotte he had two children. Rolf and Gunther. Haribes was the farm of Mr. Strauch the diamond king. Scheng divorced and then lived in Pretoria as a tinsmith with his new wife Frida Pressen. Scheng was interned again in Baviaanspoort /Pretoria at the beginning of the war in 1940. After that every trace is lost. There remained a suitcase and a few documents from the internment camp which were found on the farm Nutupsdriфт near Maltahöhe 2012 during the research.



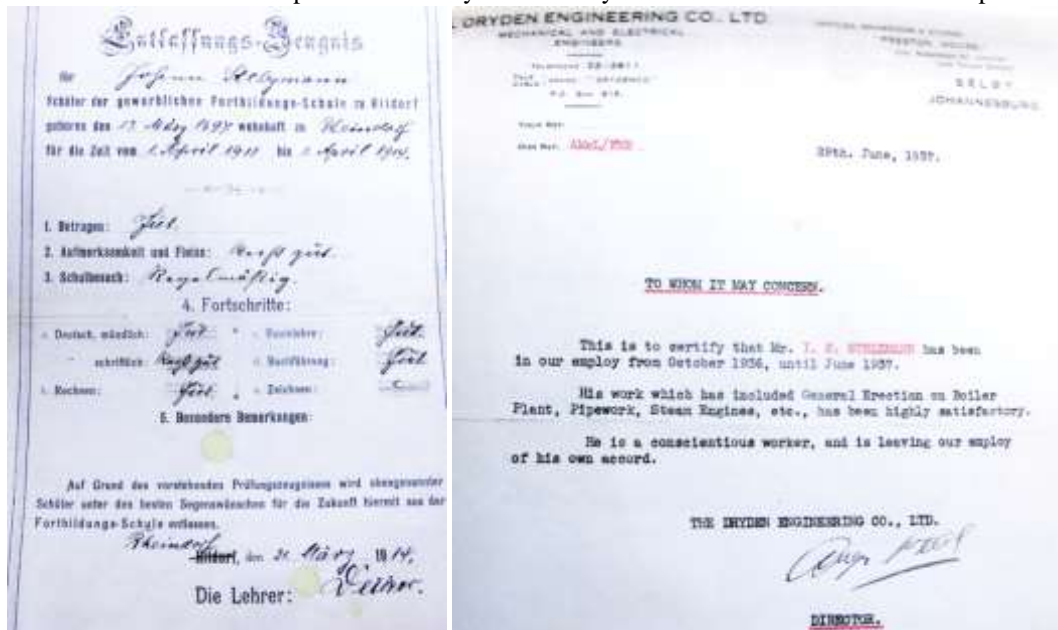
Hans Gebser ca. 1920 near Maltahöhe Johann Stelzmann with Chevrolet 1922 and Namas

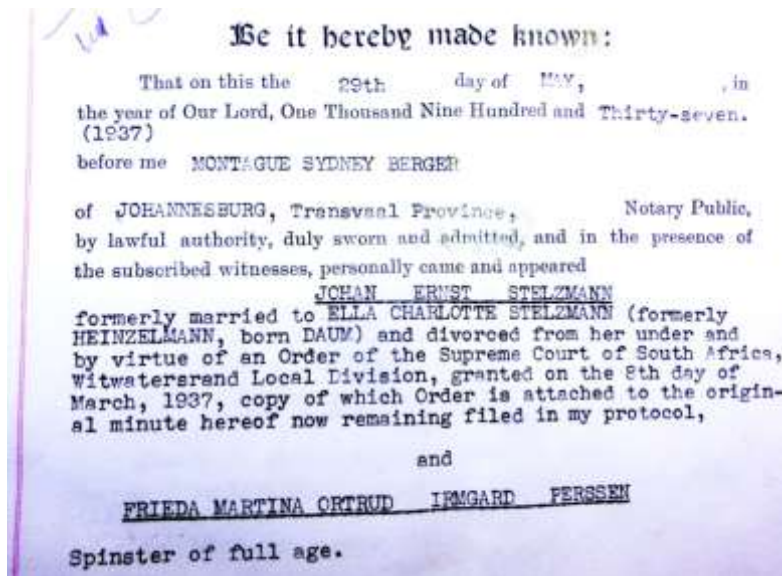


Hans Gebser and Johann Stelzmann ca. 1923 Hunting trip with the Trojan (car)



1915-1919 Internment camp outside the city Aus The mysterious suitcase on the farm Nutupsdrift





Document from the internment camp Bavianspoort 1942 (Hitler crosses are pasted over)



#### Farm Kachauchab Nr. 40 Mr. Bracke

Merchant Herrmann Bracke, (born 1886 in Braunschweig / died 1938 in Braunschweig) took over the farm Kachauchab, which belonged to Lengfeld before the war.

The translation of the farm name Kachauchab is "The water that disappears in the sand". Bracke also took over the farms Glückauf as manager from Maiwald in or after WW1 and bought the farm Karichab from Jan Cotzee in 1933. Mr. Bracke had a car and liked to visit his neighbors. In 1934 he went to Germany for home leave. Administrator Karl Frielingsdorff and wife took over the 3 farms for this time. In Germany, however, Mr. Bracke died on 18.08.1934 and was buried in Gross Denkte south of Braunschweig. The farms were inherited by the brother from Germany. In the 2nd World War they were confiscated by the SA administration and in 1943 the Otto family bought these 3 farms. Kachauchab, Karichab, Glückauf.

Frielingsdorff then became an employee of Kirsten/ Daweb in 1936.

#### Family Richard Schwarzkopf Breckhorn West II.part



Richard

Kurt

Kurt and family



### Summary of the diary of Kurt Schwarzkopf with cuts and additions.

This family book about the important but also banal events on the farm Breckhorn from the years 1926 to 1939 Kurt Schwarzkopf wrote together from old diary entries. In the internment camp "Andalusia" near Pretoria he devoted himself to this chronicle from 1942-1943. The work was addressed to his children Ruth, Beate and Kunz and actually can only be understood with the prior knowledge of the children.

The book with 200 pages presupposes much knowledge and contains for the uninformed reader in boring form very often repeating events. Therefore, the editors decided to summarize and slightly supplement the book. Nevertheless, the content often appears bullet point-like and incoherent, sometimes even unusually dull. However, the text gives an insight into the events in the Maltahöhe district like no other document of the time. It was important to the editors not to omit the many named farm visitors from the summary in order to give the knowledgeable reader an insight into the many social contacts of the time. The Schwarzkopf papers combine to a great extent small and large fragments about Maltahöhe's history that the editors had found. I have made them available to the library in Swakopmund.



### 1926, 1927

**Kurt Schwarzkopf** (b.03.02.1902 Stuttgart d.27.06.1947) left Hamburg on 20.03.1926 and landed in SWA on 16.4.1926. He first worked at Voigtsgrund. Father Richard Paul Alexander Schwarzkopf (born 09.01.1866 Heilbronn former sawmill owner in Nordheim) arrived with his wife Maria Schwarzkopf (Nee Kreh born 10.12.1875 Nordheim died 02.03.1940 Windhoek) on 8.11.1927 in Walvisbay together with the future daughter-in-law Klara Babette Rilling. (b.21.12.1902 . d.12.04.1970 WDK ). On 10.11.1927 Klara Rilling and Kurt Schwarzkopf married in Swakopmund. From 1928 to 1938 they had 6 children. Ruth, Renate, Traute, Heinz, Beate, Kunz. Of the children 3 died.

On 31 .12. 1927 father Richard Schwarzkopf bought the farm Breckhorn West. The National Bank gave notice to Smith, the Burian tenant, as of 01.10.1927. Smith had leased the farm for 7 years but probably paid unpunctually. The bank divided the farm. 12300 acres for



Breckhorn West and 8800 acres for Breckhorn East, which Sartorius von Bach moved into a year later. The move into Breckhorn West took place on 29 December 1927.

## 1928



Mr. Stelzmann ca. 1927 at Maltahöhe.

The luggage of Kurt Schwarzkopf's parents was brought by Mr. Müller and Mr. Stelzmann by car from Mariental. Kurt bought a horse from Mr. Bracke on the farm Glückauf and from Hendrik Coetzee, the son of Jan Coetzee on the farm Karichab another horse with a cart to build up the farm. The wheels of the old cart were straightened by Albert Maraun in his blacksmith shop in Maltahöhe. The Schwarzkopf family had just enough money for a new start in SWA, but no more. With a lot of effort and very little money Kurt first rebuilt the farm buildings of stones, mud and lime mortar at Hutup and extended the rooms. The roof was covered with corrugated iron and the interior was lined with adobe bricks and clay plaster. Kurt laid out the porch with flat cliffs. The family's contact with the Voigtsgrund was close and personal. However, there was once a huge quarrel with Albert Voigts, when it was about a purchase of sheep. Nevertheless, the families visited each other and Kurt also bought quite a few things for the construction of the house there. Mr. von Bach, at that time still an employee of Voigtsgrund brought him the goods. A mortgage for a loan to buy cattle had to be approved by the Maltahöhe Magistrate (J.A. Kuys) first. Kurt bought most of the sheep from Mr. Mehnert, the former administrator of Breckhorn on the Nababis farm. Kurt purchased additional sheep at Basterland. In the meantime, Mr. Ziegenbein (Urikos Farm) had received the order from the magistrate to prepare the road from Maltahöhe towards Voigtsgrund. Especially steep and rich in stones was the path from Hutup up to the plateau near Breckhorn. Mr. Ziegenbein often came as a guest to Breckhorn West. After completion, the "Wegerat" got together to remove the pad. These were Bergemann / Urusis, Jan Coetzee / Karichab and Jan van der Merve / Tourlosie. On 30.05.1928 the farmers in Maltahöhe celebrated the

"German Day" and at the same time there was a club meeting, church meeting at the priest Sander, a lecture by Dr. .H.Sigwart and afterwards dancing. The gun store Rosentahl (that still exists today) in Windhoek (WDK) finally sent the ordered military rifle at a price of 7 .10 pounds. Now Kurt could shoot game himself and save money in the household.

Adriana Coetzee bought feather beds from Kurt's wife during a visit and in turn sold cattle. Adriana was 40 years younger than her husband. Around July, the conflict with the Smith`s on the neighboring Kampe farm came to a head. Cattle from the neighboring farm kept grazing on Breckhorn`s pasture, which was so scarce anyway. But also other farmers were constantly looking for their cattle because of the unfenced farms. Already in the first year all sheep of Breckhorn had to be "dipped" because of the Rheude in presence of the Maltahöhe police (M.J.Greef). that is to be immersed in a concentrated chemical bath. Rheude is a lice epidemic which was subject to compulsory registration by the state. Otto Voigts married (20.07.1928). Of course there was a big celebration on Voigtsgrund. On 02.10.1928 there was again a German Day in Maltahöhe. This was the birthday of Reich President Hindenburg (born 02.10.1847 in Posen). On Breckhorn West came a lot of visitors passing through. Mr. Breiting , Mr. Otto with Miss Eisenbeiss , Pastor Sander, Heydt , Alfred Brüggemann ( owner of Blenheim u.Varkbosch ),Bekowski ,Wegener ( accountant on Voigtsgrund until 1937), Maxe Roth ( gardener in Voigtsgrund ) , Von Bach ,Carl-August Schlettwein (owner of 3 farms in Outjo and politician ) , the Englishman Teek/Kamagams, H.Otto/Urusic and the women and children. Mrs. Klara Schwarzkopf went (12.10.1928) from Mariental by train to her delivery to WDK. Voigtsgrund reported on 10/29/1928 that Ruth Schwarzkopf was born in the Elisabethenhaus (Storchennest)on 10/27/1928. Mr. Max Bernhardt of Namseb passed by briefly on his way to Mariental. He picked up his bride there at the train station. Max`s sister was called Billa. In December, the Schwarzkopfs bought 285 African sheep from Mr. Szevzyk / Neinabas in Basterland on 29/12/1928. (Notiz:1928 W.D.Doing Bohrmeister i.Maltahöhe.)

## 1929



Gebser's Store in Maltahöhe

In January 1929, Mrs. Kierdorf came to visit with 2 children and Mr. Gebser. They had taken over the store of Müller and Stelzmann in Maltahöhe shortly before. Johann Stelzmann was the brother of Mrs. Kierdorf. The Schwarzkopfs held back because Mrs. Kierdorf was not yet divorced. That was considered a no-go at that time. In January, the sheep Kurt had bought with the Landesbank's money received their special branding in the presence of a policeman. They were subject to the control of the bank. On Jan. 18, 1929, Maltahöhe again held a German Day, and on Jan. 22, 1929, a farmers' meeting voted against a fencing law in the district. In August a plague of baboons developed. These tore open the bellies of the young sheep to drink the milk from their stomachs. In Windhoek, Father Schwarzkopf's dislocated arm required surgery. It cost 30 pounds. This was very difficult for the family to pay. Kurt planted a cactus field in the farm's garden for a rainy day. To water the beds he or the father had to pump water by hand for hours. The garden was important to buy as little food as possible. In December, Constable Franz Frederick Fourie arrived with the news that rheude had broken out on the Sandhof and Karichab farms. The Schwarzkopfs were worried about their livelihood anyway and there was hardly any pasture left on the farm.

## 1930

Breckhorn's inventory showed that there were 400 sheep less than at the beginning. Malnutrition of the sheep ? Klara drove (07.01. 1930) to the delivery to WDK in the Elisabethen home. Little Renate Schwarzkopf was born on 25.01.1930. It continued to rain hardly. Nevertheless, the dam in Voigtsgrund was almost full due to some showers in the north. Because of a lack of fodder, Voigtsgrund sent all horses to the farm Ababis in the Naukluft. On 17.01.1930 Maltahöhe organized again the German Day to which however because of the hardships few farmers came. At the beginning of February 1930, the von Bach couple moved into the neighboring farm Breckhorn-Ost. The control officer of the Landesbank inspected the livestock of the farms everywhere. The issue was credit in the drought. Conroy Coetzee picked up Kurt and his father by car one day and sold them 120 sheep to pay his debt to the Schwarzkopfs. The baptism of little Renate Schwarzkopf took

place at Voigtsgrund. Mrs. Middendorf (daughter of A.Voigts) was the godmother and had also birthday on that day (06.04.1930).

Unfortunately, a policeman discovered rheude in the Breckhorn sheep during a control. So 950 sheep had to be "dipped" under the supervision of Constable H.G.Theron. At the farmers meeting in Maltahöhe Kurt's father asked the farmers Noechel/ Kudis and Brüggeman/ Varkbosch (north of Nomtsas) for leasable pasture, because there was hardly a blade of grass left on Breckhorn. Weeks later Mr. Bracke brought the relieving news that Kurt could trek with his cattle to Kudis to Wilhelm Nöchel. On Easter Tuesday 500 animals were sheared and on 19.06.1930 Kurt moved with 786 sheep and 178 goats over "Sandrücken", the high plateau of the Schwarzrand. along the plateau of the Schwarzrand for about 100 km to the south to the farm Kudis. There was an unpredictable dry spell in which the animals did not get water for four and a half days. With swollen tongues but without losses the sheep arrived at Kudis. The agreed rent was 10 shillings per hundred animals. With the colored helper "Kefas" Kurt built a small house of stones under a shady camel thorn tree, which was roofed with corrugated iron. The kitchen consisted of three stones in the open fire on which the cooking pot stood.



Kurt

Schwarzkopf family sitting ca. 1930 while trekking south due to drought. The man standing by the tree is unknown

After some time Kurt rode back 100 km. During a rest his horse escaped and he had to walk to the farm. On the way he met Karel Andries Mahoney, a Boer who worked on the farm Garub No. 46, which Mr. Otto had just bought. Arriving at Breckhorn, Kurt decided to take his family to the cattle post at Kudis. On July 31st, half past eight, Mr. Gebser from Maltahöhe came with his truck and transported Kurt and his wife with the children via Maltahöhe along the Schwarzrand towards the south. At Kosos they went back to the plateau and landed by mistake in Kuteb No. 65 at Christian Nöchel's, who welcomed the family with a smile. There was good food with wine and a good bed for the lost ones. The next morning they went cross-country to Kudis No.66. Gebser got 5 pounds for the ride. In the meantime Gebser had accepted the order from Kurt's father to sell the Karakul Fellchen in Windhoek. There was only 7 shillings on average. ( Very little ) Weekly Kurt got the mail through Huams farm and also bought food there. From time to time Schwarzkopf's visited the

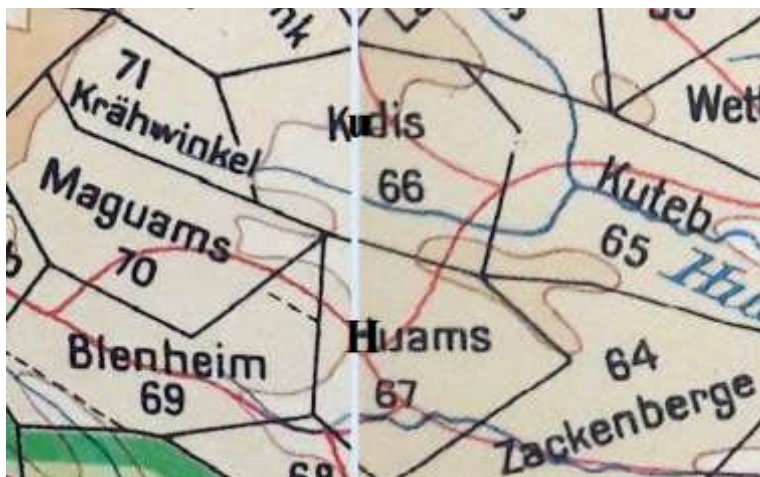


Swabian family Heydt on the farm Zackenberge with their 7 children. There was cake and pudding. Kurt bought thirty-five ewes for 50 pounds from Mr. Serrer / Maguams.



Serrer

1930 Heydt on the farm jagged mountains "Zackenberge" on the reservoir



## 1931

On the first of January rain finally fell in Breckhorn-West and the Hutup came off. Kurt therefore settled with Mr. Nöchel and moved back to Breckhorn-West with his cattle and family on 08.02.1931. The neighbor "Jan Karichab" Jan Coetzee died in March 1931 at the age of 77. His wife Arianne, 40 years younger, gave birth to a son 4 days later. Naturally, the rumor mill was boiling. On Breckhorn, the Italian Atillo was laying bricks for a lime kiln. They fetched the lime from the station at Sandpforte. The lime kiln burned for 50 hours, requiring 15 carts of wood. This resulted in 32 sacks of lime. Mr. Atillo lived in the so-called "Villa Malta" during the fire. The small stone house had been built by Malta von Burgsdorff in about 1908. Atillo also tried to deepen the well in front of the house. Mr. Gebser came with his family and bought 7 bags of lime. Once again, many people passing through visited the farm: Max Bernhardt, Frank-Schultz, Enslen, Miss Wiss, Fritschi and von Weidlich. The magistrate in Maltahöhe ordered a vaccination day (11.05.1931) to which all children had to come to Maltahöhe. In the meantime Kurt also finished the construction of his own dipping plant. On 10.12.1931 Mrs. Klara went to Mariental for the delivery with Mr. Gebser and then

still by train to WDK. Shortly after Christmas Eve Mr. Bracke came with the news. The 3rd girl Traute Schwarzkopf was born. ( 24.12.1931)

## 1932

Kurt Schwarzkopf started to build another house next to the old farm building. On 02.02.1932 politician Jooste and Mr. A.Voigts spoke at the farm meeting. They wanted to be elected as land councilors. 08.02.1932 Kurt was just building the house when little Renate, despite the fence, reached the locust poison (arsenic syrup) with her arms and sucked on it. All measures of the desperate family were in vain when at 17.00 o'clock her life light went out. This was the first grave near the house. There were to be more. Pastor Sander later blessed it. On 13.02.1932 the police officers in Maltahöhe recorded the event. Life went on. In the previous six months, the farm had sold 76 pelts at about 11 shillings each. Thus debts could be paid to get credit again in the Storen. In April Kurt celebrated the topping-out ceremony for his new house. The inventory in May showed 1522 sheep and 220 goats. In June there was no more pasture and so Kurt looked again for leased land. This time in the north at Narob just before Dreihuk. He made a lease agreement with the Baster Beuker. The rent was only 5 shillings for 100 animals. The contract still had to be approved by the magistrate in Rehoboth and Kurt needed a residence permit for the Baster land. Kurt then trekked north with the sheep to the farm Narobmund and after 3 months to the farm Sandhof. There he was invited several times. Here he could also have the sheep sheared. Most of the time he slept under his donkey cart with his flock.



Nash 1932

Mrs. Kränzle

At Sandhof, Mr. Leonard Kolle, the technical manager of CDM (Consolidated Diamond Mines) Lüderitzbucht and his wife as well as Mrs. Kränzle were on vacation. Mrs. Kränzle was the daughter of the farm owner of Sandhof Mr. Richter. Mrs. Kränzle's husband worked in Lüderitz as a doctor. (The families Kränzle, Heussen, Richter, and Maraun were related by marriage). Mr. Kolle was traveling with a large Nash. He invited Kurt to a car tour together with Philipp Richter, Fr. Kränzle, Gretel Schmieder (probably the daughter of the merchant Schmieder in Maltahöhe) to the Naukluft. It went via Maltahöhe to Kamkas to Mrs. Kirschner. Then via Nudaus to widow Ziegenbein (Clara) on Urikos. From there they made a tour to the old police station Büllsport and further to Johann Albrecht Spring and also to Sesriem Canyon. In December Kurt returned to his farm with the cattle herd. For a short time he hired Kurt Rudolf Beuker to help with the construction of the lime kiln and other construction work. In the meantime Kurt's father had bought a new small wind engine with basin for the vegetable garden from the Bur Havenga.

## 1933

(The seizure of power, so called the appointment of Adolf Hitler as Reich Chancellor by Reich President Paul von Hindenburg on January 30, 1933. Many Germans hoped that Hitler would help them to get the mandate territory SWA back into German hands).

On January 6, Kurt set the lime kiln on fire again and the wind engine was set up for garden irrigation. Voigtsgrund blacksmith George Coetzee helped with this. Mr. Gebser took teacher Leonhardt from Mariental to Maltahöhe in January, stopping at the farm as usual. Mrs. Klara and the father-in-law wanted to go to Germany for home leave. On 29.01.1933 Mr. Gebser took the two to the ship at Lüderitzbucht. Days later the Ninow Magistrate made a stopover in Breckhorn. In February, Mr. Gebser transported 12 bales of wool to Mariental on behalf of Kurt. The selling prices were shockingly low 11 bales yielded 12 pounds after deducting transportation costs. On February 24, 1933, the slaughter buyer Pepler came by and brought Miss Wiss to the farm, who was picked up a few days later by Mr. Frank-Schulz on a motorcycle (Miss Carola Wiss was a home economics teacher). Mr. Pepler took the opportunity to buy 190 sheep at 7 shillings each. To the Boer Azer Kurt sold 2 rams. Also a Mr. Wecke bought 10 hides at 11 shillings each. This was a relief for the farm in view of the scarce pasture. Nevertheless Kurt had to look for pasture. Also the neighbor Mr. Bracke told after a round trip with his car that there was no more pasture.

The stock on Breckhorn -West was now about 1300 sheep and 190 goats. The house expansion continued. Mr. Wecke bought more hides, now paying 20 shillings, and in June he purchased another 104 hides for 25 shillings each. Finally the farm was debt free. On 02.05.1933 the son Walter Schwarzkopf was born in Ingelfingen. Mr. von Bach became godfather. In August Kurt bought three good rams in Voigtsgrund they cost 67.10 pounds. The pasture became scarce and Kurt had to buy bales of grass. On 07.10.1933 Kurt finally trekked with his sheep to Mr. Strey in Büllsport. (Rudolf Georg Strey, married with wife Joh.Emma geb.Iben.). The way led over Maltahöhe and then Querfeld one along the precincts 9 days to Büllsport. Mr. Gebser distributed the ordered bales of fodder along the way.

Mrs. Klara Schwarzkopf returned (29. 10 1933) from her home leave in Germany. On 03. 10 1933 the news spread that little Lore Fechter had died of amoebic dysentery on Voigtsgrund. The brother of the little one and also the 4-month-old Ernst Adolf von Bach also fell ill and had to be flown to Windhoek (WDK) and survived. Von Bach, in his distress, left his cattle with Kurt Schwarzkopf, who was to take them to Büllsport. But an unexpected rain made it unnecessary. Then, in November, Schwarzkopf's mother also left for Germany. Again Mr. Gebser brought her by truck to Mariental to the railroad station. On the following Sunday the whole Gebser family came to visit Breckhorn.

While Kurt was looking after his animals from 05.12.1933 to 09.12.1933 in Büllsport, a very big misfortune happened. The little son Heinz fell ill and mother Klara supported by Voigtsgrund brought the child by plane from Mariental to WDK to the Elisabethenheim. But it was in vain. Mr. von Klitzing an administrator in Voigtsgrund had taken over the farm Breckhorn-West for the few days. Klara Schwarzkopf came back with the small coffin. The other children and Klara's wife also fell ill but survived. On December 16 Kurt brought back his cattle from Büllsport. At Mrs. Sauber/Haruchas he was allowed to leave the 43 most infirm animals for 2 shillings a week. It went over Haruchas and Kamkas /Mrs. Kürschner past Nudaus/ Stanghörner to Breckhorn. Everywhere it had rained. This meant that the field was full of grass shortly after.

1934

The inventory in Breckhorn-West showed 1158 sheep. Jewish traders from WDK bought a bale of wool at 25 shillings and 15 sheep and goat skins at the same price. Moses Ettmann bought 33 bad karakul skins at sixteen pounds.

The dam on Voigtsgrund overflowed. Shortly after, the dam broke. On Breckhorn-West Kurt caught 3 mules from Bergemann/Urusic that had strayed and reported it to him. On 25 March 34, Mr. Heinrich Richter/ Sandhof came in his capacity as locust officer and searched for breeding sites. The farmers celebrated again the German Day (07.05.1934) in Maltahöhe. As transit visits came to Breckhorn West: Mr. Zimmermann, Mr. Roth, Mr. Albaths, Mr. Letter, Mr. Mack. In the middle of the year Klara had a miscarriage. Dr. Weinberg treated her. The farmers' meeting elected Kurt Schwarzkopf as treasurer. Mr. Gebser sold 1200 pounds of wool for seventeen pounds on Kurt's behalf. Schwarzkopf's father returned from Germany. Kurt sent him sixty pelts to sell while passing through WDK. In Maltahöhe the Karakul Breeders Association met. (Mr. Breiting / Gamis also belonged to it).

## 1935

In February Frank-Schulz marries Renate von Klitzing. Both worked on the Haribes farm from then on. March 1935 the sheep on Breckhorn were shorn and Kurt bought a purebred ram for 25 pounds. In April, the administration finally cleared the road to Mariental. Herr von Leipzig supervised this. Herr Gebser picked up the Schwarzkopfs with the children for an outing in May. Everyone stayed overnight at the Gebsers' house in Maltahöhe. The next day they went hunting as far as Niederhagen.

On January 2, 1934, the Schwarzkopfs and the von Bach family quarreled out of jealousy for the favor of their friendship with Mrs. Middendorf. In the middle of January Kurt visited Mr. Bracke and both decided to go to the neighbor Bernhardt / Namseb in the Hutupebene. The experienced Bernhardt told a lot about his plants (dams) and future plans. Days later, Mr. Gebser picked Kurt up to help him pick out sheep on the farm Grootplaas (Gai Kaap), which the Burian owner wanted to sell. Previously, his wife Anna Gebser and he had bought untouched land that no one wanted because of its dryness and christened it "Nutupsdrift". The Bur was outraged that Kurt had picked out the best sheep for him. On the way back Kurt shot a Kudu on the way. The Bur then reported him to the police. So Kurt had to justify himself to the sergeant. Later he bought a hunting license for 15 shillings and that solved the problem. The actual owner of the farm Kampe came one day from Valinsdrop/ South Africa and visited the Schwarzkopfs with his daughter. He showed himself to be a fine intelligent man who had given the farm to his family members for lease.

There were constant visitors on Breckhorn. Mr. Crohn ( fiancé of Miss Kürschner ), Mr. Szevzyk ,Mr. Jaennicke , Hans Breiting / Gamis ,Mr. Etzold /Friedland , Mr. Schmidt "Schwarzer Schmidt" the Count Lüttichau together with Etzold . But also young people. Mr. Jaenicke, Toni Landrath with sister, Frl., Bergemann, Mr. Moeser, Mr. Kurschner, Heinz and Rolf Kirsten, Mr. Allolio .

On November 29, the great botanist Dr. Steyn came to the farm for an overnight stay with Dr. Zschokke. On the same day a Mr. Liebing and wife bought some furs. A Mr. Slier bought 5 steers at 5 pounds each. Mr. Gebser drove father Schwarzkopf to Mariental. He had to visit Dr. Eggers in WDK due to illness and met a businessman from WDK Mr. (Constantin) Conrad Bierberg on the way.



## 1936

(Background: In summer the Olympic Games with 49 nations took place in Berlin. Hardly anyone suspected what danger emanated from the National Socialists. Not even the English king who even publicly sympathized with Hitler. The German farmers secretly hoped for the return of the mandate over SWA. The British Foreign Minister Lord Halifax already had talks with Hitler about the return of the colonies).

Frl. Nitzsche, the sister of Otto Voigt's wife took photos of the 70th birthday of father Schwarzkopf, with a Leika. (In 1936 Ottilie Nietzsche (-Reiter) was listed as a photographer, Windhoek in the Colonial Address Book and was also engaged in photography in SWA after the war). Fur buyer Wecke purchased skins from Kurt at 29 shillings. Kurt needed a new borehole at the site in the Hutup that Mr. Breiting had determined with the dowsing rod. Eupelmann and Meilwos blasted, drilled and water did indeed come. Technician Schaepe helped install the new wind motor. On April 20, after a church service, the farm assembly celebrated Adolf Hitler's birthday. In May 1936 Voigtsgrund held another celebration with 40 people. Days later, Mother Schwarzkopf and Mr. Wecke visited the English family of Albert John Teek in Kamagams. In June 1935, Mr. Gebser brought Mr. Olsen to Breckhorn. He expertly slaughtered a large pig. Kurt ordered two new piglets from Mr. Breiting immediately afterwards. The Bur Keet and his brother-in-law got the order from the magistrate to prepare the washed out road from Maltahöhe. For 12 miles 12 pounds. Not exactly a lot. The connection to the telephone line was laid on 27. July 1936 by the technician Hartok. On August 9, 1936, Miss Clessen, who later married Mr. von Klitzig, came to visit from Voigtsgrund. Mr. Wecke and his wife visited the Schwarzkopf's with Mr. Neumann who had bought the farm Kinochas at the Schwarzrand near the farm Elisenhof. Kurt's daughter Ruth had to be enrolled in school in Gibeon. Kurt discussed everything with the magistrate in Maltahöhe. Kurt again got violent cramps (renal colic) the cause of which was not known at first. Dr. Weinberg was called. Much later Kurt learned that kidney stones had destroyed his left kidney. On October 6, 1936, Mr. Gebser took Ruth and the other school children to the German school in Gibeon. The three children Walter, Callista and Lindi of the Gebser family and the sons of Mr. von Leipzig Gernot and Helmut also attended this school.

## 1937

On the advice of the doctor, Kurt Schwarzkopf and his wife took a recreational vacation in Swakopmund. Mr. Marx represented Kurt. However, the doctors in Swakop advised Kurt to seek urgent treatment in Germany. On 06.01.1937 little Beate Schwarzkopf was born in Swakopmund. A few days later the newest steamer of the Woerman line arrived in Walfishbay. Kurt looked at this and met the Breiting/Gamis family returning from Germany with their just born son. Mr. Jännike (Jaenecke farm manager on Niederhagen) had also come on this ship. He had married in Germany and brought his wife with him. Mr. Krafft of Kunow was also among the spectators. At the end of January Kurt was working on the farm again. On February 26 the von Bach family left for Germany (26.02.1937) and Mr. Marx took over the farm administration. (Mr. Alfred Hermann Marx was already in SWA in 1926 and farm assistant in Haribes in 1936. He probably came from Dresden. ). Mr. Gebser accomplished the feat of bringing the couple to Mariental in spite of running hunting grounds. Mr. Marx took over the administration of Breckhorn East for the time being. Breckhorn West absolutely needed a new ram. Everywhere Kurt searched. Hannibal von Lüttichau then brought a good ram from Niederhagen which was promptly "Hannibal" baptized. The shearing of 1800 sheep resulted in 1937 only 6 bales of wool.

In Haribes Mrs. Frank-Schultz unexpectedly gave birth to her child (09.03.1937). Mrs. Schwarzkopf immediately came to her aid to care for the mother and the baby. Thereupon, of course, Hella was to become godmother. Days later, Mr. and Mrs. Seegelken, who were working on the dam in Voigtsgrund, came on bicycles and asked if they could live on Breckhorn during the construction of the dam. Kurt assigned them the old post house Kavibis.

In March 1934, Mr. Bracke and Father Schwarzkopf coincidentally (or not) sailed to Germany on the same ship. In Germany Mr. Bracke died 13.08.1937. (His brother in Germany inherited the three farms).

Again it was necessary to dump on Breckhorn-West. During the Easter vacations the schoolchild Ruth Schwarzkopf came home from 24.3.1937 to 31.3.1937.

Dr. Zsokke, Mr. Schultes, Mr. Schliemann, Mr. Schmiedt, Seegelken family visited Breckhorn-West during the passage. On 4 May 1937 Mr. Schultes and Mr. Marx took the Schwarzkopfs to the German Day with prize shooting. Kurt had won with 34 rings. The Fellchen prizes were now 33 Schillinge. Mrs. Kirsten visited (16.05.1937) with her two daughters and Heinz-Rolf Breckhorn West. The 12 Leghorn hens ordered from Mr. Grässer arrived at the farm on 01.06.1937. Mr. Frank-Schultz of Haribes with Mr. Graney (22.06.1937) stopped by briefly on the way to Helmeringshausen. In July 1937 von Bachs came back from Germany in their new Ford Eifel. This also tempted Kurt to buy a car.



Ford Eifel

Mr. Richard Wegener (accountant in Voigtsgrund since at least 1910) visited Breckhorn with his successor Mr. Theodor Steinwedel. (In 1926 Steinwedel was an accountant in Keetmanshoop). Mr. Plichter (Plichta ?) sales assistant of Metje & Ziegler Keetmanshoop sold Kurt a six cylinder Chevrolet for 70 pounds. With Mr. Seegelken, a skilled mason Kurt built a cooler house next to the farm building. Kurt ventured out with the Chevrolet on a first trip to visit the Etzold family in Friedland. On the way back, there was a stop at the Gebser family, who were building up the Nutupsdrift farm. Kurt proudly picked up father Schwarzkopf, who was returning from Germany, from WDK by car. On the way back we passed the farm Gamis. Breiting's were not present. The house daughter Clouder resided alone on the farm, but she received the guests princely. The farm had running water and electric light. The next day we went first to Glückauf for coffee and then to Maltahöhe for a beer and finally home. Kurt brought basins for the cooler house from Windhoek. Kurt drove

on 23 Nov 1937 via Osis, Rooiberg to Blutpütz to the Bur A,J, Geringer and bought there 202 ewes for 350 pounds. A worker left immediately with the sheep to Breckhorn. Shortly after Christmas, a Dr. Fink (veterinarian) from Germany came to the farm to do research on artificial insemination in sheep. He had brought hormone products from Ig Farben Leverkusen for research. Friedrich Bracke the brother and heir of Hermann Bracke came from Germany. The executor of his estate was Otto Voigts. Friedrich Bracke, a farmer from Lower Saxony wanted the farms to continue under the care of a trust company. (All 3 farms were sold during the war by the magistrate to the Otto family in about 1943. This suggests that the farms were confiscated by the state).

## 1938

There came to visit at the passage to Breckhorn West family Steinwedel (Buchalter von Voigtsgrund), Mr. Liebold, Mr. Gebauer, Mr. Mack /Kleinfontein and Mr. Etzold / Friedland. On 02.01.1938 Kurt in his turn visited the farm Sandhof, where he met family Gebser from Nutupsdrift. From there they made a side trip to Wildpark to Mrs. Richter Senior. On 06 March Kurt went again to Sandhof to Dr. Kränzle for an examination of his kidney. Klara was also pregnant again.

On 18 March there was a meeting in Maltahöhe to hear Hitler on the radio. For the referendum on April 3, 1938, Germans living abroad could also cast their vote on German ships. Many a German went to the ports to cast his vote in the ships. (It was about the annexation of Austria to Germany. In Germany the vote took place only on 10.04.1938).

On 06.05.1938 the Schutztruppen veteran Major Weiss of the former machine gun division visited Maltahöhe. Mr. Gebser took Dr. Fink (veterinarian) to the farm of Lazarus/ Huams No. 67, which was about 100 km away, to buy sheep for himself. On 02.08.1938 there was a meeting of the German Cultural Association. This was the successor organization of the German Federation. Mr. List, a well-known businessman, bought the farm Duwisib for the German company Thorer. (Duwisib was also confiscated in the 2nd World War and Thorer had to buy it from the state again after 1945).

On 25.08.1938 Knut Schwarzkopf was born on Breckhorn West. Dr. Weinberg helped. They were actually twins. The girl died at birth. Kurt now finally traveled to Germany with Klara and had the left kidney, which had always caused colic, removed. A Mr. Müller-Dose represented him on the farm. The couple had placed the little "Kunz" Schwarzkopf in Swakopmund's baby home.

## 1939

After Kurt's return from Germany, the daughter Traute Schwarzkopf fell ill and died at Easter 1939, allegedly of tuberculosis. On September 01, 1939, Schwarzkopf's father also died at 74 shortly after a bladder operation in WDK on the day the war began. Not long after that the police car, the so-called "Green Minna" came to the farm. Karl Kirsten Junior was already in it. Kurt was interned.

End of the notes of Kurt Schwarzkopf written in "Andalusia" (Pretoria)1943

The South Africans deported over 1000 Germans to "Andalusia" near Pretoria. Conditions were moderate for the time, but everything had the appearance of a concentration camp

fenced in with barbed wire and harsh living conditions. Old Mr. Heydt died in the camp and Mr. Schwarzkopf and Mr. Grässer died shortly after their release from the late effects of the poor conditions in the camp.



Richard Schwarzkopf died on Breckhorn West on 02.05.1940. His wife Maria Schwarzkopf inherited the farm. Kurt Schwarzkopf was interned during the II .W.War for 6 years (Koffiefontein " Andalusia") Mrs. Klara Schwarzkopf spent the 2nd World War as one of the typical "combat widows" and had to wait 7 years for her husband. Little Kunz was sent to the school home in Swakopmund in 1944 when he was 6 years old. Kurt Schwarzkopf returned from the camp as a marked man only after the end of the war. Weakened by the internment Kurt Schwarzkopf died in Windhoek on 28.6 1947. Klara continued to run the farm until little Knut Schwarzkopf called " Kunz " could take over. The eldest daughter Ruth Jacobi stayed on the farm for some time to help her mother. In Jan 1948 Maria Schwarzkopf "gave" the farm Breckhorn West No. 38 (12359 Ha) to her daughter-in-law Klara Schwarzkopf. In 1960 ("Knut") Kunz Schwarzkopf took over the operation of the farm. Klara Schwarzkopf died on 12.4.1970. Kunz married "Tina" in 1978. The marriage remained childless. In 1995, after major droughts and massive cattle rustling, Kunz sold the Breckhorn West farm and moved to South Africa. He is now over 80 years old. What remained were the memories and the graves on the farm.



Beate Schwarzkopf married Ernst Sylvius von Goldfuss. The son-in-law Mr. Günter Langemaak (WDK), Helga Zitzelberger von Goldfus and Christa Schemmer had helped with the procurement of material on the subject of Breckhorn / Schwarzkopf . The editors would like to thank all of them.

The editors checked all the names in the Schwarzkopf papers. It became clear that only half of the persons listed in the colonial address books appeared in the diaries. This was an important reason to make these names available for possible research in this book as well..



# Pictures from Maltahöhe 1928-1938



The families Grässer, Gebser, Winter ca. 1938 on the farm Niederhagen.



The first watering hole on the farm Nutupsdrift 1934.on the horizon you can see the camel mountain.



On the farm Nutupsdrift ca.1940



Maltahöhe ca.1939



Mr. Wittig and his wife Anne

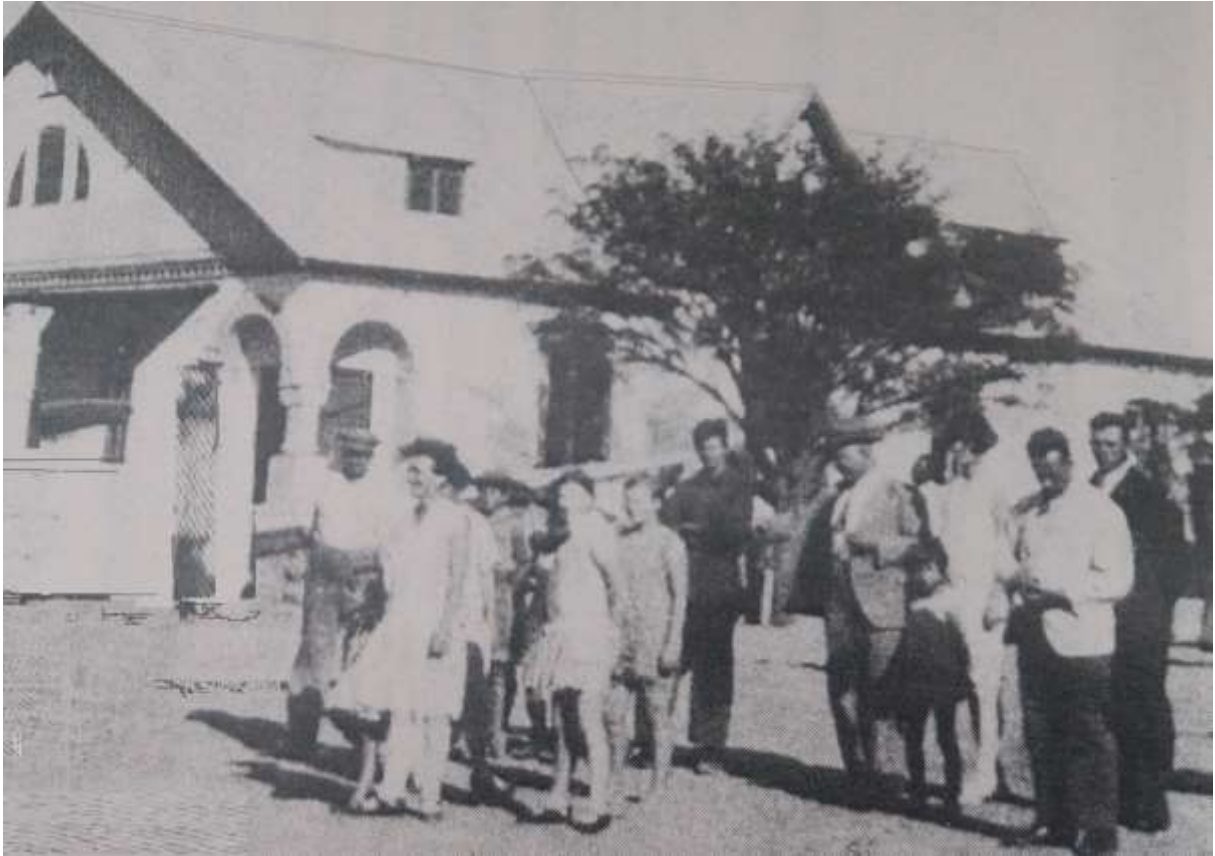
### **Maltahöhe Hotel Hesselmann after the 1st World War**

After the war in 1919 the hotel was managed by Mr. Georg Schmidt and from 1920 by Mr. Carl Otto Westphal, a partner of the Hesselmann company. Hesselmann himself died during the war years and his widow took over the company. Westphal became C.O. partner of the hotel in 1929, but had to declare bankruptcy in 1931 because of the world economic crisis. The mortgagee was Mr. Pabst of Vakuum Oil Company. Hans Hermann Rübenstrunk "Rubi" took over from 16.01.1932 with the management of the hotel. He came from Vohwinkel near Wuppertal. (The city was famous for the suspension railroad of 1901). Rübenstrunk's nickname "Rubi" originated because he sang so beautifully in front of guests "Rubi" and operettas. About 1935 he married a 2nd time. Mr. Rübenstrunk bought the hotel in 1936. His wife died in hospital in WDK in 1939. He ran the hotel for 20 years until 1956. In old age he sold it to Alexander Sentefol. ( or Sentfeld ). Grandchildren of Rübenstrunk still live in Swakopmund.



Mr. Rübenstrunk The suspension railroad





Hotel Maltahöhe ca.1932

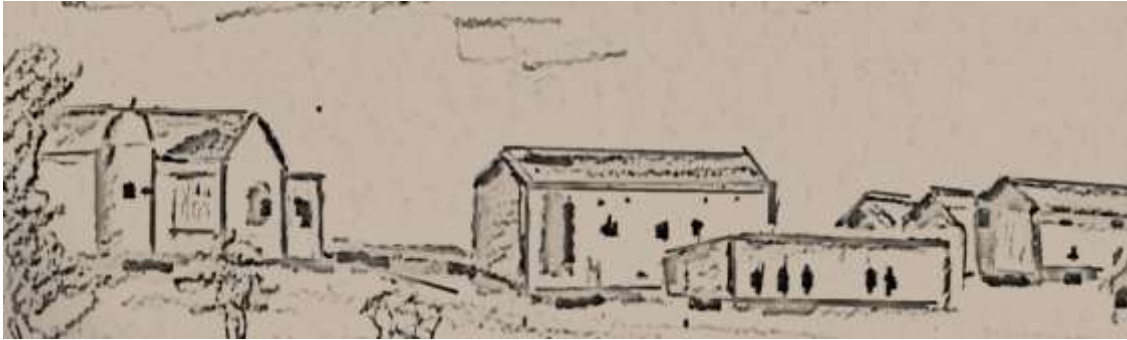


ca. 1930 A meeting of the Farmers' Association at the Hotel Maltahöhe .

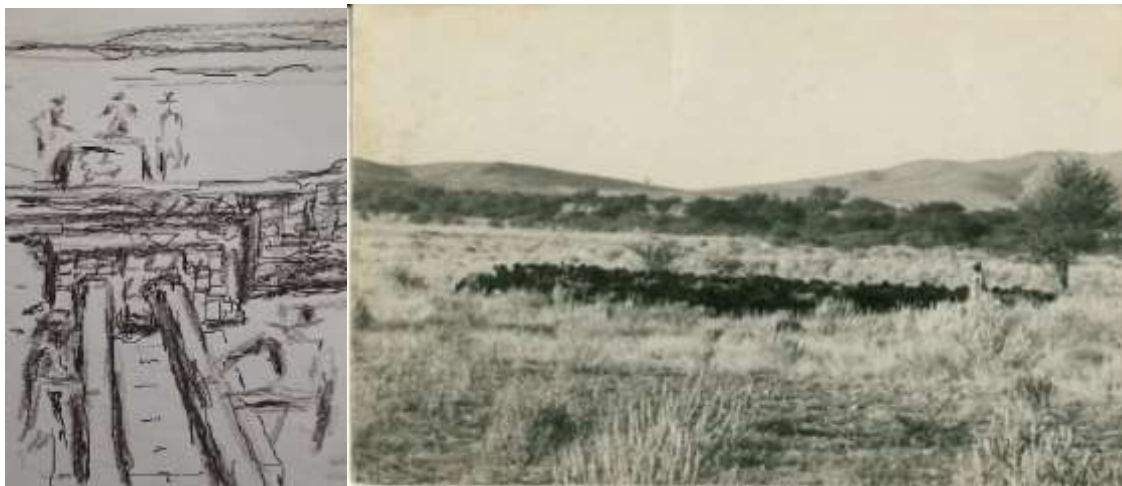


## Voigtsgrund Farm after the 1st World War II Part

The Voigts family spent the first world war with 5 children in Germany. Albert served at the eastern front. Voigtsgrund reached the dimension of a small town after Albert's return. Karakul farming was developed here for the whole country. Young farmers, often from good homes, could be trained here and often Albert arranged Voigtsgrund's farms in the area for them. Voigtsgrund even had a huge dam of its own, the latest technology, before the war. About 200, mostly colored workers with many ox wagons were involved in its completion in 1914. This dam was considered the first of its size in the country and could hold 6.8 million, others say 8.5 million cubic meters of water from the Tsubrevier. This was enough to irrigate 260 hectares of farmland, the so-called upper farm. As of 1930, there was no larger farm stocked with 17000 Karakul sheep. Albert's son even flew to Europe and Asia for the procurement of even better breeding rams. Albert Voigts was not only a farmer but also a member of parliament, elected in 1926, who especially supported the rights of the German population as chairman of the German Confederation. He promoted the economic development of the Gibeon and Maltahöhe region. Albert even met with Hitler once in 1935. In 1937, the administration banned the German Bund. The successor organization was the German Cultural Association.



Haupthaus, Wohnhaus für Jungfarmer, Stallungen der Zuchttiere

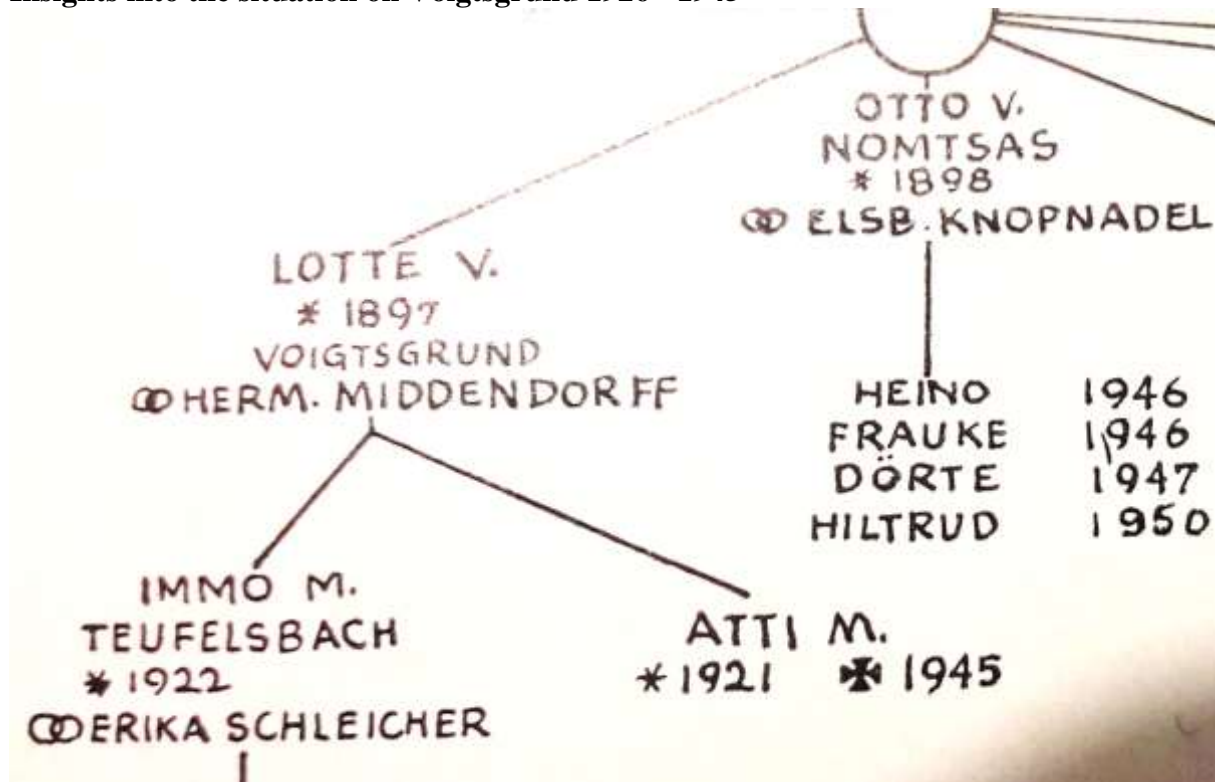


Dam construction at the extraction pipes

Karakul sheep on Voigtsgrund

Basis of the above drawings are photos of the Reichs Kolonialbund published by the University of Frankfurt.

### Insights into the situation on Voigtsgrund 1926 - 1945



Kurt Schwarzkopf reports in his diaries that in 1925 there were offers in German newspapers for young people to emigrate to SWA. He decided to move to the Voigtsgrund farm and therefore had a telephone arrangement (it must have cost a fortune at that time) with Mr. Albert Voigts. On 20.03.1926 he left Hamburg with the Usambara and arrived in Walfishbay on 16.04.1926. Mr. Voigts had already left a guarantee for him at the immigration office. He traveled by train via Swakopmund, Windhoek to Mariental where he was picked up by a Mr. Max Bernhard, who also worked for Voigtsgrund as a forwarding agent in Mariental. Apart from the Voigts family he met the employees. Miss Abel, Miss Brinkmann, Mr. Feilke, Mr. Kahmann, and Mr. von Bach. In the post "Oberhof" where the fields were located lived Mr. Blasberg and Mr. Brendele from Metzingen (near Stuttgart). At the post "Kalk" lived Mr. von Rudschinsky. Kurt Schwarzkopf, like the other volunteers, had his own room and worked at the wool production and probably also at the Oberhof on the large fields, which were irrigated by the huge dam. Mr. A. Voigts had a beautiful Ford that had to be cared for by Schwarzkopf.

On 1.07.1926 the then South African Administrator (1926-1933) Albertus Johannes Werth came with his secretary Mr. Brockhausen and the school inspector Kreft to visit the farm. Mr. Pape and the teacher Hoffmann were also guests at Voigtsgrund at this time.

(Johannes Albertus Werth (1880 in Malmesbury/ SA He died in 1948). His parents were German emigrants. Werth studied in Stellenbosch and joined the National Party. Successor of SWA Administrator Gyspert Reitz Hofmeyer (also his family was of German origin from Münster ca. 1750) was Administrator Werth from 1926 to 1933).

In 1929 Kurt Schwarzkopf, who had in the meantime acquired the Breckhorn West farm through Voigts' mediation, reports many visits to his farm. It was customary to stop at the farmhouses and drink coffee, eat or spend the night. Once with A. Voigts his wife Ida, son Otto, daughter Lizzie, Mr. von Bach, Mr. Leitning with a new Buik came to Breckhorn for coffee gossip.

Among the farmers the unwritten rule was: Who comes after 16:00 clock also stays overnight. And those who stayed more than 2 days helped with the farm work.

Also there were often return visits to Voigtsgrund, where often sheep, horses, cows and other things like lime for building were bought in Voigtsgrund. A sheep in those days cost between 6 shillings and a pound. A colored employee got about 22 shillings a month.

On 20.07.1928 Otto Voigts and Erna Nietzsche married by their uncle the pastor Heidenreich from Braunschweig. In the following time Otto Voigts and his wife managed the farm Ababis in the Naukluft.

About the beginning of 1929 the former employee of Voigtsgrund Mr. von Bach bought the farm Breckhorn East. A few years later, von Bach developed into a noted politician in SWA after whom the Von Bach Dam was named.

In January 1930 Voigtsgrund sent all horses to the farm Ababis in the Naukluft because of lack of feed. On February 24, 1930, the Voigtsgrund dam filled completely once again. After that the drought prevailed for 3 years.

On May 14, 1931, Ascension Day, many neighbors again came to Voigtsgrund. Pastor Sander took Mrs. Schwarzkopf with him on the way from Maltahöhe and Mrs. von Bach could go with the insurance agent Mr. Schiller. Little Lore Dagmar Fechter, the daughter of an administrator of Voigtsgrund was baptized.

At the beginning of June 1931 Mr. Jännike o. Jaenecke moved with 135 cattle and 2 ox carts from Voigtsgrund via Breckhorn and Maltahöhe to the Voigts farm "Ababis".

In 1932 there was a farm meeting in Maltahöhe. In view of upcoming elections von A. Voigts and Mr. Jooste held some speeches. It was probably about the equality of the Germans, which was also supported by the Boer leader Jooste already in a meeting on 07.02.1932 in Mariental. The magistrate of Maltahöhe at that time was called Mr. Kois. On 28. April Mrs. Schwarzkopf invited to a baptism celebration. Mrs. Middendorf of Voigtsgrund was godmother of Traute Schwarzkopf. Pastor Sander baptized the child in the farmhouse. Mrs. Carola Wiss had accompanied Mrs. Middendorf. Miss Wiss and Lizzi Voigt often rode out together. On September 25, 1932, Miss Wiss, Mr. von Waidlich, Mr. Fritschi, Mr. Frank-Schulz and Mr. Zimmermann went on an excursion by car from Voigtsgrund. The trip took them via Maltahöhe to the Niederhagen farm. They wanted to visit there the former employee of Voigtsgrund the farm manager of Niederhagen Mr. Jaennicke.

On 11.02.1933 A. Voigts invited to an official dinner on Voigtsgrund. The princes Hubertus of Prussia and Friedrich of Mecklenburg, both 23 years old were duly seen off after a one-week stay. They had probably visited from Voigtsgrund the so-called "Kaiserfarmen", which belonged personally to Wilhelm the 2nd before the war.

(Prince Hubertus of Prussia was born in Potsdam in 1909. In the Mariental region there were several expropriated Kaiserfarmen. Inspired by the visit in 1933, Prince Hubertus emigrated to SWA in 1950 to breed Karakul sheep on the farms "Dickdorn" and "Kosis", which were reacquired from his brother Friedrich. Prime Minister Malan gave his personal consent to this. However, Hubertus died of appendicitis in Windhoek in the same year)



Voigtsgrund ca. 1950

The two princes in Windhoek

On March 17, 1933 Voigtsgrund again invited to a celebration. This time in honor of his Excelenz Herr von Lindquist. He visited the farm for a few days. With his assistance, Thorer had introduced the first Karakul sheep in 1907, which were then further bred at Voigtsgrund.

In 1933, the Fechter family was living in Oberhof. Louis Friederich Fechter was registered in the 1936 address book as a diploma colonial farmer on Voigtsgrund. He had studied in Witzenhausen.

On 20 September 1933 Otto Voigt's wife had a premature birth on Voigtsgrund.

On 03. 10 1933 the news came that the little Lore Fechter had died of amoebic dysentery on Voigtsgrund. The brother of the little one and also the 4-month-old Ernst Adolf von Bach were ill, had to be flown to WDK and survived. 05.12.1933 when Mrs. Schwarzkopf asked Voigtsgrund for help because of the dysentery illness of her little son, Mr. Zimmermann and Mr. von Klitzig of Voigtsgrund came immediately by car. Mr. von Klitzig who worked on Voigtsgrund stayed immediately on Breckhorn to manage the empty farm in the next days, because Kurt Schwarzkopf had gone to Büllsport with the cattle because of the drought. The child was brought as quickly as possible by Magistrate Nino himself with his good car to Mariental, where a two-seater airplane organized by Voigtsgrund was already waiting. With it the mother and little Heinz flew to WDK. But Dr. Eggers from Elisabethenhaus could do nothing more. Heinz died. After the terrible drought, which lasted until 1933, Peter opened all the gates of heaven and the whole country sank into the floods. Frank-Schultz tried (on 14.01.1934) with his small car from Voigtsgrund to pick up the two school children of Middendorfs and Hans Otto Voigts from Maltahöhe, who had returned from school in Lüderitzbucht. But all precincts were running and so Frank-Schultz did not get through either. On Voigtsgrund even the stable dam broke on 16.02.1934 after 117 mm of rain. Valuable animals, breeding trees and fields, even the engine house were victims of the water masses. When Mr. Schwarzkopf visited the broken dam on July 19, 1934, he was astonished to see how an orderly chain of construction carts filled the embankment again with earth and stones. Albert Voigts had recruited 30 coloreds and eighteen unemployed whites for this work. A Mr. C. from Leipzig cooked for the crew. In a very short time the workers repaired the great damage. Mr. Fechter organized the building of the dam and the cultivation of the fields in the



Oberhof. In 1935, Mr. Fechter owned the farm Ganaus 10 km south of Voigtsgrund. In 1947, Mr. Scheider managed the upper farm



Reservoir on Voigtsgrund with 8 million cubic meters of water 1925



Voigtsgrund 1926. huge fields were irrigated for wheat and corn .

In February 1935 Frank-Schulz married Renate von Klitzing auf Voigtsgrund who took her husband's name. Both worked from then on in Haribes (Stauch's Farm), where Frank-Schulz, under the mediation of A. Voigts, rose to the position of manager.

In 1935 Albert Voigts traveled to Germany, probably on business. In September 1935 Otto Voigts applied for the purchase of a government farm the so-called "Elisenhof" No. 52, a so-called application farm and got it awarded.

In 1937 Voigtsgrund and the other farms were merged into a joint stock company which bred 170,000 Karakul sheep on about 100,000 hectares.

Approximately at the beginning of 1938 Albert Voigts was in Swakopmund in medical care, but had to go to Germany to get better care. Albert Voigts died on 18.11.1938 in Germany. His urn was buried on 15.01.39 on Voigtsgrund. Pastor Dr. Erbe gave the eulogy after Missionary Vedder had cancelled. 14 years later (23.04.1952) also Mrs. Ida died and was buried next to her husband. According to hearsay, both were later reburied in Windhoek.

In a booklet of the well-known author Walter Moritz the following is written: "The advisor Ballot gave the advice to invest the fortune of the Voigts in land purchases and to divide it among the Voigts children. The farm Nomtsas got Otto Voigts and his sister Lizzi, who remained childless. Mrs. Middendorf inherited the Teufelsbach farm. The youngest daughter was paid off. Voigtsgrund was and remained a company (Ltd.).

### Karakul sheep

Karakul sheep are fat-tailed sheep which were bred about 4000 years ago in Syria and only later in Uzbekistan. From a small place in Uzbekistan "Karakool" derives allegedly the name. In 1907 Prof. Dr. Julius Kühn, from Halle and the company Thorer introduced the animals from Asia to German Southwest Africa. On Voigtsgrund, but also Duwisib and Nomtsas first successful crossings took place already in 1909. In Europe and America, the fur was processed into expensive Persian coats. The irony is. Most farmers' wives could not afford such a coat.

In the Maltahöhe area, before 1933, farmers raised large numbers of Merion sheep, African sheep, but very few Karakul sheep. This changed only with the terrible drought of 1932,1933. The number of livestock generally fell to one tenth of the average years. Everything was slaughtered or quickly sold below price. But in 1934 came the rainy year with up to 600 mm . The Karakul breeding increased rapidly from then on , while the breeding of Merion sheep increased slightly again , but not as before . The breeding of African sheep but reached a constant low.



**Ursula Massmann** (b. 21.10.1911 in WDK, d. 23.09.1985 Swakop.) She completed an education at the Kolonialfrauen Schule Rendsburg near Kiel. In 1941 she came to Mariental and worked as a bookkeeper at the SWA Karakulzentrale of Thorer. During the war she took over the management of this headquarters, as the head Konstantin Bierberg was interned. She had the task of buying the fur from the farmers in the area of Bethany, Gibeon and Maltahöhe.



### Neuhof Nr. 100 Reservat

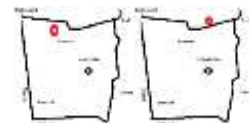
Approximately between 1880 and 1894, the place served Hendrik Witbooi as a horse post in the rainy season to prevent the horse plague. Much later, others therefore derived rights of the Witbooi to this land (in North Bethany).

In 1912, according to the colonial address book, the German Heinrich Drews had first owned the farm Neuhof and then the farm Hammerstein. At that time the area was still claimed by the bushmen and was considered very dangerous. From about 1923 the farm (20000Ha) became a state reserve where mainly Nama and Damara lived. There were about 250 Damaras in the district. Dr. Heussen was regularly (1950) there to care for patients and to vaccinate. In 1970 one shifted the indigenous inhabitants into the reserve zone with Gibeon which was established by the Odendaalplan. Before 1935 the Munich mineral dealer Maucher found some emerald specimens on quartz and mica schist matrix on the farm. In the 1960s amazonite was mined at Neuhof. The not very valuable gemstone looks like turquoise. (Ondonga King Martin (Ambala) Ashikoto is exiled to the Neuhof Reserve in 1967 by the SWA administration for exceeding his legal powers. Info Werner Hillebrecht / Klaus Dierks )



### Zaris Nr. 103 , Steinfeld Nr.104

In 1923 J.Archer lived on Zarris. In 1928 G.A.Huisanen is listed in the address book as a resident of Zaris and J. Lill as a pasture tenant. In 1923 A.M.D. Esterhuizen leased the neighboring farm Steinfeld from the Government. Years after the death of Suchodoletz, in 1937 Adriaan Esterhuizen, through the mediation of Mr. Rübenstrunk, bought the farm Zaris from the community of heirs in Germany for 2000 pounds. The contracts were drawn up by the lawyer Willi Kirsten from Mariental. Zaris was surveyed in 1945 by the surveyor Daantjie Oosterhuizen together with the farms Vrede No.80, Eckberg, Houmoed (part of Gorab), Asbakkies (Zarris). According to a map, the Namibrand farms were mostly surveyed and occupied after the 2nd World War.



Urusis, Goabosoab,

### Urusis Nr.15 Bergemann

Since 1899 the Bergemann family owned the farm Urusis.

Story: Ferdinand Bergemann and Mr. Breiting from the smaller farm Gamis had a quarrel (ca. 1928) which even came to court. Shortly after, both wanted to buy the farm Swartkobus at the border of Rehoboth, right next to the farm Goabosoab. Since there was no real farmhouse there anymore, the auctioneer arranged to meet the bidders at the old farmhouse. Breiting and others knew where that was. But Bergemann was waiting at another ruin and so Breiting managed to buy the farm cheaply. This worsened the relationship between the two even more.

(Note: The bricklayer Gustav Krumme and former farm manager of Niederhagen was registered on the farm Urusis in 1928)



### **Kleinfontein Nord Nr.61 Mack ,Otto**

Kleinfontein Nord

Before the war Kleinfontein North belonged to Staphenius Rossow and Kleinfontein South to Jan Smit Senior. Otto Mack had married Erika Bergemann. Both administered Kleinfontein North in 1926. Father Mack Sr. lived on the farm Haruchas. (Sauber's farm). On the Kleinfontein farm prospectors found mineable silver and copper ores.



### **Kalkhügel ( Kalkhoevel) Nr. 79 Du Toit**

The first owner of the farm before 1910 was Karl Olsen. He had renamed the farm. It was previously called Kalkrand. (The farm was already known as "Kalkhoevel" in 1914). Olsen's wife came from the Van der Merve family. He fell ill in 1910 and had to go to Maltahöhe to the military hospital while his wife gave birth to a child with her parents Olsen had to give up the farm, probably for health reasons. In 1910 Hugo Voss surveyed the farm and reported on it. From 1912 Kophamel (Kophaniel) Wilhelm is listed in the colonial address book until 1915. Due to the fact that Ferdinand Bergemann married Johanna Dora Kophamel, the farm Kalkhügel came into the possession of the Bergemann family after the war, even before 1926.

In the post-war years (about 1945) Andries Gerhardus du Toit senior owned the farm Kalkhügel. ( Kalkhoevel) His wife was called Christina Alida du Toit née Reitz. A species of Lithops was named after her. The couple had 8 children, probably the families Reitz and du Toit from Fraserburg SA. came to Maltahöhe after the First World War. Andries Gerhardus du Toit junior was born in 1923 and died in 2002. The farm is still owned by the du Toit family.



### **Halifax Nr. 118 Fritz Riemann**

Probably a brother of Friedrich Riemann, Fritz Riemann worked as a blacksmith on Nomtsas in 1913. The Colonial Address Book 1923 /1927 shows that Fritz Riemann was owner on the farm Halifax No. 118 (P.O Maltahöhe). In 1928 the owners were Georg-Frederik Coetzee and Mrs. Riemann. In 1973 Smith is the owner.

### **Plattfontein No.92 Duran:J**

The southern neighboring farm of Halifax was owned by Duran:J in 1923. **Karl Ludwig**





### Kirsten, Daweb Nr. 4, Dirichas Nr. 28

Kirsten arrived in the country with the "Lulu Bohlen" as a "volunteer Schutztruppler" via Swakopmund together with 225 comrades including Bernhardt and Herr von Burgsdorff. Major von Estorff was in command. Together with the Schutztruppler Bernhardt he fought against the Witboois in the Naukluft. After the peace treaty with the Witbooi, Bernhardt and Kirsten were stationed in Grootfontein-South. The Schutztrupplers were promised farmland of at least 5000 hectares after 3 (5?) years of service. Kirsten got already in 1896 the farm Daweb, named after the district which flows here from the north into the Hutup. Kirsten built a well and a first small house of adobe. A Booysen family and O. Brink also resided on the farm. To earn money he became a freight driver like Bernhardt, v.d. Merve, Bergemann, Esterhuizen and others and brought goods from Lüderitz Bay to Gibeon. About 1902 Captain von Burgsdorff occupied the northern part of the farm to establish the administrative base Maltahöhe. Kirsten protested and got a replacement in the south. ( Farm Burgsdorf ?)

**Daweb [Distr. Maltahöhe, Bez. Gibeon].**  
*Farmer: Kirsten; Booysen u. Fam.; O. Brink.*



After the uprising in 1904, the German Foreign Office gave the farmers a small financial compensation for the rebuilding of the farms. Otherwise, many would have had to give up. So Kirsten could also buy new cattle. The farm with 14607 ha was in 1907 equipped with 94 cattle and 1377 sheep and had 2 dug wells and a water bank. Karl Kirsten married on 01.12.1907 Klara born Wegerich, built a bigger house and had a son on 07.09.1910 who was also named Karl Ludwig. In total he had 2 sons and a daughter. In 1913 Kirsten was a member of the Maltahöhe district council. In 1914 Kirsten also bought the farm Dirichas from Langhinrichs. Karl had the nickname "Blesbull" because of a white spot in his hair. In uniform, he wore the gold commemorative medal and battle pins on festive occasions. Both von Estorff and von Burgsdorff commended Kirsten for his bravery. Before World War 1, Kirsten used to gamble for money with his friend von Wolf on Duwisib and often won pictures, wagons and the like, which he did not accept because of the friendship. Karl Kirsten bequeathed the farm Daweb to his son Heinz Rolf Kirsten and he bequeathed the farm to his son the current owner.

1936 Colonial Address Book

**Kirsten, Frä. Clara Else, Daweb, Post Maltahöhe.**

**Kirsten, G. W., Farmer, Werda, Post Mariental.**

**Kirsten, H. R. jr., Daweb, Post Maltahöhe.**

**Kirsten, Karl Ludw., (Klara geb. Wegerich), Farmer, Daweb, Post Maltahöhe.**

**Kirsten, Karl Ludwig jun., Daweb, Post Maltahöhe.**



**Kamelberg Nr.21. Goesch ,Ulrich** 18027 Hektar

The farm got its name from two round mountains rising in the flat landscape, visible from afar. The land registration U.Goesch took place in 1910. The farm had only one dug well. In 1928 Goesch was Fundkraalmeister.



**Nudaus Nr.17 (, Nuchannis“), Stranghörner / Barwitzki**

In 1907, Sergeant August Stranghörner and Sergeant Busse wrote a New Year's card to Mr. Wede / Gamis from Maltahöhe. In 1914 he owned Nudaus. In 1936 registered were Stranghörner and a Hans Barwitzki in the Colonial Address Book. In 1973 the owner was called Fam. H.P. Stranghörner.



**Kachauchab Nr 40 Josef Lengfeld**

Possibly Lengfeld already owned the farm in 1897. The translation of the farm name Kachauchab is "The water that disappears in the sand". Lengfeld was deported in 1919 and around 1923 Bracke bought the farm. Mr. Pratz managed the farm. Before 1927 Lengfeld came back and farmed on Kabib. In 1936 Lengfeld retired and lived in Swakopmund. In 1942 Otto bought the farm Kachauchab **Breckhorn –Ost**



**Hans-Wilhelm Sartorius von Bach**

From ca.1929 the owner was called Bruno Hans Wilhelm Alfred Adolf Sartorius von Bach. (Name giver of the Von Bach Dam) born 04.01.1904 in Detmold, died SWA 11.05.1975. He came from a family with military background and studied in Hannover, Hameln and in the colonial school Witzenhausen. Sartorius von Bach came to Namibia in 1925 and worked as a volunteer at Voigtsgrund. Sartorius had married Hella Schlettwein on 20.05.1929. Ca. 1929 he acquired Breckhorn East. Ca. 1933 he naturalized (became a British citizen). In August 1934 the family bought a 3/4 ton Chevrolet. Von Bach lectured at Maltahöhe and wrote articles on economic policy in reference books. For example, entitled "Ansiedlungsmöglichkeiten für junge Deutsche in Süd West" (1937), in which he presented examples of calculations for the financing and yield of a caracul farm. In 1938 von Bach bought an undeveloped farm in the Zarris Mountains with 5500 hectares for 1200 pounds and named it "Aukens". December 1941 he sold Aukens again for 3000 pounds and Breckhorn East for 8300 pounds. Von Bach became a member of the National Party (SWANU) and in the Legislative Assembly (1955-1970), the Executive Committee (until 1970), the Land Board (1950-1955) and the South he served in the African Senate since 1970. (In 1973, the name of Breckhorn East's owner was Portgieter).

Verzeichnis der Studierenden im Sommersemester 1923.				
a. Name,	b. Geburtsort u. -tag,	c. Heimat,	d. Bekenntnis,	e. Bildungsgang i. Stand des Vaters.
1. a. Antreaffian L. Etwart,	b. Türkei 23. 1. 05,	c. Trapezunt,	d. gregor.-christl.	e. Collège Berberian, l. Kaufmann. (Prakt.).
2. a. Antreaffian H. Bache,	b. Konstantinopel 11. 8. 04,	c. Konstantinopel,	d. gregor.-christl.	e. Robert Collège, l. Kaufm. (Prakt.).
3. a. von Bach Sartorius Hans-Wilhelm,	b. Detmold 4. 1. 04,	c. Dattenberg/Damen,	d. evangl.	e. Gymnasium, l. Oberstl. a. D.

#### 306. Ernst-Adolf Sartorius v. Bach.

1. Oktober 1899 bis 27. Januar 1902 Adjutant des II. Bataillons. — 27. Januar 1902 bis 30. September 1906 Regimentaladjutant. — Laut Allerhöchster Kabinettsordre vom 29. September 1904 die Erlaubnis erteilt, die ihm von Seiner Königlich Hohheit dem Großherzog von Oldenburg verliehenen Kommandanten- und erblichen Adel als Sartorius v. Bach zu führen. — 13. September 1906 Oberleutnant. — 1. Oktober 1906 zur Kriegsakademie kommandiert. — 19. März 1909 wegen schwerer Erkrankung von seinem Kommando abgelöst. — 1. Oktober 1909 erneut zur Kriegsakademie einberufen.



Family Schlettwein 1912

Hella Schlettwein born Sept. 17, 1903, died July 21, 1993 buried in Pioneer'spark WDK. Father Carl Schlettwein (1866-1940) came to DSWA in 1896 and was also a farmer and politician. He owned 2 farms in DSWA. In 1896 he was Chief Inspector of the German Colonial Society and from 1910 to 1914 he was a member of the District Council of DSWA. He published several articles on economic issues of DSWA,



Letter from Carl Schlettwein from Outjo





### **Farm Nomtsas 56000 hectares 2.part**

Nomtsas means: " Water that is held but also runs."

From 1910 to 1922 Mr. Breiting managed the farm of the German Shepherd Society.

From 1922-1944 the information about Nomtsas is thin. Nomtsas belonged to the German Sheep Company and therefore the entire property, according to the Treaty of Versailles was expropriated by the new rulers, and given to "Tiger Oats Ltd " from South Africa. For 1928, Mr. Gv. Jackson and Daniel Redeler ( Redler?) as managers of Nomtsas Ltd in the address book.

Voigtsgrund was also after the 2nd World War a purely German owned company . To avoid problems from the suspicious British dominated administration, the Voigts hired an English lawyer named Ballot in the top management of the company. This lawyer allegedly advised the Voigts to empty their cash accounts and to buy more land and divide it cleverly among the Voigts' children in order to mitigate taxes. So the Voigts also bought the Nomtsas farm in the name of son Otto Voigts.

When Otto Voigts bought Nomtsas Farm on 18.06.1944, York von Schütz took over the management until 1946. Otto Voigts son, Heino Voigts (born 1946) married Heide von Schütz, York's daughter, in 1970. Heino took over the farm in 1971 but died 6 years later.

Albert Voigts von Schütz, son of Heide and his wife Lisa still run the farm today.

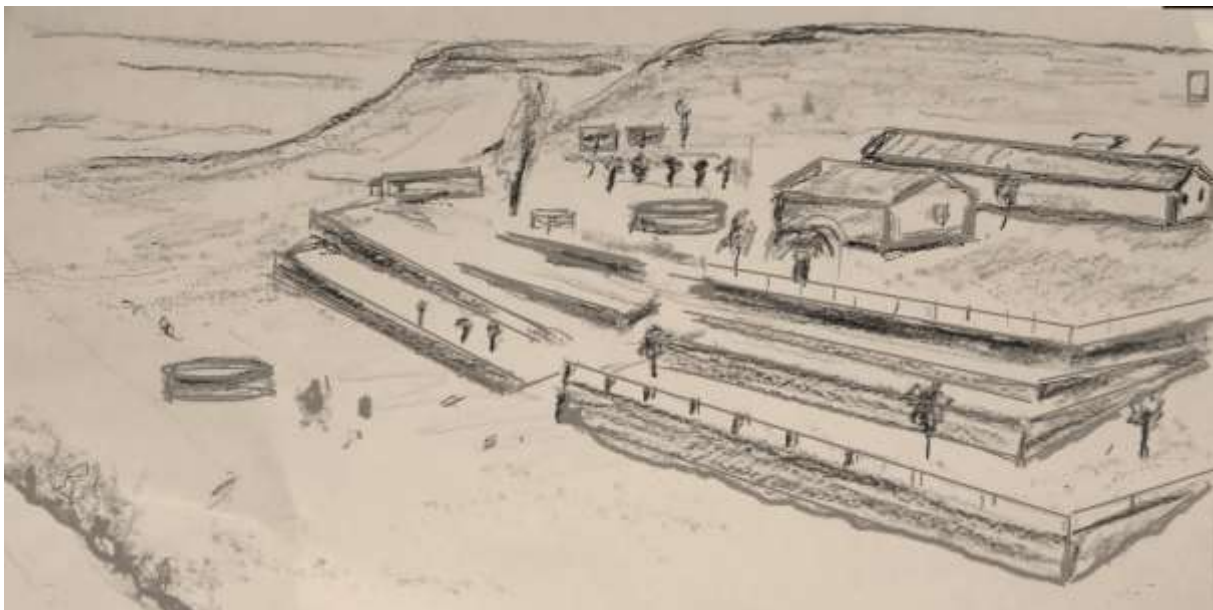
Note: In 1928 well digger A.Ennsle ,handyman A Fusle and Vivian Geoffrey worked on Nomtsas.

(This paragraph may contain errors).



### **Gamis farm after the 1st world war 2nd part**

The name Gami means water





## Memories about the Gamis farm by Mrs. Erdmute Breiting

Summary of the records with a few additions....

The former captain of the Schutztruppe Martin Wede married in 1904 a bastard woman from the district Rehoboth. She owned the farm Gamis-North about 7000 acres. Wede himself still acquired the farm Gamis-South from the government about 10000 hectares at Narob precinct.

Alfred Breiting was born on October 3, 1888 in Wilchwitz near Leipzig. He came from Germany in 1910, first as a volunteer, and then in 1913 he took over the Nomtsas farm as the managing director of the shepherd company. Mr. Breiting was not only managing director of Nomtsas but also a delegate of the German Farmwirtschaftsgesellschaft.

Nomtsas belonged to the German Sheep Company and was therefore considered a German company that was expropriated by the new rulers after the Treaty of Versailles. Breiting also lost his job at Nomtsas. Therefore, he bought the Gamis farm. Breiting's beginning on Gamis was hard, as drought prevailed. Slaughter cattle could only be sold below cost, but trading in cream brought money back into the coffers. Alternately, with 2 donkey carts, A. Breiting transported the cream in 25-liter cans to the dairy in Rehoboth, 144 kilometers away. As an intermediate stop, Breiting leased halfway to Rehoboth on the farm Konub near Kobos as pasture for the donkeys.

In 1927, Breiting converted the farm almost entirely to Karakul farming. In the following years there were disagreements with Ferdinand Bergemann, Urusis, and Albert Voigts of Farm Voigtsgrund. The vote of the two land barons weighed so heavily that the banks no longer wanted to give credit. Gustav Voigts mediated and so the farm got loans again. In 1928 Breiting bought 10 more Karakul ewes and in 1929 another 200 high breeding Karakul ewes were added by Helene Schultze, Farm Ongombo.





Farm building ca. 1927. center Alfred Breiting car probably Ford Model A from 1927.

Breiting married the daughter of the late farmer Herrmann Schultze Elfriede Schultze in 1924. In 1928, 1930, 1933 Herma, Ille, Ute were born in SWA and in 1936 a boy in Munich during a family visit to Germany. The girls suffered from Malta fever and had to be examined in Hamburg at the Tropical Institute and in Tübingen.

*Brucella melitensis* (rod-shaped bacteria anerobic) transmitted from goats and sheep also in raw milk caused wave-like fever attacks accompanied by bone pain. There was usually a spontaneous recovery. At that time, doxycycline was not yet available.

In the drought years of 1932/1933, there was no pasture on the farm. The sheep had to be driven to the Dabeb farm north of Mariental. From 1930 to 1940, several caretakers and domestic servants worked on Farm Gamis, among others Lieselotte Kürschner (later von Fischer), Lieselotte Sauber (later Wolf), Inge Clauder (temporarily borrowed from Farm Ongombo), and Messrs. Paul Klein, von Rueville, Eberhard von Alten and Jupp Berger. As cattle herders, 6 Ovambos as well as 9 Namas worked on the farm.

In 1936 Breiting bought the farms Sommerau and Anis-Kubub in the district Mariental, from a Mr. Blackbeard. He also bought the neighboring farm Swartkobus, east of Gamis, at auction after WW2. Since about 1936 Breiting had managed Swartkobus for Thorer,.

Colonial address book 1936

**Breiting, Alfred, (Elfriede geb. Schultze), Farmer, Gamis-Nord und -Süd, Maltahöhe.**

**Breiting, Hans, (verh.), Farmverw. a. Gamis, Post Maltahöhe.**

**Mentz, Katharina, Hauslehrerin bei Breiting, Gamis, Post Maltahöhe.**

On the Gamis farm, the Breiting family built a long farm building with shearing sheds, garages, a blacksmith's shop, engine and battery room for the lighting system, tailor's room, guest room, hide room, two offices and a farm store, all under one roof. In addition, there was a feed room, the pigeon coop and the shelter for the ox cart. Breiting laid out terraces towards

the hunting grounds in order to grow wine, but this did not prove possible. Several dams were built by the workers to irrigate the fields and gardens along the Narobrevier. The farm grew into what was then a very modern operation.



The four children of the Breiting`s went to school in Swakopmund and came home only twice a year for the big vacations. In 1939 the 2nd World War broke out and Alfred Breiting was interned. For 7 years Mrs. Elfriede Breiting had to run the farm alone as a "combat widow". For a short time Jupp Berger took over the management of the Sommerau farm until his internment. After that, Mrs. Bulle took over the administration of the farm. She was found dead in a well a short time later. Hans Enssle followed as administrator.

Alfred Breiting returned in 1946 from seven years in the prison camp Andalusia (South Africa) heavily marked and he was threatened, because he was a German citizen, the deportation.







In 1947 Breiting bought the farm Bergland (also district Maltahöhe) and also a 3-ton truck. In May 1951 Alfred Breiting succumbed to cancer, and again his widow Elfriede had to take over the farm management. In the time she had hired several administrators. The gentlemen : Frenske, Wiechert, Kabin, Ostendorf and Weitzel.

In the drought of 1959 the cattle were again moved to leasehold pasture in the north of the country. Then in 1961 foot and mouth disease broke out.

After his education in Neudamm and Göttingen, the son Hans-Alfred Breiting took over more and more the farm management. In 1964, the family built a new farmhouse above the old one. In 1965, Hans-Alfred married a farmer's daughter from the south, Erdmute Dyck, whose mother later looked after the museum in Lüderitzbucht for many years.





From 1960 onwards Elfriede Breiting only ran the Gamis Store and kept chickens for egg production for delivery to Walvis Bay. In the following years the farm was expanded with 12 jackal-proof blocks and 500 km of fencing as well as water facilities. In 1972 Hans-Alfred bought a Cessna 182 for which he built an airstrip near the house. In 1990 during the drought years, Hans -Alfred offered tourist flights over the Namib. In May 1982 Elfriede Breiting died and was buried in the farm cemetery. In 2004, due to the lack of a successor, the Breiting family sold the farm to Christof Diekmann.



Alfred and Elfiede Breiting Hans-Alfred and Mrs. Erdmute Breiting

The editors would like to thank Hans-Alfred and Mrs. Erdmute Breiting for the information and photos. Erdmute Breiting has described the history of the farm but also translated Wilhelm Esterhuizen's book " Survival in the Namib" into German.

**Kuderup Nr.12 Daniel Rudolph De Klerk**

Since 1928 De Klerk is registered as tenant of the state farm.

**Blässkranz , Swartkobus Voigts ,Richard**

Richard Voigts was the official owner of the farms Blässkranz and Swartkobus on Rehoboth territory in 1936. His wife was called Astra von Heyden. Breiting later bought Swartkobus at auction.

**Farm Burgsdorf Nr.45 ( Alt-Maltahöhe)**

**Alt-Maltahöhe,**  
Post Maltahöhe.  
Polizeistation. Polizei-Sergeanten  
Arthur Wegener, Bruno Ptaschek.



Farmhouse Burgsdorf ca 1950 and today

From 1912 the police station and farm "Alt Maltahöhe" was renamed Burgsdorf. Burgsdorf was a state farm in 1913.

From 1903 to 1912 Benjamin Steenkamp was registered as co-owner of Kleinfontein. Apparently in 1912 he bought the farm Haseweb Nord, which he renamed Christiania . In the 1928 address book, Steenkamp is listed as the owner of Burgsdorf.

Notice:

(Christiania was the name for Oslo until 1925) ( Haseweb is also called the precinct of the farm).

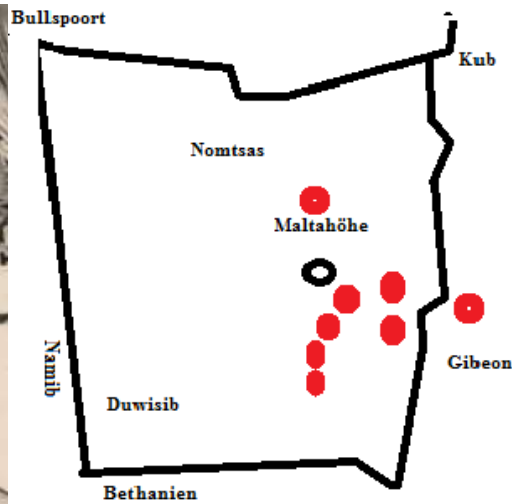
From the address book 1928

**BURGSDORF, (45), Maltahöhe. Farm; Besitzer:**  
Benjamin J. A. Steenkamp.  
**CHRISTIANIA, (44), Maltahöhe. 17 km. 11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> m. Farm;**  
Besitzer: Benjamin Steenkamp.

In 1936 a Hans Schelper had a General Store in Maltahöhe. ( Kol Adressb)

## Family Rudolf Otto after the second world war 2. part

Summary of the records of Karl-Ludwig Otto and Karin Otto with additions.



Rudi and wife , Lina Elfriede Rudi jun.



Rudolf

Rudolf jun.

Kurt

Lina

Elfriede

In 1928 Rudolf started Karakul breeding. The first Karakul sheep were brought to the farm by Rudolf's brother-in-law Christian Heydt from Huams No.67. Rudolf Otto bought the farm Hohenfelde No. 41 and in 1930 the farm Garub No. 46 (!! There are more farms with this name Hohenfelde and Garub). On Hohenfelde Rudolf built a Klimax wind engine and on Garub one of the first Deutz engine pumps because of the weak wind. The years were so dry (60mm/ pa) that there was not a blade of grass before 1933. In 1934, however, came the great



flood. 600 mm of rain. The rain washed money into the farmers' coffers. Everywhere the grass stood tall. In 1938 the Otto family had 10000 sheep and 300 cattle. Furthermore, in 1939 the Otto family bought the farms Bergland No. 94, Sand Ridge No.51 and Schakalslust. For the waterless farms, the Ottos bought drilling equipment and Karl Ludwig Otto distinguished himself as a drilling master. On the Bergland farm alone, he drilled 3 well holes. Before 1939, Rudolf Otto and Willi Otto were in Germany again, but returned to the farm in time for the start of the war. Shortly thereafter, the police picked Willi up in the "Green Minna", the police car. Karl Kirsten was already sitting in it and laughing at him. Kurt Otto had just left school and also had to go to the internment camp of "Andalusia" (South Africa). Karl-Ludwig and Rudolf Jr. were only interned. Rudolf bought the farms Karichab, Kachauchab and Glückauf through his good contacts to a Mr. van Walt still during the war in 1943. These farms belonged to the late farmer Bracke in 1936.

The many farms were combined by Rudolf senior to a company /Pty. Ltd. and managed by Rudolf Otto Junior. Rudolf Otto had also bought quite a few houses. At least a dozen in Swakopmund alone. Since his sons were not allowed to leave the camp and South Africa after the war, Rudolf Otto bought a farm in Uppington. But the strain of building up the farm was too much for him and so he died on 19.10.1946 on "Steenkampspan" near Uppington. Some say with a cold beer in his hand. Others say he fell dead from his horse on the farm and was buried there. Willi Otto stayed in South Africa. Steenkampspan still belongs to the Otto family.



Rudolf Otto and wife ca 1940



Rudolf's Grab in Uppington



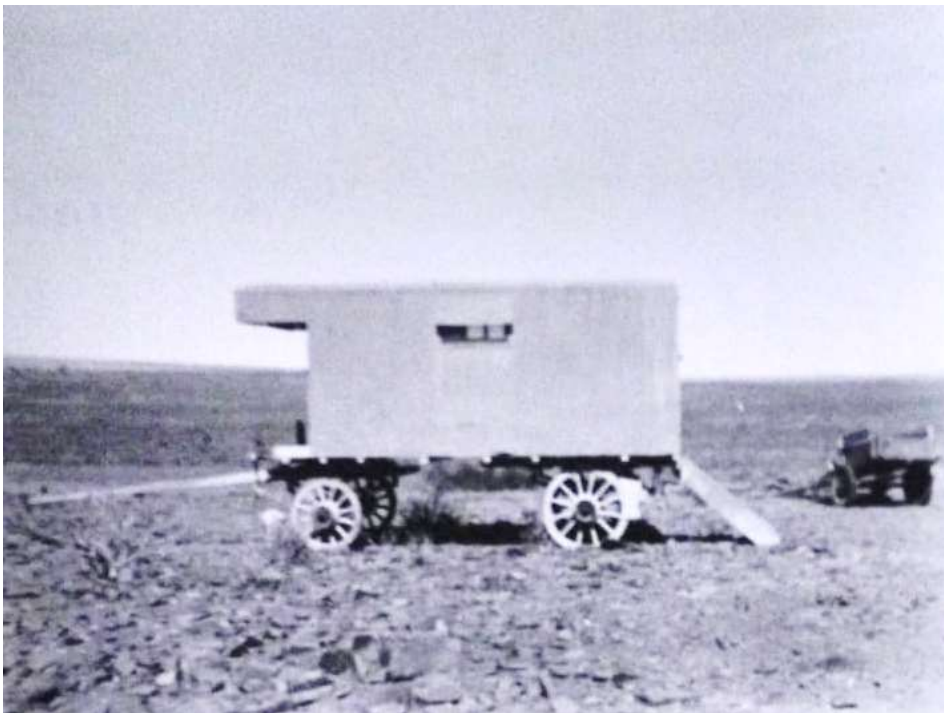


Der Reihe nach:  
 Tante Tilly, Mutter Otto, Elfriede, Ludwig, Gertrud,  
 Tante Anna, Onkel Christian, Hilde, Lina, Marianne,  
 Hans, Kurt, Heiter u. Kayser.  
 Familie Otto mit Tante T. u. Familie Heydt.  
 Jachenberge 9. Jan. 1938.

Children of Rudolf Otto: Rudolf 1912, Wilhelm 1918, Lieselotte 1916, deceased from scarlet fever 1919, Karl -Ludwig 1918, Lina 1919, Kurt 1920 (12.11.1922 ?), Gertrud 1924. 1925 the family had traveled to Germany / Erfurt there Elfriede was born.



Preacher ....., Herr Grässer , Inga, Kurt Otto, Frau Grässer, Rudolf Otto Jnr.



Ox wagon of Rudolf Otto 1912



Uibis Haus



Uibis



Ottos on Uibis ca 1960 (Left back ) Editha Granse with Clara (Karl Ludwig Ottos daughter) Rheinhold Granse (Back center) Brigitte Otto geb. Granse (Karl Ludwig Ottos wife ) (Back right) Inga Otto with son Christian ( Kurt Ottos wife) Karl Ludwig Otto (right) (Front left) Gerda Grässer with Karl Ernst Otto ( son of Karl Ludwig) (Front center and right) Little Verena Kurt Otto right little Karin ( his children)

(Brigitte Otto nee Granse 07. 11.1932 - 21.09.2012)



**The family Hans Gebser**



Hans Gebser 1923 in Maltahöhe



1930 backyard from Gebser house 1934 garden at Hutup with baking oven



The Gebsers came from a noble family in Thuringia. Hans Gebser born 25.02.1891 in Hamburg /Billwerder. His father was an innkeeper in Hamburg. Hans had a brother Paul and stepbrother Max. Both were wealthy real estate dealers. Not far from his parents' house, Hans learned the profession of cook and confectioner in the famous Hamburg hotel " Vier Jahreszeiten ".



Hans was tempted by adventure. So he emigrated to SWA in 1913 and landed with the "Prinzregent " in Lüderitz half a year before the start of the war. He found his first job there as a cook in a hotel and later as a supervisor for the diamond company. After the war he worked as a cook in Maltahöhe and Windhoek. He loved hunting and traveling. So he accompanied a film company for several months with several ox wagons to the Okavango. In 1928 he married Anna Kierdorf née Stelzmann in Windhoek, moved to Maltahöhe and built up a general store with her.



1932 The Gebserstore and the family with neighboring children. On the roof the Hamburg flag.

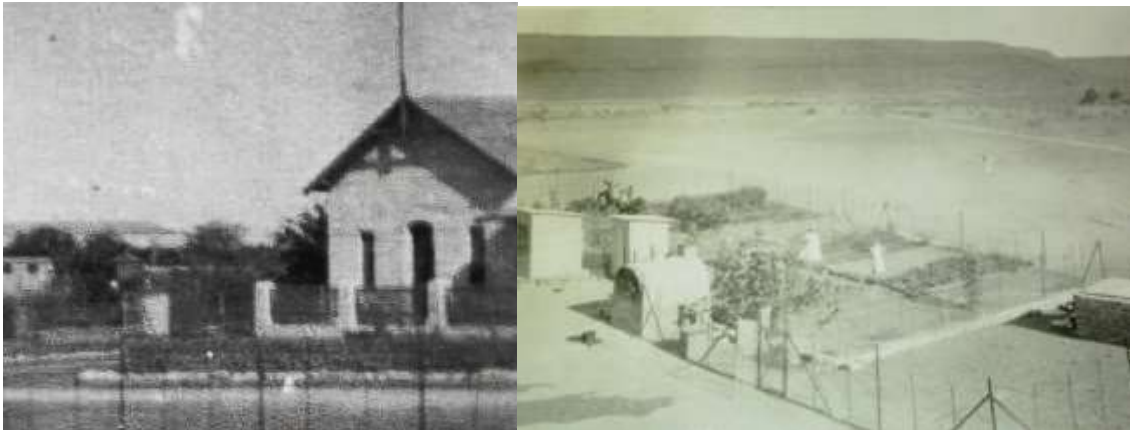


1932 Gebserstore



1932 Gebserstore

About 100 meters from the Maltahöhe Hotel at Hutuprevier is the General Store of Hans Gebser. Mrs. Gebser and her daughters sold everything farmers needed here in 1935. Along the road the son Walter refueled the farmers cars. On the other side of Johann Albert Street were smaller houses and directly behind them began the property of Maraun's garage. To the east was the large fenced garden of the Gebsers in the Hutuprevier.





Larger hunting trips of the Maltahöher were a regular pastime and had a practical side effect. In the evening there was something decent to eat. Since there were no refrigerators, the meat had to be processed and consumed quickly. The only cooling possibility was offered by cold storage houses with double walls. The space between them was filled with coal and water was poured over it. Such a cold store reached a constant 10 degrees inside, even at high outside temperatures. To preserve meat and sausage, farmers often smoked it or dried it into "biltong".



1932 Anna Gebser

Maltahöher on a hunting trip.



Cold store from Dr. Kränzle

Smokehouse from Dr. Kränzle

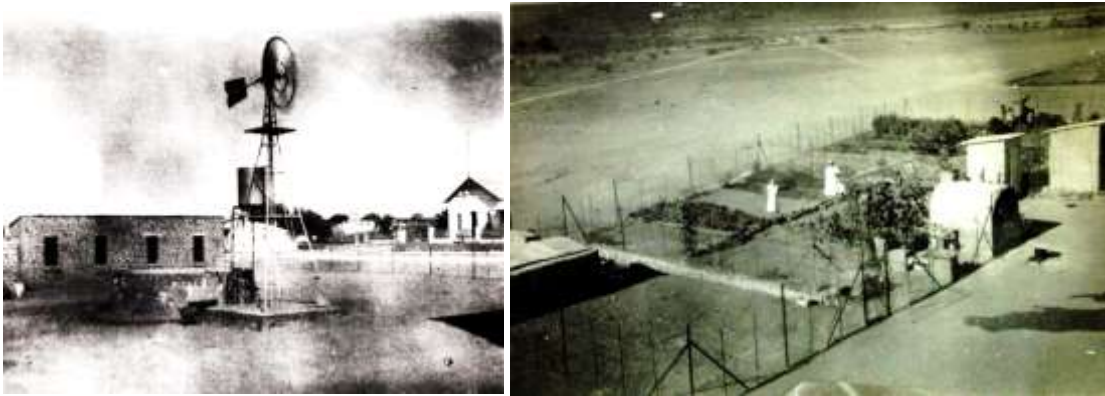
For fresh milk a cow had to stand in the stable and for the daily eggs it required a chicken coop. This needed a particularly good fencing, because snakes, red cats and jackals, but also



many a biped was on the move at night to make fat prey. Who wanted to have fresh vegetables had to create a garden.



Das nötige Wasser für den Haushalt , die Tiere und den Garten pumpte sich jedes Haus mit einem Windmotor aus dem Grundwasser in ein Bassin im Hof, das dann auch als Schwimmbecken diente. Das Toilettenhäuschen und auch der grosse Backofen standen im Hinterhof .



The German schoolchildren had to go to the German school in Gibeon at the age of six, but at the latest at the age of seven. From 1933 to 1935 there were 25 to 29 pupils in this school. The teacher was called Eugen Tworeck . From the beginning of the school years the children spent their lives, except for the vacations, only in homes far from home. Burische children went to farm schools and then to the government school in Maltahöhe..





Almost all German children were members of the Scout Association . The organized excursions and other leisure activities . From 1933 onwards, both the German school and the German Scout Association took on an increasingly German national character. This led to the closure of the school in Gibeon by the magistrate in 1939.



Scouts from Maltahöhe Klein-Werner in Maltahöhe

The Boy Scouts, founded in 1926 by old Schutztruppler in SWA, upheld Germanism in the Southwest. In 1937 Heinz Anton Klein-Werner (1912-1981) wrote the "Südwesterland", the secret (national) anthem of the German settlers.

Around 1930-1935 the first public water and private telephone lines were laid in Maltahöhe. For the farms, several telephone connections were strung together in a ring circuit as if on a string of pearls. A telephone operator in Maltahöhe could thus plug in incoming telephone calls from outside. Each farm had its own ring, like a Morse code, which could be triggered with a crank. Of course, all the other farmers in the ring could then listen in.

In 1932, the Germans were made British South African citizens and given the right to vote. But some wanted to remain German.

In 1934, after a long drought, the great flood came with 600 mm of rain. For some it was the end of the world, but for most farmers it was an economic upswing. Karakul farming flourished and the farms made profits.

In 1934 it took Hans Gebser 4 days to drive from Maltahöhe to Swakopmund in a Chevrolet truck. It was not until 1936 that the government purchased the first 3 "Padschabber". On the leveled roads, cars and trucks could reach average speeds of more than 30 kilometers per hour.



Hans Gebser with the schoolchildren from Gibeon 1934



1932 Schoolchildren from Maltahöhe in German school (government school) in Gibeon

### Teacher Peter Paul Emil Just



Greeting card from Dec.1904 of the teacher Just who defended Gibeon as a reserve rider during the uprising.



Letter to teacher Just to Rehoboth 1913



from Gochas 15.12.1903

### Summary of a report by the son Rudolf Just from Dresden:

Teacher Just was born on 29.06.1872 in Neuruppin and died 07.09.1958 in Windhoek . In 1903 he came from Germany to Gibeon and taught there in the unfinished school building mainly Burian children. In 1904 Just was involved in the defense of the Gibeon garrison. In 1909 he taught at a private school in Rehoboth. According to the Colonial Address Book, he was also a teacher in Berseba in 1910. In the following years he had a house built in Windhoek opposite the Feste and probably ran a store. June 1914 he went by ship to Germany. At first he was drafted as a reservist. But from 1917 he worked again as a teacher. In 1921 he married and emigrated with his wife Else ( nee Bläßer) to SWA.





School in Gibeon ca 1924

First he was a government teacher in Maltahöhe and then in Gibeon until 1927. In Gibeon he taught the German children .1926 he is registered in the address book as a teacher in Gibeon .His wife was in charge of the pupils' home in both schools. A son (ca.1923) and a daughter (1922) were born in the " Storchennest" Elisabethenhaus in Windhoek. From 1927 until his retirement in 1932 the family lived again in Germany. In 1936 he moved alone to SWA , to build up a farm.In 1939 the South Africans interned him in "Andalusia" . After the war in 1949 the wife also moved from Germany with her daughter and grandson (1944) to Windhoek . In 1958 he died in the WDK retirement home. His son and daughter emigrated again to Germany. Son Robert lives with his 96 years near Dresden.



Just family and the English doctor ca.1927

### **Farm foundation of Nutupsdrift in the Maltahöhe district 1934**

Farm No. 112 "Nutupsdrift" 1934 Anna Gebser bought the last free ,but waterless land near (25 km) Maltahöhe for 1000 pounds from the administration. Nobody wanted this land. There were only stones and a few bushes as far as the eye could see. It served for smaller hunting excursions of the Maltahöher. With the divining rod Anna determined a favorable place for a borehole, found indeed water in 15 meters depth and put there a large vegetable garden. Since this garden was managed by the old Wilhelm, it was called Wilhelmsposten. When naming the new farm, the Burische Amtmann had probably drunk too much Gordon's gin and wrote "Nutupsdrift" instead of Hutupsdrift, and so it remained.





The Family Gebser, the first borehole in 1934



and the garden a few years after at the same place.

The farm families were not rich and had to fight very hard for everything with physical effort. Everyone had to pitch in and set up the borrowed drill rig . The drilling master drilled for days through the hard rock and often failed to succeed. But Gebsters were lucky and found water. The ordered wind engine was brought by truck from Mariental and placed on the desolate area of nothing but stones. Next to it they built a water basin. The pumping rod was hooked into the well hole protected in this way and with the first hot wind the wind wheel turned and set the pumping rod in motion in eternal up and down. Finally, water gushed onto the hot stones and seeped back into the ground. Buoyed by renewed hope and with the help of some workers from the werft, Anna Gebster tore up the soil, sifted out the stones and mixed the loamy chalky soil with carts full of cow dung. The family spent the night on the endless flat area in a tent that was the only thing that offered some protection from the hot sun. The first plants grew and the water now flowed regularly through the channels of flat cliffs to the vegetable beds.



Already a few years later, the Gebasers had built a first small mud house and more boreholes with water tanks on the farm with a huge garden around it. Fig trees, mulberry trees, citrus trees, guava trees, quince trees, corn, cabbage, radishes, lettuce, cucumbers, carrots, onions, beans, tomatoes, potatoes, prickly pears ..... There was an incredible variety of delicious fresh food. However, in equal measure came birds and insects against which no herb seemed to be able to grow. The farmers especially feared the migratory locusts and the commando worms. The commando worm is a butterfly caterpillar that radically eats away all fresh green grass.

Not a day went by without a longing look at clouds, however small. Especially in the rainy season, starting in November, every farmer prayed for a few drops of water. With 60mm -100 mm of rain they would have been satisfied. But often, year after year, the rain failed and the banks gave no more credits..





From 1940 Hans Gebser was interned on the farm. As a result, he was forced to work on the farm and expanded the livestock business with sheep, but also goats, pigs and some cattle. The Gebsers' daughters were able to study in South Africa during the war.



It turned out that the "big garden" and the small house were completely flooded in some years. Therefore, the Gebsers built the shearing house and the garage with the farmstore 200 meters further on drier ground. The construction technique on the buildings was quite simple, but adapted to the needs and material availability and cost saving. The walls had a stone wall outside with cement, adobe in the middle and clay plaster inside. Apart from the cement, the walls were built with the material that the farm's soil yielded. The quarry with stone of plate-like structure was located near the farm building on the way to the Namseb farm. The sand for the cement was already a bigger problem because the river sand from the Hutup was too loamy. Presumably it came from a precinct near the Niederhagen

farm. Roof beams, corrugated iron, insulation cardboard for the ceilings were carted in from Mariental. In many places, Gebser built the walls of the garage only of unbaked mud bricks to save money. A mixture of muddy clay mixed with animal wool was filled into molds made of wood. Once dry, the bricks were well loadable. Both at Maltahöhe and on the farm, farmers used kerosene lamps for lighting and wood stoves for cooking. The farmers made butter and cream with a special spinner and churn. The iron was heated with pieces of coal. The only electrical appliances were the farm telephones.



Around 1940, Hans Gebser had Albert Maraun of the Maltahöhe garage build him a massive ox cart weighing 1, 5 tons and with a payload of 5 tons for the construction of the farm buildings on Nutupsdrift. It was the last of its kind. The wagon was pulled by donkies. Cattle would have consumed too much water.

#### " Namibia and Aunt Aenne"

About Aenne is reported in the book by G.H. Vollmer 2005. "Aenne" equal to Anna Hanke, born in Helden in 1903 came to Tses via Walfishbay in 1931. She helped her aunt Anni Tailor in her general store in Tses. Aunt Anni Tailor had married British merchant Eduard Taylor before 1915 and leased the Gebsers' store in Maltahöhe in 1940. The Gebsers were no longer allowed to operate the store because of their German heritage. Niece Aenne helped the old couple until her own death. Shortly thereafter, in about 1942, the Taylors also died in succession. To the Gebsers' chagrin, Van Rensburg of the Maltahöhe Administration took over the " lease " until the end of the war. After 1945 Anna Gebser was able to run her store herself again.



### Willibald Wittig . A mason in Maltahöhe



Mr. Wittig ca. 1936 in Maltahöhe after a hunting trip. In the back the Wagon of Hans Gebser.

Willibald Wittig, Born in Eichstätt (Nuremberg) in 1907 and trained as a bricklayer in the family business of Lorenz Wittig, with no prospect of inheriting the business, he took the decision to emigrate to Southwest Africa. On 16.05.1926 he arrived with the Adolf Woermann in Lüderitzbucht. He was not of age at that time and must have falsified his age to avoid the regulations. He found his first job with the Krabbenhöft family on the farm "Mukorob". In 1930 he worked for the magistrate in Mariental and other places. From 01.02.1937 he built 3 houses in Maltahöhe. During this time he lived in the annex of the Gebser house. This also housed the General Store which the Taylors had leased. Hunting trips with Hans Gebser and bicycle trips with Alfred Maraun and Walter Gebser have been passed down. Willibald married Mrs. Taylor's niece, Anna Hanke, at Hotel Voigts on May 3, 1940. Months later Anna probably died from complications of her pregnancy. Willibald was "only" interned on a farm during the war, probably because of his job with the magistrate. Willibald, like all Germans, had to fill out a questionnaire from the magistrate about his attitude in 1944, asking whether he would fight for Germany. This he answered with: " Yes, if the Germans come to this country". Willibald is said to have been in Maltahöhe until 1945. He married the stepdaughter of Mr. Krabbenhöft, Gertrud Summer , whom he knew from his 1st job. They had 3 daughters. Siglinde, Brunhilde, Erika. Willibald died with only 61 years in 1969 in Windhoek.

### Grässer family

Mr. Max Robert Grässer born 14 June 1900 in Preussen / Ottenhausen (near Bielefeld?) died 04 September 1954 on the farm Kamagams. He came to SWA from Zurich in 1926 and worked on several farms as a steward. On 04.10.1928 he married Margarete Pauline Ingeborg

Ranft in Omaruru, whom he had met in Cape Town. Grässer worked among others (1935) on the farm Niederhagen No. 96, Glückauf No. 34 and then on Haruchas No. 11. The Mandate Police interned him despite his Swiss passport in 1939. In 1946 the family was actually already expelled but Senator Lüttig requested him as administrator of the farm Baviaanspoort (?). In 1954 Max died at the age of only 54 on the farm Kamagams (Gibeon). His children and descendants still live in Namibia. The farm Kamagams had been bought by Karl Otto, the father of Kurt Otto after World War II in 1944. Later owner of the farm was Rudolf Otto Junior. In 1928 Brüggemann owned the farm Kamagams. The farm is located at Hutup on the southern border with Uibis.



This photo was taken about 1939 and was taken shortly before the outbreak of war (01. September 1939). It was a meeting on the farm Niederhagen No. 96. The top row from left to right shows Hans Gebser (48), Farmer Göbel, Walter Gebser 14, Anna Gebser, Mrs. Grässer, Mrs. Göbel, Mr. Grässer (the administrator of Niederhagen), Mr. Winter (near Helmeringhausen).

The Gebser children from the left the 2nd Lotti Gebser (7), the 3rd Callista Gebser (11), the last one on the right Lindi Gebser (9) all wearing the same bib shorts. All the children went to the German School in Gibeon.



Grässer family after the war in Maltahöhe

**Margerethe Pauline Ingeborg Ranft (married Grässer)**



April 1928

ca. 1935

ca. 1945

1952

"Inge" was born on 02.06.1903 in Leipzig and learned housekeeping. She came from an old dynasty of Protestant clergymen. In 1926 she emigrated to South West Africa to work as a housekeeper for a rich family. There she met Max Robert Grässer. They married in 1928 and had 2 sons and 4 daughters. After the early death of her husband at the age of 54 on the farm Kamagams she lived with her children. Inge died on 01.10.1979 in Maltahöhe and was buried on 10.10.1979 on the farm Karichab. Her oldest daughter "Inga" Margarete Grässer born on 07.12.1929 in Swakopmund married Kurt Christian Otto in 1952. Inga died in 1998 in Swakopmund.





1952 Pope, Herr Grässer, Inga, Kurt Otto, Frau Grässer, Rudolf Otto



### **Farm Niederhagen Nr. 96 Lüttichau / Gebser**

#### **Counts Maximilian and Leo Georg Johann Guido von Lüttichau**

In Germany the Lüttichau`s owned large estates, which they lost however by the war partly. Max born in Darmstadt 03.03.1882 died in Mönkmühl on 10.02.1965. Maximilian von Lüttichau bought the farm Niederhagen and Hoheacht in 1912. His administrator at that time was named Otto Kratzenberg. Leo or his uncle Maximilian von Lüttichau also briefly managed the Duwisib farm in the Maltahöhe district around 1914. Around 1932 Leo bought at the age of 50 from his uncle Maximilian von Lüttichau the farm No. 98 " Hoheacht " and the neighboring farm Farm No. 96 "Niederhagen" in the district Maltahöhe and bred there about 3000 Karakul sheep. 1937 he gave away the farm again to his son Georg, who however fell in 1942 in the war against Russia.

In 1948, due to insolvency, the Niederhagen farm was auctioned off by the administration against the protests of the family in Germany. According to another version, the farm was confiscated by the magistrate because the owner had fought for the German Reich. The Gebser family bought the farm at auction. They already owned the neighboring farm "Nutupsdrift". Walter Gebser owned the farm until about 1990.



### Von Klitzing, Kurt Otto



**Kurt Otto von Klitzig** born 22.05.1913 in Klein-Windhoek on the farm Okongona / South-West Africa -, honorary knight of the Order of St. John marries on 01.08.1937 on Voigtsgrund Miss Clessen. On Voigtsgrund v. Klitzing learned the breeding of Karakul sheep and became himself a recognized breeder on his farm Okongona. He died † 14.05.2003 in Swakopmund,

Kurt Otto's father, Ernst Lebrecht Konrad von Klitzing (Born in 15.07.1871 in Zuchow - Died in 14.02.1944 in Windhoek) came with the Schutztruppe to DSWA. He had studied law. Konrad fought with his men in 1905 at the battle of Arahoab/ Aranos (East of Mariental) against the Witboois. A Royal Prussian Seconde Lieutenant (ret.), he was last in the 2nd Pomeranian Field Artillery Regiment. No. 17, Kgl. pruss. Reg.-Referendar a.D., A niece, Renate Hildegard Friederike von Klitzing born on 22.06.1909 was the daughter of Hans Ludwig von Klitzing she married on 02.01.1935 Erwin Frank-Schultz on Voigtsgrund. Today the Frank-Schultz family owns a part of the Duwisib farm.

### Yorck Hans Albrecht von Schütz, farm Nomtsas

Yorck Hans Albrecht von Schütz born 23.11.1912 in Gobabis/ died 03.12.2002 in Windhoek. The father Julius Hans A. von Schütz (born 1885 in Wollitnick/Königsberg) had farmed as a former Schutztrupper first in DSWA, but emigrated after the First World War with the family probably via Germany to Brazil.

After the murder of his father in Lodrina / Brazil, Yorck returned to Southwest Africa in 1932, when he was 20 years old. York worked as a Karakul breeder for a while on the Voigtsgrund farm. When Otto Voigts bought the farm Nomtsas 18.06.1944 York took over the administration until 1946. Otto Voigts son, Heino Voigts married in 1970 the daughter Heide von Schütz.



Yorck von Schütz



Father Julius Hans A. v. Sch.



Grandfather Heinrich Berthold Christian Feldmann

## Descendants of the Bergemann family farm Urusis No15



Picture left : Friedrich Ferdinand Bergemann with Johanna-Dora Bergemann née Kophamel on vacation ca.1960

Picture right: Johanna-Dora's daughter Lieschen was married to Gerrit Visser. He died on 07.08.1968. His obituary shows the strong friendly ties of the Maltahöher, who met mostly on Thursdays for skat in the hotel.



The family Bergemann u.co. to the 110 year celebration on Urusis 2005.

Note: Ferdinand Bergemann had still after 1936 letter contact with Mr. Felix Hermann who was in the meantime already about 60 years old and lived since the war in Falkensee/Finkenkrug Parkstrasse 5 near Berlin.



## Harald Karl Count Fink von Finckenstein Farm Bergplaaz Nr.125



Harald Karl Walter Count von Finckenstein. He was born on 15.05.1925 on the farm Chamassar (or Windhoek?) He attended school in Gobabis and left school when his father was interned by the South African Army during World War II to help his mother on the farm. Later he worked as a mechanic in a garage and finally on Voigtsgrund and Nomtsas as a farm manager. In 1948 he married Ruth Müller on the Nomtsas farm. Finally he took over the farm Bergplatz in the Maltahöhe district in 1953. The farm is today called Bergplaaz Nr.125 26 km west of Maltahöhe. Ruth Müller was born on 23.12.1927 on the farm Aneis 40 km southwest of Gibeon and died in 2007 in Swakopmund. The couple had 4 sons and one daughter. Helga, Ottfried, Winfried, Ernst-Georg, Reinhard. Still in 1973 the Finckenstein family owned parts of Bergland Nr.94 and Bergplaaz Nr.125.

## Helmut Röttger born in Maltahöhe Captain's lieutenant on U 715



(Literatur :[http://www.denkmalprojekt.org/u-boote/uboote\\_wk2/wk2\\_u715-roettger\\_helmut.jpg](http://www.denkmalprojekt.org/u-boote/uboote_wk2/wk2_u715-roettger_helmut.jpg))

<p><b>Schiffsnachrichten.</b>  <b>R. P. D. „Gertrud Woermann“</b>  <b>20. 9. 1913 an Lüderitzbucht von Hamburg.</b>  <b>Passagiere:</b>  <b>Herren: G. Boediker, Herm. Metje nebst Frau</b>  <b>und Kind, R. Ploetz, K. Kramm, A. Groninger, J.</b>  <b>Hunold, Eugen Humold, J. Linkowsky und Frau,</b>  <b>E. Renz, R. Rollin, K. F. Schaezlein, H. Uecker-</b>  <b>mann und Frau, <u>W. Roettger und Frau und Kind,</u></b>  <b>Paul Bartig, E. Bodenmüller, J. Dronia, J. Glaser,</b></p>	<p><b>Kaiserliche Regierungsschule Lüderitzbucht.</b>          Die Regierungsschule wurde im Jahre 1908 gegründet und wird          zurzeit von 74 Kindern besucht. Schulpflichtig sind weiße Kinder          jeder Konfession vom vollendeten 6. bis zum 14. Lebensjahre. Die          Aufnahme findet im Januar, die Entlassung im Dezember statt. —          Schulgeld wird nicht erhoben. — Anmeldungen etc. sind an den          Schulleiter zu richten.  <b>Lehrpersonal: <u>Regierungslehrer Röttger (Schulleiter),</u> Keller. —</b>          Regierungslehrerin Frä. Harff. — Schuldiener Ruland.</p>
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Father Wilhelm Roettger and his wife and child arrived in Lüderitz Bay on the "Gertrud Woermann" on 20.09.1913. The city formed the center of the diamond mines. Röttger worked in the government school as a schoolmaster. On 13 September 1914 the Union Army occupied Lüderitzbucht.

15.12.1918 Helmut Röttger was born in occupied Maltahöhe one month after the end of the war. Father Wilhelm Röttger ran the German school in Maltahöhe in about 1921.

At the age of 19, son Helmut, joined the German Navy as an officer candidate on 03.04.1937 and made a career. He died in action on 13 June 1944 at Faroes high in the north between Scotland and Iceland as commander of the U-715. The U-715 is a 67.1 meter long and 6.2 meter wide Type VII C submarine. The boat in Wolfgang Petersen's film "Das Boot" is identical in construction.

From the Maltahöhe area died as soldiers of the Wehrmacht the brothers Hester Ulrich and Hubert, Ernst Grasop and Fritz Maiwald. They had previously been to the German school in Lüderitzbucht and then to Germany for further education. At the beginning of the war they were drafted in.



### Kameelhof Nr. 116 Mr. Attie Esterhuisen 8151 Ha

Attie Esterhuisen born 1902 in Warmbad son of A. Esterhuisen went to school in Maltahöhe. At first Attie was a transport driver. In 1925 he married Elisabeth Niemand. They had a son and 5 daughters. Around 1939 he took over the farm Kameelhof in lease purchase. Attie expanded the poultry operation to 600 birds drilled wells and had the farm fenced. The farm still belonged to the Esterhuisen family in 1973..

## Jan Hendrik Philipus Viljoen



The Viljoen siblings ca. 1930

Jan Hendrik Philipus Viljoen born c. 1920, came from a South African burish family of six children. One sister and five brothers. He was born in Christiana or Springs and moved to South West Africa as a 17 year old boy about 1937 to look for work. His first job was a borehole worker in the Gibeon / Maltahöhe district. At about 30 Viljoen met his wife Else, née Kierdorf in Maltahöhe. In 1954 he worked as a construction worker in Maltahöhe. The son of this simple man made a career. With a lot of diligence he built up a big chemical factory in Pretoria.



## Kalkhügel Nr.97 Andries Gerhardus du Toit Teil 2

Andries Gerhardus du Toit senior came from Fraserburg SA. When he came is unclear. The editors suspect that the family emigrated to SWA in the 30 ger years. The farm Kalkhügel had been initially leased by Andries G.d.Toit senior from the government and bought about 1940. His wife was Christina Alida du Toit née Reitz. Although she had a German father, she spoke only Afrikaans. A species of Lithops was named after her. The couple had 9 children. 4 sons and 5 girls.

In 1959 Andries Gerhardus du Toit junior bought a part of the farm from his father and named his part " Klipkolk" . After the death of Andries G.d.T. senior, Andries G.d.T. bought the other part of the farm in 1972..





### **Wereldsend Nr.115 Jabus du Toit**

The youngest son of Andries G. du Toit senior Christian Reitz du Toit (06.09.1925 - 05.01.1999) owned around 1972 the farm Wereldsend (World's End) at Namibrand directly at the corner mountain west of Betta. The farm was one of the driest farms on Namibrand. Today it is a tourist attraction. A wide, flat, vegetation-poor area with mountains at the horizon.



### **Farm Betta Nr.87 Familie van Lill**

#### **Excerpt from a publication ( obituary) of Marlize Strydom Wandrag**

" March 28, 1922. On a hot late summer day, a baby girl is born to the Van Lill family on the Betta farm in the Namib. Gloudina Susanna Van Lill. Another blonde head for the proud parents and another sister for the older siblings. And later her role will expand to that of beloved wife, mother, grandmother and even (great) grandmother.

After that are her growing years on the family farm. Like any Plaaskind, life was idyllic then. All you knew was your family and you had the freedom of the wide plains: healthy food, swimming, sun and animals. What more can a child (want) to ask? As the years go by, things change and every day was not necessarily carefree and free. They (the children) lose their father at a young age. There are many children and it is a dry farming. Later years, their brothers go to war in North Africa (Angola). .....

Later she meets her partner, Coen Strydom, and a few years after the wedding she leaves the Namib and lives on the farm Adams Rust ( Bez.Gibeon). Here they lived together like this. Good and hard times. This marriage was blessed with 3 children. They stay in Adams Rust until retirement age. ....

When I (Marlize S.W.) think of Grandma today, there are two "types of memories" that come to me..... I remember the grandmother who was able to cook the best venison and wheat semolina. She made pudding and pies every Sunday. Yes, the grandmother who always went out of her way for family and guests. ...."

The Betta farm south of Gorab also appears in the book by Wilhelm Esterhuizen.

Betta is a very dry, flat farm with a few shade trees and thorn bushes. On the horizon you can see blue mountains. The farm was still owned by the family in 1972



### **Farm Stellarine Nr.170 Jacob van Lill**

Short summary of a publication by Alida van der Merwe,

Jacob Jakobus van Lill senior, born March 13, 1894 married to Martha Maria Elizabeth Esterhuizen. Jacob van Lill senior had leased the land (Stellarine) for grazing. Son, Jacob van Lill junior, took over the farm "Erfpagstelsel" (hereditary lease?) in lease-purchase in about 1947 . His wife was called Rina. There were government support programs at that time to encourage the settlement of Burian farmers. He had to pay three pounds a month for 30 years.

The price for a Karakul fur in 1950 was only five shillings .In 1960 there were up to 2 pounds for fur.

Jacob van Lill junior named the farm Stellarine after his only child, Estelle van Lill. Jacob sold Stellarine to his brother Attie v.Lill in about 1960, and moved to the farm "Uitkyk" No.42. He died of cancer in August 1988 after a long illness and was buried in the family cemetery at Vanlillsville, the family farm.

**DANIEL MATTHEUS LAUFS**  
15 NOV. 1872 - 5 JUNIE 1928

### **Daniel Mattheus Laufs**

Daniël Mattheus Laufs, born 15.11.1872 Cape Town died 05.06.1928 buried in Keetmanshoop his wife was called Gertruida Catherina Jooste, born 11.02.1883 died 17.10.1952.

Daniel Mattheus, a cattle breeder moved in 1909 with his family and his cattle from Cape Town first to Langklip near Upington and according to the family chronicle about 1925 further to Maltahöhe. Probably they were there only a short time." 1932 het Daniel en Truia Laufs in Suidwes naby die dorpie Maltahöhe, as bywoners gewoon ". Their children were born between 1907 to 1925 still in South Africa. In 1928 Daniel possibly died in Maltahöhe district and was buried in Keetmanshoop. His wife initially remained in SWA after his death. In 1952 she was operated in Upington and died in Neilersdrift / SA.



Daniel Laufs und Truia the children above/Hester, Malie, Karl und Johannes under



### **Grootfontein –Süd (Gai Aus)**

In 1928 G.J.Rossouw was the owner. In the address book as farmer was registered F.H.J.Theart. The farm was renamed after the war to Bossivlei No.91 and then to Lisboa. The importance of Groootfontein-South the center of "North Bethany " dwindled until it was forgotten. Today only a few unnoticed remains of mud brick walls testify to the once important place. (Bossivlei is probably identical with the old name Gui hases.Gui means milk bush ( salt bush)) ( Gai probably means source and Aus great)



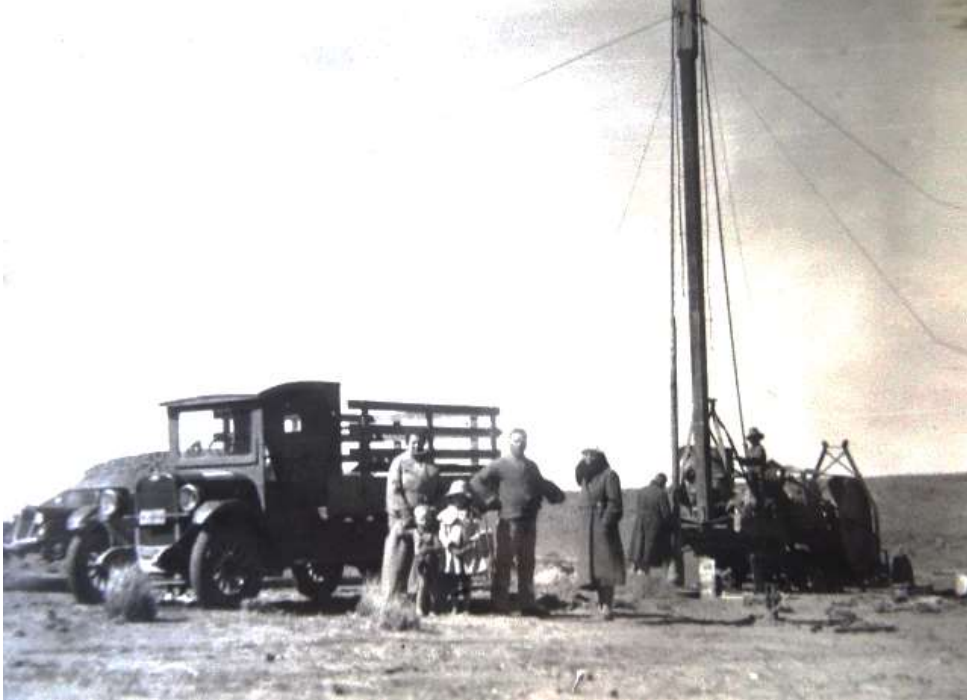
### Maguams Nr.70 Erwin Serrer

Erwin Serrer (24.12.1899 -02.11.1964 ) came from Oberndorf am Neckar east of Heidelberg. He had 9 siblings. Erwin did his training as a publishing merchant in Germany. A niece reported that her uncle Erwin emigrated to SWA in 1920 out of a thirst for adventure, but also out of economic necessity.

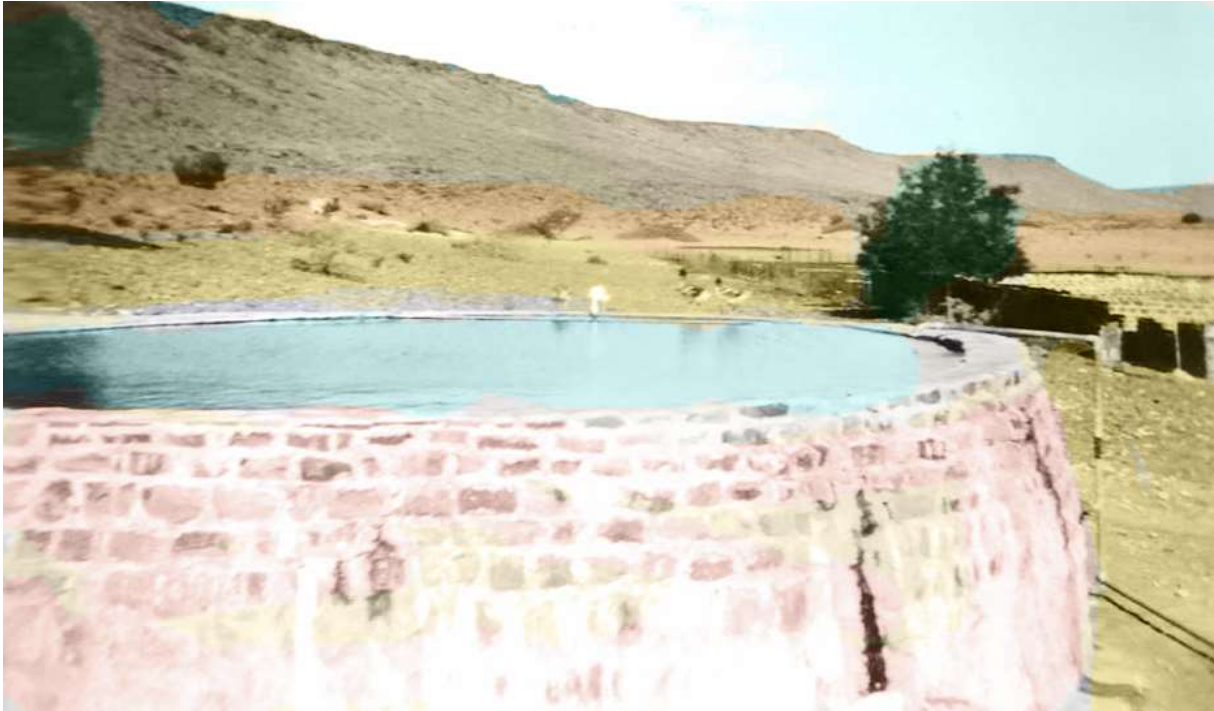


The farmhouse of Maguam ca. 1935

In South West Africa Erwin worked in the beginning as a private teacher on farms. When the farm Maguams with a little over 10,000 hectares came up for sale, Erwin applied for it and auctioned it probably around 1926. In this time he met the English-born "Dolly" (Dorothea). They married and had 3 children. Lehnchen, Ilse and Wolfgang. The father of Erwin, the baker German Serrer Senior from Oberndorf died in 1930 and the youngest son (18) German junior came from Germany to help on the farm of his brother Erwin. The farmhouse was located on a slope slightly above the precinct with a large garden. Erwin had a well drilled on the plateau. Possibly Mr. Heydt from the neighboring farm Zackenberge had helped him. The drilling equipment, which weighed tons, had to be hauled up the steep scree slopes by mules. On the plateau the drilling team erected the 8 meter high drilling tower and then the noisy drilling into the hard stone began for days until they finally reached water. Whether 30, 40 or 80 meters deep is not known. And until then there was the fear of not hitting any water. Afterwards a construction team brought the "Eclipse" wind engine up the steep incline and built it up. Next to it, the masons built a water basin and a watering trough for the cattle. Stone farms had the advantage that the rainwater did not run off so quickly and therefore tufts of grass could still grow between the stones in the greatest heat.







Erwin got the best breeding rams from Voigtsgrund and Windhoek. In the back of the car Erwin had a covered flatbed built in to transport rams. It is reported that Kurt Schwarzkopf bought thirty-five ewes for 50 pounds from Mr. Serrer in Maguams at the end of 1930. Erwin was very ambitious in sheep breeding and built up a good flock. Erwin had long dams heaped up in the district and fortified with a sturdy wall. 12 mules pulled the wagon with the stones. Behind the dam the water collected when the precinct came down and then served for months to water the cattle and to irrigate the garden. In 1940, the South African Union also interned Erwin Serrer. Dolly was now a combat widow and ran the farm alone. During a long drive in the winter of 1945 to an outpost, a stone smashed the windshield of the car. Dolly became so ill from the cold wind that she got pneumonia and died after 3 days. Little Wolfgang Serrer was not yet of school age and all alone on the farm. The camp management in "Andalusia" gave Erwin 2 weeks of detention leave to sort things out. So he organized a farm manager and a housekeeper. But the housekeeper had a son of her own and neglected little Wolfgang . When the two sisters Lenchen and Ilse came to the farm during the vacations, daughter Lenchen contacted the father and organized a new housekeeper.



Approx. 1940 school children in Lüderitzbucht ( above left Ilse below right Helene) ( photo by Charlotte Wright).

After his release from internment Erwin continued to farm. He married a second time. His 2nd wife was named Elli Thoma. She brought 2 children into the marriage. Erwin`s daughter Lenchen married in 1948 Walter Gebser from the farm Niederhagen Nr.96 and named her oldest daughter after her mother Dorothe. Ilse Serrer married a son of Christian Heydt from the farm Zackenberge No.64 near Maguams . Erwin Serrer (64) died of pneumonia on 02.11.1964 in Windhoek hospital. His grave is in WDK .



Wedding of Lenchen Serrer and Walter Gebser 1948 Erwin Serrer ca .1948

### **Blenheim No.69**

Nothing is known about the neighboring family of Maguams, Blenheim. (The name goes back to Blindheim south of Augsburg, where under the leadership of an ancestor of Churchill in 1704 an important battle in the Spanish War of Succession was fought. Probably the name giver was a Briton with reference to "Blenheim Palace" near Oxford)

### **.Maltahöhe during the 1939-1945 war period.**

Many Germans were supporters of the 3rd Reich and hoped to regain the Mandate over SWA. Germans who had been "naturalized" and forcibly naturalized by Act.27 of 1928 were deprived of British citizenship again by Act.35 of 1942. The children, born British, of German parents were also deprived of their rights. The ethnic Germans were considered "enemy aliens". Many men of German origin were also interned in Maltahöhe. Burian and British, in some cases even ethnic German young men were drafted and fought for the British side. German women had to run the farms during the war. They were called "combat widows". Interned ethnic Germans were not released from South Africa until long after the end of the war. Since there were war victims on the Boer side, the gap between the Boers and the Germans grew. Missionary Vedder, after a long debate on the subject of deportation, pacified the situation with Administrator Malan in 1948. From about 1950, even Germans who had spent time in Germany during the war could return. Throughout Germany there were agents from South Africa and South West Africa recruiting German skilled workers for SA and SWA. Most of the recruits were former German soldiers. Maltahöhe also got new inhabitants. In the post-war years, all Namib land areas were also used mostly as alternative farms. One of them was Aandster.



### **The Werft in Maltahöhe** (district of the colored people )

After World War I in 1919, the South African Mandate Government maintained the principle of racial segregation. Land ownership was reserved only for the white population. The equal treatment hoped for by the colored people by the new rulers in London and Pretoria after the First World War did not take place.



**1920** Christian Spellmeyer, head of the Rhenish Mission from Gibeon 1903-1939 appointed the colored pastor Petrus Jod, a nephew of Hendrik Witbooi , as pastor of the werft against great protests of the white community of Gibeon.

**1923** Laying of the foundation stone of the Lutheran Church in Maltahöhe werft (Lokasie). 1926 the Lutheran Church was consecrated. The church also served as a school for colored people. Peter Jod was the first teacher.

Note: Famine of the Damara in **1930**. Poor harvests and drought made it necessary to feed hundreds of people in Damaraland. In Maltahöhe in 1930 the situation might not have been much different.

In **1939** the Lutheran congregation had 2081 colored members.

In **1945** came the lice epidemic. The Maltahöhe magistrate arranged for extensive hygienic measures to be taken in the yard. Affected people, almost exclusively colored, were rarely quarantined, but clothing was boiled or burned. Hair had to be shaved off completely. The lice were controlled with the notorious insecticide DDT , with which the afflicted were powdered. Nevertheless, quite a few colored people died from the infections. For example by spotted fever, by Rickettsia bacteria. (It should be noted that spotted fever is translated in English as typhus, but thyphus in German is a salmonella disease). 1945 to 1949 there was occasionally also a scarlet fever ( scarlet fever ) on .

**1946** secession from the Lutheran Church to the African Methodist Episcopal Church . Rev. Jod from Maltahöhe was one of the three founders.

**1948** Official introduction of "Apartheid". 1963 The Homelands /Odendaal Plan came into being.

**1965** The Maltahöhe werft was renamed Andreville. The name was given to the half-breed Andrew Berger. He was at the German time a victim of the beating punishment.unfortunately no more was to be learned about it.





Besides the modern Ovambo and Witbooi, there were also many traditional Namas living in their pontoks. 1950



Nama 1956 30 kilometers west of Maltahöhe . In the background the Kameelberg .

### From interviews with older Maltahöhe residents

2010 the project "Words Unwritten: A History of Maltahöhe." The editors had made a clear effort to also get material for this book directly from the colored population, but without response. The historical account from non-whites is lacking. Since material on the colored population of Maltahöhe is scarce, I include some much abbreviated, summarized interviews from the above publication.

From the interview with **Mr. Issaks**: Pastor Spellmeyer, head of the Rhenish Mission Church in Gibeon, sent Evangelist Eliphas Katuairua to lead a colored congregation and the colored school in Maltahöhe on March 4, 1913. In December 1913, the first baptism ceremony took place. 23 adults and 15 children were baptized. S.S. Issak was the teacher of the school. Later, assisted him P.A. Smitt, W.M. Jod, Eliphas Eiseb, Jesais Issak. The school for colored people taught until Standard 3. In 1946, the church experienced a crisis that led to a split in the church. In 1947-1949, Josef Hanse was the pastor in Maltahöhe. In 1950 Pastor H.S. Issak came as a teacher until his death on February 11, 1961. He had Nama (Witbooi) and German ancestors. On October 4, 1957, the Okahandja Synod declared the church independent, whereupon the church was renamed Evangelical Lutheran Church (Rhenish Mission Church).

From the interview with **Mr. Gariseb**. His father came to Namibia as a (German) soldier, but settled as a carpenter in Maltahöhe. His mother was a Nama. His parents did not marry. He can speak Nama, Afrikaans, some German words, and only a few English words. Mr. Gariseb was born in 1925. He was not enrolled in school until he was 14 years old and finished school in October 1943. At that time there were three teachers at the Rhenish Mission. Hendrick Samuel Isaak, Petrus Andreas Smidt and Willem Moses Jod. After that he studied in the carpentry school at Kranzplatz near Gibeon. With his first wife he had 8 children of whom 4 died. The family lived in one of the 1965 Andreville brick houses.

From the interview with **Mrs. Isaak**. She was born in 1929 in Maltahöhe County on Nam Farm, married in 1955 and came to Maltahöhe to live with her husband. In 1938 she started school at the age of 8 and had two teachers, Petrus Andreas Smidt and Hendrik Isaak. Her father was a Herero-Nama.

Traditions: Food was often shared among the different houses in an area, especially if one house had plenty of food and the surrounding houses had nothing. This generosity was often repaid with labor if the receiving family had food and the giving family did not. However, this tradition has declined in recent years due to the increased cost of living.

Interview with **Mrs. Garises**. Mrs. Garises was born ca. 1942 in Maltahöhe and had another 16 siblings. In college at Okahanja, she studied and became a teacher.

Customs when getting married: "If a man wanted to ask a woman's family for permission to marry her, he first had to slaughter a cow and introduce himself to the family.

If two people had a child out of wedlock, the man had to slaughter a white sheep. The sheep had to be white because white meant a good future. Both families had to eat the sheep together.

After the engagement it took 4 more months until the wedding.

The wedding took place in a church, after which there was a wedding party. The men presented the groom with "manly" gifts, such as a knife. After the ceremony, the bride's family prepared a special room for the couple to spend the night.

The next day, the groom's mother gave the bride a Nama dress. After the meal that followed, the groom's parents had to ask the bride's parents if the husband was given permission to take his wife. If permission was granted, they ate some of the leftover cake.

**Initiation of a girl.** When a girl reached puberty at the age of 11, 12, 13, she was sent to the "dark" room, for the week of her period. She was not allowed to leave it. She was supposed to apply a traditional colored makeup on her body during that time. The makeup consisted of a red stone that was polished. ( also made of yellow clay)

**Food:** The traditional food of the Nama consists of fresh and sour milk, corn flour, meat and corn. The corn is ground into flour with stones, for making bread. The family dug a hole in the ground and put the dough in the hole. Then a metal plate was placed over the hole, and a fire was lit over it. In some dishes, the bread is cooked in a pot along with the meat. Common meats eaten include goat, ox, cow, sheep, and game such as ostrich and kudu. In addition, there are cabanas a type of gourd where the top is cut off and the inside is filled with milk. Nara fruit was not eaten by the Namas of Maltahöhe.

**Funerals:** On the day of a person's death, prayers were said at the home of the deceased to comfort the family. This prayer was only for close family members and people of the same church. Usually after two weeks (?) the funeral took place. On the eve of the funeral, people were allowed to see the deceased one last time. After the funeral service, the body was taken to the cemetery.

Interview with **Mrs. Hanse.** Mrs. Hanse was born in 1926, her mother was Damara. (The name is German) . In 1942 she finished school. Her teachers were Petrus Jod and Hendrick Isaak. In 1944 she got engaged and married in 1948, at the age of 22. She had 13 children, 5 of whom died. People had to build their houses out of tin in Andreville. The neighborhood is named after Andres Berger (Baster), a man who had been beaten by the Germans several times. He kept singing hymns saying that the Lord must be respected, and even after he was asked to stop, he kept singing hymns. The church was built in 1926 and at that time served as both a school and a church. The school only went up to 4th grade.

**Lice epidemic.** In 1945 there was a lice epidemic in the village. So dangerous that people could not even touch an infected person. A big fire was lit for a pot of boiling water, and all infected people had to undress and put their clothes in the boiling water. This process was regulated by the regime and enforced by the police. If a person was not part of this process, they were not allowed to have any interaction with the rest of the people in the city. Many people died during this epidemic.

**(A strange story )** In 1914, (colored) locals were caught and held like cattle near a river called Hudup in Daweb Square. Between Mariental and Maltahöhe there was a town called Twoperroca and Cannacora, and the people there were ready to fight. One day two men rode up to the farm and saw the people, who were now forced to move one by one from Daweb to Osagoes. At Osagoes, the people were to be burned. A pregnant woman gave birth to a little girl, whose name translated means we are liberated. The people of Osagoes were then liberated. This is a story that her grandmother told her. (The three places mentioned and the event are unknown).

### Photos of Maltahöhe around 1950



Rain flood in the streets of Maltahöhe 1950. (Picture Heussen)

“Southwesterners” are always between drying up and drowning. Because of the lack of vegetation, the rainwater has a very high runoff velocity. Maltahöhe has a bizarre situation. The Hutup Basin dips eastward to the Black Rim by about 1m per kilometer. At Maltahöhe the river breaks through the plateau and flows inland in a canyon further to the Fish River. In the rainy season, therefore, the water table at Maltahöhe fills so that water can be reliably pumped from a depth of 7 to 17 meters. Many 10000 years ago, the Hutup Basin was a large lake.



View to the south on the Hutuprevier and the Schwartrandgebirge 1950



View behind the hotel to the northwest The old district office and the Schutztruppe magazine





1950 The Maltahöhe Hotel . A covered veranda had been newly added by the owner. (Picture Heussen)



1954 A large livestock auction . The administrator Daan Viljoen gave a speech . (Picture Heussen)



Daan Vijoer at Maltahöhe (picture Heussen)





District physician Dr. Heussen in the reserve Neuhoof in the Zarris Mountains 1950 (picture Heussen)





Dr. Heussen in the Neuhoof reserve



The moving box says Dr. Heussen. The box became her first medical practice.



Heussen at work in Maltahöhe

Mr.





Carpentry ( Augustin ? ) Heussen 1950 (picture Heussen)



Building boom in Maltahöhe 1950 (picture Heussen)



Removals were the order of the day in 1950 (picture Heussen) (picture W.Gebser)



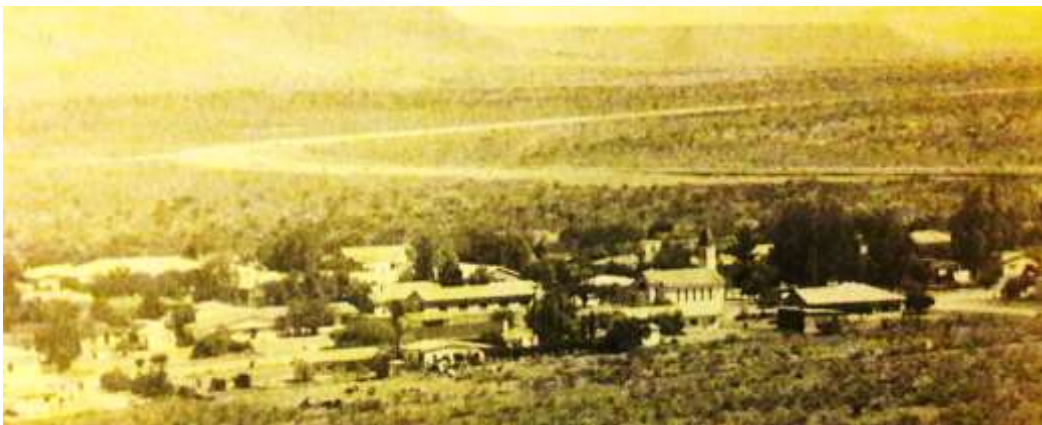
Standardbank ca. 1955



Neue Post



Maltahöhe 1950 from North





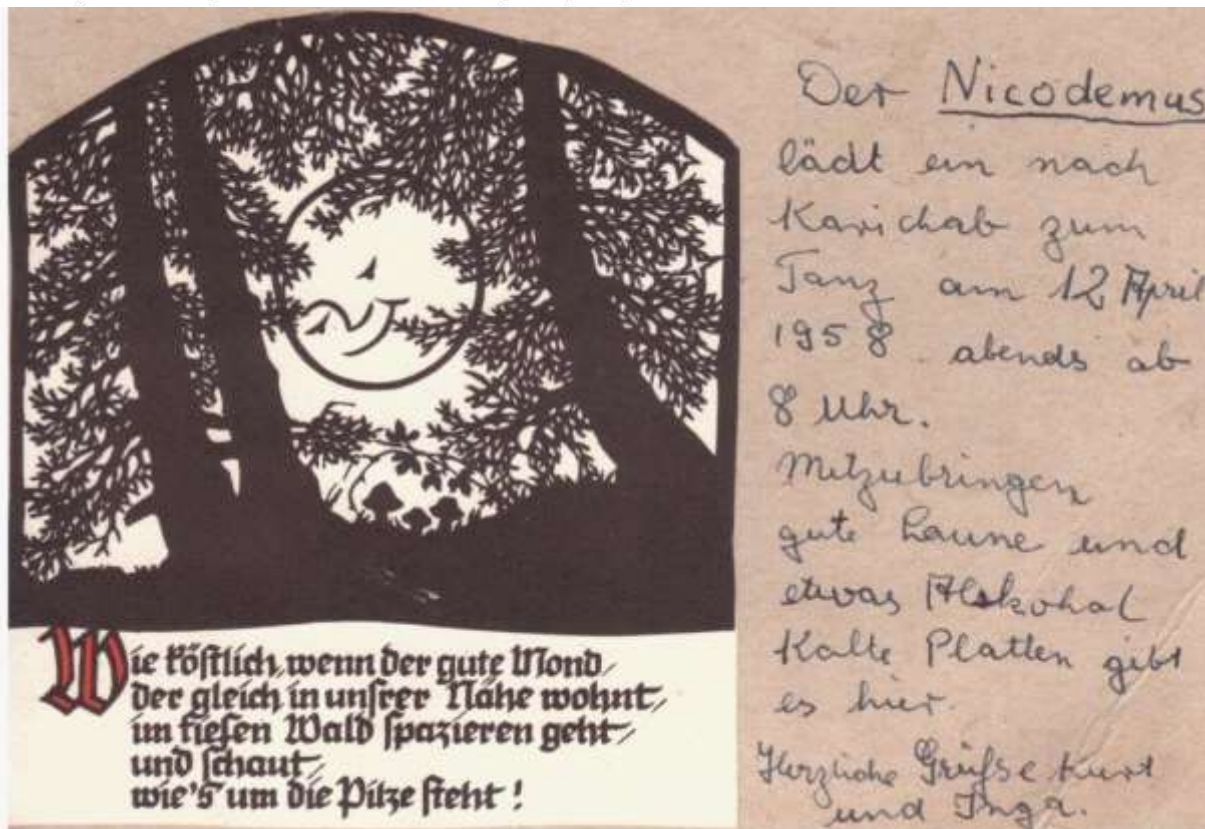
## Nicodemus

**Story :** by Christel Schemmer

In the fifties the Germans of Maltahöhe also had a choir, a theater group ,from time to time there was cinema in the hotel and Mrs. Dr. Heussen ran a puppet theater in which the group " Nicodemus " participated. (The name Nicodemus is nevertheless unusual. Probably this had a reference to the " night visit " of Nicodemus. Or it had reference to the clan chief Nicodemus). The inhabitants of Maltahöhe had to create their own entertainment at that time. The Nicodemus group consisted almost exclusively of Germans who took turns to party on different farms and realize small leisure projects. For this purpose they wrote each other invitation cards.



1Hanna Heussen 2 Walter Gebser, 3 Lenchen Gebser, 4 Lotti Gebser, 5 Inga Otto, 6 Kurt Otto, 7 August Heussen, 8 Lindi Gebser, 9 Elfriede Maraun, 10 Ernst Maraun, 11 ?, 12 Happy Stranghöner, 13 Adolf Bernhardt, 14 Manfred Etzold, 15 Alfred Maraun, 16 Erna Klein-Werner, 17 Marlene Maraun, 18 Lucy Bernhardt, 19 Heinz Klein-Werner, 20 ?, 21?, 22?



## **Short description of the Maltahöhe District 1950 / 1960**

**(By Christa Schemmer)**

Farm Neuhoof was a small reservation established in 1923 where mainly Namas and Damaras lived. In 1964 the government resettled this population in the so-called Namaland in the course of the Odendaalplan.

1953-1964 There were 3 so called General Dealers in Maltahöhe: Westelike Winkels Algemene Handelaar of Fanie van Rensburg . The Klein-Werner Store (which previously belonged to Anna Gebser) Heinz and Erna Klein-Werner the composer of the Südwester Lied then Fanie van Rensburg bought the store.

Then there were 2 dealers for farm supplies: BSB Boere-Saamwerk Beperk and FCU: Farmers` Cooperative Union

Marauns Garage ( gas station and car repair shop of Ernst and Alfred Maraun  
Electrician of Giel du Toit

Sonskyn Modes ( clothes store ) of Ella du Toit

Building contractor Andries Kampfer

A small coffee from Tannie

Butcher Slaghuis

Carpenter shop of August Heussen

4 churches

The German Evangelical Lutheran Church Pastor Klee came from Mariental

The Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk ( NG Kerk)

The Apostoliese Kerk the "wederdoper

The Evangelical Lutheran Church at the Native werft (now Andrewville) Pastor Petrus Jood????

A small Catholic mission church on the wharf

1 Bank Standard Bank director: Hä..lsmann, later van Rooyen

Police Sergeant Dippenaar

Post office

Doctor's office with small pharmacy of Dr Johanna Heussen-Kränzle

There was also a village council " dorpsbestuur". August Heussen, was also once a member.

East of Maltahöhe on the mountain there was a water depot. But almost every house had a wind engine and a borehole.

Street lighting did not exist in 1960.

The sewage had to be pumped regularly by the "Violet Lorrie" from the pits of each house and there were no tarred roads yet.

Maltahöhe Hotel Owner/Operator: Rübenstrunk,Siegfried Werdmann,Manfred Schreiner



## Maltahöhe from 1945

The editorial team does not really want to report in such detail about the period after 1945. Unfortunately, personal rights and image rights clearly restrict the freedom of historical reportage. Many residents of the Maltahöhedistrict from the 30th and 40th years are still alive and their children often do not want their parents and grandparents to be reported on or pictures to be published. About this everyone has a different view of events especially when it came to the big farms about inheritance disputes or even political issues.

Karakul farming initially flourished after the war. The European and US demand for fur was enormous. A bank branch, a post office, a new church and the expansion of the hospital brought modernization to the small town. Craftsmen such as the new Heussen carpentry business established themselves. Farmers equipped their farm buildings with electricity and running water. Dependence on rainfall was alleviated. During droughts, farmers bought hay. Water could be pumped even when there was no wind, using gasoline-powered pumps. The first tourists from overseas visited the country.

The colored population of Maltahöhe also benefited from the economic situation, but not as much as the white population. Colored people on the farms worked under conditions regulated by whites. Apartheid prevailed. Colored people could not acquire their own land in Maltahöhe, outside the homelands.

In the 70s, worldwide protests against the wearing of fur coats made of animal skins led to a dramatic decline in the demand for Karakul skins. For a short time some Maltahöher farmers could recover by breeding ostriches. But also in this area, due to the breeding successes in the USA and Europe, the demand was soon covered and for the farmers in Maltahöhe the breeding of ostriches was no longer profitable. Today most of the farmers live from tourism. The sole animal breeding is unprofitable on the farms. It is regrettable that many formerly beautiful farmhouses are abandoned and decaying.

It is pleasing that Johan Albrecht Brückner (14. 08 ,1930 - 08.12.2016) since the 1980s many completely unprofitable and overstocked Namibrandfarms (Gorrasis , Stellarine Wolwedans. Jagkop, Die Duine, Vreemdelingspoort, Keerwerder Verweg Aanster) could acquire and founded the Namib Rand Nature Reserve. He tore out fences on 120,000 hectares, drilled wells and released wildebeest, zebra and giraffe, as well as cheetah and leopard there. It is astonishing that the nature regenerated itself there, untouched by human hand within shortest time. The project is financed by 5 exclusive lodges.



## Summary

The pre-colonial history of North Bethany could only be described poorly. It was a very sparsely populated district of bushmen and probably single Namas. The author estimates the population at that time to be less than 400 individuals. Displaced by Orlam's Bethany, the Bushmen moved to the Namibian lands and the Atlantic coast. Then came with the Baster of Grootfontein-South the first approx. 150 local settlers, who were however driven away by constant attacks, the Bushmen hired by Orlam sub-captains. Supposedly protected by the German colonization, the Grootfontein Baster returned. The first German farm in Nomtsa was established. Hendrik Witbooi's power claims and raids made all inhabitants flee again. Only after Hendrik's subjugation in 1894 the Grootfonteiners returned again and the Germans started to establish police stations in the district and also to settle Boers. The Grootfontein Basters got into a dispute with the district leader Lekow. As a result, the Windhoek administration under Leutwein ordered all the Basters from the Maltahöhedistrict to the Rehoboth area. The first German administrative buildings and a post station were built in Maltahöhe around 1902. More German settlers and Boers arrived and built farms and wells. The telegraph lines, roads and wells were further extended by Burgsdorff. In the "Hottentot War" of 1904, the Witboois destroyed all farms in the Maltahöhe district. Maltahöhe established itself as a stage commandant's office. Due to the accumulation of at times about 1000 soldiers in the district, its importance also grew. After 1907, the German Empire expropriated the insurgents, who saw themselves as "freedom fighters". Especially at the Schwarzrand many former Schutztruppler settled down and established their farms. In 1914 there were already 54 farms in the district. Maltahöhe established to the district under the leadership of E. Seydel. Civil houses, a school, a hospital, hotels, department stores, inns, a blacksmith's store and the first church were quickly built. In 1915 the Union of South Africa under the rule of the British annexed DSWA. A South African military administrator headed Maltahöhe. Many German Farmer interned the British in the barbed wire camps of Aus and deported half of the Germans in 1919. In return, the SA administration brought mainly poor large families from South Africa and gave them farms that had become vacant. However, these Boer families did not have the necessary capital to develop the farms. For the further development of Maltahöhe, the established German farmer share was trend-setting. Especially the farm Voigtsgrund showed in its farm school how Marino sheep and Karakul sheep could be bred. Maltahöhe thrived on the sale of Karakul sheep. A modest prosperity developed. Colored labor was recruited from the farms. Ovambos and Hereros were especially popular. The werft at Maltahöhe, the place of residence for the coloreds developed on the other side of the district. The werft already had a hospital and a church from German times. Germans and Boers lived socially largely separated, but peacefully side by side. For Bushmen there was a retreat on the farm Neuhof. Most of the Bushmen, however, intermingled with the Nama inhabitants. Increasingly, British farmers also used Namibrand. From the beginning of the war in 1939, the British interned many German men for a second time and restricted the movement of the remaining Germans through farm internment. The women had to lead the farms a second time as combat widows. After WW2 most of the interned farmers were allowed to go back to their farms years later. Due to the increasing demand for fur coats Maltahöhe flourished economically. From the 1970s, however, the demand in Europe and the U.S. changed and the once so beautiful farms gradually decayed.

## Conclusion

At the beginning of this 4 year collection of material about Maltahöhe there was only the wish to learn something about Maltahöhe's history. The fact that this district was an almost white spot in the literature amazed me. Nobody had actually sat down and collected this knowledge about such a huge district. This encouraged me to find even the smallest pieces of the mosaic and arrange them in chronological order. This book has the claim that the reader can learn something about Maltahöhe's history. But that does not mean that this book is a smooth read. This format is so rocky because the information was in so many different formats, as transcripts of farmers, diaries of protagonists, excerpts from address books, doctoral theses, statistics and also conversations. Sometimes I was flooded with information, but too often I had to search for the smallest crumbs with the greatest effort. The first publication of the manuscript resulted in several corrections, extensions, rearrangements and additions due to the feedback of the readers. Of course, there were gaps that could be filled in. Since I am German with white skin and I have never experienced the hardships of a bushman, Witbooi or a poor farmer around 1900 or 1930, much of my presentation is of course colored by me. But I wanted to avoid this at all costs.

And finally, a popular saying in Southern Westerns ". **That is sooo! not true** ". The answer yes! ....can be . So write to me at [zahnarzt.muehlbach@gmx.net](mailto:zahnarzt.muehlbach@gmx.net)



Maltahöhe 1909

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**Note:** Werner Hillebrecht from Windhoek of the National Archives of Namibia

pointed out in a note "Findaid 2/85Historical InformationA.07625No. , 2011that there are more unpublished manuscripts on the subject of Maltahöhe in the archives under the numbers given.

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**The Nationalarchie refused to let the editors see even extracts of the documents.**

I thank my friend Florian Steinl for setting up a homepage November 2020.

So interested laymen, students, scientists, forums and library`s have free access to the 2nd revised manuscript of this book.

[www.maltahoehe.de](http://www.maltahoehe.de)



