A.650 Hendrik Witbooi Bremen papers

Received: 1995 (Microfilm); 1996 (original)

Described: July 2006

Donor: Überseemuseum Bremen

Note: Has been inscribed in the "Memory of the World register" as part of "The Hendrik Witbooi Papers"

Note: Has been entirely digitised

Provenance: These papers had been salvaged from abandoned houses in Gibeon, November 1904, by the trader August Wulff, who sold them in 1934 to the Bremen Überseemuseum. They were only rediscovered in the Museum in the 1990s, and restituted to Namibia in 1996.

According to an accompanying letter, Wulff submitted eleven envelopes. Not all of this material has been restituted to the National Archives; some material apparently got lost or misplaced between 1934-1990 in the Überseemuseum. A concordance of Wulff's list with the current collection:

Envelope	Wulff's description	National Archives A.650
1	Geschäftsbuch	A (Journal 2)
2	Geschäftsbuch	B (Journal 3)
3	122 Fotografien	The original photographs were not transferred, but in 2004 digital copies were donated (AACRLS.087)
4	Ein Buch Deutsch Südwestafrikanische Seufzer	-
5	28 Originalbriefe von Eingeborenen	C
6	7 diverse Briefe an Witbooi	D
7	1 Brief Hauptmann von Estorff an Witbooi, 2 Briefe Schneidenberger an Witbooi	- [these were not found in the Überseemuseum]
8	zwölfeinhalb Postkarten an Witbooi	- [these were not found in the Überseemuseum] [1 postcard possibly in folder G, no.8]
9	3 Postkarten mit Originalunterschriften von H. Witbooi and Samuel Izaak, sowie Legitimationskarte von Samuel Izaak	- [these were not found in the Überseemuseum] [1 postcard and "Legitimations-Karte" restituted, see folder J]
10	3 Briefe in der Namasprache	Е
11	3 Papiere der Mission, ein Brief Missionar Olpp an Petrus Jud	F
-	[these materials were possibly supplied later by Wulff]	G (Material not listed by Wulff)
-		H (Register and ephemeral material not listed by Wulff)
-		J (2 items restituted by a person who had taken them from the Überseemuseum in the 1980s)

Location: Original: in Safe B; Microfilm: AMR/0249

Contents:

Overview:

- A. Hendrik Witbooi Journal 2
 - Note: Restored by the Staatsarchiv Bremen
- B. Hendrik Witbooi Journal 3
 - Note: Restored by the Staatsarchiv Bremen
- C. Folder with letters
- D. Folder with letters
- E. Folder with three documents in Nama language
- F. Papers relating to religious matters
- G. Diverse papers
- H. Documents relating to the collection
- J. Previously lost documents which were restituted in 2004.

Detailed listing:

Folder C

- Payment note from Samuel Izaak, dated 8. Mei 1901, 1 fol.
- Letter from Jacob Ortman to Andris Wetboi, Waremdat [Warmbad?] undated, 1 fol.
- 3 Letter from Hendrik Witbooi to Petrus Jod, Berseba 1.9.1899, 1 fol.
- 4 Letter from Gert de Klerk to Barend de Klerk, dated Rehoboth 9.7.1899, 2 fol.
- 5 Letter from Hendrik Witbooi to "Ludenan Bong" [Leutnant Bong?], dated /Ganigobes July 1895, 1 fol.
- 6 Letter from Christof Engelbrecht to Hendrik Witbooi, dated Nabes 26.10.1895
- 7 Letter from Petrus Jod in the name of Hendrik Witbooi to Adrain Lauw, undated, 1 fol.
- 8 Letter from Piet Jagerob to his [unnamed] wife, dated Seeis 4.6.1903
- Letter from Br D C Volmink to Petrus Jod, dated Huams 15.8.1902, on letterhead H. Rosenhauer, Gibeon
- Letter from Petrus Jod to Mynheer Vingel, undated or date torn off, on letterhead of "Deutsche Kolonial-Ausstellung Berlin 1896". Partly in Nama. Some parts torn off.
- 11 Letter from Hendrik Witbooi to Messis Tali, dated Rietmond July 1900
- Letter from Petrus Jod to Mattheus Bok, dated Gibeon 30.9.1900
- Letter by ? [unsigned, draft fragment?] to Petrus Jod and Izaak Witbooi, dated Kalkfontein 22.1.1904
- Letter fragment [beginning is missing] from Petrus Jod in Gibeon to unknown, undated
- Letter from Johannes Christian Goliath to Petrus Jod, dated Berseba 5.5.1898
- Letter from Johannes Christian Goliath to Petrus Jod, dated Berseba 13.5.1898
- 17 Letter from [unknown not signed] to Cornelius Zwartboy, dated Windhoek 11.9.1902
- Letter from Hermanus van Wyk to Hendrik Witbooit, dated Toeroegous [Duruchaus?] 16.11.1901
- 19 Letter from Diedrik Goliath to Hendrik Witbooi, dated Berseba 15.3.1895, 1 double fol.
- Letter from Tommy Alcock to Petrus Jod, dated Keetmanshoop 2.12.1898, 1 double fol.
- Letter from Leis Izaak mmarried Jod to Elisabeth Pienaar in Griqualand West, dated Gibeon 15.7.1899, 1 double fol.
- Letter from Hendrik Witbooi to Goerge Jennigs, dates ³Hoa-xan-ams 6.10.1895
- Letter from Hendrik Witbooi to "liefe Ampenaren op Gibeon", dated Rietmond 18.12.1900
- Letter from "S. Isae Veld Cornet" to Petrus Jod, dated 29.11.1903
- 25 Letter from Simon Kopper to Petrus Jod, dated Goxas 23.1.1904
- Letter from Maarika Jagers to Gert Jagers, dated Bloumpvist 4.?.1903
- 27 Letter from "Kapitein" [Witbooi?] to Leritsch Wilkelman, dated Gibeon 3.2.1896

Folder D

- 0 Envelope, presumably from Wulff, inscribed "7 diverse Briefe an Witboois" and marked in red "6"
- Letter from (undecipherable) "aan de heer mate wetbok"[?], dated Fontynkloof 4.1.1893

- 2 Invoice from G. Scott to Martavis Bok-Naald, dated Rietfontein 8.3.1893
- 3 Letter from Geo[rge?] Scott to Martavis Bok, dated Keetmanshoop 23.9.1899
- 4 Letter fragment from (unknown) to Hendrik Witbooi, dated 18.[month?].1900
- 5 Letter from P. von Zarmtowski [?] to Petrus Jod, dated Okahandja 3.2.1903, on letterhead of Wecke & Voigts
- 6 Invoice from Wecke & Voigts to Hendrik Witbooi, dated Windhoek 11.4.1902
- 7 Letter in English from Gert Jagers and Adam Fredrick to Petrus Jod, dated Kimberley 13.5.1902
- 8 Notice from Krabbenhöft to Petrus Jod, undated

Also found in this folder, but apparently from one of the missing envelopes:

Postcard from "Germanen im Goldenen Engel, Hildesheim" to Hendrik Witbooi, dated Hildesheim 3.5.1896

Folder E

- 0 Envelope, presumably from Wulff, inscribed "3 Briefe in der Namasprache" and marked in red "10"
- Letter in Nama from Salomon Izaak and Keis Keister to Hendrik Witbooi and Samuel Izaak, dated Gibeon 19.3.1902
- 2 Letter in Nama from Klein-Hendrik Witbooi to Hendrik Witbooi and Samuel Izaak, dated Gibeon 19.3.1902
- 3 Excerpts from Nama Bible, Rom.5.12, Rom.6.23, Rom.5.18, with heading "Tweede afdeling. Verderf des menschen"

Folder F

- Envelope, marked "11", presumably from Wulff, inscribed "3 Papiere Mission, 1 Brief Missionar Olpp an Petrus Jod"
- Baptism certificate "Bewijs van doop" for Susanna Klaase, issued by Hermann Hegner, Berseba 26.3.1893
- 2 Baptism certificate for Anna Maria Harnols, issued by Tobias Fenchel, Keetmanshoop 19.11.1893
- 3 Legitimation (for change of congregation) for Willem Fredrik, issued by Hermann Hegner, Berseba 19.2.1897
- 4 Letter from Johannes Olpp to Petrus [Jod], Herford, 25.7.1901 (1 fol.)

Folder G

- 1 De kinds geborde in het jaar 1900 (1 fol.)
- 2 Psalm 90.12 [in Nama language]
- 3 Invoice "Rechnung für den Kapitän Hendrik Witbooi" from P. von Faruntowski, Windhoek, 1.11.1900
- 4 Receipt from Heinrich Pabst, Rietfontein, for Mattheus Bok, undated
- 5 Court order against Pit Harnoster, 1.5.1900
- 6 Invoice "Rechnung für Herr Isaac (Salomon)" from Wecke & Voigts, Windhoek 10.4.1902
- 7 (recto) record on receiving cattle, 19.3.1895-8.5.1895 (without indication from where) (verso) Fragment of the Lord's Prayer in Dutch
- 8 Postcard "Gruss aus Mannheim" sent by Geh. Ober-Regierungsrat Hans [?] von Rüdt to Hendrik Witbooi
- 9 (recto) "Wandt koopt Koning Hindrek Widbooi. Verhandeling van Mnr. Jan Smith" (with list of farms) (verso) "Men Her B. Conradt"
- Rekening voor den Onderkapitain Samuel Isaacs van T. D. Jeary", October 1898
- 11 Text "Als ik tot nu nog niet orders aan myn ..." [apparently a draft letter; leaf seariously damaged with text loss]
- (recto) "Deling" between Abel Paul, Samuel Izaak, Petrus Jod, Hendrik Witbooi, Kriess, Johannes Draghoener, !Oe-teb, Jantse, Molzahn. Gibeon 21.6.1901 (verso) dito, !Goxas vragtvaar
- 13 "Bevel: den Operhoofds Kapitein H. Witbooi aan zyn Ampts Heerens...", Gibeon 20.11.1902
- "Aanwezige personen!" {speech fragment, undated}
- List of goods, undated: with note on back: "Rekeninge by T.W. Krabbenhöft"
- (recto) Letter draft by unknown writer to "Manneer", apparently a missionary; written on letterhaed of "Deutsche Kolonial-Ausstellung... 1896" (verso) Note on birth and death dates, 1900, by unknown riter
- 17-18 Liturgical music sheet, entitled "Litur-Gie" (1 double fol.)

- (recto) Letter "Aan den Heer Ond. kapt. D. Pitter", undated, unsigned; on sheet with account of Conradt (verso) "Debt notes Wittbooi & people of Gibeon to J.?. Mason of Gojas Gt. Namaqualand", undated
- (recto) Fragment of a copy of a letter sent to Hendrik Witbooi (verso) continuation of the same, and some draft notes, and a name list "Paarde op nemen"
- Lists: "Manen van de Heer Hoornkrans der Gibeon", list with destroyed heading, "Mannen van //Haus", "Mannen van Rietmon", "Mannen van Schuimoog"
- List apparently taken from a German register
- 23-41 Notebook 21 x 17 cm with leter drafts, financial notes, a list "Koleksie des Mans" and "Oorlogs man Koleksie" (taxes?)
- 42 Copy from German ordinance "De invoor van vuur-wapenen..."

Folder H

- 1 Explanatory text on the collection, written by Überseemuseum Bremen
- 2 August Wulff: Aufstellung beiliegender Witbooisammlung, Bremen, Oktober 1934
- 3 "Anlage zu den Witbooibüchern I u, II, von Wulff" [Index]
- a note on goods with heading "Dumfisch" [a trader?]
- 5 multiplication table
- 6 envelope "Achtung! Inhaltsangabe" (empty)
- 7 note to "Katem"
- 8 "Eingangs-Nr.6772"
- 9-10 Leaf from an unidentified illustrated magazine
- 11 Leaf from an unidentified newspaper
- 12-15 Photocopies of Überseemuseum correspondence with Wulff

Folder J

1 "Legitimations-Karte für Hottentott Samuel Isaak, Gibeon" to carry a Winchester rifle, issued by Ortspolizeibehörde Gibeon, 22.8.1903

Restrictions: May only be viewed in digital version.