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## **Namibia : South-West Africa 1914-1923**

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# African Postal Heritage

APH Paper 4, part 2

Ton Dietz

NAMIBIA: SOUTH-WEST AFRICA 1914-1923

Version January 2017

## Introduction

Postage stamps and related objects are miniature communication tools, and they tell a story about cultural and political identities and about artistic forms of identity expressions. They are part of the world's material heritage, and part of history. Ever more of this postal heritage becomes available online, published by stamp collectors' organizations, auction houses, commercial stamp shops, online catalogues, and individual collectors. Virtually collecting postage stamps and postal history has recently become a possibility. These working papers about Africa are examples of what can be done. But they are work-in-progress! Everyone who would like to contribute, by sending corrections, additions, and new area studies can do so by sending an email message to the APH editor: Ton Dietz ([dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl)). You are welcome!

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Illustrations cover page:

ASC Leiden postage stamp Nederland (2011): ©African Studies Centre Leiden

Cape of Good Hope postage stamp 1853:

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape\\_Triangular\\_Postage\\_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape\\_Triangular\\_Postage\\_Stamp.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg)

Egypt postage stamp 1914:

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post\\_Stamp\\_Egypt.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post_Stamp_Egypt.jpg)

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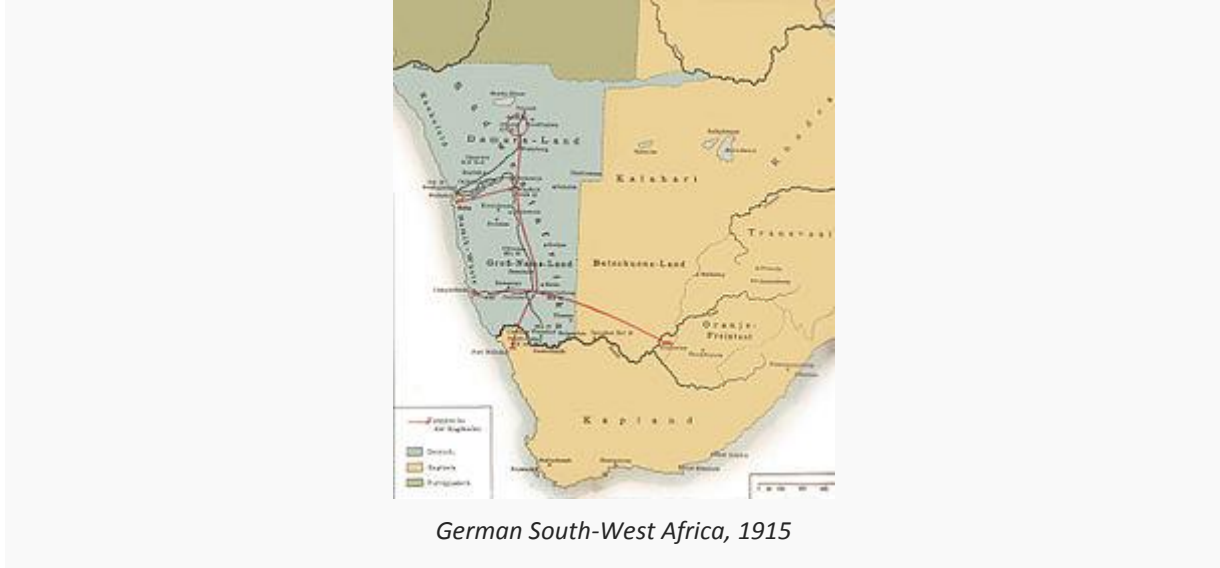
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## SWA during the First World War, 1914-1919

Wikipedia, English version (copied 22/2/2015):

*“German South-West Africa campaign, 1914–1915*



German South-West Africa, 1915

An invasion of German South-West Africa from the south failed at the [Battle of Sandfontein](#) (25 September 1914), close to the border with the Cape Colony. German fusiliers inflicted a serious defeat on the British troops and the survivors returned to British territory. The Germans began an invasion of South Africa to forestall another invasion attempt and the [Battle of Kakamas](#) took place on 4 February 1915, between South African and German forces, a skirmish for control of two river fords over the [Orange River](#). The South Africans prevented the Germans from gaining control of the fords and crossing the river. By February 1915, the South Africans were ready to occupy German territory. Botha put Smuts in command of the southern forces while he commanded the northern forces. Botha arrived at [Swakopmund](#) on 11 February and continued to build up his invasion force at [Walfish Bay](#) (or Walvis Bay), a South African enclave about halfway along the coast of German South West Africa. In March Botha began an advance from Swakopmund along the [Swakop valley](#) with its railway line and captured [Otjimbingwe](#), [Karibib](#), [Friedrichsfelde](#), [Wilhelmsthal](#) and [Okahandja](#) and then entered [Windhuk](#) on 5 May 1915.

The Germans offered surrender terms, which were rejected by Botha and the war continued. On 12 May Botha declared martial law and divided his forces into four contingents, which cut off German forces in the interior from the coastal regions of [Kunene](#) and [Kaokoveld](#) and fanned out into the north-east. Lukin went along the railway line from Swakopmund to [Tsumeb](#). The other two columns rapidly advanced on the right flank, Myburgh to [Otavi](#) junction and Manie Botha to Tsumeb and the terminus of the railway. German forces in the north-west fought the [Battle of Otavi](#) on 1 July but were defeated and surrendered at [Khorab](#) on 9 July 1915. In the south, Smuts landed at the South West African naval base at [Luderitzbucht](#), then advanced inland and captured [Keetmanshoop](#) on 20 May. The South Africans linked with two columns which had advanced over the border from South Africa. Smuts advanced north along the railway line to [Berseba](#) and on 26 May, after two day's fighting captured [Gibeon](#). The Germans in the south were forced to retreat northwards towards Windhuk and Botha's force. On 9 July the German forces in the south surrendered

*(Maritz Rebellion, 1914–1915)*

General [Koos de la Rey](#), under the influence of [Siener van Rensburg](#) a "crazed seer", believed that the outbreak of war foreshadowed the return of the republic but was persuaded by Botha and Smuts on 13 August not to rebel and on 15 August told his supporters to disperse. At a congress on 26 August De la Rey claimed loyalty to South Africa, not Britain or Germany. The Commandant-General of the Union Defence Force, Brigadier-General [Christiaan Frederick Beyers](#) opposed the war and with the other rebels, resigned his commission on 15 September. General Koos de la Rey joined Beyers and on 15 September they visited Major [JCG \(Jan\) Kemp](#) in [Potchefstroom](#), who had a large armoury and a force of 2,000 men, many of whom were thought to be sympathetic. The South African government believed it to be an attempt to instigate a rebellion, Beyers claimed that it was to discuss plans for a simultaneous resignation of leading army officers, similar to the [Curragh incident](#) in Britain.

During the afternoon De la Rey was mistakenly shot and killed by a policeman, at a road block set up to look for the [Foster gang](#) and many Afrikaners believed that De la Rey had been assassinated. After the funeral the rebels condemned the war but when Botha asked them to volunteer for military service in South-West Africa they accepted. Maritz, at the head of a commando of Union forces on the border of [German South-West Africa](#), allied with the Germans on 7 October and issued a proclamation on behalf of a provisional government and declared war on the British on 9 October. Generals Beyers, [De Wet](#), Maritz, Kemp and Bezuidenhout were to be the first leaders of a new [South African Republic](#). Maritz occupied [Keimoes](#) in the Upington area.

The [Lydenburg](#) commando under General De Wet took possession of the town of [Heilbron](#), held up a train and captured government stores and ammunition.

By the end of the week De Wet had a force of 3,000 men and Beyers had gathered c. 7,000 more in the [Maqaliesberg](#). General Louis Botha had c. 30,000 pro-government troops. The government declared martial law on 12 October and loyalists under General Louis Botha and [Jan Smuts](#) repressed the uprising. Maritz was defeated on 24 October and took refuge with the Germans, the Beyers commando was dispersed at [Commissioners Drift](#) on 28 October, after which Beyers joined forces with Kemp and then was drowned in the [Vaal River](#) on 8 December. De Wet was captured in [Bechuanaland](#) on 2 December and Kemp, having crossed the [Kalahari desert](#) and lost 300 of 800 men and most of their horses on the 1,100-kilometre (680 mi) journey, joined Maritz in German South-West Africa and attacked across the Orange river on 22 December. Maritz advanced south again on 13 January 1915 and attacked Upington on 24 January and most of the rebels surrendered on 30 January.

*(German invasion of Angola, 1914–1915)* The campaign in southern [Portuguese West Africa](#) (modern-day [Angola](#)) took place from October 1914 – July 1915. Portuguese forces in southern Angola were reinforced by a military expedition led by Lieutenant-Colonel [Alves Roçadas](#), which arrived at [Mocâmedes](#) on 1 October 1914. After the loss of the wireless transmitter at Kamina in Togoland, German forces in South-West Africa could not communicate easily and until July 1915 the Germans did not know if Germany and Portugal were at war (war was declared by Germany on 9 March 1916.). On 19 October 1914, an incident occurred in which fifteen Germans entered Angola without permission and were arrested at fort [Naulila](#) and in a mêlée three Germans were killed by Portuguese troops. On 31 October, German troops armed with machine-guns launched a surprise attack, which became known as the Cuangar Massacre on the small Portuguese outpost at [Cuangar](#) and killed eight soldiers and a civilian.

On 18 December a German force of 500 men under the command of Major [Victor Franke](#) attacked Portuguese forces at Naulila. A German shell detonated the munitions magazine at Forte Roçadas and the Portuguese were forced to withdraw from the Ovambo region to Humbe, with 69 dead, 76 wounded, and 79 troops taken prisoner. The Germans lost 12 soldiers killed and 30 wounded. Local civilians collected Portuguese weapons and rose against the colonial regime. On 7 July 1915, Portuguese forces under the command of General [Pereira d'Eça](#) reoccupied the Humbe region and conducted a reign of terror against the population. The Germans retired to the south with the northern border secure during the uprising in Ovambo, which distracted Portuguese forces from operations further south. Two days later German forces in South West Africa surrendered, ending the South-West Africa Campaign."

Bennett stamps adds this:

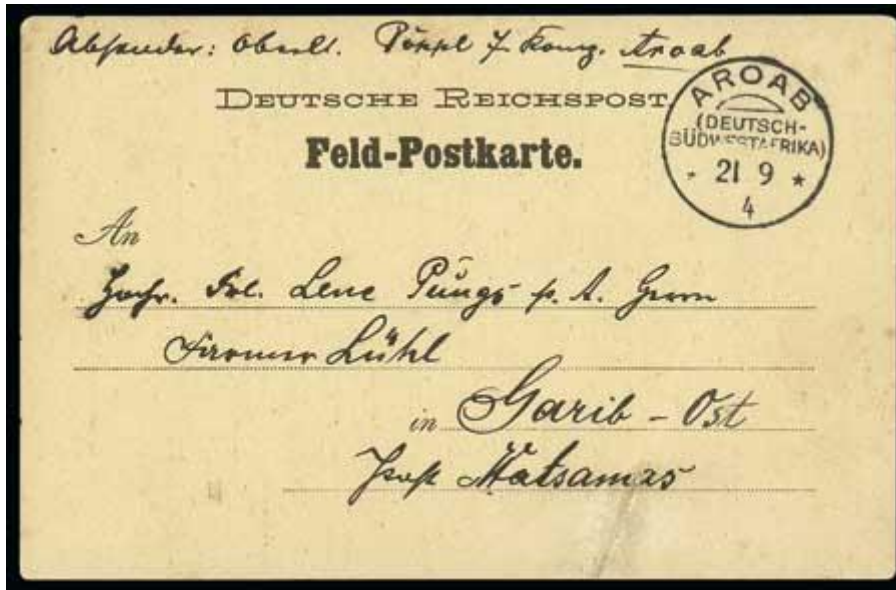
"On 13 September (1914), the German police station in Ramansdrift on the Orange River was raided by Union troops. On the 14th, the British Steamer "Armada Castle" bombarded Swakopmund. On the 18th, British warships laid anchor in the harbor of Lüderitzbucht. The German local authority and most of the population fled the city by rail. Enemy troops landed on the 19th and quickly took over the post office and signal station. The post office officials left Lüderitzbucht on the 14th and returned 2 days later, but forgot to bring the date slugs for the cancellers from Aus. From the 17th to lunch time on the 18th the dates were inserted by hand or left out" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4299](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4299)

"Towards lunch time on 18 September, part of the post office staff left with the postal devices on the last train to Aus. Between lunch time and 16.00hrs., a few postal officials, who were on horseback, stayed behind and processed the remaining few pieces of mail. These were cancelled in manuscript. The remaining officials then left Lüderitzbucht at 16.00hrs." [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4300](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4300)



1914 (21 Sept.) "Feld-Postkarte" from Oblt Pöppl, head of the 7th Camel Cavalry Company (Eastern border defense) to Garib-East, Post Hatsamas, showing "Aroab/(Deutsch-/Südwestafrika)"

[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4301](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4301)



On 9/7/1915 the German army was defeated by soldiers from the South African Union. Between 1915 and 1923 South African Stamps were used, with local SWA cancellations. In some places German colonial stamps were still in us.

#### Use of German colonial stamps for SWA during the War



Nordphila

[www.delcampe.net](http://www.delcampe.net)

13/2/1915 Omaruru cancellation to Kuribib Feld-Postkarte

<http://www.delcampe.net/items?language=E&catLists%5B0%5D=2679>



**"1915 (9 Apr.) "von Gehren, Rechtsanwalt und Notar, Omaruru, Deutsch-Südwestafrika" local corner card envelope, bearing 5pf green (Michel 25), cancelled by "Tsumeb/Deutsch/Südwestafrika" c.d.s., endorsed on reverse "Befindet sich in engl. Gefangenschaft" and handstamped "Eingegangen/16 Apr. 1916/Rechtsanweit v. Gehren" in violet, and returned to owner"**  
[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4304](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4304)



**"1915 (23 Apr.) "2/Deutsch-/Südwestafrika" Wanderstempel V (23.4.), "2" inserted by hand in purple, on 5pf green (Michel 25) Field Post Station 2 at Gibeon Train Station."**  
[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4306](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4306)



“1915 (27 Apr.) Liebesgaben "Feld-Postkarte" from Sergeant Kröning to Otjiwarongo, showing "Otavifontein/1/Deutsch-/Südwestafrika" Wanderstempel IV, town name handstamped”

[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4307](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4307)



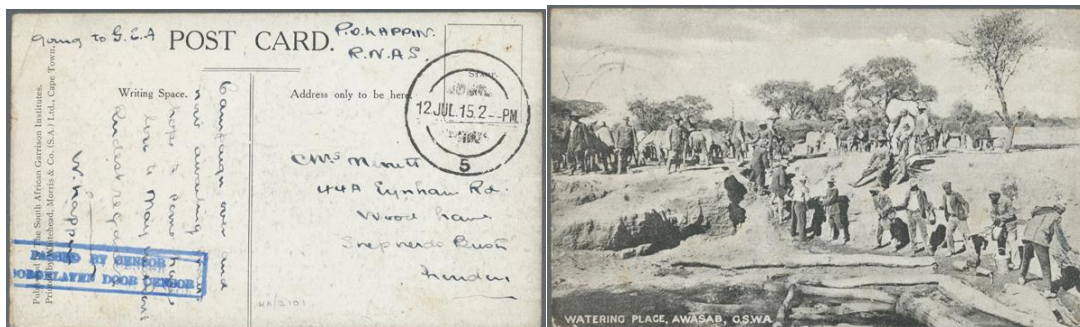
“1914 (12 Dec.) envelope to Johannesburg, bearing German South West Africa 5pf green pair used as censor label, cancelled by provisional "Postage (Free) Passed (By Censor)" unframed date stamp in violet and showing "Army Base P.O./4/South Africa" double-ring date stamp (12.12) of Lüderitzbucht adjacent”

[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4314](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4314)

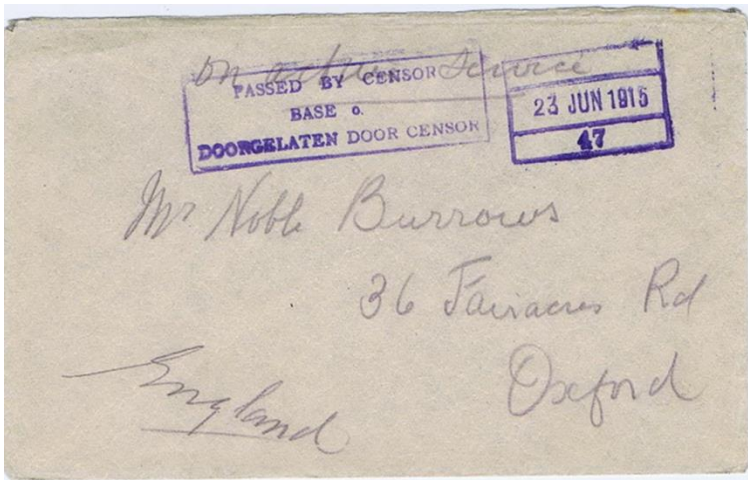
### South African stamps and cancellations used in SWA



"1914 (18 Sept.) picture postcard to Pietermaritzburg, bearing South Africa ½d, cancelled by "Army Base Post Office/Force C/South Africa" oval date stamp in violet and showing matching "Commdg. C/Natal Field Artillery" oval date stamp adjacent" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4313](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4313)



"1915, picture card with deleted name cds 15.7.15 and blue boxed "PASSED BY CENSOR DOGELATEN DOOR CENSOR" from the very small detachment of the R.N.A.S. sent to SW-Africa. They arrived after hostilities had ceased and were then sent to German east africa, written from pilot officer W. Lappin (Tax Method: Margin System)" <http://cat.auktionen-gaertner.de/GPKATAUK/1D/4C/1D4C5A/s378028.jpg?PIC> and <http://stampauctionnetwork.com/cg/cg30200.cfm>



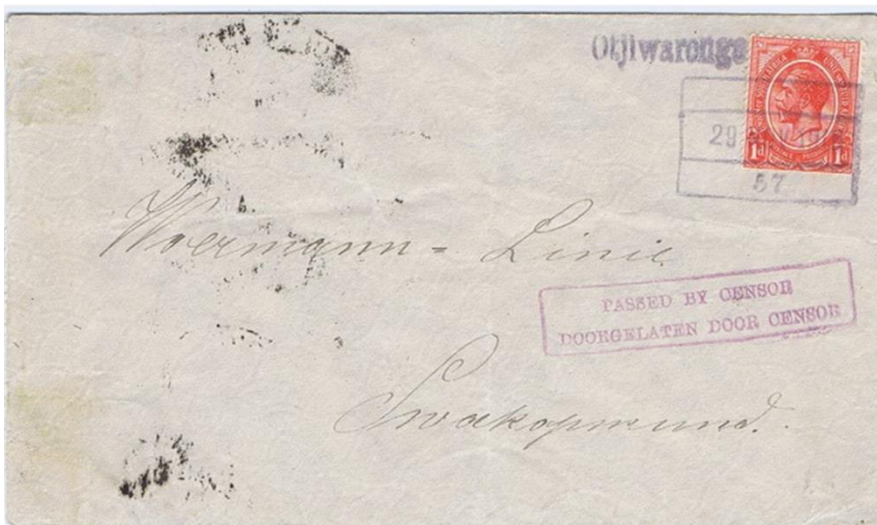
<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3199.jpg>: "1915 South West Africa, 1915 censored 'On Active Service' envelope to Oxford, England, with a fine strike of the scarce violet boxed Field Post Office '47' handstamp. This was in use at USAKOS from the 8th June 1915, but was short-lived. A boxed bilingual censor cachet is also on the front of the cover. A very scarce F.P.O. cancellation, and this is the one that is illustrated in Putzel's book on South West Africa."



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3167.jpg>: "1915 South West Africa, 1915 censored German 'Feldpostkarte' bearing a South African Kings Head ½d tied by a captured neutral 'Wanderstempel' with the number '1' at the top dated 11 / 7 / 15. A blue crayon manuscript 'Passed Censor, AG' is on the front of the card. A message on the back has been written in German. This canceller was used at TSUMEB for a very short period (between July and August 1915) after the town fell to the South African forces. At that time the Post Office was under Military control. Described by Putzel as being 'Very Rare', this is a fine example of this canceller."



"1915 (9 Aug.) censored, Prisoner of War stampless envelope from Gibeon to a POW at Aus (30.8), redirected to Swakopmund, via Windhoek (3.9), showing rare violet Gibeon "curved bar" c.d.s. (Putzel No. 2) and boxed three-line blue Aus date stamp (Putzel Aus Rail No. 1, which he does not note in blue), and "6" (Army Base P.O. at Windhoek) c.d.s." [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4340](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4340)



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3327.jpg>: "1915 South West Africa, 1915 censored envelope to Swakopmund bearing a South Africa Kings Head 1d cancelled by a very fine strike of the rare boxed Field Post Office '57' dated 29 NOV 1915. Alongside is a straight line OTJIWARONGO handstamp. (Putzel B 2) On the back of the cover are Usakos 2 DEC and Swakopmund 3 DEC 1915 transit and arrival datestamps. A very fine example of this rare F.P.O. and town cancel combination used on civilian mail."



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3326.jpg>: "1915 South West Africa, 1915 envelope to Swakopmund bearing a South Africa Kings Head 1d cancelled by a fair strike in blue of the rare S. A. FIELD TELEGRAPHS AND POSTAL CORPS NOV 8 1915 with a straight line OTJIWARONGO alongside. (This is the cover from which Putzel illustrates his cancel in the book on the Cancellations of South West Africa.) Windhuk and Swakopmund 15 NOV 15 transit and arrival cancels are on the back of the cover. This cancel is extremely hard to find in anything other than this slightly watery condition. A rare cover."



1916 examples of Swakopmund cancellations on South African Stamps  
<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/cg/cg30200.cfm>



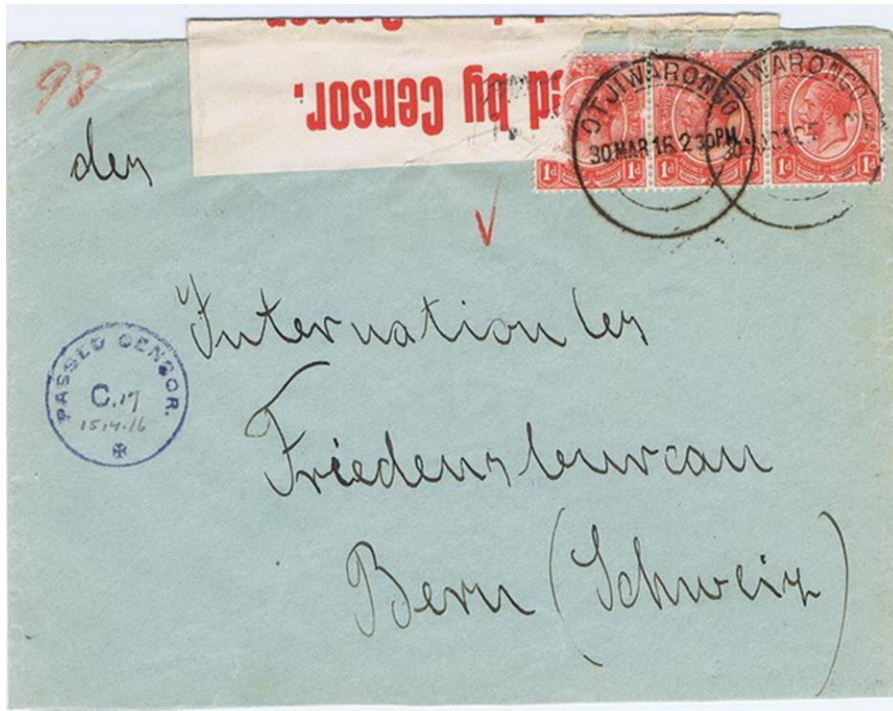
<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/1118.jpg>: "1916, 1916 folded German official letter (Kaiserliches Gouvernement für Südwestafrika) to Windhuk, with an "Official Free" handstamp and an OUTJO negative seal. A very scarce correct usage of this negative seal."



<http://www.filat.ch/images/pictures/lsgga092.jpg>: "1916 SOUTH AFRICAN POSTAGE DUES USED IN SWA: Incoming envelope from Cape Town (12 OCT) interestingly addressed "...late German post officer, Karibib... to the care of... late Director of Posts Windhuk... by the Chief of Civil Secretary at Windhoek..." Front shows despatch cds, single line S.W. AFRIKA handstamp, PASSED CENSOR S15 cachet (both in violet) and the postage due "2d" mark. On reverse Windhoek oval 16.10, Karibib ds 19 OCT and block of four TRANSVAAL ½d Postage Due stamps tied by three strikes of the Karibib cds 21 OCT. Wonderful "Interprovincial" use of residual Transvaal Postage Dues which had validity due to the South African administration of the SWA Territory. A rare piece."



"Tses: 1916 (31 May) registered envelope to Keetmanshoop, bearing 1913 1d red and 6d black and violet, cancelled by dated "Tses" manuscript cancellation (1st Type: Putzel No. 1), with registration mark and number drawn in blue crayon alongside" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4358](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4358)



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3330.jpg>: "1916 South West Africa, 1916 censored envelope to Switzerland bearing a strip of three South Africa Kings Head 1d's cancelled OTJIWARONGO 30 MAR 16. The cover was opened and resealed by the censor with tape but there is also a red manuscript '98' at the upper left corner and a red tick, probably both markings by censors. A circular PASSED CENSOR C handstamp unusually has '17' and the date 15.4.16 inserted in manuscript. On the back is a Cape Town 17 APR 1916 Censor cachet. It would appear as though this cover was censored more than usual!"



"Tses: KGV ½d postal stationery used 1916 (1 Aug.) and censored to Keetmanshoop (2.8), cancelled by extremely rare two-line dated Tses handstamp cancel" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4362](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4362)



"Leutwein: 1916 (22 June) registered envelope to Windhoek, bearing 1913 2d dull purple and 3d black and orange-red (faults), cancelled by green dated "Leutwein" manuscript cancellation, showing registration mark and number in blue crayon alongside" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4353](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4353)



"Rehoboth Rail: KGV ½d postal stationery card used 1916 (18 Sept.) to Keetmanshoop (20.9), cancelled by very fine violet "Rehoboth Rail" rubber date stamp (Putzel No. 1), with "Rehoboth/S.W. Africa" double-ring c.d.s. on reverse." [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4397](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4397)

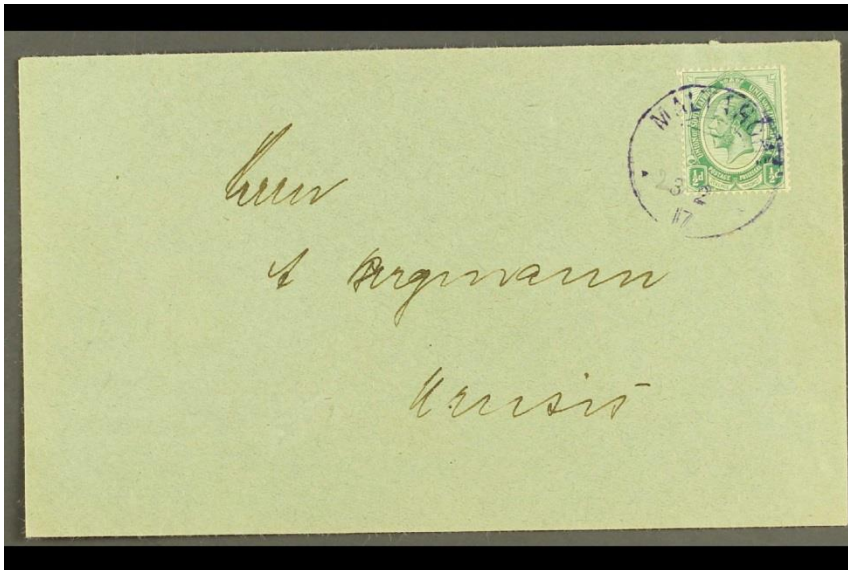




<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3328.jpg>: "1917 South West Africa, 1917 censored envelope to Windhuk bearing a South Africa Kings Head 1d cancelled by a very good strike of the rubber single circle REHOBOTH RAIL 17 MAY 1917 datestamp in black green. (Putzel B 1a. He states "Good impressions are rare"! and gives it 3200 points.) The cover was opened and resealed by bilingual 'Field Censor' tape. On the back is a Windhuk 19 MAY 17 arrival c.d.s. A fine example of this scarce canceller."



"1917 censored 1/2d post card to Keetmanshoop with a good strike of the violet rubber NARUBIS 13 OCT 1917 datestamp. Narubis was a postal agency on Farm 57 in the Keetmanshoop district, that opened in 1916 and closed on 27 May 1919. It reopened again in 1922, but no postmarks are known between the end of 1917 and 1931." <http://www.forpostalhistory.com/results.php?s=114&st=&srch=&curr=&PHPSESSID=3fiem2107eih4kd7knjrh7h07>



Maltahöhe cancellation 13/2/1917; <http://stampauctionnetwork.com/zg/zg7234124.cfm>



German Prisoner of War envelopes, from Aus to Lüderitzbucht, 1917,  
<http://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/06350687.jpg>



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/2789.jpg>: "1916 South West Africa, 1916 South Africa ½d Kings Head post card to Tsumeb, cancelled by a red boxed Military F.P.O. 25 JUN 1916 / 59 cancellation with an OTAVI 27 JUN 16 datestamp also cancelling the stamp. This card is an excellent proving item for this '59' Field Post Office canceller which deteriorated quite quickly."



"1917 (28 June) registered envelope to Keetmanshoop (4.7), bearing 1910 2½d deep blue, and 1913 2d dull purple and Transvaal KE ¼d black and bluish green, cancelled by very fine "Outjo/S.W. Africa" converted German canceller c.d.s., with Outjo registry handstamp alongside (number inserted in manuscript), endorsed "Posted out of course", showing South Africa 1914 2d Due and Transvaal ¼d block of four, applied and cancelled on arrival" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4332](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4332)



"1917 cover to Keetmanshoop bearing two ½d's each cancelled BERGLANDS 01. 7. 17. (Inverted day date, should read 10. 7. not 01. 7.) This canceller is the converted German Berseba datestamp. On the reverse are Rehoboth 11 JUL and Keetmanshoop 14 JUL 17 transit and arrival cancels."

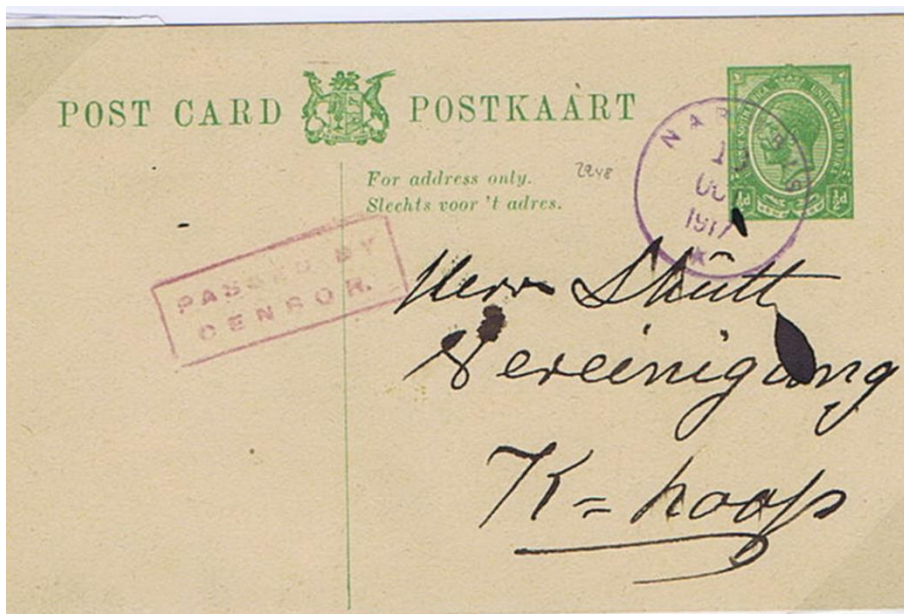
<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/results.php?s=114&st=&srch=&curr=&PHPSESSID=3fiem2107eih4akd7knjr7h07>



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/2790.jpg>: "1916 South West Africa, 1916 South Africa ½d Kings Head post card to Keetmanshoop with a boxed '59' Military F.P.O. canceller, dated 1 OCT 1916, with Otavifontein inserted in red ink. By October the rubber canceller had deteriorated considerably and whereas red or violet ink had been used, they had now switched to black ink, though some of the original red ink can still be seen in the canceller. A Keetmanshoop arrival c.d.s. is on the back of the card. Very few examples of this canceller with a manuscript insert are known. A fine and rare item."



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/652.jpg>: "1917, 1917 South Africa ½d post card to Swakopmund cancelled by the converted German canceller of KOLMANNSKOP 27.4.17. with the incorrect spelling, having two 'N's' left in the name. It was converted from the KOLMANNSKUPPE cancel that was used by the Germans. On the reverse are Luderitzbucht and Swakopmund datestamps."



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/1115.jpg>: "1917, 1917 censored ½d post card to Keetmanshoop with a good strike of the violet rubber NARUBIS 13 OCT 1917 datestamp. Narubis was a postal agency on Farm 57 in the Keetmanshoop district, that opened in 1916 and closed on 27 May 1919. It reopened again in 1922, but no postmarks are known between the end of 1917 and 1931. Putzel states that 'good strikes are very difficult to find'. This would definitely be classified as a good strike! Fine."



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/1114.jpg>: "1917, 1917 cover to Keetmanshoop bearing two ½d's each cancelled BERGLANDS 01. 7. 17. (Inverted day date, should read 10. 7. not 01. 7.) This canceller is the converted German Berseba datestamp. On the reverse are Rehoboth 11 JUL and Keetmanshoop 14 JUL 17 transit and arrival cancels. This canceller with the inverted dates is Putzel B1a oc, and has a RRR scarcity rating, which is extremely rare! Fine."



"Ham River: KGV 1d postal stationery card used 1917 (11 Dec.) to Karibib (17.12), via Windhoek (16.12), cancelled by superb very rare "Ham River Rail" rubber date stamp; also included is 1918 (8 Feb.) telegram from Keetmanshoop to Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, announcing closing of Ham River station post office" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4391](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4391)



“Bethany: KGV 4d registered postal stationery envelope used 1918 and censored from Bethany to Windhoek, via Keetmanshoop (20.4), bearing 1913 2d dull purple, cancelled by violet "Bethany" manuscript cancellation” [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4349](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4349)



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/891.jpg>: “1918, 1918 censored envelope to Swakopmund franked with a South African Kings Head 1d cancelled NEUHEUSIS 23 MAY 1918 in red. On the reverse are Windhoek 29.5.18 and Swakopmund 31.5.18 converted train cancels. Fine.”

So far, the following postal services have been shown, with their cancellations, used by the South African authorities in occupied South West Africa: Aus, Berglands, Berseba, Bethany, Gibeon, Ham River Rail, Kalkveld, Karibib, Kolmannskop, Leutwein, Mariahöhe, Narubis, Neuheusis, Otavi(fontein), Otjiwarongo, Outjo, Rehoboth Rail, Swakopmund, Tses. Others are: Aroab (BS 4410, 1917), Chamis (BS 4413, 1916), Hatsamas (BS 4415, 1917), Klein Windhoek (BS 4417, 1917), Okasise (BS 4408, 1916), Okaukueyo (BS 4422, 1917), Seeis (4426, 1916), Waldau (4429, 1917).





Okasisi Rail Cancellation January 1919, sent to the Irrigation Department in Windhuk (with dates given as 3 April 1916 (?), and cancelled German Colonial seal.

“1919 preprinted German Government rainfall report, sent unfranked to Windhoek and endorsed O.H.M.S. with a good strike of the scarce violet OKASISE RAIL 1 JAN 1919 rubber handstamp, with the "1" in the year slug being a broken "0". It would appear as though they were short of "1"s at the beginning of the year. Interestingly the boxed "Irrigation Department Windhuk" is dated 3 APR 1916. It would appear as though these reports were sent out in bulk to villages and towns and were then used over the next few years.”

<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/results.php?s=114&st=&srch=&curr=&PHPSESSID=3fiem2107eih4kd7knjr7h07>



Nordphila

[www.delcampe.net](http://www.delcampe.net)

1919: German colonial stamp not accepted, taxed with a South African tax stamp. Sent from Swakopmund [www.delcampe.net](http://www.delcampe.net)



"Nakob Rail: 1919 (12 Apr.) registered, censored envelope to Windhoek, bearing 1913 1d red (2) and 3d black and orange-red, cancelled by extremely fine violet "Nakob Rail" rubber date stamps (Putzel No. 1a), with registry "R" mark (and number) inserted in manuscript alongside" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4396](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4396)



Kalkfeld 15/10/1920 on Union stamp

[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4330](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4330)



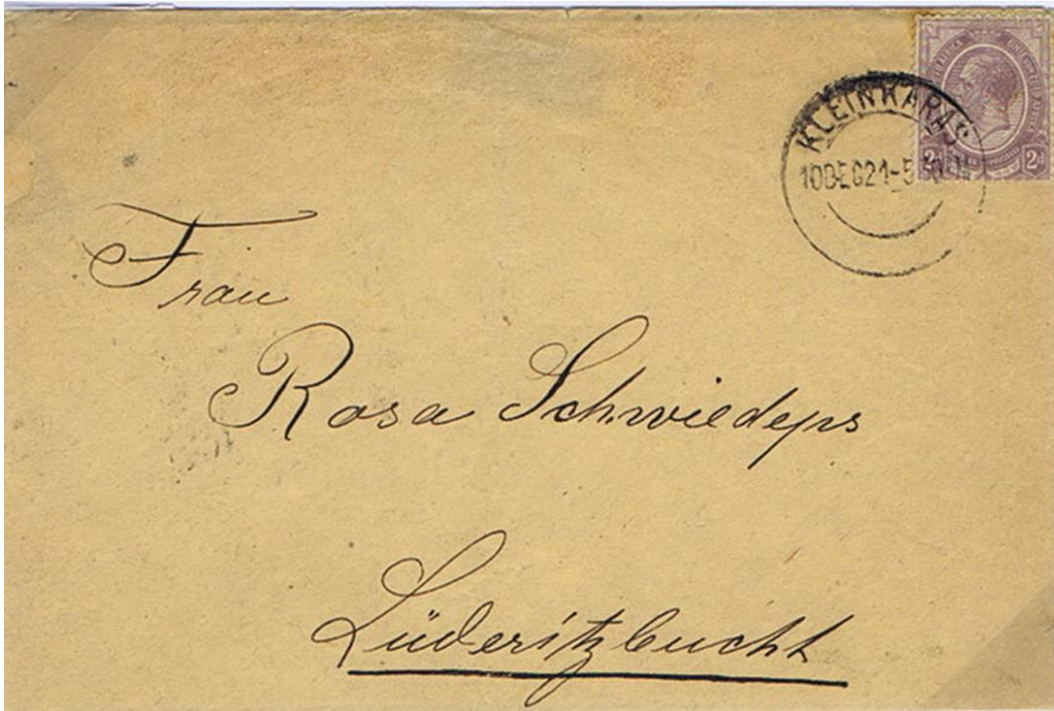
"1920 (20 Jan.) piece from registered diamond parcel from Lüderitzbucht to National Bank, Capetown, where it was forwarded for Customs inspection and clearance to the Diamond Detective Branch in Johannesburg, bearing 1913 1s orange pair, 5s purple and blue "block" of three and 10s deep blue and olive green block of six, cancelled by "Luderitzbucht/S.W. Africa" double-ring c.d.s., together with 1913 1s orange vertical pair, 5s purple and blue and 10s deep blue and olive green and 1916 £1 green and red vertical strip of three, cancelled by "Capetown/14" bi-lingual double-ring c.d.s. (for the redirection)"

[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4334](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4334)



"Okasewa: c. 1921 envelope to Windhoek, bearing 1913 1/2d green and 1920 1 1/2d chestnut coil, cancelled by complete "Okasewa P.O." negative-seal cancellations in black (Goetze had reported it only in violet) "

[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4407](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4407)



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/1116.jpg>: "1921, 1921 cover to Luderitzbucht franked with a 2d tied KLEINKARAS 10 DEC 21. (Putzel B2) On the reverse are Kalkfontein 11 DEC, Keetmanshoop 12 DEC and Luderitz transit and arrival cancels. Fine."



"KGV 1½d postal stationery envelope used 1922 (30.11) and registered from Kalkfeld to Berlin, Germany (27.12), uprated with 1922 3d ultramarine and 1913 ½d green and 2d dull purple, cancelled by "Kalkfeld/S.W. Africa" converted German canceller" [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4336](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4336)



1923 (3 Jan.) registered envelope from Windhoek to Pretoria, South Africa, bearing 1920 1½d chestnut block (tête-bêche pairs), cancelled by Windhoek c.d.s. [http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot\\_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4337](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/lot_auc.php?site=1&sale=298&lot=4337)



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/523.jpg>: "1923, 1923 'ONE PENNY' surcharge on ½d post card to Windhuk, cancelled OMARURU 19 APR 23. Commercial, with full message on the reverse. Fine."

*So far the following postal services have been shown with their cancellations, during the 1919-1923 period: Kalkfeld (2x), Kalkfontein, Keetmanshoop, Kleinkaras, Luderitz, Nakob Rail, Okasewa, Omaruru, Swakopmund and Windhuk (2x),*

*others are: Berseba (BS 4411), Blumfelde (BS 4412), Gaidib (BS 4414), Kais (BS 4416, 1923), Kupferberg (BS 4419, 1919), Maltahöhe (BS 4405, 1920), Okahandja (BS 4406, 1920), Otjivero (BS 4423, 1921).*



[http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/chap\\_auc.php?site=1&lang=1&sale=298&chapter=320&page=1](http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/chap_auc.php?site=1&lang=1&sale=298&chapter=320&page=1)