

EAST AFR. PROT.

15967

No.

15967

REC  
MAY 08

Office or Individual.

Baroness  
~~Bronckart~~

(Subject.)

Compensation Claim

1908

See book

See previous Paper.

in respect of compensation of certain animals caught by her husband in connection with proposed establishment of a zoo at Colombo, Ceylon. - Submit case.

(Minutes)

Mr. Cantelero

We can only send a copy of this to the Gov. for report. LT

M. S. P.

11th May 1908

Please do so. I have had the letter read & am interested in your view as to the action proposed.

Ch. E. G.

J. M.  
6.5  
at home

Subsequent Paper.

G. D.

24923

Copy for Com. N. 223. 11 May

Address: Kapiti Plains Station U. B.

Address: Bronsart Kapiti Plains.

LOWENHÖHE: ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Brustach Ost Africa.

C O.

15967

March 24

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Recd

5 MAY 08

Dear Sir Francis Hopwood

I am enclosing Mr. letter to you, & send Mr. Hopwood asking him to forward it on to your private address.

You may have forgotten me, it is so many years since I used to stay with your Aunt at Northwick Lodge as Annie Bates, but for the sake of past friendships, I want you to intercede yourself in my case which Major Buxton has been able to do. Nairobi, P. E. A. has laid, by letter, before the Secretary of Club at my request.

Before my marriage, I put 20,000 rupees into an enterprise in this country for catching all sorts of wild animals, part of which were to be sent to Colombo for the purpose of establishing a zoo there.

My husband, before commencing operations, had, first, in official, from the Game Ranger,

1923

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Mr Ferecaal that he could catch young animals on his sportsman's license, afterwards he went specially to the office of the Sub-Commissioner, Mr Ashley, where he received the information officially that he could catch young rhinos & other animals & that the game regulations had been altered to this effect.

Now feeling sure he would be within his rights, he reported to Mr J. Hagenbeck of Colombo, one of the leading merchants there (a brother of Carl Hagenbeck of Hamburg) with whom he has a contract to supply him with a certain amount of animals for a year or so.

Mr Hagenbeck, in consequence, applied for & obtained a concession of land from the Ceylon Government for this purpose (sent condensed milk here to the value of 500 rupees & went to many expenses, he will probably

in ch.

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(an attendant, on the 10th)

bring a case against this Government too.

My husband engaged many men & trained them for three months in animal catching, bought a number of donkeys for transport, cattle for milk, purchased a large outfit of tents, tools, catching arrangements etc & instead of shooting all the animals he was entitled to do on his sportsman license, he spent all time, energy & money on it, thereby incurring a double loss of about 30,000 Rupees, being the value of caught animals, & skins etc & 30,000 Rupees cash expenses, according to our books.

Suddenly, after some months, the Federal informed my husband, by letter, that it was not allowed to catch young animals though the latter had, on his way to Nairobi, seen that Moore exported a young lion.

H

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A few days after Mr Percival's letter another game ranger, Major Ross<sup>(game)</sup> said he did not see how the Government possibly could withdraw that official information or prevent him from reporting animals or confiscate them.

Anyhow, long after another game ranger Major Patterson, had been in our Camp, and the antelopes but never said a word about confiscating. Suddenly the whole collection of my husband's trophies was stopped at Haarsh's (Mombasa) the permit for export not granted, Mr. Ross the best to understand as he had not shot half the animals he was entitled to do during the year: no elephants, hoodoo, bryce or rook's only 2 Waterbuck, 2 Wildbeest instead of ten of each, one kipsa only 3 three rhinos. Because he is a great supporter of the "Game Protection" as every one knows in this country.

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Now the Government wants to run lines in  
for break of Game Regulations  
1<sup>st</sup> for killing in young land wounded by  
lion, after reporting & delivering head  
horns & skin to the Government.

2<sup>nd</sup> for shooting by mistake a Gaffe Cow, which  
he reported the skin, prepared & delivered  
skull & skin to Government.

3<sup>rd</sup> for catching two young Land Antelope  
(which he did & brought to the Government &  
Mr Hobley & Major Cross's information).

The few Dopskins my husband shot  
are up & have been in Mombasa some  
months, getting spoilt; three letters to  
the Game Warden bring no answer  
nor does the Government take  
proceedings.

Although the Government & Game Warden  
all know my husband has the  
two young Land, they made no objection  
but allowed us to keep them up  
with a great deal of trouble & expense

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now that they are strong & about a year old, they want to confiscate them & use them for the Agricultural Dept!!

We are here in the wilderness, far away from all trouble, my husband goes out really for lion shooting, he took, last week, his 49<sup>th</sup> by this does more for Game Protection practically than anyone else. On an average a lion kills 100 animals in the year, therefore with the 30 lions he has shot during the 5 years he has spent in B. E. A. he has probably saved the lives of 9 or 10,000 head of game. My husband always reports honestly himself any mistakes he may make in shooting & against regulations & it is on his own Report, they want to run him in.

To prevent further trouble, most of the animals were set at liberty after the visit of Major Hall, the wife Eland only being kept - which they now want to confiscate.

Adresse: Kapiti Plains Station U. R.

Telegr. Adresse: Bronsart Kapiti Plains

LOWENRÜCKE ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Deutsch Ost Africa.

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x heavy. the value of the English animals which had to be paid in cattle & horses in part 6 to 1.

Even if the Government-Officials personally hold anything against my husband, justice should be the first-law in a British Colony. They appear to be unable to forget he was pro Boer during the war but it is really ridiculous to keep that feeling up so long. They try to thwart him in every way. I know say he ill-treats the natives. Such is not the case, as more natives come for work than he needs. Which if such was true, they would not do. I, as an Englishwoman, cannot feel very proud of the behaviour of Government-Officials. There is so many cases & every-body seems to complain. Though we have lost at least <sup>10,000</sup> 30,000 I shall be satisfied if I get my cash lost 20,000 in fact as compensation or a permit to catch wild young animals on a large scale, my husband has spent ~~for my husband~~



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Address: Bronsart Kapiti Plains

LOWENHOFER - ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Britisch Ost Africa

1905

about 44 to 50,000 rupees in this country  
so it may be high to please he is no  
longer quite English.

It is mostly for me that he, being a  
German settled in P. E. A. instead of  
E. A. where we are near a railway  
because I am English.

Trusting you will take an interest  
in my claim I with kind regards  
I remain

Yours sincerely,

Anna von Bronsart

P.S. Please excuse the alterations.  
This is almost my last writing paper,  
being so far away in the wilderness  
it is difficult to get more.

Adresse: Kapiti Plains Station U. R.

Adresse: Bronsart Kapiti Plains.

LÖWENHORN, ZOOLOGISCHE FARM  
Britisch Ost Africa,

den 25<sup>th</sup> März 1888.

Comma called  
Hopen  
H 24  
4/5

Dear Sir,

Re. the letter of the Baroness to Sir Francis Hopwood  
I want to add a few things of importance:

- 1) I got a letter from Mr. Perriol, in which he says:
  - " You will remember, that I added: But do not take that officially, anyhow you get it all right enough from the Sub-Commissioner."

In a talk, Perriol had with the Sub-Commissioner, Mr. Habley. The letter admitted, that he had given me that information. Mr. Habley gave the same information also to other people, for Baroness later on Mr. Habley simply said, he never gave that information. An Ass. Collector, Mr. Fisher, who went on purpose in to Mr. Habley, stayed in his office for 4-5 minutes, then came out and gave me the information, that I could catch my Phases, and that the old one later on simply said, he even did not remember to have met me!! These people here or seem to have absolutely no conscience, are absolutely incorruptible.

When I complained to the Governor  
Colonel

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„LÖWENHÖHE.“ ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Britisch Ost Africa.

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Says later, by our German Consul, his reply was.

The regulations were printed, and everybody could read them - But these regulations are continually altered from time to time; the best proof that they were altered was, that the Clerk at the office told me, one alteration was, that one could shoot no ostrich now on a sportsman-license, and scratched the asterisk in the printed regulations in my presence out.

I was told by Mr. Doherty, on his enquiry at the Sub-Commissioner, that the regulations were altered to that effect, that one was now allowed to shoot the mother animals and catch the young ones as long as one remains in the total number of the allowed animals. In this information I took 2 extra Rhinos, 1 giraffe bull & extra kudu, 2 extra Zebras et. out, and started the whole expedition.

Best prove that I have got that information as further, that I did spend all that capital. Who would be such a fool to spend all that and take all trouble of catching and muzzing up young animals.

Adresse: Kapiti Plains Station U. R.

Telegr. Adresse: Bronsart Kapiti Plains.

„LOWENHÖHE“ ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Britisch Ost Africa.

den

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Hayes letter, by our German Consul, his reply was  
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the office told me, one alteration was, that one  
could shoot no ostrich now on a sportsman-  
license, and scratched the ostrich in the printed  
regulations in my presence out. -

It was told by Mr. Hooper, on his enquiry at the  
Sub-Commissioner, that the regulations were alter-  
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ones as long as one remained in the total number  
of the allowed animals. On this information  
I took 2 extra Rhinos, 1 giraffe in the Victoria  
Horn, 2 extra Zebras et. out, and started the  
whole expedition.

Best proof that I have got that information  
is further, that I did spend all that capital.  
Who would be such a fool to spend all that and  
take all trouble of catching and muzzing up young  
animals.

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LOWENHÖHE, ZOOLOGISCHE FARM  
Britisch Ost Africa.

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if he knew he could not export them?  
Twice later on Mr. Perriol sent word to me  
- once by Mr. Pomberg, once by Major Porteau,  
as long as I did not shoot the mother,  
I could catch all young animals I wanted.  
Then I caught your animals without shoot-  
ing the mother animal, i.e. the two young Hounds!  
whose mother was even not to be seen. -

In this Protectorate it seems, that  
no official knows really the regulation or his  
own business; also with the law there are  
always no sort of contradictions. One official  
tells you in a quarter exactly the contrary!

But I cannot see, why my wife  
should lose her money, because Mr. Hobley  
did not know the regulation and gave offi-  
cially wrong informations!

If an information, given in an office on  
special request for an official information,  
is no official information, what on earth is  
then an official information?

I wonder, if these men, Hobley and Fisher,  
47045

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gr. Adresse: Bronsart Kapiti Plains.

LÖWENHÖHE, ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Britisch Ost Africa.

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den

have the nerve to commit perjury even if they had to swear on the bible?

The wonderful part is, that my sportsman license expired on the 26<sup>th</sup> February, that the Dept and all game rangers know that I kept the two lambs, and that even up to date I have not got a summons yet (25<sup>th</sup> March) and that all my trophies are simply stopped at Mombasa and get spoiled, without that any official gave any reason yet!!

When the Boer war started, we got in many ways misled in Germany, as nearly the whole press of the world was writing against the British, and the British never answered. Knowing, that our German-interests in South-Africa would be nearly killed, when the Boers lost, I formed a pro-Boer-Committee in Germany and wrote a number of pamphlets against the British. He collected money, and sent it for red-cross &c. purposes to the Boers.

These pamphlets were long after the war, sent to the Govt here, and at once  
The

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„LOWENHÖHE.“ ZOOLOGISCHE FARM  
Britisch Ost Africa.

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The Govt gave order, that I under no circumstances  
should make any money in B.S.A. nor get any  
lands. When I came here from F.E.A. to B.S.A.  
everybody knew here, that my special strength  
was, to treat the natives well, for which the Govt  
promised, that I got 3-4000 men on their own free  
will (Mamacy) for my Zebra drives in F.T.A.  
at Kilimangjaro. - Now a certain number of  
officials here tried even to spoil my good re-  
putation for treating the natives well, they tried  
even to ruin me as for. Criminal administration  
is to find a few shabs with the aid of a sack of To-  
malis threatening us, our family, attacking  
one in the dark. But they could not find any-  
thing against me. - They brought the prisoners  
up. I had tried to intend to let the Zebra  
horns which the Govt caught at Lake Rudolf.  
This is not utter nonsense, after the Zebra were  
caught only on acct of my own help, by showing  
to Mr. Hope and to Mr. Percival all my papers,  
drafts &c at Kilimangjaro. - Most of this  
gossip was brought up by my former wife as an  
act

Adresse: Kapiti Plains Station U. E.

Dr. Adresse: Bronsart Kapiti Plains

„LÖWENHÖHE“ ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Britisch Ost Africa,

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of vengeance, after we had severed. Later I was  
starting a Zebra Ranch for Col. F. Baillie at  
Lukoma - Athoriver. I caught 300 Zebras at  
first drive, got them in a few months to town  
that we could herd them outside of the Camp.  
Then Col. Baillie came, gave orders, over-riding  
against my experience, make the Zebras wild  
by wanting to catch single ones out too early.  
And the Zebras one day all stampeded. At once  
my enemies started saying I had let the  
Zebras go on purpose. That is such an absolutely  
non-sensical already for that reason that I was  
depending entirely only on the success of that plan  
Col. Baillie, who was always very kind and nice  
to me, even believed my enemies at the end.

I had absolutely nothing to do  
with that stampede, even offered to catch Zebras  
again for nothing for Col. Baillie, to prove him  
my good will. That he gave the scheme up.

My greatest crime here is, that  
I have now a nearly 20 years' experience in  
Africa, that I always say my opinion straight  
out



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LOWENHOHE, ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

British East Africa.

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about what is manager's wrong in this Colony; and as in the most cases I am right, they do not like me here. I have been 5 years here in B. E. A. & spent about 40,000 - 50,000 Rps. here during this time, have not done anything wrong, to my knowledge. I have admitted in a letter and that is the truth - that I feel sorry for all what I have written in those pamphlets against the British, now being better informed about the work and having seen with my eyes what kind of people these Boers are. I cannot do more. - I even offered to show my Govt. will to catch any number of Zebras for the Govt. here for nothing. There is nobody besides me who is able to catch them: all their traps failed at Lake Naivasha, after they had caught the first lot according to my plans, and after they could not keep them alive; nearly all of the Zebras died off. Because these people here are unable to catch and work the Zebras properly.

Address: Kapiti Plains Station U. R.

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"LÖWENHÖHE," ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Bratsch Ost Africa,

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they turn round and say: The Zebras are no foot.  
They are simply afraid to get the order from  
F. O. to catch them, and then to show their  
incompetency. —

I have no feeling against the British — my wife  
is English — I am capable to do a lot of  
good to this colony, by proper Game-Protec-  
tion as well as by Zebra-Question. I catch &  
train and work any number of Zebras for  
all kind of works. I would make it a  
question of my honour to prove that I want  
to do good to the colony, whose hospitality I  
anyhow enjoy since 5 years. I love the same  
country here, and being on the way of great  
friendship between England and Germany, I love  
England being the home of my wife. I would  
as my very best to do all good I can here.

There are a good many officials here  
too who quite believe in me and think it wrong  
and ridiculous, the way how the South African  
this feeling of vengeance up against me after  
so many years! If I would f.i. get a  
Commissionary

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„LÖWENHÖHE," ZOOLOGISCHE FARM

Britisch Ost Africa.

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to catch Zebras for the Govt., I would do so with  
the greatest pleasure, as we are not especially  
well off. I would, of course, like a salary  
for it, but would also be willing to do so  
for nothing. If my wife was not English  
I would be perfectly quiet and go over to  
S. I. Africa. But for the sake of her I want  
to stay here, near the railway and in this so  
wonderful healthy climate, and it makes me  
most angry, that my wife should lose her  
money, what she put into the animal and  
other business, and she should suffer because  
these narrow-minded officials want to  
trouble me. —

If you think it right, I leave it quite to  
your discretion, to show this letter to Mr  
Frank's Haywood.

With kind regards believe me

Yours very truly

H. von Bronsart.