

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

In re Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation
Case No. CV96-4849

Certified Denial

to the Estate of [REDACTED]¹

in re Account of Charlotte Blumenfeld

Claim Number: 214534/MG²

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the published account of Charlotte Blumenfeld (the “Account Owner”)³ at the [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).

All denials are published, but where a claimant has requested confidentiality, as in this case, the names of the claimant, any relatives of the claimant other than the account owner, and the bank have been redacted.

Information Provided by the Claimant

The Claimant submitted a Claim Form asserting that his mother, Charlotte (Lotte) Blumenfeldt (Blumenfeld), née Engel, who was born on 25 October 1883 in Berlin, Germany, and was married to [REDACTED] in 1918 in Berlin, owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that his mother, who was Jewish, attended a girls' high school in Lausanne, Switzerland between the years 1906 and 1912. According to the Claimant, his mother lived in Berlin, where she worked as a secretary, a translator of European languages, and a salesperson, from 1918 until her deportation in 1943. The Claimant stated that his mother perished in Auschwitz on 24 August 1943. The Claimant indicated that he was born on 22 March 1922 in Berlin.

The Claimant previously submitted an ATAG Ernst & Young claim form in 1998, asserting his entitlement to a Swiss bank account owned by Charlotte Blumenfeldt, née Engel.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of his application, including: (1) his father's death certificate, which indicates that he was born in Berlin, and that he was married to [REDACTED],

¹ On 16 March 2004, the CRT was informed by the Claimant's spouse, [REDACTED], that the Claimant passed away on 23 August 2002. [REDACTED] submitted the Claimant's death certificate, and inheritance documents relating to the Claimant. According to the inheritance documents, the Claimant's heir is [REDACTED], who was born on 17 December 1928 in Poland.

² The Claimant submitted an additional claim to the accounts of Albert Engel, which is registered under the Claim Number 214537. The CRT will treat the claim to these accounts in a separate decision.

³ In this claim, the Claimant also claimed the account of Charlotte Engel. The CRT will treat the claim to this account in a separate decision.

née [REDACTED]; (2) a letter dated 1 January 1943 in Berlin, sent by his mother to him; (3) an extract from a book listing names of Jews, mainly from Berlin, who perished in the Holocaust; and (4) photos of the Claimant's mother.

Information Available in the Bank's Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to his relative, Charlotte Blumenfeldt (Blumenfeld). The auditors who carried out the investigation to identify accounts of Victims of Nazi Persecution pursuant to instructions of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP" or the "ICEP Investigation") reported one account whose owner's name matches the married name of the Claimant's mother. The account is identified below by its Account Identification Number, which is a number assigned to the account by the ICEP auditors for tracking purposes.

Account 1008429

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Charlotte Blumenfeld, who resided in Germany. The Bank's records also indicate the Account Owner's maiden name and city of residence. Furthermore, the Bank's records indicate the dates of opening and closing of the account at issue.

The CRT's Analysis

Admissibility of the Claim

The CRT has determined that the claim is admissible according to Article 18 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the "Rules").

Identification of the Account Owner

The CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified the Account Owner as his relative. Although the name of his mother matches the published name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the unpublished information about the Account Owner available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that his mother's maiden name was [REDACTED]. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner had a different maiden name. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimant's mother are the same person.

Right of Appeal

Pursuant to Article 30 of the Rules, the Claimant may appeal this Denial to the Court through the Special Masters within ninety (90) days of the date of the letter accompanying this decision. Appeals should be delivered to the following address: Office of the Special Master, c/o Claims Resolution Tribunal, P.O. Box 9564, 8036 Zurich, Switzerland.

The Claimant should send appeals in writing to the above address and should include all reasons for the appeal. If more than one account has been denied in this Certified Denial, the Claimant should identify the Account Identification Number that forms the basis of the appeal. Appeals submitted without either a plausible suggestion of error or relevant new evidence may be summarily denied.

Scope of the Denial

The Claimant should be aware that the CRT will carry out further research on his claim to determine whether an award may be made based upon the information provided by the Claimant or upon information from other sources.

Certification of the Denial

The CRT certifies this Denial for approval by the Court.

Claims Resolution Tribunal
24 December 2004