

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]

in re Account of Josef Engel¹

Claim Numbers: 208604/AX; 209164/LK/AX; 209165/AX;
209166/AX; 209167/AX^{2, 3, 4}

This Certified Denial is based on the claims of [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], (the “Claimant”), to the accounts of Jozsef Engel, Dezso Engel, Etel Engel, Ilona Engel, and Anna Vandor. The CRT did not locate any accounts belonging to Jozsef Engel, Dezso Engel, Etel Engel, Ilona Engel, and Anna Vandor in the Account History Database prepared pursuant to the investigation of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons (“ICEP” or “ICEP Investigation”) which identified accounts probably or possibly belonging to Victims of Nazi Persecution, as defined in the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the “Rules”). This Denial is to the published account of Josef Engel (the “Account Owner”) 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 are redacted.

Information Provided by the Claimant

The Claimant submitted a Claim Form asserting that her maternal grandfather, Jozsef Engel, who was born in 1872, and was married to [REDACTED], owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that her grandfather, who was Jewish, resided in Gyonk, Hungary, from the early 1900s until 1944, when he was forced into a ghetto, and subsequently deported to Auschwitz,

¹ In an effort to locate any and all accounts that might have belonged to the Claimant’s relative, the CRT has reviewed and analyzed all accounts whose owners’ names are substantially similar to that of the Claimant’s relative, even if the Claimant did not specifically claim that particular account. Moreover, the CRT recognizes that, in many cases, spellings of names have changed due to the passage of time in the decades since the Second World War, as well as due to the transcription of names into different languages.

² The Claimant submitted an additional claim to the account Ida Engel which is registered under the Claim Number 209163. The CRT will treat the claim to this account in a separate decision.

³ According to Article 37 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the “Rules”), claims to the same or related accounts may be joined in one proceeding at the CRT’s discretion. In this case, the CRT determines it appropriate to join the five claims of the Claimant in one proceeding.

⁴ The Claimant submitted Initial Questionnaires with the Court in 1999 and a Claim Form to the CRT. The CRT is treating the Initial Questionnaires and the Claim Form under the consolidated Claim Number 208604.

where he perished on 15 August 1944. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 11 December 1927 in Gyonk, Hungary.

The Claimant previously submitted Initial Questionnaires with the Court in 1999, asserting her entitlement to a Swiss bank accounts owned by Jozsef Engel, Dezso Engel, Etel Engel, Ilona Engel.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of her application, including a court declaration of the death of her grandfather that identifies his residence in Gyonk.

Information Available in the Bank's Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted claims to accounts belonging to her relative, Jozsef Engel. The auditors who carried out the ICEP Investigation reported one account whose owner's name is substantially similar to that provided by the Claimant. 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 1014768

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Josef Engel, who resided in Schweinberg, Germany. The Bank's records also indicate the date the account at issue was closed.

The CRT's Analysis

Admissibility of the Claim

The CRT has determined that the claim is admissible according to Article 18 of the Rules.

Identification of the Account Owner

The CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified the Account Owner as her relative. Although the name of her grandfather is substantially similar to the published name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the published information about the Account Owner available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that her grandfather resided in Gyonk, Hungary, until he was forced into a ghetto in 1944. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner resided in Schweinberg, Germany. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimant's grandfather 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 her 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
30 September 2004