

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant Magdalena Meszaros

in re Account of A. Freund

Claim Number: 205557/SI¹

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of Magdalena Meszaros, née Laufer, (the Claimant) to the account of Alois (Aloiz) Freund. This Denial is to the published account of A. Freund (“the Account Owner”) at the [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).²

All denials are published. Where a claimant has not requested confidentiality, as in this case, only the name of the bank has been redacted.

Information Provided by the Claimant

The Claimant submitted a Claim Form asserting that her maternal grandfather, Alois (Aloiz) Freund, who was born on 24 December 1869, in Nyitra, Austro-Hungary (today Slovakia) and was married to Ilona Freund, owned a Swiss Bank account. The Claimant stated that from 1926 her grandfather resided in Bratislava, Austro-Hungary (today Slovakia) where he owned a rubber factory. The Claimant further stated that her grandfather was deported on an unknown date to a concentration camp, where he perished. The Claimant stated that she was born on 30 May 1933 in Bratislava.

Information Available in the Bank’s Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to her grandfather, Alois (Aloiz) Freund. 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

¹ The Claimant submitted two Initial Questionnaires to the Court in 1999 to accounts of Carol Laufer and Emanuel Laufer, which have been assigned the claim numbers 702672 and 702673, respectively. The CRT will treat the claims to these accounts in separate determinations.

² The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Alois (Aloiz) Freund 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).

matches 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 1011532

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was A. Freund, who resided in Müllheim, Germany. The Bank's records also indicate the Account Owner's street address and occupation.

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 her relative. Although the name of her grandfather matches the published first name initial and last name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the published and unpublished information about the Account Owner available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that her grandfather resided in Bratislava, Austro-Hungary. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner resided in Müllheim, Germany, a city and country which the Claimant did not identify. The CRT also notes that the Claimant stated that her grandfather owned a rubber factory, whereas the Bank's records show that the Account Owner had a different occupation. 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 Special Master Michael Bradfield, 51 Louisiana Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001 USA.

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
29 December 2005