

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]

**in re Account of Eugen Friedmann
(Power of Attorney Holder Margarete Friedmann)¹**

Claim Number: 601464/AV^{2, 3}

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], (the “Claimant”) to an account of Margit (Marguerite) Friedmann. This Denial is to the published account of Eugen Friedmann (the “Account Owner”), over which Margarete Friedmann (the “Power of Attorney Holder”) held power of attorney, at the [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).^{3, 4, 5}

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 to the Holocaust Claims Processing Office (“HCPO”) asserting that her mother, Margit (Marguerite) Friedmann, née Seidl, who was born on 14 January 1907 in Nové-Zámky, Austria-Hungary, and was married to [REDACTED] on 27 March 1933, owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that her mother, who was Jewish, lived in Nové-Zámky until 1939, when she fled to Paris, France, where she resided for a few months before going into hiding in Timisoara, Romania. The Claimant further stated that her mother emigrated

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’ or power of attorney holders’ names are the same as those of the Claimant’s relatives, even if the Claimant could not identify the owner of the account as her relative.

² The Claimant submitted a claim, numbered B-01619, on 30 December 1998, to the Holocaust Claims Processing Office (“HCPO”) of the New York State Banking Department. This claim was referred by the HCPO to the CRT and has been assigned Claim Number 601464.

³ The Claimant submitted an Initial Questionnaire with the Court in 1999 and an HCPO Claim Form to the CRT. The CRT is treating the Initial Questionnaire and the Claim Form under the consolidated Claim Number 601464.

⁴ The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Margit (Marguerite) Friedmann, 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”).

⁵ In this claim, the Claimant also claimed accounts of Béla (Asher or Adalbert) Friedmann, Oskar Seidl, Ignác Seidl, Ferenc Seidl, and the business Ignác Seidl & Fiai (or Felvidéki Östermelők Szövetkezete). The CRT will treat the claims to these accounts in separate determinations.

to Israel after the Second World War. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 19 February 1935 in Nové-Zámky.

The Claimant previously submitted an Initial Questionnaire with the Court in 1999, asserting her entitlement to a Swiss bank account owned by Margit Friedmann.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of her application, including her mother's birth and marriage certificates, identifying her mother as Margit (Marguerite) Friedmann, née Seidl, and indicating that she was born in Nové-Zámky.

Information Available in the Bank's Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to her relative, Margit (Marguerite) Friedmann. 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 power of attorney holder's name 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 5024049

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Eugen Friedmann, who resided in Miskolc, Hungary, and that the Power of Attorney Holder was Margarete Friedmann. The Bank's records also indicate the Power of Attorney Holder's maiden name, city and country of residence, street address, and her relationship to the Account Owner. Finally, the Bank's records contain the Account Owner's and the Power of Attorney Holder's signatures.

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 Power of Attorney Holder

The CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified the Power of Attorney Holder as her relative. Although the name of her mother matches the published name of the Power of Attorney Holder, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the unpublished information about the Power of Attorney Holder available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that her mother's maiden name was Seidl. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Power of Attorney Holder had a different maiden name. In addition, the Claimant stated that her mother resided in Czechoslovakia, France, and Romania. In contrast, the Bank's

records show that the Power of Attorney Holder resided in a different country. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Power of Attorney Holder 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 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, which 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
21 September 2005