

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]
represented by [REDACTED]

in re Account of Martin Friedmann

Claim Numbers: 217996/SB; 500324/SB¹

This Certified Denial is based on the claims of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the account of Martin Friedman. The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Martin Friedman 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 Martin Friedmann (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 have been redacted.

Information Provided by the Claimant

The Claimant submitted two Claim Forms asserting that his father, Martin Friedman, who was born on 15 November 1889 in Romania, and was married to [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], in 1925 in Sighet, Romania, owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that his father, who was Jewish, was a physician who resided in Blaj, Romania. The Claimant further stated that his father died on 19 June 1968 in Bucharest, Romania. The Claimant stated that he was born on 15 February 1927 in Blaj.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of his application, including: (1) his birth certificate and Romanian identity card which both indicate that his father was Martin Friedman, and (2) his father’s death certificate.

¹ 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 two claims of the Claimant in one proceeding.

Information Available in the Bank's Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted claims to an account belonging to his relative, Martin Friedman. 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 4021641

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Martin Friedmann, who resided in Romania. The Bank's records also indicate the name of the person who jointly held the account at issue with the Account Owner and appears to have been closely related to him. The Bank's records further indicate the year in which the account at issue was closed.

The CRT's Analysis

Admissibility of the Claims

The CRT has determined that the claims are 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 his relative. Although the name of his father is substantially similar to the published name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimant differs from the unpublished information available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant did not identify the name of the person who jointly held the account at issue with the Account Owner, even though this person appears to have been closely related to the Account Owner. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimant's father are the same person. Moreover, it should be noted that the CRT has awarded the account to another claimant, who plausibly identified the Account Owner as his relative. All decisions are published upon release on the CRT's website at www.crt-ii.org.

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 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
21 September 2005