

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]
represented by Israel Kuris, adv.

In re Account of Meta Haase

Claim Number: 150107/HB

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the published account of Meta Haase (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 a Claim Form asserting that his mother, Meta Lippmann, née Haase, who was born on 3 November 1889 in Witkowo, Poland, and was married to [REDACTED] in 1919 in Schneidemühl, Germany, owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that his mother, who was Jewish, resided from 1920 to 1943 in Schneidemühl. The Claimant further stated that in 1943 his mother was deported to Theresienstadt concentration camp, where she perished. The Claimant indicated that he was born on 28 September 1922 in Schneidemühl.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of his application, including: (1) his own birth certificate indicating that Meta Lippmann’s maiden name was Haase and that she resided in Schneidemühl; (2) his German identification card, dated 16 March 1944, indicating that he was born in Schneidemühl.

Information Available in the Bank’s Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to his mother, Meta Haase. 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 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 4019849

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Meta Haase, who resided in Berlin, Germany. 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 the Claimant's mother matches the published name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimant differs from the published information about the Account Owner available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that his mother resided in Schneidemühl, from 1920 to 1943. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner resided in Berlin, Germany, which is located over 300 kilometers from Schneidemühl, and to which the Claimant's mother had no connection. The CRT notes that the Claimant's mother's place of residence was closer to other large German cities, including Posnan, rendering it unlikely that the Claimant's mother would indicate a different, distant metropolis such as Berlin as her city of residence, including for purposes of maintaining a bank account. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimant's mother 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 and who correctly identified Berlin as the Account Owner's city of residence. 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 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 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
30 November 2005