

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant Regina Antonov

Claimed Account Owners: Pauline Mandelbaum and Eugenia Brichko¹

Claim Numbers: 222584/SB

This determination is based on the claim of Regina Antonov (the “Claimant”) to a Swiss bank account potentially owned by Pauline Mandelbaum and Eugenia Brichko. The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Eugenia Brichko 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 Certified Denial is to a Swiss bank account potentially owned by the Claimant’s relative, Pauline (Polina) Mandelbaum (the “Claimed Account Owner”).

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

In her claim form, filed after the publication in 2001 of the account owner’s name and country of residence, the Claimant provided only limited information regarding her relative Pauline Mandelbaum. The Claimant stated that she was Jewish, that Mandelbaum was her maiden name and that she resided in an unknown city in Poland and later Germany. The Claimant stated that she was Pauline Mandelbaum’s niece, but according to a family tree submitted by the Claimant, Pauline Mandelbaum was the Claimant’s mother’s cousin. The CRT notes that in her Initial Questionnaire, submitted to the Court in 1999, prior to the publication of the account owner’s name and country of residence, the Claimant clearly stated that the Mandelbaum family ‘*lived in Poland since 1918*’ and made no reference whatsoever to any family member residing in Germany. The CRT also notes that the Claimant did not submit any documentation to demonstrate any connection between the Mandelbaum family and Germany.

¹ The Claimant should note that this determination relates only to the Claim Number and Claimed Account Owners stated above, and that the CRT is aware that the Claimant may have submitted other claims.

The CRT's Investigation

The CRT matched the name of Pauline Mandelbaum to the names of all account owners in the Account History Database and identified accounts belonging to individuals whose names match, or are substantially similar to, the name of the Claimed Account Owner. In doing so, the CRT used advanced name matching systems and computer programs, and considered variations of names, including name variations provided by Yad Vashem, The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, in Jerusalem, Israel, to ensure that all possible name matches were identified. However, a close review of the relevant bank records indicated that the information contained therein was inconsistent with the information the Claimant provided regarding the Claimed Account Owner. Accordingly, the CRT was unable to conclude that any of these accounts belonged to the Claimed Account Owner.

Information Available Concerning the Account Owner

The CRT has located one account where an account owner's name matches the name of the Claimant's relative Pauline Mandelbaum. The list below contains details of the type of information held about an account owner. The account is identified by its Account Identification Number, which is a number assigned to an account for tracking purposes.

Account 1010554

The records indicate that the account owner was Pauline Mandelbaum, who resided in Germany. The records also indicate the account owner's city of residence in Germany.

The CRT's Analysis

Identification of the Account Owner

The CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified the account owner as their relative. Although the name of the Claimant's relative matches the published name of the account owner, the CRT notes that while the Claimant states that her relative resided in Germany, which also matches published information, the Claimant has not identified the account owner's city of residence in Germany, nor has the Claimant provided any documentation to establish any connection between the Mandelbaum family and Germany. Furthermore, the CRT also notes that in her Initial Questionnaire the Claimant specifically stated that from 1918 the Mandelbaum family resided in Poland and made no reference to any family member residing in Germany.

The Claimant should note that all accounts awarded by the CRT are published upon release on the CRT's website at www.crt-ii.org.

Right of Appeal and Request for Reconsideration

Pursuant to Article 30 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the “Rules”), the Claimant may appeal this decision or submit a request for reconsideration within ninety (90) days of the date of the letter accompanying this decision.

An appeal must be based upon a plausible suggestion of error regarding the CRT’s conclusions set out in this decision. Any appeals which are submitted without a plausible suggestion of error shall be summarily denied. A request for reconsideration must be based on new documentary evidence not previously presented to the CRT that, if considered, would have led to a different outcome of the claim. Claimants should briefly explain the relevance of the newly submitted documents in view of the conclusions stated in the certified decision.

The Claimant should send appeals and/or requests for reconsideration in writing to the following address: Oren Wiener, Claims Resolution Tribunal, Attention: Appeals / Request for Reconsideration, P.O. Box 9564, 8036 Zurich, Switzerland. If more than one account has been treated in this decision, the Claimant should identify the account, including, where available, the Account Identification Number, that forms the basis of the appeal and/or request for reconsideration.

Scope of the Denial

The CRT now considers the Claimant’s claim to the accounts of Pauline Mandelbaum and Eugenia Brichko closed. Please note that this decision applies only to the Claim Number and Claimed Account Owners identified herein, and that the CRT is aware that the Claimant may have claimed accounts held by other persons or entities both in the Claim Number specified above and in other claims submitted to the CRT.

Certification of the Denial

The CRT certifies this Denial for approval by the Court.

Claims Resolution Tribunal
17 March 2008