

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant Yehuda Meinhardt

Claimed Account Owners: Gerd Manhardt, Heinrich Luft and Hedwig Meinhardt¹

Claim Number: 400333/SB

This Certified Denial is to the claim of Yehuda Meinhardt (the “Claimant”) to the Swiss bank accounts G. Manhardt and Heinrich Luft, and the account over which Hedwig Reinhardt held power of attorney, as published on the list of account owners and power of attorney holders in 2005 and potentially owned by the Claimant’s relatives, Gerd Manhardt, Heinrich Luft and Hedwig Reinhardt (the “Claimed Account Owners”).² The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Hedwig Meinhardt, or an account over which Hedwig Meinhardt held power of attorney, 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”).

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 stating that Gerd Manhardt, Heinrich Luft and Hedwig Meinhardt, who were Jewish, resided in Germany. The Claimant stated that Gerd Manhardt resided in Schwedt, Germany. In a telephone conversation on 22 January 2007, the Claimant stated that Hedwig Meinhardt was her relative’s maiden name, and that she was married to Gustav Levin. The Claimant also stated that Heinrich Luft resided in Breslau, Germany (today Wroclaw, Poland).

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.

² The CRT notes that the Claimant stated that his relative Hedwig Meinhardt, who was married to Gustav Levin, held power of attorney over an account and filed a claim following the publication of the list of account owners in January 2005, which included the name “Hedwig Reinhardt” as a person who held power of attorney over an account. The name “Hedwig Meinhardt” was not included in the publication, and the Claimant did not indicate in any of his submissions that his relative’s name was Reinhardt. The CRT notes that according to the bank records, Hedwig Reinhardt was married to a different person, and not Gustav Levin, as was the Claimant’s relative Hedwig Meinhardt.

The CRT's Investigation

The CRT matched the names of Gerd Manhardt, Heinrich Luft and Hedwig Reinhardt to the names of all account owners and power of attorney holders 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 Owners. 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 Owners. Accordingly, the CRT was unable to conclude that any of these accounts belonged to the Claimed Account Owners.

The CRT's Analysis

Identification of the Account Owners

The list below contains names of account owners and power of attorney holders that match the names of the Claimed Account Owners and the reasons why the CRT has concluded that the Claimed Account Owners and an account owner, or a power of attorney holder, are not the same person. If an account owner's place of residence was published, that place of residence is also listed.

Name: G. Manhardt

Account Identification Number: 6001909

Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Gerd Manhardt, resided in Schwedt, Germany. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different town, which is over 200 kilometers from Schwedt. The CRT notes that both the account owner's place of residence and Schwedt are both small towns, thus rendering it unlikely that a resident of Schwedt would indicate the account owner's place of residence as his place of residence, even for the purposes of maintaining a Swiss bank account.

Name: Heinrich Luft

Account Identification Number: 6001858

Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Heinrich Luft, resided in Breslau, Germany. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different city, which is over 500 kilometers from Breslau.

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, 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 Gerd Manhardt, Heinrich Luft and Hedwig Meinhardt 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
14 September 2007