

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant Michael [REDACTED]

Claimed Account Owner: Bernhard Meyer¹

Claim Number: 220223/RT; 220225/RT; 220227/RT; 220228/RT; 220229/RT

This Certified Denial is to the claims of Michael [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to a Swiss bank account potentially owned by the Claimant’s relative, Bernhard Meyer (the “Claimed Account Owner”).

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 five claims stating that Bernhard Meyer, who was Jewish, was his maternal grandfather and that he resided in Halberstadt and Mülheim an der Ruhr, Germany, where he owned a metal factory. The Claimant submitted a copy of his mother’s birth certificate, indicating that his mother was born in Halberstadt. The Claimant did not provide any further information or documentation regarding Bernhard Meyer. The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted several claims referring to different family members, and that the only places of residence for his family members identified in those claims are Mülheim an der Ruhr, Mannheim and Halberstadt. The CRT further notes that the Claimant’s mother (Bernhard Meyer’s daughter) submitted a Page of Testimony to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs Memorial, dated 29 October 1978, that states that Bernhard Meyer was born in Halberstadt, had a factory in Mülheim an der Ruhr, and last resided in Bremen, Germany.

The CRT’s Investigation

The CRT matched the name of Bernhard Meyer 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

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

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.

The CRT's Analysis

Identification of the Account Owner

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

Name: Bernhard Meyer (Freiburg, Germany)

Account Identification Number: 5026032

Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Bernhard Meyer, resided in Mühlheim an der Ruhr and Halberstadt. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in Freiburg im Breisgau, which is over 450 kilometers from Mühlheim an der Ruhr and over 600 kilometers from Halbersatdt. The CRT notes that the Claimant filed several other claims, none of which refer to Freiburg im Breisgau as a place of residence for his relatives. The CRT further notes that the Claimant's mother (Bernhard Meyer's daughter) submitted a Page of Testimony to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs Memorial, dated 29 October 1978, that states that Bernhard Meyer was born in Halberstadt, had a factory in Mühlheim an der Ruhr, and last resided in Bremen, Germany, which is over 700 kilometers from Freiburg im Breisgau. The Page of Testimony does not make any reference to Freiburg im Breisgau or other places of residence for Bernhard Meyer.

The CRT has taken utmost care in matching the names of the person identified by the Claimant as a possible account owner to names of actual account owners identified 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). The CRT has reviewed this claim carefully and analyzed matches to accounts belonging to account owners with alternative spellings of Bernhard Meyer's last name, which include Mayer, and has determined that these accounts did not belong to the Claimed Account Owner.

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 Bernhard Meyer closed. Please note that this decision applies only to the Claim Number and Claimed Account Owner 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
28 May 2010