

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant Avraham Andrey Scheffer

**in re Account of Georg Schaefer
and Account of Georg Schafer
and Account of G. Scheffer¹**

Claim Number: 004792/MG; 716744/MG

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of Avraham Andrey Scheffer (the “Claimant”) to the account of Georg (Gori) Scheffer (Schaffer). The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Georg (Gori) Scheffer (Schaffer) 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 Georg Schaefer (“Account Owner 1”) at the [REDACTED] (“Bank 1”), to the published account of Georg Schafer (“Account Owner 2”) at the [REDACTED] (“Bank 2”), and to the published account of G. Scheffer (“Account Owner 3”) at the [REDACTED] (“Bank 3”).

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 Form asserting that his father, Georg (Gori) Scheffer (Schaffer), who was born on 24 December 1905 in Bajmok, Yugoslavia, owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that his father was married to Joji Sheffer, née Schotzberger, and that they resided in Bajmok, where his father had an international import-export business. According to the Claimant, his father, who was Jewish, perished in a concentration camp. The Claimant indicated that he was born on 6 December 1936 in Hungary.

¹ In an effort to locate any and all accounts that might have belonged to the Claimant’s relative, the CRT has reviewed and analyzed all accounts whose owners’ names are substantially similar to those of the Claimant’s relative, even if the Claimant did not specifically claim that particular account. Moreover, the CRT recognizes that, in many cases, spellings of names have changed due to the passage of time in the decades since the Second World War, as well as due to the transcription of names into different languages.

The Claimant previously submitted an Initial Questionnaire with the Court in 1999, asserting his entitlement to a Swiss bank account owned by Georg Scheffer.

Information Available in the Bank's Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to his father, Georg (Gori) Scheffer (Schaffer). The auditors who carried out the ICEP Investigation reported three accounts whose owners' names were substantially similar to that provided by the Claimant. Each 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 2015770

The Bank's records indicate that Account Owner 1 was Georg Schaefer, who resided in Freiburg, Germany. The Bank's records indicate the date of opening of the account at issue. Furthermore, the Bank's records indicate the name of the Power of Attorney Holder, who appears to be related to Account Owner 1. The Bank's records also contain the Account Owner's signature.

Account 1011344

The Bank's records indicate that Account Owner 2 was Georg Schafer, who resided in Rhein Bischofsheim, Germany.

Account 5019349

The Bank's records indicate that Account Owner 3 was G. Scheffer. The Bank's records indicate Account Owner 3's gender and information about an additional account owner to 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.

Identification of the Account Owners

As for Account 2015770, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified Account Owner 1 as his relative. Although the name of his father is substantially similar to the published name of Account Owner 1, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the

published information about Account Owner 1 available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that his father resided in Bajmok, Yugoslavia. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner resided in Freiburg, Germany. Furthermore, the Claimant did not identify the name of the Power of Attorney Holder contained in the Bank's records, although the Power of Attorney Holder appears to be related to Account Owner 1. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that Account Owner 1 and the Claimant's father are the same person.

As for the Account 1011344, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified Account Owner 2 as his relative. Although the name of his father is substantially similar to the published name of Account Owner 2, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the published information about Account Owner 2 available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that his father resided in Bajmok, Yugoslavia. In contrast, the Bank's records show that Account Owner 2 resided in Rhein Bischofsheim, Germany. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that Account Owner 2 and the Claimant's father are the same person.

As for the Account 5019349, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified Account Owner 3 as his relative. Although the name of his father is substantially similar to the published name of account Owner 3, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the unpublished information about Account Owner 3 available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant claimed his father's account, while the Bank's records indicate that Account Owner 3 was a female. Consequently, the CRT concludes that Account Owner 3 and the Claimant's father are not the same person.

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 the Special Master, c/o Claims Resolution Tribunal, P.O. Box 9564, 8036 Zurich, Switzerland.

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
10 December 2004