

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]

in re Accounts of Bernhard Singer¹

Claim Number: 600597/AV²

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], (the “Claimant”) to accounts of Bernhard Singer. This Denial is to the published accounts of Bernhard Singer (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 to the Holocaust Claims Processing Office (“HCPO”) asserting that her father, Dr. Bernhard Singer, who was born on 7 May 1887, and was married to [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], in May 1920, owned a Swiss bank account. According to the Claimant, her father, who was Jewish, resided in Czernauti, Romania (today Chernovitsi, the Ukraine), and was an inspector general for the Romanian railroad system. The Claimant stated that in 1946, her family moved to Buzău, Romania, and that in 1947, her family immigrated to Quito, Ecuador, where her father died in February 1952. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 17 March 1923 in Czernauti.

Information Available in the Bank’s Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to her relative, Bernhard Singer. The auditors who carried out the investigation to identify accounts of Victims

¹ The CRT notes that, on the February 2001 published list of accounts determined by ICEP to be probably or possibly those of Victims of Nazi Persecution (the “ICEP List”), Bernhard Singer is indicated as being domiciled in Bad Hofgastein, Austria. Upon careful review, the CRT has concluded that the Bank’s records evidence that Bernhard Singer was domiciled in a different city in Austria.

² The Claimant submitted a claim, numbered B-00688, on 19 February 1998, to the Holocaust Claims Processing Office (“HCPO”) of the New York State Banking Department. This claim was referred by the HCPO to the CRT and has been assigned Claim Number 600597.

of Nazi Persecution pursuant to instructions of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons (“ICEP” or the “ICEP Investigation”) reported two accounts whose owner’s name matches 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 1014231 and Account 1014232

The Bank’s records indicate that the Account Owner was Bernhard Singer, who resided in Austria. The Bank’s records also indicate the Account Owner’s city of residence and street address. Furthermore, the Bank’s records indicate the dates of opening and closing of one of the accounts 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 her relative. Although the name of her father matches the published name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the published information about the Account Owner available in the Bank’s records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that her father resided in Romania until 1947. In contrast, the Bank’s records show that the Account Owner resided in Austria. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimant’s father are the same person. Moreover, it should be noted that the CRT has awarded the accounts to another claimant, who plausibly identified the Account Owner as her relative. 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 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 her 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
21 September 2005