

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]
represented by Harriette Aron

**in re Accounts of Frieda Springer
and
Account of Frida Springer**

Claim Number: 219861/AH

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the published accounts of Frieda Springer. This Denial is to the published accounts of Frieda Springer (“Account Owner 1”) at the [REDACTED] (“Bank 1”), and to the unpublished account of Frida Springer (“Account Owner 2”) at the [REDACTED] (“Bank 2”).

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 Form asserting that her paternal aunt, Frieda Springer, who was born in Sosnowiec, Poland to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], and who had Polish and German domiciles, owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant indicated that her aunt, who was Jewish, was deported to Auschwitz in approximately 1942, where she perished. The Claimant did not indicate that her aunt ever married or used a different name other than her maiden name. In correspondence between the Claimant’s niece, who acted on the Claimant’s behalf, and the CRT, dated 17 October 2003, the Claimant’s niece indicated that she was not aware that her father or aunt had any other siblings. The Claimant’s niece also indicated that she believed that Frieda Springer’s family resided in Sosnowiec, Poland as well as in Bremen, Chemnitz or Leipzig, Germany. The Claimant indicated that she was a young child during the Second World War and that she did not have any more biographical information about her paternal family and her aunt, and that the family members who may have been able to provide more information were dead. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 6 January 1926 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the United States.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of her application, including: (1) her birth certificate; (2) her mother’s passport; (3) her father’s passport, marriage, and death certificates.

These documents indicate the name Springer, the family's Jewish origins, the cities Bremen and Chemnitz and indicate that the Claimant's father moved between countries in Europe.

Information Available in the Banks' Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to her relative, Frieda Springer. The auditors who carried out the investigation to identify accounts of Victims of Nazi Persecution pursuant to instructions of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP" or the "ICEP Investigation") reported three accounts whose owners' names match or are 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.

Accounts 1013284, 1013285

Bank 1's records indicate that Account Owner 1 was Frieda Springer, who resided in Germany. Bank 1's records also indicate the city and region of residence of Account Owner 1, her marital status, and her maiden name. In addition, Bank 1's records indicate the name and address of a person who jointly owned the accounts at issue and who appears to be related to Account Owner 1. Furthermore, Bank 1's records indicate the dates of opening and closing of the accounts at issue.

Account 5024815

Bank 2's records indicate that Account Owner 2 was Frida Springer. Bank 2's records also indicate three addresses, cities and countries of residence of Account Owner 2, her marital status, and her maiden name. In addition, Bank 2's records indicate that Account Owner 2 was a Power of Attorney Holder to an additional account. Furthermore, Bank 2's records indicate the dates of opening and closing of 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 Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the "Rules").

Identification of the Account Owners

As for Accounts 1013284 and 1013285, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified Account Owner 1 as her relative. Although the name of her paternal aunt matches the published name of Account Owner 1, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the unpublished information about Account Owner 1 available in Bank 1's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that her aunt resided in Sosnowiec, Poland as well as in Bremen, Chemnitz or

Leipzig, Germany. In contrast, Bank 1's records show that the Account Owner resided in a different city in a different region in Germany, which was not identified or indicated by the Claimant and which is over 100 kilometers away from any of the above cities. In addition, the CRT notes that the Claimant did not identify the additional account owner, although this person appears to be related to Account Owner 1. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that Account Owner 1 and the Claimant's paternal aunt are the same person.

As for Account 5024815, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified Account Owner 2 as her relative. Although the name of her paternal aunt is substantially similar to the unpublished name of Account Owner 2, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the unpublished information about Account Owner 2 available in Bank 2's records. Specifically, the Claimant indicated that her aunt's maiden name was Springer and did not indicate that she was ever married. In contrast, Bank 2's records indicate that Account Owner 2 had a different maiden name and that she had a different marital status. In addition, the Claimant stated that her aunt resided in Sosnowiec, Poland as well as in Bremen, Chemnitz or Leipzig, Germany. In contrast, Bank 2's records show that Account Owner 2 used three different addresses, cities and countries of residence, none of which was identified or indicated by the Claimant. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that Account Owner 2 and the Claimant's paternal aunt are 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 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