

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]

**in re Account of Rudolf Wolf
and
Account of R. Wolf**

Claim Number: 211734/SB¹

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the published account of Rudolf Wolf. This Denial is to the published account of Rudolf Wolf (“Account Owner 1”) at the [REDACTED] (“Bank 1”), and to the unpublished account of R. Wolf (“Account Owner 2”) at the [REDACTED] (“Bank 2”).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 his stepfather, Rudolf Wolf, who was married to the Claimant’s mother, [REDACTED], who was half Jewish, on 6 September 1941 in Breslau, Germany (today Wroclaw, Poland), owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that his stepfather resided in Breslau, and moved to Hamburg, Germany on an unknown date. Furthermore, the Claimant stated that his stepfather died in 1977 in Hamburg. The Claimant indicated that he was born on 4 March 1934 in Breslau.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of his claim, including the marriage certificate of his mother and stepfather, which indicates their date and place of marriage.

¹ The Claimant submitted an Initial Questionnaire to the Court in 1999 and a Claim Form to the CRT. The CRT is treating the Initial Questionnaire under the Claim Number 702804. In the Initial Questionnaire, the Claimant claimed an account belonging to Dorothea Harringer. The CRT will treat the claim to this account in a separate determination.

Information Available in the Bank's Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to his relative, Rudolf Wolf. 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 two accounts whose owners' names match that provided by the Claimant. Upon review of the bank documents, the CRT also located one additional account that was not reported by the auditors. 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 1014163

Bank 1's records indicate that Account Owner 1 was Rudolf Wolf, who resided in Germany. Bank 1's records also indicate Account Owner 1's street address and city of residence in Germany. Furthermore, Bank 1's records indicate the date of opening and closing of the account at issue.

Accounts 3016999 and 3016999.1

Bank 2's records indicate that Account Owner 2 was R. Wolf. Bank 2's records also indicate Account Owner 2's city and country of residence, the name of a power of attorney holder, and the dates of opening of the accounts at issue. Finally, Bank 2's records contain Account Owner 2's and the power of attorney holder's signatures.

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 Account 1014163, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified Account Owner 1 as his relative. Although the name of his stepfather 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 his stepfather resided in Breslau (today Wroclaw, Poland) and Hamburg, Germany. In contrast, Bank 1's records show that Account Owner 1 resided in a city, which is over 250 kilometers from Hamburg and over 300 kilometers from Breslau. The CRT notes that the Claimant's stepfather's cities of residence, Hamburg and Breslau, and Account Owner 1's city of residence are all major German cities, rendering it unlikely that the Claimant's stepfather would indicate a different, distant metropolis as his city of residence, including for purposes of

maintaining a bank account. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that Account Owner 1 and the Claimant's stepfather are the same person.

As for Accounts 3016999 and 3016999.1, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has not identified Account Owner 2 as his relative. Although the name of his stepfather matches the unpublished first name initial and last 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 stated that his stepfather resided in Germany. In contrast, Bank 2's records show that Account Owner 2 resided in a different country. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that Account Owner 2 and the Claimant's stepfather are the same person. Moreover, it should be noted that the CRT has awarded the accounts to another claimant, who plausibly identified Account Owner 2 as their relative. All decisions are published upon release on the CRT's website at www.crt-ii.org.

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 uses advanced name matching systems that consider variations of names, including name variations provided by Yad Vashem, Israel, to ensure that all possible name matches are identified. The CRT has reviewed this claim carefully and analyzed matches to accounts belonging to account owners with alternative spellings of Rudolf Wolf's surname, which include Wolff, and has determined that these accounts do not belong to the Claimant's relative.

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, or the alternative surname of the account owner identified above, which 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
2 June 2006