

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimants [REDACTED 1], [REDACTED 2],

and the Estate of [REDACTED 3]¹

in re Accounts of Moïse Maurice Wolff and Anne Wolff

Claim Numbers: 216708/MW; 216709/MW; 217445/MW; 217446/MW; 218456/MW;
218457/MW

This Certified Denial is based upon the claims of [REDACTED 1], née [REDACTED], (“Claimant [REDACTED 1]”), [REDACTED 3] (“Claimant [REDACTED 3]”), and [REDACTED 2], née [REDACTED], (“Claimant [REDACTED 2]”) (together the “Claimants”) to the published accounts of Moïse Maurice Wolff (“Account Owner Moïse Wolff”) and Anne Wolf (“Account Owner Anne Wolf”) (together the “Account Owners”) at the [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).²

All denials are published, but where a claimant has requested confidentiality, as in this case, the names of the claimants, any relatives of the claimants other than the account owners, and the bank have been redacted.

Information Provided by the Claimants

The Claimants submitted six substantially similar Claim Forms, identifying the Account Owners as their grandparents, Moïse (also known as Maurice) Wolff, who was born on 5 March 1863 in Wittersdorf, Germany, and Anne Wolff, née Weill, who was born on 27 December 1861 in Soultz, Germany. The Claimants indicated that their grandparents had three children, all born in Paris, France: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. The Claimants indicated that their grandparents, both French citizens, resided in Paris from 1930 at 45, rue de Lisbonne, Paris VIII, and later at 8, rue du Dobropol, Paris XVII. The Claimants added that their grandfather was the chairman and managing director of the *Compagnie Générale des Papiers* on rue d’Hautpaul, Paris. The Claimants explained that their grandfather had a niece who resided in Basle, Switzerland. The Claimants indicated that their grandfather died in Paris on 15 July 1934, and that their grandmother died on 23 January 1939, also in Paris. In a telephone conversation

¹ The CRT notes that [REDACTED 3] passed away on 15 January 2003.

² The CRT notes that, on the February 2001 published list of accounts determined by the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons (“ICEP”) to be probably or possibly those of Victims of Nazi Persecution (the “ICEP List”), Moïse Wolff and Anne Wolff are indicated as having one account each. Upon careful review of the Bank’s record, the CRT has concluded that the Moïse Wolff and Anne Wolff jointly held two accounts.

with the CRT on 18 February 2002, Claimant [REDACTED 1] stated that her grandparents were Jewish, and although they themselves died prior to the Nazi occupation of France, their heirs' assets were looted and their three children were victims of Nazi persecution. The Claimants stated that [REDACTED]'s children were killed in Auschwitz and that [REDACTED] (Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s mother) moved continually to evade Nazi persecution.

In support of their claims, the Claimants submitted numerous documents, including the official family booklet of Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s parents, which indicates that Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s mother, [REDACTED], resided at 45, rue de Lisbonne, that her parents were Moïse and Anne Weill, and that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s parents; the official family booklet of Claimant [REDACTED 2]'s parents, which indicates that Claimant [REDACTED 2]'s grandparents were Moïse and Anne Weill; Moïse Wolff's death certificate, which indicates that he resided at 8, rue du Dobropol, Paris, that he was an industrialist, that he died on 15 July 1934, and that his wife was Anne Weill; Anne Weill's death certificate, which indicates that she resided at 8, rue du Dobropol, Paris, that she died on 23 January 1939, and that she was married to Maurice Wolff, who predeceased her. Claimant [REDACTED 1] indicated that she was born on 19 August 1925 in Paris. Claimant [REDACTED 2] indicated that she was born on 10 April 1920 in Paris. Claimant [REDACTED 3] indicated that his mother, [REDACTED], was born on 2 March 1920 in Paris.

Information Available in the Bank's Record

The Bank's record consists of a customer card. According to this record, the Account Owners were Moïse (also known as Maurice) Wolff and his wife, Anne Wolff, née Weill, who originally resided at 45, rue de Lisbonne, Paris VIII, France, and later moved to 8, rue du Dobropol, Paris. The Bank's record also contains another handwritten address with directions for the Bank to address correspondence to Maurice Wolff, *Cie. Gle. Des Papiers*, 45, rue d'Hautpaul, Paris. The Bank's record further indicates the death of Account Owner Moïse Wolff without indicating a date. The Bank's record indicates that the Account Owners held a custody account, numbered 5061, and a demand deposit account, which was opened on 3 December 1930. The Bank's record further indicates that the demand deposit account was closed on 11 January 1935. The amount in the demand deposit account on the date of its closure is unknown. These records further indicate that valueless securities were withdrawn from the custody account in August 1935, thereby closing it.

The CRT's Analysis

Joinder of Claims

According to Article 37(1) of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the "Rules"), claims to the same or related accounts may be joined in one proceeding at the CRT's discretion. In this case, the CRT determines it appropriate to join the six claims of the Claimants in one proceeding.

Identification of the Account Owners

The Claimants have plausibly identified the Account Owners. The Claimants' grandparents' names and city and country of residence match the published names and city and country of residence of the Account Owners. In addition, the Claimants' grandmother's maiden name, as evidenced by the Claimants in written records, matches the published maiden name of Account Owner Anne Wolff. The Claimants also identified their grandparents' two home addresses, and indicated that they first lived in Paris on rue de Lisbonne and then on rue du Dobropol, which matches unpublished information about the Account Owners' addresses and the time in which they resided at each address, contained in the Bank's record. In addition, the Claimants identified their grandfather's company and its address, which matches unpublished information contained in the Bank's record. In support of their claims, the Claimants submitted documents, including the official family booklet of Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s parents, which indicates that Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s mother, [REDACTED], resided at 45, rue de Lisbonne, and that her parents were Moïse Wolff and Anne Weill; the official family booklet of Claimant [REDACTED 2]'s parents, which indicates that Claimant [REDACTED 2]'s grandparents were Moïse Wolff and Anne Weill; Moïse Wolff's death certificate, which indicates that he resided at 8, rue du Dobropol, Paris, that he was an industrialist, that he died on 15 July 1934, and that his wife was Anne Weill; Anne Weill's death certificate, which indicates that she resided at 8, rue du Dobropol, Paris, that she died on 23 January 1939, and that she was married to Maurice Wolff, who predeceased her. These documents provide independent verification that the persons who are claimed to be the Account Owners had the same names and resided at the same addresses recorded in the Bank's record as the names and addresses of the Account Owners. The CRT notes that the other claims to these accounts were disconfirmed because those claimants provided a different city or country of residence, and spouse's name than the city and country of residence, and spouse names of the Account Owners.

Status of the Account Owners as Victims of Nazi Persecution

The CRT notes that while the Account Owners were not Victims of Nazi Persecution, the Account Owners' heirs were Victims of Nazi Persecution. The Claimants stated that the Account Owners' son, [REDACTED] had to wear a yellow "Star of David" patch, that their daughter, [REDACTED], lost her children in Auschwitz, and that their daughter, [REDACTED], had to continuously change her address during the Second World War to avoid Nazi persecution.

The Claimants' Relationship to the Account Owners

The Claimants have plausibly demonstrated that they are related to the Account Owners by submitting specific information and documents, demonstrating that the Account Owners were the Claimants' grandparents. These documents include the official family booklet of Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s parents, which indicates Claimant [REDACTED 1]'s grandparents were Moïse and Anne Weill; and the official family booklet of Claimant [REDACTED 2]'s parents, which indicates that Claimant [REDACTED 2]'s grandparents were Moïse Wolff and Anne Weill.

The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The Bank's record indicates that the custody account, numbered 5061, was closed in August 1935 and that the demand deposit account was closed on 11 January 1935. The CRT notes that these closures occurred four years prior to the Nazi invasion of France on 10 May 1940, and therefore the CRT determines that either the Estate of Account Owner Moïse Wolff or Account Owner Anne Wolf was able to access these accounts, and concludes that the Estate of Account Owner Moïse Wolff or Account Owner Anne Wolf closed these accounts and received the proceeds.

Right of Appeal

Pursuant to Article 30 of the Rules, the Claimants 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 Claimants should send appeals in writing to the above address and should include all reasons for the appeal. Appeals submitted without either a plausible suggestion of error or relevant new evidence may be summarily denied.

Scope of the Denial

The Claimants should be aware that, pursuant to Article 20 of the Rules, the CRT will carry out further research on their claims to determine whether there are additional Swiss bank accounts to which they might be entitled, including research of the Total Accounts Database (consisting of records of 4.1 million Swiss bank accounts which existed between 1933 and 1945).

Certification of the Denial

The CRT certifies this Denial for approval by the Court.

Claims Resolution Tribunal
13 October 2004