

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant [REDACTED]
represented by [REDACTED]

in re Accounts of Anna Lachmann

Claim Number: 211912/PY/MG¹

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], (the “Claimant”) to the accounts of Anna Lachmann and Max Lachmann. The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Max Lachmann 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 accounts of Anna Lachmann (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 Form asserting that her mother, Anna Lachmann, née Steinle, who was born on 16 October 1897 in Munich, Germany, and was married to [REDACTED] in 1928 in Stettin, Germany (today Szczecin, Poland), owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that her mother, who was Jewish, resided at Brüderstrasse 8 in Stettin from 1933 to 1940. The Claimant stated further that her mother was a housewife, who also assisted in her husband’s shoe store, which was located on Grabowerstrasse in Stettin. According to the Claimant, she and her parents were deported to the Lublin Ghetto before being subsequently deported to several concentration camps. According to the Claimant, her mother survived the Second World War and died on 7 March 1986 in Munich. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 4 January 1929 in Stettin.

¹ The Claimant submitted an Initial Questionnaire with the Court in 1999 and a Claim Form to the CRT. The CRT is treating the Initial Questionnaire and the Claim Form under the consolidated Claim Number 211912.

In support of her application, the Claimant submitted a sworn statement from a Jewish deportee from Stettin, in which she indicates that the Lachmann family resided in Stettin prior to their deportation to Lublin.

Information Available in the Bank's Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to her relative, Anna Lachmann. The auditors who carried out 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.

Accounts 1010371 and 1010372

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Anna Lachmann, who resided in Germany. The Bank's records also indicate the Account Owner's city of residence as well as the title held by her or her spouse. Furthermore, the Bank's records indicate the dates of opening and closing 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.

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 mother matches the published name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimant differs materially from the unpublished information about the Account Owner available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimant stated that her mother resided in Stettin, Germany (now Szczecin, Poland). In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner resided in another city in Germany, more than 600 kilometers away from Stettin. Furthermore, the Claimant stated that her parents worked in a shoe store. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner or her husband held a title inconsistent with the Claimant's parents' professions. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimant's mother 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
30 September 2004