

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Denial

to Claimant Harry Langer

in re Account of Josef Langer

Claim Number: 215983/SB^{1,2}

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of Harry Langer (the “Claimant”) to the published account of Josef Langer (the “Account Owner”) at the [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).

All denials are published. Where a claimant has not requested confidentiality, as in this case, only the name of the bank has been redacted.

Information Provided by the Claimant

The Claimant submitted a Claim Form asserting that his uncle, Josef Langer, who was born in Pacov (today the Czech Republic), and was married to Helena Berman, owned a Swiss bank account. The Claimant stated that his uncle, who was Jewish, worked and resided in Prague (today the Czech Republic), where he was a manufacturer of fruit liquor. The Claimant further stated that his uncle perished sometime during the Second World War. The Claimant indicated that he was born on 2 July 1924 in Berlin, Germany.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of his claim, including an extensive family tree, which provides details for over fifty family members covering seven generations of the family history.

Information Available in the Bank’s Records

The CRT notes that the Claimant submitted a claim to an account belonging to his relative, Josef Langer. 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 one account whose owner’s name matches that provided

¹ The Claimant submitted one additional claim, which is registered under the Claim Number 215982. In a separate decision, the CRT awarded the accounts of Heinrich Langer to the Claimant. See *In re Accounts of Heinrich Langer* (approved on 11 March 2003).

² 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 and the Claim Form under the consolidated Claim Number 215982.

by the Claimant. The 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 5024231

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Josef Langer, whose official address was in Prague, Czechoslovakia, and that the Power of Attorney Holder was Olga Langer. The Bank's records also indicate the Account Owner's street addresses in Prague, occupation, and the city in which his place of work was located, and to which correspondence from the Bank was sent. Furthermore, the Bank's records indicate the Power of Attorney Holder's street address, city and country of residence. Finally, the Bank's records contain the Account Owner's signature.

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 his relative. Although the name of his uncle 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 his uncle lived and worked in Prague as a manufacturer of fruit liquor. In contrast, the Bank's records show that although the Account Owner had an official address in Prague, he worked in another city, which is over 100 kilometers from Prague, and to which his correspondence from the Bank was sent. The records show that the Account Owner had a different occupation. The CRT also notes that the Claimant did not identify the published Power of Attorney Holder, even though this person appears to be closely related to the Account Owner. The CRT notes that the name Olga Langer does not appear anywhere in the extensive family tree provided by the Claimant. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimant's uncle 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 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, 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
8 August 2006