

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

## **Certified Award**

to Claimant Frederic Glassman  
represented by Diana Glassman

## **in re Account of Leon Grünberg**

Claim Number: 224312/ES<sup>1</sup>

Award Amount: 26,750.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of Frederic Glassman (the “Claimant”) to the account of Leon Grünberg (the “Account Owner”) at the Zurich branch of [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).

All awards 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 identifying the Account Owner as his maternal grandfather, Leon Aaron Grünberg, who was born in Ivesti, Romania, and was married to Sophie Bernstein in Braila, Romania. The Claimant stated that his grandparents had two children: Hilda Glassman, née Grünberg, the Claimant's mother, who was born on 17 March 1904 in Braila and died on 22 April 1980 in New York, New York, the United States; and Sara Grünberg, who was born on 11 December 1905 in Braila and died on 11 November 1996 in Brussels, Belgium. The Claimant explained that his grandfather's official name was Aron Leon, but that everyone called him Leon. The Claimant further explained that his grandfather, who was Jewish, was a businessman, an accountant, and an investment advisor who resided in Bucharest, Romania. The Claimant indicated that his grandfather's possessions were confiscated by the Nazis during the Second World War, that his business was Aryanized, and that he was forced to perform slave labor. The Claimant indicated that his grandfather resided in Bucharest until 1950, when he left for Israel, where he resided until his death in 1966. In support of his claim, the Claimant submitted the death certificates of his mother and maternal aunt, identifying their father as Aron Leon Grünberg, or Greenberg; and a photograph of his

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<sup>1</sup> The Claimant submitted three additional claims to the accounts of Sophie Grünberg and Benjamin Glassman, which are registered under the Claim Numbers 224313, 224358 and 224359. The CRT will treat the claims to these accounts in separate decisions.

grandfather, which is signed "*L. Grunberg, bunicul tau*" (L. Grunberg, your grandfather") on the reverse. The Claimant stated that he was born in Bucharest on 21 October 1926.

### **Information Available in the Bank's Records**

The Bank's records consist of an account statement, a list of dormant accounts, and an extract from the Bank's ledger. According to these records, the Account Owner was Leon Grünberg, who resided in Bucharest, Romania. The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner held a demand deposit account, which was transferred on 11 December 1948 to a suspense account for dormant assets. The balance of the account on the date of its transfer was 112.00 Swiss Francs. According to the Bank's records, the account was closed by bank fees on 30 June 1964.

### **The CRT's Analysis**

#### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant's grandfather's name matches the published name and city of residence of the Account Owner. In support of his claim, the Claimant submitted the death certificates of his mother and maternal aunt, identifying their birthplaces as Romania and their father as Aron Leon Grünberg; providing independent verification that the person who is claimed to be the Account Owner had the same name and resided in the same country as the person recorded in the Bank's records as the Account Owner. The CRT notes that the name Leon Grünberg appears only once on the 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"). The CRT further notes that the other claim to this account was disconfirmed because that claimant provided a different country of residence than the country of residence of the Account Owner. Taking all of these factors into account, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has plausibly identified the Account Owner.

#### Status of the Account Owner as a Victim of Nazi Persecution

The Claimant has made a plausible showing that the Account Owner was a Victim of Nazi Persecution. The Claimant stated that the Account Owner was Jewish, that he lived in Romania during the Second World War, that his possessions were confiscated by the Nazis, and that he was forced to perform slave labor.

#### The Claimant's Relationship to the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that he is related to the Account Owner by submitting specific biographical information and documents, including his mother's, and his aunt's death certificates, as well as a signed photograph of the Account Owner, demonstrating that he is the

Account Owner's grandson. There is no information to indicate that the Account Owner has other surviving heirs.

#### The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The Bank's records indicate the account was transferred to a suspense account for dormant assets and later closed by bank fees.

#### Basis for the Award

The CRT has determined that an Award may be made in favor of the Claimant. First, the claim is admissible in accordance with the criteria contained in Article 18 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the "Rules"). Second, the Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that the Account Owner was his grandfather, and that relationship justifies an Award. Finally, the CRT has determined that neither the Account Owner nor his heirs received the proceeds of the claimed accounts.

#### Amount of the Award

In this case, the Account Owner held a demand deposit account. The Bank's records indicate that the value of the account as of 11 December 1948 was 112.00 Swiss Francs. According to Article 29 of the Rules, if the amount in a demand deposit account was less than 2,140.00 Swiss Francs, and in the absence of plausible evidence to the contrary, the amount in the account shall be determined to be 2,140.00 Swiss francs. The current value of the amount of the award is determined by multiplying the balance as determined by Article 29 by a factor of 12.5, in accordance with Article 31(1) of the Rules, to produce a total award amount of 26,750.00 Swiss Francs.

#### **Scope of the Award**

The Claimant should be aware that, pursuant to Article 20 of the Rules, the CRT will carry out further research on his claim to determine whether there are additional Swiss bank accounts to which he 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 Award**

The CRT certifies this Award for approval by the Court and payment by the Special Masters.