CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Award

to Claimant Hedwig Koritschoner

in re Account of Hedwig Hauser

Claim Number: 204125/MBC

Award Amount: 9,960.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of Hedwig Koritschoner, née Hauser, (the "Claimant") to the accounts of Hedwig Hauser (the "Account Owner") at the Küsnacht branch of the [REDACTED] (the "Bank").

All awards 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 identifying the Account Owner as herself, Hedwig Koritschoner, née Hauser. The Claimant stated that she was born on 9 December 1915 in Prosimerice (Prossmeritz) near Znaim, Czechoslovakia. The Claimant stated that until 1939, she lived at Wittlakgasse 14 in Znojmo and in Ung. Hradisch, Czechoslovakia. The Claimant further stated that she is Jewish, and that she fled Czechoslovakia immediately after the Nazi occupation of the country in 1939. According to the Claimant, she tried to flee on a refugee ship bound for Palestine, but it was intercepted by British forces and redirected to Mauritius, where the Claimant was detained until 1945. The Claimant stated that both her parents perished in Treblinka. The Claimant further explained that in the 1930s, her mother told her that she had opened an account into which she deposited 30,000.00 Czech Crowns for the benefit of the Claimant.

Information Available in the Bank Records

The Bank's records consist of a list of accounts that were transferred to a suspense account and printouts from the Bank's database. According to these records, the Account Owner was Hedwig Hauser. The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner held a savings account, numbered 2153. The account was transferred to a collective account for dormant assets on 4

September 1985. The amount in the account on the date of its transfer was 41.45 Swiss Francs. The account remains open and dormant.

The CRT's Analysis

Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant's name matches the published name of the Account Owner. The CRT notes that the Bank's records do not contain any specific information about the Account Owner other than her name. In addition, the CRT notes that the Claimant stated that her mother opened the account for the benefit of the Claimant in the 1930s, when the Claimant was approximately 15 years of age. The CRT further notes that the Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner held a savings account, a type of account promoted by banks in Switzerland for parents to establish on behalf of their minor children. The CRT also notes that the name Hedwig Hauser appears only once on the February 2001 list of published accounts determined by the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP") to be probably or possibly those of victims of Nazi persecution (the "ICEP List"). Finally, the CRT notes that there are no other claims to this account. 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 she is Jewish, that her parents perished in Treblinka, and that she fled from the Nazis and attempted to immigrate to Palestine in 1939, however, she was detained by the British in Mauritius until the end of the Second World War.

The Claimant's Relationship to the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that she is the Account Owner.

The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The bank records indicate that on 4 September 1985 the account was transferred to a suspense account for dormant assets, where it remains open and dormant.

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 she is the Account Owner. Finally, the CRT has determined that the Account Owner did not receive the proceeds of the claimed account.

Amount of the Award

In this case, the Account Owner held one savings account. The bank records indicate that the value of the savings account was 41.45 Swiss Francs as of 4 September 1985. According to Article 29 of the Rules, if the amount in a savings account was less than 830.00 Swiss Francs, and in the absence of plausible evidence to the contrary, the amount in the account shall be determined to be 830.00 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, in accordance with Article 31(1) of the Rules, to produce a total award amount of 9,960.00 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 her claim to determine whether there are additional Swiss bank accounts to which she 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.

Claims Resolution Tribunal
June 3, 2003