

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

## **Certified Award**

to Claimant [REDACTED]

**in re Account of *Frau* Hermann Hellmann**

Claim Number: 219299/MBC

Award Amount: 162,500.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], (the “Claimant”) to the published account of *Frau* Hermann Hellmann (the “Account Owner”) at 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 her maternal grandmother, Emma Hellmann, née [REDACTED], who was born on 22 July 1868 in Verona, Italy, and was married to Hermann Hellmann in 1888. The Claimant stated that Emma and Hermann Hellmann had two children: [REDACTED], who was born on 29 September 1889 in Bamberg, Germany and died in May 1958 in London, England; and [REDACTED], née [REDACTED] (the Claimant’s mother), who was born on 8 December 1889 in Bamberg and died on 7 October 1987 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The Claimant stated that her grandfather died in 1919 in Bamberg and indicated that her grandmother continued to be known as *Frau* (“Mrs.”) Hermann Hellmann after his death. In a telephone conversation with the CRT on 9 August 2002, the Claimant indicated that her grandfather used the professional title *Kommerzienrat* prior to his death. According to the Claimant, her grandmother, who was Jewish, lived at Schönleinplatz in Bamberg between the years 1887 and 1932, at Brentandstrasse 10 in Frankfurt, Germany, between 1932 and 1940, and on Escherheimerlandstrasse in Frankfurt between 1940 and 1942. The Claimant stated that in 1942, her grandmother was deported to a concentration camp, probably to Sobibor, where she perished. The Claimant further stated that her family was forced to flee Germany for Holland, that her mother and sister went into hiding, and that she herself was deported to a concentration camp. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 22 May 1920 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

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

The Bank's record consists of a customer card. According to this record, the Account Owner was *Frau Kommerzienrat* Hermann Hellmann, who lived in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The Bank's record indicates that the Account Owner held a custody account, numbered L44174, which was opened on 30 June 1931 and closed on 6 February 1935 to an unknown entity. The amount in the account on the date of its closure is unknown. There is no evidence in the Bank's records that the Account Owner or her heirs closed the account and received the proceeds themselves.

## **The CRT's Analysis**

### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly identified the Account Owner. Her grandmother's married name and grandfather's name match the published name of the Account Owner. The Claimant identified her grandmother's city of residence and her grandfather's professional title, which matches unpublished information about the Account Owner contained in the Bank's records. In support of her claim, the Claimant submitted a family tree and a letter explaining her grandmother's use of her grandfather's name, as *Frau* Hermann Hellmann, even after his death. The CRT notes that there are no other claims to this account.

Additionally, the CRT notes that a database containing the names of victims of Nazi persecution includes a person named Emma Hellmann, née [REDACTED], and indicates that her date of birth was 22 July 1868 and place of birth was Verona, Italy, which matches information about that Account Owner provided by the Claimant. The database is a compilation of names from various sources, including the Yad Vashem Memorial of Israel.

### 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 and that she lived in Germany until she was deported to a concentration camp, where she perished. As noted above, a person named Emma Hellmann, née [REDACTED], was included in the CRT's database of victims.

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

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that the Account Owner is her grandmother by providing detailed biographical information that matches unpublished information about the Account Owner contained in the Bank's records. There is no information to indicate that the Account Owner has other surviving heirs.

## The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

Given that in 1933 the Nazis embarked on a campaign to seize the domestic and foreign assets of Jewish nationals in Germany through the enforcement of flight taxes and other confiscatory measures including confiscation of assets held in Swiss banks; that the Account Owner's account was closed in 1935; that the Account Owner remained in Germany until 1942 when she was deported to a concentration camp, where she perished, and would not have been able to repatriate her account to Germany without its confiscation; and given the application of Presumptions (a), (h) and (j), as provided in Article 28 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the "Rules") (see Appendix A) and Appendix C,<sup>1</sup> the CRT concludes that it is plausible that the account proceeds were not paid to the Account Owner or her heirs. Based on its precedent and the Rules, the CRT applies presumptions to assist in the determination of whether or not Account Owners or their heirs received the proceeds of their accounts.

## 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. Second, the Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that the Account Owner was her grandmother, and that relationship justifies an Award. Finally, the CRT has determined that it is plausible that neither the Account Owner nor her heirs received the proceeds of the claimed account.

## Amount of the Award

In this case, the Account Owner held one custody account. Pursuant to Article 29 of the Rules, when the value of an account is unknown, as is the case here, the average value of the same or a similar type of account in 1945 is used to calculate the current value of the account being awarded. Based on the investigation carried out pursuant to the instructions of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP" or the "ICEP Investigation"), in 1945 the average value of a custody account was 13,000.00 Swiss Francs. The current value of this amount is calculated by multiplying it by a factor of 12.5, in accordance with Article 31(1) of the Rules, to produce a total award amount of 162,500.00 Swiss Francs.

## **Scope of the Award**

The Claimant should be aware that, pursuant to Article 20 of the Rules, the CRT would 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).

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix C appears on the CRT II website – [www.crt-ii.org](http://www.crt-ii.org).

**Certification of the Award**

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

Claims Resolution Tribunal  
September 15, 2003