

CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

Certified Award

to Claimant [REDACTED]
represented by [REDACTED]

in re Account of Aladar Jordan

Claim Number: 150084/AC

Award Amount: 26,750.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the published account of Aladar Jordan (the “Account Owner”) at the Geneva 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 his father, Avraham Aladar Jordan, who was born on 15 March 1889 in Miskolc, Hungary, and was married to [REDACTED], née [REDACTED]. The Claimant stated that his father’s parents’ names were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and that his parents, who were Jewish, had two children before they divorced: the Claimant and his sister, [REDACTED], who was born on 8 April 1917 in The Hague, the Netherlands. The Claimant indicated that his father lived in Paris, France from 1927 until 1944, when he was deported first to the Drancy transit camp near Paris, and then to Auschwitz. The Claimant further stated that his mother and sister were living in Marseille, France, and that they were interned on 30 April 1944 in the Drancy transit camp before being deported to Auschwitz. The Claimant stated that his both his parents and his sister perished in 1944 in Auschwitz, and that he himself had emigrated to Palestine in 1935.

The Claimant submitted documents in support of his claim, including: 1) a copy of his birth certificate, indicating that [REDACTED] was born on 20 April 1915 in Senica, Czechoslovakia, and that his parents were Aladár Jordán and [REDACTED], née [REDACTED]; 2) a copy of a document issued by the Ministry of the Interior of the State of Israel, stating that [REDACTED] was born on 20 April 1915 in Czechoslovakia, that he moved to Israel on 15 August 1935, and that his parents, who were Jewish, were Avraham and [REDACTED] Jordan; 3) a copy of a document issued by the district court of Aachen, Germany, certifying that [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], a divorced woman born on 20 August 1893 in Senica, Slovakia, and

[REDACTED], a single woman born on 8 April 1917 in The Hague, the Netherlands, and who resided in Marseille, France, were both taken from Marseille on 30 April 1944 and imprisoned in the Drancy transit camp before being deported to Auschwitz on 20 May 1944; and 4) a copy of a document issued by the Ministry of the Interior of the State of Israel, certifying that [REDACTED] legally changed his name to [REDACTED] on 7 January 1954. The Claimant stated that he was born on 20 April 1915 in Senica, Czechoslovakia (now Senica, Slovakia).

Information Available in the Bank's Record

The Bank's record consists of a customer card. According to this record, the Account Owner was Aladar Jordan, who resided in Paris, France. The Bank's record indicates that the Account Owner held one demand deposit account, which was opened on 26 January 1940.

The Bank's record indicates that the account was closed on 8 November 1940. The Bank's record does not indicate to whom it was paid, nor does this record indicate the value of this account. There is no evidence in the Bank's record that the Account Owner or his 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. The Claimant's father's name and country of residence match the published name and country of residence of the Account Owner. The Claimant identified the Account Owner's city of residence, which matches unpublished information about the Account Owner contained in the Bank's record.

In support of his claim, the Claimant submitted documents, including: 1) a copy of his birth certificate, showing that his father was Aladár Jordán; and 2) a copy of a document issued by the Ministry of the Interior of the State of Israel certifying that [REDACTED]'s father was Avraham Jordan, providing independent verification that the person who is claimed to be the Account Owner had the same name recorded in the Bank's record as the name of the Account Owner.

Additionally, the CRT notes that a database containing the names of victims of Nazi persecution includes a person named Aladar Jordan, and indicates that he was born in March 1889, that his place of birth was Miskolc, Hungary, and that he resided in France, which matches the information about the Account Owner provided by the Claimant. The database is a compilation of names from various sources, including the Yad Vashem Memorial of Israel.

The CRT notes that the name Aladar Jordan appears only once on the February 2001 published 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 there are no other claims to this account.

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 he perished in 1944 in Auschwitz. As noted above, a person named Aladar Jordan was included in the CRT's database of victims.

The Claimant's Relationship to the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that he is related to the Account Owner by submitting specific information and documents, demonstrating that the Account Owner was the Claimant's father. These documents include a copy of his birth certificate, stating that his father was Aladár Jordán. There is no information to indicate that the Account Owner has other surviving heirs.

The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The Bank's record indicates that the account was closed on 8 November 1940.

Given that the Account Owner lived in France until 1944, when he was deported via Drancy to Auschwitz, where he perished; that there is no record of the payment of the Account Owner's account to him; that the Account Owner and his heirs would not have been able to obtain information about his account after the Second World War from the Bank due to the Swiss banks' practice of withholding or misstating account information in their responses to inquiries by account owners because of the banks' concern regarding double liability; 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), the CRT concludes that it is plausible that the account proceeds were not paid to the Account Owner or his 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 his father, and that relationship justifies an Award. Third, the CRT has determined that it is plausible that neither the Account Owner nor his heirs received the proceeds of the claimed account.

Amount of the Award

In this case, the Account Owner held one demand deposit 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 demand deposit account was 2,140.00 Swiss Francs ("SF"). 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 SF 26,750.00.

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.

Claims Resolution Tribunal
9 March 2005