

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

## **Certified Denial**

to Claimant [REDACTED 1]  
also acting on behalf of [REDACTED 2] and  
[REDACTED 3]

## **in re Account of Henri Grumbach**

Claim Number: 216304/MW

This Certified Denial is based upon the claim of [REDACTED 1], née [REDACTED], (the “Claimant”) to the published account of Henri Grumbach (the “Account Owner”) at the Zurich branch of the [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).

All denials 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 father, Henri Grumbach, who was born on 30 April 1872 in Bollwiller, France, and was married to [REDACTED] in 1913 in Metz, France. The Claimant indicated that her parents had three children: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and the Claimant. The Claimant explained that her father, who was Jewish, was forced to seek refuge in various locations in France to avoid Nazi persecution between 1940 and 1945. The Claimant indicated that her father died on 16 January 1956 in Mulhouse, France, and that her mother died in Mulhouse on 17 September 1950. The Claimant further indicated that her brother, [REDACTED], died on 22 March 1998 in Mulhouse. The Claimant submitted her own birth certificate, which indicates that her parents were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], who both resided in Mulhouse; her father’s birth certificate, bearing a notation that Henri Grumbach died in Mulhouse on 16 January 1956; and her mother’s birth certificate. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 17 November 1916 in Mulhouse. The Claimant represents her brother, [REDACTED 2], who was born on 20 January 1914 in Bollwiller, and her nephew, [REDACTED 3], who was born on 12 February 1950 in Mulhouse.

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

The Bank's records consist of a power of attorney form and printouts from the Bank's database. According to these records, the Account Owner was Henri Grumbach and the Power of Attorney Holder was *Madame* (Mrs.) Hermine Grumbach, the Account Owner's wife, who resided at 11 rue des Bons Enfants in Mulhouse, France. The Bank's records further indicate that the Account Owner and Power of Attorney Holder signed the power of attorney form on 15 February 1932.

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner held an account, the type of which is not indicated. The Bank's records further indicate that the account was closed on 13 May 1932. The amount in the account on the date of its closure is unknown.

## **The CRT's Analysis**

### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly identified the Account Owner. The Claimant's father's name, city and country of residence match the published name, city and country of residence of the Account Owner. The Claimant identified the Account Owner's relationship to the Power of Attorney Holder, which matches unpublished information contained in the Bank's records. In support of her claim, the Claimant submitted documents, including her birth certificate, indicating that her parents were Henri and [REDACTED] Grumbach of Mulhouse, and her father's birth certificate, bearing a notation that Henri Grumbach died in Mulhouse on 16 January 1956, providing independent verification that the person who is claimed to be the Account Owner had the same name and resided in the same city recorded in the Bank's records as the name and city of residence of the Account Owner.

Additionally, the CRT notes that a database containing the names of victims of Nazi persecution includes a person named Henri Grumbach, and indicates that his place of birth was Bollwiller, and that he resided in Mulhouse, 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 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 was forced to seek refuge in various locations in France between 1940 to 1945 to avoid Nazi persecution. As noted above, a person named Henri Grumbach was included in the CRT's database of victims.

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

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that she 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 her own birth certificate, which indicates that her parents were Henrich Grumbach and [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], who both resided in Mulhouse. There is no information to indicate that the Account Owner has other surviving heirs other than the parties which the Claimant is representing.

#### The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

In this case, the Account Owner held one account of unknown type. The Bank's records indicate that the account was closed on 13 May 1932, which was prior to the German invasion and occupation of France on 12 May 1940. Therefore, the CRT determines that the Account Owner or the Power of Attorney Holder was able to access this account, and concludes that the Account Owner or the Power of Attorney Holder closed this account and received the proceeds themselves.

#### 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 the Special Master, c/o Claims Resolution Tribunal, P.O. Box 9564, 8036 Zurich, Switzerland.

The Claimant should send appeals in writing to the above address and should include all reasons for 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, 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 Denial**

The CRT certifies this Denial for approval by the Court.

Claims Resolution Tribunal  
18 November 2004