

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

## **Certified Denial**

to Claimant [REDACTED 1] and [REDACTED 2]

### **in re Account of Alfred Held**

Claim Numbers: 211540/PY/SB; 214358/PY/SB<sup>1,2</sup>

This Certified Denial is based on the claim of [REDACTED 1], née [REDACTED], (“Claimant [REDACTED 1]”) and the claim of [REDACTED 2], née [REDACTED], (“Claimant [REDACTED 2]”) (together the “Claimants”) to the published account of Alfred Held (the “Account Owner”) at 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 Claimants**

The Claimants submitted Claim Forms identifying the Account Owner as their father, George (Alfred) Held, who was born on 6 September 1877 in Breslau, Germany, and was married to their mother, [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], on 1 April 1915, also in Breslau. The Claimants stated that from 1920 onwards, their parents, who were Jewish, resided in Berlin, Germany, initially at Hasenheide 19, and subsequently at Ansbacherstrasse 34. According to the Claimants, their father, a merchant and a manufacturer’s representative, gradually lost his contacts and was eventually forced to turn over his business to his non-Jewish assistant in 1939. The Claimants stated that their father fled Germany in 1940 for the United States, where he remained until his death on 10 August 1954 in New York. In telephone conversations with the CRT on 26 June 2003, the Claimants stated that they were not aware of whether their father travelled to France or otherwise had connections to France. Claimant [REDACTED 1] indicated that she was born on 14 March 1916 in Berlin. Claimant [REDACTED 2] indicated that she was born on 29 November 1920 in Berlin.

Claimant [REDACTED 1] submitted the following documents in support of her application: (1) her parents’ marriage certificate, which indicates that her mother resided in Breslau; (2)

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<sup>1</sup> According to Article 37 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the “Rules”), claims to the same or related accounts may be joined in one proceeding at the CRT’s discretion. In this case, the CRT determines it appropriate to join the two claims of the Claimants in one proceeding.

<sup>2</sup> Claimant [REDACTED 1] and Claimant [REDACTED 2] both submitted an Initial Questionnaire with the Court in 1999 and a Claim Form to the CRT. The CRT is treating the Initial Questionnaire and the Claim Form under the consolidated Claim Numbers of 211540 and 214358, respectively. In the Claim Forms, the Claimants claimed an account belonging to Johanna Held, née Cohn. The CRT will treat the claims to this account in a separate decision.

her father's German identity card; and (3) her birth certificate, which indicates that her father resided in Berlin and refers to her father as "Alfred Georg Held."

Claimant [REDACTED 2] submitted the same documents as Claimant [REDACTED 1] in support of her application. In addition, Claimant [REDACTED 2] submitted her birth certificate, which indicates that her parents resided in Berlin and also refers to her father as "Alfred Georg Held."

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

The CRT notes that the Claimants submitted a claim to an account belonging to their relative, Georg (Alfred) Held. The auditors who carried out the investigation of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP" or "ICEP Investigation") reported one account whose owner's name is substantially similar to that provided by the Claimant. The account is identified below by its Account Identification Number, which is a number assigned to the account by the ICEP auditors for tracking purposes.

#### Account 1014726

The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner was Alfred Held, who resided in France. The Bank's records also indicate the Account Owner's city of residence. Furthermore, the Bank's records indicate the date of closing of the account at issue.

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

#### Admissibility of the Claims

The CRT has determined that the claims are admissible according to Article 18 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the "Rules").

#### Identification of the Account Owner

The CRT concludes that the Claimants have not identified the Account Owner as their relative. Although the name of their father is substantially similar to the published name of the Account Owner, the information provided by the Claimants differs materially from the published information about the Account Owner available in the Bank's records. Specifically, the Claimants stated that their father resided in Berlin, Germany, and that they were not aware that their father ever travelled to France or had any connection to it. In contrast, the Bank's records show that the Account Owner resided in France. The CRT also notes that the Claimant stated and provided documents which indicate that their father's name was George Alfred Held or Alfred Georg Held. However, the Bank's records do not indicate the name George or Georg. Consequently, the CRT is unable to conclude that the Account Owner and the Claimants' father are the same person.

#### Right of Appeal

Pursuant to Article 30 of the Rules, the Claimants 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 Claimants should send appeals in writing to the above address and should include all reasons for the appeal. If more than one account has been denied in this Certified Denial, the Claimants should identify the Account Identification Number that forms the basis of the appeal. Appeals submitted without either a plausible suggestion of error or relevant new evidence may be summarily denied.

### **Scope of the Denial**

The Claimants should be aware that the CRT will carry out further research on their claims to determine whether an award may be made based upon the information provided by the Claimants or upon information from other sources.

### **Certification of the Denial**

The CRT certifies this Denial for approval by the Court.

Claims Resolution Tribunal  
30 September 2004