

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

## **Certified Denial**

to Claimant [REDACTED]

**Claimed Account Owners: Hermann Katz and Jakob Katz<sup>1</sup>**

Claim Numbers: 217639/RT; 217645/RT; 217646/RT; 217647/RT; 217539/RT

This Certified Denial is to the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to Swiss bank accounts potentially owned by the Claimant’s relatives, Hermann (Heschel, Hascal, Hersch, Herman) Katz (Lieberman, Lieberman) and Jakob (Jacob) Katz (the “Claimed Account Owners”).

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 five claims stating that his grandfather, Hermann Katz, was Jewish, was born in 1879, and was a cantor, owner of a synagogue, veterinarian, farmer, mayor, teacher and possibly also a rabbi. The Claimant further stated that Hermann Katz studied in Romania, Hungary, Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia. Specifically, the Claimant stated that Hermann Katz resided in Nyirtura, Hungary, in the 1920s and 1930s, and in Kisvarda, Hungary beginning sometime in the 1930s until 1944, when he was deported. In an email to the CRT, the Claimant further stated that his mother’s half-brother, Jakob Katz, resided in Israel, France, and the United States, but did not state when or where exactly Jakob Katz resided in these countries. The Claimant did not provide any further information about Jakob Katz.

### **The CRT’s Investigation**

The CRT matched the names of Hermann (Heschel, Hascal, Hersch, Herman) Katz (Lieberman, Lieberman) and Jakob (Jacob) Katz to the names of all account owners in the Account History Database and identified accounts belonging to individuals whose names match, or are substantially similar to, the name of the Claimed Account Owners. In doing so, the CRT used

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<sup>1</sup> The Claimant should note that this determination relates only to the Claim Number and Claimed Account Owners stated above, and that the CRT is aware that the Claimant may have submitted other claims.

advanced name matching systems and computer programs, and considered variations of names, including name variations provided by Yad Vashem, The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, in Jerusalem, Israel, to ensure that all possible name matches were identified. However, a close review of the relevant bank records indicated that the information contained therein was inconsistent with the information the Claimant provided regarding the Claimed Account Owners. Accordingly, the CRT was unable to conclude that any of these accounts belonged to the Claimed Account Owners.

## **The CRT's Analysis**

### Identification of the Account Owners

The list below contains names of account owners that match the names of the Claimed Account Owners and the reasons why the CRT has concluded that the Claimed Account Owners and an account owner are not the same person. If an account owner's place of residence was published, that place of residence is also listed.

*Name: Hermann H. Katz (Germany); Hermann A. Katz (Germany)<sup>2</sup>*

*Account Identification Numbers: 1012718; 1012719; 1012720; 1012721; 1012722; 1012723*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Hermann Katz, resided in Hungary from the early 1920s until 1944. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in Germany during the time when the Claimant's relative resided in Hungary. The CRT further notes that the Claimant did not identify the joint account owner of the accounts, who was closely related to the account owner.*

*Name: Hermann Katz (Bucharest, Romania)*

*Account Identification Numbers: 4022536; 4022537*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Hermann Katz, was born in and went to school in Romania and resided in Hungary between the early 1920s and 1944. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in Romania during the time when the Claimant's relative resided in Hungary. The CRT notes that the Claimant did not identify the joint account owners, who are indicated to be closely related to the account owner. The CRT further notes that the accounts were awarded to a different claimant, who identified unpublished information about the account owner, including his address and the names of the joint account owners.*

*Name: Hermann H. Katz (Pforzheim, Germany)*

*Account Identification Numbers: 5024996; 5032755*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Hermann Katz, resided in Hungary from the early 1920s until 1944. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in Pforzheim, Germany, during the time when the Claimant's relative resided in Hungary.*

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<sup>2</sup> The CRT notes that on the February 2001 published list of account owners, the names "Hermann A. Katz" and "Hermann H. Katz" both appear as owning six accounts. Upon careful review of the records, the CRT has determined that "Hermann A. Katz" was published in error and that the name refers to the joint owner of these accounts.

*Name: Hermann Katz (Germany)*

*Account Identification Number: 1012703*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Hermann Katz, resided in Romania, Hungary, Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in Germany and another country, which the Claimant did not identify.*

*Name: Jacob Katz (Nice, France)*

*Account Identification Number: 5027462*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that his relative, Jakob Katz, resided in Israel, France and the United States. The CRT notes that the Claimant did not provide any further information about his relative, including where and when exactly Jakob Katz resided in these countries. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in Nice, France. The CRT notes that the account was awarded to a different claimant who identified the account owner as her relative and who submitted documentation showing that that her relative resided in Nice.*

The Claimant should note that all accounts awarded by the CRT are published upon release on the CRT's website at [www.crt-ii.org](http://www.crt-ii.org).

### Right of Appeal and Request for Reconsideration

Pursuant to Article 30 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the "Rules"), the Claimant may appeal this decision or submit a request for reconsideration within ninety (90) days of the date of the letter accompanying this decision.

An appeal must be based upon a plausible suggestion of error regarding the CRT's conclusions set out in this decision. Any appeals which are submitted without a plausible suggestion of error shall be summarily denied. A request for reconsideration must be based on new documentary evidence not previously presented to the CRT that, if considered, would have led to a different outcome of the claim. Claimants should briefly explain the relevance of the newly submitted documents in view of the conclusions stated in the certified decision.

The Claimant should send appeals and/or requests for reconsideration in writing to the following address: Oren Wiener, Claims Resolution Tribunal, Attention: Appeals / Request for Reconsideration, P.O. Box 9564, 8036 Zurich, Switzerland. If more than one account has been treated in this decision, the Claimant should identify the account, including, where available, the Account Identification Number, that forms the basis of the appeal and/or request for reconsideration.

### **Scope of the Denial**

The CRT now considers the Claimant's claim to the accounts of Hermann Katz and Jakob Katz closed. Please note that this decision applies only to the Claim Number and Claimed Account Owners identified herein, and that the CRT is aware that the Claimant may have claimed accounts held by other persons or entities both in the Claim Number specified above and in other claims submitted to the CRT.

**Certification of the Denial**

The CRT certifies this Denial for approval by the Court.

Claims Resolution Tribunal  
11 March 2009