

# 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: Ida Strauss, Leo Strauss, Otto Strauss<sup>1</sup>**

Claim Numbers: 217433/HU; 217515/HU; 217563/HU

This determination is based on the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to a Swiss bank account potentially owned by Ida Strauss, Leo Strauss, and Otto Siegfried Strauss. The CRT did not locate an account belonging to Ida Strauss in the Account History Database prepared pursuant to the investigation of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons (“ICEP” or “ICEP Investigation”), which identified accounts probably or possibly belonging to Victims of Nazi Persecution, as defined in the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (the “Rules”).

This Certified Denial is to a Swiss bank account potentially owned by the Claimant’s relatives, Leo Strauss and Otto Siegfried Strauss (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 a claim stating that Leo Strauss and Otto Strauss, who were Jewish, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main, Germany.

### **The CRT’s Investigation**

The CRT matched the names of Leo Strauss and Otto Siegfried Strauss 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 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

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

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: Leo Strauss (Landau, Germany)*

*Account Identification Number: 5031115*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that her relative, Leo Strauss, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in Landau, which is over 120 kilometers from Aschaffenburg am Main. The CRT notes that Aschaffenburg am Main is a major city, and the account owner resided in Landau, which is significantly smaller than Aschaffenburg am Main, thus rendering it unlikely that the Claimant's relative would indicate Landau as his place of residence, even for the purposes of maintaining a Swiss bank account. Moreover, the CRT notes that the account at issue was awarded to another claimant, who definitely identified the account owner as his relative.*

*Name: Otto Strauss*

*Account Identification Number: 1013331*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that her relative, Otto Strauss, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main, Germany. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different country.*

*Name: Otto Strauss*

*Account Identification Number: 6002229*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that her relative, Otto Strauss, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main, Germany. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different country.*

*Name: Otto Strauss (Germany)*

*Account Identification Numbers: 1013333, 1013334*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that her relative, Otto Strauss, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different city, which is over 450 kilometers from Aschaffenburg am Main. The CRT notes that the Claimant did not identify the joint account owner, who appears to be a close relative of the account owner.*

*Name: Otto Strauss (Germany)*

*Account Identification Numbers: 1013756, 1013757*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that her relative, Otto Strauss, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different city, which is over 450 kilometers from Aschaffenburg am Main. The CRT notes that the Claimant did not identify the joint account owner, who appears to be a close relative of the account owner.*

*Name: Otto Strauss (Germany)*

*Account Identification Numbers: 1013776, 1013777*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that her relative, Otto Strauss, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different city, which is over 60 kilometers from Aschaffenburg am Main. The CRT notes that the account owner resided in a major city, which is significantly larger than Aschaffenburg am Main, and that there are several other major urban centers significantly closer to Aschaffenburg am Main than the account owner's city of residence, thus rendering it unlikely that the Claimant's relative would indicate the account owner's city of residence as his place of residence, even for the purposes of maintaining a Swiss bank account. The CRT further notes that the Claimant did not identify the account owner's academic or professional title.*

*Name: Siegfried Strauss (Germany)*

*Account Identification Number: 1014079*

*Specifically, the Claimant stated that her relative, Otto Siegfried Strauss, resided in Aschaffenburg am Main. In contrast, the records show that the account owner resided in a different city, which is over 120 kilometers from Aschaffenburg am Main. The CRT notes that the account owner resided in a major city, which is significantly larger than Aschaffenburg am Main, and that there are several other major urban centers significantly closer to Aschaffenburg am Main than the account owner's city of residence, thus rendering it unlikely that the Claimant's relative would indicate the account owner's city of residence as his place of residence, even for the purposes of maintaining a Swiss bank account. The CRT also notes that the bank's records do not indicate that the account owner's first name was Otto.*

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, 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 Ida Strauss, Leo Strauss, and Otto Siegfried Strauss closed. Please note that this decision applies only to the Claim Numbers 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  
8 August 2007