

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

---

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

## **Certified Award**

to Claimant [REDACTED]

### **in re Accounts of Friedrich Bondy**

Claim Number: 223730/MBC<sup>1</sup>

Award Amount: 53,500.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], (the “Claimant”) to the accounts of Friedrich Bondy (the “Account Owner”) at 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 her maternal grandfather, Bedrich Bondy, who was born on 15 July 1864 in Chotébor, Czechoslovakia, and was married to [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], who died on 12 January 1910. The Claimant stated that her grandfather, who was Jewish, was also known as Fridrich and resided at Riegrova 34, Chotébor. The Claimant indicted that her grandfather and his son, [REDACTED], co-owned a factory in Chotébor, Czechoslovakia, named *Bed Bendy Chotébor International*, an international factory for hair products. The Claimant further stated that her grandfather traveled for business and had international connections and was therefore able to open a Swiss bank account. The Claimant indicated that her grandfather later married for a second time, to [REDACTED], née [REDACTED]. The Claimant stated that her grandfather perished in Auschwitz on 15 December 1943, together with his second wife and three of his children. The Claimant further stated that her mother, [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], was the only child to survive the Holocaust, and that she died on 25 January 1980 in Prague, Czechoslovakia. The Claimant stated that she is the last surviving member of her family.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Claimant submitted additional claims to the accounts of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], which are registered under Claim Numbers 223731 and 223732. The CRT will treat the claims to these accounts in separate decisions.

In support of her claim, the Claimant submitted her grandfather's passport, indicating his first name was Bedrich; her own birth certificate, indicating that her mother was [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], and that her maternal grandfather was Bedrich Bondy; her mother's death certificate, indicating she was born in Chotébor; a letterhead from her grandfather's firm, indicating the firm was located in Chotébor; and a list from Theresienstadt, indicating her grandfather perished in Auschwitz. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 5 May 1928 in Prague.

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

The Bank's record consists of a customer card. According to this record, the Account Owner was Friedrich Bondy, who resided in Chotébor, Bohemia (Czechoslovakia). The Bank's record indicates that the Account Owner held two demand deposit accounts, which were closed on 10 April 1939 and 30 June 1939, respectively. The amounts in the accounts on the date of their closure are unknown. There is no evidence in the Bank's record that the Account Owner or his heirs closed the accounts and received the proceeds themselves.

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

#### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant's maternal grandfather's name is substantially similar to the published name of the Account Owner. The Claimant stated that her grandfather resided in Chotébor, Czechoslovakia, which matches unpublished information about the Account Owner contained in the Bank's record. The CRT notes that the Bank's record does not contain any specific information about the Account Owner other than his country and city of residence. In support of her claim, the Claimant submitted numerous documents, including her grandfather's passport, indicating his first name was Bedrich; her own birth certificate, indicating that her mother was [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], and that her maternal grandfather was Bedrich Bondy; her mother's death certificate, indicating she was born in Chotébor; a letterhead from her grandfather's firm, indicating the firm was located in Chotébor; and a list from Theresienstadt, indicating her grandfather perished in Auschwitz. The Claimant did not provide an independent verification that her grandfather's first name was also Friedrich, but she stated that he was also known as Fridrich. The CRT notes that a database containing the names of victims of Nazi persecution includes a person named Bedrich Bondy, and indicates that his date of birth was 15 July 1864 and his country of residence was Czechoslovakia, which match 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. Furthermore, the CRT notes that the other claims to these accounts were disconfirmed because those claimants provided a different city of residence than the city of residence of the Account Owner. Taking all of these factors into account, including the possibility of different transliterations of the name Bedrich in different languages

including Czech, German and French, the CRT concludes that the Claimant has plausibly identified the Account Owner.

#### 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 Auschwitz on 15 December 1943. As noted above, a person named Bedrich Bondy was included in the CRT 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 her own birth certificate, which indicates that her mother was [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], and that her maternal grandfather was Bedrich Bondy, demonstrating that the Account Owner was her grandfather.

#### The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

Given that both accounts were closed after the occupation of Bohemia, Czechoslovakia; that the Account Owner, his spouse and three of his children perished in Auschwitz; that there is no indication in the Bank's record that the Account Owner or their heirs received the proceeds of the accounts; and given the application of Presumptions (a), (h), (i), 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 proceeds of the accounts 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 her grandfather, and that relationship justifies an Award. Finally, the CRT has determined that it is plausible that neither the Account Owner nor his heirs received the proceeds of the claimed accounts.

#### Amount of the Award

In this case, the Account Owner held two demand deposit accounts. 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. Thus, the total 1945 average value of the accounts at issue was 4,280.00 Swiss Francs. 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 53,500.00 Swiss Francs.

### **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 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 Award**

The CRT certifies this Award for approval by the Court and payment by the Special Masters.

Claims Resolution Tribunal  
19 November 2003