# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

#### **Certified Award**

to Claimant [REDACTED] also acting on behalf of [REDACTED]

# in re Account of Jegosyja Feigenbaum

Claim Number: 600888/ES<sup>1</sup>

Award Amount: 26,750.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], (the "Claimant") to the account of [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]).<sup>2</sup> This Award is to the account of Jegosyja Feigenbaum (the "Account Owner") at the Zurich branch of 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 to the Holocaust Claims Processing Office ("HCPO") identifying the Account Owner as her paternal grandfather, Julius (Jegoszja) Feigenbaum, who was married to [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] or [REDACTED]) [REDACTED], née [REDACTED]. The Claimant indicated that her grandfather, who was Jewish, owned a record store located in Warsaw, Poland. According to information provided by the HCPO, a person named Juliuzs or Juliusz Feigenbaum founded the record company *Syrena-Record*, which was located at Chmielna 66 in Warsaw during the Second World War. The Claimant stated that her father, [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) who was born on 6 April 1913 in Warsaw, was one of the Account Owner's five children. The Claimant further stated that she did not have much information regarding her grandfather, but she knew he resided in Zurich at some point and that he died there in 1946 or 1947. The Claimant indicated that her father

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Claimant submitted a claim, numbered B-00521, on 12 January 1998, to the Holocaust Claims Processing Office ("HCPO") of the New York State Banking Department. This claim was referred by the HCPO to the CRT and has been assigned Claim Number 600888.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The CRT will treat the claim to this account in a separate decision.

was an electrical engineer. The Claimant further indicated that her father moved to Zurich, Switzerland, in approximately 1932 and returned to Poland in 1937. The Claimant stated that her father fled Poland for Switzerland in 1939. The Claimant indicated that her father's address in Zurich was Universitätstr. 118. The Claimant explained that her father emigrated from Switzerland to the United States in 1948, where he changed his name to [REDACTED]. The Claimant stated that her father died on 1 February 1985 in New York, New York.

In support of her claim, the Claimant submitted her father's death certificate, demonstrating that his father was Julius Feigenbaum, and her father's Polish passport, demonstrating he was born in Warsaw. The Claimant indicated that she was born on 30 July 1951 in New York, New York. The Claimant is representing [REDACTED], her sister, who was born on 13 June 1945 in Zurich, Switzerland.

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

The Bank's records consist of lists from 1950, 1955 and 1959 relating to internal Bank surveys identifying dormant accounts owned by Polish nationals; a list of dormant accounts of Polish nationals, dated 11 August 1955; lists of accounts of Polish nationals; internal memoranda regarding dormant assets of Polish nationals; a closing ledger; and printouts from the Bank's database. According to these records, the Account Owner was Jegosyja Feigenbaum, who resided in Poland. The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner held a numbered demand deposit account, numbered 2898, which was opened on 15 February 1932. According to the Bank's records, the last contact with the Account Owner took place in 1933.

The Bank's records indicate that the amount in the account was 285.50 Swiss Francs as of 31 May 1950. These records further indicate that the account was transferred to a suspense account for dormant assets on 8 November 1963. The account remains open in the Bank's suspense account.

### The CRT's Analysis

### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant's paternal grandfather's name matches the published name of the Account Owner. The Claimant stated that her grandfather owned a business in Warsaw, Poland, which matches the published information about the Account Owner's country of residence contained in the Bank's records. In support of her claim, the Claimant submitted documents, including her father's death certificate, demonstrating that his father was Julius Feigenbaum, and her father's Polish passport, demonstrating he was born in Warsaw, Poland, providing independent verification that the person who is claimed to be the Account Owner resided in the same town recorded in the Bank's records as the residence of the Account Owner. The CRT further notes that the name Jegoszja Feigenbaum appears only once on the February 2001 published list of accounts determined by the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP") to be probably or possibly those of victims of Nazi persecution. Furthermore, the

CRT notes that there are no other claims to this account. Taking all of these factors into account, 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 owned a record store in Warsaw, Poland.

## The Claimant's Relationship to the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that she is related to the Account Owner by submitting her father's death certificate, demonstrating that his father was Julius Feigenbaum.

### The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The Bank's records indicate the account remains open in the Bank's suspense account.

#### 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 Governing the Claims Resolution Process, as amended (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 neither the Account Owner, nor his heirs received the proceeds of the claimed account.

#### Amount of the Award

In this case, the Account Owner held a demand deposit account. The Bank's records indicate that the value of the demand deposit account as of 31 May 1950 was 285.50 Swiss Francs. According to Article 29 of the Rules, if the amount in a demand deposit account was less than 2,140.00 Swiss Francs, and in the absence of plausible evidence to the contrary, the amount in the account shall be determined to be 2,140.00 Swiss Francs. The current value of the amount of the award is determined by multiplying the balance as determined by Article 29 by a factor of 12.5, in accordance with Article 31(1) of the Rules, to produce a total award amount of 26,750.00 Swiss Francs.

### Division of the Award

According to Article 23(1)(c) of the Rules, if the Account Owner's spouse has not submitted a claim, the award shall be in favor of any descendants of the Account Owner who have submitted a claim, in equal shares by representation. In this case, the Claimant is representing her sister. Accordingly, the Claimant and her sister are each entitled to one-half of the total award amount.

# **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 31 December 2003