

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

---

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

## **Certified Award**

to Claimant Irma Maurer

### **in re Account of Irma Maurer**

Claim Number: 723934/BI<sup>1</sup>

Award Amount: 10,375.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of Irma Maurer (the “Claimant”) to the unpublished account of Irma Maurer (the “Account Owner”) at the Zurich-Altstetten branch of the [REDACTED] (the “Bank”).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 an Initial Questionnaire identifying the Account Owner as herself, Irma Maurer, who was born on 6 July 1915 in Riga, Latvia. The Claimant indicated that she is Jewish and resided on Augustines Street 14 in Riga, where she owned a sewing shop and where her parents owned real estate. According to the Claimant, in July 1941, she was forced to move to the Riga ghetto and to work as a seamstress for a German company. The Claimant indicated that in August 1944, she was transferred to a concentration camp near Stuttgart, Germany, where she was imprisoned until January 1945. The Claimant added that in March 1945, she returned to Latvia, where she resided until emigrating to Israel in 1990.

The Claimant indicated that she was born on 6 July 1915 in Riga, Latvia.

---

<sup>1</sup> Irma Maurer did not submit a Claim Form to the CRT. However, in 1999 she submitted an Initial Questionnaire (“IQ”), numbered HEB-0330114, to the Court in the United States. Although this IQ was not a Claim Form, the Court, in an Order signed on 30 July 2001, ordered that those Initial Questionnaires which can be processed as claim forms be treated as timely claims. Order Concerning Use of Initial Questionnaire Responses as Claim Forms in the Claims Resolution Process for Deposited Assets (July 30, 2001). The IQ was forwarded to the CRT and has been assigned claim number 723934.

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

The Bank's records consist of a list of suspended savings accounts and a printout from the Bank's database. According to these records, the Account Owner was Irma Maurer. The Bank's records do not indicate the Account Owner's domicile. The Bank's records indicate that the Account Owner held a savings/passbook account, numbered 6814. The Bank's records indicate that the account was suspended on 10 September 1973, as of which date it had a balance of 3.20 Swiss Francs ("SF"). The account remains open and dormant.

## **The CRT's Analysis**

### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant's name matches the unpublished name of the Account Owner. The CRT notes that the Bank's records do not contain any specific information about the Account Owner other than her name. 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 Target of Nazi Persecution

The Claimant has made a plausible showing that the Account Owner was a Victim of Nazi Persecution. The Claimant stated that she is Jewish, that she was forced to live in the Riga ghetto and work for a German company, and that she was subsequently deported to a concentration camp in Germany.

### The Claimant's Relationship to the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that she is the Account Owner by submitting specific information, demonstrating that the Account Owner had the same name as the Claimant. The CRT notes that the Claimant identified unpublished information about the Account Owner as contained in the Bank's records; the CRT further notes that the foregoing information is of the type that family members would possess and indicates that the Account Owner was well known to the Claimant, and all of this information supports the plausibility that the Claimant is the Account Owner, as she has asserted in her Claim Form. There is no information to indicate that the Account Owner has other surviving heirs.

### The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The Bank's records indicate that the account was suspended on 10 September 1977, and that it remains open and dormant.

### 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 (the “Rules”). Second, the Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that she is the Account Owner and that justifies an Award. Third, the CRT has determined that neither the Account Owner nor her heirs received the proceeds of the claimed account.

### Amount of the Award

In this case, the Account Owner held a savings/passbook account. The Bank’s records indicate that the value of the savings/passbook account as of 10 September 1973 was SF 3.20. In accordance with Article 31(1) of the Rules, this amount is increased by an adjustment of SF 435.00, which reflects standardized bank fees charged to the savings/passbook account between 1945 and 1973. Consequently, the adjusted balance of the account at issue is SF 438.20. According to Article 29 of the Rules, if the amount in a savings/passbook was less than SF 830.00, and in the absence of plausible evidence to the contrary, the amount in the account shall be determined to be SF 830.00. 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 SF 10,375.00.

### **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 August 2007