

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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

## **Certified Award**

to Claimant [REDACTED]

## **in re Account of Rudolf Seidl**

Claim Number: 215240/MD

Award Amount: 49,375.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the account of Rudolf Seidl (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 his paternal grandfather, Rudolf Seidl, who was born on 6 February 1880 in Krinec-Bosin, the Czech Republic (then part of Austria-Hungary), the son of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The Claimant stated that Rudolf Seidl was married to [REDACTED] in 1912, and that the couple had one child named [REDACTED], who was born in 1913. According to the information provided by the Claimant, his grandfather lived with his family before the Second World War in Ceske Budejovice, Czechoslovakia. The Claimant indicated that Rudolf Seidl served as an agent for a company named *Bratri Sattlerove* that was located in Prague, Czechoslovakia. The Claimant stated that his grandfather, who was Jewish, was deported to Auschwitz, where he perished. The Claimant further stated that [REDACTED] died in 1933 in Ceske Budejovice, and that [REDACTED] (the Claimant’s father) died in 1982 in Prague. According to the family tree provided by the Claimant, the Claimant is Rudolf Seidl’s only surviving heir. The Claimant stated that he was born on 11 February 1943 in Prague. In support of his claim, the Claimant submitted numerous documents, including the birth certificates of Rudolf Seidl and [REDACTED], as well as his own; an official document from the local court in Ceske Budejovice certifying that Rudolf Seidl was an agent of a firm located at Parizska 19, Prague; his grandparents’ marriage certificate; and a list of Czech Jews, including name of his

grandfather, who perished in Auschwitz. The documents submitted by the Claimant indicate that the Claimant's father, [REDACTED], changed his last name to [REDACTED].

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

The Bank's record consists of a printout from the Bank's database. According to this record, the Account Owner was Rudolf Seidl, from Prague, Czechoslovakia. The Bank's record indicates that the Account Owner held one account, opened on 27 November 1935, but does not indicate its type. The Bank's record further indicates that the balance of the account was 1,343.50 Swiss Francs, but the date of this balance is unknown. The auditors who carried out the investigation of this bank to identify accounts of Victims of Nazi Persecution pursuant to instructions of the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP" or the "ICEP Investigation") determined that the account was closed to the Bank's profit and loss account on 23 October 1962. The amount in the account on the date of its closure is unknown.

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

#### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant's grandfather's name matches the published name of the Account Owner. The Claimant indicated that Rudolf Seidl acted as an agent for a company located in Prague, which is consistent with unpublished information about the Account Owner's city of record contained in the Bank's documents. In support of his claim, the Claimant submitted numerous documents, including the birth certificates of Rudolf Seidl, [REDACTED], and himself; his grandparent's marriage certificate; an official document from the local court in Ceske Budejovice certifying that Rudolf Seidl was an agent of a firm located at Parizska 19, Prague; and a list of Czech Jews, including the name of his grandfather, who perished in Auschwitz, providing independent verification that the person who is claimed to be the Account Owner had the same name and connection to the same city as the person recorded in the Bank's record as the Account Owner. Additionally, the CRT notes that a database containing the names of victims of Nazi persecution includes a person named Rudolf Seidl, who was born on 6 February 1880, which matches 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. The CRT further notes that the name Rudolf Seidl appears only once on the February 2001 published list of accounts determined by the 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 that he perished in Auschwitz. In support of his statement, the Claimant submitted a list of Czech Jews, which includes the name of his grandfather, who were deported to Auschwitz. As noted above, a person named Rudolf Seidl was included in the CRT's database of victims.

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

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that he is related to the Account Owner by submitting documents, including his father's and his own birth certificate, demonstrating that he is the Account Owner's grandson. There is no information to indicate that the Account Owner has other surviving heirs.

### The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The auditors who carried out the ICEP Investigation determined that the account was closed to the Bank's profit and loss account in 1962.

### 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 his 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 one account of unknown type. The Bank's record indicates that the value of the account was 1,343.50 Swiss Francs; however, the date of this balance is not available. According to Article 29 of the Rules, if the amount in an account of unknown type was less than 3,950.00 Swiss Francs, and in the absence of plausible evidence to the contrary, the amount in the account shall be determined to be 3,950.00 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. Consequently, the total award amount in this case is 49,375.00 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 his claim to determine whether there are additional Swiss bank accounts to which he 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