

# CLAIMS RESOLUTION TRIBUNAL

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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 Karl Stein**

Claim Number: 211764/EZ

Award Amount: 27,855.00 Swiss Francs

This Certified Award is based upon the claim of [REDACTED] (the “Claimant”) to the account of Karl Stein (the “Account Owner”) at the Rheinfelden 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 Form identifying the Account Owner as her maternal grandfather, Karl Stein, who was born in 1902 in Germany, and was married to [REDACTED], née [REDACTED]. The Claimant stated that her grandfather resided in Essen, Germany, and indicated his exact street address. The Claimant stated that her grandfather was a wealthy businessman. The Claimant stated that Karl Stein was not Jewish, but his wife, [REDACTED], was Jewish. They had one daughter, [REDACTED], née [REDACTED], who is the Claimant’s mother. The Claimant could not recall her grandfather’s whereabouts during the Second World War, and she stated that he died in 1950 in Germany. The Claimant also stated that her entire family, including her grandfather, was persecuted by the Nazis. The Claimant further stated that her mother, [REDACTED], escaped to Belgium during the Second World War, and hid in a friend’s house. The Claimant’s mother also survived a concentration camp, and she died in October 2000 in the United States.

The Claimant indicated that she was born on 17 April 1956 in Massachusetts, the United States. The Claimant provided a copy of her mother’s birth certificate indicating that the Claimant’s maternal grandfather was Karl Stein, from Essen, Germany.

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

The bank records consist of a ledger card, bank correspondence, internal bank lists, and printouts from the Bank's database. According to these records, the Account Owner was Karl Stein from Herten, Germany. The bank records indicate that the Account Owner held a savings/passbook account, numbered 13575. The bank records also show that on 8 December 1933 the account was on a list of Swiss bank accounts transferred to the German Government's account at the *Reichsbank*. The account balance on 8 December 1933 was 2,321.25 Swiss Francs.

## **The CRT's Analysis**

### Identification of the Account Owner

The Claimant has plausibly identified the Account Owner. Her grandfather's name matches the published name of the Account Owner. The Claimant stated that her grandfather lived in Essen, Germany, which is 24 kilometers from Herten, Germany. The CRT concludes that it is plausible that the Claimant identified the largest city in the area her grandfather's residence rather than the nearby specific place of residence recorded in the bank documents. This conclusion by the fact that the one other claim to this account was disconfirmed because the country of residence of the claimed account owner did not match the country of residence of the Account Owner in this case.

### Status of the Account Owner as a Victim or a Target of Nazi Persecution

The Claimant has made a plausible showing that the Account Owner was targeted for persecution by the Nazi regime. The Claimant stated that her entire family, including her grandfather, was persecuted by the Nazis and that the Account Owner's daughter fled Germany and hid in Belgium during the War.

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

The Claimant has plausibly demonstrated that she is related to the Account Owner by submitting documents, including a copy of her mother's birth certificate and will, demonstrating that the Claimant is the Account Owner's granddaughter.

### The Issue of Who Received the Proceeds

The bank records indicate the account was transferred to the German Government in 1933. Therefore, it is clear that neither the Account Owner nor his heirs received the account proceeds.

### 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 23 of the Rules Governing the Claims Resolution Process (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

The bank records indicate that the value of the savings/passbook account on 8 December 1933, was 2,321.25 Swiss Francs. The present value of the amount of the award is determined by multiplying the historic value by a factor of 12, in accordance with Article 37(1) of the Rules. Consequently, the total award amount in this case is 27,855.00 Swiss Francs.

#### Division of the Award

The Claimant is representing her brother, [REDACTED], in these proceedings. The Claimant provided her mother's will, but did not provide documents of her grandfather's disposition of his estate. Therefore, and according to Article 29 of the Rules, the Claimant's brother is entitled to received one-half (1/2) of any payment made to the Claimant.

#### **Scope of the Award**

The Claimant should be aware that, pursuant to Article 25 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

December 31, 2002