

FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION
OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20579

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

LEO F. SMITH
J. LEO SMITH

Claim No. CU - 0623

Decision No. CU - 2957

Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended

PROPOSED DECISION

Claimants, LEO F. SMITH and J. LEO SMITH, who owned a participation interest in the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust, assert a claim under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, against the Government of Cuba because of its nationalization of said Trust.

In our decision entitled the Claim of Felix Heyman (Claim No. CU-0412 which we incorporate herein by reference), we held that the properties owned or controlled by the Trust were nationalized or otherwise taken by the Government of Cuba on November 23, 1959, and that this type of claim is compensable to an American national under the facts and conditions set forth therein. We need not again detail here the reasons or the method used in determining the value per unit of \$0.11971.

On the basis of evidence in the record in the instant case, the Commission finds that these claimants come within the terms of the Heyman decision; that they were American nationals at the requisite times; that they have been the owners of 2,000 units of participation in the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust since prior to November 23, 1959; and that they suffered a loss in the amount of \$ 239.42 within the meaning of Title V of the Act. Further, the Commission finds that the amount of loss sustained shall be increased by interest thereon at the rate of 6% per annum from November 23, 1959, the date of loss, to the date on which provisions are made for the settlement thereof. (See Heyman, supra.)

CERTIFICATION OF LOSS

The Commission certifies that LEO F. SMITH and J. LEO SMITH jointly suffered a loss, as a result of actions of the Government of Cuba, within the scope of Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, in the amount of Two Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars and Forty-Two Cents (\$ 239.42) with interest at 6% per annum from November 23, 1959 to the date of settlement.

Dated at Washington, D. C.,
and entered as the Proposed
Decision of the Commission

AUG 29 1968

Leonard v. B. Sutton

Leonard v. B. Sutton, Chairman

Theodore Jaffe

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

Sidney Freidberg

Sidney Freidberg, Commissioner

NOTICE TO TREASURY: The above-referenced securities may not have been submitted to the Commission or if submitted, may have been returned; accordingly, no payment should be made until claimant establishes retention of the securities for the loss here certified.

The statute does not provide for the payment of claims against the Government of Cuba. Provision is only made for the determination by the Commission of the validity and amounts of such claims. Section 501 of the statute specifically precludes any authorization for appropriations for payment of these claims. The Commission is required to certify its findings to the Secretary of State for possible use in future negotiations with the Government of Cuba.

NOTICE: Pursuant to the Regulations of the Commission, if no objections are filed within 15 days after service or receipt of notice of this Proposed Decision, the decision will be entered as the Final Decision of the Commission upon the expiration of 30 days after such service or receipt of notice, unless the Commission otherwise orders. (FCSC Reg., 45 C.F.R. 531.5(e) and (g), as amended, 32 Fed. Reg. 412-13 (1967).)