

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

MERLE O. MILLER
MARION E. MILLER

Claim No. CU -1964

Decision No. CU -700

Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended

PROPOSED DECISION

This claim against the Government of Cuba, filed under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, in the amount of \$45.00, was presented by MERLE O. MILLER and MARION E. MILLER, and is based upon an asserted loss sustained in connection with the asserted ownership of stock issued by Cuban-Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust.

Claimants have neither alleged nor submitted evidence showing whether they are nationals of the United States.

Under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949 [78 Stat. 1110 (1964), 22 U.S.C. §§1643-1643k (1964), as amended, 79 Stat. 988 (1965)], the Commission is given jurisdiction over claims of nationals of the United States against the Government of Cuba. Section 503(a) of the Act provides that the Commission shall receive and determine in accordance with applicable substantive law, including international law, the amount and validity of claims by nationals of the United States against the Government of Cuba arising since January 1, 1959 for

losses resulting from the nationalization, expropriation, intervention or other taking of, or special measures directed against, property including any rights or interests therein owned wholly or partially, directly or indirectly at the time by nationals of the United States.

Section 502(3) of the Act provides:

The term 'property' means any property, right, or interest including any leasehold interest, and debts owed by the Government of Cuba or by enterprises which have been nationalized, expropriated, intervened, or taken by the Government of Cuba and debts which are a charge on property which has been nationalized, expropriated, intervened, or taken by the Government of Cuba.

Section 504 of the Act provides, as to ownership of claims, that

(a) A claim shall not be considered under section 503(a) of this title unless the property on which the claim was based was owned wholly or partially, directly or indirectly by a national of the United States on the date of the loss and if considered shall be considered only to the extent the claim has been held by one or more nationals of the United States continuously thereafter until the date of filing with the Commission.

The Regulations of the Commission provide:

The claimant shall be the moving party and shall have the burden of proof on all issues involved in the determination of his claim. (FCSC Reg., 45 C.F.R. §531.6(d) (Supp. 1967).)

Claimants assert that they owned an unspecified number of shares in Cuban-Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust. In support of the claim, claimants have submitted a copy of a brokerage account statement which shows that 500 shares of Cuban-Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust stock had been purchased on May 18, 1964, and that the shares were being held to claimants' account. No additional evidence has been submitted since the claim form and broker's statement were received by the Commission on April 25, 1967.

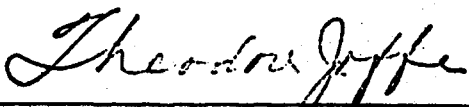
By Commission letter of June 29, 1967, claimants were advised as to the type of evidence proper for submission to establish this claim under the Act. Thereafter, by letter of September 29, 1967, claimants were invited to submit any evidence available to them within 45 days from that date, and they were informed that, absent such evidence, it might become necessary to determine the claim on the basis of the existing record. No evidence has since been submitted.

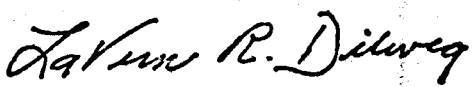
The Commission finds that claimants have not met the burden of proof in that they have failed to establish ownership of rights and interests in property which was nationalized, expropriated or otherwise taken by the Government of Cuba, or that the rights and interests in the claimed property were owned by United States nationals at the time of loss. Thus, the Commission is constrained to deny this claim and it is hereby denied. The Commission deems it unnecessary to make determinations with respect to other elements of the claim.

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

22 NOV 1967


Edward D. Re, Chairman


Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner


LaVern R. Dilweg, Commissioner

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).)

CU-1964