

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF:

ANITA G. SKEANS

Claim No. CU -2006

Decision No. CU-464

Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended

ORDER AND AMENDED PROPOSED DECISION

On October 18, 1967, the Commission issued its Proposed Decision, denying this claim for failure of proof. Claimant objected to the Proposed Decision, and thereafter submitted additional evidence and information in support of this claim. The matter having been reconsidered it is

ORDERED that the Proposed Decision of the Commission be, and the same is amended to read as follows:

This claim against the Government of Cuba, under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, was presented by ANITA G. SKEANS, and is based upon the asserted loss of \$425.00, sustained in connection with the ownership of a stock interest in Compania Litografica de la Habana, S.A. (Havana Lithographing Company), hereinafter referred to as Havana Lithographing. Claimant has been a national of the United States since her naturalization on November 11, 1954.

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 503(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.

On the basis of evidence of record, the Commission finds that claimant is, and since prior to October 13, 1960, has been the owner of 200 shares of common stock of Havana Lithographing. The certificates representing the shares in question are Nos. CLHC 25776 and CLHC 25777.

On October 13, 1960, the Government of Cuba published Law 890 in its Official Gazette, which listed as nationalized Compania Litografica de la Habana, S.A. Accordingly, the Commission finds that Havana Lithographing was nationalized by the Government of Cuba on October 13, 1960, and that claimant's interest in the enterprise was taken on that date.

In determining the value of the interest owned by claimant in Havana Lithographing, the Commission has considered an unaudited balance sheet, with supporting schedules, as of July 31, 1960, an affidavit of the former President of Havana Lithographing, appraisals and valuations of the assets of the corporation prepared in 1960 and 1967, and insurance values for all assets. On the basis of all the evidence of record, the Commission finds that \$1,356,012.12 is the amount that would have been available at the time of loss for distribution among the 540,218 shares of common stock issued by Havana Lithographing. The Commission thus concludes that the dollar loss sustained in connection with the ownership of a common stock interest in Havana Lithographing was \$2.51 per share of common stock issued and held at the time of loss. (See Claim of Central West Company, Claim No. CU-3440.)

Accordingly, in the instant claim, the Commission finds that claimant, as holder of 200 shares of the common stock of Havana Lithographing, suffered a loss in the amount of \$502.00 within the meaning of Title V of the Act, as a result of the nationalization of Havana Lithographing by the Government of Cuba on October 13, 1960.

It will be noted that the total amount of loss found herein is in excess of the amount asserted by claimant. However, in determining the amount of loss sustained, the Commission is not bound by any lesser or greater amounts which may be asserted by claimant as the extent thereof.

The Commission has decided that in certification of losses on claims determined pursuant to Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, interest should be included at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of loss to the date of settlement.

(See Claim of Lisle Corporation, Claim No. CU-0644.)

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that the amount of loss sustained by the claimant shall be increased by interest thereon at the rate of 6% per annum from October 13, 1960, the date of loss, to the date on which provisions are made for settlement thereof.

CERTIFICATION OF LOSS

The Commission certifies that ANITA G. SKEANS 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 Five Hundred Two Dollars (\$502.00) with interest at 6% per annum from October 13, 1960 to the date of settlement.

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

APR 24 1968

Leonard v. B. Sutton

Leonard v. B. Sutton, Chairman

Theodore Jaffe

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

NOTICE TO TREASURY DEPARTMENT: The above listed certificates may have been returned to claimant and no payment should be made until they are resubmitted.

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).)

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Claim No. CU -2006

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464

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 \$425.00, was presented by ANITA G. SKEANS and is based upon the asserted loss of stock interests in Havana Lithographing Company. Claimant has been a national of the United States since her naturalization on November 11, 1954.

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).)

Claimant asserts the ownership of certain stock interests in the Havana Lithographing Company; however, claimant has submitted no original documentary evidence in support of her claim. She has submitted photocopies of stock certificates and stockbroker's purchase slips.

By Commission letter of July 10, 1967, claimant was advised as to the type of evidence proper for submission to establish this claim under the Act and specifically that Commission regulations require the submission of the original stock certificates and that photocopies would not suffice. However, no evidence in response to this correspondence has been received to date.

On August 21, 1967, claimant was invited to submit any evidence available to her within 45 days from that date, and she was 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.

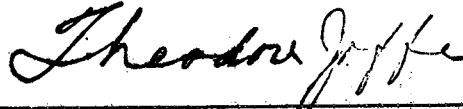
The Commission finds that claimant has not met the burden of proof in that she has failed to establish ownership of rights and interests in property which was nationalized, expropriated or otherwise taken by the Government of Cuba. Accordingly, this claim is denied. The Commission deems it unnecessary 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

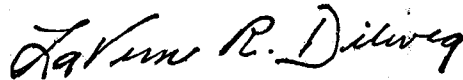
OCT 18 1967



Edward D. Re, Chairman



Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner



LaVern R. Dilweg, Commissioner

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