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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

JAMES MARSHALL JONES

Claim No.CU-2958

Decision No.CU - 955

Under the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended

AMENDED PROPOSED DECISION

By Proposed Decision issued January 17, 1968, this claim was denied for failure of proof. Thereafter claimant submitted additional evidence. The matter having been considered, it is

ORDERED that the Proposed Decision be and it is hereby amended.

In our decision entitled the <u>Claim of Felix Heyman</u> (Claim No. CU-0412 which we incorporate herein by reference), we held that the properties owned or controlled by the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting 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 this claimant comes within the terms of the <u>Heyman</u> decision; that he was an American national at the requisite times; that he has been the owner of 18,900 units of participation in the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust since prior to November 23, 1959; and that he suffered a loss in the amount of \$2,262.52 in connection therewith within the meaning of Title V of the Act.

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.

Section 507 of the Act provides, as to assignment of claims, that

(b) The amount determined to be due on any claim of an assignee who acquires the same by purchase shall not exceed (or, in the case of any such acquisition subsequent to the date of the determination, shall not be deemed to have exceeded) the amount of the actual consideration paid by such assignee, or in case of successive assignments of a claim by any assignee.

On the basis of evidence of record, the Commission also finds that claimant acquired an additional 2,000 units of Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust by purchase on December 29, 1959 for a consideration of \$395.00.

Under the provisions of Section 504(a) of the Act, a claimant is required to establish that the claim for any loss has been continuously owned by a national or nationals of the United States from the date of loss to the date of filing with the Commission. The loss occurred on November 23, 1959. In similar cases claimants have been unable to obtain information or evidence to establish the nationality of the owner of the securities on the date of loss, and to establish continuous United States ownership of the securities until the date on which claimant acquired them.

Evidence of record before the Commission discloses that securities of the type subject of this claim were almost entirely owned and traded by persons or firms having addresses in the United States. The Commission has considered whether an inference may be justified that the claimed securities were continuously owned by a national or nationals of the United States from the date of loss to the date on which purchased by the claimant, and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, has concluded that the securities were continuously so owned. (See Claim of the Executors of the Estate of Julius S. Wikler, Deceased, Claim No. CU-2571).

The Commission finds that claimant, upon his purchase of the additional 2,000 units, succeeded to the loss sustained by the assignor thereof but concludes that his recovery for this loss must be limited to \$239.42 as a result of the nationalization of the Trust on November 23, 1959.

The Commission has decided that in certification of loss 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 the Claim of Lisle Corporation, FCSC Claim No. CU-0644).

The Commission concludes, however, that the amount of loss sustained by claimant herein shall be increased by interest thereon at the rate of 6% per annum from the dates below to the date on which provisions are made for the settlement thereof.

FROM	<u>ON</u>
November 23, 1959	\$2,262.52
December 29, 1959	239.42
	\$2,501.94

Accordingly, the following Certification of Loss will be entered and in all other respects the Proposed Decision is affirmed.

CERTIFICATION OF LOSS

The Commission certifies that JAMES MARSHALL JONES 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 ount of Two Thousand Five Hundred One Dollars and Ninety-Four Cents (\$2,501.94) with interest at 6% per annum from the aforesaid dates to the date of settlement.

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

DEC 11 1908

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Leonard v. B. Sutton, Chairman

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

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 Amended 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).)

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

In the Matter of the Claim of

JAMES MARSHALL JONES

Claim No.CU- 2958

Decision No.CU

955

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 \$8,021.63, was presented by JAMES MARSHALL JONES based upon the asserted loss of a stock interest in the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust. Claiment has been a national of the United States since his birth.

Under Title V of the International Glaims 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 Guba. 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 of 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 and loss of a stock interest in the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust. However, other than a birth certificate, no documentary evidence was submitted in support of the claim, filed on May 1, 1967. Accordingly, by Commission letter of September 25, 1967, claimant was advised as to the type of evidence proper for submission to establish this claim under the Act. No evidence in response to this correspondence has been received to date.

On October 24, 1967, claimant was invited to submit any evidence available to him within 45 days from that date, and he 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 he 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 Decison of the Commission

JAN 17 1968

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