

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

FRANCIS J. SORG, JR.

Claim No. CU-3108

Decision No. CU 2772

**Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended**

PROPOSED DECISION

This claim against the Government of Cuba, under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, was presented by FRANCIS J. SORG, JR., and is based upon the asserted loss of \$15,277.00, 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 birth.

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.

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 5,700 shares of common stock of Havana Lithographing. The certificates representing the shares in question are numbered:

CLHC 21506 through 21510 inclusive

CLHC 21524 through 21528 inclusive

CLHC 21589 through 21599 inclusive

CLHC 21615

CLHC 21899 through 21902 inclusive

CLHC 21910 through 21914 inclusive

CLHC 22355 through 22359 inclusive

CLHC 22917

CLHC 22931 through 22934 inclusive

CLHC 22957 through 22969 inclusive

CLHC 23001 through 23004 inclusive

CLHC 23073 through 23075 inclusive

The record discloses that Compania Litografica de la Havana, S.A. was listed as nationalized by Law 890 of the Government of Cuba published in the Cuban Official Gazette on October 13, 1960. This corporation was organized under the laws of Cuba and does not qualify as a corporate "national of the United States" defined under Section 502(1)(B) of the Act as a corporation or other legal entity organized under the laws of the United States, or any State, the District of Columbia or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, whose ownership is vested to the extent of 50 per centum or more in natural persons who are citizens of the United States. In this type of situation, it has been held previously that a stockholder in such a corporation is entitled to file a claim based upon the stock in question which represents an ownership interest in the assets of a nationalized enterprise within the purview of Section 502(3) of the Act. (See Claim of Parke, Davis & Company, Claim No. CU-0180, 1967 FCSC Ann. Rep. 33.)

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 5,700 shares of the common stock of Havana Lithographing, suffered a loss in the amount of \$14,307.00 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.

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-C644.)

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 FRANCIS J. SORG, JR. 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 Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Seven Dollars (\$ 14,307.00) with interest at 6% per annum from October 13, 1960 to the date of settlement.

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

AUG 14 1968

Leonard v. B. Sutton

Leonard v. B. Sutton, Chairman

Theodore Jaffe

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

Sidney Froidberg

Sidney Froidberg, 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 or 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).)