

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

RICHARD F. VITARO
AND
JULIA C. VITARO

Claim No. CU-8001

Decision No. CU-4703

Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended

Represented by Cia. Azucarera Atlantica del Golfo

Counsel for Cia. Azucarera Atlantica del Golfo: Dewey, Ballantine, Bushby,
Palmer & Wood
By William C. Bush, Esq.

AMENDED PROPOSED DECISION

By Proposed Decision issued April 1, 1970, the Commission denied this claim for failure of proof. Since then, satisfactory evidence has been submitted, and the Proposed Decision is hereby amended.

In our decision entitled the Claim of Helen M. Drye (Claim No. CU-0807 which we incorporate herein by reference), we held that the properties owned by the Company were nationalized or otherwise taken by the Government of Cuba on August 6, 1960, 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 share of \$34.056.

On the basis of evidence in the record in the instant case, the Commission finds that these claimants come within the terms of the Drye decision and that they were American nationals at the requisite times.

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.

On the basis of the evidence of record, the Commission finds that claimants acquired 3,300 shares of stock of Atlantica del Golfo by purchase on the dates and for the consideration shown below:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Date of Purchase</u>	<u>Consideration</u>
500	June 15, 1961	\$ 780.65
500	June 16, 1961	718.15
700	September 21, 1961	830.15
300	September 22, 1961	355.50
500	November 6, 1961	655.65
100	November 10, 1961	119.15
100	November 13, 1961	118.50
100	November 14, 1961	119.15
400	November 15, 1961	474.50
100	November 16, 1961	118.50
<u>3,300</u>		<u>\$4,289.90</u>

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 August 6, 1960. 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 Samuel J. Wikler, et al., Claim No. CU-2571, 1968 FCSC Ann. Rep. 47.)

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.

The Commission finds that claimants, as assignees by purchase, acquired the claims for the losses sustained by the assignors of the claimed securities, but under the limitations provided in Section 507 of the Act (supra), are limited to \$4,289.90, the actual consideration paid for these shares.

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).

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


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 RICHARD F. VITARO AND JULIA C. VITARO 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 Four Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$4,289.90) 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

APR 29 1970


Lyle S. Garlock, 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 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 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).)

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PROPOSED DECISION

This claim against the Government of Cuba, filed under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, was presented by RICHARD F. VITARO and JULIA C. VITARO and is based upon the asserted loss of a stock interest. Claimants have been nationals 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.

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 acquired 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.

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).)

Claim is based on loss arising from the asserted ownership of 3,300 shares of stock of Atlantica del Golfo Sugar Company purchased subsequent to August 6, 1960, the date of loss for Atlantica.

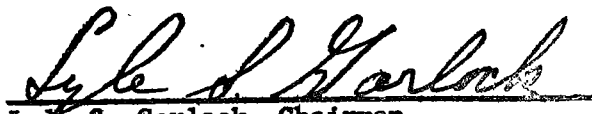
By Commission letter of March 20, 1968, claimants were advised, through counsel, as to the type of evidence proper for submission to establish this claim under the Act. Thereafter, by letter of June 11, 1968 and December 12, 1968, the Commission made additional suggestions to claimants concerning the submission of supporting evidence in this matter.


On November 17, 1969, claimants were invited to submit the suggested evidence 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.

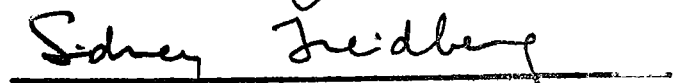
The Commission finds that claimants have not met the burden of proof in that they have failed to establish ownership of rights and interests in property which was nationalized, expropriated or otherwise taken by the Government of Cuba. Thus, the Commission is constrained to deny this claim and it is 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

1 APR 1970


Lyle S. Garlock, Chairman


Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner


Sidney Freidberg, Commissioner

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CU-8001