

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

PLATKA WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRADE  
CORPORATION

Claim No. CU-1734

Decision No. CU

913

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 \$60,891.28, was presented by PLATKA WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRADE CORPORATION and is based upon the asserted loss of payment for merchandise shipped to Cuba.

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 502(1) of the Act defines the term "national of the United States" as "(B) a corporation or other legal entity which is organized under the laws of the United States, or of any State, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, if natural persons who are citizens of the United States own, directly or indirectly, 50 per centum or more of the outstanding capital stock or other beneficial interest of such corporation or entity."

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 that it shipped merchandise to various consignees in Cuba, but failed to receive payment for said merchandise. However, except for photocopies of certain commercial documentation and its own affidavit, statements, and letters, claimant has submitted no documentary evidence to establish its claim.

By Commission letter of June 23, 1967, claimant was advised as to the type of evidence proper for submission to establish this claim under the Act.

On September 28, 1967, claimant was invited to submit any evidence available to it within 45 days from that date, and it was informed, that, absent such evidence, it might become necessary to determine the claim on the basis of the existing record.

Finally, by letter of November 28, 1967, the Commission made additional suggestions to claimant concerning the submission of supporting evidence in this matter. Claimant was informed that if the suggested evidence was not submitted within 15 days, it might become necessary to determine the claim on the basis of the existing record.

However, except as mentioned hereinabove, the suggested evidence has not been submitted.

The Commission finds that claimant has not met the burden of proof in that it has failed to establish ownership by a national of the United States of rights and interests in property which was intervened, 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

*Edward S. Mc*

3 JAN 1968

*Theodore Jaffe*  
Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

**CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the decision of the Commission which was entered as the final decision on

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

*Francis Macfarlane*  
Francis Macfarlane  
Clerk of the Commission

**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).)