

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

VICTORIA R. RODRIGUEZ DE LOPEZ

Claim No. CU -2149

Decision No. CU 1394

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, in the amount of \$62,500.00, was presented by VICTORIA R. RODRIGUEZ DE LOPEZ based upon the asserted loss of improved real property, personal property and certain stock interests in a Cuban enterprise. Claimant states that she has been a national of the United States since her naturalization on March 16, 1967.

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 of 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 improved real property, personal property, and stock interests in a Cuban enterprise; however, claimant has submitted no documentary evidence in support of her claim. By Commission letters of July 12, 1967 and December 6, 1967, claimant was advised as to the type of evidence proper for submission to establish her claim under the Act.

On December 6, 1967, claimant was invited to submit any evidence she might have 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 present record. No evidence has been submitted in support of this claim.

CU-2149

In addition, claimant asserts that she did not acquire United States nationality until March 16, 1967. She has further stated that the claim arose in October 1960, the asserted date of loss. Under Section 504 of the Act (supra), it is necessary that the property upon which a claim is based be owned by a national of the United States on the date of loss.

The Commission therefore 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; neither has she established that such property rights and interests were owned by a national of the United States on the date of loss. Accordingly, this claim is hereby denied. The Commission deems it unnecessary to determine other elements of this claim.

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

**FEB 28 1968**

*Edward D. Re*

*Theodore Jaffe*  
Edward D. Re, Chairman

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 MAY 29 1968

*Francis Thaddeus*

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).)