

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

JOSEPH A. DAMMANN

Claim No. CU -2244

Decision No. CU 797

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 \$2,800.00, was presented by JOSEPH A. DAMMANN, and is based upon the asserted loss of stock interests in a Cuban corporation known as Aceites Vegetales, S.A. Claimant has been a national of the United States since his birth in the United States.

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(e) 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.

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).)

Other than claimant's statements in the claim form filed on April 27, 1967, and a photocopy of a purported will assertedly executed by the late wife of claimant, Barbara Bloch Dermann, who died on October 8, 1960 in New York, New York, the file contains insufficient evidence to establish a claim under the provisions of the Act. Accordingly, by Commission letter of August 21, 1967, claimant was requested to submit the original stock certificates and evidence to establish the date of purchase as well as the consideration paid therefor by claimant's late wife; evidence to establish the nationalization or other taking of the Cuban company which issued the stock, Aceites Vegetales, S.A.; the value of said company at the time of the asserted nationalization or other taking; a certified copy of

the Last Will and Testament of decedent, as admitted to probate; and a certified copy of the Decree of Distribution issued in connection with the estate of the decedent. No evidence was submitted, nor was any reply received to the correspondence of the Commission.

By letter of October 2, 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. 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

6 DEC 1967

CERTIFICATION

THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE decision
OF THE COMMISSION AS ENTERED AS THE FINAL
decision

JAN 11 1968

Edward S. Re

Edward S. Re, Chairman

Theodore Jaffe

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

LaVerne R. Dilweg

LaVerne R. Dilweg, Commissioner

decision
no final

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).)

CU-2244