

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

DONALD R. HASTINGS

Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended

Claim No. CU-8225

Decision No. CU

4321

PROPOSED DECISION

This claim against the Government of Cuba, under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, was opened by the Commission on behalf of DONALD R. HASTINGS and as pursued thereafter by him is based upon the asserted ownership and loss of real and personal property in Cuba. 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.

Claimant describes his loss as follows:

House	\$10,000.00
Lot 14	2,000.00
Lot 15	1,325.00
1955 Chevrolet	2,500.00
Furnishings	<u>2,501.00</u>
	\$17,326.00

Based upon the entire record, including a report from sources abroad, and affidavits, the Commission finds that claimant owned a one-half interest in lot 14, block K, Arroyo Arenas, Marianao, improved by a house, an automobile, house furnishings and a small amount of furniture which he owned prior to his marriage.

On December 6, 1961, the Cuban Government published its Law 989 (Official Gazette, XXXIII, No. 237, p. 23705) which confiscated all assets, personal property and real estate, rights, shares, stocks, bonds and securities of persons not resident in Cuba.

The Commission finds, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, that the improved real property known as lot 14 was taken by the Government of Cuba on December 6, 1961 pursuant to the provisions of Law 989, although claimant may have remained in possession thereafter. (See Claim of Wallace Tabor and Catherine Tabor, Claim No. CU-0109, 25 FCSC Semiann. Rep. 53 [July-Dec. 1966].)

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The Act provides in Section 503(a) that in making determinations with respect to the validity and amount of claims and value of properties, rights, or interests taken, the Commission shall take into account the basis of valuation most appropriate to the property and equitable to the claimant, including but not limited to fair market value, book value, going concern value or cost of replacement.

The record includes, in support of the claimed values, documentation reflecting the purchase price of lot 14, a complete description of the house thereon reflecting that it contains on the left three rooms and two baths; in the center a porch, living room, dining room and back porch; and on the right, a small room, garage and kitchen. The record also includes descriptions of the personalty with the time of acquisition and cost.

Based on the entire record, the Commission finds that the improved realty had a value of \$12,000, that the community-owned personalty had a value of \$1,530.00 after depreciation and the solely-owned personalty had a depreciated value of \$97.50. Based on the description of the automobile and the Official Used Car Guide of the National Automobile Dealers Association, the Commission finds that the car had a value of \$390.00 on the date of loss.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that claimant suffered a loss in the amount of \$7,057.50 within the meaning of Title V of the Act, as the result of the taking of his property by the Government of Cuba on December 6, 1961.

With respect to the item of claim based on a parcel of land known as lot 15, claimant has not established his ownership thereof. Accordingly, this item of claim is denied.

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), and in the instant case it is so ordered.

CERTIFICATION OF LOSS

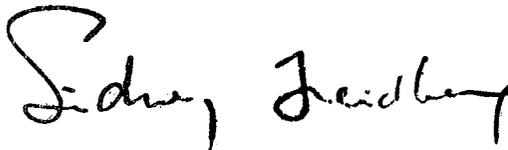
The Commission certifies that DONALD R. HASTINGS suffered a loss, as a result of actions of the Government of Cuba, within the scope of Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, in the amount of Seven Thousand Fifty-seven Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$7,057.50) with interest at 6% per annum from December 6, 1961 to the date of settlement.

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

7 JAN 1970



Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner



Sidney Freidberg, Commissioner

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).)

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