

The Governments of the United States and Albania concluded an agreement for en bloc settlement of claims of United States nationals against Albania on March 10, 1995. *Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Albania on the Settlement of Certain Outstanding Claims*, March 10, 1995 (entered into force April 18, 1995) ("Settlement Agreement"). Claims covered by the Settlement Agreement are

the claims of United States nationals (including natural and juridical persons) against Albania arising from any nationalization, expropriation, intervention, or other taking of, or measures affecting, property of nationals of the United States prior to the date of this agreement[.]

Settlement Agreement, Article 1(a).

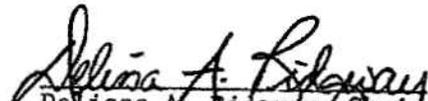
The claimant in this case asserts in her Statement of Claim (dated December 5, 1996) that the property at issue was confiscated by the Albanian government in 1945-46, and was then owned by her grandfather, a citizen of the United States. However, by letter dated January 23, 1997, the claimant has notified the Commission that she now wishes to withdraw her claim from further consideration, because her family is seeking the return of the property under Albanian law.

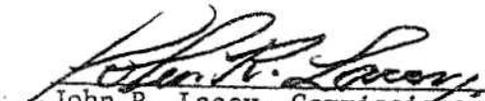
The Commission grants the claimant's request to withdraw her claim. In doing so, the Commission makes no determination on the merits of the claim.

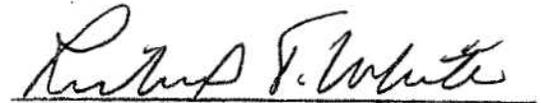
Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the present claim be and it is hereby dismissed without prejudice.

Dated at Washington, DC and entered as the Order of the Commission.

FEB 24 1997


Delissa A. Ridgway, Chair


John R. Lacey, Commissioner


Richard T. White, Commissioner