

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

L. BARTOLOME

Under the International Claims Settlement
Act of 1949, as amended

Claim No. CU-1418

Decision No. CU 3788

PROPOSED DECISION

This claim against the Government of Cuba, filed under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, was presented by L. BARTOLOME and is based upon the asserted loss of income from rental property in Cuba. Claimant has been a national of the United States since his naturalization on January 14, 1955.

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.

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).)

Without filing a complete claim form, though requested to so do by letter dated March 29, 1967, claimant asserts his right to income from rental property which was lost as a result of withholding or appropriation "by or in Castro's Cuban regime." By Commission letter of July 26, 1967, claimant was advised that his claim form was received unsigned. He was further advised to complete the necessary items in a new form, which was forwarded to him, and to return it to the Commission. However, no response to this correspondence has been received to date.

On November 17, 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.

Thereafter by letters of June 28, 1968 and July 16, 1968, detailed suggestions were made to claimant who was also provided with blank letters to request the Commission's assistance in attempting to obtain needed

evidence. Although claimant replied to the letter of June 28, 1968, he has not submitted anything which would enable the Commission to proceed to a favorable determination.

The Commission finds that claimant has not met the burden of proof in that he has failed to establish ownership of rights and interest 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

JUL 30 1969

Leonard v. B. Sutton

Leonard v. B. Sutton, Chairman

Theodore Jaffe

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

Sidney Freidberg

Sidney Freidberg, Commissioner

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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