

Mr. CAMERON. Would you agree with that, Mr. Kearney?

Mr. KEARNEY. That was my understanding.

Mr. CAMERON. Why does it say 60 days in here? It says 60 days after the enactment of the amendment made thereto, and so on.

Dr. RE. It is to begin running from the 60 days. But then there is an 18-month filing period.

If the Congressman will permit, I can repeat the testimony I gave previously on the filing period. Section 503 of title V of the act provides a maximum filing period of 18 months to begin running 60 days after enactment of this title or of legislation making appropriation to the Commission for the payment of administrative expenses incurred in carrying out its function under this title, whichever date is later.

In effect, sir, this adds Communist China to the Cuban bill and it would be done the same way.

Mr. CAMERON. I see. You could not receive claims until 60 days after you filed in the Federal Register, and that would be after enactment of the legislation and then you have 18 months—

Dr. RE. Precisely.

Mr. CAMERON. The only notice to claimants would be as a result of a filing in the Federal Register and whatever public information—

Dr. RE. We do give out a good deal of public information.

Mr. CAMERON. In your report, Dr. Re, in your statement with respect to ownership of the claim indicating that the ownership must be continuous from the time of expropriation to the time of claim, there is no inhibition as to hypothecating the claim as long as you maintain ownership in the claim, is there? I theoretically have a million dollar claim. I borrow, using that as collateral; that doesn't hinder the claim?

Dr. RE. If you have continuously held the claim you are entitled to an award.

Mr. CAMERON. On the Yugoslav deal, the Yugoslav one is behind us, was there a program for the U.S. Government to recover its costs in that claim?

Dr. RE. In the Yugoslav claims? In the Yugoslav claims program, like most of the international claims programs, the administrative costs came out of the fund itself, which meant that the administrative costs were not borne by the American taxpayer.

Mr. CAMERON. In this case we assume we are going to need another million dollars to handle this claim. Is it provided herein if and when the claim is paid we will get our million dollars off the top?

Dr. RE. That is not expressly set forth in the legislation.

Mr. KEARNEY. When we finally reach a settlement on the Chinese claims sometime in the future we will then have to come back to Congress for authority to disperse the money in accordance with the adjudication of the Commission and at that time provision can be included with respect to the administrative costs.

Mr. CAMERON. Wouldn't it have been preferable to include it in the beginning so there would be no question in the claimant's mind?

I recognize the difficulty of amending this bill at the present time and getting it through the current session. But it seems to me that is kind of sloppy writing to begin with.

Mr. KEARNEY. We are not responsible for this aspect of it. I suppose perhaps it might have been influenced somewhat by the fact that the time of a settlement is so highly indefinite.