

"(f) After payment in full of all awards certified to the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to subsections (a) and (e) of this section, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to transfer the unobligated balance in the Italian Claims Fund into the War Claims Fund created by section 13 of the War Claims Act of 1948, as amended."

(10) Section 306, title III, is amended by inserting "(a)" after the section number and adding at the end thereof the following subsection:

"(b) Within thirty days after enactment of this subsection or the enactment of legislation making appropriations to the Commission for payment of administrative expenses incurred in carrying out its functions under paragraph (4) of section 303 of this title, whichever is later, the Commission shall publish in the Federal Register the time when and the limit of time within which claims may be filed under paragraph (4) of section 303 of this title, which limit shall not be more than six months after such publication."

(11) Section 310, title III, is amended by adding at the end of subsection (a) thereof the following paragraph:

"(6) Whenever the Commission is authorized to settle claims by the enactment of paragraph (4) of section 303 of this title with respect to Rumania and Bulgaria, no further payments shall be authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury on account of awards certified by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 303 of the Bulgarian or Rumanian Claims Funds, as the case may be, until payments on account of awards certified pursuant to paragraph (4) of section 303 with respect to such fund have been authorized in equal proportion to payments previously authorized on existing awards certified pursuant to paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of section 303."

(12) Section 316, title III, is amended by inserting "(a)" after the section number and adding at the end thereof the following subsection:

"(b) The Commission shall complete its affairs in connection with the settlement of claims pursuant to paragraph (4) of section 303 and subsections (b) and (c) of section 304 of this title not later than two years following the date of enactment of such paragraph, or following the enactment of legislation making appropriations to the Commission for payment of administrative expenses incurred in carrying out its functions under paragraph (4) of section 303 and subsections (b) and (c) of section 304 of this title, whichever is later."

SECTION BY SECTION SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS OF H.R. 9063

Paragraph 1: Lawyers' Fees

The bill amends Sec. 4(f) of Title I of the International Claims Settlement Act to relieve the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the responsibility for determining attorney's fees and to relieve the Treasury of the responsibility for paying such fees directly to the attorneys concerned. Instead, the new language provides that such fees shall not exceed 10 percent of the total amount paid pursuant to an award certified by the Commission.

The original provision of Title I pertained to the Yugoslav Claims Program which was completed in 1954, some time before the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission came into existence. The Commission has never attempted to fix lawyers' fees. Instead, while administering claims against Bulgaria, Hungary, Rumania, Italy and the Soviet Union, the Commission was bound by the language of Sec. 317, Title III, of the Act which simply restricts lawyers' fees to 10 percent of the total amount paid pursuant to an award—except in cases in which the Commission specifically authorizes a higher fee.

The Commission proposes to handle the new Yugoslav Claims Program, and the Polish Claims Program, under the authority of Title I of the Act. The change being proposed in Paragraph 1 of H.R. 9063 is intended to bring the lawyers' fees provision of Title I into conformity with similar provisions in Titles III and IV.

It should be noted, however, that H.R. 9063 does *not* strike the authority of the Commission, contained in Sec. 317(b) of the Act, to fix lawyers' fees under certain claims programs, carried out pursuant to the authority of Title III, at a level *higher than 10 percent*.

Paragraph 2: Deductions for Administrative Expenses

All claims funds administered by the Commission have been charged with financing the administrative expenses of the Commission and the Treasury. Therefore, section 7(b) of Title I of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as