

INTERNATIONAL CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT

TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 2 p.m., in room 2255, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Edna F. Kelly (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mrs. KELLY. The subcommittee will come to order.

We are meeting this afternoon to continue our hearings on H.R. 9063, a bill to amend the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended.

The enactment of this legislation has been requested by the executive branch in order to facilitate the settlement of claims under the Bulgarian, Rumanian, Yugoslav, Polish, and Italian claims programs.

On May 24, the subcommittee received testimony in support of this legislation from Chairman Edward D. Re of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

Today the subcommittee will receive testimony from private individuals and organizations interested in H.R. 9063.

We have a fairly long list of witnesses. We shall call on them in the order in which their requests to testify were received by the subcommittee. All of the prepared statements submitted by the witnesses will be placed in the record of today's hearings in full, at the appropriate time.

Therefore, to expedite matters, I ask that each witness limit his oral presentation to not more than 5 minutes, in order that the committee members may question.

We will begin with Mr. Reiter.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT H. REITER, ATTORNEY (SPAULDING, REITER & ROSE), WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. REITER. There are three things that I would like to call to the attention of the subcommittee.

The first relates to the matter of Italian claims. The administration form of the bill which has been submitted would permit over \$1 million that remains in the Italian claims fund to be used first to pay the claims of persons who, although they were not citizens of the United States on the date when they lost property or property of theirs was damaged in Italy during the war, would have qualified except for that, and who become citizens sometime prior to 1955, when the legislation was actually enacted.