

lost everything as a result of the war, for which my only possibility of compensation is this claim.

CARL L. HAUSS.

REPUBLIC OF ITALY, *Province of Milan, City of Milan,*
Consulate General of the United States of America, SS:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 18th day of May 1959.

(To be used only by War Damages Office.)

Service No. 1474.

No fee prescribed.

Item 58A (copy).

[SEAL]

HARRY W. JACOBS,
Vice Consul of the United States of America.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Reiter, could you explain the reason why these claimants did not qualify previously?

Mr. REITER. I have appended to the statement that I prepared for record purposes the decision of the then Commission. They said because of the fact that it occurred after September 3, 1943. September 3, 1943, was the date of the armistice which was signed with the government of Italy in southern Italy. That didn't control Mussolini who, you remember, went into northern Italy with the assistance of the Germans and managed to put up a pretty good fight after that.

It was for that reason that they considered these claims, which arose after the armistice in 1943, should not be compensable, although the statute said any damages which arose from injuries between the beginning of the war and 1947, which was the date of the peace treaty, should be compensated.

Mrs. KELLY. Did you not say that some persons did receive compensation for personal injury sustained after 1943?

Then why were not others who also applied compensated?

Mr. REITER. I have never had that adequately explained. The Daily News inquired from the Foreign Claims Commission, and they were unable to account for it. I think it was an oversight at that early time, and something which should be remedied.

Mrs. KELLY. To sum up: You believe that American citizens who suffered personal injuries in Italy during the war should be compensated? Is that correct?

Mr. REITER. Yes.

Mrs. KELLY. To your knowledge, were any of them eligible for compensation under the War Claims Act?

Mr. REITER. No, they were not.

Mrs. KELLY. And you have no knowledge as to why the executive branch did not pay some of the personal injury claims which arose after 1943?

Mr. REITER. The only understanding that I could get, and that is largely through the press which did make inquiries and an investigation as I have indicated in newspaper clippings attached to my statement—was because in some cases they applied a rule that after September 3, 1943, there was no war in Italy. That is the only justification I can find. It certainly is an inadequate justification, particularly since they didn't apply it uniformly.

Mrs. KELLY. To your knowledge, do these people have any recourse under any other law?

Mr. REITER. No, and, for example, Carl Hauss of Cincinnati, Ohio, who fought valiantly for the allied cause and was decorated by the Italians for his work with the partisans and allies, lost his health