

STATEMENT SUBMITTED ON H.R. 9063 BY GEORGE RADIN

I am a member of the New York bar ever since 1925 and a member of the bar of the District of Columbia since 1963, with offices at 2600 Woodley Road NW., Washington, D.C.

Mr. Ilija P. Plamenatz, of 220 C Street, S.E., Washington, D.C., in whose behalf this plea for due consideration by this Honorable Committee is made, was a Secretary of the Legation of Yugoslavia in Rome, Italy, when Italy joined June 10, 1940, the Axis Powers in World War II. Thereupon, Yugoslavia's legation was evacuated and Mr. Plamenatz managed to get to Portugal in the effort to report for duty in the Yugoslavia's Foreign Ministry in exile in London, where he arrived in 1941—and was directed to join promptly a Yugoslav group training in Scotland for their country's navy. From there he was sent to Norway on a wartime mission. From Norway he was ordered to report for duty in Cairo, Egypt, to serve as liaison officer with the Allies early in 1943.

From Egypt, Mr. Plamenatz was sent on a mission with Allies in Algeria for some time in 1943—and then to Palermo, Italy, where he organized an Allied Home before the end of 1943.

In 1944, Mr. Plamenatz became Secretary of Yugoslavia's Delegation in Rome and remained there until a coalition government was formed for Yugoslavia at the end of 1944, headed by Communists, in which government representatives of two pre-war democratic political parties took part—and Mr. Plamenatz returned to Belgrade to work for that coalition government.

However, after a brief working experiment with Communists, the representatives of the two pre-war political parties withdrew from that coalition government—and soon thereafter Mr. Plamenatz was put in jail in Sremska Mitrovica where he languished sixteen months. Thereupon, friends and relatives helped him to escape to Italy, seeking for possibilities to go to USA as a displaced person. However, it was not until 1951 (November 30) that he was able to secure entry into this country for permanent residence as a displaced person—which, in turn, prolonged his ability to become a US national until May 14, 1957.

In view of the above happenings, I beg to submit that Mr. Plamenatz deserves a maximum favorable consideration by the United States Congress in the legislation under consideration: to enable him (and other US nationals in a similar position) to participate in some way in the distribution of the balance in the War Claims Fund for physical damage to or loss of real property in his native Montenegro which occurred as a direct consequence of enemy military operations of the Italian armed forces in World War II.

(The following material was submitted for inclusion in the record:)

STATEMENT BY MRS. JOSEPHINE GOTLEY, PALM BEACH, FLA.

In pre-war years my husband invested money in Stocks of a firm in Bulgaria. The firm was then in the process of enlarging and in due course my husband was made Chairman of the Board of Directors. (President.)

The war interrupted communication with Bulgaria, however according to statements my husband received after the war, dividends and interests had accumulated and all his holdings been placed in the: "Banque National de Bulgarie."

When my husband passed away in 1959, I found all the documents together with a note of the Central Administration of the Banque National de Bulgarie dated *September 14th, 1955*, with which my husband was informed that according to the law of nationalisation of industrial enterprises and private properties, his titles and possessions have been turned over to the benefit of the State Treasury.

Mrs. KELLY. The hearing stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 3:25 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.)

