

JOSÉ AZAEL RUIZ (PANAMA) *v.* UNITED STATES

(June 28, 1933. Pages 636-637.)

The Republic of Panama files this claim in the sum of \$125.00 without interest on behalf of José Azael Ruiz versus the United States of America, for loss and damage which the claimant alleges he suffered at the hands of sailors of the American Navy, on a plantation belonging to him, located on Saboga Island, Archipelago of Las Perlas, Republic of Panama.

The Panaman nationality of the claimant is established.

The facts on which this claim is based happened between the signing and the exchange of ratifications of the convention of July 28, 1926. On the grounds stated in the case of Walter A. Noyes (Registry No. 5) the Commission holds that it has jurisdiction to decide the claim.

In the month of March, 1931, several units of the American Navy held maneuvers in the Archipelago of Las Perlas. Some of the sailors of that fleet landed on Saboga Island and trespassed upon the claimant's property and ate ripe fruit which he had intended to harvest and market. The resultant loss and damage are established by the testimony of witnesses and by a certificate issued by the municipal authority of the island.

This is a case analogous to that of José María Vásquez Díaz (Registry No. 19) in which the Commission has decided that the United States is liable.

Decision

The United States of America is obligated to pay to the Republic of Panama, on behalf of José Azael Ruiz, the sum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) without interest.
