

**REPORTS OF INTERNATIONAL
ARBITRAL AWARDS**

**RECUEIL DES SENTENCES
ARBITRALES**

Robert Henry Beales (Great Britain) v. United Mexican States

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ROBERT HENRY BEALES (GREAT BRITAIN) *v.* UNITED MEXICAN STATES

(Decision No. 51, May 29, 1931. Pages 112-114.)

AFFIDAVITS AS EVIDENCE.—NECESSITY OF CORROBORATING EVIDENCE. Corroborating evidence adduced in support of affidavit of claimant *held* insufficient.

(Text of decision omitted.)

ROBERT O. RENAUD (GREAT BRITAIN) *v.* UNITED MEXICAN STATES

(Decision No. 52, May 29, 1931. Pages 114-117.)

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE AS PROOF OF NATIONALITY.—IDENTITY OF CLAIMANT.

A baptismal certificate of an individual having the same surname but not the same given names as those of claimant, together with a statement of claimant that he had later in life changed his name, as well as an affidavit of claimant as to place and date of birth, *held* sufficient evidence.

FORCED ABANDONMENT. Where evidence indicated claimant left his property in Mexico as a result of disturbed conditions, including assassination and robberies, and destruction of property thereafter ensuing may have been caused by gradual effects of time, claim *disallowed*.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTS OF FORCES. Claim for taking and destruction of property by Carrancista forces *allowed*.

1. The Memorial sets out that during the period October 1895 to April 1907 Mr. Renaud purchased several lots of land in the Colony of Metlaltoyuca, District of Huauchinango, State of Puebla. On gaining possession of the property the claimant commenced to fence the land and had constructed about seven miles of barbed wire fencing with hardwood posts. He had cleared over 600 acres of land, planting it for pasture; constructed two corrals; built a good frame house for himself and family and several houses for his workmen. For the first few years after the establishment of the colony, land was held by some 150 foreign nationals, of whom about fifty lived in the colony. Assassinations and robberies committed in the colony, rendered possible by the lack of police protection, caused the numbers of the colony to dwindle.

As Mr. Renaud had five sons of school age, he was obliged to live in Mexico City and he obtained employment there. Mr. Renaud placed a Mexican caretaker in charge of his property in the colony of Metlaltoyuca. In June 1912, owing to the cessation of all business, which state of affairs was due to the disturbed conditions at the time, Mr. Renaud and his family left Mexico City for Alberta, Canada, via Veracruz. A short time after this the Mexican caretaker was driven out of the claimant's property by the revolutionaries, who had taken possession of the town of Metlaltoyuca. These revolutionaries took away all Mr. Renaud's movable property and destroyed the remainder, chiefly by fire.