(b) Depreciation in value is determined by considering the type of article involved, its cost, its condition when damaged or lost, and the time elapsed between the date of acquisition and the date of damage or loss.

(c) Current replacement cost and depreciated value are determined by use of publicly available adjustment rates or through use of other reasonable methods at the discretion of the official authorized to issue a determination upon the claim in question.

(d) Replacement of lost or damaged property may be made in kind whenever appropriate.

(e) At the discretion of the official authorized to issue the determination upon the claim in question, a claimant may be required to turn over an item alleged to have been damaged beyond economical repair to the United States, in which case no deduction for salvage value will be made in the calculation of actual value.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, settlement of claims under the Act are final and conclusive.

§ 15.28 Attorney fees.

No more than 10 percent of the amount in settlement of each individual claim submitted and settled under this subpart shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with that claim.

§ 15.29 Reconsideration.

(a) Deciding Official. While there is no appeal from the decision of the deciding official in regard to claims under the Act, the deciding official may always reconsider his or her determination of a claim.

(b) Claimant. A claimant may request reconsideration from the deciding official by directing a written request for reconsideration to the deciding official within 180 days of the date of the original determination. The claimant must clearly state the factual or legal basis upon which he or she rests the request for a more favorable determination.

(c) Notification. The determination upon the reconsideration will be provided to the claimant in writing by the deciding official.

§ 15.42 Claim procedures.

(a) Claim. A claim under this subpart must be in writing and signed by the claimant or by an authorized representative. It must be received by the Office of the Solicitor within two years of the date upon which the claim accrued.

(b) Award. The Regional Solicitors and Associate Regional Solicitors are