

[CHAPTER 163]

AN ACT

To exempt certain officers and employees of the Office of Price Administration from certain provisions of the Criminal Code and Revised Statutes.

April 4, 1944
[H. R. 3847]
[Public Law 287]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That nothing contained in sections 109 and 113 of the Criminal Code (U. S. C., title 18, secs. 198 and 203) shall be deemed to apply to any person because of any appointment under the authority of the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942 (Public Law Numbered 421, Seventy-seventh Congress) or under authority of title III of the Second War Powers Act, 1942 (Public Law Numbered 507, Seventy-seventh Congress), as a member of a War Price and Rationing Board or to any other position in a regional, district, or local office of the Office of Price Administration, if such person is serving or has served in such capacity without compensation: *Provided, however,* That the provisions of this Act shall not apply to any representation before the Office of Price Administration while such person is an officer or employee of the Office of Price Administration.

Office of Price Administration.
35 Stat. 1107, 1109.

56 Stat. 23, 177.
50 U. S. C., Supp. III, app. §§ 901-946, 632.
Post, pp. 632, 827.

Approved April 4, 1944.

[CHAPTER 164]

AN ACT

To amend section 6 of the Defense Highway Act of 1941, as amended.

April 4, 1944
[H. R. 3912]
[Public Law 288]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 6 of the Defense Highway Act of 1941, as amended by the Act of July 2, 1942 (23 U. S. C. 106), is hereby further amended by striking out the amount "\$260,000,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$290,000,000": *And provided further,* That not exceeding \$5,000,000 of this appropriation be used by the Commissioner of Public Roads in areas certified to the Federal Works Administrator, by the Secretary of War, or the Secretary of the Navy, or by their authorized representatives, as maneuver areas, for such improvement and construction as may be necessary to keep the roads therein, which have been or may be used for training of the armed forces, in suitable condition for such training purposes, and to repair the damage caused thereto by the operations of men and equipment in such training.

Defense Highway Act of 1941, amendment.
Access roads.
55 Stat. 766; 56 Stat. 562.
23 U. S. C., Supp. III, § 106.
Post, p. 371.

Approved April 4, 1944.

[CHAPTER 165]

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Navy to proceed with the construction of certain public works, and for other purposes.

April 4, 1944
[H. R. 4381]
[Public Law 289]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to establish or develop the following naval shore activities by the construction of such temporary or permanent public works as he may consider necessary, including buildings, facilities, accessories, and services, with which shall be included the authority to acquire the necessary land, and to continue or complete the construction of any project heretofore authorized or undertaken, which projects have been specifically approved by the Secretary of the Navy, with approximate costs as indicated: Fleet facilities, \$41,716,500; aviation facilities, \$228,375,000; storage facilities, \$90,335,000; Marine Corps housing and training, \$25,375,000; ord-

Navy, public works.
Construction authorized.
Ante, p. 7.

Cost variance and limitation.

Agreement respecting acquisitions or disposals.

Temporary housing.

Appropriation authorized.
Post, pp. 311, 867.

nance facilities, \$120,906,554; personnel training and housing facilities, \$46,579,670; hospital facilities, \$42,071,750; shore radio facilities, \$4,060,000; Naval Research Laboratory, \$1,593,550; miscellaneous structures, \$24,360,000; advance base construction, material and equipment, \$1,019,000,000: *Provided*, That the approximate cost indicated for each of the classes of projects enumerated above may, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Navy, be varied upward or downward, but the total cost shall not exceed \$1,644,373,024: *Provided further*, That prior to the acquisition or disposal, by lease or otherwise, of any land acquired for naval use under the authority of this, or any other Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall come into agreement with the Naval Affairs Committees of the Senate and of the House of Representatives with respect to the terms of such prospective acquisitions or disposals; and recital of compliance with this proviso in any instrument of conveyance by the Secretary of the Navy under authority of this or any other Act shall be conclusive evidence of the Secretary's compliance with this proviso as to the property conveyed: *Provided further*, That effective December 13, 1943, temporary housing is authorized for transient personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, with their dependents, on a rental basis, for periods not exceeding sixty days, without loss of rental allowance or money allowance for quarters.

SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Act.

Approved April 4, 1944.

[CHAPTER 172]

AN ACT

April 5, 1944
[S. 1243]
[Public Law 260]

Authorizing the construction and operation of demonstration plants to produce synthetic liquid fuels from coal, oil shales, agricultural and forestry products, and other substances, in order to aid the prosecution of the war, to conserve and increase the oil resources of the Nation, and for other purposes.

Synthetic liquid fuel demonstration plants. Construction and operation.

Size.

Cooperation with Department of Agriculture.

Authority of Secretary of the Interior.

Laboratory research, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Mines, within the limits of critical materials available, is authorized for not more than five years to construct, maintain, and operate one or more demonstration plants to produce synthetic liquid fuels from coal, oil shale, and other substances, and one or more demonstration plants to produce liquid fuels from agricultural and forestry products, with all facilities and accessories for the manufacture, purification, storage, and distribution of the products. The plants shall be of the minimum size which will allow the Government to furnish industry the necessary cost and engineering data for the development of a synthetic liquid-fuel industry and of such size that the combined product of all the plants constructed in accordance with this Act will not constitute a commercially significant amount of the total national commercial sale and distribution of petroleum and petroleum products. Any activities under this Act relating to the production of liquid fuels from agricultural and forestry products shall be carried out in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and subject to the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 2. In order to carry out the purpose of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized—

(a) to conduct laboratory research and development work, and with pilot plants and semiworks plants to make careful process engineering studies along with structural engineering studies in