

[CHAPTER 555]

AN ACT

December 5, 1945
[S. 1364]
[Public Law 246]

To provide for the compromise and settlement by the Secretary of the Navy of certain claims for damage to property under the jurisdiction of the Navy Department, to provide for the execution of releases by the Secretary of the Navy upon payment of such claims, and for other purposes.

Navy.
Damage claims.

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 consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, compromise, or settle claims for damage cognizable in admiralty in a district court of the United States and all claims for damage caused by a vessel or floating object, to property of the United States under the jurisdiction of the Navy Department or property for which the Navy Department may have assumed, by contract or otherwise, any obligation to respond for damage thereto. The Secretary of the Navy is further authorized to receive in payment of any such claim the amount due the United States pursuant to determination, compromise, or settlement as herein authorized and, upon acceptance of such payment but not until then, such determination, settlement, or compromise of such claim shall be final and conclusive for all purposes, any law to the contrary notwithstanding. All such payments shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts. The Secretary of the Navy is further authorized to execute on behalf of the United States and to deliver in exchange for such payment a full release of such claim: *Provided*, That this section, as respects the determination, compromise, settlement, and payment of claims, shall be supplementary to, and not in lieu of, all other provisions of law authorizing the determination, compromise, or settlement of claims for damage to property hereinabove described: *Provided further*, That no settlement or compromise where there is involved a payment in the net amount of over \$1,000,000 shall be authorized by this Act.

Amount due U. S.

Release of claim.

Provisions deemed
supplementary to ex-
isting law.

Maximum pay-
ment.

Reports.

Wartime omission
of facts.

Pending suits.

SEC. 2. Within twenty days after receipt of a payment in a net amount exceeding \$3,000 due the United States pursuant to determination, compromise, or settlement of any claim under section 1 of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall file reports with the Committees on Naval Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives, setting forth the nature of the claim; the vessel or vessels involved; the amount received; the basis of determination, compromise, or settlement; and other pertinent facts: *Provided*, That during any war the reports required under this section may omit any fact or facts, disclosure of which, in the opinion of the Secretary, would be prejudicial to the national security.

SEC. 3. This Act shall not apply to any claim for which a suit filed by or against the United States is pending.

Approved December 5, 1945.

[CHAPTER 556]

AN ACT

December 5, 1945
[H. R. 1192]
[Public Law 247]

Granting travel pay and other allowances to certain soldiers of the War with Spain and the Philippine Insurrection who were discharged in the Philippine Islands.

War with Spain and
Philippine Insurrec-
tion.
Payments to certain
soldiers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who either enlisted in the Regular Army in the year 1898 under special Act of Congress for the duration of the War with Spain or enlisted or reenlisted in the Regular Army during such war for the regular enlistment period but secured his discharge under General Orders, Num-

bered 40, issued at the Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, May 10, 1898, and who (1) was honorably discharged from such enlistment while serving in the Philippine Islands, (2) did not there reenter the military or naval service of the United States through commission or enlistment, and (3) embarked at Manila within one year after such discharge for return to the United States, shall be allowed and paid the sum of \$75 as reimbursement for lodging and subsistence in the Philippine Islands for the period during which he awaited transportation by Government transport, and, in addition, travel pay and commutation of subsistence, for the distance from Manila, Philippine Islands, to San Francisco, California, at the rate of travel pay and commutation of subsistence allowed to soldiers of the Regular Army honorably discharged on expiration of enlistment, under section 1290 of the Revised Statutes, in effect at the time of such discharge, less any sum or sums of money actually paid by the Government to such person at the time of such discharge, or subsequent thereto, and transportation and subsistence between such places: *Provided*, That such payments shall be without interest.

Lodging, subsistence,
and travel pay.

47 Stat. 1428.

SEC. 2. Claims hereunder shall be settled in the General Accounting Office.

SEC. 3. The Comptroller General is authorized and directed to certify to the Congress, pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of the Act of July 7, 1884 (U. S. C., title 5, sec. 266), all claims allowed hereunder.

Certification of al-
lowed claims.

23 Stat. 254.

SEC. 4. Application for the benefits of this Act shall be filed within three years after the date of its passage.

SEC. 5. Payment to any attorney or agent for such assistance as may be required in the preparation and execution of the necessary papers in any application under this Act shall not exceed the sum of \$10; any person collecting or attempting to collect a greater amount than is herein allowed shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Limitation on at-
torney's, etc., fees.

SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Approved December 5, 1945.

[CHAPTER 557]

AN ACT

To provide for financial control of Government corporations.

December 6, 1945
[H. R. 3660]
[Public Law 248]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Government Corporation Control Act".

Government Corpo-
ration Control Act.

DECLARATION OF POLICY

SEC. 2. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to bring Government corporations and their transactions and operations under annual scrutiny by the Congress and provide current financial control thereof.

TITLE I—WHOLLY OWNED GOVERNMENT
CORPORATIONS

SEC. 101. As used in this Act the term "wholly owned Government corporation" means the Commodity Credit Corporation; Federal Intermediate Credit Banks; Production Credit Corporations; Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations; Farmers Home Corporation; Federal Crop Insurance Corporation; Federal Farm Mortgage