

[CHAPTER 558]

AN ACT

Relating to clerical assistance at post offices, branches, or stations serving military and naval personnel, and for other purposes

December 7, 1945
[H. R. 697]
[Public Law 249]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of July 9, 1943 (57 Stat. 391), entitled "An Act to provide for clerical assistance at post offices, branches, or stations serving military and naval personnel, and for other purposes", is hereby amended to read as follows:

Postal employees.
39 U. S. C., Supp.
IV, § 133 note.

"That, during the present war and for six months thereafter, whenever deemed necessary in serving military and naval personnel at military and naval camps, posts, or stations, or at civilian plants devoted to war production, the Postmaster General is hereby authorized to detail any postal employee from main post offices to postal units, at such camps, posts, or stations, or civilian plants, without changing the official station of such postal employee, and to authorize allowances, not exceeding \$4 per day in lieu of actual expenses, while so detailed, without regard to the Subsistence Expense Act of 1926, such allowances to be paid from the appropriation 'Miscellaneous items, first- and second-class post offices'.

Details to units
serving military and
naval personnel.

Allowances.

44 Stat. 688.
5 U. S. C. § 821;
Supp. IV, § 823.

"SEC. 2. The Comptroller General of the United States is authorized and directed to allow credit for any payments made prior to July 9, 1943, not exceeding the allowances herein provided, to the employees so detailed."

Approved December 7, 1945.

[CHAPTER 559]

AN ACT

To authorize the head of the postgraduate school of the United States Navy to confer masters and doctors degrees in engineering and related fields.

December 7, 1945
[S. 1493]
[Public Law 250]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, pursuant to such regulations as the Secretary of the Navy may prescribe, the head of the postgraduate school of the United States Navy is authorized, upon due accreditation from time to time by the appropriate professional authority of the applicable curriculum of such school leading to masters or doctors degrees in engineering or related fields, to confer such degree or degrees on qualified graduates of such school.

Postgraduate school
of U. S. Navy.
Authority to confer
certain degrees.

Approved December 7, 1945.

[CHAPTER 560]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Postmaster General to adjust certain claims of postmasters for loss by burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty", approved March 17, 1882, as amended.

December 7, 1945
[H. R. 4127]
[Public Law 251]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Postmaster General to adjust certain claims of postmasters for loss by burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty", approved March 17, 1882 (22 Stat. 29), as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, title 39, sec. 49), be, and it is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Postal Service.

"The Postmaster General may investigate all claims of postmasters, Navy mail clerks, assistant Navy mail clerks, Coast Guard mail clerks, assistant Coast Guard mail clerks, Army mail clerks, and

Adjustment of cer-
tain claims for losses
by burglary, fire, etc.

assistant Army mail clerks for the loss of any funds or valuable paper which they may have in their official custody, resulting from burglary, fire, or other unavoidable casualty, and for the loss occurring after April 1, 1924, by bank failure of any such funds deposited in National or State banks, and if he shall determine that such loss resulted from no fault or negligence on the part of such officers or employees, may pay to them or credit them with the amount so ascertained to have been lost or destroyed, and may also credit them with the amount of any remittance of such funds or valuable paper made by them in compliance with the instructions of the Postmaster General, which shall have been lost or stolen while in transit by mail to the office designated as a depository, or after arrival at such depository office and before the postmaster at such depository office has become responsible therefor, or to the postmaster at any other post office, and authorized shipments of postage and other stamp stock or valuable paper lost while in transit by mail from one such officer or employee to another such officer or employee, or to or from the Post Office Department, and such funds remitted after April 1, 1924, in compliance with instructions of the Postmaster General in the form of drafts or checks which have been returned unpaid or dishonored by reason of the closing of the banks issuing such drafts or checks:

Provided, That in all cases of bank failure the postmaster shall first file with the receiver of the insolvent bank a claim for the full amount of the funds involved and assign such claim to the Postmaster General, who shall receive all dividends accruing in any such case. No claim exceeding the sum of \$10,000 shall be paid or credited until after the facts shall have been ascertained by the Postmaster General, and an appropriation made therefor. All such claims must be presented within six months from the time the loss occurred: *Provided further*, That in the case of claims of Navy mail clerks, assistant Navy mail clerks, Coast Guard mail clerks, assistant Coast Guard mail clerks, Army mail clerks, assistant Army mail clerks, and postmasters outside the continental United States the limitation shall be two years as to claims for losses occurring while the United States is at war: *Provided further*, That the provisions of this Act, as regards Army mail clerks and assistant Army mail clerks, shall be applicable to claims which have arisen or may arise at any time subsequent to the Act of August 21, 1941 (55 Stat. 656), authorizing the designation of Army mail clerks and assistant Army mail clerks, and likewise shall, in the case of Coast Guard mail clerks and assistant Coast Guard mail clerks, be applicable to claims which have arisen or may arise at any time subsequent to the Act of July 11, 1941 (55 Stat. 586), authorizing the designation of Coast Guard mail clerks and assistant Coast Guard mail clerks.

SEC. 2. The provisions of this Act shall not be applicable to claims for losses cognizable under the Government Losses in Shipment Act (Act of July 8, 1937, 50 Stat. 479, as amended; 5 U. S. C., 1940 edition, sec. 134-134h), nor to claims for losses by Army mail clerks and assistant Army mail clerks relating to stamps which were supplied to them by the War Department and not by the Post Office Department, nor to the funds received through the sale of such stamps, nor to claims for losses by Navy mail clerks and assistant Navy mail clerks relating to stamps which were supplied to them by the Navy Department and not by the Post Office Department, nor to the funds received through the sale of such stamps."

Approved December 7, 1945.

By bank failure.

In transit by mail.

Filing of claim with receiver of insolvent bank.

Claim exceeding \$10,000.

Time limitation.

Applicability.

39 U. S. C., Supp. IV, § 138.

39 U. S. C., Supp. IV, § 134.

Nonapplicability.

[CHAPTER 561]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Making an appropriation for contingent expenses of the Senate.

December 10, 1945
[S. J. Res. 125]
[Public Law 252]

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$400,000 for contingent expenses of the Senate, expenses of inquiries and investigations ordered by the Senate, including compensation to stenographers of committees, at such rate as may be fixed by the Committee to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate, but not exceeding 25 cents per hundred words, fiscal year 1946: Provided, That no part of this appropriation shall be expended for per diem and subsistence expenses except in accordance with the provisions of the Subsistence Expense Act of 1926, approved June 3, 1926, as amended.

Senate, contingent expenses.
Ante, p. 243.44 Stat. 688.
5 U. S. C. § 821;
Supp. IV, § 823.

Approved December 10, 1945.

[CHAPTER 562]

AN ACT

To authorize the discharge of midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy by the Secretary of the Navy because of unsatisfactory conduct or aptitude.

December 11, 1945
[S. 1064]
[Public Law 253]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy shall, whenever he determines that the conduct of any midshipman is unsatisfactory or whenever it is determined by a unanimous decision of the Academic Board that any midshipman possesses insufficient aptitude for becoming a commissioned officer in the naval service, submit to the Secretary of the Navy in writing a full report of such determination and of the facts on which it is based. If, after according such midshipman an opportunity to examine such report and to submit a written statement thereon, the Secretary of the Navy shall deem the Superintendent's determination reasonable and well founded upon the basis of such report and statement, he may, in his discretion, discharge such midshipman from the Naval Academy.

Midshipmen, U. S. Naval Academy.
Discharge for unsatisfactory conduct, etc.

Approved December 11, 1945.

[CHAPTER 563]

AN ACT

To amend the Act authorizing postmasters in Alaska to administer oaths and affirmations.

December 11, 1945
[H. R. 304]
[Public Law 254]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the Act approved August 5, 1939, entitled "An Act to authorize postmasters within the Territory of Alaska to administer oaths and affirmations, and for other purposes" (53 Stat. 1219), is amended to read as follows:

Alaska.

48 U. S. C. § 35a.

"That each postmaster within the Territory of Alaska is hereby authorized and directed to administer oaths and affirmations and to take acknowledgments, and to make and execute certificates thereof, and to perform all other functions of a notary public within said Territory, whenever an oath, affirmation, or acknowledgment or a certificate thereof is authorized, permitted, or required by any Act or Acts of Congress, or of the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska."

Postmasters as notaries public.