

[CHAPTER 282]

AN ACT

To amend and clarify the provisions of the Act of June 15, 1936 (49 Stat. 1507), and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That neither of the provisions of the Act of June 15, 1936 (49 Stat. 1507), nor any other law of the United States shall be construed as limiting the power and authority of the Secretary of War, under such regulations as he may prescribe, to require the hospitalization and medical treatment of persons in the active military service, and to incur obligations with respect thereto, without reference to their line-of-duty status: *Provided*, That this Act shall not apply to officers and enlisted men who are treated in private hospitals or by civilian physicians while on furloughs or leaves of absence in excess of twenty-four hours.

Approved, July 15, 1939.

[CHAPTER 283]

AN ACT

To authorize the purchase of equipment and supplies for experimental and test purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War may, at his discretion, purchase abroad or in the United States with or without competition, by contract or otherwise, such ordnance, signal, and chemical-warfare equipment, supplies, parts, accessories, or designs thereof, as may be necessary in his judgment for experimental or test purposes in the development of the best kind of equipment and supplies required for the national defense. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to waive or alter the provisions of Revised Statutes, section 3709, when purchases are made in quantity.

Approved, July 15, 1939.

[CHAPTER 284]

AN ACT

To extend the benefits of the United States Employees' Compensation Act to members of the Officers' Reserve Corps and of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army who are physically injured in line of duty while performing active duty or engaged in authorized training, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That if in time of peace any member of the Officers' Reserve Corps or of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army is physically injured in line of duty (1) while on active duty, or (2) when engaged in authorized travel to and from such duty, or (3) when engaged in authorized training without pay, or dies as the result of such physical injury, he or his beneficiary shall be entitled to all the benefits prescribed by law for civil employees of the United States who are physically injured in line of duty or who die as a result thereof, and the United States Employees' Compensation Commission shall have jurisdiction in such cases and shall perform the same duties with reference thereto as in the cases of civil employees of the United States so injured: *Provided*, That the benefits shall accrue to any such member, or his beneficiary, whether the disability or death is the result of sickness or disease contracted in line of duty while on active duty when such sickness or disease is proximately caused by service on active duty:

July 15, 1939

[S. 840]

[Public, No. 177]

Army.
Hospitalization, etc., of persons in active military service without reference to line-of-duty status.
49 Stat. 1507.

Proviso.
Exceptions.

July 15, 1939

[S. 1020]

[Public, No. 178]

War Department.
Purchase of equipment and supplies for experimental purposes, etc., authorized.

Contract provisions.
R. S. § 3709.
41 U. S. C. § 5.

July 15, 1939

[S. 1021]

[Public, No. 179]

U. S. Employees' Compensation Act.
Benefits extended to members of Officers' Reserve Corps, etc., on active duty in time of peace.
39 Stat. 742.
5 U. S. C. ch. 15; Supp. IV, ch. 15.

Jurisdiction of Employees' Compensation Commission.

Proviso.
Status clarified.

Provided further, That employees' compensation under this Act shall not be paid concurrently with active-duty pay or pension based upon military service, and in the event a person becomes eligible for the benefits of the United States Employees' Compensation Act and is also eligible for, or is in receipt of, a pension based upon military service, he shall elect which benefit to receive: *Provided further*, That authorized training without pay is defined as inactive-status training under written authorization by competent military authority covering a specific training assignment and prescribing a time limit: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of determining the benefits to which entitled under the provisions of this Act members of the Officers' Reserve Corps or of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army physically injured when engaged in authorized training without pay will be held and considered as receiving the pay and allowances they would have received if in a pay status: *Provided further*, That Reserve Officers entitled to the benefits of the last proviso of section 5 of the Act of April 3, 1939 (Public, Numbered 18, Seventy-sixth Congress), shall not be entitled to the benefits of this Act: *And provided further*, That nothing herein shall be construed to authorize compensation benefits for any period prior to the approval of this Act.

Approved, July 15, 1939.

[CHAPTER 285]

AN ACT

To provide for acceptance and cashing of Government pay checks of retired naval personnel and members of the Naval and Marine Corps Reserves by commissary stores and ship's stores ashore, located outside the continental limits of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding the provisions of section 3639 and 3651, Revised Statutes, as amended (31 U. S. C. 521, 543), the Secretary of the Navy, in his discretion, may hereafter authorize the officer in charge of any commissary store or ship's store ashore, located outside the continental limits of the United States, to accept Government checks tendered by retired personnel of the Navy and Marine Corps and by members of the Naval and Marine Corps Reserves in payment of amounts due by such personnel to any such commissary store or ship's store ashore, and to refund, in cash, to the payees of the tendered checks any difference between the amounts due and the amounts of the tendered checks.

Approved, July 15, 1939.

[CHAPTER 286]

AN ACT

To authorize the payment of burial expenses and expenses in connection with last illness and death of native employees who die while serving in offices abroad of executive departments of the United States Government.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the head of any executive department, which maintains permanent staffs of employees in foreign countries is hereby authorized to pay out of any appropriation available to the department concerned for miscellaneous or contingent expenses, burial expenses, and expenses in connection with last illness and death, not in excess of \$100 in any one case, of the native employees of such department in those countries with respect to which the Secretary of State shall determine it is

Benefits not paid concurrently with active-duty pay, etc.
Choice where also eligible to pension.

Authorized training without pay, definition.

Benefits for injuries when so engaged.

Disqualification if entitled to benefits under designated Act.
Ante, p. 557.

No prior benefits.

July 15, 1939

[S. 1118]

[Public, No. 180]

Government pay checks.

Acceptance of, by certain commissary stores, etc., from designated personnel.

R. S. §§ 3639, 3651.

31 U. S. C. §§ 521, 543.

July 15, 1939

[S. 1523]

[Public, No. 181]

Native employees serving in offices abroad of executive departments.

Payment of burial, etc., expenses in certain countries, authorized.

Limitation.