

Liability of certifying officer.

SEC. 2. No charge shall be made against the certifying officer for the amount of any payment for which credit shall be allowed under the preceding section where the Commissioner of Work Projects or his duly authorized representative certifies that the payment appears to have been made without fraud or collusion on the part of the certifying officer.

Approved, October 9, 1940.

[CHAPTER 783]

AN ACT

October 9, 1940
[S. 4258]

[Public, No. 815]

To remove the restriction placed upon the use of certain lands acquired in connection with the expansion of Mitchel Field, New York.

Mitchel Field, N.Y.
Removal of restriction on use of land.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the item contained in the Act of Congress approved July 1, 1937 (50 Stat. 452), entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Military Establishment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and for other purposes", providing for the acquisition of land in the vicinity of Mitchel Field, New York, three hundred and forty-two acres, more or less, to be used exclusively for runways, \$500,000, is hereby amended so as to remove the restriction thereby placed on the use of the land so authorized to be acquired: *Provided,* That the use of said land for any other purpose shall in no way interfere with the effective use of the runways placed thereon.

Proviso.
Noninterference with use of runways.

Approved, October 9, 1940.

[CHAPTER 784]

AN ACT

October 9, 1940
[S. 4316]

[Public, No. 816]

To repeal sections 4588 and 4591 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

R. S. §§ 4588, 4591,
repeal.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That sections 4588 and 4591 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (U. S. C., title 46, secs. 686 and 687) be, and they are hereby, repealed.

Seamen's certificates.

SEC. 2. All certificates heretofore issued to seamen under the authority of section 4588 of the Revised Statutes of the United States are hereby declared void.

Approved, October 9, 1940.

[CHAPTER 785]

AN ACT

October 9, 1940
[H. R. 1998]

[Public, No. 817]

To confer jurisdiction upon certain United States commissioners to try petty offenses committed on Federal reservations.

U. S. commissioners.
Jurisdiction to try petty offenses.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any United States commissioner specially designated for that purpose by the court by which he was appointed shall have jurisdiction to try and, if found guilty, to sentence persons charged with petty offenses against the law, or rules and regulations made in pursuance of law, committed in any place over which the Congress has exclusive power to legislate or over which the United States has concurrent jurisdiction, and within the judicial district for which such commissioner was appointed. The probation laws shall be applicable to persons so tried before United States commissioners. For the purposes of this Act the term "petty offense" shall be defined as in section 335 of the Criminal Code (U. S. C., title 18, sec. 541). If any person charged with such petty offense shall so elect, however, he shall be tried in the district court of the United States which has jurisdiction

Probation laws.
"Petty offense" defined.
46 Stat. 1029.
Right of defendant to be tried in district court of U. S.