

vided in such plan or lease is vested in the Secretary of the Navy, subject to approval by the President, to alter or modify from time to time in his discretion the rate of prospecting and development on, and the quantity and rate of production from, such lands of the United States under said plan or lease, any law to the contrary notwithstanding."

(b) Section 3 of the Act of June 30, 1938, is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. All Acts or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed: *Provided, however,* That nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting the powers of the President or the Secretary of the Navy under Title II of the Act of March 27, 1942, known as 'The Second War Powers Act, 1942'."

Approved June 17, 1944.

52 Stat. 1255.
34 U. S. C. § 524
note.

56 Stat. 177.
50 U. S. C., Supp.
III, app. § 632.

[CHAPTER 263]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for operation of naval petroleum and oil-shale reserves.

June 17, 1944
[H. J. Res. 286]
[Public Law 344]

Whereas it has been urgently requested by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and recommended by the Secretary of the Navy that production from Naval Petroleum Reserve Numbered 1 be substantially increased at the earliest possible date to meet the critical need for petroleum on the west coast to supply the armed services in the Pacific theater: Therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, notwithstanding the provisions of the Act of June 4, 1920, as amended, relating to the naval petroleum reserves, the Secretary of the Navy be, and he hereby is, authorized, with the approval of the President, during the period of eighteen months from and after June 1, 1944, to develop and operate, or to cause to be developed and operated, the lands in Naval Petroleum Reserve Numbered 1, directly or by contract, (a) to the end that the productive capacity of the reserve, including the privately owned and leased lands included therein, may be increased to permit a daily rate of production of sixty-five thousand barrels, but not in excess of such rate, and (b) to produce or to cause to be produced from said lands during said period up to but not in excess of a total of thirty million barrels of petroleum: *Provided,* That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to enter into contracts under the appropriation "Naval Emergency Fund" for increasing the production of petroleum in Naval Petroleum Reserve Numbered 1 to the extent authorized in this resolution.

Approved June 17, 1944.

Naval Petroleum
Reserve No. 1.
Development and
operation.
41 Stat. 813.
34 U. S. C. § 524.
Ante, p. 280.

Post, p. 302.

[CHAPTER 266]

AN ACT

To extend, for two additional years, the provisions of the Sugar Act of 1937, as amended, and the taxes with respect to sugar.

June 20, 1944
[H. R. 4833]
[Public Law 345]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 513 of the Sugar Act of 1937, as amended (relating to termination of powers of the Secretary of Agriculture under the Sugar Act), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 513. The powers vested in the Secretary under this Act shall terminate on December 31, 1946, except that the Secretary shall have power to make payments under title III under programs applicable to the crop year 1946 and previous crop years."

Sugar Act of 1937,
amendments.
50 Stat. 916.
7 U. S. C., Supp.
III, § 1183.

Termination of
powers.
50 Stat. 909.
7 U. S. C. §§ 1131-
1137; Supp. III, §§ 1131,
1134, 1137.

53 Stat. 429.
26 U. S. C., Supp.
III, § 3508.

SEC. 2. Section 3508 of the Internal Revenue Code (relating to termination of taxes with respect to sugar) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3508. TERMINATION OF TAXES.

“No tax shall be imposed under this chapter on the manufacture, use, or importation of sugar after June 30, 1947.”

Philippine Islands.
50 Stat. 915; 55 Stat.
873.
7 U. S. C., Supp.
III, § 1173.

SEC. 3. Section 503 of the Sugar Act of 1937, as amended (relating to payments to the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands), is amended by striking out “June 30, 1945” and inserting in lieu thereof “June 30, 1947”.

Approved June 20, 1944.

[CHAPTER 268]

AN ACT

To provide Federal Government aid for the readjustment in civilian life of returning World War II veterans.

June 22, 1944
[S. 1767]
[Public Law 346]

Servicemen's Read-
justment Act of 1944.

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 “Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944”.

TITLE I

CHAPTER I—HOSPITALIZATION, CLAIMS, AND PROCEDURES

Veterans' Adminis-
tration declared an es-
sential war agency.
Priorities.

SEC. 100. The Veterans’ Administration is hereby declared to be an essential war agency and entitled, second only to the War and Navy Departments, to priorities in personnel, equipment, supplies, and material under any laws, Executive orders, and regulations pertaining to priorities, and in appointments of personnel from civil-service registers the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs is hereby granted the same authority and discretion as the War and Navy Departments and the United States Public Health Service: *Provided*, That the provisions of this section as to priorities for materials shall apply to any State institution to be built for the care or hospitalization of veterans.

Additional hospital
facilities.

SEC. 101. The Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs and the Federal Board of Hospitalization are hereby authorized and directed to expedite and complete the construction of additional hospital facilities for war veterans, and to enter into agreements and contracts for the use by or transfer to the Veterans’ Administration of suitable Army and Navy hospitals after termination of hostilities in the present war or after such institutions are no longer needed by the armed services; and the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs is hereby authorized and directed to establish necessary regional offices, sub-offices, branch offices, contact units, or other subordinate offices in centers of population where there is no Veterans’ Administration facility, or where such a facility is not readily available or accessible: *Provided*, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$500,000,000 for the construction of additional hospital facilities.

Post-war use of
Army and Navy hos-
pitals.

Additional offices.

Appropriation au-
thorized.

Interchange of facili-
ties, etc.

SEC. 102. The Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs and the Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy are hereby granted authority to enter into agreements and contracts for the mutual use or exchange of use of hospital and domiciliary facilities, and such supplies, equipment, and material as may be needed to operate properly such facilities, or for the transfer, without reimbursement of appropriations, of facilities, supplies, equipment, or material necessary and