

for travel to be performed repeatedly between two or more places in the same vicinity, as determined by the head of the executive department concerned, he may, in his discretion, direct that actual and necessary expenses only be allowed. Actual expenses only shall be paid for travel under orders in Alaska and outside the limits of the United States in North America.”

SEC. 10. All payments heretofore made of a character authorized by section 9 of this Act are hereby validated.

SEC. 11. Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of this Act shall become effective as of June 1, 1942, section 9 shall become effective as of December 22, 1942, and the other sections hereof shall become effective on the first day of the first calendar month occurring after enactment of this Act. No back pay or allowances under any section of this Act for any period prior to the effective date of such section shall accrue by reason of the enactment of this Act, and no back pay or allowances shall accrue to any person who is not entitled to receive active or retired pay on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Approved September 7, 1944.

[CHAPTER 408]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the President of the United States of America to proclaim October 11, 1944, General Pulaski's Memorial Day for the observance and commemoration of the death of Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States of America is authorized to issue a proclamation calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all governmental buildings on October 11, 1944, and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies in commemoration of the death of General Casimir Pulaski.

Approved September 7, 1944.

[CHAPTER 410]

AN ACT

To provide a method for compensating certain individuals for damages sustained as the result of the explosions at Port Chicago, California.

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 authorized and directed to make a thorough investigation of the merits of those claims against the United States for compensation for property damage, death, or personal injuries alleged to have been caused by the explosions which occurred at the naval magazine at Port Chicago, California, on July 17, 1944, which shall have been submitted to the Navy Department in writing within six months after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. The appropriations for the naval establishment for the fiscal year 1945 shall be available for payment, and payment is hereby authorized, upon approval of the Secretary of the Navy or his designate, of claims referred to in section 1 hereof (a) for disability or death resulting from personal injury sustained by persons not then members of the armed forces or civilian employees of the United States: *Provided*, That settlements shall not aggregate in excess of \$3,000 with respect to the disability or death of any one person nor shall any such settlement be made in amounts which would not be allowable, or for beneficiaries who would not be eligible, under the

Travel in Alaska, etc.

Validation of prior payments.

Effective dates.

Back pay or allowances.

September 7, 1944
[H. J. Res. 306]

[Public Law 422]

General Pulaski's Memorial Day.
9 F. R. 11729.
Post, p. 1155.

September 8, 1944
[H. R. 5181]

[Public Law 423]

Naval magazine, Port Chicago, Calif.
Compensation for certain damages or injuries.

Availability of appropriations.
Ante, p. 301.

Limitation on settlements.

39 Stat. 742.
5 U. S. C. §§ 751-791,
793; Supp. III, § 793.
Ante, p. 712; *post*,
p. 887.

Settlement in full.

Right of action
against third parties.

Reports to Con-
gress.

United States Employees Compensation Act, as amended, if the disabled or deceased person were an employee of the United States; or (b) for property loss or damage: *Provided*, That settlement shall not be made in excess of \$3,000 for injury to any one building or structure.

SEC. 3. Any settlement made under the provisions of section 2 hereof shall be in full settlement of all such claims against the Government of the United States.

SEC. 4. In connection with any settlement authorized by section 2 hereof, the Secretary may require assignment to the United States of any right of action against third parties arising from the death, injury, or property damage with respect to which such settlement is made.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Navy shall transmit to the Congress each claim submitted the Navy Department in accordance with section 1 hereof not settled by him, with supporting papers and a report of his finding of facts and recommendations thereon and also a report of each claim settled and paid by him pursuant to section 2 hereof. Such reports shall contain a brief statement of the character and justice of each claim so transmitted or settled, the amount claimed, and the amount found due.

Approved September 8, 1944.

[CHAPTER 411]

AN ACT

September 17, 1944
[H. R. 4780]
[Public Law 424]

To fix the fees for domestic insured and collect-on-delivery mail, special-delivery service, and for other purposes.

Postal Service, fees.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 211 of title II of the Act entitled "An Act reclassifying the salaries of postmasters and employees of the Postal Service, readjusting their salaries and compensation on an equitable basis, increasing postal rates to provide for such readjustment, and for other purposes", approved February 28, 1925 (43 Stat. 1069), as amended, are further amended to read as follows:

39 U. S. C. §§ 245,
246.

Insurance fees.

"SEC. 211. (a) The fee for insurance shall be 3 cents for indemnification not to exceed \$5, 10 cents for indemnification not to exceed \$25, 15 cents for indemnification not to exceed \$50, and 25 cents for indemnification not to exceed \$200. Whenever the sender of an insured article of mail matter shall so request, and upon payment of a fee of 4 cents at the time of mailing, or of 7 cents subsequent to the time of mailing, a receipt shall be obtained for such insured mail matter, showing to whom and when the same was delivered, which receipt shall be returned to the sender and be received in the courts as prima facie evidence of such delivery: *Provided*, That upon payment of the additional sum of 27 cents at the time of mailing by the sender of an insured article of mail matter, a receipt shall be obtained for such insured mail matter, showing to whom, when, and the address where the same was delivered, which receipt shall be returned to the sender, and be received in the courts as prima facie evidence of such delivery: *Provided further*, That no refund shall be made of fees paid for return receipts for registered or insured mail where the failure to furnish the sender a return receipt or the equivalent is not due to the fault of the Postal Service.

Receipt for delivery.

Refunds.

Collect-on-delivery
service.
Domestic third- and
fourth-class mail.

"(b) The fee for collect-on-delivery service for domestic third- and fourth-class mail shall be 15 cents for collections and indemnity not to exceed \$2.50; 20 cents for collections and indemnity not to exceed \$5; 30 cents for collections and indemnity not to exceed \$25; 40 cents for collections and indemnity not to exceed \$50; 50 cents for collec-