

SEC. 6. The Secretary of War is authorized to transfer, without reimbursement, such devices and trophies as the Secretary of War in his discretion shall determine, to the Secretary of the Treasury for the promotion of the sale of war or victory bonds, and to any other Government agency for scientific, experimental, monumental, or display purposes. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to sell or donate such war devices and trophies for the promotion of the sale of war or victory bonds.

Promotion of sale of war bonds, etc.

SEC. 7. The Secretary of War shall afford to those who have donated or contributed to the United States during the present emergency, and prior to the date of this Act, trophies and devices from previous wars, suitable preferences in the distribution of similar war trophies and devices under this Act, and the cost of delivering such replacements to ultimate destination shall be borne by the United States.

Contributors of trophies, etc., from previous wars.

SEC. 8. As used herein the terms "State" or "States" shall include all Territories and possessions of the United States, and the District of Columbia, and the Canal Zone.

"State," "States."

SEC. 9. The Secretary of War is authorized to make all rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the terms of this Act: *Provided*, That he shall require that war devices and trophies distributed in accordance with this Act shall, insofar as practicable, be mutilated prior to distribution so as to render them incapable of use as lethal weapons.

Rules and regulations.

Mutilation of trophies, etc.

SEC. 10. (a) As used in this Act the term "trophies" includes rifles, guns, howitzers, tanks, aircraft, items of individual equipment, and other articles used in warfare which originated with enemy countries and which were captured by, surrendered to, or have otherwise come into the possession of the Army of the United States.

"Trophies."

(b) As used in this Act the term "war devices" includes rifles, guns, howitzers, tanks, aircraft, items of individual equipment, and other articles used in warfare which originated with the armed forces of the United States and which are obsolete or unserviceable and not economically repairable.

"War devices."

Approved July 16, 1946.

[CHAPTER 579]

AN ACT

July 16, 1946  
[S. 2090]

[Public Law 511]

To authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to accept gifts, devises, and bequests in behalf of the general post fund for the use of veterans and for the sale and conveyance of any such property under certain circumstances and the covering of the proceeds thereof into the post fund, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized in his discretion to accept devises, bequests, and gifts, made in any manner, with respect to which the testator or donor shall have indicated his intention that such property shall be for the benefit of groups of persons formerly in the active military or naval forces of the United States who by virtue of such service alone, or disability suffered therein or therefrom, are or shall be patients or members of any one or more hospitals or homes operated by the United States Government, or shall have indicated his intention that such property shall be for the benefit of any such hospital or home, or shall be paid or delivered to any official, as such, or any agency in administrative control thereof.

Gifts for veterans. Acceptance by Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

SEC. 2. For the purpose of acquiring the title and the possession to any property which he is by this Act authorized to accept, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to initiate and to appear in

Acquisition of property.

any appropriate legal proceedings, and to take such steps therein or in connection therewith as in his discretion may be desirable and appropriate to reduce said property to possession. He may incur such expenses incident to such proceedings as he deems necessary or appropriate, which shall be paid as other administrative expenses of the Veterans' Administration. All funds received by devise, bequest, or gift, or otherwise, for the purposes in this Act contemplated, including net proceeds of sales by this Act authorized, shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States to the credit of the general post fund, a trust fund provided by Public Law Numbered 473 of the Seventy-third Congress, approved June 26, 1934, being section 20 (b) (45) thereof (31 U. S. C. 725s; 48 Stat. 1233).

SEC. 3. (a) Disbursements from the general post fund shall be made on orders by and within the discretion of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs and in the manner prescribed in section 4 of the Act of December 26, 1941 (Public Law Numbered 382, Seventy-seventh Congress, 55 Stat. 868); except that (1) if the testator or donor has directed or shall direct that his devise, bequest, or gift be devoted to a particular use authorized by this Act, the same, less expenses incurred, or the net proceeds thereof, shall be used or disbursed as directed, except that a precatory direction shall be fulfilled only insofar as may be proper or practicable; and (2) if the testator or donor shall have indicated his desire that his devise, bequest, or gift shall be for the benefit of persons in hospitals or homes, or other institutions operated by the United States but under the jurisdiction of an official other than the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, the same, less expenses incurred, or the net proceeds thereof which may come into possession of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs shall be disbursed by transfer to the governing authorities of such institution, or otherwise, in such manner as the Administrator may determine, for the benefit of the persons in the institution indicated by the testator or donor, for proper purposes, as nearly as practicable in conformity with such desire of the testator or donor.

SEC. 4. If the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs shall receive any property other than moneys as contemplated by this Act, he is authorized in his discretion to sell, assign, transfer, and convey the same, or any interest therein claimed by virtue of such devise, bequest, or gift, for such price and upon such terms as he deems advantageous (including consent to partition of realty and compromise of contested claim of title); and his assignment, deed, or other conveyance of any such property, executed in the name and on behalf of the United States, shall be valid to pass to the purchaser thereof such title to said property as the United States, beneficially or as trustee of said post fund, may have by virtue of any such devise, bequest, or gift, and the proceedings incident thereto, subject to the conditions, limitations, and provisions of the instrument so executed by the Administrator.

SEC. 5. (a) Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to repeal or modify the Act of May 23, 1928 (45 Stat. 715; 38 U. S. C. 438a), or section 4831 of the Revised Statutes, or any other statute authorizing the acceptance of devises, bequests, or gifts to the United States for their own use and benefit or for any particular purpose specified by the donors or testators.

(b) In any case where the United States hereafter receives property and it appears that it is, or shall have been, the intention of the testator or donor that such devise, bequest, or gift be for the benefit of those persons described in section 1 of this Act, or any particular hospital or other institution operated primarily for their benefit, such property or the proceeds thereof shall be credited to the

Expenses.

Deposit of funds.

31 U. S. C., Supp.  
V, § 725s.  
Disbursements from  
general post fund.

38 U. S. C., Supp.  
V, § 17c.  
Exceptions.

Sale, transfer, etc.,  
of property.

24 U. S. C. §§ 111-123  
note.

Crediting of prop-  
erty to post fund.

post fund as provided for in this Act, and shall be used or disbursed in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 6. The annual report to Congress by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs shall include a summarized statement of post fund receipts, disbursements, and investments, and other pertinent information concerning said post fund.

Report to Congress.

Approved July 16, 1946.

[CHAPTER 580]

AN ACT

To provide assistance to the Republic of China in augmenting and maintaining a Naval Establishment, and for other purposes.

July 16, 1946  
[H. R. 5356]  
[Public Law 512]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, the President is authorized, whenever in his discretion the public interests render such a course advisable, or will assist in relieving United States forces of duty in China or putting the Government of the Republic of China in better position to protect or improve the safety of navigation in its waters, to provide to the Republic of China such naval services, training, plans, and technical advice as he may deem proper; and to dispose of naval vessels and craft, not to exceed two hundred and seventy-one vessels and craft under authority of this Act, which are in excess of the naval needs of the United States, floating drydocks of capacity sufficient to accommodate any vessel or craft disposed of under authority of this Act, and material necessary for the operation and maintenance of the vessels and craft disposed of under authority of this Act and for the training of the crews of such vessels and craft, to the Republic of China by sale, exchange, lease, gift, or transfer for cash, credit, or other property, with or without warranty, or upon such other terms and conditions as he may deem proper: *Provided*, That prior to the disposition under the authority of this Act of any battleship, aircraft carrier of any type, cruiser, destroyer (but not destroyer escort), or submarine the President shall first obtain the authority of the Congress in each instance: *Provided further*, That no information, plans, advice, material, documents, blueprints, or other papers, bearing a secret or top-secret classification shall be disposed of or transferred under authority of this Act.

Republic of China.  
Naval assistance.

Disposal of vessels,  
etc.

Training of crews.

Secret documents,  
etc.

Detail of officers and  
enlisted men.

Restriction.

Additional compen-  
sation.

Credit for longevity,  
etc.

SEC. 2. The President is authorized, upon application from the Republic of China, and whenever in his discretion the public interests render such a course advisable, to detail not to exceed one hundred officers and two hundred enlisted men of the United States Navy and Marine Corps to assist the Republic of China in naval matters: *Provided*, That United States naval or Marine Corps personnel shall not accompany Chinese troops, aircraft, or ships on other than training maneuvers or cruises: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Navy is authorized to pay to such persons such additional compensation as may be necessary to make appropriate adjustment for increased cost of living occasioned by reason of detail to such duty: *And provided further*, That while so detailed such officers and enlisted men shall receive the pay and allowances thereunto entitled in the United States Navy or Marine Corps and shall be allowed the same credit for longevity, retirement, and for all other purposes that they would receive if they were serving with the forces of the United States.

Termination of Act.

SEC. 3. The provisions of this Act shall terminate five years after the date of its enactment.

Approved July 16, 1946.