

fowl purposes in the Grasslands area of the San Joaquin Valley. If and when available, such water shall be delivered from the Central Valley project at a charge not to exceed the prevailing charge for class 2 water.

California law.

SEC. 7. The use of all water furnished by the Secretary of the Interior under section 2 and section 6 of this Act shall be subject to and not inconsistent with the laws of the State of California relating to priorities of deliveries and use of water. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed as an allocation of water.

Approved August 27, 1954.

Public Law 675

CHAPTER 1013

AN ACT

August 27, 1954
[H. R. 4690]

To provide for the erection of appropriate markers in national cemeteries to honor the memory of members of the Armed Forces missing in action.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Army shall set aside, when available, suitable plots in the national cemeteries under their jurisdiction to honor the memory of members of the Armed Forces missing in action, and shall, under regulations to be jointly prescribed by them, permit the erection of appropriate markers thereon in honor of any such member or group of members.

Approved August 27, 1954.

Public Law 676

CHAPTER 1014

AN ACT

August 27, 1954
[H. R. 6223]

To amend section 87 of the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, as amended (32 U. S. C. 47), to relieve the States from accountability and pecuniary liability for property lost, damaged, or destroyed except in cases where it shall appear that the loss, damage, or destruction of the property was due to carelessness or negligence or could have been avoided by the exercise of reasonable care.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 87 of the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, as amended (32 U. S. C. 47), is amended to read as follows:

“DISPOSITION AND REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED PROPERTY, AND SO FORTH

“SEC. 87. All military property issued to the National Guard and Air National Guard as herein provided shall remain the property of the United States. Whenever any such property issued to the National Guard or Air National Guard in any State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia shall have been lost, damaged, or destroyed, or become unserviceable or unsuitable by use in service or from any other cause, it shall be examined by a disinterested surveying officer of the United States Army, United States Air Force, or the National Guard or Air National Guard detailed by the appropriate Secretary, and the report of such surveying officer shall be forwarded to the appropriate Secretary or to such officer as he shall designate to receive such reports. The appropriate Secretary or his designated representative is hereby authorized to relieve the State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia from further accountability and pecuniary liability for

National Guard,
39 Stat. 204.

such property in any case except where it shall appear that the loss, damage, or destruction of property was due to carelessness or neglect, or that its loss, damage, or destruction could have been avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, in which case the money value of such property shall be charged to the accountable State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or District of Columbia to be paid from State, Territory, Commonwealth, or District funds, or any funds other than Federal. If the articles so surveyed are found to be unserviceable or unsuitable, the appropriate Secretary or his designated representative shall direct what disposition by sale or otherwise shall be made of them; and if sold, the proceeds of such sale, as well as stoppages against officers and enlisted men, and the net proceeds of collections made from any person or from any State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or the District of Columbia to reimburse the Government for the loss, damage, or destruction of any property, shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States: *Provided*, That if any State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia shall neglect or refuse to pay, or to cause to be paid, the money equivalent of any loss, damage, or destruction of property charged against such State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia by the appropriate Secretary after survey by a disinterested officer appointed as hereinbefore provided, the appropriate Secretary is hereby authorized to debar such State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia from further participation in any and all appropriations for the National Guard or Air National Guard, as appropriate, until such payment shall have been made: *Provided further*, That property issued to the National Guard and Air National Guard and which has become unserviceable through fair wear and tear in service, may, after inspection thereof and finding to that effect made by an officer of the Army of the United States, Air Force of the United States, or the National Guard or Air National Guard detailed by the appropriate Secretary, be sold or otherwise disposed of, and the State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia accountable shall be relieved from further accountability therefor; such inspection, and sale or other disposition, to be made under regulations prescribed by the appropriate Secretary, and to constitute as to such property a discretionary substitute for the examination, report, and disposition provided for elsewhere in this section."

Approved August 27, 1954.

Public Law 677

CHAPTER 1015

AN ACT

To provide for the conveyance of certain lands by the United States to the county of Cumberland, State of North Carolina, without remuneration.

August 27, 1954
[H. R. 6658]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of General Services is authorized and directed to convey by deed to the county of Cumberland, State of North Carolina, without remuneration, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to that tract of land situated in Carvers Creek Township, Cumberland County, North Carolina, described in the plat prepared by D. A. Buie in July 1953 containing fifty-seven and eight-tenths acres, more or less, and more particularly described as follows:

Cumberland
County, N. C.
Conveyance.