

of any package of imported liquors stamped as above required, shall, at the time of such emptying, efface, obliterate, and destroy the stamp thereon, and also all other marks or brands which shall have been placed thereon in accordance with the law or regulations concerning imported liquors; every cask or other package from which the stamp for imported liquors required by section 467 of this title to be placed thereon shall not be effaced, obliterated, or destroyed, on emptying such package, shall be forfeited, and the same may be seized by any officer of internal revenue wherever found; and all the provisions and penalties of R.S. §3324, relating to empty casks or packages from which the marks, brands, or stamps have not been effaced or obliterated, and relating to the removal of stamps from packages, and to having in possession any stamps so removed, shall apply to the stamps for imported spirits herein provided for, and to the casks or other packages on which such stamps shall have been used.

(Mar. 1, 1879, ch. 125, §12, 20 Stat. 342; May 28, 1880, ch. 108, §12, 21 Stat. 148.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

R.S. §3324, referred to in text, related to stamps and brands to be effaced from empty casks and penalty for omitting to efface and for transporting in violation of law. See sections 5206(d), 5604, and 7301 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

§ 469. Dealing in or using empty stamped imported liquor containers

If any person shall purchase or sell, with the imported-liquor stamp herein required remaining thereon, or any of the marks or brands which shall have been placed thereon in accordance with the laws or regulations concerning imported liquors remaining thereon, any cask or other package, after the same has been once used to contain imported liquors and has been emptied; or if any person shall use or have in possession such cask or package, with any imitation of such marks or brands, for the purpose of placing domestic distilled spirits therein for sale; every such cask or package, with its contents, if any, shall be forfeited to the United States. And every such person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be liable to a penalty of \$200 for every such cask or package so purchased, sold, used, or had in possession.

(Mar. 1, 1879, ch. 125, §13, 20 Stat. 343; May 28, 1880, ch. 108, §13, 21 Stat. 148.)

§ 471. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Section, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §560, 42 Stat. 977, related to prohibition of ownership of bonded warehouses by customs officers.

Corresponding provisions of Tariff Act of 1930, see section 1560 of this title.

§§ 472 to 475. Repealed. Aug. 8, 1953, ch. 397, § 16(f), 67 Stat. 517

Sections, act June 8, 1896, ch. 371, §§1-4, 29 Stat. 263, related to special delivery and appraisalment of imported articles of limited value and weight.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Section 1 of act Aug. 8, 1953, provided that such act is effective, except as otherwise specifically provided for, on and after thirtieth day following date of its enactment (Aug. 8, 1953).

The exception "except as otherwise specifically provided for" apparently refers to amendments made to provisions preceding subd. (1) of section 1308 of this title and to section 1557(b) of this title, for which separate effective dates were provided as explained in notes under those sections.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Section 23 of act Aug. 8, 1953, provided: "Except as may be otherwise provided for in this Act, the repeal of existing law or modifications thereof embraced in this Act shall not affect any act done, or any right accruing or accrued, or any suit or proceeding had or commenced in any civil or criminal case prior to such repeal or modification, but all liabilities under such laws shall continue, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Act, and may be enforced in the same manner as if such repeal, or modification had not been made."

PART 5—ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS

§ 481. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Section, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §581, 42 Stat. 979, related to seizure of vessel or merchandise. Corresponding provisions of Tariff Act of 1930, see section 1581 of this title.

§ 482. Search of vehicles and persons

(a) Any of the officers or persons authorized to board or search vessels may stop, search, and examine, as well without as within their respective districts, any vehicle, beast, or person, on which or whom he or they shall suspect there is merchandise which is subject to duty, or shall have been introduced into the United States in any manner contrary to law, whether by the person in possession or charge, or by, in, or upon such vehicle or beast, or otherwise, and to search any trunk or envelope, wherever found, in which he may have a reasonable cause to suspect there is merchandise which was imported contrary to law; and if any such officer or other person so authorized shall find any merchandise on or about any such vehicle, beast, or person, or in any such trunk or envelope, which he shall have reasonable cause to believe is subject to duty, or to have been unlawfully introduced into the United States, whether by the person in possession or charge, or by, in, or upon such vehicle, beast, or otherwise, he shall seize and secure the same for trial.

(b) Any officer or employee of the United States conducting a search of a person pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall not be held liable for any civil damages as a result of such search if the officer or employee performed the search in good faith and used reasonable means while effectuating such search.

(R.S. §3061; Pub. L. 107-210, div. A, title III, §341(a), Aug. 6, 2002, 116 Stat. 980.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. §3061 derived from act July 18, 1866, ch. 201, §3, 14 Stat. 178.

AMENDMENTS

2002—Pub. L. 107-210 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-210 applicable to petitions for certification filed under part 2 or 3 of subchapter II of chapter 12 of this title on or after the date that is 90 days after Aug. 6, 2002, except as otherwise provided, see section 151 of Pub. L. 107-210, set out as a note preceding section 2271 of this title.

REQUIREMENT TO POST POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR SEARCHES OF PASSENGERS

Pub. L. 107-210, div. A, title III, §341(b), Aug. 6, 2002, 116 Stat. 980, provided that: "Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 6, 2002], the Commissioner of Customs shall ensure that at each Customs border facility appropriate notice is posted that provides a summary of the policy and procedures of the Customs Service for searching passengers, including a statement of the policy relating to the prohibition on the conduct of profiling of passengers based on gender, race, color, religion, or ethnic background."

[For transfer of functions, personnel, assets, and liabilities of the United States Customs Service of the Department of the Treasury, including functions of the Secretary of the Treasury relating thereto, to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 203(1), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.]

§ 483. Repealed. Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1213, title V, § 502, 68 Stat. 1140

Section, R.S. §3062; act Aug. 5, 1935, ch. 438, title II, §208, 49 Stat. 526, related to forfeitures and penalty for aiding unlawful importation. See section 1595a of this title.

§§ 484 to 493. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Sections, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §§582-591, 42 Stat. 979-981, related to examination of persons and baggage, production and certification of manifests, and enforcement provisions.

Provisions of Tariff Act of 1930 corresponding to section 484, see section 1582 of this title; section 485, see section 1583 of this title; section 486, see section 1584 of this title; section 487, see section 1585 of this title; section 488, see section 1586 of this title; section 489, see section 1586(d) of this title; section 490, see section 1588 of this title.

§ 494. Repealed. Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 887, § 4(a)(27), 70 Stat. 948

Section, act June 22, 1874, ch. 391, §13, 18 Stat. 188, provided for seizure of merchandise as security for fines. See section 542 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

§§ 495 to 505. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Sections, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §§592, 593(a), (b), 594-601, 42 Stat. 982 to 984, related to seizure and forfeiture of vessels, vehicles and merchandise.

Provisions of Tariff Act of 1930 corresponding to section 495, see section 1592 of this title; section 496, see section 1593(a) [repealed] of this title; section 498, see section 1594 of this title; section 499, see section 1595 of this title; section 503, see section 1599 of this title.

§ 506. Repealed. Aug. 5, 1935, ch. 438, title II, § 203(b), 49 Stat. 523

Section, R.S. §3072, related to duty of customs officers to seize and make secure vessels or merchandise.

§ 507. Officers to make character known; assistance for officers

(a) Every customs officer shall—

(1) upon being questioned at the time of executing any of the powers conferred upon him, make known his character as an officer of the Federal Government; and

(2) have the authority to demand the assistance of any person in making any arrest, search, or seizure authorized by any law enforced or administered by customs officers, if such assistance may be necessary.

If a person, without reasonable excuse, neglects or refuses to assist a customs officer upon proper demand under paragraph (2), such person is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000.

(b) Any person other than an officer or employee of the United States who renders assistance in good faith upon the request of a customs officer shall not be held liable for any civil damages as a result of the rendering of such assistance if the assisting person acts as an ordinary, reasonably prudent person would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.

(R.S. §3071; Pub. L. 99-570, title III, §3152, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-94.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. §3071 derived from act July 18, 1866, ch. 201, §10, 14 Stat. 180.

AMENDMENTS

1986—Pub. L. 99-570 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: "Every officer or other person authorized to make searches and seizures by this title, shall, at the time of executing any of the powers conferred upon him, make known, upon being questioned, his character as an officer or agent of the customs or Government, and shall have authority to demand of any person within the distance of three miles to assist him in making any arrests, search, or seizure authorized by this title, where such assistance may be necessary; and if such person shall, without reasonable excuse, neglect or refuse so to assist, upon proper demand, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$200, nor less than \$5."

§ 508. Persons making seizures pleading general issue and proving special matter

If any officer, or other person, executing or aiding or assisting in the seizure of goods, under any Act providing for or regulating the collection of duties on imports or tonnage, is sued for anything done in virtue of the powers given thereby, or by virtue of a warrant granted by any judge, or justice, pursuant to law, he may plead the general issue and give such Act and the special matter in evidence.

(R.S. §3073.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. §3073 derived from act Mar. 2, 1799, ch. 22, §71, 1 Stat. 678.

§§ 509 to 521. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Sections, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §§602-614, 42 Stat. 984-987, related to pleading, procedure and disposition of seized articles or proceeds therefrom.

Provisions of Tariff Act of 1930 corresponding to section 509, see section 1602 of this title; section 510, see section 1603 of this title; section 511, see section 1604 of this title; section 512, see section 1605 of this title; section 513, see section 1606 of this title; section 514, see section 1607 of this title; section 515, see section 1608 of this title; section 516, see section 1609 of this title; section 517, see section 1610 of this title; section 518, see section 1611 of this title; section 519, see section 1612 of this title; section 520, see section 1613 of this title; section 521, see section 1614 of this title.

§§ 522 to 524. Repealed. Aug. 27, 1935, ch. 740, § 308, 49 Stat. 880

Sections, act Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 438, §§ 1-3, 43 Stat. 1116, as amended by act May 27, 1930, ch. 342, § 9, 46 Stat. 430, related to summary forfeiture of vessels or vehicles.

§ 525. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Section, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, § 615, 42 Stat. 987, related to burden of proof in proceedings for forfeiture of seized property. Corresponding provisions of Tariff Act of 1930, see section 1615 of this title.

§ 526. Repealed. Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 887, § 4(a)(28), 70 Stat. 948

Section, R.S. § 3089, related to costs of prosecution. See section 1613(1) of this title.

§ 527. Sums received from fines and other receipts covered into Treasury

Except as otherwise provided by law, all sums received from fines, penalties, and forfeitures, connected with the customs, and from fees paid into the Treasury by customs officers, and from storage, cartage, drayage, labor, and services, shall be covered into the Treasury as are other miscellaneous receipts.

(Mar. 4, 1907, ch. 2918, § 1, 34 Stat. 1315.)

§ 528. Appropriate customs officer to receive amount recovered

The appropriate customs officer within whose district any seizure shall be made or forfeiture incurred for any violation of the duty laws is authorized to receive from the court within which trial is had, or from the proper officer thereof, the sum recovered, after deducting all proper charges to be allowed by the court; and on receipt thereof he shall pay and distribute the same without delay, according to law.

(R.S. § 3087; June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 604, 46 Stat. 754; Pub. L. 91-271, title III, § 319, June 2, 1970, 84 Stat. 293.)

CODIFICATION

This section was derived from R.S. § 3087, which, however, contained a further provision requiring collectors to cause suits to be commenced without delay and prosecuted to effect. That provision was omitted as inconsistent with section 604 of act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, 42 Stat. 984, constituting former section 511 of this title. Act Sept. 21, 1922, was repealed by act June 17, 1930, but section 604 of the latter Act, constituting section 1604 of this title, reenacted section 604 of the former Act.

AMENDMENTS

1970—Pub. L. 91-271 substituted reference to the appropriate customs officer for reference to the collector.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 91-271, see section 203 of Pub. L. 91-271, set out as a note under section 1500 of this title.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of all officers of Department of the Treasury and functions of all agencies and employees of such Department transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Treasury, with power vested in him to authorize their performance or performance of any of his functions, by any of those officers, agencies, and employees, by Reorg. Plan No. 26 of 1950, §§ 1, 2, eff. July 31, 1950, 15 F.R. 4935, 64 Stat. 1280, 1281, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees. Customs officers, referred to in this section, are under Department of the Treasury.

§ 529. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Section, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, § 616, 42 Stat. 987, related to compromise of claims. See section 1915 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

§ 530. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, act Jan. 22, 1875, ch. 22, 18 Stat. 303, which provided for dismissal of proceedings, related to act June 22, 1874, ch. 391, § 19, 18 Stat. 190, which was repealed by act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, § 643, 42 Stat. 989.

§§ 531 to 534. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Sections, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §§ 617-620, 42 Stat. 987, 988, related to remission or mitigation of fines, penalties, or forfeitures, and compensation of informers and United States officers.

Provisions of Tariff Act of 1930 corresponding to section 531, see section 1617 of this title; section 532, see section 1618 of this title; section 533, see section 1619 of this title; section 534, see section 1620 of this title.

§ 535. Compulsory production of books, invoices, or papers

In all suits and proceedings other than criminal arising under any of the revenue laws of the United States, the attorney representing the Government, whenever, in his belief, any business book, invoice, or paper, belonging to or under the control of the defendant or claimant, will tend to prove any allegation made by the United States, may make a written motion, particularly describing such book, invoice, or paper, and setting forth the allegation which he expects to prove; and thereupon the court in which suit or proceeding is pending may, at its discretion, issue a notice to the defendant or claimant to produce such book, invoice, or paper in court, at a day and hour to be specified in said notice, which, together with a copy of said motion, shall be served formally on the defendant or claimant by the United States marshal by delivering to him a certified copy thereof, or otherwise serving the same as original notices of suit in the same court are served; and if the defendant or claimant shall fail or refuse to produce such book, invoice, or paper in obedience to such notice, the allegations stated in the said motion shall be taken as confessed unless his failure or refusal to produce the same shall

be explained to the satisfaction of the court. And if produced, the said attorney shall be permitted, under the direction of the court, to make examination (at which examination the defendant or claimant, or his agent, may be present) of such entries in said book, invoice, or paper as relate to or tend to prove the allegation aforesaid, and may offer the same in evidence on behalf of the United States. But the owner of said books and papers, his agent or attorney, shall have, subject to the order of the court, the custody of them, except pending their examination in court as aforesaid.

(June 22, 1874, ch. 391, § 5, 18 Stat. 187.)

CONSTITUTIONALITY

This section held unconstitutional as applied to a suit to enforce a forfeiture decided to be criminal in its nature in *Boyd v. U.S.* ((1886), 116 U.S. 616, 6 S. Ct. 524, 29 U.S. (L. Ed.) 746.)

§ 536. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Section, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, § 621, 42 Stat. 988, related to limitation of actions for penalties or forfeitures. Corresponding provisions of Tariff Act of 1930, see section 1621 of this title.

§ 537. Officers, informers, and defendants as witnesses

No officer, or other person entitled to or claiming compensation under any provision of Act June 22, 1874 (chapter 391, 18 Statutes 188) shall be thereby disqualified from becoming a witness in any action, suit, or proceeding for the recovery, mitigation, or remission thereof, but shall be subject to examination and cross-examination in like manner with other witnesses, without being thereby deprived of any right, title, share, or interest in any fine, penalty, or forfeiture to which such examination may relate; and in every such case the defendant or defendants may appear and testify and be examined and cross-examined in like manner.

(June 22, 1874, ch. 391, § 8, 18 Stat. 188.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 4 of Act June 22, 1874, referred to in text, providing for compensation to officers of the customs or other persons detecting goods being smuggled, was repealed by act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, § 643, 42 Stat. 989. For corresponding provisions in the Tariff Act of 1930, see section 1619 of this title.

§§ 538, 539. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Sections, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §§ 622, 623, 42 Stat. 988, related to extensions of time and general rules and regulations.

Provisions of Tariff Act of 1930 corresponding to section 538, see section 1318 of this title; section 539, see section 1624 of this title.

§ 540. President may use suitable vessels for enforcing customs laws

In the execution of laws providing for the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, the President, in addition to the Coast Guard vessels in service, may employ in aid thereof such other suitable vessels as may, in his judgment, be required.

(R.S. § 5318; Jan. 28, 1915, ch. 20, § 1, 38 Stat. 800; Aug. 4, 1949, ch. 393, §§ 1, 20, 63 Stat. 496, 561.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 5318 derived from act July 13, 1861, ch. 3, § 7, 12 Stat. 257.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

“Coast Guard vessels” substituted in text for “revenue-cutters”, the Revenue Cutter Service and the Life-Saving Service having been combined to form the Coast Guard by section 1 of act Jan. 28, 1915. That act was repealed by section 20 of act Aug. 4, 1949, section 1 of which reestablished the Coast Guard by enacting Title 14, Coast Guard.

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

For delegation to Secretary of the Treasury of authority vested in President by this section, see section 1(i) of Ex. Ord. No. 10289, Sept. 17, 1951, 16 F.R. 9499, as amended, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

§§ 541, 542. Repealed. Aug. 2, 1956, ch. 887, § 4(a)(29), (30), 70 Stat. 948

Section 541, R.S. § 2763, authorized use of small boats for use of customs officials.

Section 542, act Feb. 10, 1913, ch. 35, 37 Stat. 665, authorized Secretary of the Treasury to use the motorboat provided for Corpus Christi, Texas.

PART 6—GENERAL PROVISIONS

§§ 571 to 573. Repealed. June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 651(a)(1), 46 Stat. 762, eff. June 18, 1930

Sections, act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title III, §§ 320, 321, title IV, § 641, 42 Stat. 947, 989, related to provisions as to effect of repeals, Treaty with Cuba and certain laws unaffected.

Provisions of Tariff Act of 1930 corresponding to section 571, see section 1651(c) of this title; section 572, see section 1316 of this title; section 573, none.

§ 574. Exemption from taking other oaths

Nothing contained in title 34 of the Revised Statutes shall be construed to exempt the masters or owners of vessels from making and subscribing any oaths required by any laws of the United States not immediately relating to the collection of the duties on the importation of merchandise into the United States.

(R.S. § 3094.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Title 34 of the Revised Statutes, referred to in text, was in the original “this Title”, meaning title 34 of the Revised Statutes, consisting of R.S. §§ 2517 to 3129. For complete classification of R.S. §§ 2517 to 3129 to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 3094 derived from act Mar. 2, 1799, ch. 22, § 110, 1 Stat. 703.