

§ 553.1

AUTHORITY: 24 U.S.C. Ch. 7.

SOURCE: 42 FR 25725, May 19, 1977, unless otherwise noted.

§ 553.1 Purpose.

The following specifies the authority and assigns the responsibilities for the development, operation, maintenance, and administration of the Arlington and Soldiers' Home National Cemeteries, a civil works activity of the Department of the Army.

§ 553.2 Statutory authority.

Basic statutory authority pertaining to the Army national cemeteries is in chapter 7, title 24, United States Code, entitled "National Cemeteries." Many of the provisions of this chapter were repealed by section 7(a) of the National Cemeteries Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93-43, 18 June 1973, 38 U.S.C. 1000 *et seq.*); but section 7(b) provides that nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect in any manner the functions, powers, and duties of the Secretary of the Army with respect to Arlington and Soldiers' Home National Cemeteries.

§ 553.3 Scope and applicability.

(a) *Scope.* The development, operation, maintenance, and administration of Arlington National Cemetery and the Soldiers' Home National Cemetery are governed by this part and TM 10-287. AR 210-190 assigns responsibilities for the operation, maintenance, and administration of Army post cemeteries.

(b) *Applicability.* The provisions of AR 290-5 are applicable to active and retired members of the Armed Forces, certain disabled veterans, and veterans who were awarded certain military decorations.

§ 553.4 Responsibilities.

The Army national cemeteries, consisting of the Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, and Soldiers' Home National Cemetery, Washington, DC, are under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army. The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works is directly responsible to the Secretary of the Army for policy formulation in the administration of these cemeteries. The Adjutant General is responsible for their day-to-day

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administration, operation, and maintenance. Specific responsibilities for Arlington and Soldiers' Home National Cemeteries are delegated to the Commander, Military District of Washington in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding.

§ 553.5 Federal jurisdiction.

Where the State legislature has given the consent of that State to purchase the land which now comprises an Army national cemetery, the jurisdiction and power of legislation of the United States over Army national cemeteries will, in all courts and places, be held to be the same as is granted by Section 8, Article 1, Constitution of the United States.

§ 553.6 Donations.

(a) *Policy.* Under Department of the Army policy, proffered donations or gifts for beautifying Army national cemeteries may be accepted from legitimate societies and organizations or from reputable individuals, subject to the following provisions:

(1) The society, organization, or individual does not associate the name of the Department of the Army in any way with soliciting for the donation or gift.

(2) Delivery is made to the cemetery or to another point designated by the Department of the Army without expense to the Government.

(3) Installing, constructing, placing, or planting is in keeping with the planned development of the cemetery and the donor agrees to the use of the gift at any designated place within the cemetery.

(4) The donor is not permitted to affix any commemorative tablet or plaque to the items donated or to place one in the cemetery or elsewhere on Department of the Army property.

(b) *Processing.* All proffers of donations to Army national cemeteries will be referred to The Adjutant General with the recommendation of the cemetery superintendent as to the action to be taken.

(c) *Conditional gifts.* The Secretary of the Army is authorized, at his discretion, to accept, receive, hold, administer, and expend any gift, devise, or bequest of real or personal property on