Public Law 88-222

AN ACT

For the relief of certain persons involved in the negotiation of forged or fraudulent Government checks issued at Parks Air Force Base, California.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who is determined by the Secretary of the Treasury—

(1) to be liable to the United States by reason of the negotiation, or presentment for payment, of any forged or fraudulent check which, during the period beginning July 1, 1955, and ending March 31, 1958, both dates inclusive, was drawn on the Treasury of the United States and issued or procured as a result of fraud at Parks Air Force Base, California; and

(2) to have negotiated such check or presented it for payment, without actual knowledge of any fact which would constitute notice of an infirmity in such check or defect in the title of the person negotiating it;

is hereby relieved of liability to the United States arising out of his negotiation of such check, or his presentment of such check for payment.

SEC. 2. (a) In the case of any person who has paid to the United States, on account of any check referred to in the first section of this Act, any amount for which the liability of such person would have been relieved by such first section if this Act had been in effect when such amount was paid to the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay to such person, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, an amount equal to all such amounts so paid to the United States by such person, reduced by any amounts recovered by such person from any prior endorser of such check.

(b) In the case of any person who has paid to a subsequent endorser of a check referred to in the first section of this Act any amount for which the liability of such person to the United States would have been relieved by such first section if such liability had required payment to the United States and this Act had been in effect when such amount was paid, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay to such person, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, an amount equal to all such amounts so paid to any subsequent endorser, reduced by any amounts recovered by such person from any prior endorser of such check.

SEC. 3. In the audit and settlement of the accounts of any certifying or disbursing officer of the United States, full credit shall be given for all amounts for which liability is relieved by the first section of this Act, but nothing in this section shall preclude the recovery from any such certifying or disbursing officer of the amount of any loss incurred by the United States because of fraud or criminality on the part of such officer.

SEC. 4. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to relieve any person of liability to refund to the United States any amount received by him by reason of fraud or bad faith on the part of such person in connection with the negotiation of the checks referred to in paragraph (1) of the first section of this Act.
Sec. 5. No part of the amount appropriated in this Act for the payment of any one claim in excess of 10 per centum thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with such claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding $1,000.

Approved December 21, 1963.

Public Law 88-223

AN ACT

To authorize the conveyance to the Waukegan Port District, Illinois, of certain real property of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Army is authorized and directed to convey to the Waukegan Port District, Illinois, without monetary consideration, all of the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the real property described in section 2 of this Act, subject to the condition that such port district will maintain the existing steel sheet pile bulkhead in good condition for the protection of passing navigation and prevention of the escape of material into the harbor and that such property will be used for public harbor purposes. If such real property shall ever cease to be used for such purposes, all the right, title, and interest to such property shall revert to the United States, which shall have the immediate right to entry thereon.

Sec. 2. The real property referred to in the first section of this Act is more particularly described as follows:

That part of fractional section 22, township 45 north, range 12 east of the third principal meridian, described as follows: Beginning at a point 181.5 feet north of the one-half section line of said section 22, and 1,811.5 feet, more or less, east of the west line of said section 22, which point is on the westerly line of the pier or dock forming the east side of Waukegan Harbor, thence due east 100 feet, thence due south 375 feet, more or less, to the southwest face of pier or dock, thence north approximately 42 degrees west 146 feet, more or less, along the face of said dock to its junction with north and south dock, thence north 262 feet, more or less, along face of said dock, to the point of beginning, situated in the county of Lake and State of Illinois, excepting therefrom that part thereof, now submerged, lying west of the existing steel sheet pile bulkhead now forming the east side of Waukegan Harbor, which part was heretofore cut away by the United States for the purpose of widening and improving Waukegan Harbor for the benefit of navigation passing to and from docks in slip numbered 1 and along the inner basin to the north.

Approved December 21, 1963.