

69TH CONGRESS }
1st Session }

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

} REPORT
No. 675

MAJ. HARRY L. PETTUS

MARCH 26, 1926.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered
to be printed

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 9237]

The Committee on Claims to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9237) to reopen, allow, and credit \$1,545 in the accounts of Maj. Harry L. Pettus, Quartermaster Corps (now deceased), for a memorial tablet in the Army War College, as authorized by the act of March 4, 1923, and certify the same to Congress and to reimburse the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. the amount paid by that surety company to the Government to settle said accounts, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass.

The full facts in the case are stated in the letter of the Secretary of War, which is made a part of this report.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, March 2, 1926.

HON. CHARLES L. UNDERHILL,
Chairman Committee on Claims,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. UNDERHILL: Further reference is had to your letter of February 12, 1926, inclosing a copy of H. R. 9237, a bill to reopen, allow and credit \$1,545 in the accounts of Maj. Harry L. Pettus, Quartermaster Corps (now deceased), and to reimburse the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. the amount paid by that surety company to the Government to settle said accounts.

The sum of \$1,545 was disallowed in the disbursing accounts of Major Pettus for payments covering services and materials furnished in cutting and setting one granite memorial tablet in the Army War College, Washington, D. C., which work was authorized by the Secretary of War under date of June 20, 1911. Relief for Major Pettus was included in the act of Congress approved March 3, 1923 (Private 266, 67th Cong.). However, prior to the passage of this legislation, the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co., surety on the official bond of Major Pettus, had, on February 11, 1922, paid to the Government the sum of \$1,545 in compliance with the demands of the Comptroller General of the United States, which sum was deposited in the surplus fund of the Treasury and Major Pettus's accounts settled and closed. Subsequent to the passage of Private 266, Sixty-

seventh Congress, claim for the \$1,545 in question was filed by the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. with the General Accounting Office, but the same was disallowed, and upon review by the Comptroller General the disallowance was sustained. (See copy of Review No. 6329, inclosed.)

In this connection attention is invited to my letter of January 26, 1926, transmitting the draft of a bill to provide relief for Col. Willard D. Newbill, and the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. This proposed legislation was transmitted to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, who advised that same was not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

In view of the foregoing favorable action on H. R. 9237 is recommended.

Sincerely yours,

DWIGHT F. DAVIS, Secretary of War.



MAJ. HARRY L. PETTUS - Committee on the War Department

Mr. Davis from the Committee on Claims submitted the following

REPORT

(H. R. 9237)

The Committee on Claims to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9237) to require allow and credit \$1,545 in the account of Maj. Harry L. Pettus (Quartermaster Corps) now deceased, does memorialize in the War College as authorized by the act of March 1, 1902, and certify the same to Congress and to reimburse the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. the amount paid by that surety company to the Government to settle said account, having considered the same report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass the bill in the case as stated in the letter of the Secretary of War which is made a part of this report.

MAJ. HARRY L. PETTUS
Quartermaster Corps
The Committee on Claims to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9237) to require allow and credit \$1,545 in the account of Maj. Harry L. Pettus (Quartermaster Corps) now deceased, does memorialize in the War College as authorized by the act of March 1, 1902, and certify the same to Congress and to reimburse the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. the amount paid by that surety company to the Government to settle said account, having considered the same report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass the bill in the case as stated in the letter of the Secretary of War which is made a part of this report.