

"SEC. 4. Unpaid charges for operation and maintenance of the irrigation system which were assessed prior to May 10, 1926, against any lands within the project, amounting to a sum not exceeding \$40,549.89, together with all unpaid interest and penalties on such charges, and unpaid charges due from consumers for electric energy sold through the power system between July 1, 1931, and June 30, 1942, amounting to a sum not exceeding \$2,195.16, together with interest thereon, are hereby canceled."

Approved October 6, 1949.

Cancellation of certain unpaid charges.

[CHAPTER 632]

AN ACT

For the relief of certain consultants formerly employed by the Technical Industrial Intelligence Committee of the Foreign Economic Administration, and for other purposes.

October 7, 1949
[H. R. 1950]
[Public Law 334]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no provisions of any law, regulation, or order (including travel orders or authorizations) which authorize or direct deductions from per diem allowances in lieu of subsistence for items of meals or lodging obtained free or purchased from any Government agency or from the Military Establishment or from any branch of the Government drawing rations from the military or providing quarters by arrangement with the military, shall be deemed to apply to those persons employed as technical, scientific, or other form of expert consultant by the Technical Industrial Intelligence Committee division of the Foreign Economic Administration without compensation or at \$1 per annum during the fiscal years 1945 and 1946, by reason of such employment and during the period thereof; and no deductions shall be taken from per diem allowances in lieu of subsistence to such employees for any such meals or lodging during such employment (such meals or lodging being sometimes referred to herein as "items").

Technical Industrial Intelligence Committee of FEA.
Relief of certain consultants.

SEC. 2. Any charges for such items against the accounts of such employees appearing on the books of any Government agency shall be canceled and eliminated, and proper credits shall be entered against such accounts therefor.

Cancellation of charges.

SEC. 3. No certificate or statement as to such items furnished such employees shall be required of them: *Provided*, That this section shall not be construed to waive the filing by such employees of any certificate or statement required to be submitted under existing law or regulations with reference to their per diem allowances exclusive of such items as defined in section 1.

Filing of certificates.

SEC. 4. In order to carry out the provisions and purposes of this Act—

Credit allowance or cancellation of charges.

(a) In any case wherein any such employee has not been paid any sum for said allowance and has not been advanced any funds for travel or other expenses, the Comptroller General of the United States is authorized and directed to allow credits or to cancel charges for such items in the accounts of such employee (whether on accounts in his office or in the office of any certifying, disbursing, or other accountable officer) and in the accounts of any present or former certifying, disbursing, or other accountable officer.

(b) In any case wherein any such employee may have been paid such allowance without deductions for such items, the Comptroller General is authorized and directed to allow credits or to cancel charges therefor in the same manner and to the same extent as provided in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) In any case wherein any such employee has furnished a certificate as to such items, as a result whereof deductions therefor were

Appropriation au-
thorized.

Ante, p. 723.

Ante, p. 723.

Relief from liability.

Ante, p. 723.

Time limitation.

taken from any sums paid him for such allowance, or in any case wherein any such employee has paid or refunded any sums to any Government agency by reason of claim made against him for such items, a sum equivalent to the amount of such deductions or refund shall be paid to such employee, and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to make such payments; and, for such purpose, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this paragraph; and the Comptroller General of the United States is hereby authorized and directed to allow credits or to cancel charges therefor in the same manner and to the same extent as provided in paragraph (a) of this section.

(d) In any case wherein sums for travel or other expenses have been advanced to any such employee, or in any case wherein any such employee has been partially paid on account of such allowance, the Comptroller General of the United States is hereby authorized and directed to allow credits or to cancel charges for such items in the same manner and to the same extent as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, so that any such charges will be eliminated and canceled in determining whether such employees or the Government is entitled to any difference between such advance or partial payment and the allowable per diem: *Provided, however*, That in any case wherein any sums were advanced to any such employee for travel or other expenses, the disbursing officer shall be credited for charges for such items only to the extent of any such advances outstanding.

SEC. 5. Any surety on any bond furnished by any such employee is hereby relieved from any liability by reason of any claim or charges for any such items.

SEC. 6. No provision of this Act shall apply to or prejudice any claim of the United States against any such employee or the surety on his bond by reason of any item other than those specified in section 1 of this Act; and any refunds or payments made to any such employee by reason of this Act shall be subject to deductions by reason of any other proper charges against the account of any such employee.

SEC. 7. Any refund or payment to any such employee, or any credit or cancellation of any charges for such items, made by reason of this Act, shall be in full settlement of all claims by any such employee against the United States or any department or agency thereof for reimbursement for expenses of such employee for such items and shall be made within one year after the enactment of this Act.

Approved October 7, 1949.

[CHAPTER 650]

AN ACT

To provide for the return of rehabilitation and betterment costs of Federal reclamation projects.

October 7, 1949
[H. R. 1694]
[Public Law 335]

Federal reclamation
projects.
Return of rehabili-
tation, etc., costs.
Post, p. 980.
43 U. S. C. § 372 *et*
seq.; Supp. II, § 385a
et seq.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That expenditures of funds hereafter specifically appropriated for rehabilitation and betterment of irrigation systems on projects governed by the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto) shall be made only after the organizations concerned shall have obligated themselves for the return thereof in installments fixed in accordance with their ability to pay, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior in the light of their outstanding repayment obligations, and which shall, to the fullest practicable extent, be scheduled for return with their construction charge installments or otherwise scheduled as he shall determine.