ing three thousand three hundred twenty-two and forty-three one-hundredths square feet.

And upon acceptance of such title to such parcel of land, the Secretary of the Interior, acting for and on behalf of the United States of America, is authorized and directed to convey, without cost to the United States of America, to the grantor of the above-described tract of land, all right, title, and interest of the United States of America in and to the following-described tract of land owned by the United States of America and located in the District of Columbia, more particularly described as follows:

Parts of lots 9 and 10, square 1194, as per plat recorded in the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia in Book G. T. 2, at page 23, described as follows:

Beginning for the same at a point on the south line of M Street, said point of beginning being the northwest corner of lot 9 and running thence along the south line of M Street east thirty-nine and fifty-five one-hundredths feet to the northeast corner of lot 10; thence along the east line of said lot 10 south twenty-four feet; thence south twenty-eight degrees sixteen minutes fifty seconds west eighty-three and forty-seven one-hundredths feet to a point in the northerly line of Pennsylvania Avenue, said point being the southwest corner of said lot 9; thence along the west line of said lot 9 north ninety-seven and fifty-one one-hundredths feet to the point of beginning, containing two thousand four hundred two and eighty-six one-hundredths square feet.

Deeds of conveyance.

The deeds of conveyance from the United States of America shall contain such conditions, covenants, or restrictions as the Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, shall see fit to impose in connection with the future widening of Pennsylvania Avenue.

All land descriptions set forth in this Act are in accordance with a plat of computation recorded in the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia in survey book 161, page 309.

Approved October 20, 1951.

Public Law 185 CHAPTER 523

AN ACT

October 20, 1951
[H. R. 2684]

To provide for the sale, transfer, or quitclaim of title to certain lands in Florida.

Florida.
Sale, etc., of certain lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior shall, as soon as reasonably possible, make an investigation to determine whether or not certain lands between the shore line of the Gulf of Mexico and township 6 south, range 12 west, Tallahassee meridian, Florida, as represented on the official plat approved in April 1834 are unsurveyed public lands. The Secretary shall promptly notify all interested persons of his determination in such manner as he may find appropriate.

SEC. 2. If the Secretary finds any such unsurveyed public lands, he shall cause them to be surveyed. If such lands have not been appropriated under the public-land laws, the Secretary shall appraise such lands and offer them for sale for a period of thirty days at their appraised price to the owners of the adjoining uplands in such township.

SEC. 3. If the Secretary determines that the areas investigated under this Act are not unsurveyed public lands, he shall, upon request of

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any adjoining upland owner, issue a quitclaim deed to the owners of adjoining upland for the lands between the original meander line and the shore line, without making a survey.

SEC. 4. For the benefits of this Act the ownership of such adjoining uplands shall be determined as of the date of October 2, 1946. Any adjoining upland owner receiving a conveyance of lands under the provisions of this Act, who shall have prior to receipt of such conveyance conveyed or contracted to convey any part of such lands, shall through any conveyance made under this Act take title in trust for any such grantees and their successors in interest.

Acceptance of contributions.

SEC. 5. In order to facilitate prompt execution of the investigations, examinations, surveys, or other action which may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, the Secretary may accept contributions to be used for such purpose.

Approved October 20, 1951.

Public Law 186 CHAPTER 524

AN ACT

October 20, 1951
[H. R. 1764]

To authorize the Secretaries of the Army and Air Force to settle, pay, adjust, and compromise certain claims for damages and for salvage and towage and to execute releases, certifications, and reports with respect thereto, and for other purposes.

Department of the Army; Air Force.
Certain maritime claims.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretaries of the Army and Air Force, under the direction of the Secretary of Defense, are hereby authorized to consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, compromise, or settle claims for damages caused by vessels of or in the service of their respective departments, and for compensation for towage and salvage services, including contract salvage, rendered to such vessels, and to pay the amount of any claims so determined, compromised, or settled, and upon acceptance of such payment by the claimant, and not until then, such determination, settlement, or compromise of such claim shall be final and conclusive for all purposes, any law to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided*, That this section, as respects the determination, compromise, settlement, and payment of claims, shall be supplementary to, and not in lieu of, all other provisions of law authorizing consideration, adjustment, determination, settlement, and payment of claims: *Provided further*, That all payments of claims made under this section shall be made out of applicable appropriations which are hereby authorized: *And provided further*, That the payment of any claim on which a net amount exceeding $500,000 is determined to be due from the United States, or which is compromised or settled at a net amount exceeding $500,000 payable by the United States, shall not be authorized by this section, and all claims determined, compromised, or settled hereunder at a net amount exceeding $500,000 payable by the United States shall be certified by the Secretary concerned to the Congress.

Appropriations authorized.

Limitation of authority.

Damage claims in favor of U. S.

SEC. 2. The Secretaries of the Army and Air Force, under the direction of the Secretary of Defense, are hereby authorized to consider, ascertain, adjust, determine, compromise, or settle claims for damage cognizable in admiralty in a district court of the United States and all claims for damage caused by a vessel or floating object to property