AN ACT

To provide for an economical, efficient, and effective supply management organization within the Department of Defense through the establishment of a single supply cataloging system, the standardization of supplies and the more efficient use of supply testing, inspection, packaging, and acceptance facilities and services.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the “Defense Cataloging and Standardization Act”.

Sec. 2. There is hereby established within the Department of Defense, the Defense Supply Management Agency, hereinafter referred to as the “Agency.” This Agency shall develop a single catalog system and related supply standardization program.

Sec. 3. There shall be a Director of the Agency and a Deputy Director, who shall act as Director in the absence or disability of the Director, and who shall perform such other duties as are prescribed by the Director. The Director shall be appointed for a four-year term by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate. The Deputy Director shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense. Both the Director and the Deputy Director shall be appointed from civilian life without regard to the civil-service laws, with due regard being given to the background and qualifications of each appointee to these positions on the basis of his experience in the conduct of major supply operations, cataloging, standardization, engineering, and civilian industrial practices. The Director shall receive compensation at the rate of $14,800 a year and the Deputy Director shall receive compensation at the rate of $13,000 a year: Provided, That the present Director of the Munitions Board Supply Management Agencies shall be eligible for appointment under this section.
Sec. 4. (a) In cataloging, the Agency shall name, describe, classify, and number each item repetitively used, purchased, stocked, or distributed, by the Department of Defense or any of the departments thereof, by such methods and in such manner that only one distinctive combination of letters or numerals or both will identify the same item either within a bureau or service, between bureaus or services, or between the departments. The single item identification shall be used for all functions of supply from original purchase to final field or area disposal. There shall be a single catalog, which may consist of a number of volumes, sections, or supplements, in which all items of supply shall be included and in which there shall appear information on each item needed for supply operations such as descriptive and performance data, size, weight, cebage, packaging or packing data, a standard quantitative measurement unit, and such other related data as is determined by the Director of the Agency to be necessary or desirable.

(b) In supply standardization, it shall be the duty of the Agency to achieve the highest practicable degree possible in the standardization of items used throughout the Department of Defense, through the development and use of single specifications, in the elimination of overlapping and duplicating item specifications, and in the reduction of the number of sizes, kinds, or types of generally similar items. The greatest practicable degree of standardization of methods of packing, packaging, and preservation of such items shall be achieved, together with the most efficient use of services and facilities concerned with the inspection, testing and acceptance of such items.

Sec. 5. The Director shall under the direction of the Secretary of Defense—

(a) establish, develop, and maintain the single supply catalog and standardization program herein established;

(b) provide for, direct, and coordinate the progressive utilization of the single supply catalog provided for herein in all supply functions within the Department of Defense, its departments, bureaus, and services from requirements determination through ultimate disposal;

(c) provide for, direct, review, and approve all item names, item descriptions, and description patterns, the screening, consolidation, classification, and numbering of item descriptions and the publication and distribution of the single supply catalog;

(d) establish and maintain liaison with industry advisory groups to coordinate the development of the single supply catalog and standardization program herein established with the best practices of industry in order to obtain to the greatest extent practicable the cooperation and participation of industry in the program;

(e) review, amend, revise, promulgate, and establish within the Department of Defense military specifications, standards, and qualified product lists and resolve differences between military departments, bureaus, and services with respect to the same;

(f) assign among the military departments, bureaus, and services within the Department of Defense when practical and consistent with their capacity and supply interest, the responsibility for portions of the cataloging and standardization programs herein established, and establish time schedules for the completion of such assignments; and

(g) make final decisions in all matters concerned with the cataloging and standardization authority established in this Act, subject to review and modification by the Secretary of Defense.
SEC. 6. When portions of the single supply catalog provided for herein are complete and ready for use they shall be distributed by the Agency and all existing catalogs shall be replaced according to schedules established by the Director. Thereafter all departments, bureaus, and services within the Department of Defense shall use such single supply catalog and no other. All property reports and records shall use the nomenclature, item numbers, and descriptive data as published in the single supply catalog.

SEC. 7. Following the publication and promulgation of the single supply catalog or portions thereof as provided herein only those items of supply listed therein shall thereafter be procured for repetitive use in the departments, bureaus, and services of the Department of Defense: Provided, however, That items so cataloged may be changed from time to time to include new items and to delete obsolete items: Provided further, That nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the military departments in the Department of Defense from acquiring new items required to carry out their missions: And provided further, That such new items when and if acquired shall be immediately submitted to the Director of the Agency for inclusion in the cataloging and standardization program established in this Act.

SEC. 8. The reports required by sections 9 and 10 of this Act may at the discretion of the Director be combined into one report.

SEC. 9. The Director of the Agency shall transmit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives on January 31 and July 31 of each year, progress reports on cataloging from each of the military departments within the Department of Defense for the previous six months between July 1 and December 31 and January 1 and June 30 respectively. These reports shall contain—

(a) the number of single supply catalog sections or portions published and the titles;
(b) the number of item identification numbers developed under the single catalog system which have replaced, for all supply purposes, former item identifications, stock or catalog numbers;
(c) the reduction in the number of separate item identifications achieved; and
(d) such other information as the Director considers will best inform the Congress of the status and progress of the cataloging program herein established.

SEC. 10. The Director of the Agency shall transmit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives on January 31 and July 31 of each year, progress reports on standardization within the military departments in the Department of Defense for the previous six months between July 1 and December 31 and January 1 and June 30 respectively. The report shall contain—

(a) the number of separate specifications which have been consolidated into single specifications for the use of all of the military departments, bureaus, and services;
(b) the reduction achieved in the number of sizes, kinds, or types of generally similar items;
(c) duplications eliminated in services, space, and facilities; and
(d) such other information as the Director considers will best inform the Congress of the progress of the standardization program herein established.

SEC. 11. The Administrator of General Services and the Secretary of Defense shall coordinate the cataloging and standardization activities of the General Services Administration and the Department of Defense so as to avoid unnecessary duplication.
Sec. 12. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums of money as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Act.

Approved July 1, 1952.

Public Law 437

CHAPTER 540

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the extension of the term of certain patents of persons who served in the military or naval forces of the United States during World War II."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the extension of the term of certain patents of persons who served in the military or naval forces of the United States during World War II", approved June 30, 1950 (Public Law 598, Eighty-first Congress), is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"SEC. 5. (a) No person shall be held not to be the sole owner of a patent within the meaning of this Act, by reason of any interest of his spouse in such patent.

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of the first section fixing the time for filing application for an extension under this Act, such application, in the case of any patent held by the applicant and his spouse may be filed at any time within six months following the date of enactment of this section."

Approved July 1, 1952.

Public Law 438

CHAPTER 547

AN ACT

To amend section 709 of title 18 of the United States Code.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 709 of title 18 of the United States Code is amended by inserting immediately before the last paragraph thereof a new paragraph as follows:

"This section shall not make unlawful the use of the word 'national' as part of the name of any business or firm engaged in the insurance or indemnity business, whether such firm was engaged in the insurance or indemnity business prior or subsequent to the date of enactment of this paragraph."

Approved July 3, 1952.

Public Law 439

CHAPTER 548

AN ACT

To amend the Military Personnel Claims Act of 1945.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the Military Personnel Claims Act of 1945, approved May 29, 1945 (59 Stat. 225), be, and it is hereby, amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1. (a) That the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Air Force, and such other officer or