

## [CHAPTER 474]

## AN ACT

June 25, 1946  
[H. R. 5271]  
[Public Law 440]

World War II veter-  
ans.  
Homestead entries.

58 Stat. 747.  
43 U. S. C., Supp.  
V, § 279.

Age.

To amend an Act entitled "An Act to allow credit in connection with certain homestead entries for military or naval service rendered during World War II".

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 1 of the Act approved September 27, 1944, entitled "An Act to allow credit in connection with certain homestead entries for military or naval service rendered during World War II" (Public, Numbered 434, Seventy-eighth Congress, second session), is hereby amended by deleting the period at the end thereof, by substituting a colon, and by inserting the following proviso: "Provided, That no person who has served or may serve in the military or naval forces of the United States for a period of at least ninety days during World War II and is honorably discharged shall be disqualified from making homestead entry or from any other benefits of this Act merely by reason of not having reached the age of twenty-one years."

Approved June 25, 1946.

## [CHAPTER 475]

## AN ACT

June 25, 1946  
[H. R. 6195]  
[Public Law 441]

Crow Indian lands.  
Leases.

To amend section 1 of the Act of June 4, 1920 (41 Stat. 751), entitled "An Act to provide for the allotment of lands of the Crow Tribe, for the distribution of tribal funds, and for other purposes", as amended by the Act of May 26, 1926 (44 Stat. 658).

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 1 of the Act of June 4, 1920 (41 Stat. 751), as amended by section 1 of the Act of May 26, 1926 (44 Stat. 658), be further amended by striking out the next to the last sentence of section 1, reading "No lease shall be made for a period longer than five years," and by substituting therefor the following: "No lease of any allotment shall be made for a period longer than five years except that irrigable lands in Indian ownership under the Big Horn unit of the Crow Indian irrigation project may be leased for farming purposes for a period not exceeding ten years. All other provisions of these Acts with respect to the leasing of Crow Indian lands shall continue in effect."

Approved June 25, 1946.

## [CHAPTER 487]

## JOINT RESOLUTION

June 25, 1946  
[H. J. Res. 307]  
[Public Law 442]

Atomic weapons.  
Use of naval vessels  
as targets.

Disposition of ves-  
sels.

Number of vessels.

To authorize the use of naval vessels to determine the effect of atomic weapons upon such vessels.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Navy, with the approval of the President, is authorized to employ vessels of the Navy as targets for purposes of test and experimentation in determining the effect of atomic weapons upon such vessels.

SEC. 2. After employment pursuant to authority contained in section 1 of this Act vessels may, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Navy or such other person as may be designated by him, be—

(a) sunk if considered unseaworthy; or

(b) retained with or without repair for further test and experimentation, for further naval use, or for other disposition in accordance with other provisions of law.

SEC. 3. The number of combatant vessels, exclusive of those received from foreign governments, which may be employed as



targets for the purposes set forth in section 1 of this joint resolution, is limited to thirty-three. The term "combatant vessels" for purposes of this section is defined as naval vessels of the following categories: Battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers, destroyers, and submarines.

"Combatant vessels."

SEC. 4. The Secretaries of War and of the Navy shall take such measures as they may deem necessary to safeguard the information, observations, findings, conclusions, and recommendations pertaining to and resulting from these tests and which are of a military nature as would normally be attached to any other vital military information or military secret.

Safeguarding of information, etc.

SEC. 4A. The President, in his discretion, may appoint an advisory board to cooperate with the Secretaries of War and of the Navy in the conduct of these tests, to undertake an independent study of the tests and to submit its observations, findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Secretaries of War and of the Navy. This advisory board shall be composed of—

Advisory board.

(a) five civilians, one of whom shall be designated as chairman of the advisory board;

(b) three naval officers, at least one of whom shall be a naval aviator; and

(c) three Army officers, at least one of whom shall be an Army aviator.

SEC. 5. Such provisions of this joint resolution as relate to the employment of vessels of the Navy as targets shall terminate two years after the date of its enactment into law.

Termination of designated provisions.

Approved June 25, 1946.

#### [CHAPTER 488]

##### AN ACT

Granting the consent of Congress to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge across the Monongahela River, at a point between the Boroughs of Elizabeth, in Elizabeth Township, and West Elizabeth, in Jefferson Township, in the county of Allegheny, and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

June 25, 1946

[H. R. 5357]

[Public Law 443]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the consent of Congress is hereby granted to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge, and approaches thereto, across the Monongahela River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, between the Boroughs of Elizabeth, in Elizabeth Township, and West Elizabeth, in Jefferson Township, in the county of Allegheny, and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters", approved March 23, 1906.

Bridge.  
Monongahela  
River.

SEC. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved June 25, 1946.

34 Stat. 84.  
33 U. S. C. §§ 491-498.

#### [CHAPTER 489]

##### AN ACT

To modify the time limitations governing the award of certain military and naval decorations for acts performed during the present war.

June 26, 1946

[S. 1523]

[Public Law 444]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the limitations prescribed by the Act of July 9, 1918 (40 Stat. 845, 871), and the Act of August 7, 1942 (56 Stat. 743, 744), with respect to the time within which the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy

Issuance of Medal  
of Honor, etc.  
10 U. S. C. § 1401 et  
seq.; Supp. V, § 1412;  
34 U. S. C., Supp. V,  
§§ 354-364.