

81ST CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT  
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## THE SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1950

OCTOBER 14, 1949.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. KERR, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6427]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations to supply certain supplemental and deficiency appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950, and for other purposes.

The estimates upon which this bill is based are contained in House Documents Nos. 259, 300, 302, 312, 318, 321, 338, 339, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 365, and 366.

The bill includes estimates for recently enacted legislation as well as presently known deficiencies required by various agencies of the Government, on account of increased work loads and other factors which have arisen since the enactment of the regular annual appropriation bills. Many of these items normally would have been included in the first deficiency bill, to be reported to the House during the early weeks of the next session of the Congress. However, on account of the late adjournment of the session, it is possible to make provision for these items at the present time and therefore avoid the necessity of handling a deficiency early in the next regular session.

The estimates on which the bill is based total \$1,064,633,695.41 and the appropriations recommended total \$1,038,506,380.41, a reduc-

tion of \$26,127,315 below the estimates. Of the foregoing amount, estimates for the mutual defense assistance program and other national defense items totaled \$909,010,000, the full amount of which is included in the accompanying bill. Estimates for items other than national defense total \$155,623,695.41, against which appropriations of \$129,496,380.41 are recommended, a reduction of \$26,127,315.

## THE JUDICIARY

*Fees of jurors.*—The bill includes the full amount of the supplemental estimate of \$816,500 for this item. The amount of \$1,850,000 is contained in the regular annual appropriation bill. The additional amount is required as a result of Public Law 168, approved July 14, 1949, which provides for an increase in the compensation of jurors from \$5 to \$7 per day, an increase in their mileage allowance from 5 to 7 cents per mile, and an increase in subsistence allowance, where daily travel is impracticable, from \$2 to \$5 per day. Also, the act of August 3, 1949 (Public Law 205), providing for the appointment of additional circuit and district judges is expected to result in a corresponding increase in the use of juries.

*Miscellaneous expenses.*—The budget estimate in the amount of \$326,800 for this item is approved in the amount of \$245,000, a reduction of \$81,800. The amount recommended herein is to provide the necessary facilities for the new judges and their supporting personnel to be appointed pursuant to Public Law 205, approved August 3, 1949, which created six additional circuit judgeships and 21 additional district judgeships. Included in the amount recommended are funds for the rental of space and the making of necessary alterations therein for the additional judges in the District of Columbia.

## FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

### MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE

The Mutual Defense Assistance Act of 1949 authorizes the President to furnish military assistance to nations specified in the act. This supplemental estimate of appropriation is to provide funds and contract authority to carry out the provisions of the act. Under title I, an appropriation of \$500,000,000 in cash, and contract authorization in the amount of \$500,000,000, are authorized for aid to North Atlantic Treaty countries. In accordance with section 102, not to exceed \$100,000,000 is available for carrying out the provisions of title I until such time as the President approves the recommendations for an integrated defense of the North Atlantic area which may be made by the Council and Defense Committee established under the North Atlantic Treaty.

Title II authorizes an additional \$211,370,000 for continued military assistance to Greece and Turkey under the act of May 22, 1947.

Under title III \$102,640,000 is authorized, of which \$27,640,000 is to provide assistance to Iran, the Republic of Korea, and the Republic of the Philippines. Under the authority contained in section 303, the remaining \$75,000,000 would be for use in accomplishing the policies and purposes of the act in the general area of China.

The funds contained in the estimate of appropriation are urgently needed. They will make possible the rapid and effective implementa-

tion of an integrated defense plan for the North Atlantic area. The ability of nations in other parts of the world to prevent internal disorder and to protect themselves against external aggression will be maintained. The feeling of confidence engendered in the free peoples of these nations will advance their economic recovery and promote the political stability essential to the maintenance of international peace.

Serious consideration has been given this program by the various treaty nations, and reports indicate that the plans promulgated can be integrated for collective security for the western union under the North Atlantic Treaty provisions. Experience with the western union powers, which was organized more than a year ago and now composes one of the regional planning groups organized under the North Atlantic Treaty, has convinced observers that this program supplemented by adequate appropriations will be fruitful and should accomplish an integrated defense of the area. It appears that the treaty nations are most anxious to cooperate in the broad objectives and plans as rapidly as possible in order to build up a stable defense system.

Emergencies of the past 30 years have made crystal clear the need for long-range planning and mutual assistance by allied nations for their individual security and for the security of all, which will enable free peoples to discourage and, if necessary, resist aggression. In lending its support to this program, it is the purpose of this committee to provide a force sufficient to deter an aggressor, yet not so strong that their maintenance will sap the national strength and exhaust our resources.

The committee approves the proposed program to use such excess equipment as we have available over and above mobilization requirements and to draw from the reserve strength, where possible, the items essential to the needs of the treaty nations. In this manner, while providing modern and essential equipment to the treaty nations, it will enable our own forces through new procurement to be supplied with items and equipment of the most modern design.

It is understood by the committee that the program to be augmented by this appropriation may continue for some 4 or 5 years although at a lower rate of expenditure for each succeeding year.

#### FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

*Bureau of Employees' Compensation.*—The bill includes the full amount of the \$10,000,000 supplemental estimate for the employees' compensation benefit fund and \$225,000, a reduction of \$45,000, for salaries and expenses, to enable the Bureau to expand and improve its facilities for administration of the several compensation laws. The benefit fund item supplements the regular appropriation of \$13,000,000, and consists of \$4,000,000 deficiency based on increased costs and volume under old legislation and \$6,000,000 for 8 months' operation under H. R. 3191, recently enacted. The latter legislation substantially liberalizes and broadens present Federal injury compensation provisions. It contains certain retroactive and nonrecurring provisions which increase the estimated annual cost for the next few years to about \$9,000,000; thereafter, it is expected to be approximately \$7,000,000.

The amount required for benefits in any year cannot accurately be forecast, particularly where new legislation is involved. However, deficiencies have occurred on numerous occasions and sufficient funds should be available at all times to avoid interruption of payments. The committee, therefore, believes it better to approve the full estimate as recommended by the operating officials.

As regards the administrative item, the estimate of \$270,000 contemplates 111 new employees during the last half of fiscal year 1950, principally in the investigating and adjudicating functions, with necessary miscellaneous expenses. The new legislation will increase the work volume of the Bureau considerably and the more liberal benefits make it doubly necessary that adequate field investigation be made to protect the fund against improper claims. Adjudication and payment of benefits promptly is also required in justice to those entitled to compensation. On the other hand, testimony supports the conclusion that the work load is to a degree speculative at this point and thus exact staffing requirements will not be known for some months to come. The committee has examined carefully into the request and recommends \$225,000. The 1951 budget will no doubt make additional recommendations for the program and both the agency and the committee will be in position better to evaluate needs at that time.

*Grants for hospital construction.*—The committee recommends the full amount of the budget estimate, \$25,000,000, to furnish additional cash for liquidation of obligations incurred under contract authority heretofore granted for projects under the Federal-State hospital construction program inaugurated 3 years ago. Contractual authority aggregating \$225,000,000 has been thus far granted, against which liquidation funds totalling \$70,000,000 have been provided. On account of approval of an increasing number of projects and more rapid completion of those placed under construction throughout the country, accruing Federal payments during fiscal 1950 are expected to far exceed anything anticipated when the regular budget was acted upon. The committee wants to be sure that there are no delays on authorized projects for lack of installment cash, and thus has granted the additional funds.

#### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

##### PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION

*Renovation and improvement of federally owned buildings outside the District of Columbia.*—The committee is including in the bill the budget estimate of \$10,000,000 as an initial appropriation to begin work on the program of repair, renovation, and improvement of public buildings as authorized by title III of Public Law 105 of the Eighty-first Congress. Work of this nature has fallen behind during and since the war, and the initiation of this program is needed at this time. It is contemplated that the program will be accomplished over a period of 3 years, the amount included in the bill being the first annual appropriation.

*Sites and planning, public buildings outside the District of Columbia.*—The committee is including in the bill a budget estimate of \$12,000,000.

for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of title I of Public Law 105 of the Eighty-first Congress. Title I of the act authorizes an appropriation of \$40,000,000 for the acquisition of sites and preparation of plans for approximately 375 new projects and for the completion of the acquisition of sites for approximately 200 previously authorized building projects which were deferred because of the recent war. The amount contained in the bill is believed to be sufficient to carry on the program during this fiscal year.

*Improvement of post-office facilities, Los Angeles, Calif.*—The bill contains \$760,000 for an additional amount for improvement of post-office facilities at Los Angeles, Calif. In effecting a reduction of \$40,000 in the budget estimate of \$800,000, the committee was assured by the Commissioner of Public Buildings that the sum recommended by the committee would be sufficient to perform the work authorized by Public Law 238 of the present Congress.

*Construction and operation of temporary office building, Suitland, Md.*—In connection with this item the committee wishes to point out that the budget estimate submitted to provide facilities for the Census Bureau proposed an appropriation of \$870,000 for the removal of certain employees of the Veterans' Administration in Philadelphia, Pa., and the remodeling of quarters occupied by the Administration in order to accommodate 5,500 Census Bureau employees. The estimate also contemplates the rental of equipment and other expenditures. The committee has studied this matter thoroughly and has concluded that the proposal submitted in the budget is not an economical and practical solution of the problem. The committee also learned that the proposal to move the Veterans' Administration personnel is strongly opposed by the Veterans' Administration. General Gray advised the committee that it would involve the removal of from 1,200 to 1,500 employees with the resultant loss of their services for a period of from 6 to 8 weeks, representing a loss of between \$600,000 and \$750,000. Expenditures for remodeling the building in Philadelphia would amount to \$445,000 and other expenditures involved would amount to \$425,000, making a total cost to the Government of more than \$1,500,000. The committee has consulted with the Commissioner of Public Buildings and requested that he submit an estimate of the cost of constructing a building at Suitland, Md., which would provide the space necessary for the 5,500 census employees. As a result of this request, the committee is including in the bill an item providing \$3,500,000 for construction and operation and maintenance of a building in that area. This building will meet the needs of the Census Bureau for approximately an 18-month period, when it will be available for subsequent office use or storage purposes. The committee is advised that the building will last for a period of 40 years and it is estimated that it will pay for itself within a 10-year period.

*Salaries and expenses, public buildings and grounds in the District of Columbia.*—The committee considered a budget estimate of \$285,000 for this purpose, the amount being requested to provide cafeteria facilities serving the Federal buildings in the area of Suitland, Md. In allowing \$260,000 for this purpose, a reduction of \$25,000, the committee is of the opinion that economies can be effected which will permit installation of these facilities with the sum provided in the bill.

## BUREAU OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES

*Alaska public works.*—Public Law 264 of the Eighty-first Congress authorizes the appropriation of \$70,000,000 for a program of public works in Alaska, and provides that 50 percent of the total cost of such projects be borne by the United States and the remainder by the local area in which the construction takes place. The budget estimate proposes an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for this purpose, and in addition thereto, a contract authorization of \$8,000,000. The committee is of the opinion that the amount recommended in the estimate is excessive and beyond the needs to initiate the program and continue it during the present fiscal year. It is believed that the sum of \$1,000,000 in cash, with a contract authorization of \$4,000,000, will meet all necessary requirements during the fiscal year 1950.

*Advance planning of non-Federal public works.*—The Congress has passed and sent to the President, S. 2116, which authorizes an appropriation of \$100,000,000 to carry out this program. The budget estimate proposes an appropriation of \$12,500,000 in cash and a contract authorization of \$25,000,000 to initiate the program. The act authorizes the loan of funds to States and municipalities for plans and specifications, the Federal Government to be reimbursed for such cost when construction of the project is initiated. The committee is of the opinion that the full amount of the budget estimate is unnecessary for obligation during the present fiscal year which expires on June 30 next, and has recommended an appropriation of \$8,000,000 with a contract authorization of \$17,000,000. The committee is of the opinion that initiation of this program on the basis recommended is justified by the fact that plans and specifications for construction of projects under the 1944 program are presently available, and that these plans will provide for a very substantial amount of public works. The 1944 program produced plans and specifications for \$2,300,000,000 worth of construction. Only 28 percent of this construction has been initiated by the States and other agencies.

*Maintenance and operation of schools.*—The act of September 10, 1949, authorized the appropriation of \$7,500,000 for assistance to local school agencies in providing educational opportunities for children residing on Federal reservations and other similar areas. The budget submitted an estimate for the full authorization of \$7,500,000 and the committee is including in the bill the sum of \$7,000,000 for this purpose. The amount recommended by the committee represents an increase of \$1,000,000 over the current appropriation. This additional \$1,000,000 will provide funds for new school facilities not heretofore provided for. It is believed the amount recommended in the bill will be fully adequate to cover the essential needs in these local school areas.

In this connection, the committee wishes to call the attention of the House and the appropriate legislative committee to the practice of passing an authorization act annually, and usually during the closing days of the session to continue this type of assistance. If this program is to continue, the committee urges that the appropriate legislative committee give serious consideration to a long-range program which will authorize sufficient funds for a more permanent solution to this problem.

## HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY

*Federal Housing Administration.*—The committee recommends an increase in the authorization for administrative expenses of this agency by \$550,000, a reduction of \$244,000 in the budget estimate. This amount is made necessary by the enactment of Public Law 278, approved August 30, 1949, which extended title I and section 608 of the Housing Act for an additional 2-month period through October 31, 1949. The amount carried in the accompanying bill is in addition to the \$910,000 provided for the preceding 2-month extension to August 31. The committee does not feel that adequate justification was made for the employment of an additional 181 individuals for this activity merely because it was extended for 2 months. In view of the large backlog of work, however, the committee is making provision for the employment of a slightly lesser number for the processing of accumulated and new applications during the remainder of the current fiscal year.

## NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

*Arbitration and emergency boards.*—The bill includes \$75,000, the budget estimate, as a supplement to the appropriation of \$100,000 in the regular 1950 bill for expenses of arbitration and emergency boards created from time to time to function in connection with labor-management disputes in the rail and air transportation industries. The number of boards to be established in any particular year cannot accurately be forecast in advance, and regular appropriations have had to be supplemented on several occasions. Expenditures to date, plus known additional costs, and several pending situations, prospectively calling for creation of additional emergency boards justify granting the request so that funds will be available for immediate use as and when required.

## UNITED STATES MARITIME COMMISSION

*War Shipping Administration liquidation.*—The committee is including in the bill the estimate submitted by the budget providing for the lifting of the limitation of \$15,000,000 contained in the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1950, in connection with the liquidation of certain obligations against the War Shipping Administration. The recent decision of the Supreme Court in the case of *United States v. Richard S. Cors*, has set a precedent which may require the payment of increased amounts to claimants, and the lifting of the limitation is essential at this time in order that a speedy and economical settlement of claims may be effected. The committee is particularly desirous that the General Accounting Office pass on the merits of these claims, and it has amended the language of the estimate to require such approval by that office.

## VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION

*Administration—medical, hospital, and domiciliary services.*—The committee considered a budget estimate of \$17,500,000 for this purpose. The amount requested in this supplemental estimate would supplement the appropriation of \$855,000,000 heretofore provided in

the Independent Offices Appropriation Act for 1950, and was requested primarily to enable the Veterans' Administration to take care of an increased work load in connection with loan guarantee, insurance, and readjustment allowance programs. Small increases for several other items are also requested in the budget's submission. The committee is including in the bill a provision reappropriating \$15,000,000 of the unobligated balance of funds appropriated for this purpose for the fiscal year 1949. In effect, the amount provided in the bill is a reduction of \$2,500,000 below the amount proposed in the budget estimate. The committee is also inserting in the bill a proviso making \$1,725,211 available for the Board of Veterans Appeals. Testimony presented to the committee was to the effect that there has been considerable delay in acting on pending appeals. The committee feels that this situation should be corrected promptly and has therefore provided additional funds for this purpose. Some of the proposed increases contained in the budget estimate do not appear to be warranted and the committee calls particular attention to increases requested for personnel work, and for utility, supply, and real estate operations. In connection with the latter activity, it can be pointed out that the work load, insofar as new construction is concerned, has been diminished by drastic reduction in the hospital construction program.

In connection with funds for the medical program, for which \$582,666,400 has been provided, the committee calls attention to the fact that 32 percent of this fund is expended for personnel and related work not of direct assistance in the care and treatment of disabled veterans. Such personnel is engaged in clerical, maintenance, and other work. The committee feels that this percentage is unnecessarily high and that a much larger percentage of the funds provided for the medical program should be devoted to direct care and treatment of patients, including the employment of medical personnel.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Agricultural Research Center.*—The budget estimate includes \$170,000 to replace buildings and their contents, equipment, and other property at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., which were destroyed by fire last September. While the estimate submitted was not fully supported by detailed engineering estimates, it is essential that these facilities be rebuilt immediately. The Department of Agriculture has indicated that the purchase of feeding concentrates during the present emergency is costing \$8 per ton more than when processed at the Center granary. The increased cost is, therefore, \$37,000 annually. Accordingly the committee recommends an appropriation of \$150,000 to be available through June 30, 1950. The committee will request a full report on this item in connection with the 1951 appropriation.

*Rural Electrification Administration.*—In its consideration of the 1950 budget estimates for the Department of Agriculture, the Congress increased the program of the Rural Electrification Administration from \$350,000,000 to a maximum of \$500,000,000, through the grant of authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to certify to the Secretary of the Treasury that sums above \$350,000,000 are required. Testimony indicates that not less than \$50,000,000 of the additional authorization will be obligated during the current year. No increase



was provided in the administrative expenses appropriation to handle this enlarged program at the time the regular 1950 budget was under consideration.

The budget estimate of \$700,000 provides for administrative expenses involved in the expanded program, including additional funds necessary to meet the increased travel costs authorized by Public Law 92, approved June 9, 1949, and funds necessary to aid the co-operatives in more effectively meeting problems encountered in extending electricity in sparsely settled areas, and in improving management practices to safeguard the Government investment in outstanding loans.

The committee is recommending an appropriation of \$600,000 for this purpose. The budget estimate covered 7½ months of operation. However, the time that has already elapsed in the current fiscal year makes the full amount contemplated unnecessary. In addition, it appears that the increase in travel funds can be reduced approximately \$10,000.

*Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.*—The budget estimate includes \$1,210,000 for additional administrative expenses for this organization. The act amending the Federal Crop Insurance Act recently passed by Congress provides that, beginning in the fiscal year 1950, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation may increase up to 50 percent annually the number of counties in which the crop-insurance program is carried out. Heretofore the Corporation was limited by existing legislation as to the number of counties in which it could conduct operations. Since 1947, the entire program has been on an experimental basis. Experience has been most encouraging, and indicates that a sound insurance plan now has been developed which would warrant further expansion of the program.

An appropriation of \$1,000,000 is recommended for this item by the committee. In view of the difficulty of determining the volume of loss adjustments which the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation may be required to handle in the early part of the next calendar year, it does not appear advisable to appropriate the full budget request at this time.

*Commodity Credit Corporation.*—The budget estimate provides a total of \$15,340,000 for administrative expenses of the Corporation for 1950. The committee recommends a total of \$15,000,000 for this purpose.

The continuation of high agricultural production and the downward trend of agricultural commodity prices reflected in current forecasts now make it evident that the volume of commodities to be handled by the Commodity Credit Corporation under its price support operations will far exceed the volume assumed in the preparation of the budget estimates for 1950. In addition, the Corporation must incur additional administrative costs for its storage facility operations as well as other costs incident to the administration of the international wheat agreement, both of which programs were authorized subsequent to approval of the 1950 administrative expense limitation by Congress.

In view of the difficulty of predicting with any degree of accuracy the volume of commodities which the Corporation may be required to handle this year, it appears advisable to limit the increase at this time to \$3,000,000. A further review of this entire problem will be made by the committee in connection with the 1951 budget estimates.

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

*Civil Aeronautics Administration, claims, Federal Airport Act.*—The bill includes \$476,875, the full amount of the budget estimate, for this item. This amount will provide for the necessary rehabilitation or repair of damage to six airports, caused by Federal agencies, as provided in section 17 of the Federal Airport Act, as amended by Public Law 840, the Eightieth Congress. Four groups of claims totaling \$2,228,752.92 have been included in earlier deficiency bills this year. While the full amounts for the various airport claims, as set forth in the budget estimate, have been recommended, the committee expects the Civil Aeronautics Administration to carefully check the costs and the progress made on the rehabilitation and repair work at these various airports to insure every possible savings to the Federal Government.

*Construction of public airports, Territory of Alaska.*—The request for additional contract authorization of \$4,500,000 for the construction of civil airports at Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska, is disallowed. Appropriations and contract authority totaling \$12,500,000 have heretofore been granted for the construction of these two airports. The original estimates which were presented the committee for the construction of the two airports totaled \$13,000,000 and it was testified that they were based on actual engineering studies made in the field by the Eighth regional office of the Civil Aeronautics Administration. Estimates now presented the committee total \$17,000,000 and provide for smaller runways than those in the original estimate. The committee feels that the urgency is not sufficient to warrant additional appropriations at this time. However, the committee will give the Department an opportunity to make further justification in connection with the regular annual appropriation bill. It is expected that the Department will have made a thorough review of the planning, engineering, and administration of the construction of these airports prior to the hearings on the regular bill for 1951.

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

## MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

Provision is made in the bill to authorize the transfer of not to exceed \$600,000 from an existing appropriation for "Military construction, Army," to the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, for the purpose of financing the repair and reconstruction of the desilting basin and appurtenant works of the Gila project, Arizona, at Imperial Dam. This desilting basin, which is part of a project under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation, was badly damaged in 1949 as a result of its use by the Army for military research and testing purposes.

The following amounts which are approved for military construction in Alaska and on Okinawa are approved tentatively upon enactment into law during the present (first) session of the Eighty-first Congress of H. R. 6303: \$32,000,000 in cash plus \$48,363,700 in contract authorization. The requirement of these amounts is urgent for military construction in the above-named places to take care of present needs

and provide facilities destroyed on Okinawa during the recent typhoon season.

The committee has inserted in the proposed language authority for transfer of \$1,545,000 to the appropriation "Engineer service, Army, fiscal year 1950," to reimburse that appropriation for funds expended in the emergency arising from the typhoon of July 24, 1949.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

##### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Funds appropriated in the 1949 and prior appropriation acts for exploration and development of Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4, Alaska, will remain available for obligation until June 30, 1951. These funds have recently been found insufficient to support the present level of program and to employ all facilities, equipment, and personnel in a balanced operation that will keep the proportion of fixed overhead costs at a minimum.

This additional amount recommended, \$3,000,000, for appropriation in fiscal year 1950 is needed for purchase of replenishment material and equipment which must be landed at Point Barrow, Alaska, in early August 1950, during the short period when this coastal area is not icebound.

##### SHIPBUILDING

The appropriation of \$30,000,000 is to provide for the Navy's wartime shipbuilding program during the remainder of this fiscal year, because the rate of expenditure experienced to date has been greater than that contemplated at the time of transmission of the 1950 budget.

##### REPAIR FACILITIES, NAVY

Provision is made in the bill to permit the retention in this appropriation of funds required to complete the liquidation of the wartime program financed thereunder. These additional requirements were not foreseen at the time of transmission of the 1950 budget. The provision is also intended to abolish this account at the end of the current fiscal year. There is now no foreseeable need for continuation of this account after June 30, 1950.

##### BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS

As in the case of funds for military construction, Army, for public works in Alaska and on Okinawa, there is provided in the bill for public works, Bureau of Yards and Docks, \$10,000,000 cash plus \$15,414,000 contract authorization, based upon the same justification of urgent need.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

##### ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY AND CONSTRUCTION

The requirements of the Air Force for construction in Alaska and on Okinawa, under the same urgent requirements as the Army and

the Navy, are \$20,000,000 in cash plus \$28,834,770 contract authorization, the three items to be effective only upon enactment into law, during the present (first) session of the Eighty-first Congress, of H. R. 6303.

In connection with the three items for military construction, Army, Navy and Air Force, the committee has added in each section the following language:

*Provided*, That the same purposes applicable to this appropriation as contained in the National Military Appropriation Act, 1950, shall apply.

The purpose of such language is to bring the expenditure of these funds under the limitations and safeguards contained in the regular appropriation act and for uniformity of administration and procedure.

With regard to the three items for public works, Army, Navy, and Air Force, in Alaska and on Okinawa, the committee is pleased to receive information that military costs outside continental United States, particularly in Alaska, have shown a downward trend. For several years the committee has felt that the costs in Alaska have been too high and should be carefully considered by those in charge of such construction. While the present estimated costs are still, in the opinion of the committee, very high and warrant further consideration, the committee wishes to compliment the Department of Defense in the accomplishments during the past few months in securing better prices for construction in Alaska.

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

*The general offices.*—The Interior Department Appropriation Act, 1949, restricted using funds therein appropriated for the payment of salaries for the positions of Commissioner of Reclamation and Regional Director of Reclamation after January 31, 1949. Persons occupying these positions legally served for the remainder of the fiscal year. An estimate in the amount of \$8,581.68 to compensate for such services has been considered and is recommended for approval in the accompanying bill.

*Rehabilitation and betterment.*—An estimate in the amount of \$2,500,000 was submitted to implement Public Law 335, approved October 7, 1949. This law established conditions for repayment of expenditures for rehabilitation and betterment of irrigation systems on federally constructed projects governed by the reclamation laws, and authorized the appropriation of funds to make necessary major repairs and improvements thereon. The estimate of \$2,500,000 is recommended by the committee for approval.

*Additional construction, Central Valley project, California.*—A supplemental estimate in the amount of \$500,000 to finance field surveys, investigations, and foundation explorations in connection with the American River development was considered by the committee. This estimate was submitted pursuant to legislation authorizing the construction of the American River development as a part of the Central Valley project, California. Interrogation by the committee of officials of the Bureau of Reclamation developed the fact that funds already provided in the regular appropriation act for fiscal 1950 would suffice

for financing these proposed surveys, investigations, and explorations. The committee recommends that no additional funds be appropriated for this project. The Bureau of Reclamation should reprogram its proposed allocations under the regular annual 1950 appropriation act so as to provide necessary funds for the American River development program.

*Utilization of salt water.*—A supplemental budget request was considered for \$500,000 to enable the Bureau of Reclamation to initiate during the fiscal year 1950 a program of laboratory investigation for development of economically feasible means of producing fresh water from ocean or other saline waters. Although such a developmental program, if successful, might well be of far-reaching benefit to the Nation, this new activity is not authorized by law. Proposed legislation has been introduced in both Houses of Congress, but not enacted, to authorize such activity. The committee would be willing to consider an appropriation for such a meritorious endeavor after authorizing legislation has been provided. However, owing to the absence of legislative authority, the committee recommends denial of this request.

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*Mississippi River Parkway.*—The act of August 24, 1949 (Public Law 262) authorizes the National Park Service and the Bureau of Public Roads to make a joint survey of a route for the proposed Mississippi River Parkway. By the terms of this enactment, the survey is to be completed within 2 years and a report thereon is to be submitted to the Congress with appropriate recommendations. A budget estimate for \$250,000 to finance such survey and report thereon has been considered. The budget estimate covered the full amount authorized by Public Law 262 to be appropriated. No showing was made to indicate that this entire sum would be required in the first year. Therefore, the committee recommends an appropriation of \$150,000 to remain available, until June 30, 1951. The remainder of the authorized amount, \$100,000, should be appropriated only after a satisfactory progress report on this survey has been submitted.

*Physical improvements.*—A budget request for \$175,000 for the construction of a swimming pool, including necessary buildings and facilities, in the District of Columbia was considered. Testimony indicated that these additional facilities are desired to serve the southeast area of the District of Columbia, since the present facilities are inadequate to meet existing needs. Existing law (title 40, U. S. C., sec. 68) expressly prohibits the construction or erection of facilities of this nature in the District of Columbia, unless expressly authorized by act of Congress. Therefore, the committee is unable to recommend to the House that these funds be appropriated. Furthermore, it would appear that any such recreational facilities should be financed by the District of Columbia.

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

*Propagation of food fishes.*—Legislation recently enacted (Public Law 249, approved October 18, 1949) authorizes construction of certain fish-hatchery facilities. The committee recommends approval

of a budget estimate in the sum of \$706,000 in connection with the advancement of fish-cultural stations. However, instead of providing such sum solely for construction of new hatcheries, the committee recommends an appropriation in this amount to finance only the acquisition of land for the proposed new stations, and the remainder of these funds are to be distributed equitably among all authorized hatcheries and fish-cultural stations. It appears unjust to appropriate for the initiation and completion of a limited number of newly authorized stations until other stations which have been authorized for many years are given equitable allocations of funds.

*Investigations respecting food fishes.*—The sum of \$167,000 is recommended to cover biological research on food fishes in the Gulf of Mexico and for the study of the biology, propagation, and abundance of shad of the Atlantic coast, as requested in the budget estimate submitted.

*Commercial fisheries.*—An appropriation of \$83,000 is recommended for exploratory fishery research on commercial fishes in the Gulf of Mexico.

#### GOVERNMENT IN THE TERRITORIES

*Overtime claims, Alaska Road Commission.*—An estimate in the amount of \$525,000 to pay claims pursuant to an interpretation by the Comptroller General to the effect that additional overtime payments are due to employees of the Alaska Road Commission was considered and is denied. Notwithstanding such interpretation by the Comptroller General, the committee found the department unable to supply adequate factual data to establish the existence of such an obligation on the part of the United States. The committee will be favorably disposed to reconsider such a request in connection with the regular 1951 budget, if substantiating information can be supplied at that time.

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act.*—The committee recommends approval of supplemental estimates aggregating \$95,000 with which the Wage and Hour Division, with assistance of the Solicitor's office, proposes to undertake complete review of prevailing minimum-wage-rate determinations under the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act. Most of the determinations have not been reviewed since before the war and for the most part are so low in relation to present wage levels that they have ceased to serve as a brake against substandard competition in bids on Government procurement contracts. It was not appropriate during war and early postwar years to make the review due to several upward wage adjustments in various industries, but with the more recent leveling off of wages there is need and demand to revise the minimums under the act to avoid what was testified to as a practice by some plants of lowering wage standards in order to underbid others for Government business.

The revision is expected to be completed by the end of fiscal year 1951, and the budget for that year will no doubt make additional recommendations as to requirements.

## POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

The committee considered estimates for the Post Office Department, totaling \$46,690,000, and recommends appropriations in the sum of \$43,765,000, a reduction of \$2,925,000 in the amount requested.

*Departmental service.*—Included in the amounts approved are funds to carry out certain recommendations which were approved by Congress in Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1949. These include the requests for an Office of Deputy Postmaster General, and per diem salaries and expenses of the advisory board to the Postmaster General, the creation of which was recommended by the Commission on Reorganization of the Executive Branch of the Government.

The committee considered a request of \$111,000 for the establishment of a research and development program, which the Department plans to inaugurate pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 231, approved August 16, 1949, and recommends an appropriation of \$74,000. It will be recalled that the committee has already provided in the regular appropriation act for 1950 the sum of \$750,000 for research and development along many of the lines contemplated by this new law. The committee, therefore, believes that a reduction of one-third can be made without retarding any program which the Department will be in a position to prosecute during the remainder of the fiscal year 1950.

*Field service.*—Estimates in the amount of \$46,547,000 were considered for several field-service appropriations, most of which being to provide for rate increases granted by the Civil Aeronautics Board and the Interstate Commerce Commission to the air lines and railroads.

The committee is recommending a reduction of \$2,700,000 in the request of \$7,700,000 additional for vehicle service. The sum of \$51,500,000 has already been appropriated for the fiscal year 1950, and this amount, together with the amount of \$5,000,000 recommended in the bill, makes a total of \$56,500,000 available for the year. The rate of obligations for that part of the year already past leads the committee to believe that this amount should be made to suffice for the remainder of the year.

## LIMITATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

On page 5, lines 15 and 16, in connection with construction, Public Buildings Administration:

*without regard to Section 3709 of the Revised Statutes*

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1950

Comparative statement of amounts of the budget estimates and of the amounts recommended to be appropriated by the bill

House Doc. No.	Department or agency	Amount of budget estimate	Amount recommended in the bill	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill compared with budget estimate
	<b>LEGISLATIVE BRANCH</b>			
	<b>HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES</b>			
	Beneficiary of deceased representative -----		\$12,500.00	+\$12,500.00
363	Salaries, officers and employees -----	\$5,515.00	4,500.00	-1,015.00
	Total, legislative branch -----	5,515.00	17,000.00	+11,485.00
	<b>THE JUDICIARY</b>			
	<b>OTHER COURTS AND SERVICES</b>			
346	Fees of jurors -----	816,500.00	816,500.00	
300 } 346 }	Miscellaneous expenses -----	326,800.00	245,000.00	-81,800.00
	Total, the Judiciary -----	1,143,300.00	1,061,500.00	-81,800.00
	<b>FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT</b>			
352	Mutual defense assistance -----	1,814,010,000.00	1,814,010,000.00	
	<b>INDEPENDENT OFFICES</b>			
354	Commission on Renovation of the Executive Mansion -----	50,000.00	50,000.00	



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY			
BUREAU OF EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION			
350	Salaries and expenses	270,000.00	225,000.00
350	Employees' compensation fund	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00
	Total, Bureau of Employees' Compensation	10,270,000.00	10,225,000.00
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE			
350	Grants for hospital construction	25,000,000.00	25,000,000.00
338	Commissioned officers, pay, and so forth, 1943	2,429.57	2,429.57
	Total, Public Health Service	25,002,429.57	25,002,429.57
	Total, Federal Security Agency	35,272,429.57	35,227,429.57
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION			
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY			
PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION			
259	Renovation and improvement of federally owned buildings outside the District of Columbia	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00
259	Sites and planning, public buildings outside the District of Columbia	12,000,000.00	12,000,000.00
259	Improvement of post office facilities, Los Angeles, Calif	800,000.00	760,000.00
	Construction and operation, temporary building, Suitland, Md.		3,500,000.00
338	Salaries and expenses, public buildings and grounds in the District of Columbia and adjacent area	285,000.00	260,000.00

<sup>1</sup> In addition contract authority in amount of \$500,000,000.

*Comparative statement of amounts of the budget estimates and of the amounts recommended to be appropriated by the bill—Con.*

House Doc. No.	Department or agency	Amount of budget estimate	Amount recommended in the bill	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill compared with budget estimate
	<b>INDEPENDENT OFFICES—Continued</b>			
	<b>GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION—Continued</b>			
	<b>FEDERAL WORKS—continued</b>			
	<b>PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION—continued</b>			
338	Salaries and expenses, public buildings and grounds outside the District of Columbia-----	\$870, 000. 00	-----	-\$870, 000. 00
	Total, Public Buildings Administration-----	23, 955, 000. 00	\$26, 520, 000. 00	+2, 565, 000. 00
	<b>BUREAU OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES</b>			
338	Alaska public works-----	<sup>2</sup> 2, 000, 000. 00	<sup>3</sup> 1, 000, 000. 00	-1, 000, 000. 00
353	Advance planning of non-Federal public works-----	<sup>4</sup> 12, 500, 000. 00	<sup>5</sup> 8, 000, 000. 00	-4, 500, 000. 00
302	Maintenance and operation of schools-----	7, 500, 000. 00	7, 000, 000. 00	-500, 000. 00
	Total, Bureau of Community Facilities-----	22, 000, 000. 00	16, 000, 000. 00	-6, 000, 000. 00
	Total, General Services-----	45, 955, 000. 00	42, 520, 000. 00	-3, 435, 000. 00
339	Housing and Home Finance Agency, Federal Housing Admin- istration-----	794, 000. 00	550, 000. 00	-244, 000. 00
	<b>INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION</b>			
338	General expenses-----	6, 000. 00	-----	-6, 000. 00

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD				
350	Arbitration and emergency boards-----	75,000.00	75,000.00	
VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION				
351	Administration, Medical, Hospital, and Domiciliary Services-----	17,500,000.00	(6)	-17,500,000.00
	Total, Independent Offices-----	98,858,429.57	77,872,429.57	-20,986,000.00
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE				
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION				
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR				
355	Buildings and facilities-----	170,000.00	150,000.00	-20,000.00
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION				
355	Salaries and expenses-----	700,000.00	600,000.00	-100,000.00
FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION				
312	Operating expenses-----	1,210,000.00	1,000,000.00	-210,000.00
COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION				
358	Administrative expenses-----	73,450,000.00	73,000,000.00	-450,000.00
	Total, Department of Agriculture-----	2,080,000.00	1,750,000.00	-330,000.00

2 In addition contract authority in amount of \$8,000,000.  
 3 In addition contract authority in amount of \$4,000,000.  
 4 In addition contract authority in amount of \$25,000,000.  
 5 In addition contract authority in amount of \$17,000,000.  
 6 \$15,000,000 derived by transfer from unobligated 1949 funds.  
 7 Increase in limitation on use of corporate funds.

## Comparative statement of amounts of the budget estimates and of the amounts recommended to be appropriated by the bill—Con.

House Doc. No.	Department or agency	Amount of budget estimate	Amount recommended in the bill	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill compared with budget estimate
	DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE			
	CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION			
338	Claims, Federal Airport Act-----	\$476, 875. 00	\$476, 875. 00	-----
347	Construction of public airports, Territory of Alaska-----	<sup>8</sup> 4, 500, 000. 00	-----	-\$4, 500, 000. 00
	Total, Department of Commerce-----	476, 875. 00	476, 875. 00	-----
	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE			
	DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY			
359	Military Functions: Corps of Engineers: Military Construction, Army-----	<sup>9</sup> 32, 000, 000. 00	<sup>10</sup> 32, 000, 000. 00	-----
	DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY			
	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY			
349	Operation and conservation of Naval Petroleum Reserves-----	3, 000, 000. 00	3, 000, 000. 00	-----
	SHIPBUILDING			
349	Increase and replacement of Naval Vessels: Construction and machinery-----	30, 000, 000. 00	30, 000, 000. 00	-----
	BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS			
359	Public Works-----	<sup>11</sup> 10, 000, 000. 00	<sup>11</sup> 10, 000, 000. 00	-----
	Total, Department of the Navy-----	43, 000, 000. 00	43, 000, 000. 00	-----

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE		
359	Acquisition and construction of real property-----	12 20,000,000.00
	Total, Department of Defense-----	95,000,000.00
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR		
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION		
RECLAMATION FUND		
360	General Offices: Salaries and expenses (other than project offices)-----	8,581.68
365	Rehabilitation and betterments-----	2,500,000.00
GENERAL FUND, CONSTRUCTION		
360	Central Valley project, California-----	500,000.00
GENERAL FUND, UTILIZATION OF SALT WATER		
360	Utilization of Salt Water-----	500,000.00
	Total, Bureau of Reclamation-----	3,508,581.68
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE		
321	Mississippi River Parkway-----	150,000.00
361	Physical improvements-----	175,000.00
	Total, National Park Service-----	150,000.00
		-500,000.00
		-500,000.00
		-1,000,000.00
		-100,000.00
		-175,000.00
		-275,000.00

<sup>8</sup> Increase in contract authority.

<sup>9</sup> In addition, contract authority in amount of \$48,363,700.

<sup>10</sup> Of which \$1,545,000 available for transfer to Engineer Service, Army, 1950, and in addition contract authority in amount of \$48,363,700.

<sup>11</sup> And contract authority in amount of \$15,414,000.

<sup>12</sup> And contract authority in amount of \$28,834,770.

## Comparative statement of amounts of the budget estimates and of the amounts recommended to be appropriated by the bill—Con.

House Doc. No.	Department or agency	Amount of budget estimate	Amount recommended in the bill	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill compared with budget estimate
	DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR—Continued			
	FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE			
	SALARIES AND EXPENSES			
338	Propagation of food fishes-----	\$706, 000. 00	\$706, 000. 00	-----
338	Investigations respecting food fishes-----	12 167, 000. 00	167, 000. 00	-----
338	Commercial fisheries-----	83, 000. 00	83, 000. 00	-----
	Total, Fish and Wildlife Service-----	956, 000. 00	956, 000. 00	-----
	GOVERNMENT IN THE TERRITORIES			
356	Payment of overtime claims, Alaska Road Commission-----	525, 000. 00	-----	-\$525, 000. 00
	Total, Department of the Interior-----	5, 414, 581. 68	3, 614, 581. 68	-1, 800, 000. 00
	DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE			
338	Legal activities and general administration: Damage claims-----	752. 74	752. 74	-----
338	Bureau of Prisons: Support of United States prisoners, 1949-----	126, 000. 00	110, 000. 00	-16, 000. 00
	Total, Department of Justice-----	126, 752. 74	110, 752. 74	-16, 000. 00
	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR			
	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY			
357	Salaries and expenses, Office of the Solicitor-----	11, 000. 00	11, 000. 00	-----

357	WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION	Salaries and expense	84,000.00	84,000.00	
		Total, Department of Labor	95,000.00	95,000.00	
	POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT	(Out of the postal revenues)			
	DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE	Salaries: Office of the Postmaster General	17,000.00	17,000.00	
338		Advisory Board	15,000.00	15,000.00	
338		Research and development program	111,000.00	74,000.00	-37,000.00
		Total, Departmental Service	143,000.00	106,000.00	-37,000.00
	FIELD SERVICE	Travel and miscellaneous expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00	
338	OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL	Damage claims	150,000.00	90,000.00	-60,000.00
		Total, Office of the Postmaster General	151,000.00	91,000.00	-60,000.00
	OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR	Miscellaneous expenses, Inspection Service	328,000.00	200,000.00	-128,000.00
348	OFFICE OF THE SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL	Electric-car service	112,000.00	112,000.00	
348		Foreign air-mail service	15,692,000.00	15,692,000.00	
348		Domestic air-mail service	22,564,000.00	22,564,000.00	
		Total, Office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General	38,368,000.00	38,368,000.00	

<sup>12</sup> \$256,000 submitted in estimate included in 1950 appropriation bill.

Comparative statement of amounts of the budget estimates and of the amounts recommended to be appropriated by the bill—Con.

House Doc. No.	Department or agency	Amount of budget estimate	Amount recommended in the bill	Increase (+) or decrease (-), bill compared with budget estimate
	POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT—Continued			
	OFFICE OF THE FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL			
348	Vehicle service-----	\$7,700,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	-\$2,700,000.00
	Total, Field Service-----	46,547,000.00	43,659,000.00	-2,888,000.00
	Total, Post Office Department-----	46,690,000.00	43,765,000.00	-2,925,000.00
	Total, Title I-----	1,063,900,453.99	1,037,773,138.99	-26,127,315.00
	<b>TITLE II.—CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES, AUDITED CLAIMS, AND JUDGMENTS</b>			
366	Claims for damages, audited claims, and judgments-----	733,241.42	733,241.42	
	Grand total-----	1,064,633,695.41	1,038,506,380.41	-26,127,315.00

