

# Calendar No. 759

69TH CONGRESS }  
1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 763 }

JOHN H. RHINELANDER

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MAY 6, 1926.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. MEANS (for Mr. CAPPER), from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany S. 2524]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2524) for the relief of John H. Rhinelander, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

A similar bill passed the Senate in the Sixty-sixth, Sixty-seventh, and Sixty-eighth Congresses.

The facts are fully set forth in Senate Report No. 485, Sixty-eighth Congress, first session, which is appended hereto and made a part of this report.

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[Senate Report No. 485, Sixty-eighth Congress, first session]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 893) for the relief of John H. Rheinlander, having considered the same, report favorably thereon, with the recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

A bill for the relief of Mr. Rheinlander passed the House in the Sixty-second Congress, and similar bills passed the Senate in the Sixty-sixth and Sixty-seventh Congresses. The claim also has the favorable recommendation of the Quartermaster General and the War Department.

The facts are fully set forth in Senate Report No. 274, Sixty-seventh Congress, first session, and in correspondence from the War Department, which is appended hereto and made a part of this report.

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[Senate Report No. 274, Sixty-seventh Congress, first session]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 167) for the relief of John H. Rheinlander, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

The facts in the case are fully set forth in Senate Report No. 237, Sixty-sixth Congress, first session, which is appended hereto and made a part of this report.

[Senate Report No. 237, Sixty-sixth Congress, first session]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1302) for the relief of John H. Rheinlander, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment, and as amended recommend that the bill do pass.

Your committee recommend the following amendment: In line 4, strike out the figures "\$3,000" and insert in lieu thereof the figures "\$1,200."

The facts in the case are fully set forth in House Report No. 1327, Sixty-second Congress, third session, which is appended hereto and made a part of this report.

[House of Representatives. Report No. 1327. Sixty-second Congress, third session]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 28049) for the relief of John H. Rheinlander, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass with the following amendment:

In line 4 strike out the figures "\$5,000" and insert in lieu thereof the figures "\$1,200."

This is a claim for personal injuries. The claimant, John H. Rheinlander, was a former employee of the Government in the Quartermaster's Department, United States Army, at the old St. Louis Arsenal, St. Louis, Mo., and on February 20, 1883, from the submitted affidavits, while taking a shipping order, in the course of his employment, from the office he fell on the stone steps of the building, which were covered with snow and ice and in a dangerous condition, thereby sustaining injury which resulted in permanent lameness and other injuries to his knee and limb joints, necessitating several painful and expensive operations.

OFFICE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL,  
January 12, 1921.

The SECRETARY OF WAR:

1. Inviting attention to the inclosed copy of office indorsement of October 11, 1919, in connection with a similar bill providing compensation in the sum of \$5,000 and also copy of letter from Mr. Karl Esser, referred to therein.

2. Favorable consideration on this bill is recommended.

H. L. ROGERS,  
Quartermaster General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
January 15, 1921.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON CLAIMS,  
House of Representatives.

1. Attention is invited to the accompanying correspondence.

2. The department agrees with the Quartermaster General in recommending favorable consideration of this bill.

JOHN C. SCOFIELD,  
Assistant and Chief Clerk.

OFFICE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL,  
DEPARTMENT PURCHASE AND STORAGE,  
Washington, D. C., October 11, 1919.

The SECRETARY OF WAR:

1. Inviting attention to the inclosed statement signed by Mr. Karl Esser, clerk in the Purchase and Storage Service, who was employed at St. Louis at the time of the injury to Mr. Rheinlander, and also to the report contained in office indorsement of May 2, 1916, reading as follows:

"The records of this office affording no information regarding injuries received by Mr. Rheinlander during the period of his employment as alleged, the depot quartermaster at St. Louis, Mo., was requested by letter of this office to furnish any information which the records of his office afford regarding the alleged injury of Mr. Rheinlander, and to secure statement of the circumstances regarding such injury from persons now employed at the depot who are familiar with the circumstances; also, if Mr. Rheinlander could be located as a resident of the city of St. Louis, to consult him if required in aid of his investigation of the case.

"In reply the depot quartermaster at St. Louis reports that Mr. Karl Esser, a clerk in his office, was an employee at the depot during the period mentioned and states from his recollection of the accident that Mr. Rheinlander broke his leg getting on or off a street car in the city of St. Louis, and that the accident had no connection with his Government service; that Mr. Rheinlander was personally interviewed and states that he was ordered to carry a small package from the depot office to one of the warehouses and slipped on the ice outside the office door, sustaining a compound fracture of the leg. The foregoing is all the information obtainable bearing upon the case.

"Mr. Karl Esser subsequently retracted his statement in a letter which was forwarded to the department October 10, 1911."

2. In view of the number of bills introduced in Mr. Rheinlander's behalf during the past nine years, it would appear that there is reason to believe that his statement that he was injured while in the performance of his duties is true. It is, therefore, recommended that if he will furnish an affidavit covering all facts in the case, the accompanying bill be given favorable consideration.

H. L. ROGERS,  
*Quartermaster General, United States Army,  
Director of Purchase and Storage.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE ZONE SUPPLY OFFICER,  
*New York, September 30, 1919.*

From: Karl Esser, clerk, Quartermaster Corps.  
To: Zone supply officer, New York City.  
Subject: Injury of Mr. John J. Rheinlander.

1. As stated in my conversation with Capt. W. M. Coulling, Quartermaster Corps, in 1910, my recollections of Mr. Rheinlander's accident was that he was injured while getting off or on a street car; however, this statement may have been in error. I remember seeing Mr. Rheinlander at the clothing depot after the accident walking on crutches, but he did not return to work.

2. Captain Martin was a very just officer and certainly would not discharge Mr. Rheinlander after sustaining injury while on official duty.

3. Mrs. Mary E. Martin, the widow of Capt. W. P. Martin, military storekeeper, Quartermaster Corps, is now residing in Washington, D. C., and may have some correspondence amongst the captain's old records relating to the above.

K. ESSER, *Clerk, Quartermaster Corps.*

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