

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7668	34 U.S.C. 1151.	R.S. 4630; R.S. 4641.

R.S. 4630 provided that in some circumstances the captors were to receive the net proceeds of prize property and in other circumstances they were to receive half and the United States was to receive the other half. The Act of March 3, 1899, ch. 413, §13, 30 Stat. 1007, repealed "all provisions of law authorizing the distribution among captors of the whole or any portion of the proceeds of vessels, or any property hereafter captured, condemned as prize". Thus the only part of R.S. 4630 that remains in effect, as is indicated in 34 U.S.C. 1151, is that part which provides that proceeds shall be decreed to the United States. The section is so worded. R.S. 4641 stated how proceeds decreed to captors should be divided among them. These provisions were eliminated by the Act of March 3, 1899, supra. All that remains of R.S. 4641, as is indicated in 34 U.S.C. 1151, is the provision that proceeds decreed to the United States shall be paid into the Treasury, and the section is worded accordingly.

§ 7669. Security for costs

The court may require any party to give security for costs at any stage of the cause and upon filing an appeal.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 480.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7669	34 U.S.C. 1148.	R.S. 4638.

The word "filing" is substituted for the word "claiming".

§ 7670. Costs and expenses a charge on prize property

(a) Costs and expenses allowed by the court incident to the bringing in, custody, preservation, insurance, and sale or other disposal of prize property are a charge upon the property and shall be paid from the proceeds thereof, unless the court decrees restitution free from such a charge.

(b) Charges for work and labor, materials furnished, or money paid must be supported by affidavit or vouchers.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 480.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7670(a)	34 U.S.C. 1149.	R.S. 4639.
7670(b)	34 U.S.C. 1150 (2d sentence).	R.S. 4640 (2d sentence).

§ 7671. Payment of costs and expenses from prize fund

(a) Payment may not be made from a prize fund except upon the order of the court. The court may, at any time, order the payment, from the deposit made with the Treasurer or public depositary in the cause, of costs or charges accrued and allowed.

(b) When the cause is finally disposed of, the court shall order the Treasurer or public depositary to pay the costs and charges allowed

and unpaid. If the final decree is for restitution, or if there is no money subject to the order of the court in the cause, costs or charges allowed by the court and not paid by the claimants shall be paid out of the fund for paying the expenses of suits in which the United States is a party or is interested.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 480.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7671	34 U.S.C. 1150 (less 2d sentence).	R.S. 4640 (less 2d sentence).

In subsection (b) the words "or orders" after "order" are omitted as surplusage. The words "a charge upon and" are omitted as surplusage.

§ 7672. Recaptures: award of salvage, costs, and expenses

(a) If a vessel or other property that has been captured by a force hostile to the United States is recaptured, and the court believes that the property had not been condemned as prize by competent authority before its recapture, the court shall award an appropriate sum as salvage.

(b) If the recaptured property belonged to the United States, it shall be restored to the United States, and costs and expenses ordered to be paid by the court shall be paid from the Treasury.

(c) If the recaptured property belonged to any person residing within or under the protection of the United States, the court shall restore the property to its owner upon his claim and on payment of such sum as the court may award as salvage, costs, and expenses.

(d) If the recaptured property belonged to any person permanently residing within the territory and under the protection of any foreign government in amity with the United States, and, by the law or usage of that government, the property of a citizen of the United States would be restored under like circumstances of recapture, the court shall, upon the owner's claim, restore the property to him under such terms as the law or usage of that government would require of a citizen of the United States under like circumstances. If no such law or usage is known, the property shall be restored upon the payment of such salvage, costs, and expenses as the court orders.

(e) Amounts awarded as salvage under this section shall be paid to the United States.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 481.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7672	34 U.S.C. 1158 (less last sentence).	R.S. 4652 (less last sentence).

In subsection (c) the words "restore the property" are substituted for the words "adjudge to be restored." A similar substitution is made in subsection (d).

In subsection (d) the words "foreign government" are substituted for the words "foreign prince, government, or state".

Subsection (e) is derived from the next to the last sentence of R.S. 4652 which, when enacted, read:

"The whole amount awarded as salvage shall be decreed to the captors and no part to the United States,

and shall be distributed as in the case of proceeds of property condemned as prize.”

The Act of March 3, 1899, ch. 413, §13, 30 Stat. 1007, repealed all laws authorizing the distribution of prize money to captors. Accordingly, 34 U.S.C. 1158 states:

“The whole amount awarded as salvage shall be disposed of as in the case of proceeds of property condemned as prize.”

As shown in §7668 of this title, the net proceeds of property condemned as prize must be decreed to the United States. Subsection (e) is phrased so as to state directly, instead of by reference, the fact that the amount awarded as salvage is paid to the government. While this is apparently inconsistent with R.S. 4652 as originally enacted, it is consistent with the intent expressed by Congress in the provision of the Act of March 3, 1899 (*supra*), which repealed provisions relating to the distribution of prize money and bounty to crews. This act, it is true, did not mention salvage; and salvage money is still occasionally awarded to crews of naval vessels. However, such occasions are rare, and it is the general policy of the Department of the Navy not to claim salvage on behalf of its personnel. No case appears in which salvage derived from prize has been claimed for such personnel. Prize salvage is more closely related to prize money than it is to other salvage. The determination by Congress that captors should not share in the proceeds of prizes is, therefore, as in 34 U.S.C. 1158, carried through the revised section to salvage derived from prize. The word “amounts” is substituted for the words “the whole amount”.

§ 7673. Allowance of expenses to marshals

The marshal shall be allowed his actual and necessary expenses for the custody, care, preservation, insurance, and sale or other disposal of the prize property, and for executing any order of the court in the prize cause. Charges of the marshal for expenses or disbursements shall be allowed only upon his oath that they have been necessarily incurred for the purpose stated.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 481.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7673	34 U.S.C. 1153.	R.S. 4645.

34 U.S.C. 1153 and the revised section reflect the Act of May 28, 1896, ch. 252, §6, 29 Stat. 179, which provided that marshals should receive annual salaries in lieu of the fees and emoluments previously allowed them.

§ 7674. Payment of witness fees

If the court allows fees to any witness in a prize cause, or fees for taking evidence out of the district in which the court sits, and there is no money subject to its order in the cause, the marshal shall pay the fees. He shall be repaid from any money deposited to the order of the court in the cause. Any amount not so repaid to the marshal shall be allowed him as witness fees paid by him in cases in which the United States is a party.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 481.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7674	34 U.S.C. 1157.	R.S. 4651.

§ 7675. Commissions of auctioneers

(a) The Secretary of the Navy may establish a scale of commissions to be paid to auctioneers

employed to make sales of prize property. These commissions are in full satisfaction of expenses as well as services. The scale may in no case allow a commission in excess of—

- (1) ½ of 1 percent on any amount exceeding \$10,000 on the sale of a vessel; and
- (2) 1 percent on any amount exceeding \$10,000 on the sale of other prize property.

(b) If no such scale is established, auctioneers in prize causes shall be paid such compensation as the court considers just under the circumstances of each case.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 481.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7675	34 U.S.C. 1156.	R.S. 4650.

The word “amount” is substituted for the word “sum”.

§ 7676. Compensation of prize commissioners and special prize commissioners

(a) Naval prize commissioners and naval special prize commissioners may not receive compensation for their services in prize causes other than that to which they are entitled as officers of the Navy.

(b) Prize commissioners and special prize commissioners, except naval prize commissioners and naval special prize commissioners, are entitled to just and suitable compensation for their services in prize causes. The amount of compensation in each cause shall be determined by the court and allowed as costs.

(c) Annually, on the anniversary of his appointment, each prize commissioner and special prize commissioner, except a naval prize commissioner or a naval special prize commissioner, shall submit to the Attorney General an account of all amounts received for his services in prize causes within the previous year. Of the amounts reported, each such commissioner may retain not more than \$3,000, which is in full satisfaction for all his services in prize causes for that year. He shall pay any excess over that amount into the Treasury.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 482.)

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<i>Revised section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
7676(a)	34 U.S.C. 1137 (as applicable to compensation of naval prize commissioner). 34 U.S.C. 1163 (as applicable to compensation of naval special prize commissioner).	R.S. 4621 (as applicable to compensation of naval prize commissioner); Nov. 14, 1945, ch. 472, §2, 59 Stat. 581. Aug. 18, 1942, ch. 553, §5 (as applicable to compensation of naval special prize commissioner), 56 Stat. 746.
7676(b)	34 U.S.C. 1154.	R.S. 4646.
7676(c)	34 U.S.C. 1155.	R.S. 4647.

In subsection (c) the words “on the anniversary of his appointment” are inserted for clarity, as “year” in the context of this section means a year of service as prize commissioner. The words “and shall be credited to the fund for paying naval pensions” are omitted because the Act of June 26, 1934, ch. 756, §9, 48 Stat. 1229, abolished the naval pension fund and provided that moneys previously required to be paid into it should be depos-