

vested in persons other than the person by whom the original loss was sustained, the Commission shall issue a consolidated award in favor of all claimants then entitled to the award, which award shall indicate the respective interests of such claimants in the award, and all such claimants shall participate, in proportion to their indicated interests, in any payments that may be made under this subchapter in all respects as if the award had been in favor of a single person.

(Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, title VII, §708, as added Pub. L. 96-606, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3536.)

**§ 1645h. Claims Fund; establishment; deductions**

(a) The Secretary of the Treasury may establish in the Treasury of the United States the Claims Fund for the payment of unsatisfied claims of nationals of the United States against Vietnam, as authorized by this subchapter.

(b) The Secretary of the Treasury shall deduct from any amounts covered into the Claims Fund an amount equal to 5 per centum thereof as reimbursement to the Government of the United States for expenses incurred by the Commission and by the Treasury Department in the administration of this subchapter. The amounts so deducted shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

(Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, title VII, §709, as added Pub. L. 96-606, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3536.)

**§ 1645i. Award payment procedures**

**(a) Certification of amounts**

The Commission shall certify to the Secretary of the Treasury, in terms of United States currency, each award made pursuant to section 1645b of this title.

**(b) Priority of payments**

(1) Upon certification of each award made pursuant to section 1645b of this title, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, out of the sums covered into the Claims Fund, make payments on account of such awards as follows, and in the following order of priority:

(A) Payment in the amount of \$2,500 or the principal amount of the award, whichever is less.

(B) Thereafter, payments from time to time, in ratable proportions, on account of the unpaid balance of the principal amounts of all awards according to the proportions which the unpaid balance of such awards bear to the total amount in the Claims Fund available for distribution at the time such payments are made.

(2) After payment has been made in full of the principal amounts of all awards pursuant to paragraph (1), pro rata payments may be made on account of any interest that may be allowed on such awards.

**(c) Regulations**

Payments or applications for payments under subsection (b) shall be made in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

(Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, title VII, §710, as added Pub. L. 96-606, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3537.)

**§ 1645j. Settlement period**

The Commission shall complete its affairs in connection with the settlement of claims pursuant to this subchapter not later than three years after the final date for the filing of claims as provided in section 1645b of this title.

(Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, title VII, §711, as added Pub. L. 96-606, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3537.)

**§ 1645k. Transfer of records**

The Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Defense shall transfer or otherwise make available to the Commission such records and documents relating to claims authorized by this subchapter as may be required by the Commission in carrying out its functions under this subchapter.

(Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, title VII, §712, as added Pub. L. 96-606, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3537.)

**§ 1645l. Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated for any fiscal year beginning on or after October 1, 1980, such sums as may be necessary to enable the Commission and the Treasury Department to pay their respective administrative expenses incurred in carrying out their functions under this subchapter. Amounts appropriated under this section may remain available until expended.

(Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, title VII, §713, as added Pub. L. 96-606, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3537.)

**§ 1645m. Fees for services; limitation; penalty**

No remuneration on account of services rendered on behalf of any claimant, in connection with any claim filed with the Commission under this subchapter, shall exceed 10 per centum of the total amount paid pursuant to any award certified under the provisions of this subchapter on account of such claim. Any agreement to the contrary shall be unlawful and void. Whoever, in the United States or elsewhere, demands or receives, on account of services so rendered, any remuneration in excess of the maximum permitted by this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than twelve months, or both.

(Mar. 10, 1950, ch. 54, title VII, §714, as added Pub. L. 96-606, Dec. 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 3537.)

**§ 1645n. Applicability of other statutory provisions**

(a) To the extent they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this subchapter, the following provisions of subchapter I of this chapter shall be applicable to this subchapter; subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (h) of section 1623 of this title and subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f) of section 1626 of this title. Any reference in such provisions to "this subchapter" shall be deemed to be a reference to those provisions and to this subchapter.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter and in those provisions of subchapter I referred to in subsection (a), the Commission