

**§ 33. Jurisdiction and venue of actions and offenses**

The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction over all offenses against this chapter and of all suits of a civil nature arising thereunder, whether the infraction complained of shall have been committed within the territorial waters of the United States or on board a vessel of the United States outside of said waters: *Provided*, That in case such infraction is committed outside of the territorial waters of the United States the vessel on board of which it has been committed is a vessel of the United States. From the decrees and judgments of the district courts in actions and suits arising under this chapter appeals and writs of error<sup>1</sup> shall be allowed as now provided by law in other cases. Criminal actions and proceedings for a violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be commenced and prosecuted in the district court for the district within which the offense was committed, and when not committed within any judicial district, then in the district court for the district within which the offender may be found; and suits of a civil nature may be commenced in the district court for any district within which the defendant may be found and shall be served with process.

(Feb. 29, 1888, ch. 17, § 13, 25 Stat. 42.)

ABOLITION OF WRITS OF ERROR

Writs of error were abolished, and relief previously obtainable by writs of error declared to be obtainable by appeal, by act Jan. 31, 1928, ch. 14, § 1, 45 Stat. 54. See note preceding section 1 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

**§ 34. Licenses for landing or operating cables connecting United States with foreign country; necessity for**

No person shall land or operate in the United States any submarine cable directly or indirectly connecting the United States with any foreign country, or connecting one portion of the United States with any other portion thereof, unless a written license to land or operate such cable has been issued by the President of the United States. The conditions of sections 34 to 39 of this title shall not apply to cables, all of which, including both terminals, lie wholly within the continental United States.

(May 27, 1921, ch. 12, § 1, 42 Stat. 8.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Submarine Cable Act which comprises this chapter.

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

For delegation of functions, vested in President by sections 34 to 39 of this title, to Federal Communications Commission, see section 5(a) of Ex. Ord. No. 10530, eff. May 10, 1954, 19 F.R. 2709, set out under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

**§ 35. Withholding or revoking of licenses by President; terms and conditions of licenses**

The President may withhold or revoke such license when he shall be satisfied after due notice

and hearing that such action will assist in securing rights for the landing or operation of cables in foreign countries, or in maintaining the rights or interests of the United States or of its citizens in foreign countries, or will promote the security of the United States, or may grant such license upon such terms as shall be necessary to assure just and reasonable rates and service in the operation and use of cables so licensed. The license shall not contain terms or conditions granting to the licensee exclusive rights of landing or of operation in the United States. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to limit the power and jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission with respect to the transmission of messages.

(May 27, 1921, ch. 12, § 2, 42 Stat. 8; June 19, 1934, ch. 652, title VII, § 702(c), formerly title VI, § 602(c), 48 Stat. 1102; renumbered Pub. L. 98-549, § 6(a), Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 2804.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Submarine Cable Act which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

1934—Act June 19, 1934, substituted “of the Federal Communications Commission” for “heretofore granted the Interstate Commerce Commission”.

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

For delegation of functions vested in President by this section to Federal Communications Commission, see note set out under section 34 of this title.

**§ 36. Preventing landing or operating of cables; injunction**

The President is empowered to prevent the landing of any cable about to be landed in violation of sections 34 to 39 of this title. When any such cable is about to be or is landed or is being operated without a license, any district court of the United States exercising jurisdiction in the district in which such cable is about to be or is landed, or any district court of the United States having jurisdiction of the parties, shall have jurisdiction, at the suit of the United States, to enjoin the landing or operation of such cable or to compel, by injunction, the removal thereof.

(May 27, 1921, ch. 12, § 3, 42 Stat. 8.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Submarine Cable Act which comprises this chapter.

DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

For delegation of functions vested in President by this section to Federal Communications Commission, see note set out under section 34 of this title.

**§ 37. Violations; punishment**

Whoever knowingly commits, instigates, or assists in any act forbidden by section 34 of this title shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than \$5,000, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

(May 27, 1921, ch. 12, § 4, 42 Stat. 8.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Submarine Cable Act which comprises this chapter.

<sup>1</sup> See Abolition of Writs of Error note below.