

1972—Pub. L. 92-310, title II, §204(b), June 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 202, struck out item 4834 “Fidelity bonds: accountable officers; Quartermaster Corps”.

1962—Pub. L. 87-480, §1(3), June 8, 1962, 76 Stat. 94, struck out item 4833 “Accountability for public money: disbursing officers; agent officers”.

§ 7831. Custody of departmental records and property

The Secretary of the Army has custody and charge of all books, records, papers, furniture, fixtures, and other property under the lawful control of the executive part of the Department of the Army.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 272, §4831; renumbered §7831, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §808(d), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1839.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
4831	5:191.	R.S. 217.

The words “under the lawful control of the executive part of the Department of the Army” are substituted for the words “appertaining to the Department”.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 4831 of this title as this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 7837. Settlement of accounts: remission or cancellation of indebtedness of members

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Army may have remitted or cancelled any part of the indebtedness of a person to the United States or any instrumentality of the United States incurred while the person was serving as a member of the Army, whether as a regular or a reserve in active status, but only if the Secretary considers such action to be in the best interest of the United States.

(b) RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY TO CERTAIN DEBTS.—The authority in subsection (a) may be exercised with respect to any debt covered by that subsection that is incurred on or after October 7, 2001.

(c) REGULATIONS.—This section shall be administered under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 273, §4837; Pub. L. 85-861, §33(a)(27), Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1566; Pub. L. 87-649, §14c(10), Sept. 7, 1962, 76 Stat. 501; Pub. L. 96-513, title V, §512(24)(A), (B), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2930; Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title VI, §683(a)(1), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3322; Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title VI, §673(a)(1), (2), (e)(1), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2271, 2272; Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title X, §1063(c)(7)(A), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 323; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title VI, §671(b)(1), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2173; renumbered §7837, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §808(d), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1839.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES 1956 ACT

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
4837(a)	10:875.	R.S. 1300.
	10:875b.	R.S. 1301.
4837(b)	10:875a (less 3d and last provisos).	May 22, 1928, ch. 676, 45 Stat. 698; June 26, 1934, ch. 751, 48 Stat. 1222.
4837(c)	10:875a (last proviso).	
4837(d)	10:875a (3d proviso).	
4837(e)	10:871.	R.S. 1303.
4837(f)	10:872.	R.S. 1304.
4837(g)	10:875c.	R.S. 1299.

In subsection (a), the words “sold to the member on credit under section 4621(a)(1) of this title” are substituted for the words “articles designated by the inspectors general of the Army, and sold to him on credit by officers of the Quartermaster Corps”, in 10:875. The words “at cost prices” are omitted to reflect section 4623 of this title.

In subsection (b), the last sentence is substituted for 10:875a (1st and 2d provisos). The words “on current payrolls” are omitted as surplusage.

In subsection (c), the words “Subject to subsection (b)” are substituted for the words “in the proportions hereinbefore indicated”.

In subsection (d), the words “If he considers it in the best interest of the United States” are substituted for the words “when in his opinion the interests of the Government are best served by such action”. The words “before, or at the time of” are substituted for the words “either on * * * or prior thereto”.

In subsection (e), the words “member” and “his” are substituted for the words “officer or soldier”. The words “or implement” are omitted as surplusage.

In subsection (f), the words “or if an article of military supply with whose issue a commissioned officer is charged is damaged” are substituted for 10:872 (last sentence). The words “that he was not at fault” are substituted for the words “that said deficiency [such damage] was not occasioned by any fault on his part”.

In subsection (g), the words “bought on credit under section 4621(a)(1) of this title” are substituted for the words “designated by the officers of the Inspector-General’s Department of the Army and purchased on credit from commissaries of subsistence”.

1958 ACT

The change [in subsec. (b)] reflects the opinion of the Judge Advocate General of the Air Force (June 10, 1957) that the term “rate of pay”, as used in the source law for section 4837(b) (Act of May 22, 1928, ch. 676 (45 Stat. 698), as amended), included special pay and incentive pay.

The change [in subsec. (f)] reflects the opinion of the Assistant General Counsel (Fiscal Matters), Department of Defense (July 19, 1957), that section 1304, Revised Statutes (formerly 10 U.S.C. 872), the source law for this section, applied to warrant officers as well as to commissioned officers.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 4837 of this title as this section.

2016—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 114-328 substituted “as a member of the Army, whether as a regular or a reserve in active status” for “on active duty as a member of the Army”.

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-181 made technical correction to directory language of Pub. L. 109-364, §673(a)(1). See 2006 Amendment note below.

2006—Pub. L. 109-163 amended section catchline and text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “If he considers it in the best interest of the United States, the Secretary may have remitted or cancelled any part of an enlisted member’s indebtedness to the United States or any of its instrumentalities remaining unpaid before, or at the time of, that member’s honorable discharge.”