Public Law 93-629—JAN. 3, 1975

AN ACT

To provide for the control and eradication of noxious weeds, and the regulation of the movement in interstate or foreign commerce of noxious weeds and potential carriers thereof, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That this Act may be cited as the "Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974".

SEC. 2. The importation or distribution in interstate commerce of noxious weeds, except under controlled conditions, allows the growth and spread of such weeds which interfere with the growth of useful plants, clog waterways and interfere with navigation, cause disease, or have other adverse effects upon man or his environment and therefore is detrimental to the agriculture and commerce of the United States and to the public health. The uncontrolled distribution within the United States of noxious weeds after their importation or interstate distribution has like detrimental effects and allowing such distribution encourages and facilitates the burdening and obstructing of interstate and foreign commerce, and is inimical to the public interest. Accordingly, the Congress hereby determines that the regulation of transactions in, and movement of, noxious weeds as provided in this Act is necessary to prevent and eliminate burdens upon and obstructions to interstate and foreign commerce and to protect the public welfare.

SEC. 3. As used in this Act, except where the context otherwise requires:

(a) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States or any other person to whom authority may be delegated to act in his stead.

(b) "Authorized inspector" means any employee of the Department of Agriculture, or any employee of any other agency of the Federal Government or of any State or other governmental agency which is cooperating with the Department in administration of any provisions of this Act, who is authorized by the Secretary to perform assigned duties under this Act.

(c) "Noxious weed" means any living stage (including but not limited to, seeds and reproductive parts) of any parasitic or other plant of a kind, or subdivision of a kind, which is of foreign origin, is new to or not widely prevalent in the United States, and can directly or indirectly injure crops, other useful plants, livestock, or poultry or other interests of agriculture, including irrigation, or navigation or the fish or wildlife resources of the United States or the public health.

(d) "United States" means any of the States, territories, or districts of the United States.

(e) "Interstate" means from any State, territory, or district of the United States into or through any other State, territory, or district.

(f) "District" means the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any possession of the United States.

(g) "Move" means deposit for transmission in the mails, ship, offer
for shipment, offer for entry, import, receive for transportation, carry, or otherwise transport or move, or allow to be moved, by mail or otherwise.

Sec. 4. (a) No person shall knowingly move any noxious weed, identified in a regulation promulgated by the Secretary, into or through the United States or interstate, unless such movement is authorized under general or specific permit from the Secretary and is made in accordance with such conditions as the Secretary may prescribe in the permit and in such regulations as he may promulgate under this Act to prevent the dissemination into the United States, or interstate, of such noxious weeds.

(b) The Secretary may refuse to issue a permit for the movement of any such noxious weed when, in his opinion, such movement would involve a danger of dissemination of such noxious weeds into the United States or interstate.

(c) No person shall knowingly sell, purchase, barter, exchange, give, or receive any such noxious weed which has been moved in violation of subsection (a), or knowingly deliver or receive for transportation or transport, in interstate or foreign commerce, any advertisement to sell, purchase, barter, exchange, give, or receive any such noxious weed which is prohibited from movement in such commerce under this Act.

Sec. 5. (a) The Secretary may promulgate such quarantines and other regulations requiring inspection of products and articles of any character whatsoever and means of conveyance, specified in the regulations, as a condition of their movement into or through the United States and otherwise restricting or prohibiting such movement, as he deems necessary to prevent the dissemination into the United States of any noxious weeds, and it shall be unlawful for any person to move any products, articles, or means of conveyance into or through the United States contrary to any such regulation.

(b) Whenever the Secretary has reason to believe that an infestation of noxious weeds exists in any State, territory, or district, he may by regulation temporarily quarantine such jurisdiction, or a portion thereof, and by regulation may restrict or prohibit the interstate movement from the quarantined area of any products and articles of any character whatsoever and means of conveyance, capable of carrying such noxious weeds, and after promulgation of such quarantine and other regulations, it shall be unlawful for any person to move interstate from a quarantined area any such products, articles, or means of conveyance, specified in the regulations, except in accordance with such regulations: Provided, however, That such quarantine and regulations shall expire at the close of the ninetieth day after their promulgation.

(c) However, if, after public hearing, the Secretary determines, on the basis of the information received at the hearing and other information available to him, that such a quarantine and regulations are necessary in order to prevent the interstate spread of noxious weeds from any State, territory, or district in which he determines an infestation of noxious weeds exists, and to protect the agriculture, commerce, fish, or wildlife resources of the United States or the public health, he shall promulgate such quarantine and other regulations as he determines are appropriate for such purposes, and thereafter it shall be unlawful for any person to move interstate from any quarantined area any regulated products, articles, or means of conveyance except in accordance with such regulations.

Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, the Secretary may, whenever he deems it necessary as an emergency measure in order to prevent the dissemination of any noxious weed, seize, quarantine, treat, destroy, or otherwise dispose of, in such manner as he deems appropriate, any product or article of any char-
acter whatsoever, or means of conveyance, which is moving into or through the United States or interstate, in bond or otherwise, and which he has reason to believe is infested by any noxious weed or contains any such weed, or which has moved into the United States, or interstate, and which he has reason to believe was infested by or contained any noxious weed at the time of such movement; and any noxious weed, product, article, or means of conveyance which is moving into or through the United States, or interstate, or has moved into the United States, or interstate, in violation of this Act or any regulation hereunder.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the Secretary may order the owner of any product, article, means of conveyance, or noxious weed subject to disposal under subsection (a) of this section, or his agent, to treat, destroy, or make other disposal of such product, article, means of conveyance, or noxious weed, without cost to the Federal Government and in such manner as the Secretary deems appropriate. The Secretary may apply to the United States District Court, or to the United States court of any territory or possession, for the judicial district in which such person resides or transacts business or in which the product, article, means of conveyance, or noxious weed is found, for enforcement of such order by injunction, mandatory or otherwise. Process in any such case may be served in any judicial district wherein the defendant resides or transacts business or may be found, and subpoenas for witnesses who are required to attend a court in any judicial district in such a case may run to any other judicial district.

(c) No product, article, means of conveyance, or noxious weed shall be destroyed, exported, or returned to shipping point of origin, or ordered to be destroyed, exported, or so returned under this section, unless in the opinion of the Secretary there is no less drastic action which would be adequate to prevent the dissemination of noxious weeds into the United States or interstate.

(d) The owner of any product, article, means of conveyance, or noxious weed destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, by the Secretary under this section, may bring an action against the United States in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, within one year after such destruction or disposal, and recover just compensation for such destruction or disposal of such product, article, means of conveyance, or noxious weed (not including compensation for loss due to delays incident to determining its eligibility for movement under this Act) if the owner establishes that such destruction or disposal was not authorized under this Act. Any judgment rendered in favor of such owner shall be paid out of the money in the Treasury appropriated for administration of this Act.

Sec. 7. Any authorized inspector, when properly identified, shall have authority (a) without a warrant, to stop any person or means of conveyance moving into the United States, and inspect any noxious weeds and any products and articles of any character whatsoever, carried thereby, and inspect such means of conveyance, to determine whether such person or means of conveyance is moving any noxious weed, product, article, or means of conveyance contrary to this Act or any regulation under this Act; (b) without a warrant, to stop any person or means of conveyance moving through the United States or interstate, and inspect any noxious weeds and any products and articles of any character whatsoever carried thereby, and inspect such means of conveyance, to determine whether such person or means of conveyance is moving any noxious weed, product, article, or means of conveyance contrary to this Act or any regulation thereunder, if such inspector has probable cause to believe that such person or means of conveyance is moving any noxious weed regulated under this Act; and (c) to
enter, with a warrant, any premises in the United States, for purposes of any inspections or other actions necessary under this Act. Any judge of the United States or of a court of record of any State, territory, or district, or a United States commissioner, may, within his respective jurisdiction, upon proper oath or affirmation showing probable cause to believe that there are on certain premises any products, articles, means of conveyance, or noxious weeds subject to this Act, issue warrants for the entry of such premises for purposes of any inspection or other action necessary under this Act, except as otherwise provided in section 9 of this Act. Such warrants may be executed by any authorized inspector or any United States marshal.

Sec. 8. Any person who knowingly violates section 4 or 5 of this Act, or any regulation promulgated under this Act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both.

Sec. 9. (a) The Secretary is authorized to cooperate with other Federal agencies, agencies of States, territories, or districts, or political subdivisions thereof, farmers' associations, and similar organizations, and individuals in carrying out operations or measures in the United States to eradicate, suppress, control, or prevent or retard the spread of any noxious weed. The Secretary is authorized to appoint employees of other agencies of the Federal Government or any agencies of any State, territory, or district, or political subdivisions thereof, as collaborators to assist in administration of the provisions of this Act, pursuant to cooperative agreements with such agencies, whenever he determines that such appointments would facilitate administration of this Act.

(b) In performing the operations or measures authorized by subsection (a) of this section, the cooperating State or other governmental agency shall be responsible for the authority necessary to carry out the operations or measures on all lands and properties within the State or other jurisdiction involved, other than those owned or controlled by the United States Government, and for such other facilities and means as in the discretion of the Secretary are necessary.

Sec. 10. The Secretary is authorized to promulgate regulations necessary to effectuate the provisions of this Act. However, any regulation identifying a noxious weed under section 4 of this Act shall be promulgated only after publication of a notice of the proposed regulation and, when requested by any interested person, a public hearing on the proposal. Any such regulation shall be based upon the information received at any such hearing and other information available to the Secretary and a determination by the Secretary that the plant is within the definition of a noxious weed in section 3(c) of this Act and that its dissemination in the United States may reasonably be expected to have, to a serious degree, any effect specified in section 3(c).

Sec. 11. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as Congress may from time to time determine to be necessary for the administration of this Act. Any sums so appropriated shall be available for expenditures for the purchase, hire, maintenance, operation, and exchange of aircraft and other means of conveyance, and for such other expenses as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act. However, unless specifically authorized in other legislation or provided for in appropriations, no part of such sums shall be used to pay the cost or value of property injured or destroyed under section 9 of this Act.

SEC. 13. The provisions of this Act shall not invalidate the provisions of the laws of any State or political subdivision thereof, or of any territory or district of the United States relating to noxious weeds, except that no such jurisdiction may permit any action that is prohibited under this Act.

SEC. 14. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Approved January 3, 1975.

Public Law 93-630

AN ACT

To provide for the duty-free entry of a 3.60 meter telescope and associated articles for the use of the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Project at Mauna Kea, Hawaii.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to admit free of duty imported articles required by the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Project to complete the installation on Mauna Kea, Hawaii, of an optical telescope of 3.60 meters diameter, and the laboratories, equipment, and installations necessary for its operation, as provided for in a memorandum of understanding, signed at Ottawa on October 25, 1973, among the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique of France, the National Research Council of Canada, and the University of Hawaii.

(b) The admission free of duty provided for in subsection (a) shall be accorded to any article imported by or for the account of the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Project if such article is certified by the Executive Director or the Associate Executive Director of the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Corporation as being required for the completion of the project in accordance with the memorandum of understanding referred to in subsection (a).

SEC. 2. (a) The provisions of the first section of this Act shall apply with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or before June 30, 1980.

(b) Upon appropriate request therefore filed by the Executive Director or the Associate Executive Director of the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Corporation with the customs officer concerned on or before the one hundred and twentieth day after the date of the enactment of this Act, the entry or withdrawal of any article described in the first section of this Act which was made before the date of the enactment of this Act shall, notwithstanding the provisions of section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 or any other provision of law, be liquidated or reliquidated in accordance with the provisions of such first section.

Approved January 3, 1975.