"That notwithstanding the provisions of section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, title 46, sec. 883), vessels of Canadian registry shall be permitted until June 30, 1949, to transport products of, and supplies and equipment for, the Riverside Mine at Hyder, Alaska, between Hyder, Alaska, and other points in the United States, either directly or via a foreign port, or for any part of the transportation."

Approved June 28, 1948.

[CHAPTER 694]

AN ACT

To provide further benefits for certain employees of the United States who are veterans of World War II and lost opportunity for probational civil-service appointments by reason of their service in the armed forces of the United States, and who, due to service-connected disabilities, are unable to perform the duties of the positions for which examinations were taken.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (60 Stat. 749; 5 U. S. C., sec. 645a), is hereby amended by adding thereto the following:

"(c) Any person within the terms of this section, who, due to a disability incurred because of military service in World War II, is unable to perform the duties of the position designated by him at the time of taking the examination for appointment thereto, may upon written request at any time have his name entered upon any list of eligibles for any position for which a like examination is required and such entry shall be made without any loss of seniority or other rights of eligibility conferred by this section: Provided however, That this Act shall not be construed to extend the period of eligibility which such person would have otherwise had."

Approved June 28, 1948.

[CHAPTER 695]

AN ACT

To authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to convey certain land in Tennessee to the city of Johnson City.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized to convey to the city of Johnson City, a municipal corporation of the State of Tennessee, without consideration and on behalf of the United States, a tract of land located in the ninth civil district of Washington County, Tennessee, on the north side of United States Highway 11E approximately one mile west of the corporate boundary of Johnson City, Tennessee, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of the property of the United States of America now under the jurisdiction of the Veterans' Administration, known as Veterans' Administration center, Mountain Home, Tennessee. This beginning point is also the northeast corner of property transferred from the Veterans' Administration to the Tennessee Valley Authority by Executive Order Numbered 9771, dated August 24, 1946; thence north eighty-six degrees fifty-six minutes east nine hundred and eight-tenths feet; thence south one degree thirty minutes west three hundred and seventy-two feet; thence south eighty-six degrees five minutes east five hundred and ninety-one feet; thence south four degrees fifteen minutes west one hundred and forty-three and five-tenths feet to the north side of United States Highway 11E;
thence with said highway south sixty-nine degrees forty minutes west one thousand six hundred and two feet to corner of said property transferred by Veterans' Administration to Tennessee Valley Authority by Executive Order 9771 aforesaid; thence north one degree thirty minutes east for a distance of one thousand and sixty-three and three-tenths feet to the beginning.

Sec. 2. The tract of land authorized to be transferred by the first section of this Act shall be used by the grantee for fair grounds and recreational purposes; and the deed of conveyance of such lands shall contain (1) the provision that all such property shall be used and maintained for the purposes for which it was conveyed for a period of not less than twenty years, and that in the event such property ceases to be used or maintained for such purposes during such period, or is alienated or an attempt is made to alienate such property during such period, all or any portion of such property shall in its then existing condition, at the option of the United States, revert to the United States; and (2) such additional terms, reservations, restrictions and conditions as may be determined by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to be necessary to safeguard the interests of the United States. The deed shall reserve to the United States the interests in fissionable material as provided in Executive Order 9908, dated December 5, 1947:

Provided, That Johnson City shall pay 50 per centum of appraised value of its property to be determined by the Veterans' Administration.

Approved June 28, 1948.

[CHAPTER 696]

AN ACT

To amend the Officer Personnel Act of 1947 (Public Law 381, Eightieth Congress), and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the laws requiring retirement of Regular Army and Regular Air Force officers because of age shall not apply to officers of the Regular Army or Regular Air Force appointed in the grade of General of the Army pursuant to the Act of March 23, 1946 (60 Stat. 59). The President, may, in his discretion, upon the request of the officer concerned, restore to the active list of the Regular Army or Regular Air Force any officer of the Regular Army or Regular Air Force on the retired list who was appointed in the grade of General of the Army pursuant to the Act of March 23, 1946 (60 Stat. 59).

Officers appointed in the grade of General of the Army pursuant to the Act of March 23, 1946 (60 Stat. 59), shall not be counted within the limited number of officers authorized to be serving on active duty in grades above lieutenant general as provided in section 504 of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947 (Public Law 381, Eightieth Congress) unless they be serving as Chief of Staff or in command of any territorial or tactical subdivision of the Army or the Air Force.

Sec. 2. In addition to the number of officers authorized to serve after July 1, 1948, on the active list in the grade of General in the Army and Admiral in the Navy pursuant to sections 504 and 413 of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, officers now on the active list of the Army in the grade of general whose dates of rank in such grade are between March 8, 1945, and April 15, 1945, inclusive, and of the Navy in the grade of admiral whose dates of rank in such grade are prior to April 4, 1945, may, at the discretion of the President, be continued in such grades until July 1, 1950, unless sooner retired and the total number of officers authorized by these sections to have the grade, rank, title, pay, and allowances of vice admiral or admiral and lieutenant general...