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such vessel available for acquisition by a veteran, as defined in subsection (b), in accordance with the provisions of the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. V, title 50 App., secs. 1611–1646), and regulations made thereunder, as property for exclusive disposal to veterans.

58 Stat. 765.
Ante, pp. 168, 169, 599, 754, 886.

"(2) In the case of any vessel of sixty-five feet or less in length between perpendiculars to be disposed of by the War Shipping Administration or the Maritime Commission as surplus property by virtue of any law other than this Act, such vessel shall be available for acquisition by a veteran, as defined in subsection (b), in accordance with the provisions of the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. V, title 50 App., secs. 1611–1646), and regulations made thereunder, as property for exclusive disposal to veterans.

Vessel to be disposed of as surplus property.

Supra.

"(b) For purposes of this Act, the terms 'veteran' means any person in the active military or naval service of the United States during the present war, or any person who served in the active military or naval service of the United States on or after September 16, 1940, and prior to the termination of the present war, and who has been discharged or released therefrom under honorable conditions, or any person who is or has been eligible to receive a certificate for substantially continuous service in the merchant marine as provided in the Act of June 23, 1943 (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. V, title 50 App., sec. 1471)."

"Veteran."

57 Stat. 162.
Ante, pp. 905, 945.

Approved August 10, 1946.

[CHAPTER 949]

AN ACT

Relating to the sale by the United States of surplus vessels suitable for fishing.

August 10, 1946
[H. R. 5552]
[Public Law 717]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That vessels which are determined to be surplus property under the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, and which are suitable for use as fishing vessels shall not be disposed of until offered for sale by the United States Maritime Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Surplus vessels suitable for fishing.

58 Stat 765.
50 U. S. C., Supp. V, app. §§ 1611–1646.
Ante, pp. 168, 169, 599, 754, 886.

SEC. 2. (a) As used in this Act the term "former owners" means former owners of fishing vessels purchased or requisitioned by the United States who on or before the date of the enactment of this Act have not been notified that their vessels may be returned to them under the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the return to private ownership of certain vessels formerly used or suitable for use in the fisheries or industries related thereto", approved April 29, 1943, as amended (U. S. C., 1940 edition, Supp. IV, title 50, App., sec. 1301).

"Former owners."

57 Stat. 69.
50 U. S. C., Supp. V, §§ 1301–1304.
Ante, p. 976.

(b) Former owners shall be given notice by the Commission, in such manner (which may include publication) as it may prescribe, that vessels suitable for use as fishing vessels are to be disposed of by the United States and shall be entitled to purchase such vessels at private sale within a reasonable time after such notice. Such reasonable time shall be specified in the notice but may be extended by the Commission when it appears to it that an extension is necessary or appropriate to facilitate the sale of any vessel or vessels under this Act.

Notice of disposal.

SEC. 3. (a) Sales of vessels to former owners under this Act shall be upon such terms and conditions as the Commission deems proper.

Terms, etc., of sale.

(b) Any vessels suitable for use as fishing vessels not disposed of by the Commission as provided in this Act shall be disposed of as otherwise provided by law.

Approved August 10, 1946.

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