Secretary. While so serving the officer shall have the rank of captain in the Navy and shall receive the pay and allowances now or hereafter prescribed by law for that rank and his permanent status as a commissioned officer of the Medical Service Corps shall not be disturbed by reason of such appointment.

Retired pay.

"(b) An officer of the Medical Service Corps who is retired for any reason while serving as Chief of the Medical Service Corps, or who having so served for two and one-half years or more is subsequently retired while serving in a lower grade, may, in the discretion of the President, be retired with the rank held by him while serving as Chief of the Medical Service Corps and with retired pay based on the active-duty pay of that rank."

Approved August 23, 1954.

Public Law 619 — CHAPTER 823

August 23, 1954
[H. R. 6280]

AN ACT

To extend temporarily the rights of priority of nationals of Japan and certain nationals of Germany with respect to applications for patents.

Japanese and German nationals. Patents.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the rights of priority specified in section 1 of Public Law 690, Seventy-ninth Congress, approved August 8, 1946 (60 Stat. 940), which arose before April 1, 1950, are hereby extended, with respect to inventions made subsequent to January 1, 1946, in favor of nationals of Japan, and of nationals of Germany, excluding persons residing in or subject to the jurisdiction of the zone of Germany occupied by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Soviet sector of Berlin or other areas of Germany under Soviet or Polish administration, to a date nine months after the enactment of this Act, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in sections 1, 4, 10, 12, and 15 of said Public Law 690.

For the purpose of this Act, the phrase "passage of this Act" in said Public Law 690 shall be understood to refer to the date of enactment of the present Act.

Approved August 23, 1954.

Public Law 620 — CHAPTER 824

August 23, 1954
[H. R. 6885]

AN ACT

To amend section 1 of Joint Resolution 12 enacted by the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the Territory of Hawaii, in the regular session of 1949 and approved by the Eighty-first Congress of the United States of America at the second session (Public Law 746, chapter 833).

Hawaii. Homestead leases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of Joint Resolution 12 enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Hawaii in the regular session of 1949 and approved by the Eighty-first Congress of the United States of America, at the second session, Public Law 746, chapter 833, be amended as follows:

64 Stat. 572.

"SECTION 1. A fee simple patent shall be issued to every lessee under a nine hundred and ninety-nine year homestead lease of public lands where such lands have been improved under such lease or pursuant to a prior certificate of occupation and have been occupied as a place of residence by the lessee under such lease or under such lease and certificate of occupation for an aggregate continuous period of not less than ten years, upon the payment to the commissioner of public lands of a

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