Public Law 87-207

AN ACT
For the relief of certain members and former members of the uniformed services erroneously in receipt of family separation allowances.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That members and former members of the uniformed services are relieved of all liability to refund to the United States the amounts, which were otherwise correct, erroneously received by them after February 28, 1956, and before September 1, 1956, as family separation allowances under former paragraph 4304, Joint Travel Regulations of the uniformed services. Any member or former member of a uniformed service who has at any time made repayment to the United States of any amount paid to him as a family separation allowance within that period is entitled to have refunded to him the amount repaid provided application is made within one year.

SEC. 2. In the audit and settlement of the accounts of any certifying or disbursing officer of the United States full credit shall be given for the amount for which liability is relieved by this Act.

SEC. 3. Appropriations available for the pay and allowances of members of the uniformed services are available for refunds under this Act.

Approved September 6, 1961.

Public Law 87-208

AN ACT
To amend section 216 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to accept gifts and bequests of personal property for the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 216 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 1126), is amended by inserting at the end thereof a new subsection (g) to read as follows:

“(g)(1) The Secretary of Commerce may accept, hold, administer, and spend gifts and bequests of personal property made on the condition that it be used for the benefit of, or for use in connection with, the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Gifts and bequests of money and the proceeds from the sales of property received as gifts shall be deposited in the Treasury in the fund called ‘United States Merchant Marine Academy general gift fund’. The Secretary may disburse funds deposited under this subsection for the benefit or use of the Merchant Marine Academy subject to the terms of the gift or bequest. If a gift is made for a specific purpose and that purpose is accomplished without exhausting the entire amount of the gift, then unless the donor has manifested a different intention, the Secretary may disburse the residue of the gift for a purpose that in the judgment of the Secretary, or his delegate, is as close as practical to the specific purpose for which the gift was made.

“(2) For the purpose of Federal income, estate, and gift taxes, property that is accepted under this subsection is considered as a gift or bequest to or for the use of the United States.