MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Executive Order No. 819.

FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND OTHER DANGEROUS OR DEADLY WEAPONS.

By Virtue of the powers vested in the Military Government of Santo Domingo, the following Executive Order is hereby promulgated:

ARTICLE 1. **Definition of "Firearms".**— "Firearms or arms" as used in the present Law, includes rifles, guns, carbines, fowling-pieces, revolvers, pistols, and other dangerous or deadly weapons from which bullets, shot or other projectiles may be fired by means of powder or other explosives. The expression also includes air-rifles, excepting those of small bore, and short range used as toys. The barrel of any firearm shall be considered a complete firearm for the purposes of the present Law.

ARTICLE 2. **Illegal possession of firearms, parts of firearms, ammunition, and other dangerous or deadly weapons.**— Except as otherwise permitted by this Law, it shall be illegal for any person to import, receive, purchase or in any other manner acquire any firearms, loose parts thereof or ammunition therefor, or have them in his possession or under his custody, or sell or dispose thereof in any manner whatsoever.

ARTICLE 3. **Exception made of firearms and ammunition used by armed forces.**— This Law shall not apply to firearms and ammunition regulary and legally delivered to the officers and enlisted men of any legally constituted armed force of the Dominican Republic, nor to the United States Forces of Occupation while in the Dominican Republic, nor to public officials and agents while such arms are in their possession for use in the discharge of their duties.

ARTICLE 4. **Special permit for the possession of arms by sundry officials.**— The President and the members or his Gabinet, the Diplomatic and Consular Representatives of foreign countries, the Governors of Provinces, and the members of the Judicial police shall, upon request, be issued licenses to carry firearms for self-defense without the necessity of making a deposit therefor.

ARTICLE 5. **License required of merchants dealing in firearms.**— Any person desiring to deal in firearms, parts thereof

or ammunition therefor, or who desires to import same, shall apply to the Secretary of Interior and Police for a license, stating in his petition the extent of the purchase and sale of firearms and ammunition in which he intends to engage, the kind of arms and ammunition he intends to purchase and sell in accordance with the license desired, and such other information as the Secretary of Interior and Police may especially request prior to acting on the application. The Secretary of Interior and Police may approve or disapprove such application, and in case he approves it he shall fix the amount of security to be given by the applicant before the license can be issued, as well as the time such license will be effective, unless withdrawn earlier by authority of said Secretary.

ARTICLE 6. **Issuance of License by the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary — Merchants' security.**— After the application has been approved by the Secretary of Interior and Police, it shall be forwarded to the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary who, in accordance with the terms of approval by the Secretary of Interior and Police, shall issue the license after the holder thereof has consented to and given security, to be approved by the Commander, in the amount fixed by the Secretary of Interior and Police, to faithfully comply with the law and regulations concerning the business for which the license is granted.

ARTICLE 7. **Additional license for the holding of firearms in an amount greater than that allowed by the original license.**— If any person holding a merchants' license for selling purposes, should desire to import, purchase or otherwise acquire, possess or have the custody or disposal of firearms or ammunition in an amount greater than that expressed in his license, he should apply for and obtain a new license.

ARTICLE 8. **Records to be kept by persons holding merchants' licenses.**— All merchants dealing in firearms or ammunition shall keep a complete and exact account and record of the importation and sale of same, with the name, age, residence, profession and postal address of each and every purchaser of firearms or of firearms and ammunition, as well as the number and date of the license of each purchaser for the possession of each firearm purchased by him, and the number of such firearm, together with the amount and kind of ammunition acquired for same. Every merchant dealing in firearms shall, when required to do so by the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary, permit an examination of such account and records of the purchase and sale of firearms, and the recount and verification

of all arms and ammunition in stock, and any refusal on the part of a merchant to comply with the provisions of this Article shall constitute an infraction of the conditions whereon the merchants' security was consented to and given by him.

ARTICLE 9. **Permission required for the individual possession of arms for personal use.— Security which must be given.—** All persons who desire to possess one or more firearms for self-defense, or merely for hunting or other legal purposes, and the ammunition for such firearms, shall apply for a license therefor in the manner set forth below. Upon making such application and prior to receiving the license, the applicant shall give security in the form of a certified check for FIFTY DOLLORS ($50.00), on any bank established within the Dominican Republic, for each firearm for which a license has been issued, and shall endorse said check to the National Treasurer, or shall pay the FIFTY DOLLARS ($50.00) in cash. All deposits, either in the form of certified checks or in cash, shall be forwarded to the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary to be covered into the National Treasury, in the Firearms Permit Fund hereby created. When said Commander certifies that the Law has been complied with, and that the sum of FIFTY DOLLARS ($50.00) deposited by the applicant should be returned to him, the National Treasurer is hereby authorized to return said amount upon the issuance of the necessary order of payment.

ARTICLE 10. **How application is made— Decision of the Secretary of Interior and Police and of the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary in regard to same.—** The application mentioned herein for a license to possess firearms and ammunition, presented by a resident of the Dominican Republic, shall be addressed to the Governor of the Province in which the applicant usually resides, and within a week after the receipt thereof said Governor will forward it, with his recommendation for approval or disapproval, to the Provincial Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary who shall send it through official channels, with his recommendation, to the Secretary of Interior and Police, who may approve or disapprove the application; and should he approve it he shall send it to the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary who shall notify the applicant that the license shall be issued as soon as the deposit prescribed in this Law has been made.

ARTICLE 11. **Duration of a personal license.—** A personal firearms license shall continue in force until the death or legal incapacity of the possessor thereof, unless he returns it in

advance or it is revoked by order of the Secretary of Interior and Police.

ARTICLE 12. **Change of domicile of the holder of a license.**— When a person holding a valid license to possess firearms and ammunition for same changes his domicile from one province to another, he shall, within ten days thereafter, report such change by registered letter to the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary, or to the Commander of the province in which he fixes his new domicile, as the case may be.

ARTICLE 13. **Deposit of firearms by persons holding a merchants' license.**— With the permission of the Provincial Governor, any person holding a merchants' license may store firearms and ammunition under the custody of the Dominican National Constabulary, subject to his orders. When a deposit of this kind is made, the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary shall render a receipt containing a description of the material deposited, and upon returning the latter he shall required a similar receipt from the person to whom the article or articles are returned. For such storage, the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary may make such reasonable charges as may be fixed by him, with the approval of the Provincial Governor.

ARTICLE 14. **Deposit of firearms by persons coming from abroad.**— Any person coming to the Dominican Republic with a firearms or ammunition in his possession for which he has no license, shall, upon being given a written receipt therefor, deposit same with the customs inspector to be delivered to the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary for safe keeping. If said person desires to obtain a firearms license, the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary shall communicate the fact to the Secretary of Interior and Police, and if the importation thereof is permitted, a license may be granted as in other cases. If no license is desired or permission to import is not granted, said article or articles shall continue under the custody of the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary until they are withdrawn from the Dominican Republic or until otherwise disposed of in accordance with law.

ARTICLE 15. **Delivery of arms upon the expiration of the license.**— When a license is revoked or for any reason expires, all arms and ammunition in the possession of the holder of such license covering same shall be placed under the custody of the Dominican National Constabulary.

ARTICLE 16. **Delivery of firearms by virtue of the death**

or legal disability of the license holder.—In the case of the death or legal disability of the holder of a firearms license, it shall be the duty of his nearest relative, legal representative or other person who has knowingly taken charge of such arm or ammunition to deliver same immediately to the Commander of the corresponding province, said arms and ammunition to be held by said officer of the National Constabulary until a license is issue therefor in accordance with law.

ARTICLE 17. **Return of firearms to the owner thereof upon his departure fron the Dominican Republic.**— When a person whose arms or ammunition are under the custody of the Dominican National Constabulary is leaving the Dominican Republic, they shall, when he applies for them in time, be delivered to him by the Customs Inspector aboard the vessel on which he sails.

ARTICLE 18. **Abandoned arms and ammunition.**— All firearms and ammunition turned over to the custody of the Dominican National Constabulary, in accordance with the provisions of all but Article 13 of this Law, shall be deemed abandoned by their owner to the Goverment, unless he or his representative claims them within the period of one year from the date of leaving the Republic, or within five years in the case of a person who remains in the Republic or who fails to apprise the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary as to what is to be done with such arms and ammunition; and in no case will it be the duty of the Dominican National Constabulary to continue in charge thereof for more than five years, except by virtue of such rules as may be issued in regard thereto. Such abandoned arms and ammunition shall be disposed of as the Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary may prescribe.

ARTICLE 19. **Annual inspection of firearms held by virtue of a license.**— The Commander of the Dominican National Constabulary shall, once a year, give instructions to the chief inspectors thereof in the various provinces to verify all arms in the possession of license holders, to make a proper report of such verification to said Commander as well as of any violation of the terms set forth in such license or in the laws, rules and regulations governing the possession of firearms and ammunition, and to make a note on the back of the license that said verification has been effected, and when.

ARTICLE 20. **Duty of license holder to exhibit his license.** It shall be the duty of any person holding a license to possess firearms or ammunition, to exhibit it whenever required to do so by the Governor of the Province, by any provincial officer acting in

accordance with written instructions from said Governor, by any officer of the Dominican National Constabulary, or by any member thereof acting in accordance with orders or regulations.

ARTICLE 21. **Revocation of firearms license by the Secretary of Interior and Police.**— Any firearms license may be revoked at any time by order of the Secretary of Interior and Police.

ARTICLE 22. **Loss of deposit certificate.**—When a deposit certificate has been used as security and the license holder fails to comply with any of the provisions of the Law or of the regulations issued in accordance with same or with the terms of the license, or fails to duly present the firearms covered by the license, due to accidental loss or otherwise, the Secretary of Interior and Police, when the case is duly proven, shall order the deposit certificate to be forwarded to the National Treasurer for collection. The amount thereof, when collected, shall be covered into the general fund.

ARTICLE 23. **Refund to be made upon the recovery of lost firearms.**— When a lost firearm has been recovered by the owner thereof, any amount collected on his security or taken from the amount deposited shall be returned to him.

ARTICLE 24. **Delivery of security or deposit certificate.**— When a firearms license expires, or is revoked or returned, and all the arms or ammunition held by virtue thereof are accounted for and disposed of in accordance with law, the license holder's security or his deposit certificate shall be turned over by order of the Secretary of Interior and Police, after it is satisfactory proven that the laws and regulations governing the use of firearms have been complied with.

ARTICLE 25. **Methods and rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of Interior and Police.**— The Secretary of Interior and Police shall prescribed such methods and promulgate such rules as he may deem necessary to properly enforce this Law.

ARTICLE 26. Any person who deals in firearms or parts thereof, or in ammunition for same, or who imports them without first having secured the license or licenses required by Articles 5, 6, and 7 of this Law, shall be guilty of a crime and, when convicted by the proper Criminal Court, shall be punished with a fine of not less than two thousand dollars ($2,000.00), nor more than five dollars ($5,000.00), and imprisonment for not less than three nor more than five years.

ARTICLE 27. Any person having in his possession a fire-

arm or firearms or ammunition for same without the corresponding permit, shall be guilty of a **delito** and, upon conviction by the proper Correctional Court, shall be punished with a fine of not less than two hundred dollars ($200.00), nor more than seven hundred and twenty dollars ($720.00), or imprisonment of from six months to one year, at the discretion of the Correctional Court having cognizance of the case.

ARTICLE 28. All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

NOTE: The Spanish version only of this Law was promulgated by the Military Government of Santo Domingo on October 20, 1922.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Executive Order No. 820.

APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS AT LA VEGA.

By virtue of the powers vested in the Military Government of Santo Domingo, the following Executive Order is hereby promulgated:

ARTICLE 1. There is appropriated, from national funds not otherwise obligated, the sum of four thousand three hundred and fifty-six dollars and one cent, American currency ($4,356.01) for the payment of salaries and expenses until December 31st, 1922, of the Court of Appeals at La Vega, in accordance, with Executive Order No. 794, which provides for the reestablishment of said Court.

ARTICLE 2. Said sum shall be divided into monthly items in the following manner: