MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Executive Order No. 698.

Suspending Executive Order No. 686.

O. G. No. 3287.

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

ARTICLE 1. The provisions of Executive Order No. 686, dated November 5, 1921, are hereby suspended for two days only, towit: November 14 and 15, 1921.

The authority of Lieutenant Commander Arthur H. Mayo, Supply Corps, U. S. Navy, to sign the Dominican Republic Four-Year Eight-Percent Customs-Administration Sinking-Funds Bond issue of 1921, as Officer administering the affairs of the Department of State of Finance and Commerce for the Dominican Republic, as of November 14 and 15, 1921, is hereby ratified and confirmed.

ARTICLE 2. Executive Order No. 688 is hereby repealed.

S. S. ROBISON,
Rear-Admiral, United States Navy,
Military Governor of Santo Domingo.

Santo Domingo City, D. R.,
December 21, 1921.

(E. O. 699 omitted).

Lee Spanish text.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Executive Order No. 700.

AMENDING THE LAND REGISTRATION ACT.

O. G. No. 3287.

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

ARTICLE 1. The last paragraph of Article 2 of "The

Land Registration Act", Executive Order No. 511 as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Land Court shall be a court of record and shall cause to be made a seal, and to be sealed therewith all orders, process and papers made by or proceeding from the Court and requiring a seal. All notices, orders and process of such Court may run into any province and be returnable as the Court may direct. It shall have jurisdiction throughout the Dominican Republic, and shall always be open, except on Sundays, and holidays established by law; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the regular sessions of the Court may be suspended each year for a period of two months, which shall be known as the Court vacation and which shall be selected by the presiding Justice of the Court, who shall notify the Executive Power of the season most suitable for the purpose always taking into consideration the status of matters pending. Not less than two months prior to the beginning of the period thus selected, the Executive Power shall issue a Resolution announcoing tthe vacation period and designating one or more of the Justices or other Judges who shall continue on duty. The Justices or Judges shall have the same power in all respects during the vacation period as during the period of the regular sessions of the Court, and may also, if they deem it advisable, hold special terms during the vacation period for the trial of cases upon their merits. The Justices or Judges not assignd to vacation dutty, may spend the period of their vacation where they please. The Justices or Judges designated for vacation duty may be given, the following year, an additional month's leave. This additional month shall be granted by the Executive Power upon certification by the Presiding Justice that the work will not be prejudiced thereby. Justices and Judges on leave hereunder shall receive full pay".

ARTICLE 2. Article 3 of the said Act is hereby amended by adding the following at the end thereof:

"The Executive Power shall appoint such Substitute Justices of the Land Court as he may deem necessary. Such Substitutes shall be called in order of seniority by the Presiding Justice of the Court, whenever there is not a full Court, by reason of a vacancy not temporarily filled as provided for by Article 24 as amended, or for any legal disability of any Justice. Their power and authority, upon assuming temporary duty, shall be equal to that of any regularly appointed Justice.

"To be a Substitute requires the same qualifications as for Justice of the Land Court".

ARTICLE 3. Article 4 of the said Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Article 4. In the exercise of its revisional or appellate jurisdiction, the Land Court shall be known as the "Superior Land Court".

"Two members shall constitute a quorum of the Superior Land Court, except when the Superior Land Court hears an appeal based on the merits and relating to ownership or possession, in which cases the Court shall always be composed of three members. The concurrence of two Justices shall be necessary to pronounce a judgement. In the determination of causes, all decisions or decrees shall be in writing and the grounds therefor shall be stated as succinctly as may be consistent with clearness, except that in approving an uncontested decision of a single Justice or Judge no grounds need be stated".

ARTICLE 4. Article 23 of said Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Article 23. The yearly salary of the Presiding Justice shall be $6.000 and of the other Justices $5.000 each; that of the Judges referred to in the ninth Article shall be $4,000 and the yearly salary of the Clerk of the Court shall be $4, 000; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that if any Justice, Judge or Clerk, appointed under the Land Registration Act as originally enacted, shall receive a new appointment under the amendments hereby provided, he shall not be subject to any change in salary but shall continue to receive the same salary that he received under the original Act. The salaries of Fiscales, Assistant Fiscales and Registers of Deeds shall be fixed by the annual Budget.

"A Substitute Justice shall receive no salary; but if called upon to replace any Justice he shall receive $10 for each day of actual service.

"When the position of *Fiscal* becomes vacant or when the incumbent is under legal disability to act, if there should exist any need for that official's services the Land Court shall appoint a *Fiscal ad-hoc* who shall receive $6 for each day of actual service; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that whenever there is a vacancy in the office of Fiscal, the Court may designate one if its own employees, whether or not a lawyer, to fulfill such duties of the Fiscal as are prescribed in Article 57 of the Land Registration Act, and he shall serve without compensation other than his regular salary".

ARTICLE 5. The first sentence of Article 9 of said Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Article 9. In like manner, at the discretion of the Executive Power, there may be appointed such other Judges as may be necessary for the purpose of this Act, who shall have the same special qualifications described by Article 3 thereof for Justices of the Superior Land Court".

ARTICLE 6. Article 11 of said Act is hereby amended by striking out the words "supervising Judge" and inserting in their stead the words "other Judges".

ARTICLE 7. The third sentence of Article 20 of the Land Registration Act is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

"Justices, Judges, Fiscals, the Clerk of the Court, the Acting Secretary and all Registers of Deeds, shall have authority to administer oaths in all matters and in all cases where an oath is required in accordance with this Law. The Deputy Clerk and any other assistant, when designated by the Clerk to act for him in catastral cases, shall have the authority to administer oaths on the answers required by Article 62 of this Law".

ARTICLE 8. The last paragraph of Article 24 of said Law is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Whenever, in any cause or proceeding, a Justice of the Land Court is disqualified, or prevented in any way from participating, or whenever there occurs a vacancy in the position of Justice, the President of the Court may designate from among the Judges the one who in the consideration of the cause or proceeding, should act in the place of the disqualified Justice or fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE 9. All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ARTICLE 10. This Law shall be effective from and after January 1, 1922.

S. S. ROBISON,

Rear-Admiral, United States Navy,
Military Governor of Santo Domingo.

Santo Domingo, D. R.,

December 27, 1921.