MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Executive Order No. 593.

ROAD LAW AND AUTOMOBILE REGULATIONS.

O. G. No. 3198.

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

CHAPTER I.

Section 1. The designation, "Dirección General de Rentas Internas", as hereinafter used in this law, will be taken and understood to include the Collectors of Internal Revenue, acting in representation of the Director General de Rentas Internas at different points throughout the Republic.

Section 2. The owners of properties adjoining any road shall not, when working their lands, cause damage to retaining walls, culverts, bridges, abutments, ditches, or any other part of the road. They shall not cultivate the slopes of, nor allow cattle or other animals to pasture on the road or any part of the right-of-way.

Section 3. The owners or drivers of animal-drawn vehicles, and herders of cattle, shall not let their animals stray or graze in the ditches or on the sides of the road, nor tie them to trees along the road.

Section 4. When cattle are conducted over public roads, one man will be required for every ten head of cattle. Owners shall be responsible for all damage caused by cattle, whether on public or private property.

Section 5. No person shall take stone or earth from the roadside ditches or slopes and throw the same into the adjoining properties without the consent of the owners.

Section 6. The use of stones for the purpose of chocking under the wheels of vehicles when stopped, is hereby prohibited.

Section 7. The dragging along the surface of the road of timbers, branches of trees, plows or anything that might damage the road is prohibited.

Section 8. Placing garbage or other refuse on the road, side ditches, slopes, bridges or culverts is prohibited; *provided*, that garbage in suitable containers may be left in municipal streets, under proper municipal regulations.

Section 9. No person or persons shall be allowed to leave a dead animal on the road, or within one hundred (100) meters (328 feet) from the outer edge of the road, for a period longer than eight hours. The penalty for violation of this section shall

be a fine of twenty-five ($25.00) dollars.

Section 10. Any person who unintentionally causes damage to the surface of the roads, or to shoulders, ditches, parapets, bridges, culverts, kilometer posts, etc., shall pay the cost of repairing the damage caused, according to expert valuation as determined by the Department of Public Works. When the damage has been done wilfully or maliciously, the perpetrators, besides paying the cost of repair, shall be subject to a fine of not less than ten ($10.00) dollars, nor more than one thousand ($1,000) dollars, or five years imprisonment, or both.

Section 11. All steel-tired vehicles must have the wheeels so fixed to the axles as to obtain an even contact between the tire and the surface of the road. In other words, the wheel hub shall fit snugly on the axle, the axis of which shall be parallel to the surface of the road. The penalty for violation of this section shall be a fine of five ($5.00) dollars.

Section 12. Vehicles, except automobiles traveling over public roads, shall not carry a heavier load than the following, depending on the width of the tires:

FOR VEHICLES OF FOUR WHEELS.

1,000 to 2,000 pounds, tires not less than 2 inches wide.
2,000 to 4,000 pounds, tires not less than 3 inches wide.
4,000 pounds and upwards, tires not less than 4 inches wide.

FOR VEHICLES OF TWO WHEELS.

For a load exceeding one thousand two hundred (1,200) pounds, they must have a tire not less than three and three-fourths (3¾) inches wide; *provided,* that no vehicle shall carry the load in such a way that it extends more than one meter back of the rear end of the vehicle. The penalty for violation of this section shall be a fine of five ($5.00) dollars for the first offense; ten ($10.00) dollars for the second offense; and for subsequent offenses, twenty ($20.00) dollars fine, and twenty days imprisonment.

Section 13. The following provisions shall be applicable to heavy motor cars and traction engines:

(a) The terms, "heavy motor cars", and "traction engines", as used in these regulations shall be understood to mean vehicles of the following type: me-

chanically propelled, used for carrying or haul freight on the public roads, and having a gross we of more than one and one-half (1½) tons. Tr and traction engines used exclusively to furnish power for land cultivation and for harvesting cro and general agricultural work, but not for purposes of carrying or hauling freight on public highways, shall b exempt from such registration and license fees a required for motor vehicles in these regulations.

(b) Heavy-motor, cars or traction engines sh not hereafter be allowed on any road unless licensed ar registered by the Dirección General de Rentas Inte of the Department of Finance and Commerce, in acc dance with the provisions of this Act. Every applica tion for license shall state the weight of the vehi loaded and unloaded, the diameter of the wheel a width of the tires, and shall furnish such other data in special cases as may be required. The penalty for violation of this section shall be a fine equal to the an of the required registry fee.

(c) The total weight of a laden motor car, traction engine or tractor, shall in no case exceed eight (8) tons without authorization from the Department of Finance and Commerce; *provided,* that special permission for a total weight of more than eight tons may be granted by the Department of Finance and Commerce under special regulations.

(d) The diameter of each rear wheel of a heavy motor car having a capacity of two tons or more, shall in no case be less than thirty-six (36) inches, including the tire, and the diameter of each front wheel shall in no case be less than thirty (30) inches, including the tire.

(e) Heavy motor cars or traction engines traveling over the roads shall have the proportion between the tire and the weight of the loaded wagon as determined in the following paragraph:

The width of the tire of both front and rear wheels of a heavy motor car or traction engine shall be such that the pressure per inch of diameter and per inch of width of tire shall not be greater than fourteen pounds.

(f) No tire of a heavy motor car or traction engine shall be provided with dogs or corrugations, or present other than a smooth surface.

(g) The width of tire of each wheel of trailers shall be governed by the provision of Paragraph (e) of this Section.

(h) The maximum speed of a heavy motor car or traction engine driven on any road shall be twenty kilometers (12½ miles) per hour, except in the urban zones of municipalities, when the speed shall not exceed fifteen kilometers (9.8 miles) per hour; *provided*, that speed in the urban zones of municipalities shall be within the limits allowed by municipal regulations.

(i) All licenses shall fix the allowable carrying capacity of the vehicle licensed. The registry fee for a heavy motor car or traction engine shall be twenty-five ($25.00) dollars per ton or fraction thereof, of rated capacity, per year, payable in advance to the Director General de Rentas Internas, who thereupon, shall provide the licenses with number boards, which at all times shall be displayed prominently on the rear and front of the vehicle. All money received from such license fees shall be collected by the Dirección General de Rentas Internas and deposited with the Treasurer of the Dominican Republic.

2. The approved registered weights and the allowable rate of speed shall be marked on the sides of the vehicles.

3. The owner and conductor, both and several, of any heavy motor car or traction engine carrying more than the registered weight, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one hundred ($100) dollars, or by imprisonment in jail for a period of not more than sixty days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

4. The driver of any heavy motor car or traction engine, traveling over the roads without displaying the proper number boards shall be punished as hereinafter provided.

Section 14. Except in cases covered by special permit, all vehicles shall carry their load so distributed that no part of the same shall extend begond the sides of the vehicle, and in no case shall the width of the vehicle exceed 2.25 meters, (6 feet and 9 inches).

Section 15. Every vehicle weighing more than seven hundred (700) pounds loaded, must be supplied with a brake sufficiently strong to hold the vehicle stationary on a seven-per-

cent grade; *provided*, that two-wheeled vehicles shall not be included in this section.

Section 16. The owners of carriages and other vehicles used for public service, shall be required to register in their respective municipalities, and provide themselves with a number plate for each such vehicle, to be fastened to the body of the vehicle in a conspicuous place, bearing the name of the town and number of registry; *provided*, that owners of private carriages and other vehicles may register the name of the town and the number of registry without providing themselves with such number plate.

Section 17. (a) Horsemen, pack mules, herders of cattle, or vehicles of any kind, when meeting on a public road, shall move to their respective right-hand sides in passing. When one vehicle is overtaken by another vehicle, the vehicle overtaken shall promptly move to the right and allow the more rapidly moving vehicle to pass on the left. Persons on foot shall always move to the side of the road when approaching or being overtaken by a vehicle.

(b) All vehicles drawn by animals that travel at a greater rate of speed than six kilometers (3.75) miles per hour, shall each be provided with a bell or gong. No vehicle except a motor-propelled vehicle shall use a horn.

(c) Drivers of vehicles drawn by animals except oxen must have the reins in their hands while their vehicles are in motion.

(d) All vehicles and animals shall be kept on the main part of the roadway and not allowed to travel on the side of the road that is unpaved and known as the "shoulder".

(e) Vehicles shall not be turned around on bridges or culverts.

Section 18. Vehicles other than mechanically propelled vehicles, when traveling at night, must be provided with at least one lantern having glass in front and rear so that the light will be visible from the rear as well as from the front. The lantern must be lighted at sunset. The light or lights herein specified need not be electric. They shall, however, be of sufficient brightness to be seen plainly, but shall not produce an unnecessary glare.

Section 19. Drivers, horsemen or driven cattle, when entering or leaving a road from abutting property, shall do so only at bridges or on level crossing. Passing over ditches is prohibited unless at bridges or on level crossings.

Section 20. Horsemen, cattle or vehicles of any kind must not pass over bridges at a pace faster than a walk.

Section 21. During repair work on roads, vehicles and horsemen shall pass through places designated by employees in charge of such work, and those failing to observe the instructions of any such employees so given, will be held responsible for any damages so caused.

Section 22. No vehicle which, in the opinion of the Department of Finance and Commerce, is a menace to public safety, shall be allowed on a public highway.

Section 23. Drivers of vehicles shall not abandon their vehicles in the roadway. In case of breakdown, vehicles shall be drawn to the side of the road, clear of passing traffic, and immediatete steps taken to remove the same. In case of animal-drawn vehicles breaking down, the animals shall be unhitched.

Section 24. Whenever any building within five meters (16 ½ feet) of the road is in a ruined and dangerous condition, the Alcalde shall notify the Secretary of Finance and Commerce, setting forth the name of the owner thereof and the place where the building is situated.

The Secretary of Finance and Commerce shall cause an inspection to be made of such building and shall issue such orders to the Alcalde as in his judgment shall be necessary for the protection of the public.

The Alcalde shall take proper measures to protect the public against any danger, pending the orders from the Secretary of Finance and Commerce in the matter, and the Alcalde is hereby empowered on receiving such orders, to direct the owner of such building to carry out such orders within a specified time. Should the owner of the building refuse or fail to carry out the work as directed, the Alcalde shall so inform the Secretary of Finance and Cmmerce, who may have such building or any part thereof torn down in order to protect the public against damage.

Section 25. No sign or other object shall be placed or hung on the fronts of houses facing the road, that will interfere with or be dangercus to the public.

Section 26. Violators of any of the provisions of the preceding sections, unless otherwise provided, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five ($5.00) dollars, and not to exceed twenty-five ($25.00) dollars for the first offense, and for a second or subsequent offense, by a fine of not less than ten ($10.00) dollars, and not to exceed fifty ($50.00) dollars, or by twenty-fiive ($25.00) dollars for the first offense, and for a sec-

imprisonment in jail for a term not to exceed fifty (50) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

AUTOMOBILE REGULATIONS.

CHAPTER 2.

Section 27. (a) No person shall operate or drive an automobile, motorcycle, or any vehicle driven by mechanical power, on any road in the Dominican Republic until he shall have obtained a license to do so from the Dirección General de Rentas Internas of the Department of Finance and Commerce. Applications for such licenses shall be made on a form to be provided by the said Dirección General de Rentas Internas, and shall bear the name, address and occupation of the applicant, and such other information as may be prescribed by the Dirección General de Rentas Internas.

(b) No license for driving an automobile, motorcycle or any vehicle driven by mechanical power, shall be granted until the applicant has demonstrated his ability to drive and control such machine, and such demonstration shall be in accordance with the regulations that may be issued by the Dirección General de Rentas Internas of the Department of Finance and Commerce.

(c) In the cities of Santo Domingo, San Pedro de Macorís, Santiago, La Vega, Azua and Monte Cristy, a fee of two ($2.00) dollars will be allowed as payment to an expert chauffeur and automobile mechanic for each applicant for a license examined by him, said examiner to be designated by the Collector of Internal Revenue in each of the cities named, and payment to be made to said examiner as aforesaid by the applicant before any such examination is made.

(d) The license fee shall be two ($2.00) dollars for each year.

(e) Such licenses shall be revocable by the Secretary of Finance and Commerce when the licensee shall appear to him to be unqualified, careless or unheedful of the provisions of this law.

(f) Licensees shall always have their licenses on their persons or in their cars when driving, and any person driving or operating a motor vehicle on the roads of the Dominican Republic shall be required to produce his license as herein provided, when called upon to do so by police officials, or officers of the Guardia Nacional, the Director General de Rentas Internas, or

any official of the Dirección General de Rentas Internas, duly authorized.

(g) Licenses are under no condition transferable, and anynone loaning his license shall suffer a suspension of the same for a period of six months.

Section 28. It shall be unlawful for any automobile or other vehicle propelled by mechanical power to be driven or operated on the roads of the Dominican Republic without first being registered in the Dirección General de Rentas Internas of the Department of Finance and Commerce as hereinafter provided:

(a) Every person acquiring a motor vehicle, except tractors and traction engines specially exempted in Section 13, Paragraph (a) of this Act, shall, for every such vehicle owned by him, file with the Dirección General de Rentas Internas his name and address, a brief description of the vehicle to be so registered, and such other information as may be required, including factory number, style of vehicle and motor power, on a blank to be prepared and furnished by the said Dirección General de Rentas Internas for that purpose, together with the proper fee as hereinafter stipulated; *provided,* that when the owner disposes of such motor vehicle, he shall sign an indorsement on the reverse side of the registry paper indicating the name and address of the new owner, and the date of transaction, returning the registry paper to the Dirección General de Rentas Internas for registration.

(b) Upon receipt of the prescribed application and registry fee, the Dirección General de Rentas Internas shall furnish the owner of a motor vehicle with two number plates bearing the letters, "R. D.", the number of the registry in characters at least three inches in height, and one-half inch in width, and the year in figures one inch in height, in colors to be designated each year, which shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in the rear and front of the vehicle. These name plates are the property of the Dominican Government and shall be returned to the Dirección General de Rentas Internas when a new number plate is to be issued. Number plates lost or damaged shall be replaced at the expense of the owner. Number plates used by demonstrators shall have the letter "D" prefixed just before the registry number and shall conform in size; those used

by public carriers shall have the letter "P" prefixed; those used by motor trucks shall have the letter "C" prefixed, and those for official use by the Government shall have the letter "O" prefixed; these prefixes to be arranged similary to the one used on the number plate for demonstrators as above described.

(c) Public carriers shall be distinguished by the following sign: The upper one-fourth of the glass disc which covers the right front light on every vehicle licensed as a public carrier, shall be painted a bright red color.

(d) No motor vehicle shall be used or operated on the highways which shall display thereon a registration number belonging to any other vehicle, or which shall bear a fictitious registration number.

(e) Registration shall be for the calendar year only, at the expiration of which time, licenses shall be renewed on payment of the registration fee hereinafter provided.

Section 29. The registry fee for motor vehicles, except heavy motor cars and traction engines provided for in Section 13 of this Act, shall be as follows; *provided*, that the registration fee for motor vehicles registered after July 1 of any year shall be one-half the regular annual fee, as hereinafter provided, for the balance of the year.

(a) Registry fee for automobiles for private use:

20 horsepower and under, ...	$ 10.00
21 to 30 horsepower, ...	15.00
31 to 40 horsepower, ...	20.00
41 to 50 horsepower, ...	25.00
More than 50 horsepower, ...	30.00

(b) Automobiles used as public carriers shall pay an annual license fee of one ($1.00) dollar per horsepower, and two ($2.00) dollars per person per authorized passenger-carrying capacity of such public carrier, in addition to the other regular fees.

(c) Agents for the sale of automobiles shall pay a license fee of ten ($10.00) dollars per year for the use of each set of number plates to be used on any unsold machine in their charge for the purpose of testing or demonstrating, and shall confine such testing within the limits prescribed by the Dirección General de Rentas Internas.

(d) Motorcycles or motor-propelled vehicles with less than four wheels shall pay a license registry fee of three dollars per annunm and shall be furnished with a number plate bearing the number of such registry.

(e) Any automobile or motor-propelled vehicle owned by a non-resident of the Dominican Republic, will be charged a registry fee of two dollars ($2.00) for each month or part thereof that said vehicles is used on the roads of the Dominican Republic. Such vehicles, however, while being driven in the Dominican Republic, shall carry number plates which shall be loaned by the Dirección General de Rentas Internas on receipt of the monthly registry fee.

Section 30. When within the urban zone of a municipality, automobiles shall not travel at a greater speed than twenty kilometers (12 ½ miles) an hour. The speed at which automobiles shall be allowed to travel on the various highways of the conuntry shall be governed by the following rules:

(a) No vehicle shall be driven or operated on the public highways of the country at a greater speed than fifty kilometers (31.25 miles) an hour.

(b) When approaching, or rounding curves on the public highways, vehicles shall travel at a reasonably slow speed so that collisions may be avoided.

(c) Vehicles traveling in opposite directions on the same road shall not travel at a speed grater than twenty-four (24) kilometers (15 miles) per hour when passing each other.

(d) Under all circumstances, vehicles shall be driven at a moderate speed in other that the danger of accident shall be reduced to a minimum, and they shall not be driven at greater speeds than hereinbefore specified.

Section 31. (a) Every person having control or charge of an automobile or any other motor-propelled vehicle, when on a public road or street and approaching a vehicle drawn by an animal or animals, or an animal on which a person is riding shall operate and control such automobile or vehicle with every reasonable precaution in order to prevent the frightening of such animal or animals, and to insure the safety of the person riding or driving same; and if such animal or animals appear to be frightened, the person in charge of such automobile or motor-

propelled vehicle shall reduce its speed, and if requested by signal or otherwise, by the rider or driver of such animal or animals, shall come to a full stop and stop the motor until the animal appears to be under the control of its rider or driver.

(b) In case of accident to persons or property on the public highway, due to the operation thereon of a motor vehicle, the person operating such vehicle shall stop and if requested by a person injured, or any person present, shall give such person his name and address; and if he is not the owner, he shall likewise give the name and address of such owner.

(c) Anyone violating this section shall be imprisoned for a term of not less than one month, nor more than one year.

Section 32. (a) While rounding a curve, or approaching an intersection of roads, a person operating a motor vehicle must give warning by a horn or other similar device.

(b) While rounding a curve, motor vehicles must keep to the right of the center of the road. For infraction of the provision in this paragraph, a person shall be liable, for the first offense, to a fine of not less than ten ($10.00) dollars, and not to exceed twenty-five ($25.00) dollars, or imprisonment for five days; and for each repetition of the offense, to a fine of not less than twenty-five ($25.00) dollars and not to exceed one hundred ($100.00) dollars, and the revocation of his registry and driver's license, or imprisonment for twenty (20) days.

(c) When approaching or overtaking any person in a vehicle or otherwise, on the road, the operator or driver of a motor vehicle must give due warning, and reduce his speed to such limit as will insure the safety of the person who is being passed or overtaken. The latter, upon hearing the warning, shall turn his animal or vehicle to the right hand side of the road.

Section 33. (a) No motor vehicle, for which a license is required in this Act, shall be stopped or left on any street which may hereafter be named and designated in Municipal Ordinances in accordance whith the provisions of this Section, at a greater distance than one foot (12 inches) from the curb or sidewalk; *provided,* that in such streets as have open sewage drains or similar obstructions, the distance aforesaid shall be reckoned from the outer edge of such open sewage drain or similar obtruction; and *provided further,* that on such street as may in the future be named and designated in such Municipal Ordinances, no motor vehicle, for which license is required in this Act, shall be stopped or left at a distance of less than ten (10) feet from any corner of such streets or roads; nor be stopped or left on other than the designated side of such streets as may hereafter

be provided in such Municipal Ordinances.

(b) When stopping for any reason whatever, the operators or drivers of automobiles or other motor vehicles, shall move their vehicles as far as possible to one side of the road.

Section 34. Every motor-propelled vehicle except motorcycles, shall carry, during the period from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, and during fog or heavy mist, at least two lighted lamps showing dimmed white or yellow lights, visible at least two hundred and fifty (250) yards in the direction towards which said motor vehicle is proceeding, and also shall exhibit one red light visible in the reverse direction. The rear light fixture shall be constructed in such a manner that a white light shall illuminate the license number brightly without shining towards the rear, and be so placed that it shall not obstruct the view of the number. The rear lamp shall be lighted between the hours specified except when the car is parked in the electrically lighted district of a city.

Section 35. Every motorcycle shall carry, during the period from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise, and whenever fog renders it impossible to see a long distance, at least one lighted lamp showing a white light visible at least two hundred feet in the direction towards which the motorcycle is proceeding.

Section 36. No automobile shall be run on the rims of the wheels without tires.

Section 37. The use of a muffler cut-out is prohibited.

Section 38. No motor vehicle shall be used or operated on the public roads of the Dominican Republic unless the owner thereof shall have complied in all respects with conditions set forth in the preceding sections of this Chapter. Any infringement of the foregoing provisions of Chapter 2 of this Act, unless otherwise provided, shall subject the offender to a fine of not less than five ($5.00) dollars, and not to exceed one hundred ($100.00) dollars, or to imprisonment in jail not to exceed sixty (60) days; and upon a second or subsequent offense, the Court shall revoke the license of the offender in addition to the punishment above provided.

Section 39. The Director General de Rentas Internas shall furnish to the owners of automobiles and to chauffeurs duly licensed, copies of this Act, and all rules and regulations thereunder.

Section 40. (a) All money received as registry fees for

motor vehicles and license fees for drivers, and from fines imposed, shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the Dominican Republic. Of the money colleted under the provisions of this Act, there shall be paid over to the different municipalities forty (40) per cent of the amount collected within their respective jurisdictions, and the remaining sixty (60) per cent shall be credited to the National Road Maintenance fund.

(b) The sum turned over to the municipalities as herein prescribed shall be for the construction and maintenance of concrete, macadam or gravel roads within their respective jurisdictions and for no other purpose, unless special authority is granted by the Secretary of Finance and Commerce to use such money for some other purpose.

(c) The Auditor of the Republic shall account monthly for these disbursements.

Section 41. All provisions of this Act shall be in effect on and after December 15, 1920.

Section 42. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent municipalities or similary authorized corporate groups from enacting additional local laws, regulations ,or ordinances not in conflict with the provisions of this Act, and applicable only to the territory within the jurisdiction of the said local authorities.

Section 43. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with the foregoing Act, are repealed effective on and after December 15, 1920.

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

Santo Domingo City, D. R.,
January 19, 1921.

(E. O. 594 omitted).
See Spanish text.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Executive Order No. 595.

G. O. No. 3192.

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