

official provided by this Code, and receive last wills and testaments according to the rules of Article 616 of the Civil Code.

Art. 889. (Duties of a commander before departure.) Before taking off, the commander must personally ascertain that the aircraft is ready for the flight to be made, and that it is properly equipped and manned. He must also ascertain that the cargo is well loaded and centered and that weather conditions permit safe navigation.

Art. 890. (Board documents and keeping of the log.) The commander shall ensure that the required documents relative to the aircraft, the crew, the passengers and the cargo are on board during the trip. He shall also ensure that the log is regularly kept.

Art. 891. (Abandonment of an aircraft in danger.) The commander may not order the abandonment of an aircraft in danger until he has tried all means of the art of flying to save it.

The commander must be the last to abandon the aircraft and do everything possible to save the documents on board and valuable objects entrusted to his custody.

Art. 892. (Limits of the commander's authority.) Except in the places where the operator or his representative with the necessary powers are located, the commander may have necessary repairs carried out and purchases made which are necessary for the continuation of the trip, and, when required, he may borrow money to cover such needs. He may also dismiss and hire members of the crew for the remainder of the flight.

The presence of the operator or one of his representatives with the necessary powers may be invoked against third parties only when they have notice thereof. However, the presence of the operator in his place of domicile and the presence of the representative in the place for which he has been conferred the duly published powers, are presumed to be known to the interested parties until the contrary is proven.

Art. 893. (Provisions for flight safety.) During flight the commander must make the necessary provisions for the safety of the aircraft, the passengers, and the cargo.

Art. 894. (Sale and mortgage of aircraft.) A commander may not sell or mortgage an aircraft without a special order from the owner.

CHAPTER IV. THE CREW

Art. 895. (Members of the crew.) The crew shall consist of the commander and other persons assigned to the flight service of the aircraft.

Art. 896. (Composition of the crew.) The composition of the crew shall be determined by the operator depending on the type and employment of the aircraft, in accordance with the rules and within the limits established by special laws and regulations.

The composition of the crew of an aircraft which is a public service for the transportation of passengers must in every case be approved by the Air Minister.

Art. 897. (Hiring of crew members.) The crew of a national aircraft must consist of persons registered in the rolls or register of flight personnel.

Art. 898. (Hiring of unregistered or foreign crew abroad.) In case of necessity, the consular authority in a foreign country may authorize