Article 242. Any person liable under this section for damages to third persons shall have no duty to make reparation for damages which are a direct consequence of armed conflict or civil disturbance or when he has been deprived of the use of the aircraft by an act of the public authorities.

Article 243. The liability for damages to third persons may be excluded or reduced when the person who has suffered them has caused

or contributed to cause them.

Article 244. The amounts of compensation for damages and detriments payable by persons liable under Article 238 of this Code, shall not exceed the following amount for each accident:

a) Ten thousand dollars for aircraft whose weight does not

exceed one thousand kilograms;

b) Ten thousand dollars plus ten dollars for each kilogram above one thousand for aircraft which weigh more than one thousand but not over six thousand kilograms;

c) Forty thousand dollars plus six dollars for each kilogram above six thousand for aircraft which weigh more than six thou-

sand but not over twenty thousand kilograms;

d) One hundred thousand dollars plus three dollars for each kilogram above twenty thousand kilograms for aircraft which weigh more than twenty thousand but not over fifty thousand kilograms:

e) Two hundred thousand dollars plus two dollars for each kilogram above fifty thousand for aircraft which weigh more than

fifty thousand kilograms.

Article 245. For purposes of this Code "weight" shall mean the maximum weight of an aircraft authorized for take-off by the certificate of airworthiness, excluding the effect of lifting gas when it is used.

Article 246. The operator of any civil aircraft which flies over Nicaraguan territory, whether it is a national or a foreign aircraft, must be insured in regard to his liability for damages to third persons on the ground up to the limit corresponding to the weight of the aircraft in conformity with the provisions of Article 244.

Article 247. The insurance shall be deemed satisfactory if it complies with the provisions of this Code and has been contracted for with an insurance company accepted by the Ministry of Aviation, or lawfully authorized by the country of registration of the aircraft in the

case of foreign aircraft.

Article 248. In the case of damages to third persons caused by accidents due to a crash or force majeure, or negligence, the compensation for death or injuries shall be the same as that established, by Articles 214 and 216, respectively, but if there are several persons such compensation shall be divided proportionately and in accord with each case established. But the total amount may not exceed the limits specified in Article 244.

Article 249. When the person who suffers the damages proves that they were caused by a deliberate act or omission of the operator or his employees, done with intent to cause damage, the liability of the operator shall be unlimited and shall be governed by the provisions of

Article 217.