

2) The pilot commander is responsible for the operation, care, order, and safety of the aircraft, its crew, the passengers and their baggage, the cargo, and the mail being transported. This responsibility commences when he takes charge of the aircraft to commence the flight, and terminates at the end of it when the representative of the operating company or any competent authority takes charge of the aircraft, passengers, cargo, baggage, and mail.

3) The pilot commander may, before commencing the flight;

a) prevents the loading of persons in abnormal physical or mental condition, which would endanger the order or safety of the flight.

b) reject prohibited articles and cargo obviously in bad condition, which would constitute a danger to passengers and crew.

4) It is the duty of the pilot commander during the flight to:

a) maintain order on the aircraft and take all disciplinary measures he deems proper aboard:

b) for serious cause suspend a member of the crew from his duties;

c) arrest any person who commits a crime or misdemeanor, record information concerning the act, and deliver the offenders to the competent authority at nearest place of landing;

d) register births, deaths, and other acts occurring on board, which may have legal consequences, and record these in the proper log book:

e) adopt the necessary safety measures in case of forced landings outside of the airdromes of his route:

f) vary the route in case of need or *force majeure*:

g) jettison matter to protect the aircraft from imminent danger.

Article 133. Records made on Board.

In the case specified in section (d) of the preceding article, the pilot commander shall report the facts to the authority in the place of first landing on national territory, or to the competent foreign authority or nearest Consul of Panama, if the landing is outside the country.

Article 134. System of Flight Checks.

1) The operator shall establish a system of flight checks to be followed by the flight crew before take-off, at the time of take-off, during the flight, upon landing, and in case of emergency.

2) The pilot commander shall assure himself that the system of checking is scrupulously followed.

Article 135. Duties prior to commencing Flights.

Before commencing any public air transport flight, the pilot commander must assure that:

a) The aircraft complies with the conditions for air-worthiness, and has on board the documents and books required by the laws and regulations:

b) The instruments and equipment prescribed for the type of operation he is undertaking are installed, and are adequate to perform the flight:

c) The maintenance of the aircraft has been observed according to rules;

d) The weight of the aircraft is such that he can fly in safety, in view of the prescribed conditions for the flight;