

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

*Exchange of notes at Ciudad Trujillo October 14 and 19, 1943
Entered into force October 19, 1943*

57 Stat. 1180; Executive Agreement Series 353

*The American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Secretary
of State for Foreign Affairs*

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Ciudad Trujillo, D.R., October 14, 1943

No. 141

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to conversations which have taken place between officers of the Dominican Department of State for Foreign Affairs and of the Embassy with respect to compensation benefits which may be claimed by American citizens employed on projects under construction or operation by cost plus contractors with the Government of the United States in the Dominican Republic.

The Congress of the United States by Public Law 208, 77th Congress,¹ as amended by Public Law 784, 77th Congress,² has provided a mandatory and uniform system of compensation benefits as embodied in the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Act, and administered by the United States Employees' Compensation Commission for American nationals employed by contractors in foreign countries on or in connection with United States Government projects.

The purpose of this legislation was two-fold (1) to insure that all American workmen engaged outside the United States on these Government projects would be treated equally and (2) since these American workmen have rights under the compensation acts of the country in which they are working in the absence of some arrangement with that country, there is every possibility of an American workman collecting double benefits. Such double benefits would be ultimately paid for by the United States Government since the contracts above referred to are on a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis under which the Government reimburses for such expenditures.

¹ 55 Stat. 622.

² 56 Stat. 1035.