

The Arrest of Queen Lili'uokalani on January 16, 1895

In the face of organized opposition, on January 7, 1895, the self-declared Republic of Hawai'i imposed martial law. On January 16, 1895, it arrested Queen Lili'uokalani for treason, which was later amended to misprision of treason, a lesser charge.

On January 17, 1895, the Republic convened a military commission to pursue court martial proceedings against the Queen and her supporters.

On January 24, 1895, while in prison, the Queen signed a document abdicating the throne. As a result, the Republic freed her supporters who had been arrested on charges of treason and faced the death penalty.

The military tribunal eventually sentenced the Queen to five years hard labor in prison and imposed a fine of \$5,000.00, but later commuted the sentence to eight months of house arrest.

1. Photo of the Cabinet of the Republic of Hawai'i, with its president Sanford B. Dole in the center.
2. Photo of Queen Lili'uokalani under arrest, and being taken to 'Iolani Palace where she spent eight months under house arrest.

