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particularly as accading to precious report for Son Voli they am to som extins. pro- Catholic. Timban man the fort frees an being Whom I Sout worden the distata Leaner Lange is rabbell ashi -Consumot. , while the insuleals an being merca. Ever is straight Enspeched of Commiss. a ly sical Latin American Whiterene fur for all.

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#### DAILY TELEGRAPH.

Apr. 1948

# DIPLOMATS INTERVENE IN EOSTA RICA CIVIL WAR

## FORCES NEAR CAPITAL AFTER. DEFEAT OF COMMUNISTS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT WASHINGTON, Tuesday.

Foreign diplomats in San Jose, capital of Costa Rica, to-night intervened in an attempt to stop the civil war which has been raging since March 12.

They asked the opposing commanders for a cease-fire order as a preliminary to negotiations. A message

from the capital, however, states that their appeal failed.

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Earlier, Senor Bonia, Costa Rican Acting Foreign Minister, had appealed to the Diplomatic Corps to take over the capital, which was considered likely to fall to anti-Government forces.

The crisis, following the Communist-directed riots in Colombia, had frawn the attention of the State Department here. Civil war broke out as the result of a disputed Presidential election.

Señor Raíael Calderon, the Government candidate, representative of the National Republican party, was defeated by the Opposition candidate, Señor Otilio Ulate, representing, a coalition called the National Union.

On the night of the election, Feb. 8.

Union.
On the night of the election, Feb. 8.
Señor Calderon conceded his defeat, but the Communist leaders insisted that the Government party should challenge the voting on the contention of fraud.
Efforts to nullify the election and find a compromise candidate took place amid growing disorder. A month ago Opposition groups, fearing that they would be robbed of their



victory, moved down from the mountains towards San Jose, the capital. The Government party accepted the aid of organised Communists and provided them with arms. The Communists' objective appears to have been to aid the Government, defeat the Opposition and claim a strategic Cabinet post as a reward Latest reports, however, indicate that the Government troops are being defeated.

Cartago, the second largest city, has been captured after heavy fighting Communists and Caderon factions have sent out appeals to all trade unionists to rally to their support. Communists have seized the United States officials scarcely hide their hope that the legally-elected Opposition party will be vicelested Copposition party will be vicelested. States officials careful to eds. Detween the outbreak in Colombia and the civil war in Costa Rica, but the two events form part of an obvious pattern of Communist activity in the western hemisphere.

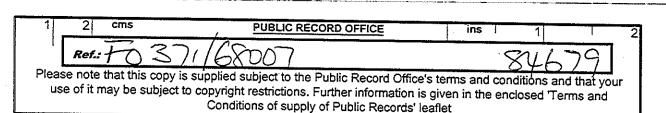
Communist-influenced government on either side would present security risks.

CONFERENCE DECISION

#### CONFERENCE DECISION Resumption In Bogota

Senior delegates to the Inter-American conference to-day for-mally resolved to continue the con-ference which was interrupted by the Colombia disorders, in Bogota To expedite the conference the delegates have agreed to shelve all the economic matters formally scheduled for discussion before revolutinterrupted the meeting on Friday. These included the question as to how the United States could aid Latin America.

A conference to be held later this year, probably in Buenos Aires, will deal with them. All decisions at the Bogota conference will be speeded up and the debates curtailed.





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Cartago, the second largest city, has been caphured after heavy fighting. Communists and Caderon factions have sent out appeals to all trade unionists to rally to their support. Communists have seized the telephone head quarters in San Jose. United States officials scarcely hide their hope that the legality elected Opposition party will be victorious.

Mosalizect connection is believed to exist between the outbreak in Colombia and the civil war in Costa Rica, but the two events form part of an obvious pattern of Communist activity in the western hemisphere.

Colombia borders Panama on the east, while Costa Rica adjoins it on the west. Communist-controlled or Communist-influenced government on either side would present security risks.

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### COMMUNISTS BLAMED

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COMMUNISTS BLAMED

News that Mr. Marshall, Secretary of State, had fas briefly reported in the late editions of The Dany Triegraph vesterday! blamed international Communism for the attempted revolution in Colombia has reached this country in the first uncensored despatches from the Colombian capital.

Mr. Marshall stated at a Press conference that the revolt followed the same pattern as the outbreaks which provoked labour trouble in France and the pre-election unrest in Italy. He was the first conference delegate, apart from Dr. Berez President of Colombia, to attribute the disturbances directly to the Communists. He said:

"This situation must not be judged on a local basis. The occurrences so far beyond Colombia."

Mgr. Perdomo, Primate of Colombia, has condemned persons of "Communist anti-Christian doctrines" who, he declared were responsible for sacking and burning many of Bogota's historic churches. He said the home of the Papal Nuncio and his own residence were burned and valuable Roman Catholic archives destroyed.

### RUSSIAN "FIFTH COLUMN"

To-day's reports state that Bogota is still paralysed Banks and shops are closed, there is no transport and many places are without light. There are still a number of snipers active, and the hospitals are crowded with wounded.

and the hospitals are crowded with wounded.

One despatch stated that M. Oumansky, former Russian Ambassador to Mexico, who was killed in a plane crash in Mexico in 1945, planned the Latin-American fifth column, which was held responsible for the Colombian revolt.

The network which he started is supposed to stretch from Alaska to the tip of South America. It was based on the idea that it would later become difficult to introduce Russian agents into the Americas, especially the United States. This was said to be common knowledge in most Latin-American. Foreign Offices.

The Chilean Government said the Colombian uprising was part of a Communist master plan calling for similar outbreaks in Chile and Bolivia.

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TIMES.

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COSTA RICAN REVOLT

CAPITAL IN DANGER

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT WASHINGTON, APRIL 13

WASHINGTON, APRIL 13

The State Department has news to-day that rebel forces in Costa Rica are on the point of capturing San José, the capital of the country. Limón, the chief port on the Atlantic coast, fell yesterday, and it is also reported that Cartago is in rebel hands. A house-to-house defence of San José has been ordered, and Vanguardia Popular, the Communist Party of Costa Rica, has issued a call to all supporters of the Government to gather at its head-quarters in the city. The acting Foreign Minister has, however, asked the diplomatic corps to take San José under their protection.

The revolt in Costa Rica began on March 12 after some weeks of disorder since the elections on February 8. The present President, Señor Teodoro Picado, was due to leave office on May 8, and, since by Costa Rican law he is unable himself to succeed, the Government party had nominated Señor Rafael Calderon, the President from 1940 to 1944. In the elections a coalition of opposition parties elected Señor Otilio Ulate, of the Union Nacional, by a small majority. Republicano Nacional, the Government party, conceded the election at first but later, at the insistence of the Communists, who support the Government, declared the election fraudulent. Attempts to agree on a compromise candidate failed, and fighting broke out.

San José, April 13.—Foreign diplomatists intervened to-night in the civil war here, appealing for a "cease fire" order at 5 a.m. to-morrow, when they will try to get through the rebels' lines to arrange an armistice.—Reuter.

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#### NEWS CHRONICLE. 14 APR 1948

# U.S. envoy saves the day in Costa Rica

WASHINGTON, Tuesday.

THE Diplomatic Corps in San Jose, capital of Costa Rica,
have been asked to take the city under their protection

have been asked to take the city under their protection against the threat of a rebel force.

The appeal was made by Senor Alvaro Bonia, Acting Foreign Minister of Costa Rica.

Later it was announced that the U.S. Ambassador was mediating and that "Cease fire" orders were issued by both sides.

The rebels according to reports reaching the State Department bere had already captured the Atlantic port of Limon (by a surphise amphibian attack) and Cartago, ten miles from San Jose and the country's second largest city. They were driving the Governments forces back on the capital, the fall of which was described as imminent.

The revolt broke out on March 12 four days after Dr. Ulate Blanco had been elected President. Congress annulled the election as a fraud President Picado refused to give up his post, but was pushed asside by Communist Manuel, Mooa Conservatives revolted under Gen. Figueres—Reuter and B.U.P.



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POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

## FROM SAN JOSE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sullivan.

D: 12.05 p.m. 12th April, 1948.

12th April, 1948.

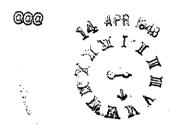
R: 5.45 a.m. 13th April, 1948.

Repeated to: Washington.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 24 of 12th April repeated to Washington.

My telegram No. 23.

Military activities have increased. The opposition have captured Port Simon and I am pretty reliably informed that fighting is now going on a few miles from San José. The situation may become acute shortly and all communications may be interrupted which are reasons for my telegraphing now. San José so far is quiet but increased nervousness amongst responsible people is noticeable.



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## DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

## FROM SAN JOSE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sullivan

D. 12.5 p.m. 12th April, 1948

Nc. 24 12th April, 1948

R. 5.45 a.m. 13th April, 1948

Repeated to Washington

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 24 of 12th April, repeated to Washington.

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