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## FROM SAN JOSE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Coultas No.10

D.6.30 p.m. 2nd March, 1948.

2nd March. 1948.

R.1. 5 a.m. 3rd March. 1948.

Repeated to Washington Mexico Guatemala Tegucigalpa) Saving Salvador Managua

Panama

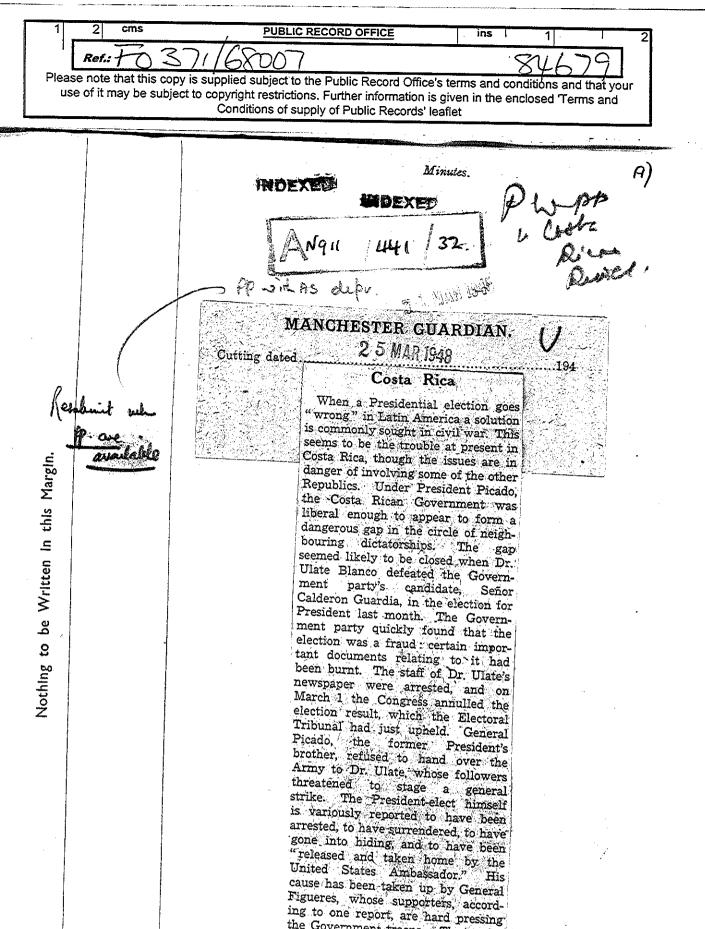
Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 10 of of March 2nd, repeated to Washington and Saving Mexcle, Guatemala, Tegucigalpa, Salvador, Managua, Panama.

Please refer to paragraph. 7 of my telegram No.9 [sic] which has now been copied to posts named above.

- 2. Electoral tribunal on February 28th gave provisional decision in favour of Ulate but denied that they were empowered to take cognisance of Calderons accusations of fraud. In consequence Government parties refused to acknowledge the validity of the pact signed last August and Congress passed a resolution on the night of March 1st declaring the Presidential elections to be sull and void null and void.
- The intention of the opposition parties to declare a general strike and Comission violence if necessary should elections be annulled, was an open secret and when fiscal police requested permission to search for arms in house used by U. as headquarters this was refused, and attempt to search was met by rifle fire resulting in the deaths of two fiscal gnards, and casualties during ensuing struggle amongst persons assembled in the house, which included U. and his principal lieutenants in the capital who were awaiting the expected annulment of election to start their effensive against the Government. Seen after fighting started U. and his principal companions escaped te a [grp emitted]ing house where they are new surrounded by Government treeps pending the result of negotiations being carried out for U.'s transfer to asylum of one of the Latin American Missiens here.

BBB





the Government troops. Those who favour Dr. Ulate—most of the neighbouring States, that is—say the Costa Rican Government has the support of the Communists and clamour for sanctions against what a Columbian paper calls the "Picado dictatorship." Indeed, a Peruvian spokesman is quoted as saying that Costa Rica has become "the Ezechoslovakia of the Western Hemisphère." Democracy is clearly at stake, and the dictators of Central and South America are in full voice defending it.