

DECLASSIFIED

Authority State Letter 1/1/32By W9 NARA Date 9/22/88

No. 947

PM RECD

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

San José, Costa Rica,

June 24, 1932.

JUL 5 32

 DIVISION OF
LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS
JUL 6 - 1932
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

 DIVISION OF
EASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN COSTA RICA

 JUL 8 1932
COPY IN EE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

| FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK | | Yes | No |
|----------------------------------|--|-----|----|
| To the President | | | |
| To the Secretary of State | | | |
| To the Department of State | | | |
| To the Department of War | | | |
| To the Department of Navy | | | |
| To the Department of Justice | | | |
| To the Department of Education | | | |
| To the Department of Agriculture | | | |
| To the Department of Commerce | | | |
| To the Department of Labor | | | |
| To the Department of Health | | | |
| To the Department of Interior | | | |
| To the Department of State | | | |

818.00B/41

JUL 9 1932

FBI

The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Washington

Sir:

818.00B/38

Adverting to my Despatch No. 919 of June 1, 1932, in respect of a Communist demonstration held in the streets of San José on the evening of May 28th last, I have the honor to report that the three leaders of this demonstration, Messrs. Manuel Mora (Valverde), Jaime Cerdas (Mora)

and

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and Luis Caballo (Corrales), were sentenced by the Police Court of San José on June 16, 1932, each to pay fines in the amount of \$300, or to serve the equivalent under arrest (300 days), for "excitacion al tumulto" (causing disturbances). Article 42 of the Constitution, Articles 469 and 684 of the Code of Penal Procedure and Article 549 of the Penal Code were invoked. The condemned have entered appeal, but no date for retrial has been set.

In connection with the general policy of maintaining order within the country, I have learned that on June 16, 1932, the Ministries of Gobernacion and of Finance issued informal but strict orders to the police authorities along the frontiers to prevent the entry of undesirables.

During the past week the students of San José Law School have been on strike in protest against what they claim is unnecessary disciplinary action by the faculty. So far the word "Communism" has not been used in connection with these student activities; however, the possibility exists through the presence of ardent radicals among the boys, that the advocacy of Communism may be given some undesired publicity.

The "polacos", itinerant pedlars of Eastern European origin, have come in for renewed publicity recently. This time the charges against them have been converted from the spreading of Communist propaganda among farm laborers to the smuggling of silks and other materials. It has been known for some time that these pedlars engaged in smuggling, but I understand that the purpose of the recent

accusations

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accusations has been to find other causes than the charge
of inflammatory propaganda to stifle the polacos.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Eberhardt

CHARLES C. EBERHARDT

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