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Ref: <u>TO 371/67952</u>			84679			
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39 1948	AN	3636

Registry Number } AN3636/436/8 FROM Mr. Fowler, Tegucigalpa, to Mr. Broad No. (931/48) Dated 6th October, 1948 Received in Registry } 13th October	<u>Purchase of arms supplied to Figueres during the recent Costa Rica revolution.</u> Refers to Mr. Gallienne's letter to Mr. Broad of 13th September, (AN3407/436/8) Has heard that the arms were purchased by Guatemala, Venezuela and the Dominican exile General Rodríguez, on whose behalf it is probable Arevalo demanded their return. Director of "La Epoca" believes them to be spread along the Guatemala Honduras frontier in readiness for invasion by Honduran exiles. Copied Mexico, Guatemala, San Salvador, Managua, San José and Panama.
Last Paper. AN 3623	(Minutos.) See also AN. 3623.
References.	Jackson 29/10. JH 3/11.
(Print.)	
(How disposed of.)	
(Action completed.) 16/2	(Index.) 2/3
Next Paper. AN 3645	

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By K.M.
(931/48)

3636

British Legation,
Tegucigalpa, Honduras,
6th October, 1948.

My dear Broad,

With reference to Gallienne's letter of 13th September to you regarding the arms supplied to Figueres during the recent revolution in Costa Rica, I am informed by the Director of the Government newspaper "La Epoca" that although supplied through Guatemala they were purchased partly by Guatemala, Venezuela and the Dominican exile, General Rodríguez, who, I understand, is a very wealthy man and an enemy of President Trujillo.

It is, therefore, most probably ^{on behalf of} General Rodríguez and not on behalf of the "Dominican Authorities" that Arevalo demanded the return of the arms from Costa Rica. Of course, Arevalo would also have his own reasons for wanting them. In fact, I was informed this morning by the Director of "La Epoca" that, according to his information, they are now in Guatemala and spread along the frontier with Honduras in readiness for an invasion by Honduran exiles, which some believe will take place during the Presidential elections in four days' time, that is, October 10th. Most people seem to discard the idea of direct intervention on the part of Arevalo, but, according to information received today by my above-mentioned informant, Dr. Carlos Prío Socarrás, President-elect of Cuba, is reported to have recently declared that if the Honduran exiles or the local Opposition take one of the ports on the north coast of Honduras he will see that they get the necessary support. I am telling you this for just what it is worth because, as you may imagine, tension here is now high and rumours rife.

I am sending copies of this letter to Mexico, Guatemala, San Salvador, Managua, San José and Panama.

Yours ever,

Ruf. Bowles.

P. Broad, Esq.,
North American Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.