

AN

AN 1186

18 MAR 1948

PANAMA, COSTA RICA

1948

Registry Number

AN 1186/441/32

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Coultas;
No. San José

Dated

16 Mar.

Received

in Registry

Armed uprising in Costa Rica

Ref San José Tel. 18/AN 1185/441/32

VLATE blames CALDERON & the Labor Party for break down of negotiations, calls on his supporters for passive resistance. Banks & still closed. Commercial air lines suspended. Activities of insurgents are being reduced.

Last Paper.

AN 1185

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

A). Cutting from the Times of 18th March.

See also AN. 1185.

From these and previous telegrams it seems clear that Sr. Ulate himself is not anxious to adopt the role of a rebel leader, and before actually resorting to arms he appears to be trying every possible means of reaching a compromise with the Government parties.

The reports of the extent of the fighting and of the rebels' success are rather confused.

J. Jackson 18/3.

S.A. Dept.

L.A. 2/22/4

J.P. 21/7

The information in para 3 of Mr. Coultas telegram is

not.

26513 F.O.P.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

1725/7

1179

Next Paper.

AN 1231

not been out by the "Times" reports which indicate that the situation is deteriorating. We have been heard of Sean Figures. Sean Mera now heads the "Vanguardia Popular", which is now fellow-travelling than Communist. x is also affiliated with the R. C. Church.

If we hear nothing from the countries over the week-end I think we should telegraph to ask if all is well.

I do not think his P.C. No 10 of 16/3 (AN 1105) need be repeated to the other recipients by us. All the countries concerned must be full of rumours.

Rippen
19/3.

R
21/3.

Now
Su
Ad
1231.

Minutes.

The Times - 18. March. 1948.

FIGHTING IN COSTA RICA

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, MARCH 17

San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica, was reported to-day to be surrounded by rebel forces, led by Señor Jose Figueres. They were fighting with Government forces on three sides of the city, and fighting within it was expected at any moment.

The uprising is a sequel to the annulling by the Government-controlled Congress of the February 7 election, in which the Government candidate was defeated by Señor Otilio Ulate Blanco.

The Times - 19. 3. 48.

REVOLT IN COSTA RICA

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, MARCH 18

President Picado, of Costa Rica, said last night that his country was in a serious national emergency because of the revolt of Señor Jose Figueres in support of the claim of Señor Ulate Blanco to the presidency.

News from Costa Rica has been heavily censored since Monday night, when Señor Ulate Blanco called a general strike, but, though the Office of Public Security is refusing to permit transmission of any reports giving the revolutionists' side of the controversy or telling of their military successes, enough information has leaked out to make it clear that the Government forces are being hard pressed. They are said to be led by Señor Manuel Mora, head of the Communist Party, who commands Bella Vista army barracks.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

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DIPLOMATIC DISTRIBUTION

FROM SAN JOSE TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Coultas D. 8.05 a.m. 16th March 1948
 No. 19 R. 4.42 a.m. 16th March 1948

16th March 1948

Repeated to Washington Mexico Guatemala
 San Salvador Tegucigalpa Managua } all saving
 Panama

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 19 of 16th March
 repeated for information saving to Washington, Mexico,
 Guatemala, San Salvador, Tegucigalpa, Managua and Panama.

My telegram No. 18. AN

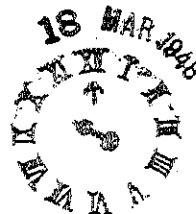
Ulate in a clandestine manifesto throws the blame for the breakdown of the negotiation on Calderon's intransigence and the machinations of Labour Party - an accusation not without foundation. He calls on his supporters for a movement of all embracing passive resistance, the effect of which it is too early to estimate.

2. Banks still remain closed and Commercial Air Lines National and International have suspended their services, the former pursuant of the Government's orders.

3. Activities of insurgents are being gradually reduced and contained and there are rumours tonight of a possible settlement. All continues quiet in the capital.

ccc

AN 1186
 18 MAR 1948



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