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Authority State Letter 1/1/82By WJ NARA Date 7/23/88

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NOTE

SEE 818.00/1386 FOR #882FROM Costa Rica (Eberhardt) DATED Apr. 28, 1932
TO _____ NAME _____ 1-1127 ope

REGARDING:

Explosion of a bomb in the Merced Church:-
Reports the --, resulting in considerable material
damage, and explosion of a second bomb under the
dwelling of "Chepe" Esquivel, and third similar act
in one of the largest coffee farms of this district.

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Authority State Letter 11/12By WJ NARA Date 7/24/88

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I am obliged to entertain some doubt on this score, they have not yet settled the question of choices though it is still my uppermost desire that Costa Rica will be able to avoid permanently impairing its traditional political stability.

There have occurred during the last four days three events of unprecedented nature for Costa Rica and I am not in a position to lay the blame therefore to any source. I refer to the explosion of a bomb

several days ago in the Merced Church, where considerable material damage resulted; to the explosion of a

second bomb two nights ago under the dwelling of "Chepe" Esquivel, a wealthy San José merchant; and to a third similar act last night at one of the largest coffee farms in this district. These bombs have been laid at the door of Communism, although without sufficient proof to convince me. One thing is certain, however, and that is that the perpetrators of these attempts were plainly encouraged by the disorganized state of affairs in the country, although the distinction between cause and effect is not entirely clear.

The directors of the Ricardista party and the twenty-four Ricardista Deputies to the new Congress have held

several meetings during the past few days to draw up a plan of action for the opening session of the Congress.

They have all decided unanimously in favor of the Candidacy of don Ricardo Jimenez for First Designate, but

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-8-

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they have not yet settled the question of choices for Second and Third Designates. Press statements have been issued by the Ricardista party leaders admitting that they have not yet decided on their candidates for these two posts but giving assurances that all the twenty-four Deputies of the Party have solemnly pledged themselves to remain united in this respect.

FROM: It is probable, however, that party unity on the choice of designates will materialize before Congress meets on May 1st. The session at that time will be secret and elaborate zoning restrictions isolating the block in which the Congress building is situated have been made. This is one of a number of precautions taken by local authorities to attempt to guarantee order in the city on May first, which, in my opinion, will be the critical moment during this period. If the May first hurdle can be cleared safely, the worst should be over.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES C. EBERHARDT

McGW:KEM:RS

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