

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

San José, Costa Rica

October 27, 1932

DIVISION OF LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF

2 193

COMMUNIST OR "WORKERS" ACTIVITIES NOV

818,8013

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Washington

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that on the night of October 16th last, the San José police made a raid on a clandestine meeting of what they considered to be Communist agitators; they arrested seven or eight of those present; these have entered the plea that their detention is illegal as the purpose of the meeting was in no way communistic but only for the furthering of the welfare of the Costa Rican working classes. No mention has been made of this affair in the press and I have been unable to ascertain what the latest

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action of the authorities has been. My informant, Colonel Lizano, the Commander of the San José garrison, told me that he considered the arrested to be subjects for deportation, that is, alien agitators.

The raid was the outcome of the organized interferences with performances in San José and the Provinces of an excellent Salvadorean marimba band. Theatre after theatre has been obliged to cancel its contracts with the band on account of the systematic interferences from the galleries. Statements have appeared in the press and in handbills to the effect that these demonstrations were indeed organized and for the purpose of protesting against "General Martinez' cruel treatment of the poor man in El Salvador during December 1931".

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES C. EBERHARDT

Copy sent to American Legation, San Salvador.

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