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COSTA RICA

PROFESSORS ASK ODUBER TO INVESTIGATE VESCO

[Article; San Jose, La Nacion, Spanish, 21 December 1972, pp 1, 106]

College professors requested that a legislative committee be appointed to present a report to the nation on the activities and operations of Vesco in Costa Rica. Twenty-three college professors signed the petition, stating that they do not approve of the entry of capital of fraudulent origin. The day before yesterday these 23 university professors requested the President of the Legislative Assembly to see to it that an investigation be conducted "in a definitive period of time" on the "activities and financial operations of Mr. Rober Vesco in Costa Rica."

In a letter addressed to Mr. Daniel Oduber, a copy of which they sent to La Nacion, the professors of the University asked for the appointment of a legislative commission and expressed their concern over the publications of U. S. and European newspapers and journals regarding Mr. Vesco's activities. These articles appeared in the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, Newsweek, New York Times, Sunday Times, etc.

They indicated that this publicity cannot be "simply frowned upon." Although it condemns "openly those Costa Ricans who, using weak arguments, send their capital abroad they cannot warrant the "entry of capital of fraudulent origin." Among other reasons they stated that "the institutions which supply the greatest amounts of outside resources through legal channels could close the doors to us."

The professors stated that "personal interests should not be mixed with the high interests of the nation. The moral values of our people should always be above the interests of a few. We should not, for any reason, permit our country to become the refuge place for international financial adventurism."

The letter was signed by Dr. Fernando E. Naranjo V., Prof. Carlos Monge A., Prof. Isaac F. Azofeifa, Mr. Raul Hess E., Mr. Marco V. Tristan O., Mr. Jorge E. Guier, Miss Maria Eugenia Dengo de Vargas, Mr. Alvaro Hernandez Piedra, Prof. Francisco Gutierrez G., Dr. Fernando Zumbado J., Mr. Carlos L. Leiva S., Dr. Hilda Chen Apuy, Dr. Sherman Thomas, Dr. Chester Zelaya G., Dr. Carlos Araya, P., Mr. Jose M. Jimenez, F., Mr. Jenaro Valverde Marin, Dr. Fernando Mora Rojas, Dr. Claudio Gutierrez C., Mr. Victor H. Cespedes, S., Prof. Rafael A. Trejos, S. and Prof. Jose Francisco Cordoba J. One signature was illegible.

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