

smuggle guns into the country and therefore it will not deport him.

Public Security Minister Mario Charpentier told a news conference Wednesday the government's investigation revealed that arms apparently destined for Besco were purchased in California. But he said the guns were still in the United States, the guns carried by Vesco's bodyguards are all properly registered and government agents who searched Vesco's properties in Costa Rica found no trace of illegal weapons.

Vesco has been living in Costa Rica to escape U.S. prosecution on charges of making an illegal \$200,000 contribution to the re-election campaign of former President Nixon in an attempt to influence an investigation by the Secu-

rities and Exchange Commission. Attempts to extradite Vesco have failed.

Recently, a U.S. Senate subcommittee heard testimony that cartons apparently containing weapons were smuggled from Los Angeles to Costa Rica in April and were unloaded here by Vesco employees.

Vesco Guns *Post 10-25-74*

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica — The Costa Rican government says it has found that financier Robert L. Vesco did not
