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**LAWYER QUESTIONED
 BY S.E.C. ON VESCO**

The Securities and Exchange Commission questioned a lawyer here yesterday for nearly two hours about his knowledge of plans by Robert L. Vesco, the New Jersey financier, to build a tax haven in Costa Rica and invest in a broad range of other ventures.

The lawyer, Howard F. Cerny, testified in United States District Court that he had been an attorney for Mr. Vesco and nine other defendants, including investors' Overseas Service, in a suit filed by the S.E.C. last November.

Mr. Cerny, also a defendant in the case, told the Government that he had made numerous trips to Costa Rica and that on at least one had discussed with Mr. Vesco a \$2.1-million loan—later granted—to Sociedad Agricola y Industrial San Cristobal, S. A., partly

owned by Costa Rica's president, Jose Figueres, and President Figueres' son, Marti.

The lawyer said that among those he had met in Costa Rica were the President and a number of others known to have had business dealings with Mr. Vesco.

In an earlier decision on file with the court, Mr. Cerny told the S. E. C. that he and Mr. Vesco also had discussed Mr. Vesco's idea for a tax haven with Joaquin Balaguer, president of the Dominican Republic. The record showed that President Balaguer expressed interest in Mr. Vesco's proposal.