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Look Asked At Figueres Bank Fund

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NEW YORK, May 12—A New York bank account belonging to Costa Rican President Jose Figueres may have been used to spirit money belonging to foreign mutual fund shareholders into Costa Rica, a legislator in that country has charged.

According to the Spanish news service, EFE, Emilio Piedra Jimenez, an opposition member of the Costa Rican Assembly, has asked the assembly to order an investigation of Dr. Figueres' account.

Last week, the Securities and Exchange Commission told a federal court here that money from mutual funds managed by IOS, Ltd., may have passed through the account. In a recent interview, the Costa Rican President acknowledged that some fund money may have been in his account, but he said it was the result of a mixup.

Figueres has been associated with Robert L. Vesco, who is attempting to build a base of operations in Costa Rica. Last Thursday, Vesco, along with former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans and New

Jersey politician Harry L. Sears, was indicted by a federal grand jury here on charges of conspiracy and obstruction of justice in connection with an SEC investigation of his activities. Mitchell and Stans were also charged with lying to the grand jury probing the circumstances around a secret \$200,000 cash contribution made by Vesco to President Nixon's re-election campaign last year.

Vesco is also the main figure in a \$224 million fraud suit filed by the SEC last November. The SEC has charged, among other things, that more than \$60 million in funds belonging to the IOS-managed mutual funds has been invested in Vesco-controlled companies in Costa Rica. More than \$2 million was placed in a company founded by Dr. Figueres.

The request in the Costa Rican Assembly would authorize an investigation of Dr. Figueres' bank account by a special committee probing Vesco's operations in that country. The president of the committee said the petition will be submitted to the assembly next week, EFE reported.