

Vesco Steps Back From Aide's Blast

San Jose, Costa Rica

Robert L. Vesco, the financier under federal indictment in the U.S., issued a statement yesterday in which he essentially disassociated himself from remarks made Sunday by his friend and former business associate, Norman P. LeBlanc.

The statement is believed to indicate President Jose Figueres' displeasure at some of the language used by LeBlanc in his sharp attack against the U.S.

Vesco's statement said:

"I have read numerous reports concerning statements made by Norman P. LeBlanc. Although Mr. LeBlanc is a personal friend and is deeply concerned about the pending controversies, I feel it's necessary to state that his opinions are not necessarily what my views are on this situation."

On Sunday night LeBlanc charged that Peter Johnson, the chief political officer in the U.S. embassy here, was really a CIA agent trying to "get rid" of him and Vesco.

The accusations against Johnson angered the U.S. Embassy here.

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