

Costa Rica warns Vesco

Associated Press

SAN JOSE (Costa Rica) — President Daniel Oduber says that shortly before his inauguration this month he warned fugitive American financier Robert L. Vesco against partnerships with government officials or "mysterious investments."

Otherwise, Vesco would be expelled from Costa Rica.

Oduber gave newsmen copies of a letter yesterday that he said he had given Vesco during a meeting prior to the presidential inauguration May 8.

Oduber also warned Vesco that if Costa Rican courts order him extradited he would be shipped out.

Vesco is said to have around \$31 million invested in Costa Rica, some of it in a new newspaper, two television stations and four radio stations. Some of Vesco's investments reportedly are in association with former President Jose Figueres.

"You must not accept any member of my government as a partner of yours, and if you did I would have to fire

the official and ask you to abandon the country," Oduber's letter said.

The letter asked Vesco to invest in agriculture, livestock, tourism and agriculture rather than "mysterious investments."

Vesco is wanted in the United States in connection with a mutual funds fraud case and on charges of ob-

struction of justice.

U.S. authorities asked for Vesco's extradition twice last year, but the Costa Rican supreme court turned down the petitions despite an extradition treaty between the two countries.

Earlier this year Figueres pushed through the Costa Rican Congress an extradition bill favorable to Vesco.