

AMERICAN LEGATION  
TO COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA, AND SALVADOR.

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, November 22, 1905,

Confidential.

To,

The Honorable Elihu Root,  
Secretary of State,  
Washington D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to advise that the Presidential election in Nicaragua on Sunday 12th. instant, undoubtedly resulted in the reelection of General J. Santos Zelaya for the next term of six years from January 1st. 1906 to 1912, under the new Constitution adopted a few months since.

The election seems to have been "pro-forma" there being no opposition and no political excitement in connection therewith.

The death or absence of President Zelaya would undoubtedly result in serious disturbance of the public peace. The so called "Conservative" party has no leader of decisive influence and lacks the financial backing to make a successful contest against the "Liberals", but in the absence of the present Executive the rival faction would undoubtedly come into collision. Thus while the reelection of President Zelaya insures the present policy of peace by repression, it is better than a condition of turmoil that would probably disturb the tranquility of Central America, and retard what little progress Nicaragua is making under the military autocracy which controls her people and the Government monopolies that impede commerce and industries.

President Zelaya's reelection is conducive to the public peace of the other Republics and in this respect is a cause for congratulation.

With assurances of my highest consideration, I beg to remain,  
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

*William Lawrence Murray*  
American Minister.