

THE PANAMA REVOLUTION

Department of State
Washington, June 9, 1903

The Colombian Government apparently does not appreciate the gravity of the situation. The canal negotiations were initiated by Colombia, and were energetically pressed upon this Government for several years. The propositions presented by Colombia, with slight modifications, were finally accepted by us. In virtue of this agreement our Congress reversed its previous judgment (favoring Nicaragua) and decided upon the Panama route. If Colombia should now reject the treaty or unduly delay its ratification, the friendly understanding between the two countries would be so seriously compromised that action might be taken by the Congress next winter which every friend of Colombia would regret. Confidential. Communicate substance of this verbally to the minister of foreign affairs. If he desires it give him a copy in form memorandum.

Hay

Mr. Loomis to Mr. Ehrman
Department of State
Washington, November 3, 1903

(sent 3:40PM)

Uprising on Isthmus reported. Keep Department promptly and fully informed.
Loomis, Acting

Mr. Ehrman to Mr. Hay
Panama, November 3, 1903
(Received 8:15PM)

No uprising yet. Reported will be in the night. Situation is critical
Ehrman

Mr. Ehrman to Mr. Hay
Panama, November 3, 1903
(Received 9:50PM)

Uprising occurred (at Panama City) tonight, 6; no bloodshed. (Colombian) Army and navy officials taken prisoners. Government will be organized tonight, consisting three consuls, also cabinet. Soldiers changed. Supposed same movement will be effected in Colon. Order prevails so far. Situation serious. Four hundred (Colombian) soldiers landed Colon today (from) Barranquilla.
Ehrman

Mr. Loomis to Mr. Ehrman
Department of State
Washington, November 8, 1903
(sent 11:18PM)

Message sent to Nashville to Colon may not have been delivered. Accordingly see that following message is sent to Nashville immediately: Nashville, Colon:

In the interest of peace make every effort to prevent (Colombian) Government troops at Colon from proceeding to Panama. The transit of the Isthmus must be kept open and order maintained.
Acknowledge.

(signed) Darling, Acting (Secretary of Navy)
Secure special train (to deliver message), if necessary, Act promptly.
Loomis, Acting