

## Assassins' Leader Is Seized on Eve of Attempt to Shoot Down Caffery.

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Havana, Nov. 3.—An unimpeachable source disclosed tonight that a "master plot" to assassinate Jefferson Caffery, United States Ambassador to Cuba, had been thwarted by intelligence operatives of the Cuban army on the eve of its execution.

Reliable sources said army officials were convinced the plot was nipped with the recent arrest of Cesar Vilar, leader of the confederation of labor.

Also scheduled for death, army agents said they learned, was Pepin Rivero, director of the newspaper *Diario de la Marina*.

Twenty-nine men, these sources said, had been sworn to kill Caffery, who was to be the first to go.

The plot was set for November 1, the day after Vilar's arrest, it was asserted. Six automobiles were ready to carry the assassins to a point already designated, agents disclosed.

Army officials expressed belief

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## Plot to Murder Envoy of U.S. In Cuba Balked

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the plot was inspired by radicals to provoke American intervention in Cuba, in the hope of thus starting a revolution. The plan for the attempt had been rehearsed to the most minute detail, they said.

An army sergeant has been serving as the chief of Caffery's bodyguard for months.

The assassination, it was said, was to take place when Caffery left for home from the embassy last Friday.

Vilar, who is wanted on a number of charges, was arrested October 31 with several associates. A majority of the 29 suspects are still at large.

Caffery has been the target of assassins before. His home on the outskirts of the city shows bullet scars where assailants fired. A soldier guard at the residence was killed when attackers opened fire on it in daylight.

Jefferson Caffery has been the ob-

ject within the past 18 months of what police called several assassination plots, springing from Cuba's turbulent politics.

At least three attacks were made on his home last fall, around which the Cuban government had thrown a police guard.

Several months earlier a soldier guarding the home was shot to death by attackers in a passing automobile. Numerous persons have been jailed as suspects in the plots.

Caffery, police said, was an intended victim because of his relations with the present Cuban government.

A native of Louisiana, Caffery came to Havana in December, 1933, as personal representative of President Roosevelt. He was made ambassador when the Mendieta government was recognized by Washington.