

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

CIA WEEKLY SUMMARY
27 September 1968

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VIOLENCE ERUPTS IN MEXICAN STUDENT CRISIS

The hard position on both sides, evident in the almost daily violence between students and police, have dimmed prospects for quieting the students before the opening Olympic ceremonies on 12 October.

The government is, however, fully determined to use as many troops and as much force as needed to ensure peace during the games. Any school being used as a center for subversive activity will be occupied by troops.

Although the government has failed to stem the crisis, its tough action against the demonstrators has at least made it difficult for students to assemble and plan strategy. As students have banded in smaller groups, however, they have made increasing use of guns and Molotov cocktails, and have provoked more damaging confrontations with the authorities. At least

15 are reported dead, large numbers are wounded, and about 2,000 persons have been arrested. The strike movement also has spread to other areas of Mexico. Two provincial universities reportedly are occupied by army troops.

There are vague rumors that some former government officials are involved in the current disturbances.

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The current rumors and insecurity in the capital, following the electoral scandals earlier this year, have added significantly to the stresses on and within the political establishment.

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