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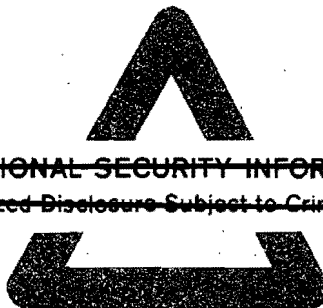
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THE PRESIDENT'S  
DAILY BRIEF  
1 OCTOBER 1968

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1. Mexico

Troops withdrew from the National University yesterday, but the students are still in a defiant mood. Another rally is scheduled for tomorrow.

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THE PRESIDENT'S  
DAILY BRIEF  
3 OCTOBER 1968

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THE PRESIDENT'S  
DAILY BRIEF  
3 OCTOBER 1968

1. Mexico

Last night's battle was the worst yet in Mexico City's current crisis. There apparently was firing on both sides as the army tried to break up a student demonstration. An undetermined number of people were killed or wounded in the shooting and the mass panic which followed.

The students now have a new batch of martyrs and will probably try to press their campaign. With the Olympics scheduled to start a week from Saturday, the government is likely to grow even more sensitive to threats of disorders and more inclined toward Draconian measures.

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DAILY BRIEF  
4 OCTOBER 1968

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Case # NLJC 3-136 ISCAP Appeal

Document # 4

1. Mexico

No new outbreaks have been reported from Mexico City this morning. Neither has there been any student reaction to the announcement that the Olympic games would go on, although earlier yesterday some plans to sabotage Olympic installations were being considered.

It now seems clear the battle Wednesday night was a premeditated provocation by well-armed students. They remain in an ugly mood--a mood matched by government security forces. It is hard to see how more trouble can be avoided.

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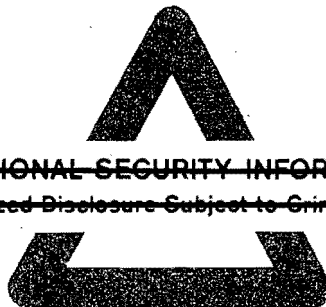
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5 OCTOBER 1968

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9. Mexico

There is a general feeling of insecurity in Mexico City following the extreme violence of 2 October. The capital is rife with rumors of revolution and military takeover, and the government expects a major act of sabotage before the opening of the Olympics on 12 October. The lack of confidence is reflected in substantial losses in the Bank of Mexico's net reserve position. Hospital interns have begun a work stoppage in support of the student strike, and members of the social security agency are planning to demonstrate their sympathy with the students.



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DAILY BRIEF  
8 OCTOBER 1968

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2. Mexico

A temporary truce may follow last night's decision by student leaders to suspend mass rallies. If observed, this ban will smooth things out for the Olympics, but the students by no means have given up, and any armistice will be uneasy at best.

The government has not abandoned its charges that leftists are responsible for the disorders. Some [REDACTED] however, are saying the students' principal assistance is coming from enemies of Diaz Ordaz in his own party.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

Meanwhile, in Veracruz, the Cuban consul is spreading rumors that the US is behind the trouble and hopes to use it as a pretext for military intervention.

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ANNEX

Latin American Students

The anniversary of Che Guevara's arrest and execution this week has produced only faint rumblings among the students of Latin America; there has been no sign of coordinated action throughout the continent. In Mexico, where the student problem is the most serious, the agitators have been lying low since the major violence of a week ago and are now trying to decide on future strategy. Their demands, however, are unchanged--disbanding the riot police, freeing all political prisoners, compensating students hurt in clashes with security forces, and firing the mayor of Mexico City.

In Uruguay, the situation has its own national flavor. The students started rioting to protest against a government raid on the national university. Later they changed their tactics and demonstrated against the government's refusal to lift a state of siege which had been imposed during the summer. They also joined with labor to demand an end to a wage freeze. There were student fatalities as a result of some of these demonstrations, producing student "martyrs" and in turn more rioting as the students protested government "brutality." Disorders have eased somewhat recently, but it is likely that the radical leadership will soon drum up more demonstrations with more violence.

In Brazil, students have repeatedly asked the government to implement badly needed educational reforms. Better teachers, better facilities, and an updated curriculum are high on their list of demands. In response, the Costa e Silva government has conducted numerous studies of the archaic educational system. So far, however, it has failed to make any changes. There will eventually be some action, but this is likely to be too little and too late to satisfy the students.

At this point, we have no evidence that the student riots in the various Latin American countries are interrelated or directed from abroad. It is true, however, that local Communists, Trotskyites, Castroites, and other extremists on the left have been quick--and evidently well prepared--to exploit the student grievances.

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DAILY BRIEF  
11 OCTOBER 1968

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3. Mexico

The radical fringe is still trying to disrupt the opening of the Olympic games, but most of the students are cowed and disorganized after last week's crackdown. Tight security is being maintained in Mexico City.

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