(U) Report forwards information concerning Mexican Army preparations to cope with student demonstrations in Mexico City in event they are renewed.

1. The intentions of Mexican military authorities should student violence be renewed after the Olympic Games which terminate 26 October 1968. They replied that, although they did not wish to appear overly optimistic, there was a general feeling within military that subsequent to Olympic Games students would pursue their objectives on a more peaceful basis. Further, that a return of students to classes in early November (classes reportedly will be resumed on 4 November 1968) would strengthen this feeling.

2. (b)(1) stated that because no one had certain knowledge of student intentions and because peaceful demonstrations sometimes got out of control and became violent, the Mexican Defense establishment has carefully selected and
trained a 1,500-man unit (currently called Brigada Olympia) from various units of the Army under direct command of Lt Gen Alvaro Garcia Taboada, Inspector General of the Army. He said another 1,500-man unit was being selected and trained as backup and to permit one of the two to be on alert at all times during periods of crises. He expected second unit to be operational by end of Olympic Games or as soon thereafter as possible. Source reiterated that the Army did not expect renewal of student violence but is preparing to deal with it decisively should it occur.

2. (C) If above action was unilateral on part of Secretariat of Defense, or was decision reached mutually by President and members of his cabinet. Source stated emphatically that President, Cabinet, Staff of Presidential Guard and Secretary of Defense were in complete and full accord on manner in which students should be handled should violence re-occur.

1. (C) By military to student violence may be overstated; and somewhat hopeful. 
Quick military reaction to student violence prior to the Olympics may well have been prompted by Administration's desperate need for tranquility during the Games.

2. (C) Although 73 years old, Lt Gen Alvaro Garcia Taboada is reported to be very intelligent and highly regarded as an officer. He demonstrated his ability to maintain order in 1960 when, as Commanding General of the 27th Military Zone, he sent troops to Chilpancingo to quiet a local uprising.