

34



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

Pol 23-0 Mex  
Cul 15-1 Mex

49

CONFIDENTIAL 404

PAGE 01 MEXICO 07362 032031Z

89  
ACTION ARA 16

INFO (RSR 01, MM 01, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00,  
USIE 00, AID 28, FBO 01, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NIC 01, NSC 10, O  
OC 06, OPR 02, P 04, PER 02, RSC 01, SAH 02, SCA 02, SP 02, SS 25, SY 06,  
SCS 04, CU 04, MC 01, SCI 05, NASA 04, IGA 02, PC 04, /149 W  
051614

10/3/68  
Released 6/30/82

O 031937Z OCT 68  
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7802

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 7362

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. EMBASSY HAS REASSESSED STUDENT AND OLYMPIC SITUATION  
IN LIGHT OF OCTOBER 2 RIOTS AND CONCLUDES FOLLOWING:

MICROFILMED BY 133/18

2. SITUATION CLEARLY MORE SERIOUS THAN ANYTHING PREVIOUS IN  
CURRENT STUDENT UNREST. 24 CIVILIANS AND 8 ARMY MEN KNOWN  
DEAD, BUT THESE FIGURES INCOMPLETE WITH POSSIBILITY AS MANY  
AS 100 KILLED. GENERAL JOSE HERNANDEZ TOLEDO, HEAD OF  
PARATROOP BATTALION, SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AND MAY NOT SURVIVE.  
NO US CITIZENS REPORTED DEAD OR HOSPITALIZED. SOME PRESS  
REPS INCLUDING US WERE DETAINED BRIEFLY AND HAD PHOTO  
EQUIPMENT AND FILM SEIZED. ITALIAN WOMAN CORRESPONDENT WOUNDED  
THOUGH NOT SERIOUSLY.

3. ENTIRE APARTMENT COMPLEX FROM WHICH SHOOTING TOOK PLACE  
HAS BEEN SEARCHED, ARMS CACHES FOUND, MORE THAN 1000 ARRESTED,  
INCLUDING SOCRATES CAMPOS LEMUS, BELIEVED TO BE LEADER OF  
HARDLINERS IN CNH. WHETHER OTHER CNH LEADERS CAPTURED NOT YET  
KNOWN. INTERESTING QUESTION UPON WHICH EMB LACKS INFO IS  
WHETHER OCCUPANTS APARTMENT HOUSES VOLUNTARILY COOPERATED  
WITH STUDENTS IN POSITIONING SNIPERS OR WHETHER THEY DID SO  
UNDER DURESS. NO INFO YET ON ORIGIN OF WEAPONS.

(3)

4. MOTIVATION FOR OBVIOUSLY DELIBERATE WILLINGNESS OF STUDENT

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND969000  
By CE NARA Date 10-1-03



# Department of State

# TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MEXICO 07362 032031Z

LEADERS TO ENGAGE GOVERNMENT IN ARMED CONFRONTATION NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR. POSSIBLE AIM WAS TO EXACERBATE RELATIONS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND GOVERNMENT AND CREATE NEW ISSUE OF TYPE WHICH UP TO NOW HAS CAUSED THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS TO RALLY AROUND HARDCORE LEADERSHIP. HOWEVER, WHETHER STUDENTS WILL RESPOND IN THIS WAY REMAINS TO BE SEEN, AND IN ANY CASE, IT SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT THERE WILL BE GENERAL WAVE OF REVULSION AGAINST SHOOTINGS. FACT THAT SNIPERS HAD PREPARED POSITIONS (AND APPARENTLY AMBUSHED SOLDIERS) SHOULD BE OBVIOUS EVEN TO OPPONENTS OF GOVERNMENT AND SHOULD DILUTE STANDARD COUNTERARGUMENT THAT GOVERNMENT PROVOKED MATTERS.

5. RECENT INCIDENT IS OBVIOUSLY WORRYING GOM BUT PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY EARLY THIS MORNING ASSURED PRESS THAT OLYMPICS WILL BE HELD WITHOUT DISRUPTIONS. THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE BEEN ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN SHOOTINGS AND OLYMPICS. AREA OF INCIDENTS WAS CONFINED TO ONE SMALL PART OF CITY AND NEITHER OLYMPIC INSTALLATIONS NOR PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN OBJECT STUDENT ATTACK NOR AFFECTED IN ANY WAY. DISQUIETING NOTE, HOWEVER, WAS ORAL MESSAGE FROM MEXICAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE THIS MORNING ASKING THAT SPACE EXHIBIT NOT BE SET UP ON UNAM CAMPUS. IOC PRES. BRUNDAGE TOLD PRESS THAT IOC STATEMENT WILL BE ISSUED THIS AFTERNOON WHICH EMBASSY WILL FORWARD IMMEDIATELY.

6. STRIKING ASPECT OF STUDENT DISTURBANCES SINCE LATE JULY HAS BEEN VIRTUAL ABSENCE OF ANY ANTI-US ASPECT. THIS ALSO CASE IN OCTOBER 2 RIOT.

7. ON BALANCE, EMBASSY REAFFIRMS ITS PREVIOUS CONCLUSION IN EMBTEL 7239 THAT QUOTE EMB DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT SIGNIFICANT DISRUPTION OF GAMES WILL OCCUR OR THAT VISITORS WILL BE SERIOUSLY ENDANGERED OR INCONVENIENCED BY STUDENT AGITATION. UNQUOTE. ISOLATED ACTS OF VIOLENCE CANNOT, OF COURSE, BE RULED OUT. FREEMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND969000

By CG NARA Date 10-1-03