

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable**

• PRIORITY

IN 83101

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CONFIDENTIAL 312300Z [Redacted] 31 AUGUST 1968

COUNTRY: MEXICO
DOI: 30-31 AUGUST 1968
SUBJECT: MEXICO CITY SITREP

ACQ:

SOURCE:

1. **COMMENT:** ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS OF 31 AUGUST 1968, THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT STUDENT DISTURBANCES ON 30 AUGUST AND THE CRISIS OF PRECEDING DAYS APPEARED TO HAVE ABATED SOMEWHAT. THE STUDENT NATIONAL STRIKE COUNCIL (CNH) HAS ORDERED THE STRIKE COMMITTEES OF THE 70 SCHOOLS INVOLVED NOT TO CARRY OUT ANY ACT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT ON 1 SEPTEMBER. THE DECISION WAS TAKEN AT AN EIGHT-HOUR SESSION HELD AT THE ZACATENCO UNIT OF THE NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (IPN) ON 30 AUGUST. HOWEVER, THERE WAS MENTION

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DATE: MAR 2002 (b)(3)
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OF A POSSIBLE DEMONSTRATION IN THE ZOCALO AT AN UNSPECIFIED TIME AFTER THE DELIVERY OF THE PRESIDENTIAL "INFORME." FOR THE PRESENT THE STUDENTS ARE TO AVOID CONFRONTATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL TROOPS AND OTHER LARGE DISORDERS BUT ARE TO PARTICIPATE IN LIGHTNING RALLIES STAGED BY POLITICAL "BRIGADES" THROUGHOUT THE CITY. THE CNH IS PURSUING ITS GOALS OF OBTAINING A PEACEFUL, PUBLIC "DIALOGUE" WITH GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES AND A SOLUTION TO ITS SIX-POINT PETITION. IN ADDITION, THE CNH, WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE LOST SOME OF ITS AGGRESSIVENESS, AGREED THAT THE STUDENTS SHOULD COVER UP WALL PAINTINGS, CLEAN THE STREETS AND SCHOOLS, AND ASSIST DURING THE OLYMPIC GAMES BY CLEANING THE STREETS EVERY DAY AND OFFERING INTERPRETER, PORTER, AND CHAUFFEUR SERVICES.)

2. NEITHER THE CNH NOR THE "STUDENT MOVEMENT" HAS ANY OFFICIAL PLANS TO TAKE ANY ACTION ON THE OCCASION OF THE 1 SEPTEMBER PRESIDENTIAL "INFORME" OR DURING THE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION ON 15 SEPTEMBER, ALTHOUGH THE LATTER MAY DEPEND ON INTERVENING EVENTS. AT PRESENT, MOST STUDENTS HAVE BEEN FRIGHTENED AWAY BY ARMY ACTION. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME ISOLATED STUDENT GROUPS MAY ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT THE "INFORME," BUT THESE WOULD BE INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS NOT CENTRALLY DIRECTED BY THE CNH. AMONG THESE IS A GROUP FROM THE

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SPARTACUS COMMUNIST LEAGUE (LCE) WHICH IS REPORTEDLY DEFINITELY PLANNING TO CREATE A DISTURBANCE ON 1 SEPTEMBER. LUIS GONZALEZ DE ALBA, PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY OF THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY AND LETTERS OF THE NATIONAL AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO (UNAM). CONTINUES TO DIRECT THE CNH. OTHER KNOWN AGITATORS FROM UNAM ARE GILBERTO GUEVARA NIEBLA, OF THE FACULTY OF SCIENCES; ROMER GONZALEZ MEDRANO, PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY OF THE FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE; AND JESUS RODRIGUEZ, ROBERTA AVENDANO, AND IGNACIO RODRIGUEZ, ALL OF THE LAW FACULTY. THE CNH HAS BEEN CRIPPLED BY THE LACK OF SUPPORTERS FOLLOWING THE ARMY ACTION. ON 30 AUGUST THERE WERE NOT MORE THAN 200 STUDENTS ON THE UNAM PREMISES. THE CNH IS NOW SIMPLY A GROUP OF ABOUT 20 PERSONS WITHOUT ANY BASE OF SUPPORTERS. MOST OF THE ACTION IN THE STUDENT MOVEMENT CENTERS AROUND THE IPN.

3. THE CNH IS NOW DIVIDED INTO A MAJORITY GROUP OF MODERATES AND A SMALL GROUP OF RADICALS. WHILE THE RADICALS HAVE JOINED THE MODERATES IN NOT ADVOCATING VIOLENCE ON 1 SEPTEMBER, THEY ARE CONTINUING PLANS FOR AGITATION AFTER THEY SEE WHAT HAPPENS ON THAT

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DAY. SOME RADICALS HAVE BEEN STOCKING MOLOTOV COCKTAILS AND HAVE BEEN BUYING WEAPONS FROM STORES THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

[Redacted]

4. [Redacted]

5. ALTHOUGH INTERNS AND DOCTORS OF THE MEXICAN INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SECURITY (IMSS) ARE TO MEET AGAIN ON 31 AUGUST TO DISCUSS

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A POSSIBLE SYMPATHY STRIKE WITH THE STUDENTS,

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THERE IS NO SUPPORT AMONG DOCTORS FOR A STRIKE
IN SPIE OF TOKEN GESTURES WHICH THEY ARE ALLEGED TO BE PERFORMING
IN SUPPORT OF THE STUDENT CAUSE.

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