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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Intelligence Information Cable

PRIORITY  
IN 66312

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INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

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DIST 8 AUGUST 1968

COUNTRY: MEXICO

DOI: 7 AUGUST 1968

SUBJECT: MEXICO CITY SITREP

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ACQ:

SOURCE:

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2. AS OF 1200 HOURS ON 7 AUGUST, THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (UNAM) HAD DECLARED THEMSELVES ON STRIKE IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMANDS MADE ON THE GOVERNMENT BY STUDENTS OF THE NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (IPN): PHILOSOPHY AND LETTERS; LAW, ECONOMICS; POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES; SCIENCES; ARCHITECTURE; NIGHT PREPARATORY SCHOOLS TWO, THREE, SIX AND SEVEN, AND DAY PREPARATORY SCHOOLS SIX AND NINE. THIS STRIKE ACTION IS COMPLETELY COMMUNIST INSPIRED AND LED. THE COMMUNISTS, HOWEVER, HAVE RESORTED TO A VERY CLEVER TACTIC; NONE OF THEIR LEADERS IS APPEARING BEFORE THE STUDENTS. INSTEAD, THEY ARE SENDING MEMBERS OF THEIR GROUPS TO SHOUT "FUERA GRILLOS" ("GRILLOS" IS THE TERM APPLIED TO THE ELECTED STUDENT LEADERS OF WHATEVER POLITICAL PERSUASION.) THE STUDENTS LIKE THIS SLOGAN, AND TOOK IT UP IMMEDIATELY, WITH THE RESULT THAT NONE OF THE ELECTED STUDENT LEADERS, INCLUDING THE COMMUNIST ONES, IS ALLOWED TO SPEAK AT MEETINGS, BUT IS WHISTLED DOWN. TO CARRY OUT THEIR CURRENT PROGRAM, THE COMMUNIS ARE USING CELLS, WHICH THEY CALL "GOLPES," IN EACH OF THE SCHOOLS. IN THE LAW FACULTY THEY DO NOT NEED THE "GOLPE" BECAUSE THER THEY HAVE THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC STUDENTS' CENTRAL (CNED) AND THE PROGRESSIVE STUDENT PARTY (PEP).

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3. CECILIA SOTO BLANCO, MEMBER OF THE CNED, THE PEP AND THE COMMUNIST YOUTH OF MEXICO (CYM), APPEARS TO BE MANAGING THE COMMUNIST EFFORT FOR THE GREATER PART, BUT SHE TOO IS REMAINING IN THE BACKGROUND BECAUSE SHE ALSO IS A "GRILLO." SHE STATED ON 7 AUGUST THAT THE CURRENT COMMUNIST EFFORT IS TO CULMINATE IN A MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION TO BE HELD ON 9 AUGUST AT 1800 HOURS. SHE SAID SHE WAS NOT YET CERTAIN WHETHER IT WOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE ZOCALO, AT THE INDEPENDENCE MONUMENT (NEAR THE AMERICAN EMBASSY), OR AT SOME OTHER LOCATION. [Redacted]

4. THE RESULT OF THIS COMMUNIST TACTIC OF SILENCING THE STUDENT LEADERS MEANS THAT ALL NEW FACES ARE APPEARING ON THE COMMUNIST SCENE AND THEIR CADRES ARE COMPLETELY NEW. IN THE MEANTIME, THE ELECTED STUDENT LEADERS FIND THEMSELVES POWERLESS TO MOVE SINCE THE STUDENTS WHISTLE THEM DOWN IN EVERY MEETING. ONLY SOME THREE HUNDRED FIFTY STUDENTS ATTENDED THE MEETING IN THE LAW FACULTY AT WHICH THE STRIKE WAS DECLARED; SOME TWENTY AGITATORS HAD THE MEETING IN HAND. THERE IS NO LOYALTY AMONG THE STUDENTS TO THEIR ELECTED LEADERS SO, FOR THE PRESENT, THE COMMUNISTS HAVE A FREE

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FIELD. [REDACTED]

5. ON 6 AUGUST, DR. ERNESTO FLORES ZAVALA, DIRECTOR OF THE UNAM LAW FACULTY AND A FINANCIAL EXPERT AT UNAM, MADE THE FOLLOWING REMARKS TO HIS CLASS: THAT RECENT DISTURBANCES IN FRANCE HAD CAUSED THAT COUNTRY GREAT LOSSES: INCOME FROM TOURISM HAD DROPPED SHARPLY AND THE FRENCH FRANC HAD NOT RECOVERED STABILITY AS A RESULT. FLORES ZAVALA OPINED THAT THE FRENCH DISTURBANCES MIGHT HAVE BEEN PROVOKED BY THE UNITED STATES TO OBTAIN REVENGE. HE CONTINUED STATING THAT IN MEXICO STUDENT DISTURBANCES MIGHT ALSO CAUSE A LOSS OF TOURIST TRADE AND LEAD TO THE FAILURE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES FROM A FINANCIAL STANDPOINT. SHOULD THIS OCCUR, HE SAID, HE THOUGHT THE MEXICAN PESO WOULD BE DEVALUED AFTER THE OLYMPIC GAMES. [REDACTED]

6. WITH RESPECT TO STUDENT DEMANDS, THE "COMITES DE LUCHA," WHICH HAVE BEEN FORMED IN ALL UNAM SCHOOLS BY THE JCM, ARE ASKING INDEMNIFICATION OF ONE MILLION PESOS (U.S. EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS) FOR EACH STUDENT KILLED DURING THE RECENT RIOTS. ON 6 AUGUST, POSTERS APPEARED ON THE UNAM CAMPUS STATING THAT "MARXIST PROFESSORS" HAD ARMS TO DISTRIBUTE TO STUDENTS "TO DEFEND THEIR CAUSE." [REDACTED]

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7. [Redacted] DISSEM; STATE ARMY NAVY AIR FBI CINCSO.

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