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Intelligence Information Cable

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081 28 AUGUST 1968

COUNTRY: MEXICO
DOI: 27 AUGUST 1968
SUBJECT: MEXICO CITY SITREP

ACQ:

SOURCE:

1. MEXICAN ARMY TROOPS BEGAN TO SURROUND THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AT ABOUT 1400 HOURS ON 27 AUGUST 1968 IN PREPARATION FOR THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATION WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO PASS BY THE EMBASSY BEGINNING AT APPROXIMATELY 1630 HOURS. BY 1600 HOURS AN ESTIMATED COMPANY OF INFANTRYMEN (APPROXIMATELY TWO HUNDRED SOLDIERS), TOGETHER WITH TEN ARMORED VEHICLES AND TWO FIRETRUCKS HAD TAKEN UP POSITIONS AROUND THE EMBASSY. RIOT POLICE AND OTHER POLICEMEN WERE STATIONED ALONG PASEO DE LA REFORMA IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY. (COMMENT: THE MEXICO

APPROVED FOR RELEASE (b)(1)
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CITY MORNING NEWSPAPER "EXCELSIOR" PROVIDED AN ADVANCE EXPLANATION OF THE CONCENTRATION OF TROOPS, CITING MEXICO'S OBLIGATION UNDER THE VIENNA CONVENTION TO MAINTAIN THE INVIOABILITY OF THE PREMISES OF FOREIGN MISSIONS. "EXCELSIOR" WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS OBLIGATION, POLICE PROTECTION REINFORCED BY THE MEXICAN ARMY IS TO BE AFFORDED THE EMBASSIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE USSR).

2. AT APPROXIMATELY 1545 HOURS, A MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HELICOPTER DROPPED LEAFLETS IN A WIDE AREA, INCLUDING THE VICINITY OF THE EMBASSY, ALERTING THE MEXICAN POPULACE TO THE DANGERS OF COMMUNISM AND DEPLORING SPECIFICALLY THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. ANOTHER LEAFLET INCLUDED PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANUEL MARCUE PARDINAS, PROMINENT MEXICAN COMMUNIST, SHOWING HIM AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE 13 AUGUST STUDENT DEMONSTRATION IN MEXICO CITY.

3. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE ARMY NAVY AIR FBI CINCSO CINCLANT
REPORT CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL

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