

S E C R E T

February 27, 1976

SECURITY ASSESSMENT
1976 OLYMPICS

SUMMARY:



The potential for violence at the Olympic Games, from any one of several groups that are planning to use this occasion to publicize their causes, continues to be of major concern.

The Security problem has two aspects; that presented by domestic groups is probably one of controlling large numbers of demonstrators while that posed by international terrorist groups is one of being able to detect and prevent such a premeditated violent act as occurred at the Munich Olympics.

The potential for terrorists to succeed and to undertake violent activity is enhanced by rapid transportation, the availability of sophisticated weaponry and the instant reporting of terrorist activity by the mass media.

To offset this threat a number of steps have been taken. Bilateral links with national security agencies have been strengthened and expanded to enhance the flow of intelligence. The screening of applicants for admission to Canada has been reviewed and updated to facilitate the detection of undesirable elements prior to entry. Contingency plans have been developed to ensure the protection of athletes and official delegates to the Games. Recently instituted security measures that have been developed in concert with the Department of Manpower and Immigration are proving to be effective instruments in detecting suspected terrorists upon their entry into Canada. An ongoing briefing program, given to persons at major entry control points is similarly contributing positive results in detecting suspected terrorists. Coverage has also been stepped up on certain groups in Canada, and where necessary pre-emptive measures are being taken, i.e., establishing dialogue with leaders of various groups to minimize the potential for violent activity.

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