

S E C R E T

February 20, 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 nullify such a premeditated violent act as occurred at the Munich Olympics.

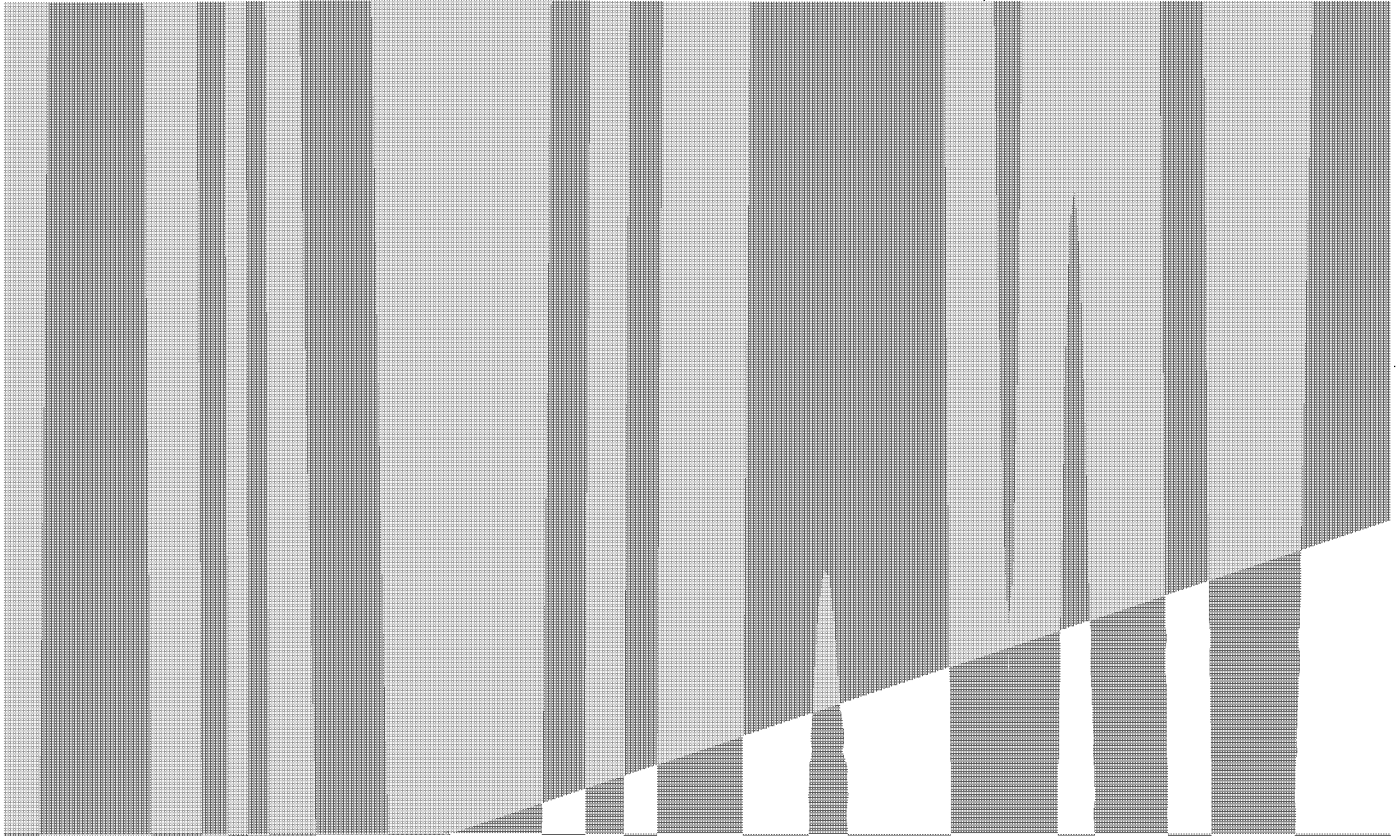
The potential for terrorists to succeed and to undertake violent activity is enhanced by rapid transportation, the availability of sophisticated weaponry and the instant reporting of terrorist activity by the mass media.

To offset this threat, bilateral links with national security agencies are being strengthened and expanded, the screening of applicants for admission to Canada is being continually reviewed and updated to enable the detection of undesirable elements prior to entry, and contingency plans are being developed to ensure the protection of persons, property and information in relation to the Games. Internally, we are stepping up coverage and where necessary taking pre-emptive measures, i.e., establishing dialogue with leaders of various groups to minimize the potential for violent activity.

MIDDLE EAST

The highly volatile situation in the Middle East could have an impact on the security of various groups at the Olympics. The public statement by the PLO that they plan no disruption of the games is not binding on other Arab terrorist organizations.





CYPRUS

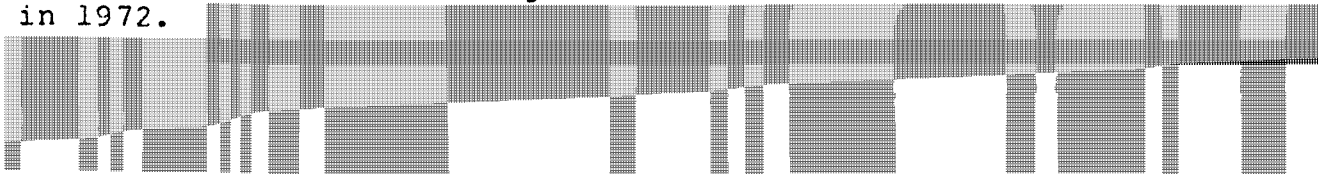
Outstanding issues in Cyprus could have a direct bearing on the safety of Turkish, Cypriot or Greek participants in the Games.

AFRICA

The rapidly changing situation in Africa is being monitored in an effort to project security ramifications for representatives to the Olympics from those countries directly or indirectly involved in the African conflict.

CUBA

Anti-Castro exile groups have committed violent acts in Canada as in the bombing of the Cuban Trade Mission in Montreal in 1972.



SOUTH AMERICA

The Joint Revolutionary Committee which is an effort to co-ordinate violent revolutionary activity in South America,

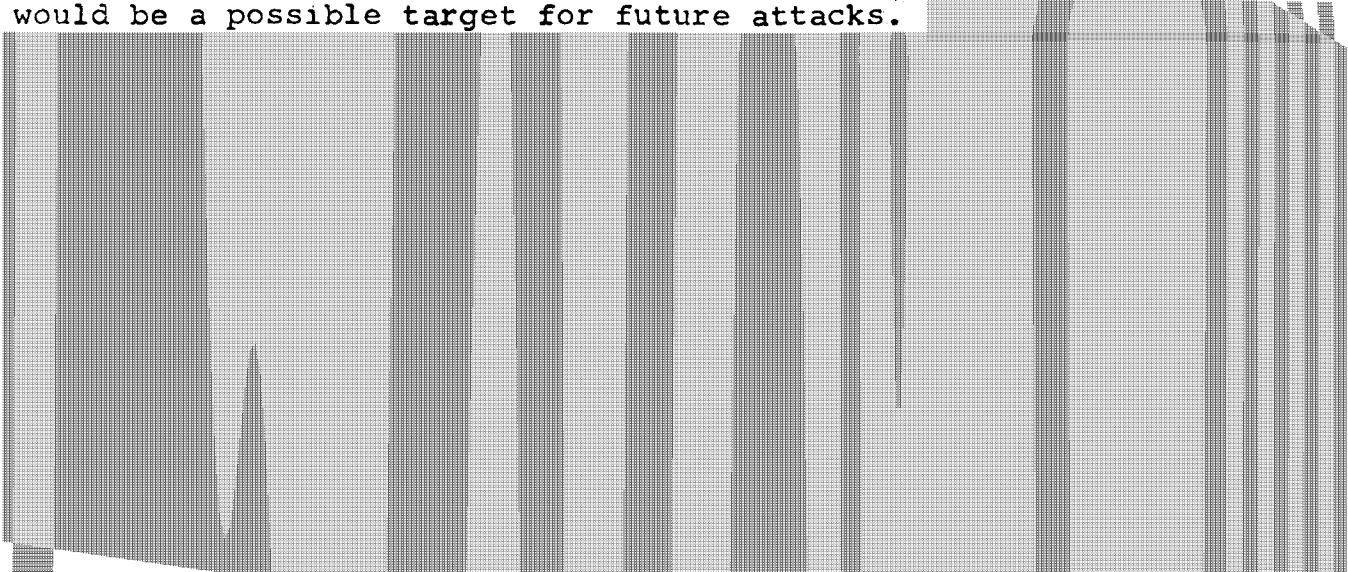


TRANS NATIONAL VIOLENCE

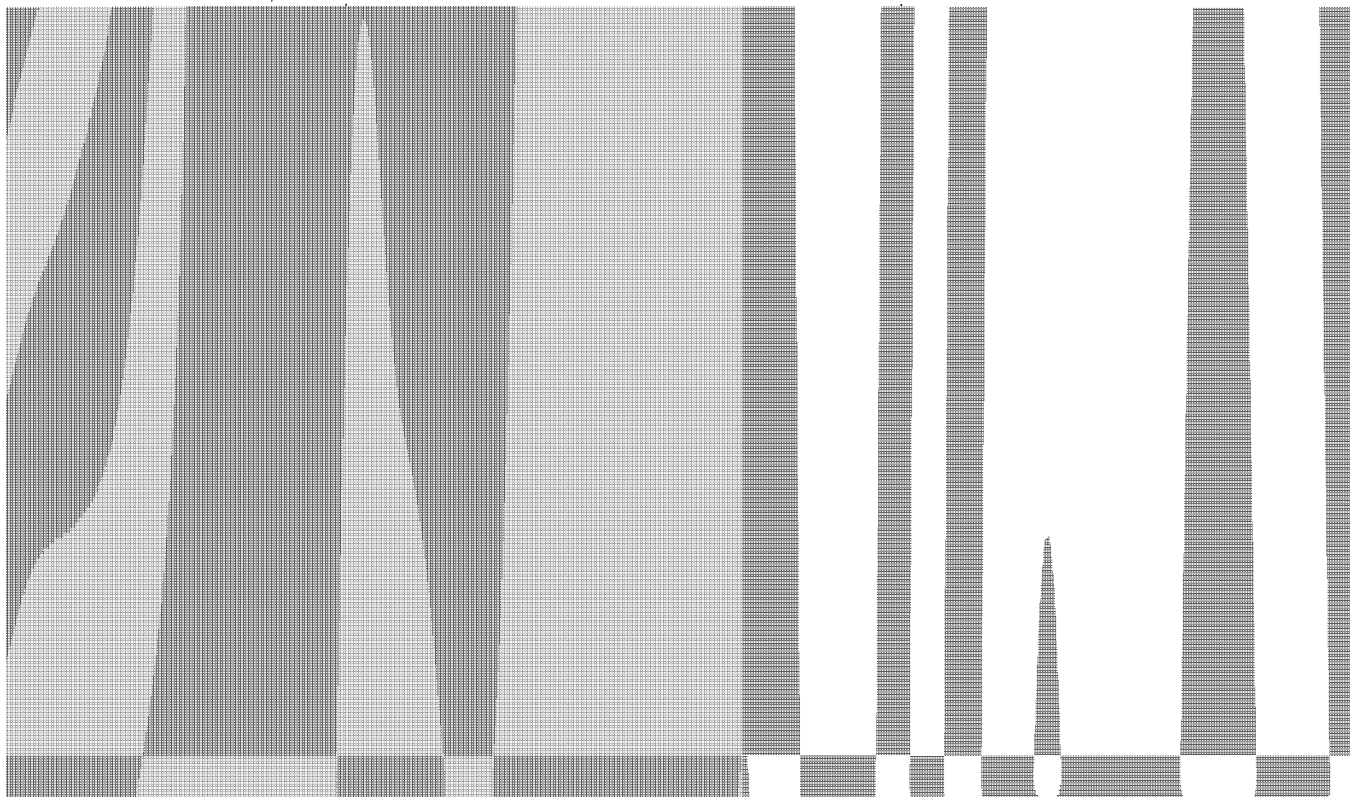
There is a continuing threat from such groups as the Baader Meinhoff Gang, the Japanese Red Army and National Liberation Movements in the Third World.

JAPANESE RED ARMY (JRA)

The arrest and deportation from Canada of a JRA member in August, 1975, resulted in a threat from the JRA that Canada would be a possible target for future attacks.



DOMESTIC



Ever present is the threat from the lone psychotic or any group with a real or imagined grievance to use the Games to focus global attention on themselves, or on some ill-defined hastily contrived cause.

REQUIRED ASSISTANCE

We continue to be concerned with the current nature of "investigative" and sensational media reporting focussing on the negative aspects of the Games which can only heighten tensions. Interviews with extremists, asking specific questions as to their intent, could induce violence, particularly since some groups might feel that their credibility would be jeopardized should they fail to take action. Any assistance which would ensure a greater degree of responsibility on the part of the mass media would be a significant contribution to security.