

SNIPER SHOT, DIES AS CALM SHATTERS

Mexico City Threatened by 'Liberation Army'

By STRATFORD JONES

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Army marksmen killed a sniper with a bullet in the head Friday after he opened up on passersby from a social security building, breaking Mexico City's uneasy calm. The hidden gunman shot one man to death and wounded another.

At the same time, a renewal of general violence was threatened by a self-styled "liberation army."

A spokesman at Red Cross Hospital identified the sniper's victim as Octavio Rodriguez, 45, who died of a head wound. The other man, Miguel Cuevas Lara, 21, was treated for an arm wound and released.

The threat of new disorders was contained in a printed statement dated Sept. 28 but distributed Friday by the underground "liberation" group which said it would wage guerrilla war against "the criminal government of President Gustavo Diaz Ordaz." It called itself "the Constitutionalist Army of Liberation."

The group also threatened to disrupt the Olympic Games, which open here next Saturday. It said it would not be responsible "for what happens to those who come to a country that, in fact, finds itself in plain civil war."

FOUR DAYS BEFORE

The Sept. 28 date of the statement was four days before the current wave of disorders was touched off by a battle Wednesday between authorities and snipers that left at least 29 dead.

The delay in delivery was attributed to the slowness of the Mexican postal system. The statement arrived in a plain business envelope postmarked Sept. 28.

Avery Brundage, president of the International Olympic Committee, said he would consult with Mexican officials and the Olympic executive board about the threat.

Friday's sniping ended a period of quiet after two days of shooting, burning and fighting between troops and police and

Cont. in Sec 1, Page 4, Col. 3

MEXICO

Continued from Page 1

students protesting alleged government repression.

Troops surrounded the social security building in the Tlatelolco district, the area where Wednesday's battle took place. They searched office by office for the gunman.

The anti-government force, which gave no information on its strength or leadership, said its activities "will be of necessity military ones and will include urban and guerrilla groups like those already functioning in the states of Guerrero, Sonora, Chihuahua, etc."

The Defense Ministry has acknowledged that such guerrillas are operating in Chihuahua State to the north and last month announced that four, involved in burning a sawmill, were killed in a fight with soldiers. Two were identified as the Gaytan brothers, Mexicans who had taken guerrilla training in Cuba.

WON'T ATTACK ATHLETES
The bulletin said the "army" will also use "other methods of armed combat, for which reason it is recommended that the foreign public not come to the Olympics because, although under no circumstances will it attack the athletes, it will be necessary to carry out a large military operation against the government in the inaugural act and others following."

The official death toll of Wednesday's action rose to 29 on a count supplied by the Defense Ministry, the coroner's office and Balbuena Hospital. There was still no official total of injured, although it was believed to run into the hundreds.

Of persons arrested since Wednesday, 331 men and 32 women have been turned over to the attorney general for further investigation.

A police source said a rumor was circulating among the force that heads of all those captured in the riots would be shaved.

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