

STUDENTS RENEW CALL FOR CHANGE IN BEIJING MARCH

By NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF and SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK TIMES MAY 29, 1989

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About 100,000 people on foot and on bicycles streamed through the capital today to demand more democracy and the resignation of Prime Minister Li Peng. The police and soldiers made no move to interfere despite martial law restrictions and the Government's strict warnings against demonstrations.

The students, who are increasingly aware of support from Chinese around the world, hailed the protest as part of an "international Chinese people's demonstration day" to put pressure on the Government. Other demonstrations were held in several Chinese cities, including the economic capital, Shanghai, as well as in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Australia and the United States.

One of the largest protests was in Hong Kong, which held a political rally with a crowd estimated at more than 300,000. Such protests are likely to put new pressure on the Chinese authorities, who are sensitive to turbulence in Hong Kong in the years before they inherit the British territory in 1997. 'This Is Sowing Time'

In Beijing, the demonstrators paraded along five different routes intended to maximize their exposure to the city's residents. Separate columns of protesters - mostly students but including some workers - passed by the Zhongnanhai Compound, where Mr. Li lives, as well as the Tianmen neighborhood home of the 84-year-old senior leader, Deng Xiaoping.

"We love our country, but we do not love the puppet government of Li Peng," chanted the demonstrators as they waved red banners and sang songs that mocked the nation's leadership.

The demonstration in the capital was smaller than several previous marches, although it was difficult to calculate since the students took different routes and did not all pass by central Tiananmen Square. In particular, fewer workers joined in, although those who lined the route cheered the students and seemed enthusiastic. Protest Goes Unreported

"I see hope for China, which I didn't see before," said Yang Mei, an artist who joined the protesters. "The students already have won, because they have support from 90 percent of the population. And the greatest climax is yet to come. This is sowing time, and the harvest will come when Deng Xiaoping dies."

The demonstrations were smaller today for two reasons. The first is that the Government has been putting intense pressure on factories and universities to curb protests, and factory managers have warned workers that they will lose their bonuses and maybe their jobs if they join the students.

The second is that there is an air of apprehension in the nation these days, a fear that a violent crackdown and major political realignment will be announced in the next few days. 'Anti-Party Clique'

The Communist Party leader, Zhao Ziyang, is being criticized in internal documents that are being circulated in "work units" around the country, and most people expect an announcement soon that Mr. Zhao has been dismissed for leading an "anti-party clique."

The demonstration today was not reported by the television news or the New China News Agency, a sign that the Government is tightening its control over the media. The official news media here have covered previous demonstrations, although with less and less interest in the last week following Prime Minister Li's announcement of martial law on May 20.

The Communist Party newspaper, People's Daily, was represented in today's march by a small group of journalists who demanded press freedom, but most journalists seem to have battened the hatches of their aspirations, in expectation of rough weather ahead.

"There's a spirit of depression that probably the conservatives have won and that there will be a settling of accounts," said a Western diplomat. "The mood is that there's trouble ahead." 'It Will Unleash Terror'

Wang Qiang, a 27-year-old man who has just resigned from the Party to protest its resistance to the democracy movement, said, "Right now the Government is waiting for the movement to die down, and then it will unleash terror."

Asked if the smaller turnout today suggested that people would not protest a new round of repression, Mr. Wang responded:

"You mustn't mistake silence for acceptance. This movement only foreshadows larger movements. This one is the largest democratic movement so far, and even if we don't win this time, it will have been a productive defeat. Many people now realize that we can't put our hopes on any one individual or group. Even in party organizations, people have risen up. Party control is crumbling."

A copy of a speech attributed to President Yang Shangkun suggests how far apart the students and leaders are in their thinking. While it is known that President Yang gave a speech criticizing Mr. Zhao, and that the speech is now being circulated among officials at progressively lower levels, it was impossible to confirm the authenticity of a copy obtained today from students. But it resembles the accounts given of it by those who heard it, and Chinese said that because of the style and substance, they were sure it was genuine.

In the text, Mr. Yang criticized Mr. Zhao for refusing to go along with the Party's hard line toward the students, saying this was the principal reason for the democracy movement's growth.

"The movement started among the students, but the root cause is inside the Party," Mr. Yang said. "There are two different voices in the Politburo's standing committee. Mr. Zhao exposed to the students the fact that there were different opinions in the standing committee, and this incited the students. Slogans appeared such as "Support Zhao Ziyang," "Down with Deng Xiaoping," and "Down with Li Peng."

"There were several Politburo standing committee meetings, and we insisted that we shouldn't change our views. But Zhao Ziyang persisted with his own view, even when comrade Deng Xiaoping was present, saying that he cannot agree with Comrade Xiaoping or the other standing committee members about the character of the student movement." "To Retreat Means Our Downfall"

In the text, Mr. Yang is quoted as saying that Beijing is "out of control," and that "for every step we retreat, they advance." He warns: "There's no way for us to retreat. To retreat means our downfall. To retreat means the downfall of the

People's Republic of China and the restoration of capitalism."

The most surprising charge in the speech was that Mr. Zhao had been assigned to give the speech early on May 20 announcing the military crackdown on the democracy movement. As Mr. Yang relates it, the crowd assembled, but Mr. Zhao simply never showed up, and it was left for Prime Minister Li to deliver the speech. That, according to the speech, seems to have been the final blow and the reason why the Party leaders apparently decided to oust Mr. Zhao.

If that is true, it is likely to be confirmed in the coming days by the Party in public statements or in widespread leaks.

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