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## **RECENT POLITICAL TRIALS IN CHINA**

**A new series of major political trials, secretly begun in China some four months ago, is reportedly set to climax shortly with the trial of Bao Tong, the most senior casualty of the June 1989 crackdown on the Chinese pro-democracy movement. By early March 1992, at least twenty students, workers, editors and journalists who were active during the 1989 movement or its aftermath had been tried and sentenced by courts in Beijing and Xi'an.<sup>1</sup> Disposition of the cases ranged from immediate release for one defendant (following more than two years spent in untried detention), to ten-year prison terms for three others.**

**The official Chinese press has claimed that with these convictions, there are now no further dissident cases from the 1989 movement left to be tried. This claim overlooks, however, at least four other important detainees in the Beijing region alone who are still in jail and awaiting trial.**

### **Awaiting Trial in Beijing**

**Bao Tong, 59, was senior advisor to Communist Party Secretary Zhao Ziyang when student demonstrations began in Beijing in April 1989. A member of the Central Committee, he had been director of the Communist Party's Research Center for the Reform of the Political Structure since January 1988 and was a key architect of Zhao's reform policies. Taken from his home on May 28, 1989, Bao Tong has been detained ever since, accused of "leaking state secrets" by divulging to leaders of research institutes on May 19 that martial law was about to be declared. It was not until two and a half years after he was first detained that Bao Tong was formally arrested. His family was notified in February 1992 that his trial would be closed, and family members barred from attending.**

**Gao Shan, 37, a colleague of Bao Tong's at the Research Center for the Reform of the Political Structure, also faces imminent trial. Arrested in late June 1989, he faces the same charges as Bao Tong.**

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<sup>1</sup> The numbers get very complicated because there are two lists of 21 people often confused with the list of people tried. One is the list of 21 detainees in the Beijing region whose cases the authorities said in April 1991 had been placed under a six-month moratorium (that claim was reiterated in November 1991) and the 21 listed as still "under investigation" nationwide in the Chinese government's response to a list of detainees submitted by the U.S. State Department in June and about whose status the State Department requested clarification. The list of those recently tried, the list of the Beijing detainees and the list of those "under investigation" have some overlap but they are not the same lists.

Another detained dissident whose case has not yet come to trial is Wu Jiaxiang, a prominent economist associated with Zhao Ziyang and the reformist faction within the Communist Party who is credited with applying the theory of "new authoritarianism" to China. Wu is still in jail, two and a half years after he was first detained.

A lesser known case of continued untried detention for pro-democracy activity is that of Liu Xianbin, a student at People's University in Beijing who was detained in April 1991 for publishing an unofficial journal, *Democracy Forum*, which advocated reform of the Communist system. Nothing has been heard of Liu since then.

### **Awaiting trial in the provinces**

The official propaganda line also makes no mention of the numerous pro-democracy activists believed to be still held without trial in places other than Beijing. These include Yang Zhou and Gu Bin, both of whom were associated with a small Shanghai-based dissident group known as the *Study Group on Human Rights Issues in China*. Secretly arrested in April 1991, the two were still being held incommunicado as of early 1992. Some months before his arrest, Yang had sent a registered letter to Jiang Zemin, the Party Secretary, calling for amnesty for political prisoners, a multi-party system and freedom of speech. The *Study Group* circulated the letter privately among colleagues.

Others still awaiting trial in the provinces include Wu Wei, a writer and bureau chief at the same institute as Gao Shan, and Xu Chong, general secretary of an independent students' union in Anhui Province, who was arrested sometime between July 13-15, 1989. There has been no further information about either of the two men, or of the charges against them, since their initial detention. In short, there is no reason to believe that the 20 just tried in Beijing and Xi'an are, as claimed by the Chinese government, the last of the 1989 prisoners.

The true scale of continued untried detention for pro-democracy activities in China remains unclear. But an estimated several thousand activists have been summarily sentenced since June 1989 to several-year terms of so-called "re-education through labor." This punishment is dispensed on police authority alone, and there is no benefit of any court trial. Other categories of untried detainees in China include Catholic priests and lay workers, and Tibetan pro-independence activists.

### **The Recent Trials**

The most recent round of trials -- of two journalists, a former Shanghai Propaganda Chief, a government researcher, ten students (three of whom were sentenced to 10 years for peaceful political organizing), and seven people previously unknown to human rights organizations -- provide further evidence that public expression of ideas contrary to Chinese Communist Party orthodoxy is not the only grounds for a charge of counterrevolution. Exposure of factionalism within the government and Party, and documentation of events which contradict the "official version" of particular incidents are also grounds for prosecution. The cases are described below.

#### **a. Sentenced**

■ **Li Minqi** was sentenced to two years in prison for "counterrevolutionary propaganda and incitement." A notice announcing the verdict was posted outside the Beijing People's Intermediate Court on February 25, 1992. At his trial, Li spoke in his own defense as did a lawyer hired by his family. Li's father and some Beijing University students were present in the courtroom.

Li, who had gone on trial on December 6, 1991, was first detained on June 4, 1990 in connection with a commemorative speech he made on the campus of Beijing University. Held only briefly, he hid for a time, then went back to school. Summoned to Party headquarters at the university on June 15, 1990, Li was arrested for his engagement in "anti-socialist activities." At the same time, he was expelled from the university, where he had been a third-year economics major.

Li, who addressed hundreds of students at a spontaneous midnight rally on June 3-4, 1990 marking the first anniversary of the crackdown in Tiananmen Square, was labeled by authorities as the "chief instigator of an anti-party conspiracy." He allegedly had labeled Chinese leaders "wild and savage autocrats" and had called for an elective body to supervise the communist government. The rally followed a protest during which about 1000 students sang songs, shouted slogans and threw bottles from smashed dormitory windows. (This was a symbolic protest against China's ruler, Deng Xiaoping, since the Chinese word for "little bottle" sounds the same as "Xiaoping.") China's ruling Politburo branded the campus protest, which was repeated the following night, "organized and planned" and announced its intention of dealing severely with student rioters.

According to friends, Li made the unplanned speech because "he knew it would be the last major demonstration in Beijing in the near future." At the time of his detention, the then 21-year-old activist reportedly was still under investigation for his participation in the 1989 protest. His membership in the Beijing Students Autonomous Federation was cited by university authorities as proof of his long-standing opposition to the present Chinese regime.

Over a year ago, in mid-October 1990, Li's family received a formal arrest warrant dated September 25, which charged him with "counterrevolutionary propaganda and instigation"; on April 17, 1991, they received a notice of indictment. Though it was expected that his trial would take place on April 26, it was postponed until now for reasons still unknown.

Li has been held in Qincheng Prison since the time of his arrest; he has not been permitted family visits.

■ **PAN Weiming**, 42, was sentenced to four years in prison on January 24, 1992 for "hoodlum offenses" including a liaison with a prostitute on March 4, 1991 in a hotel in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province. Not only was the police raid on his hotel room an entrapment, but his December 26, 1991 secret trial had less to do with the "womanizing" with which he was charged and which he did not deny, than with his support for the pro-democracy movement. Instead of the usual 15-day detention and fine for patronizing a prostitute, Pan was brought back to Shanghai on March 21, held under a warrant of "shelter and investigation" in No.1 *Kanshouso*, repeatedly quizzed about his pro-democracy contacts and formally arrested on June 19, 1991. His apartment was thoroughly searched and notebooks, letters, address books and manuscripts were confiscated.

Pan, who had been Shanghai Propaganda Chief and who had loosened controls on writers and

artists in the 1980s, lost that post in 1987 after the removal from office of his patron, the late Party chief Hu Yaobang. Demoted to Party Secretary for the Shanghai News and Publication Bureau, Pan was suspended from that position a few months after the June 4 crackdown in Beijing. He reportedly expected to be expelled from the Party. Unemployed, Pan went to work as a free-lance filmmaker and photographer, and was engaged in these activities at the time of his arrest.

■ **PENG Rong**, a 27-year-old Beijing University biophysics major, was sentenced on February 25, 1992 according to a notice posted outside the Beijing Intermediate People's Court. Family members disclosed he had received a two-year term dated from the time he was first detained, May 25, 1990. Peng went on trial on Christmas Day 1991 on charges of "counterrevolutionary propaganda and incitement" and for "colluding with hostile foreign forces." The latter charge had to do with Peng's contacts with overseas Chinese and foreigners. Peng's lawyers, who had originally planned to enter a "not guilty" plea, changed their minds after considerable pressure from government officials.

Peng was arrested after a search of his dormitory room, for collaborating with other Beijing University students and with four from Wuhan University to commemorate the first anniversary of the June 4 crackdown. In an on-campus speech, he called on the West to lift economic sanctions, arguing that sanctions impede an "open door" policy and democratic reform. Peng also conducted and published, by means of a signed poster, an "illegal poll" of student attitudes toward another round of protests. It indicated that most had become apolitical, depressed and withdrawn after the 1989 crackdown.

During the student movement, Peng commanded the Beijing Students Autonomous Federation security forces which were charged with guarding the movement's leaders. He also allegedly led student marchers and made fiery speeches for which he was placed under surveillance. In late May 1989, Peng Rong and nine other students authored a wall poster at Beijing University calling for students to shave their heads as a protest against government intransigence over the pro-democracy movement. The wall poster likened this action to the anti-Qing dynasty protests early in this century, when Chinese cut off their "queues" (pigtails) as a protest against the Manchus, who made all Chinese wear them.

■ **WANG Guoqing**, **WANG Zhongxian** and **DONG Hualiming** were sentenced to five, three and four years respectively for "counterrevolutionary propaganda and incitement," according to notices posted outside the Beijing Intermediate People's Court on February 25, 1992. Nothing is known about any of the three men, their alleged offenses or their trials. Two others, **WANG Lidong**, who apparently was arrested in 1990, and **BAI Chunxiang** were also convicted. Wang received a two-year sentence and Bai, for reasons unknown, was "exempt from criminal punishment." Two others, whose names are unknown, were sentenced at the same time.

■ **WU Xuecan**, 40, was sentenced on February 25, 1992 according to a notice posted outside the Beijing Intermediate People's Court. Family members said he received a four-year term on charges of "counterrevolutionary propaganda and incitement." Wu has been held in Qincheng Prison, much of the time in solitary confinement, since his arrest in December 1989 after six months in hiding.

During the height of the pro-democracy movement, on May 19, 1989, Wu, a senior editor and journalist on *Renmin Ribao (People's Daily) Overseas Edition*, published an unauthorized "special issue" (*Hao Wa*) of the paper, entitled "People's Daily Extra Edition." A translation from this edition is appended. In it, he reported Zhao Ziyang's criticism of government corruption and called for the ouster of Premier Li

**Peng. On December 28, 1991, the day of his closed trial, which reportedly lasted two hours, Wu challenged the court to let Zhao, former Party Secretary, testify on his behalf. According to Wu's argument, quoting the former Party Secretary is not a crime. His request was ignored.**

**Wu also helped lead a protest demonstration by *Renmin Ribao* journalists in late May 1989. During the three days in May when censorship was relaxed, he wrote freely of the major events occurring in the country.**

**Wu's wife, Yang Sumei, in a January 20, 1992 letter to Party Secretary Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng, insisted that prosecutors did not have enough evidence to convict her husband and accused them of violating legal guarantees to a speedy trial. She said the case had twice been rejected by the prosecution and handed back to police investigators for lack of evidence. Yang further alleged that the Beijing Intermediate People's Court, after accepting the case on December 3, had exceeded the one and a half month limit for processing and ruling. Yang is a senior editor in the political division of the People's Publishing House, the propaganda unit which prints the speeches and works of state leaders.**

**Wu was No. 9 on the September 9, 1989 Ministry of Public Security's list of "major criminals not yet caught." His July 6, 1989 wanted notice instructed "public security bureaus at all levels to immediately search for and apprehend" him, and "upon discovery" to take him in for "shelter and investigation," an unregulated and widely abused form of police administrative detention.**

**Considered politically reliable during the Cultural Revolution, Wu was plucked from the navy and sent to Zhongshan University as a "worker, peasant, soldier student." After graduation in 1976 and before his employment at *Renmin Ribao*, Wu worked at the *People's Press*. At *Renmin Ribao*, he had responsibilities in the paper's Marxist theory section. He is a native of Binhai County in northern Jiangsu Province and made his home in the East District of Beijing.**

■ **ZHAI Weimin, a 23-year-old student leader who ranked sixth on the Chinese government's list of "21 most wanted" students, was sentenced to three and a half years in prison. According to a notice posted outside the Beijing Intermediate People's Court on February 25, 1992, Zhai was found guilty of "counterrevolutionary propaganda and incitement." He reportedly went on trial on November 29, 1991. Until his arrest in May 1990 Zhai, a Henan Province native who was enrolled in the Beijing Economics Institute, continued his clandestine work on behalf of democracy and a multi-party system through an underground group, the *Democratic Front for the Salvation of China*, organized in early 1990. Details of the underground group were first disclosed to Western journalists by Zhai at a secret news conference held in Beijing in March 1990. Zhai said that the month before, in February 1990, more than sixty people participated in a secret conference held by the *Democratic Front* in Beijing. Of four others known to have been arrested in connection with the same case, at least one has been released. The others were being held in Qincheng Prison along with Zhai.**

■ **Seven students from Northwest University in Xi'an were sentenced to long prison terms for allegedly organizing an informal group to study current events and for sending a telegram in May 1991 to Mikhail Gorbachev. In the wake of the June 4, 1989 crackdown, all unsupervised student organizations had been banned. The seven were arrested in May and convicted in late October for counterrevolutionary organizing. History major ZHANG Ming and two others, all of whom argued they had done nothing wrong and would be exonerated by history, were sentenced to ten years in prison. Four others received terms ranging**

from two to five years. A university official denied any students had been imprisoned; judicial and "foreign affairs" officials in Xi'an and in Shaanxi Province said they were "not clear" or denied knowledge of the case. Zhang Ming is not to be confused with the "most wanted" student leader of the same name convicted in January 1991.

## **b. Awaiting Sentencing**

■ **Qi Lin**,<sup>2</sup> the 36-year-old former deputy foreign editor of *Beijing Ribao* (*Beijing Daily*) reportedly appeared in court twice, once on January 30, 1992 in Beijing Intermediate People's Court and again on February 15 in a higher court, both times in secret. No sentence has been announced. Apprehended at his home in Beijing on July 11, 1991 by the Public Security Bureau, Qi was formally arrested on July 23. At the time of his apprehension, he was severely hurt and lost a great deal of blood. The circumstances surrounding the incident are unknown. At the same time, Qi's home was searched and his wife, Li Jingyin, a secondary school teacher, interrogated.

The exact charges against Qi, a 1982 graduate from the journalism department of People's University, are not known, but he may have been accused of "leaking information to foreigners," a charge which can carry a heavy sentence. On June 4, 1989, Qi reportedly witnessed many deaths and documented them through photographs. Earlier, from mid-April on, as he delivered food and water to students in Tiananmen Square, he also took documentary photos. Qi encouraged his newspaper to run stories about the movement and on May 18, he organized demonstrations by *Beijing Ribao* and *Beijing Wanhao* (*Evening News*) employees. On May 23, he marched again.

After the crackdown, Qi, a Party member, was placed on probation pending investigation and suspended from his job. Later, he was disqualified as a journalist. In spite of financial hardship, Qi reportedly continued to criticize the government, to document events linked with the pro-democracy movement and to organize meetings from his home.

Qi, who has been denied visits by family members, may be in Qincheng Prison. He is an insulin-dependent diabetic. There is concern that incarceration has worsened his generally poor health.

## **c. Formally arrested**

■ **BAO Tong**, still listed as a member of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, was finally charged on January 15, 1992 with leaking state secrets and inciting anti-government activity. He had already been detained without trial for more than two and a half years, ever since he was taken from his home on May 28, 1989 on orders from the Politburo, to attend a meeting. He never returned.

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<sup>2</sup>Qi Lin was sentenced on April 8 to a four-year prison term on a charge of leaking state secrets. According to the verdict of the Beijing Intermediate People's Court Qi "leaked internal information about a serious disciplinary case" and he wrote articles for foreign publications. The latter charge is a reference to an article published in a Taiwan newspaper, *Lianhe Bao*, on January 8, 1991. The secret information concerned a split within the Party about how to resolve the case of Hu Jiwei, a former editor of *Renmin Ribao*. It implied lenient treatment for Hu would help pave the way for the rehabilitation of June 4 supporters. Qi's family planned to appeal the verdict and to ask for his release on medical grounds.

**At a May 19, 1989 so-called "plotters meeting" attended by leading members of various research institutes, Bao allegedly revealed the government's plans for the imposition of martial law. Labelled a "black hand" conspirator behind the 1989 turmoil, he was criticized by name in Beijing Mayor Chen Xitong's June 30, 1989 speech to the National People's Congress Standing Committee for demanding a full account of the party's leadership struggle, and for lobbying for an emergency session of the Congress in a bid to block the martial law decree. A draft scheme for political reform put together by Bao prior to the crackdown was viewed as "anti-party" by the conservative anti-reform members of the party leadership.**

**At the time of his arrest, Bao, now 59, was Political Secretary to the Politburo's Standing Committee and a member of the Party's Central Committee. As a senior advisor to Zhao Ziyang for ten years, Bao is widely credited as the architect of Zhao's economic and political reforms. Until 1987 he had directed the State Commission on Economic Reform and from 1987 to 1989, he was Director of the Central Committee's Research Institute for the Reform of the Political Structure. Recent statements by Deng Xiaoping referred to the Thirteenth Central Party resolutions, which Bao authored, as the blueprint for future reform. They reflect Bao's rejection of Western-style democracy as "irrelevant" for China.**

**Bao was purged during the Cultural Revolution as a "capitalist roader." After years as a laborer on a tobacco farm in a Henan prison camp, he returned to Party work with the ascendancy of Deng in 1978. He served as Deputy Director of the State Commission on Science and Technology's Policy Research Department and drafted policy speeches for Deng which outlined fundamental economic changes. Bao's Party career extends back to the 1940s when he joined the Communist underground as a high school student. During the 1950s, he served as Secretary to the chief of the Central Committee's Organization Bureau.**

**After he was formally charged, Bao was moved from Qincheng Prison's "guest house" to its No.1 Detention Center. He is ill. A chronic stomach ailment is worsening and his white blood count has dropped precipitously. Family members who previously were permitted to visit, had their request for a Chinese New Year visit denied. Clothing sent by his family has been returned.**

**On January 20, Bao's wife, Jiang Zongcao, his son and his daughter sent a letter to top government and Party officials, demanding an explanation for Bao's "unlawful detention" and an inquiry into whether authorities had abused their power in his case. They suggested the whole process was a "frame up." Bao himself insists he has not "violated the law or breached party discipline. So what is there to include in a self-criticism," he asks.**

■ **On January 15, 1992, GAO Shan, Bao Tong's deputy at the Party's Research Institute for the Reform of the Political Structure, who like Bao had already been detained for over two and a half years, was charged with "leaking state secrets." A 34-year-old economist, Gao had been accused in Beijing Mayor Chen Xitong's June 30, 1989 speech to the National People's Congress Standing Committee of leaking information about the impending imposition of martial law by Politburo decree. Gao had taken part in the meeting on May 19, attended by about 20 leading members of state research institutes who called for an emergency meeting of the Standing Committee in an attempt to block the order.**

**A graduate of Beijing Normal University, Gao was a member of the Rural Development Research Group from 1982 until his most recent affiliation. He is detained in Qincheng Prison.**

■ **WU Jiaxiang**, a 37-year-old economic researcher and poet from Anhui Province, is still in prison. It is unclear whether he has been secretly tried for "leaking state secrets." According to an Asia Watch source, he is showing initial signs of a mental breakdown, his overall health is gradually deteriorating and he is suffering from severe insomnia. Wu was charged at the end of February 1991 with "counterrevolutionary incitement and propaganda," and his case transferred to the Beijing Municipal People's Procuratorate. Accused of drafting defamatory and slanderous speeches and slogans against Chinese leaders and the party during the 1989 pro-democracy movement, he was first detained for questioning on July 17, 1989 by the Beijing Security Bureau. In December 1990, he was discharged from his work unit and formally arrested.

From 1988 until the June 1989 crackdown, Wu was a member of the Research Office of the Communist Party's Central Committee. He was associated with ousted Party Secretary General Zhao Ziyang and his close advisor Bao Tong. A Beijing University Masters degree holder in economics, Wu has been credited with advocating the application to China of Samuel Huntington's "new authoritarianism" theory. This concept, which would have involved the creation of a structure for centralizing power in the hands of one person, was popular among certain reform-minded intellectuals prior to June 4, 1989.

Wu was not involved in the 1989 protests. He did, however, support the reforms and took a position against force. It has been reported that the reason for Wu's arrest was a letter he wrote to Deng Xiaoping asking him to step down.

In January 1991, Wu was finally permitted visitors at Qincheng Prison and permission was given for one or more supervised home visits of thirty minutes duration. In December 1991 all visitation privileges were rescinded. Wu's wife, Wu Manying, is an editor in the technical advice department at *Zhongguo Keji Bao* (China Technology). They have a seven-year-old daughter. Faced with Wu's high medical bills and the cancellation of his government pension, the family's livelihood is increasingly precarious.

■ **LIU Xianbin** (see above for details.)



## **Appendix A:**

### **Wanted Notice for Wu Xuecan**

**[Ministry of Public Security  
Wanted Notice (89) No.072]**

**During the recent turmoil in Beijing, Wu Xuecan, *People's Daily Overseas Edition* editor and journalist concocted the so-called *People's Daily Extra* and engaged in counterrevolutionary propaganda and incitement. He has escaped to avoid punishment and we have issued this order for his arrest.**

**Wu Xuecan, Male, Born May 23, 1951; Jiangsu Province, Binhai County**

**Address: Beijing Eastern District, Sui An Bo Lane, No.9**

**Height 1.69 meters; a little overweight**

**Hair is long and swept over to one side; pointed nose.**

**He wears gold-rimmed glasses with brown, light-sensitive lens.**

**He has a North Jiangsu accent.**

**He holds a *People's Daily* identification card (No.0537), a journalist identification card (No.970274) and a residence identification card (No.110101510523451).**

**Upon receiving this wanted notice, all Public Security Bureaus should immediately issue instructions to implement it. After Wu is found, immediately take him into custody and promptly inform Department No. 5 of the Ministry of Public Security.**

**Ministry of Public Security  
July 6, 1989**

## **Appendix B:**

### ***People's Daily Extra* Edition**

**Chinese citizens, compatriots, fellow students on hunger strikes, Communist Party members, PLA soldiers and officers:**

**We harbor a great sorrow in our hearts. With righteous indignation, I publicize for you this absolutely true news. General Secretary Zhao Ziyang has been stripped of his power to conduct government affairs. Li Peng has taken control of the Politburo, which has decided that this evening coercive measures will be taken against the students on hunger strikes.**

**On May 13, during a meeting of the Politburo's Standing Committee, General Secretary Zhao advocated that the *People's Daily* April 26 editorial should be immediately retracted. His motion was defeated by a count of four to one. On May 15, Mr. Zhao decided to go to Tiananmen Square and announce his personal views to society and to the people. The Chinese government's Central Office prevented him from carrying out his plan on the grounds that he was violating Party discipline. On May 16, at a Politburo Standing Committee meeting chaired by Deng Xiaoping, Mr. Zhao advanced five proposals:**

- 1. Retract the *People's Daily* April 26 editorial.**
- 2. He himself would shoulder responsibility for the editorial's appearance.**
- 3. The People's Congress should establish an investigative organization to examine potential corruption amongst all high officials' children (including his two sons).**
- 4. Publish details of the performance and behavior of all officials of Deputy Minister level and above.**
- 5. Publish details of senior officials' incomes and perks and abolish their special privileges.**

**These five ideas were vetoed by a margin of four to one. On May 17, the Politburo met and determined by a slim majority that Mr. Zhao should resign. Li Peng then assumed the position of Secretary General. Military officials believed the situation to be grave. The suppression and crackdown which followed the events of April 5, 1976 is repeating itself.<sup>3</sup>**

**It is reported that a National People's Congress Standing Committee meeting was recently convened where almost all the delegates decided to refuse to accept the Politburo's aforementioned determination. Li Peng threatened, however, to use party discipline to punish those so opposed. The Commission for Reform of the Economic Structure and a variety of ministries then decided to launch a sit-down protest. In response to this serious situation, the students have now undertaken a hunger strike. We therefore appeal to all the people:**

- 1. We must try our best to avoid a violent rebellion. We must absolutely avoid bloodshed.**
- 2. All sectors of society must unite to protect and uphold the constitution.**

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<sup>3</sup> Large-scale demonstrations against prevailing ultra-leftist policies were crushed by the authorities in Tiananmen Square on April 5, 1976.

**3. The PLA are the brothers and sisters of our country's one billion people. We must not kill each other.**

**4. We must vigorously demand the convening of the People's Congress Standing Committee.**

**5. The People's Congress must immediately convene. Our country and the Central Government are now confronting a life-and-death situation.**

**Citizens, compatriots, dear fellow students: Democracy in China is now at its most critical juncture. Let us immediately move into action. We must fight this struggle to the end with all the resources available to us, and by all possible lawful and non-violent channels.**

**We are resolutely opposed to the edicts and statements of Li Peng. We propose that the People's Congress immediately impeach him and dismiss him from his post as premier.**

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Qi Lin**

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Wang Lidong  
Wu Xuecan  
Wu Wei  
Wu Jiaxiang  
Xu Chong  
Yang Zhou  
Zhai Weimin  
Zhang Ming**

\* \* \* \*

**For More Information  
Sidney Jones (212) 972-8400**

***Asia Watch was founded in 1985 to monitor and promote internationally recognized human rights in Asia. The Chair is Jack Greenberg and the Vice Chairs are Harriet Rabb and Orville Schell. The Executive Director is Sidney Jones and the Washington Director is Mike Jendrzeczyk.***

***Asia Watch is part of Human Rights Watch, which also includes Africa Watch, Americas Watch, Helsinki Watch, Middle East Watch and the Fund for Free Expression. The Chair of Human Rights Watch is Robert L. Bernstein and the Vice Chair is Adrian DeWind. Aryeh Neier is Executive Director and Kenneth Roth is Deputy Director. Holly Burkhalter is Washington Director.***