

World and Nation

Chinese leaders counter media reports

From Associated Press reports

BEIJING — Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin today told Chinese officials they must work harder to counter Western "rumors" about the crackdown on pro-democracy protesters last month.

Premier Li Peng promised that Chinese students abroad who participated in protest rallies will be welcomed back to China and not punished.

Li and Jiang were speaking at the end of a six-day conference of 151 ambassadors and other diplomats who

were called back to Beijing to discuss Chinese foreign policy in the wake of political turmoil at home.

Jiang was quoted on the national evening news as telling the ambassadors and diplomats they must "increase their work in explaining the truth to counter rumors of Western reports."

Jiang said the diplomats must "help foreign friends get rid of their misunderstandings" of China's suppression of the pro-democracy movement.

China says about 300 people, including many soldiers, were killed

when the military occupied Beijing on June 3-4 to end seven weeks of student-led demonstrations. Chinese sources and Western intelligence reports have put the death toll as high as 3,000.

The United States and many Western nations have suspended high-level contacts with China and frozen talks on new financial assistance to China to show their outrage over the use of force.

Many Western nations are allowing Chinese students to extend their stays because of fears they face per-

secution if they return to China. More than 2,000 people have been reported arrested for joining protests.

"Because they were far from the motherland and influenced by the Western media, they didn't understand the true situation and participated in protests and said some extremist words," Li was quoted as saying about students living abroad.

He said the party is making a conscientious effort to tackle problems such as corruption and unfair job assignments, key issues during the demonstrations.

Jiang said the turmoil showed China's leaders they must uphold socialist principles and combat the trend toward "bourgeois liberalization," or attraction to Western culture. He said China must educate the entire nation, particularly its young people, in patriotism, and raise the level of national pride.

China's concern about outside reaction to events at home was expressed when the Communist Party's official newspaper urged the rival government on Taiwan not to let the crackdown on dissent stand in the way of improving ties.

The appeal, in a front-page commentary in today's People's Daily, came after Chinese police ordered two Taiwanese reporters out of the country.

Hsu Lu, who in September 1987 was the first Taiwanese journalist to come to mainland China, said before leaving for Hong Kong that it was "very ironic" the government that had so warmly welcomed her was now expelling her.

China on Tuesday deported Taiwanese reporter Huang Teh-pei after holding him for eight days, and the People's Daily said China acted leniently toward him for the sake of relations with Taiwan. Huang, a reporter for the Independence Morning Post, was accused of violating martial law regulations that ban most reporting activities. He also was accused of contacting a student dissident wanted by police.

Hsu, who works for the Independence Evening News, was accused of violating martial law, reporting on a tourist visa and trying to help a fugitive escape. She admitted receiving a call from Wang Dan, a leader of the pro-democracy movement.

Hsu said she told her interrogators, "I got Wang Dan's phone call and agreed to meet with him, but I never even saw him."

Her colleague, Huang, kept the appointment on July 2 to discuss options for Wang's escape, but the two split up when they realized their car was being followed. Security agents chased the car carrying Wang.

Huang said in Hong Kong on Tuesday that authorities told him Wang had been arrested, but there has been no announcement.

Japan to aid developing nations

From Associated Press reports

TOKYO — At this week's Paris summit of major industrialized nations, Prime Minister Souseke Uno will pledge nearly \$40 billion in new debt relief and environmental aid for developing nations, government officials said today.

Uno left for Paris today accompanied by his wife Chiyo, Finance Minister Tatsuo Murayama and Foreign Minister Hiroshi Mitsuzuka.

During the three-day summit, which opens Friday, Uno will announce an increase of \$35 billion in Japan's "recycling of funds" program for the developing world until 1991, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The term "recycling of funds" refers to the overall plan by the Japanese government to use capital derived from its large trade surplus as

aid to help developing countries.

The \$35 billion is in addition to \$30 billion Japan already has allocated to the developing world for 1987-89. It also includes an additional \$10 billion to be provided over a three-year period through a "parallel lending facility" set up by the Japan Export-Import Bank and the International Monetary Fund, said the official, who requested anonymity.

Projects to be funded remain to be decided, but aid is expected to go to African nations, Brazil, Mexico, the Philippines and Venezuela, said another ministry official, also speaking on condition of anonymity. An additional \$2.25 billion will be set aside for projects tackling environmental problems, the Foreign Ministry official said.

Another \$600 million will be pro-

vided in grants to the poorest of the developing nations, mostly in Africa, he said.

The money comes from the Japan Overseas Cooperation Fund, a central government organization; the Export-Import Bank, which supplies money from the government and private sector, and international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, whose funding comes from private firms and governments.

Japan has not said how much money will come from private firms and how much from the government.

Before attending the annual summit, Uno is scheduled to meet with other summit participants from Britain, Canada, France, Italy, West Germany and the United States, according to the Foreign Ministry.

Soviet ethnic disputes continue

From Associated Press reports

MOSCOW — Two people were shot to death and 19 soldiers wounded as ethnic violence flared anew in Nagorno-Karabakh, the predominantly Armenian enclave in the southern republic of Azerbaijan, news reports said today.

A 1 a.m.-5 a.m. curfew remained in effect in the disputed region and a two-month-old strike kept most businesses closed, according to the reports.

Tensions between Armenians and Azerbaijanis in Nagorno-Karabakh, which neighboring Armenia seeks to

annex, have run high since February 1988. Ninety people have died in the region in ethnic disputes over the last year.

Various reports said two Azerbaijanis were killed and a third seriously hurt Tuesday near the village of Kirkidzhan, but the circumstances remained unclear.

The official news agency Tass and the chief editor of Azerbaijan's official news agency Azerinform said the victims were shot in an ambush. The Azerinform editor said by telephone from the Azerbaijani capital of Baku that "extremist Armenians opened fire

with hunting rifles."

Tass said groups fired shots at each other Monday, and that on Tuesday Armenians blocked roads with iron plates and telegraph poles in Stepanakert, the administrative center of Nagorno-Karabakh. Also in the region, Azerbaijanis made barricades out of cars in the village of Khodzhal, the agency said.

A crowd on Tuesday pelted soldiers clearing roads around Stepanakert with stones and fired at them with hunting rifles, wounding 19 troops, the news agency reported.

"It's turned into a Lebanon," the

Azerinform editor said, referring to the persistent fighting in the Middle Eastern country.

Declining to be identified, he added, "Armenians are waging an organized battle to turn Nagorno-Karabakh into an arena of confrontation to upset the balance with the Azerbaijani population." State radio and TV broadcast appeals by authorities for calm, the editor said.

Nagorno-Karabakh, a region of 162,000 people, has been part of Azerbaijan since 1923 but Armenians claim that Azerbaijanis discriminate against them.

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