

## World and Nation

# Army safeguards public in Beijing

From Associated Press reports

BEIJING — China's army will maintain a strong presence "to safeguard public security" in the Beijing area following the lifting of martial law, the government's top spokesman said Thursday.

Up to 1,000 troops marched across Tiananmen Square Thursday morning, hours after seven months of martial law officially ended in the capital.

"I thought martial law was over," said one of the several thousand people on the 100-acre square as he watched the military procession.

The government spokesman, Yuan Mu, told a news conference there was a "small increase" in troop levels in Beijing and its suburbs, but he gave no indication of how many soldiers would be stationed around the capital.

Yuan said the military presence was necessary to "safeguard public security and the peaceful work of the people."

He said martial law ended because "the task of martial law has been victoriously completed, the situation in Beijing and throughout the country is stable and the social order has returned to normal."

President Bush on Thursday praised the lifting of martial law as a "very sound step" and a "good sign."

There was no suggestion from the

Chinese government that it was responding to strong pressure from the West to lift martial law as a signal that it is easing its policy of harsh suppression of political dissent.

Premier Li Peng Wednesday night announced the end to martial law which was imposed in May after pro-democracy crowds of up to one million people took over the streets of Beijing.

Li stressed that the decision to bring troops into Beijing in the June military crackdown had been "timely, necessary and correct."

Police replaced military sentries in the city at the end of October, and the lifting of martial law had no visible effect on the city except that Tiananmen Square, previously entered only by Chinese with proper documents, again became open to all citizens.

About 150,000 troops entered Beijing to quell the pro-democracy unrest of last spring, and many are believed to remain unobtrusively behind the walled compounds of the city.

Chinese sources said the military went on full alert in late December when the overthrow of the pro-China Nicolae Ceausescu regime in Romania raised fears of political unrest in Beijing.

On Thursday the troops, many shouting in cadence or singing military songs,

marched across Tiananmen Square and entered a compound next to the Great Hall of the People in an obvious show of military force.

Although tough anti-protest laws and surveillance of university campuses remain in place, many expressed relief that martial law was over. "This is the way it should be," said an anonymous high school student about the opening of the square to the public again.

But others, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said the end of martial law will have little meaning as long as political repression continues.

"The government draws a circle and you have to stand inside," said a Beijing teacher. "It's like the Russian Gulag, only a different size," he said, adding that "we haven't forgotten the students" who stood up to the military.

Hundreds, and perhaps thousands, of people were killed when troops stormed the city on June 3-4 to drive student demonstrators from the square. Since then thousands of political activists have been arrested, and many languish in jail without formal charges.

Asked about students under detention, Yuan said only that judicial departments were still carrying out investigations.

Gao Xin, one of four intellectuals

who began a hunger strike for democracy just before military assault, has been freed after six months in jail, but Gao, who looked much thinner, said Thursday he could not talk about the experience.

The government spokesman said China would take a "prudent attitude" toward providing the names of those killed in the crackdown because many relatives of the victims were "not quite willing to have the names announced in the papers."

Yuan said that the situation in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa, also under martial law since the outbreak of pro-independence riots in March, was different from that of Beijing and that he had no information on when martial law would end there.

China's official newspapers said the nation cannot relax its vigilance against anti-socialist enemies.

"Lifting martial law doesn't mean all is well," said the Communist Party's People's Daily. It said the "few people who adhere to bourgeois liberalization refuse to admit their defeat."

The Liberation Army Daily said the army, "the pillar of the people's democratic dictatorship in China, will not slacken its vigilance ideologically."

# Congress' homeless aid cuts cause counties to protest

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — Some 126 counties that received aid for the homeless last year through a program created by Congress have been dropped for 1990. They include 20 counties with double-digit unemployment rates and one with a poverty rate of 42.7 percent.

Advocates for the homeless, as well as local officials in the 30 states hit by the cutback, are protesting. But program administrators say they are merely fulfilling a mandate to target the aid to the nation's areas with the highest rate of homelessness.

Congress didn't cut funds for the \$124.9 million Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program. The 126 jurisdictions lost out when they fell below eligibility levels for local poverty, unemployment or the size of the overall labor force. Some may still receive limited grants from a separate fund set aside for underfunded areas.

Twenty-eight new counties also became eligible this year.

The rejected counties are as large as Oklahoma's Tulsa County, including the city of Tulsa, and as

## News in Brief

small as Madison Parish, La. Madison has unemployment and poverty rates of 16 percent and 42.7 percent respectively. But the parish, which got \$22,000 in 1989, lost its eligibility because it had fewer than the required total of 1,000 people unemployed, according to the program's figures.

### Poll shows U.S. job dissatisfaction

WASHINGTON — A majority of American workers are doing what they do for such reasons as simple chance or lack of choice, while just 41 percent hold jobs that they had planned, according to a poll released Thursday.

The results indicate "that many people are trapped at less than they could do," said Sharon Dannan, research director at a Cleveland-based group called 9 to 5, National Association of Working Women.

"I don't think it bodes well. People aren't looking at their job as a life-long development, as a way to grow. They're not dreaming of the stars."

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## DTH seeking new writers

Are you feeling useless in that drop-add line? Do you have the desire to spend all sorts of crazy hours avoiding your homework? Then it's time to apply at the DTH. You could be a reporter, copy editor, photographer or design assistant, as long as you come to the very important new writers' meeting next Wednesday at 4 p.m. See Wednesday's paper for the room number.

We're looking for University, city, state and national, arts and features, sports and business reporters, as well as copy editors and photographers. Reporting applicants will be asked to write one story, while photographers should have samples of their work to give the editor. Applicants for copy editors will be tested on their grammar, spelling and punctuation skills.

New staffers will be announced by the following Monday, and they will be required to work two days a week if possible.

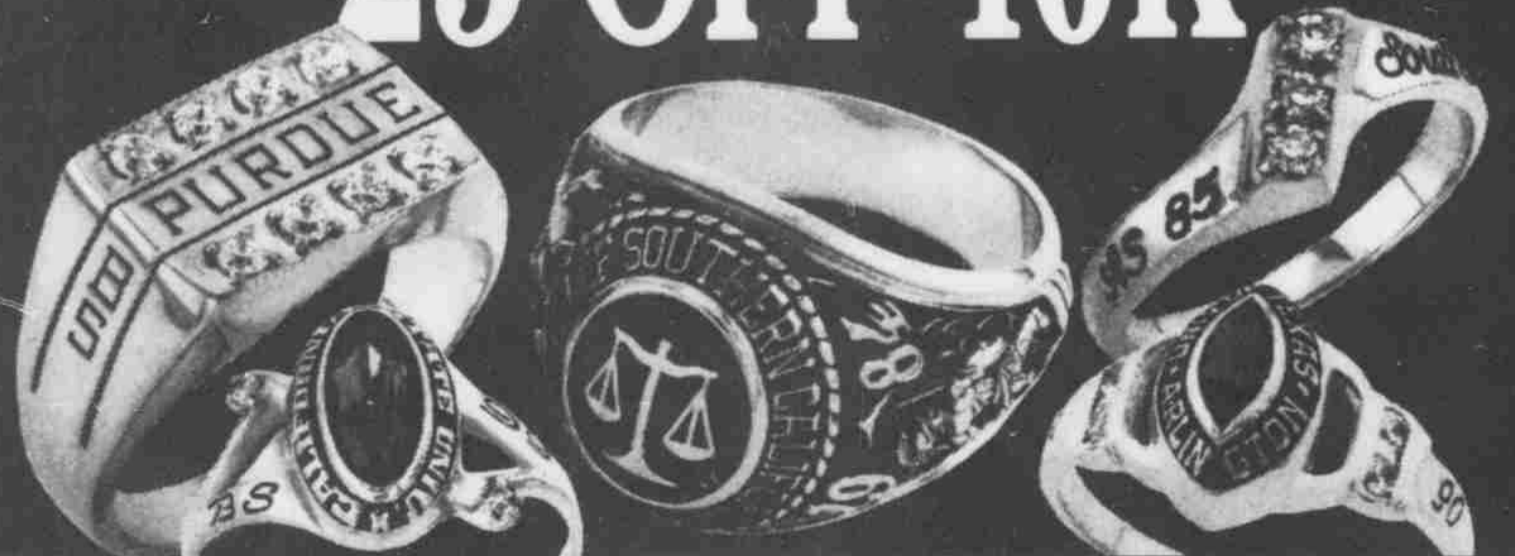
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