

INTERNATIONAL

Someday or another, everyone will know

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Beijing, China

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Protesting for democracy, standing up for what's right, then being killed simply because you believe strongly in something others don't.

As I sit here looking out the window of my hotel, I see something I've never seen before. I am in Beijing, China. I can see thousands of college students protesting on the grounds of Tian An Men Square. As I pause from my typing, and look up from my keyboard to the window again, I wonder why all these students are here?

Imagine this: You are Chairman Mao, dictator of China, in one week, the Russian Premier, Gorbachev is coming to your country. Unfortunately, for you, there are thousands of college students protesting for democracy in one of the main attractions of your city. You do not want Gorbachev to see your country as unorganized or unable to control it's people. The students must leave. They have been asked many times by the government to leave and go home, but they refuse. Many have gone on hunger strikes,

vowing never to stop until they die or the government promises to meet with their representatives and begin reforms.

These are the confusing and complicated events that are happening in China at this time. College students and many other people of China are tired of having a communist government. They want to choose who will make decisions, and they want the right to voice their own opinion. To protest the government, students have taken to the streets with motivational banners and signs shouting "Democracy Now, Stop the Corruption!" with force that comes from somewhere deeper than the heart.

Chairman Mao has sent in soldiers to clear the square of all protesters, but the soldiers don't even get that far. Villagers came out onto the street and blocked the

roads; it was like a human wall. They screamed at the soldiers to leave, to turn around and go home.

And they did.

Again and again, soldiers came marching in, only to be driven away by strong spirited Chinese who know right from wrong.

As I write this article, the city of Beijing is surrounded by military. Now there are tanks, and soldiers are carrying AK 47's. No joking around this time. The Chinese Government has ordered all protesters out of the Tian An Men Square or face the consequences. Their presence is illegal, and so are all demonstrations. All student demonstrators are now considered counter-revolutionaries. This means that if a demonstrator is arrested, he or she could be shot.

Tanks and soldiers have now started to advance into the city. They are all headed for the Tian An Men Square. They stop for no one. The huge tanks flatten people as they rumble past. Soldiers shoot towards crowds of people running in opposite directions. Many fall to the ground, bleeding and on the verge of death. People run towards the tanks, screaming in Chinese, "why are you doing this, stop the shooting". There is a crack and they are also shot down and killed. No one is spared.



Today, I am back in Canada. The Chinese Government has reported that no one was hurt, however, in reality thousands of peaceful demonstrators were murdered on June 4th, 1989. And everyone knows. Nothing can be hidden from the world, no matter how powerful a government you may have.