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**Thousands Killed in Tian An Men Square Massacre**

By Todd Ed Cloutier

At about 1:10 last night,protester met a grim sight. The Protester were protesting and asking for more democracy and an end to corruption in the government. They were also mourning the death of Hu Yaobang. Before president Gorbachov visit, Chairman Mao Zedong sent his troops in to empty the square so the protest would not be happening during the Russian president stay. He gave out a short warning before he moved his troops in.



**Mao Zedong, the man who ordered the strike.**

At around 1:10 a.m., at least 50 trucks roared into the square not even stopping for the citizens in front of them. Then the protester saw soldiers dismounting the trucks. They were the P.L.A. The soldiers were armed with AK-47. They formed a long line and opened fire on the crowds. There were three long burst each lasting ten or so seconds. Hundreds of

people fell to the ground either dead or badly injured. The gunfire sent protester running towards the gate of heavenly only to find soldiers perched on top of it.



**Police patrolled the square before the massacre.**

The crowd of protester were sent into chaos later on the roar of a tank engine could be heard in the square. unaware of the total control the military had in the area,the protesters ran down streets only to shot or if they were lucky arrested. By the end of the night there was an erie silence, interrupted only by the sound of gunfire in the distance.



**A protester stands his**

**ground and slows the advancing tanks.**

There was a CBC reporter in the square Alex Jackson and he told us this story" I was in the square when the gunfire started. The crowd fell back a bit but then started towards the soldiers again. Then the gunfire got louder and faster. The people began stampeding towards the barricades of burning buses. I saw some people drop right off the side of the bus. As I was running past a set of stairs and i fell and hit my head. When I got up I was sort of dazed. I felt the ground rumble and I heard the roar of a tank engine. It sounded like what you would here when a plane was taking off. I jumped behind a car to avoid some bullets. Glass from the cart started falling every were around me. I met a couple of Chinese students. They asked me who I was and I told them that I was a reporter and I needed help getting out of the square. Then they took me down an alley. I heard gunfire behind me and what felt like a baseball bat hitting my leg. I fell to the ground and hit my head from then on I was unconscious. I had film in my backpack of the massacre. I was brought to the airport by one of the students who I met in the square. I brought it back to Canada to let the world know what Mao Zedong had done.



**Here a Personnel carrier is watched by protester as it burns away.**

Shortly after, the shooting had stopped. bonfires went up in the square. Reports came out of the square that the PLA were burning the victims bodies. The total casualties in this event are countless, the Tian An Men square massacre had ended.