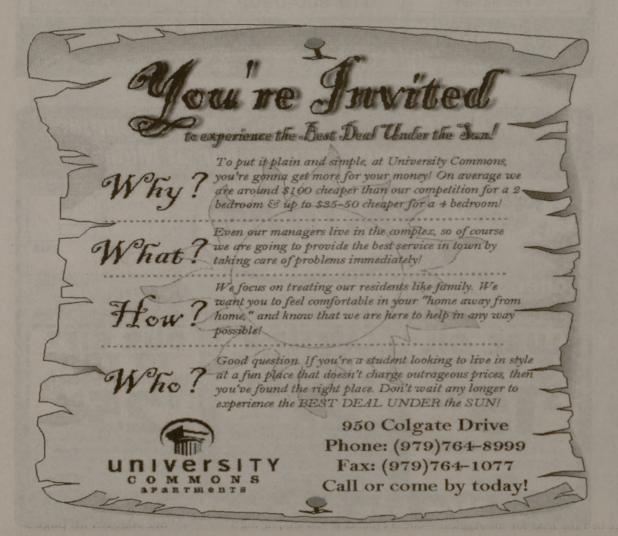
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Chavez returns to power

two days after arrest

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adjust things.

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Triumphant yet chastened, President Hugo Chavez returned to office on the wings of a popular uprising two days after he was ousted and arrested by Venezuela's military, saying he has reflected on his mistakes and was prepared to "make corrections."

"I do not come with hate or rancor in my heart, but we must make decisions and adjust things," Chavez said at dawn, moments after pushing past tens of thousands of supporters to

reclaim the presidential palace in Venezuela, the third-biggest supplier of oil to the United States.

Monday, April 15, 2002

Opposition stayed clear of public light on Sunday. Venezuelans struggled to make sense of the dizzying, bloody sequence of events that led to Chavez's brief ouster and stunning return.

Chavez was ousted by his military high command, which claimed he had resigned under pressure after gunmen opened fire on opposition protesters. At least 16 people were killed.

Economist Pedro Carmona was sworn in Friday, only to resign a day later amid widespread street protests, looting and rebellions by several military officers who refused to go along with the plan. Chavez's vice president said Saturday that Carmona and his supporters would be tried.

'I'm sorry, but the pain I feel doesn't let me talk," said one old man, his eyes welling as he stared at his scorched shoestore in a western

Chavez appealed for calm, and the looting that

Sunday, streets in the capital were empty.

A caravan of Chavez supporters inter the silence, speeding through the city in m cycles and cars, honking horns and the 'He's back! He's back!'

The Bush administration, which show remorse when the Venezuelan military the country's elected president last advised Chavez on Sunday to make goods

his second chance. "We do hope that () recognizes that the world is watching and he takes advantage of opportunity to right his ship, which has been ing, frankly, in the

INTERNATIO THE BATTA

direction for quite a time," said Condol Rice, President Bu

national security adviser. In his strongest conciliatory gesture, C announced that a board of directors oppos executives at state-owned oil monopoly

The internal power struggle at PDV swelled last week into a popular rebellion by opposition, triggering a general national stri huge demonstration that ended in bloodshed? Chavez's short-lived ouster.

Chavez had repeatedly refused to nego the appointments even as PDVSA man staged a five-week work slowdown that or oil exports and production. His intrans infuriated the upper classes, which long rese a regime they considered autocratic.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Six-figure speeding ticket tests Finland's egalitarian

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) - Looking at Anssi Vanjoki's speeding ticket, many Finns are wondering whether their egalitarian spirit has taken them over the edge

True, Vanjoki was doing 46.5 mph in a 30-mph zone. But \$103,000?

The reason the penalty was so harsh is that traffic fines in Finland are based not just on the severity of

phone maker, and his fine was assessed on a 1999 income of \$5.2 million A court later slashed it to \$5,245, but not before

the offense, but on the offender's income. Vanjo

a senior executive of Nokia, the world's largest

Finns flew into a rage.

"There is something rotten in our fining system and it needs changing," says Leena Harkimo, or of 70 lawmakers in the 200-member Parlian who want the law amended. "People are and before the law whatever their color, age, OR and so they should be when it comes to weath

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