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Texas A&M The Battalion

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Abortion vigils, rallies staged across nation

Associated Press

President Reagan joined with supporters of legalized abortion Tuesday in condemning violence against abortion clinics, but otherwise the "pro-choice" and "pro-life" forces had nothing new, and nothing conciliatory, to say to each other.

Both sides mounted rallies, marches, candlelight vigils and prayer breakfasts on the 12th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision that gave women, not government, the right to choose.

"We cannot condone the threatening or taking of human life to protest the taking of human life by way of abortion," Reagan said in an address relayed by telephone from the White House to 71,000 March for Life demonstrators on the Ellipse a quarter-mile away.

In events across the country, the bombs that have struck two dozen clinics were as much an issue this year as Roe vs. Wade, the Supreme Court case which guarantees women the right to an abortion, subject to state restrictions only in the last three months of pregnancy.

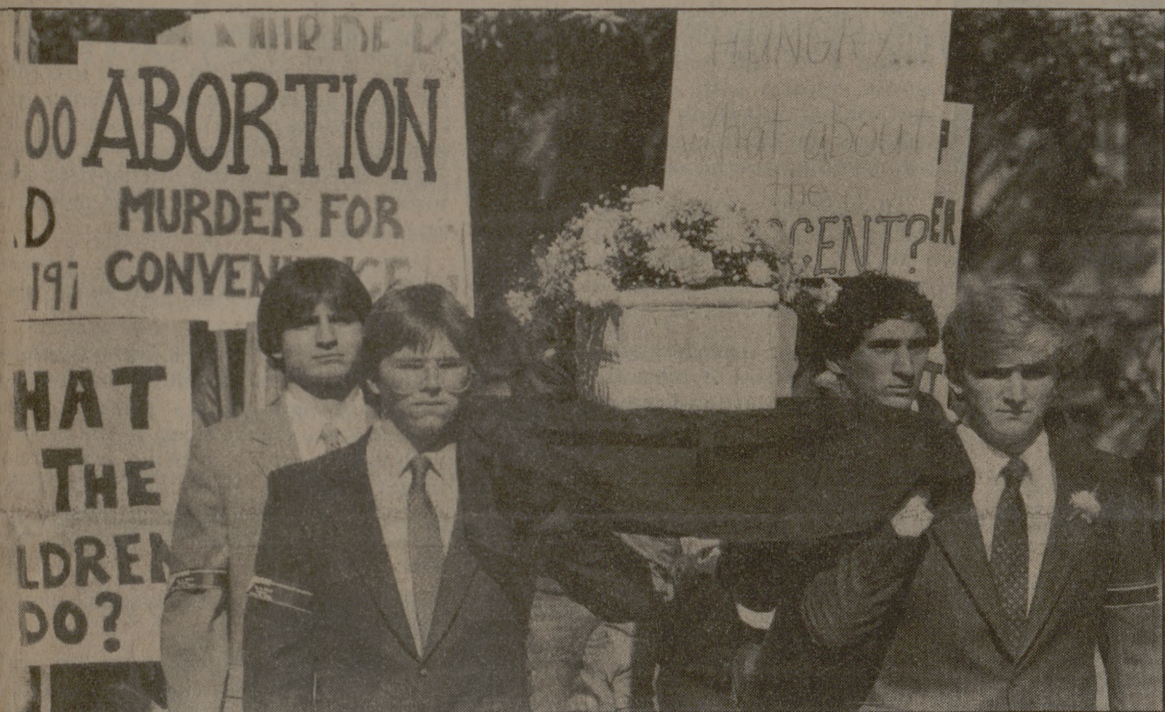
The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which investigated the bombings, had warned new attacks might be timed to coincide with Reagan's inauguration Monday and the abortion anniversary Tuesday.

The National Organization for Women mounted vigils at 25 clinics and family planning centers in 18 states to help prevent any violence.

"I am convinced that our response to the 12th anniversary ... must be to re-dedicate ourselves to ending the terrible national tragedy of abortion," the President said, adding: "I want you to know that I feel these days, as never before, the moment is with us."

However, an ABC News poll released Tuesday found that support for abortion on demand increased during Reagan's first term. Asked whether a woman should be able to get an abortion if she wants one, "no matter what the reason," 52 percent of the respondents said yes. Forty percent supported that position in a similar 1981 poll, ABC said.

ABC said 53 percent of the Roman Catholics supported abortion on demand, as did 50 percent of the Protestants in the sample.



Anti-abortionists march on campus.

Photo by DEAN SAITO

Local pro-life procession begins anniversary rally

By KIMBERLY PETTIBON
Reporter

A mock funeral procession mourning aborted babies began a public rally against abortion on the Texas A&M campus Tuesday.

A&M Christian Fellowship and the Brazos Valley Crisis Pregnancy Service sponsored the rally to protest the Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion on Jan. 22, 1973.

A funeral procession started at Sbis Dining Hall and ended at Rudder Tower, where four pallbearers placed an empty miniature casket on a trash can.

A spokesman for A&M Christian Fellowship Ron Tewson said, "Since the Supreme Court's decision, over 15 billion babies have

gone to trash cans just like the one this casket is sitting on."

Students, parents, children, faculty, staff and local citizens made up the crowd of about 150. Some carried signs that said "Abortion — America's Holocaust" and "Abortion is Murder."

University Police were at the scene, but the protest was peaceful despite the shouts of a few hecklers.

Every 20 seconds one of the demonstrators marked a slash on a chart which said "The Slaughter Goes On and On and On" to signify that an abortion takes place every 20 seconds.

Several of those in the crowd cried when Beverly Boyce, a girl who had an abortion, told the

crowd about the pain she went through.

Tears rolled down Boyce's face as she begged the women in the crowd to turn to adoption instead of abortion.

Other speakers at the rally included a local psychologist and physician that are anti-abortion.

Psychologist Dale Simpson said that abortions are emotionally painful.

"Women don't really adjust after having an abortion," Simpson said.

Dr. George McIlhane, a physician in the Bryan-College Station area, said abortions often result in physical as well as emotional complications.

CS citizens combat cold wave

By PAM WEEMS
Reporter

Bryan and College Station have successfully outmaneuvered the frigid cold front which blew in Saturday night.

The cold front, which abruptly hit the area, caused a decrease in temperatures to a record low of 10 degrees resulting in disabled vehicles, frozen pipes and an all-time high energy consumption.

The low temperatures prompted unusual activities on the Texas A&M campus. Students discovered fewer shuttle buses in operation.

A representative of the Texas A&M Bus Operations said the cold weather caused moisture to collect in the buses' air valves, which caused the valves to freeze over.

He said the only solution was to keep alcohol on the valve lines. Otherwise, the brakes would lock and cause a malfunction.

The cold weather also resulted in eight buses being grounded.

Officials of the College Station Fire Department and Utility Department agreed area residents have successfully combatted the cold weather: no flooding, and few broken pipes.

An official with the College Station Water and Sewer Department said last year's continual freezing temperatures taught many people a lesson. He said many kept their faucets dripping and their heat on to prevent pipe breakage.

Bryan Utilities reached its energy peak Monday morning by generating more heat than any winter season, said Dan Wilkerson, director. Typically during cold weather, there is high daily demand for electricity causing the utility to generate more electricity.

Because of this increased demand for heat, natural gas burning was curtailed and oil was burned to produce electricity, Wilkerson said.

Bryan builds juvenile detention center

Delinquents to be away from adults

By TRENT LEOPOLD
Staff Writer

Construction on a new juvenile detention center at the corner of Texas Ave. and 25th Street in Bryan is nearing completion and officials anxiously wait to move in.

Dan German, Brazos County juvenile detention superintendent, Tuesday said the center, heralded as one of the best in the state, is something this area has been needing for a long time.

Federal law currently states all imprisoned juveniles must be housed separately from adults by the end of

this year, German said. Juveniles are currently kept in the same building as adult offenders, but they cannot see or hear each other.

"We really need this facility because too many young people are being put back out on the street when they need to be kept in a juvenile detention center," German said. "Currently we just don't have enough room to detain the children who need to be kept in custody."

Juvenile offenders are presently being taken from Bryan to Waco if they need to be kept in custody for more than two days. Each trip to

Waco costs \$30 and German said the expense can quickly add up.

"Police officers are picking up the same juveniles over and over," he said. "We often can't justify taking the young people to Waco when it costs \$30 for every trip."

"Also, by the time the young people finally get into court they often end up facing four or five different charges because they are allowed to go back out on the streets when they are unable to stay out of trouble," he said.

The new structure was supposed to begin operations in January, but a

problem with the paint peeling off the brick walls delayed the move-in date, German said.

Construction on the facility began in 1983 after sufficient funds were obtained following a bond election in 1982.

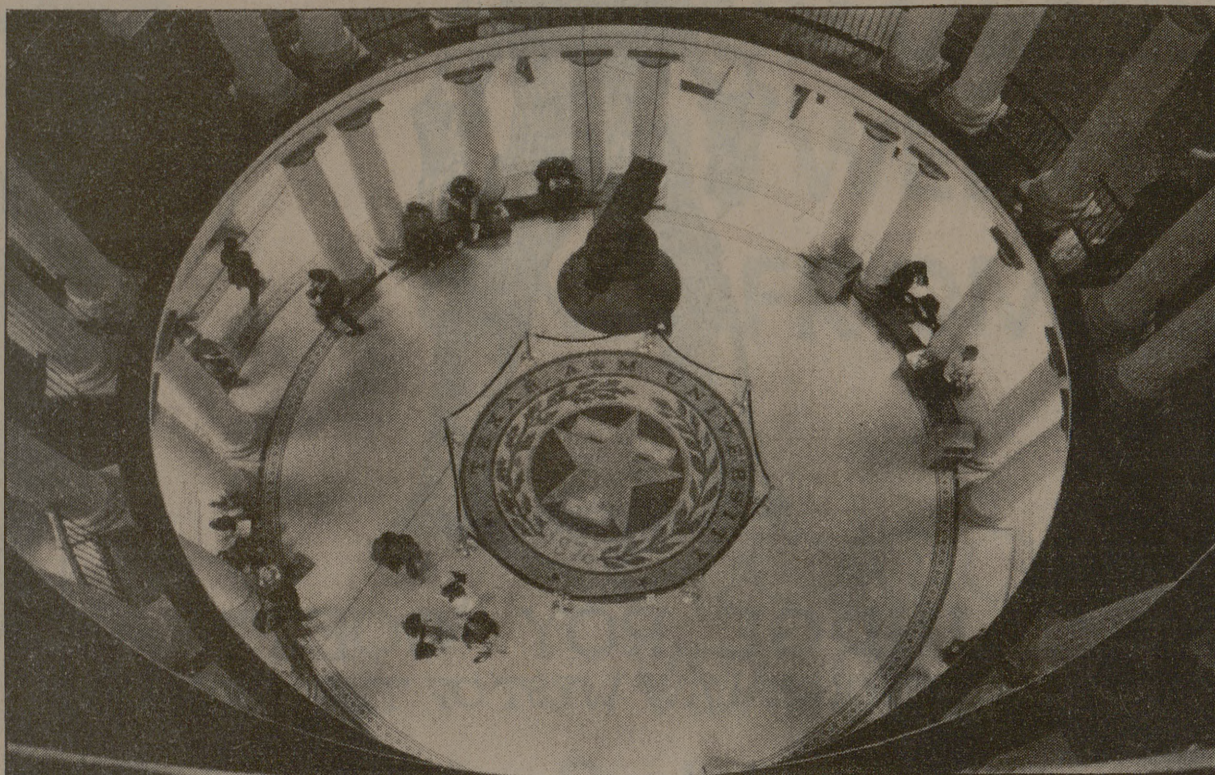
The holding cells for the juveniles are referred to as "bedrooms" by the staff. The 13 bedrooms in the center each include a bunk bed and a bookcase. These cells will be electronically monitored from a central control room in the middle of the building, German said. Each room also will have an electronic door which can be

opened and closed on command from the control room.

In addition to modern operating procedures at the center, German said productive programs and a 10-member staff should help make the facility one of the best in Texas.

"A lot of facilities in Texas have detention workers who simply supervise, but don't have any productive programs for the youth," German said. "We plan to be different."

"Juveniles being kept here will work, go to school, play games, receive counseling and do things that are productive."



Looking Down

Photo by WAYNE L. GRABEIN

The rotunda in the Academic Building is a favorite spot for people to sit during the day.

Looking down from the fourth floor provided this view of the between-class crowd.

USAF plane down near Honduras with 21 Americans

Associated Press

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — A U.S. Air Force plane with 21 American personnel aboard went down in the Caribbean off Honduras Tuesday, and searchers had to abandon their efforts for the night after hours of battling fog and storms, a U.S. Embassy spokesman said.

The C-130A transport, en route to the Honduran coastal town of Trujillo from Howard Air Base in Panama, went into the water at about 11 a.m. EST, U.S. Embassy press attache Robert Callahan said. Lt. Col. Gene Sands, a Defense Department spokesman, said earlier in Washington. "They're in the water. We can't even get in for sea rescue because of the weather."

Trujillo is about 240 miles north of Tegucigalpa and is near a regional military training center for Honduran and Salvadoran troops. Callahan said the five crew mem-

bers and 16 passengers were "all U.S. personnel, that's our understanding." The plane was assigned to the 440th Tactical Airlift Wing, an Air Force reserve unit based at Billy Mitchell Field in Milwaukee, he said.

"No hostile action was indicated," according to a statement released by U.S. military officials at Palmerola Air Base, 90 miles northwest of the capital.

The statement said the aircraft was on a routine airlift mission from Howard, headquarters of the U.S. Southern Command, which has jurisdiction over U.S. military activities in Central America.

Callahan said the search was called off after several hours because of a combination of rain, wind and high seas. The search was expected to be resumed as soon as weather permitted.