

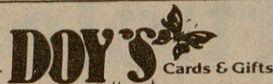
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 Time: 4-6 PM  
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# Poll: Americans believe government takes bribes

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans believe bribe-taking is rampant in the federal government, a Media General-Associated Press poll has found.

The national survey of 1,125 adults found deep skepticism of government integrity. In the most critical finding, an overwhelming 70 percent said they thought taking illegal payoffs for special favors was widespread.

Fully half the respondents called the government dishonest overall and seven in 10 called it poorly managed. Even more, 82 percent, said they were not surprised to learn of recent corruption charges involving the Pentagon.

On specific cases, a plurality said former Attorney General Edwin Meese III should have been charged with crimes, and half opposed the suggestion of a presidential pardon for former national security adviser John Poindexter, the highest official charged in the Iran-Contra case.

Respondents were evenly split on a pardon for Poindexter's assistant, former Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, who gained support through his defense of his actions at congressional hearings last year.

The Reagan administration did not carry heavy blame for the overall doubt about government honesty. While 43 percent said the administration had done a bad job of enforcing ethical standards, 40 percent

said it had done a good job. The split was insignificant given the poll's three-point error margin.

Also, 51 percent said the administration had done a good job of managing the government, even though most said the government was poorly managed overall. And 55 percent did not blame the administration for the Pentagon scandal.

Democrats predominated in the 35 percent who did blame the administration for the Pentagon case, which involves allegations of payoffs in the awarding of military contracts. But large majorities of all groups, Republicans and independents included, were unsurprised by the charges.

Similarly, majorities of all demographic and ideological groups said they believed taking payoffs was widespread in the government — from a low of 60 percent of Republicans to a high of 82 percent of liberals. Overall, just 20 percent of the respondents did not believe payoffs were widespread.

Democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis proposed tighter ethics rules and sharply criticized the administration for its ethical performance last week. But the poll, conducted Sept. 6-14, found respondents split evenly on whether Dukakis or Republican nominee George Bush would be better at enforcing ethical standards.

In the Iran-Contra case, Poin-

dexter and North have been charged with conspiring while at the White House to sell arms to Iran in exchange for American hostages and to divert the proceeds to the Caribbean rebels. Their trial will take place before the election. Poindexter has said he hopes North is acquitted.

Fifty percent in the poll agreed that Poindexter should have been charged; 30 percent said not and 20 percent didn't know. There was greater division on North: 33 percent agreed with charges, 42 percent did not.

The breakdown was the same whether President Reagan should pardon the men: On Poindexter, 41 percent said he should be pardoned, 44 percent said no.

Meese, attorney general in 1985, resigned this summer, saying he had been vindicated of corruption allegations by a special prosecutor's decision not to seek charges against him. The prosecutor of Meese probably violated tax and conflict of interest laws, but not file charges because he had evidence that Meese sought permission.

Forty-six percent in the poll, however, said Meese should have been charged with crimes. The 43 percent agreed with the decision to charge him and the remaining 11 percent had no opinion.

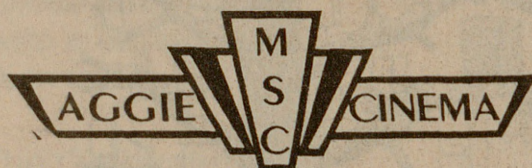
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## Man wounds 3rd-grade girl on playground

MASCOTTE, Fla. (AP) — A gunman in a camouflage outfit shot a third-grade student on an elementary school playground Monday, authorities said. The girl was reported in stable condition with arm and chest wounds.

The entire police force rushed to Mascotte Elementary School in this small central Florida community, searching for the man who was still at large, police dispatcher Cathy England, said.

The gunman shot the girl just before 11 a.m. as she played on the school's physical education field, Betty June Cofield, secretary to the Lake County school superintendent, said. No one else was hurt in the incident, and she said she did not know how many shots were fired or what kind of weapon was used.

The wounded girl was Leah Wilbanks, 9, of Mascotte, said Jean Lowe of Orlando Regional Medical Center.

Mascotte is a relatively small town of 1,100.

It was the third school shooting incident in as many weeks. Last week, two little girls were killed and nine other people wounded at a school in South Carolina, while the previous week, five people, none of them students, were killed in a shooting in and near a Chicago elementary school.

## World briefs

### Supreme Court rejects killer's appeals

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Monday rejected appeals by two convicted Texas murderers sentenced to death.

The court let stand rulings that Michael E. Sharp and Maurice Andrews received fair trials and properly were sentenced.

Sharp was convicted of fatally stabbing Brenda Kay Broadway and her daughter, Christy Michelle Elms, 8, on June 11, 1982.

Police said Sharp abducted Broadway and her two daughters from a car wash in Kermit.

Andrews was sentenced to life for the shooting deaths of Jo Angel Granado, a jewelry store owner in Beaumont, and Arnan Melindez, who worked at the store, during an April 8, 1982, robbery.

The cases are Sharp vs. Texas, 87-6984, and Andrews vs. Texas, 87-7117.

### Court agrees to hear issue of fees

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to decide whether those who win partial victories in civil rights lawsuits — losing on the central issue — are entitled to recover their attorneys' fees.

The court said it will hear an appeal by school teachers in Texas who challenged anti-union regulations.

The regulations, adopted by the Garland Independent School District, barred teacher union representatives from visiting schools during regular school hours or using school public address systems or other communications facilities, and barred teachers from using internal mail or bulletin boards to discuss union activities.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the regulations affecting union representatives. But the appeals court said it violates the free-speech and free-association rights of teachers to have private conversations or prevent them from using the mail or bulletin boards.

The appeals court ruled in February that the Texas State Teachers Association and the Garland Education Association, which filed the suit and won part of their case, are not entitled to be reimbursed for attorneys' fees.

At issue in the case acted on Monday is what constitutes a prevailing party.

The case is Texas State Teachers Association vs. Garland Independent School District, 87-1720.

### Pope agrees to visit Finland in June

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II said Monday he will visit Finland in June during an expected Scandinavian pilgrimage.

Receiving the credentials of Finland's new ambassador to the Holy See, Richard Totterman, the pope said: "I look forward with anticipation to the visit which I propose to make in Finland in June of next year."

The pope accepted an invitation to visit the overwhelming Lutheran region at a Vatican meeting with the area's Roman Catholic bishops in February 1987.

The pope's statement Monday was the first Vatican confirmation of any stop.

### Plane crashes at Rio de Janeiro field

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — A twin-engine plane crashed and exploded while making an emergency landing near Rio de Janeiro, killing all eight people on board, the Rio Airport Authority said Monday.

The plane, belonging to the Armar Air Taxi company, was flying from the southeastern coastal resort town of Buzios to

Rio on Sunday when the pilot asked to make an emergency landing at the navy air base in São Pedro da Aldeia, 90 miles east of Rio, the base said.

The plane crashed near the runway and burst into flames, killing the six passengers and crew members, the airport authority said. The cause of the crash was not known.

### Anti-abortion activists lose in appeal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Anti-abortion activists in Houston lost a Supreme Court appeal Monday as the justices let stand an injunction barring them from demonstrating at an abortion clinic.

The court, without comment, rejected arguments that the injunction violates the demonstrators' rights.

Their appeal, among other things, had urged the nation's highest court to reverse its landmark 1973 decision legalizing abortion.

The Right to Life Advocates Inc., an anti-abortion group, and nine of its members are barred from demonstrating at the Aaron Women's Clinic in Houston.

A state judge, acting on a lawsuit filed by the clinic, issued the injunction after members of the group staged protests each Saturday from May through July 1985.

A state appeals court upheld the injunction, and the Texas Su-

preme Court refused to reverse the case Feb. 10.

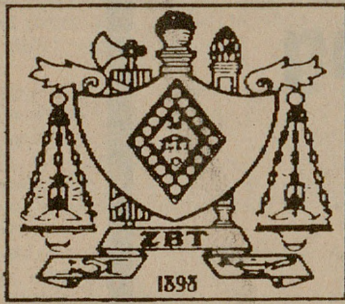
The injunction bars Right to Life Advocates Inc., the nine members and "their servants, agents and others acting in concert" from "entering or trespassing onto any portion of (the clinic's) private property."

It also bars "any demonstrating, picketing or counseling" by those enjoined, and forbids those "to physically confront, intimidate or harass any customer, potential customer, employee, invitee or tenant of the office building" in which the clinic is located.

The nine Right to Life members named in the injunction are Craig K. Andersen, J. Jimmy Bailey, Lee P. Helmke, Gary L. Barbara, A. Martone, John A. Martone, Kathy Mathews, Sheila McIntosh and Joseph J. Ped.

The case is Right to Life Advocates vs. Aaron Women's Clinic, 87-2002.

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 @ MSC Room 027 (in the Basement)  
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## Delta resumes court trial on '85 crash

FORT WORTH (AP) — Delta Air Lines and the federal government renewed their courtroom battle Monday, with the resumption of a federal liability trial focusing on a 1985 plane crash that killed 137 people.

The non-jury trial started again in U.S. District Judge David O. Belew Jr.'s court in Fort Worth after having been in recess since early August.

Delta Air Lines is attempting to have the government share the blame for the crash of Delta Flight 191 at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

At stake in the legal proceeding is more than \$100 million in claims from survivors and relatives of victims. Delta is attempting to have the government pay some of those costs and cover the cost of replacing the Lockheed L-1011 jet destroyed in the crash.

If Belew rules that the government should share blame in the tragedy, a separate trial will determine how much the government should pay.

Neither Delta nor the government disputes the direct cause of the crash. A violent downburst of air, or microburst, from a rapidly developing thunderstorm at the edge of the runway slammed the aircraft into the ground. Meteorologists say there is no known way to forecast a microburst.

Delta officials claim a lack of communication between government air traffic controllers and meteorologists prevented the Delta flight crew from getting the information they needed on the bad weather.