## Study shows most abortions performed before fetus viable

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WASHINGTON (AP) - Pregnancies terminated after the 20th week represent only about 1 percent of the 1.3 million abortions performed each year in the United States, yet these are a focal point in the debate

about legalized abortion. A prominent part of the Supreme Court's abortion ruling last week, such late-term abortions heighten the question of when a fetus becomes a viable human being.

Based on Centers of Disease Control statistics for 1985, the last year complete numbers are available, only about 13,280 abortions in the United States were performed after the 20th week of pregnancy The vast majority of abortions, about 90 percent, are

performed by the 15th week, long before viability of the fetus is a biological possibility.

According to studies by CDC and others, most of the

relative handful who seek late-term abortions, about 73 percent, are under age 24. A majority of them are in their teens. Most are unmarried.

One survey showed such women often are reluctant to tell parents or boyfriends of their pregnancy, and many have problems arranging abortions because of money or transportation. Some didn't realize they were pregnant in the early weeks. And a major concern for about a third of those seeking late abortions is concealing the fact they are sexually active.

"A lot of them just hope it'll go away," said Dr. Richard Berkowitz, chairman of the department of obstet-

rics and reproductive sciences at Mt. Sinai in New York. Although the numbers are small, when compared to

all abortions performed, the late-term cases create a nightmare for doctors who must deal with the uncertainty of fetal age

The issue inflames emotions among anti-abortion groups who believe infants capable of sustaining life are

And it is an issue that attracted a major share of attention in the Supreme Court's ruling last week that gave states power to impose new restrictions on the right to have an abortion.

CDC statistics show that 3.6 percent of those seeking abortions after the 20th week of pregnancy are under the age of 15. The largest number, 36.7 percent, are between 15 and 19 years of age, and 32.8 percent are aged

Abortions after the 20th week among women aged 25-30 account for 13 percent and those over age 30 only 11.9 percent. The age of the woman was not given in 2 percent of the late-term cases.

Late abortions frequently are chosen by the over 30 age group after tests show the fetus has a defect, such as

A national survey by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, a private agency that monitors reproduction trends, showed that the young, poor and black are more apt to obtain abortions after the 16th week of pregnancy.

## Chinese government tries to restore image by promising end to corruption

The government, which ordered

troops into Beijing on June 3-4 to

crush the student movement, now

corruption slogans to incite

"Organizers of the

rebellion used anti-

the uncertain public."

BEIJING (AP) - China's Communist Party sought to restore its tainted image Monday by publicizing a nationwide crackdown on corruption in its ranks — one of the demands of the student movement

crushed by the government.

New party General Secretary
Jiang Zemin also met two foreign delegations, from Romania and Ethiopia, in a show of diplomacy as usual despite icy relations with Western governments protesting China's bloody suppression of unarmed demonstrators.

Every major daily newspaper carried lengthy articles Monday on the expulsion and other punishment of party members caught embezzling, profiteering and abusing their

An end to official corruption was one of the calls of student-led demonstrators. They also demanded freedom of the press and a dialogue

with government officials. The People's Daily, official mouthpiece of the 47.7 million-

— People's Daily, Chinese newspaper

has seized the corruption issue as its

leg liquor.

"The recent turmoil and rebellion included many people because some party members, cadres and especially a minority of leaders were enright to condemn China's human member party that is the world's biggest political organization, said 452 gaged in corrupt practices which rights record.

officials in the southern province of Guizhou were expelled for corruption in the first half of 1989.

made the people very dissatisfied," the People's Daily said.

"Organizers of the rebellion used"

"Organizers of the rebellion used anti-corruption slogans to incite the uncertain public," it said. On Sunday, it was reported that a local party leader in Guizhou was sentenced to death for selling boot-

Among other cases reported Monday, the vice chairman of the commodity prices committee in western Gansu province was expelled from the party for making \$170,000 by profiteering in sugar. Another Gansu official was pun-

ished for using public funds to buy a private home and a third sold state-supplied medicine and used the money to hold an elaborate funeral for his wife.

Almost all high-level diplomatic contacts between China and the West have been frozen because of the military attack on protesters and arrests of more than 2,000 people across the country.

China continued to attack the United States on Monday, with the Beijing Daily saying the United States, with its discrimination against

## NASA races to prevent huge satellite from crashing through atmosphere

plunge from orbit, NASA is racing to retrieve another giant satellite this one as big as a bus — before it falls to Earth

The satellite is being pushed by solar pressure and tugged by Earth's gravity toward a predicted crash through the atmosphere in January.

Experts say as many as 100 onepound chunks of debris could survive the blazing reentry and reach the Earth, with a remote possibility of people getting hurt.

Not many Americans are in dan-

ger because the satellite, LDEF, for Long Duration Exposure Facility, passes over only Hawaii, South Florida and the southern tip of Texas. Nor are Western Europeans, Soviets or most Chinese threatened.

LDEF's path covers all territory between 28.5 degrees north and 28.5 degrees south of the equator mainly water, but also most of Africa, South America, India, Southeast Asia and Australia.

To try to save the satellite and its cargo of experiments, NASA plans to launch the space shuttle Columbia and a crew of five Dec. 18 to pull in the errant satellite with the shuttle's 60-foot robot arm, stow it in the spacecraft's cargo bay and take it

The main reason for retrieving

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

—Ten years after Skylab created fear and fascination with its fiery

the satellite is not to save lives, because officials feel the danger is slight. Rather, they want the space-atmosphere and break up before the craft back to find out what has happened to it and its experiment dur-

ing nearly six years in space. The information is of interest to engineers designing NASA's permanent space station Freedom and to scientists of the Strategic Defense Intiative, who envision a network of orbiting "Star Wars" missile defense satellites that must endure long exposure to the same elements that have battered LDEF for years.

If predictions are wrong or if so-

shuttle can get there.

"It will be close, but it looks like we'll be OK with a December launch," said William H. Kinard, the LDEF project's chief scientist at NA-SA's Langley Research Center.

If LDEF does reenter, it isn't expected to be the sensation that Skylab was when it dashed through the atmosphere on July 11, 1979, raining debris into the Indian Ocean and on remote areas of Australia.

## Army grounds 3,400 copters to replace defective equipment

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army has temporarily grounded more than 3,400 UH1 Huey helicopters so a defective part installed in some of the choppers can be replaced, a spokesman said Saturday.

The spokesman, Lt. Col. John Chapla, said, "The grounding was ordered following confirmation that a part that does not conform to the Army's manufacturing standards may have been installed in some he-

licopters."

He said the part, known as a uni-

versal control lever, is a component of the system in UH1H, UH1V and UH1D series helicopters that enables the pilot to control the aircraft.

"Army analysis indicated that the part showed hydrogen embrittlement, a defect that leaves the part subject to potential failure," Chapla said. "Failure of the part could cause loss of control of the aircraft.'

The spokesman said the U.S. Army has about 3,000 UH1H Hueys as well as 400 to 500 UH1V helicopters specially equipped for medical evacuation.



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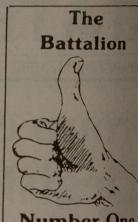
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