

Aftershocks of western China quake bring death toll to 266

BY AUDRA ANG
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KASHGAR, CHINA — Hundreds of aftershocks rocked western China on Tuesday, claiming more lives a day after a major earthquake crumpled thousands of homes and schools. The death toll rose to at least 266 people, with another 2,000 injured, state media reported.

The latest deaths included rescue workers who were struck by debris as they pulled victims from the rubble during aftershocks, and residents who succumbed to their injuries from Monday's powerful earthquake, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Chinese officials put the magnitude of Monday's quake at 6.8, while the U.S. Geological Survey recorded it at 6.3.

More than 500 aftershocks jolted the area overnight, including one before dawn that registered magnitude 5, Xinhua said. Aftershocks could be felt as far away as Kashgar, about 180 miles from the hardest-hit part of the remote region.

"I felt about three and they lasted for a minute each. Everything was shaking," said Kashgar resident Ani Abdull.

The disaster zone stretched through an isolated western section of the Xinjiang region near China's mountainous border with Kyrgyzstan. Xinhua said that nearly 9,000 houses and hundreds of other buildings were destroyed.

About 600 of the injured were hospitalized in serious condition, officials said.

Rescuers dug through debris by hand on Tuesday, fearing that



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRT CAMPUS

The earthquake occurred in the Xinjiang region of China.

heavy equipment could further injure survivors, said a volunteer in the hardest-hit village, Chongku Qiake. Officials said 90 percent of that town's 30,000 people were forced to leave damaged homes.

The government sent 9,000 tents to the disaster zone, but there was no immediate figure on how many people were left homeless in the subfreezing temperatures.

Almost all the dead were in Bachu County, where flimsy building construction seemed to have contributed to the death toll, officials said. The neighboring county of Jiashi was closer to the epicenter but suffered little damage; its homes have been reinforced following severe quakes in recent years.

Relief supplies and rescue teams with search dogs began arriving early Tuesday from

Beijing, about 1,750 miles to the east. People in the regional capital of Urumqi donated clothing and supplies. Businesses in Xinjiang collected \$300,000 for relief.

Some of those killed were children whose schools collapsed in the tremors. Xinhua said 900 classrooms were wrecked. Officials said that at least 12 students died.

Photos in state newspapers Tuesday showed residents bundled against the winter cold standing in the street alongside salvaged belongings. A wrecked schoolhouse was shown with one cracked brick wall left standing, displaying tattered posters of Karl Marx and Mao Zedong.

Earthquakes are common in Xinjiang, especially its far west, which includes the foothills of the Pamir and Tianshan mountains.

STATE

Execution ban gets approval of House

COLUMBIA (AP) — A bill that would ban executing the mentally retarded won key approval in the House on Tuesday.

Under the bill, defendants determined to be mentally retarded before trial would face a maximum sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole rather than death, said Rep. Jay Lucas, R-Hartsville.

The bill provides no lesser sentences as alternatives, taking away some of a trial judge's authority in sentencing mentally retarded defendants, said Rep. Joe Neal, D-Hopkins.

"The judge shouldn't be told he has only one choice that he can make," Neal said. "I have a problem with the Legislature dictating to the court and limiting its options. I think that's a mistake."

Other legislators felt that life in prison was an appropriate sentence for someone convicted of murder even if the defendant were determined to be mentally retarded, Lucas said.

Sanford not among reservists called

CHARLESTON (AP) — About 15 reservists from Gov. Mark Sanford's Air Force Reserve unit have been called to active duty, a reserve spokesman said. Sanford was not among them.

Those called up were mostly flight nurses and medical technicians from the 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. They were ordered to active duty Monday, said reserve spokesman Lt. Col. Chris King.

The squadron has about 120 members, King said, adding that he knows of no plans to call up the governor.

Sanford is a first lieutenant and a medical administration officer in the Air Force Reserve. However, he has not received the training he would need to be rated as fully qualified for the position.

Sanford has said he would follow any mobilization orders to meet his military obligations.

Constitutional questions have surfaced about Sanford's Reserve commission. State constitutional law experts have said Sanford should seek a court opinion on whether he can be governor while holding his officer rank.

NATION

Bush says he doesn't plan to tap reserve oil

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's emergency oil stocks will not be used to dampen soaring energy prices, Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham told senators Tuesday, but the Bush administration will move quickly to draw on the reserves if severe supply shortages appear.

The emergency stocks "should not be used to address price fluctuations," Abraham told senators, worried about soaring fuel costs.

"We will and we can act quickly to use the Strategic Petroleum Reserve ... to offset any severe disruptions if it's needed," Abraham told a Senate hearing. He said, however, the 600 million barrels held in the reserve on the Louisiana-Texas coast would be used only "to provide energy security."

"We do not believe it should be used to address price fluctuations," Abraham said.

Appeals for government intervention grew louder Tuesday as spot prices of natural gas briefly soared to nearly double the record high of two years ago, in the midst of the California energy crisis, and the price of gasoline lingered at over \$2 a gallon in many parts of the country.

Cardinal testifies before grand jury

BOSTON (AP) — Cardinal Bernard Law testified Tuesday before a grand jury investigating whether criminal charges should be filed against him or any other top church officials for their handling of priests accused of sexual abuse.

Law had no comment after a full day of testimony at Attorney General Thomas Reilly's office.

His lawyer, J. Owen Todd, said the grand jury and assistant attorney general Michelle Adelman focused on the evolution of the archdiocese's policy with abusive priests during Law's tenure, which began in 1984.

Law resigned as Boston archbishop in December after a year of revelations that he and top aides reassigned priests who were known molesters to different parishes.

WORLD

Colombian explosion in Caracas injures four

CARACAS, VENEZUELA (AP) — Two powerful explosions damaged the Spanish embassy and the Colombian consulate minutes apart in the Venezuelan capital early Tuesday, injuring four people and raising tensions in a city still recovering from an anti-government strike.

The blasts twisted the steel gates of the buildings and blew out windows in residences almost a block away. Leaflets supporting President Hugo Chavez were found outside the Spanish Embassy.

"We believe these were very potent bombs judging by the damage done," said the mayor of Caracas, Chacao district, Leopoldo Lopez.

The first blast was outside the Spanish embassy in eastern Caracas. The second explosion rocked the Colombian consulate. The blasts slightly injured four people, Lopez said.

Chacao police chief Leonardo Diaz said there was a "direct relation" between the blasts, which came two days after Chavez warned Colombia and Spain not to meddle in Venezuela's domestic affairs.

Chief weapons inspector says Iraq cooperating

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iraq is providing inspectors with new information about its weapons programs and has reported the discovery of two bombs, including one possibly filled with a biological agent — moves that show signs of real cooperation, the chief U.N. weapons inspector said Tuesday.

President Bush, however, predicted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein would try to "fool the world one more time" by revealing the existence of weapons he has previously denied having. He urged the United Nations to "honor its word" and back U.S. action against Iraq.

Bush was referring to a unanimous U.N. Security Council vote in November that gave Iraq a final opportunity to disarm or face "serious consequences." But the council is now deeply divided over whether Iraq has squandered that opportunity.

Canada, which isn't on the Security Council, was trying to bridge two competing plans that were introduced Monday: a U.S.-British-Spanish resolution that seeks U.N. authorization for war; and a French-Russian-German proposal to strengthen U.N. inspections and continued them at least into July to disarm Iraq peacefully.

Roh takes South Korean presidency

BY JOSEPH COLEMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA — Roh Moo-hyun took power as South

Korea's president on Tuesday and faced the immediate challenge of a defiant North Korea reportedly urging its people and military to be ready for a U.S. attack.

A North Korean statement, reported by the South Korean news agency Yonhap, accused the United States of planning massive war games in the Korean Peninsula in preparation to attack North Korea.

"The United States can launch a pre-emptive attack on us at any time," the North said. "This requires our military and people to mobilize all our resources to be fully ready for any contingencies." Yonhap said that the North did not elaborate.

The latest statement was not unusual in the supercharged atmosphere of recent weeks. But coming hours after Roh's inauguration, it was a reminder of the forces that will shape his coming months in office: a hostile communist regime and a Bush administration determined to stop its nuclear weapons development.

Roh Moo-hyun (pronounced No-Moo-Hee-Yun), a human rights lawyer untested on the global stage, laid out his vision of transforming his country into a peaceful and powerful economic hub in an inaugural speech just hours after news that North Korea fired a short-range missile into the Sea of Japan.

The new president then met with Secretary of State Colin Powell, who is trying to gather support in the region for persuading China, Russia and Japan to become more closely involved in negotiating an end to the standoff over North Korea's nuclear ambitions.

Roh pledged to press ahead with his predecessor's policy of building ties with the North, while arguing for greater independence from the United States, his country's top ally and trading partner.

"I will seek active international

♦ KOREA, SEE PAGE 8

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This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against HIV infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases.

What is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is a form of birth control that is given as an intramuscular injection (a shot) in the buttock or upper arm once every 3 months (13 weeks). To continue your contraceptive protection, you must return for your next injection promptly at the end of 3 months (13 weeks). DEPO-PROVERA contains medroxyprogesterone acetate, a chemical similar to (but not the same as) the natural hormone progesterone, which is produced by your ovaries during the second half of your menstrual cycle. DEPO-PROVERA acts by preventing your egg cells from ripening. If an egg is not released from the ovaries during your menstrual cycle, it cannot become fertilized by sperm and result in pregnancy. DEPO-PROVERA also causes changes in the lining of your uterus that make it less likely for pregnancy to occur.

How effective is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
The efficacy of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection depends on following the recommended dosage schedule exactly (see "How often do I get my shot of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?"). To make sure you are not pregnant when you first get DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection, your first injection must be given ONLY during the first 5 days of a normal menstrual period. ONLY within the first 5 days after childbirth if not breast-feeding and, if exclusively breast-feeding, ONLY at the sixth week after childbirth. It is a long-term injectable contraceptive when administered at 3-month (13-week) intervals. DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is over 99% effective, making it one of the most reliable methods of birth control available. This means that the average annual pregnancy rate is less than one for every 100 women who use DEPO-PROVERA. The effectiveness of most contraceptive methods depends in part on how reliably each woman uses the method. The effectiveness of DEPO-PROVERA depends only on the patient returning every 3 months (13 weeks) for her next injection. Your health-care provider will help you compare DEPO-PROVERA with other contraceptive methods and give you the information you need in order to decide which contraceptive method is the right choice for you.

The following table shows the percent of women who got pregnant while using different kinds of contraceptive methods. It gives both the lowest expected rate of pregnancy (the rate expected in women who use each method exactly as it should be used) and the typical rate of pregnancy (which includes women who became pregnant because they forgot to use their birth control or because they did not follow the directions exactly).

Method	Lowest Expected	Typical
DEPO-PROVERA	0.1	0.3
Implants (Mirena) ¹	0.2*	0.2*
Feminine sterilization	0.2	0.4
Male sterilization	0.1	0.15
Oral contraceptive (pill)	-	3
Combined Progestogen only	0.1	-
RUD	0.5	3
Progestin only	2.0	-
Copper T 380A	0.8	-
Condoms (without spermicide)	2	12
Diaphragm (with spermicide)	6	18
Cervical cap	4	16
Withdrawal	1.9	20
Periodic abstinence	3	21
Spermicide alone	3	20
Vaginal Sponge used before childbirth	6	18
used after childbirth	9	28
No method	35	35

Source: Trussell et al. *Obstet. Gynecol.* 1990;76:558-567.

Who should not use DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
Not all women should use DEPO-PROVERA. You should not use DEPO-PROVERA if you have any of the following conditions:
• if you think you might be pregnant
• if you have any vaginal bleeding without a known reason
• if you have had cancer of the breast
• if you have had a stroke
• if you have or have had blood clots (phlebitis) in your legs
• if you have problems with your liver or liver disease
• if you are allergic to DEPO-PROVERA (medroxyprogesterone acetate) or any of its other ingredients

What other things should I consider before using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
You will have a physical examination before your doctor prescribes DEPO-PROVERA. It is important to tell your health-care provider if you have any of the following:
• a family history of breast cancer
• an abnormal mammogram (breast x-ray), fibrocystic breast disease, breast nodules or lumps or bleeding from your nipples
• kidney disease
• irregular or scanty menstrual periods
• high blood pressure
• migraine headaches
• asthma
• epilepsy (convulsions or seizures)
• diabetes or a family history of diabetes
• a history of depression
• if you are taking any prescription or over-the-counter medications

This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against transmission of HIV (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhea, hepatitis B, and syphilis.

What if I want to become pregnant after using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
Because DEPO-PROVERA is a long-acting birth control method, it takes some time after your last injection for its effect to wear off. Based on the results from a large study done in the United States, for women who stop using DEPO-PROVERA in order to become pregnant, it is expected that about half of those who become pregnant will do so in about 10 months after their last injection; about two thirds of those who become pregnant will do so in about 12 months; about 83% of those who become pregnant will do so in about 15 months; and about 93% of those who become pregnant will do so in about 18 months after their last injection. The length of time you use DEPO-PROVERA has no effect on how long it takes you to become pregnant after you stop using it.

What are the risks of using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
1. **Irregular Menstrual Bleeding.** The side effect reported most frequently by women who use DEPO-PROVERA for contraception is a change in their normal menstrual cycle. During the first year of using DEPO-PROVERA, you might have one or more of the following changes: irregular or unpredictable bleeding or spotting, an increase or decrease in menstrual bleeding, or no bleeding at all. Unusually heavy or continuous bleeding, however, is not a usual effect of DEPO-PROVERA. In clinical studies of DEPO-PROVERA, 55% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding (amenorrhea) after 1 year of use, and 68% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding after 2 years of use. The reason that your periods stop is because DEPO-PROVERA causes a resting state in your ovaries. When your ovaries do not release an egg monthly, the regular monthly growth of the lining of your uterus does not occur and, therefore, the bleeding that comes with your normal menstruation does not take place. When you stop using DEPO-PROVERA, your menstrual period will usually, in time, return to its normal cycle.

2. **Rare Mineral Changes.** Use of DEPO-PROVERA may be associated with a decrease in the amount of mineral stored in your bones. This could increase your risk of developing bone fractures. The rate of bone mineral loss is greatest in the early years of DEPO-PROVERA use, but after that, it begins to resemble the normal rate of age-related bone mineral loss.

3. **Cancer.** Studies of women who have used different forms of contraception found that women who used DEPO-PROVERA for contraception had no increased overall risk of developing cancer of the breast, cervix, uterus, or ovary. However, women under 35 years of age whose first exposure to DEPO-PROVERA was within the previous 4 to 5 years may have a slightly increased risk of developing breast cancer similar to that seen with oral contraceptives. You should discuss this with your health-care provider.

4. **Unsuspected Pregnancy.** Because DEPO-PROVERA is such an effective contraceptive method, the risk of accidental pregnancy for women who get their shots regularly (every 3 months [13 weeks]) is very low. While there have been reports of an increased risk of low birth weights and neonatal infant death or other health problems in infants conceived close to the time of injection, such pregnancies are uncommon. If you think you may have become pregnant while using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception, see your health-care provider as soon as possible.

5. **Allergic Reactions.** Some women using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection have reported severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions known as anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions. Symptoms include the sudden onset of hives or swelling and itching of the skin, breathing difficulties and a drop in blood pressure.

6. **Other Risks.** Women who use hormone-based contraceptives may have an increased risk of blood clots or stroke. Also, if a contraceptive method fails, there is a possibility that the fertilized egg will begin to develop outside of the uterus (ectopic pregnancy). While these events are rare, you should tell your health-care provider if you have any of the problems listed in the next section.

What symptoms may signal problems while using DEPO-PROVERA?
Call your health-care provider immediately if any of these problems occur following an injection of DEPO-PROVERA:
• sharp chest pain, coughing up of blood, or sudden shortness of breath (indicating a possible clot in the lung)
• sudden severe headache or vomiting, dizziness or fainting, problems with your eyesight or speech, weakness or numbness in an arm or leg (indicating a possible stroke)
• severe pain or swelling in the calf (indicating a possible clot in the leg)
• unusually heavy vaginal bleeding
• severe pain or tenderness in the lower abdominal area
• persistent pain, pus, or bleeding at the injection site

What are the possible side effects of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
You may experience a weight gain when you are using DEPO-PROVERA. About two thirds of the women who used DEPO-PROVERA in clinical trials reported a weight gain of about 5 pounds during the first year of use. You may continue to gain weight after the first year. Women in one large study who used DEPO-PROVERA for 2 years gained an average total of 8.1 pounds over those 2 years, or approximately 4 pounds per year. Women who continued for 4 years gained an average total of 13.8 pounds over those 4 years, or approximately 3.5 pounds per year. Women who continued for 6 years gained an average total of 16.5 pounds over those 6 years, or approximately 2.75 pounds per year.

2. **Other Side Effects.**
In a clinical study of over 3,900 women who used DEPO-PROVERA for up to 7 years, some reported the following effects that may or may not have been related to their use of DEPO-PROVERA: irregular menstrual bleeding, amenorrhea, headache, nervousness, abdominal cramps, dizziness, weakness or fatigue, decreased sexual desire, leg cramps, nausea, vaginal discharge or irritation, breast swelling and tenderness, bloating, swelling of the hands or feet, backache, depression, insomnia, acne, pelvic pain, no hair growth or excessive hair loss, rash, hot flashes, and joint pain. Other problems were reported by very few of the women in the clinical trials but some of these could be serious. These include convulsions, jaundice, urinary tract infections, allergic reactions, fainting, paralysis, osteoporosis, loss of return to fertility, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, breast cancer, or cervical cancer. If these or any other problems occur during your use of DEPO-PROVERA, discuss them with your health-care provider.

Should any precautions be followed during use of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
1. **Missed Periods.** During the time you are using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception, you may skip a period, or your periods may stop completely. If you have been receiving your DEPO-PROVERA injections regularly every 3 months (13 weeks), then you are probably not pregnant. However, if you think that you may be pregnant, see your health-care provider.

2. **Laboratory Test Interactions.** If you are scheduled for any laboratory tests, tell your health-care provider that you are using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception. Certain blood tests are affected by hormones such as DEPO-PROVERA.

3. **Drug Interactions.** Clobazam (Ambien[®]) is an anticonvulsant drug that may significantly decrease the effectiveness of DEPO-PROVERA if the two drugs are given during the same time.

4. **Nursing Mothers.** Although DEPO-PROVERA can be passed to the nursing infant in the breast milk, no harmful effects have been found in these children. DEPO-PROVERA does not prevent the breasts from producing milk, so it can be used by nursing mothers. However, to minimize the amount of DEPO-PROVERA that is passed to the infant in the first weeks after birth, you should wait until 6 weeks after childbirth before you start using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception.

How often do I get my shot of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
The recommended dose of DEPO-PROVERA is 150 mg every 3 months (13 weeks) given in a single intramuscular injection in the buttock or upper arm. To make sure that you are not pregnant at the time of the first injection, it is essential that the injection be given ONLY during the first 5 days of a normal menstrual period. If used following the delivery of a child, the first injection of DEPO-PROVERA MUST be given within 5 days after childbirth if you are not breast-feeding or 6 weeks after childbirth if you are exclusively breast-feeding. If you wait longer than 3 months (13 weeks) between injections, or longer than 6 weeks after delivery, your health-care provider should determine that you are not pregnant before giving your injection of DEPO-PROVERA.

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