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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## Russian air strikes wreak havoc on Mariupol, turning Ukrainian city to “ashes”

LVIV/KYIV, Ukraine, March 22 (Reuters) - Intense Russian air strikes hit the besieged Ukrainian port city of Mariupol and street fighting raged on Tuesday, a day after it rejected Moscow's demand to surrender, Ukrainian officials said.

The city council said the bombardments were turning Mariupol into the “ashes of a dead land”.

Russia's RIA news agency said Russian forces and units of Russian-backed separatists had taken about half of the city, citing a separatist leader. The governor of Donetsk region, Pavlo Kyrylenko, said street fighting was taking place there and civilians as well as Ukrainian troops were coming under Russian fire.

On the 27th day of war in Ukraine, the plight of civilians in Mariupol, normally home to 400,000 people, grew ever more desperate. Hundreds of thousands are believed to be trapped inside buildings, with no access to food, water, power or heat.

“There is nothing left there,” Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said in a video address to Italy's parliament.

Deputy Mayor Sergei Orlov told CNN the city was under a full blockade and had received no humanitarian aid.

“The city is under continuous bombing, from 50 bombs to 100 bombs Russian aircraft drops each day... A lot of death, a lot of crying, a lot of awful war crimes,” Orlov said.

Mariupol has become the focus of the war that erupted on Feb. 24 when Russian President Vladimir Putin sent his troops over the border on what he calls a “special military operation” to demilitarise Ukraine and replace its pro-Western leadership.

It lies on the Sea of Azov and its capture would allow Russia to link areas in the east held by pro-Russian separatists with the Crimean peninsula, annexed by Moscow in 2014.

Having failed to seize the capital Kyiv or any other major city with a swift offensive, Russian forces are waging a war of attrition that has reduced some urban areas to rubble and taken a huge civilian toll.

The United Nations human rights office

in Geneva said on Tuesday it had recorded 953 civilian deaths and 1,557 injured since the invasion. The Kremlin denies targeting civilians.

Western officials said on Tuesday Russian forces were stalled around Kyiv but making some progress in the south and east. Ukrainian fighters are repelling Russian troops in some places but cannot roll them back, they said.

However, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said “no one” had ever thought the operation in Ukraine would take just a couple of days and the campaign was going to plan, TASS news agency reported.

Western nations were gearing up to impose further sanctions on Russia to force it to reconsider its actions. They will also tighten existing measures, increasing Russia's isolation from international trade and finance.

U.S. President Joe Biden will join other Western leaders for talks on Thursday in Brussels, where NATO and the European Union are based. Then he plans to travel to Poland, which has taken in some 2.1



million refugees from neighbouring Ukraine.

U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan said Biden would announce measures to reduce Europe's dependency on Russian gas - a major hurdle to the West's efforts to isolate Moscow economically.

The leaders will also coordinate on the next phase of military assistance to Ukraine, Sullivan said. read more

### WASTELAND

A Reuters team that reached a Russian-seized part of Mariupol on Sunday described a wasteland of charred apartment blocks and bodies wrapped in blankets lying by a road. read more

Ukraine says Russian shells, bombs and missiles have struck a theatre, an art school and other public buildings, burying hundreds of women and children sheltering in cellars.

Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk, speaking on Ukrainian television

on Tuesday, demanded the opening of a humanitarian corridor for civilians. She said at least 100,000 people wanted to leave Mariupol but could not.

Referring to Russia's earlier demand that the city surrender by dawn on Monday, Vereshchuk said: “Our military are defending Mariupol heroically. We did not accept the ultimatum. They offered capitulation under a white flag.”

Kyiv accused Moscow of deporting residents of Mariupol and separatist-held areas of Ukraine to Russia. This includes the “forcible transfer” of 2,389 children to Russia from the Luhansk and Donetsk regions, Prosecutor General Iryna Venediktova said.

Moscow denies forcing people to leave, saying it is taking in refugees.

Ukraine also accused Russia of blocking humanitarian access to Kherson, which lies northwest of Crimea and is the only provincial capital it has captured. The Foreign Ministry said Kherson's 300,000 residents were running out of food.

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# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

03/21/2022



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## Black Female Supreme Court Justice About To Be Confirmed



The senate's hearing to review U.S. Supreme Court Justice nominee Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson will continue today. Members of the Democratic and Republican parties will conduct a series of inquiries about the black judge and review her background. If she can pass the confirmation, she will be the first black female Supreme Court judge in American history.

According to the record of the

Supreme Court, 108 of the 115 judges have been white. The Democratic Party believed that judge Jackson's nomination represents epoch-making signification. The vote is expected in April.

We strongly support Judge Jackson's becoming a judge of the Supreme Court which represents that American minorities and women can speak out in the judiciary and reflect equality and participation.

For a long time the judicial justices and their credibility have been the biggest social contradiction in our nation. Supreme Court judges have held the final right to interpretation of the law. We are hoping that this nomination will change some of the injustices of the past.

### Navasota Treasure Hunt

Located at the intersection of State Highway 105 and Highway 6 is the City of Navasota with a population of just eight thousand. In 2005, the Texas Legislature designated the City of Navasota as the "Blues Capital of Texas" in honor of the late Mance Lipscomb, a Navasota native and blue musician.

In this small town, both sides of the street are filled with beautiful flowers, small stores

and antique shops. One of the stores is full of European furniture and kitchenware. We found a fine Chinese handmade embroidery work that cost only eighteen dollars.

Spring is here and it's "getting out" season. There are so many small towns in Texas. We can go visit many people who live in the countryside with large land areas who live a simple country life. Isn't this another kind of happiness?



**Southern DAILY** Make Today Different

## Editor's Choice



A worker removes dead anchovies washed up on the shores of the Coliumo beach near Concepcion, REUTERS/Juan Gonzalez



Smoke rises from the burning Italian-flagged Euroferry Olympia, after a fire broke out on the ferry, off the island of Corfu, Greece, . REUTERS/Adonis Skordilis



A couple watches the sunset at the top of the 'Porte d'Aval', a famous arch of the Eretat's cliffs in western France. REUTERS/Pascal Rossignol



Olena, the mother of Denys Snihur, 25, a border guard-turned-soldier, killed by Russian shelling in the northern town of Ovruch, mourns her son during his funeral at the Lychakiv cemetery, in Lviv, Ukraine. REUTERS/Zohra Bensemra



Protestors hold Canadian flags, as the Canadian police work to restore normality to the capital while trucks and demonstrators continue to occupy the downtown core for more than three weeks to protest against pandemic restrictions in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, . REUTERS/Blair Gable



A tourist looks at the blocks of ice that have broken off Jokulsarlon glacier lagoon at Diamond beach during the winter in the southern coast of Iceland REUTERS/Nacho Doce



2,120 Hate Incidents Against Asian Americans Reported During Coronavirus Pandemic

Coronavirus: What Do Attacks On Asians Tell About American Identity?



Attacks on East Asian people living in the US have shot up during the pandemic, revealing an uncomfortable truth about American identity. (Photo/ Getty Images)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

More than 2,100 anti-Asian American hate incidents related to COVID-19 were reported across the country over a three-month time span between March and June, according to advocacy groups that compile the data. The incidents include physical attacks, verbal assaults, workplace discrimination and online harassment. The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council and Chinese for Affirmative Action launched a hate incident reporting website on March 19 when the coronavirus was becoming widespread across the U.S. and the media began reporting violent incidents targeting Asian-Americans. The online tool is available in multiple languages and allows users to report the information with the promise that personal information will be kept confidential. On Wednesday, the advocacy groups released an analysis of the incidents reported through June 18 in California, where about 40 percent of the 2,120 hate incidents took place. The groups released the national data to CBS News after an inquiry. Of the 832 incidents reported in California, many included anti-Asian slurs and references to China and the coronavirus. One assailant yelled about “bringing that Chinese virus over here” during an attack against an Asian-American man at a San Francisco hardware store on May 6.



The assailant reportedly also said “Go back to China,” “F— you, Chinaman” and “F— you, you monkey.” In another San Francisco incident on June 9, someone threw a glass bottle at a woman putting her child in a car seat and yelled, “Go home Ch—k.” And in Santa Clara on June 16, a man kicked a woman’s dog and then spat at her, saying, “Take your disease that’s ruining our country and go home.” “These are real people just living their lives and encountering this kind of hate,” said Cynthia Choi, the co-executive director of Chinese for Affirmative Action, on Wednesday. Though she was not born in the US, nothing about Tracy Wen Liu’s life in the country felt “un-American”. Ms Liu went to football games, watched Sex and the City and volunteered at food banks. Before the Covid-19 pandemic, the 31-year-old didn’t think anything of being East Asian and living in Austin, Texas. “Honestly, I didn’t really think I stood out a lot,” she says. That has changed. With the outbreak of the pandemic that has killed around 100,000 people in

the US, being Asian in America can make you a target - and many, including Ms Liu, have felt it. In her case, she says a Korean friend was pushed and yelled at by several people in a grocery store, and then asked to leave, simply because she was Asian and wore a mask.



Members of the Asian American Commission gather in Massachusetts to condemn racism. (Photo/Getty Images)

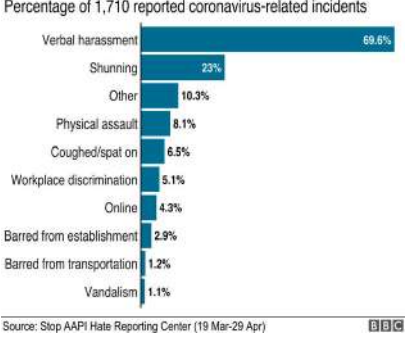
In states including New York, California, and Texas, East Asians have been spat on, punched or kicked - and in one case even stabbed. Whether they have been faced with outright violence, bullying or more insidious forms of social or political abuse, a spike in anti-Asian prejudice has left many Asians - which in the US refers to people of east or southeast Asian descent - wondering where they fit in American society. “When I first came here five years ago, my goal was to adapt to American culture as soon as possible,” says Ms Liu. “Then the pandemic made me realise that because I am Asian, and because of how I look like or where I was born, I could never become one of them.” 201 After her friend’s supermarket altercation, she decided to get her first gun. Authorities in New York City and Los Angeles say that hate incidents against people of Asian descent have increased, while a reporting centre run by advocacy groups and San Francisco State University says it received over 1,700 reports of coronavirus-related discrimination from at least 45 US states since it launched in March.



Police in at least 13 states, including Texas, Washington, New Jersey, Minnesota and New Mexico, have also responded to reported hate incidents. Critics say those at the very top have made things worse - both President Donald Trump, and Democratic hopeful Joe Biden have been accused of fuelling anti-Asian sentiment to varying degrees with language they’ve used while talking about China’s role in the outbreak. And for many Asian Americans, it can feel as though, in addition to being targeted, their identity as Americans is being attacked. **Statistics on Anti-Asian incidents in the US:** One third of people surveyed said they had witnessed someone blaming Asian people for the pandemic; 1,710 incidents reported to STOP

AAPI HATE - 15% of those cases involved physical assault or being coughed on or spat at; More than 100 individual incidents reported in the media; 133 incidents of anti-Asian discrimination recorded by the New York City Commission on Human Rights - compared to 11 in the same period last year. The commission has intervened in 91 cases; 14 Asian-bias hate crimes investigated by police in New York.

Verbal harassment the most common form of discrimination



More than 100 alleged hate incidents reported to civic groups and police departments in Los Angeles

Six reports of bias incidents reported to police in Seattle

There has been a surge in anti-Asian hate on extremist web communities Sources: Ipsos, STOP AAPI HATE, New York City Commission on Human Rights, New York City Police, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Rights, Seattle Police, Network Contagion Research Institute, BBC research

Some Asians have also reported being refused service from hotel rooms, or Uber rides, as a result of their ethnicity.

Matt (not his real name), a Chinese American emergency room doctor in Connecticut, noticed that several patients asked to be admitted to hospital because they said an Asian person had coughed near them. He experienced what appeared to be anti-Asian bias more personally, when he tried to treat a patient thought to have Covid-19.

“I had my protective equipment on, walked in and introduced myself. Once they heard my surname, they were like ‘don’t touch me, can I see someone else - can you just not come close to me’.” Many other minorities face more “overt types of discrimination which are worse”, Matt says - but he fears that incidents such as what he experienced would be demoralising for medical workers.

“This is a pretty stressful time - we’re working a lot more, wearing very uncomfortable equipment all the time, and a lot of us are getting exposed to Covid-19.” (Courtesy <https://www.bbc.com/>)

Related  
New York DA Prosecutes Highest Number Of Anti-Asian Hate Crimes



Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, pictured November 2021, said his office is prosecuting 33 anti-Asian hate crimes – its highest number ever. (Photo/Michael M. Santiago GETTY IMAGES NORTH AMERICA/AFP)

New York (AFP) – A New York prosecutor said last week that his team was prosecuting its highest number of anti-Asian hate crimes since a unit was established more than a decade ago. Anti-Asian violence surged in the United States following the start of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

Activists believe the hate crimes were fueled by talk of the “Chinese virus” by former president Donald Trump and others during the early days of the pandemic.

New York officials have also cited a history of mental illness, exacerbated by a disruption to social services during the pandemic, among many of the perpetrators.

“Tragically, our office is currently prosecuting 33 hate crime cases driven by anti-Asian bias -- unfortunately, the most we have had since our hate crimes unit was established in 2010,” said Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg. The Manhattan DA’s office said in a statement that it “prosecuted nearly four times more anti-Asian hate crimes in 2021 than in the previous year.”



Bragg’s comments came as he announced that a 50-year-old man had been charged with committing second-degree murder as a hate crime.

Jarrod Powell is accused of brutally assaulting Yao Pan Ma, a 61-year-old Chinese immigrant, in East Harlem, Manhattan in April last year. Powell was initially charged with attempted murder and hate crimes, but the charges have been upgraded after Ma died from his injuries in December.

“As alleged, Jarrod Powell selectively attacked Mr. Ma for no other reason than his race,” said Bragg.

The announcement of the indictment came as Seoul’s foreign ministry said a South Korean diplomat was injured after being attacked by an “unidentified man” in Manhattan.

The New York Post reported that the diplomat was hospitalized with a broken nose. (Courtesy [www.france24.com](http://www.france24.com))

“Give Peace A Chance”

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

