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Trump re-election campaign to deny credentials to Bloomberg News reporters



Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

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## Chinese court sentences ‘gene-editing’ scientist to three years in prison



BEIJING (Reuters) - A Chinese court sentenced the scientist who created the world's first “gene-edited” babies to three years in prison on Monday for illegally practising medicine and violating research regulations, the official Xinhua news agency said.

In November 2018, He Jiankui, then an associate professor at Southern University of Science and Technology in Shenzhen, said he had used gene-editing technology known as CRISPR-Cas9 to change the genes of twin girls to protect them from getting infected with the AIDS virus in the future. The backlash in China and globally about the ethics of his research and work was fast and widespread. Xinhua said He and his collaborators forged ethical review materials and recruited men with AIDS who were part of a couple to carry out the gene-editing. His experiments, it said, resulted in two women giving birth to three gene-edited babies. The court also handed lesser sentences to Zhang Renli and Qin Jinzhou, who worked at two unnamed medical institutions, for having conspired with He in his work. “The three accused did not have the proper certification to practice medicine, and in seeking fame and wealth, deliberately violated national regulations in scientific research and medical treatment,” the court said in its verdict, according to Xinhua. “They have crossed the bottom line of ethics in scientific research and medical ethics.”

## U.S.-China trade deal signing within week or so: White House adviser



WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The White House's trade adviser on Monday said the U.S.-China Phase 1 trade deal would likely be signed in the next week, but said confirmation would come from President Donald Trump or the U.S. Trade Representative.

FILE PHOTO: White House trade adviser Peter Navarro listens to a news conference about a presidential executive order relating to military veterans outside of the West Wing of the White House in Washington, U.S. March 4, 2019. REUTERS/Leah Millis/File Photo

White House trade adviser Peter Navarro, in an interview on Fox News, cited a report that Chinese Vice Premier Liu He would visit this week to sign the deal, but did not confirm it.

“Washington has sent an invitation and Beijing has accepted it,” the South China Morning Post on Monday quoted a source as saying. Representatives for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and the White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the report, which said the Chinese delegation was likely to stay in the United States until the middle of next week.

“Never believe reports on anonymous sources. Get it from President Trump or ... (U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer,” Navarro told Fox. The United States and China will likely have a signing of Phase 1 of a new trade deal early in the new year, White House trade adviser Peter Navarro said on Monday.

“We’ll probably have a signing on that within the next week or so - we’re just waiting for the translation,” Navarro said in an interview with Fox News.

FILE PHOTO: White House trade adviser Peter Navarro listens to a news conference about a presidential executive order relating to military veterans outside of the West Wing of the White House in Washington, U.S. March 4, 2019. REUTERS/Leah Millis/File Photo

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# Gunman in Texas church, victims identified as local men

(Reuters) - The gunman who opened fire in a Texas church on Sunday, killing two before being shot dead by parishioners, was identified as Keith Thomas Kinnunen, who lived in the nearby town of River Oaks, state officials said on Monday.

His two victims killed at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, Texas, were identified as Anton Wallace, 64, of Fort Worth and Richard White, 67, also of River Oaks, the Texas Department of Public Safety said.

A live video caught the terrifying moment when the gunman stood next to the pews wearing a dark hood and started firing a long gun before members of the church's volunteer security team shot him in the church located in a suburb northwest of Fort Worth.

"A man entered the church and sat with parishioners. During the service, the man removed a shotgun from his person and fired the weapon," the Texas Department of Public Safety said in a statement.

The gunman has been identified as Keith Thomas Kinnunen, 43, from River Oaks," the statement said.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton told reporters on Monday the shooter had been to the church several times in the past and may have been mentally ill, but authorities were still investigating a possible motive.

Keith Thomas Kinnunen, identified as a shooting suspect at a church in White Settlement, Texas, poses for an undated police booking photo released by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office in Fort Worth, Texas December 30, 2019. Tarrant County Sheriff's Office/Handout via REUTERS.

"They welcome people who are transient or homeless into their church. They welcomed this guy into their church," Paxton said.



Keith Thomas Kinnunen, identified as a shooting suspect at a church in White Settlement, Texas, poses for an undated police booking photo released by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office in Fort Worth, Texas December 30, 2019. Tarrant County Sheriff's Office/Handout via REUTERS.

**CRIMINAL RECORD**  
Local TV station NBC DFW, citing unidentified law enforcement sources, said Kinnunen had a criminal record that included charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon in 2009. A Texas Department of Public Safety spokeswoman did not immediately confirm that. The Fort Worth Fire Department said three people, including the suspected shooter, were transported from the scene in critical condition

on Sunday. Two, including the suspect, died en route to the hospital, said Macara Trusty, a spokeswoman for local emergency services provider MedStar, said in a phone interview. The third died later, the Dallas Morning News reported. Two more people sustained minor injuries as they ducked for cover inside the church, Trusty said. Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick praised the church's volunteer security

guards for taking down the shooter. "Because of the quick action of these two men, this evil event was over in six seconds," he said in a statement issued on Sunday. One of the two guards said in a Facebook post that he was acting against evil. "The events at West Freeway Church of Christ put me in a position that I would hope no one would have to be in, but evil exists and I had to take out an active shooter in church," he said.



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Editor’s Choice



Keith Thomas Kinnunen, identified as a shooting suspect at a church in White Settlement, Texas, poses for an undated police booking photo released by the Tarrant County Sheriff’s Office in Fort Worth, Texas December 30, 2019. Tarrant County Sheriff’s Office/Handout via REUTERS.



Democratic 2020 U.S. presidential candidate Biden speaks during a stop in Algona



Soccer Football - Dubai Globe Soccer Awards - Madinat Jumeirah Resort, Dubai, United Arab Emirates - December 29, 2019 Juventus’ Cristiano Ronaldo during the awards. Picture taken December 29, 2019. Fabio Ferrari/Pool via REUTERS TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Democratic 2020 U.S. presidential candidate Biden takes a selfie with an audience member in Exeter



Activists take part in a demonstration, after a British woman was found guilty of faking a rape claim, outside the Famagusta courthouse in Paralimni



A man feeds seagulls as he stands on the banks of the Yamuna river on a foggy winter morning in New Delhi



Tesla employee proposes to his girlfriend with a China-made Tesla Model 3 vehicle filled with flowers at a delivery ceremony in the Shanghai Gigafactory of the U.S. electric car maker in Shanghai



Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg shakes hands with people in Monsey, New York, U.S., December 29, 2019. REUTERS/Jeenah Moon TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY

Over 300 Firms Apply For  
China’s 2020 Import Expo



The Equipment exhibition area during the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 10, 2019. (Xinhua/Wang Peng)

OVERVIEW

China will continue to open up its market and welcome more high-quality overseas products and services to enter the Chinese market in 2020.

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

BEIJING, Dec. 26 (Xinhua) -- Over 300 firms have applied to attend the third China International Import Expo (CIIE), the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) said Thursday. Their registered exhibit space totaled over 100,000 square meters, MOC spokesperson Gao Feng told a press conference. The CIIE is the first dedicated import exhibition in the world and has seen fruitful outcomes in the past two expos.



Visitors arrive at the National Exhibition and Convention Center, main venue of the second China International Import Expo (CIIE), in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 7, 2019. The second CIIE is held from Nov. 5 to Nov. 10. (Xinhua/Yin Gang)

China will continue to open up its market and welcome more high-quality overseas products and services to enter the Chinese market, Gao said. Several innovative demonstration zones for facilitating imports will be developed, Gao added. The ministry will also further improve trade facilitation and promote the full implementation of the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement, Gao said.

Related  
China’s 2nd International Import Expo Poplar With Importers



A visitor (C) experiences Honda Walking Assist device at the Automobile exhibition area during the second China

International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 10, 2019. The second CIIE was held from Nov. 5 to Nov. 10 at the National Exhibition and Convention Center in Shanghai. (Xinhua/Wang Peng)



An exhibitor from Kenya demonstrates a tooth brushing product from Africa during the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 6, 2019. The second CIIE was held from Nov. 5 to Nov. 10 at the National Exhibition and Convention Center in Shanghai. (Xinhua/Yin Ke)

CIIE shows China truly open to imports: Lithuanian business official VILNIUS, Nov. 6 (Xinhua) -- The second China International Import Expo (CIIE), which kicked off in Shanghai Tuesday, shows that China is truly open to imports, said a Lithuanian business official on Wednesday. “This exhibition, which was first organized in China last year, showed that the country is truly open to imports, quality goods from Europe receive a lot of attention, and Chinese entrepreneurs are interested in long-term partnerships,” said Daina Klepone, the managing director at Enterprise Lithuania, in a press release sent to Xinhua.



People visit the Taiwan exhibition area at the China pavilion during the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 7, 2019. (Xinhua/Chen Jianli)

Enterprise Lithuania is an organization under the Lithuanian Ministry of Economy aiming to promote entrepreneurship, support business development and foster exports. “China is taking active steps to promote the country’s trade with the rest of the world, and this exhibition is one of the main means of promoting the country’s imports and exports, with a great deal of attention paid to and a lot of resources devoted to it,” said Klepone, who signed in December 2017 a letter of intent to participate in the CIIE on behalf of the Lithuanian government. She also commended the first edition of CIIE for offering Lithuanian companies a lot of useful information about how to enter the Chinese market.



People visit the Macao exhibition area at the China pavilion during the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 7, 2019. (Xinhua/Chen Jianli) “A significant number of companies from other countries are participating in this exhibition for the first time. In this respect, Lithuanian companies are in an advantageous position since they are not newcomers, and strategically appreciate opportunities to enter the Chinese market,” she said in the release. At two national stands of Lithuania with an area of 190 square meters at the expo, 16 Lithuanian companies will showcase

food and beverages, amber accessories, chic bags and linen bedding, among others, according to Enterprise Lithuania. (Courtesy xinhuanet.com)



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**Top News Stories Of 2019:  
Impeachment Of Trump Tops List**



**House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. (center), holds the gavel as House members vote on article II of impeachment against President Donald Trump, Dec. 18 on Capitol Hill. (Associated Press files)**

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

NEW YORK — The drive by the Democratic-led House of Representatives to impeach President Donald Trump was the top news story of 2019, according to The Associated Press’ annual poll. Trump also figured in the second and third biggest stories of the year: the fall-out over his immigration policies and the investigation by Special Counsel Robert Mueller into whether his election campaign coordinated with Russia. But it was impeachment that was by far the top choice in the AP poll, a story that gained steam with each passing week after details emerged about a phone call in which Trump pressured the newly elected Ukrainian president to announce an investigation into his chief Democratic rival, former Vice President Joe Biden. Congress held a series of nationally televised hearings during the inquiry, culminating with a party-line vote Wednesday evening to impeach an American president for the third time in U.S. history. The impeachment process laid bare the deep partisan divisions roiling American politics during the Trump presidency. The selections for Associated Press story of the year were made by a panel of editors and managers from newspaper, TV station and AP newsrooms around the globe.

A year ago, the mass shooting at a high school in Parkland, Florida — which killed 17 students and staff, and sparked

nationwide student-led marches for gun control — was voted the top news story of 2018.

**2019’s Top 10 News Stories As Announced By A Panel Of Media Professionals**

**TRUMP IMPEACHMENT**



Led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Democrats moved to impeach the president based on allegations that he abused the power of his office by enlisting a foreign government to investigate a political rival. The articles of impeachment also accused Trump of obstructing Congress’ oversight like “no president” in U.S. history. But Democrats failed in their bid for a bipartisan action — no Republicans in Congress broke with the president. Trump and Republicans repeatedly mocked the process as a “sham” and insisted he did nothing wrong.

**IMMIGRATION**



The Trump administration carried out sweeping new immigration enforcement measures in the face of a crisis that saw record numbers of migrant families arrive at the U.S.-Mexico border. Several immigrant children died after being held in U.S.

custody, children were found living in squalid conditions at cramped border facilities, and global outrage peaked after the publication of a photograph showing a drowned father and his toddler daughter in the Rio Grande across from Texas. Trump also successfully freed up billions of dollars in Pentagon funds to build his border wall and imposed new rules that has forced tens of thousands of asylum seekers to wait in Mexico while their immigration cases play out in the U.S.

**TRUMP-RUSSIA PROBE**



After a two-year investigation, Mueller told Congress he did not find sufficient evidence to charge a criminal conspiracy between the Trump presidential campaign and Russia. However, Mueller testified that Trump was not cleared of obstructing justice. The investigation was opened by the FBI in July 2016 and taken over by Mueller in May 2017. He charged six Trump associates with various crimes as well as 25 Russians accused of interfering in the election. Mueller’s congressional testimony and long-awaited report outlining Russian interference in the 2016 election were among the biggest moments of the year.

**MASS SHOOTINGS**



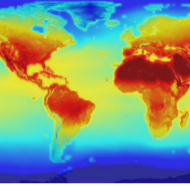
A Walmart store crowded with shoppers in El Paso, Texas, was targeted by a gunman who killed 22 people before his arrest. Police say the suspect posted anti-Hispanic writings online prior to the attack, and the massacre sent chills through Latino communities around the country. It was one of several mass shootings in the U.S. Targets included a garlic festival in Gilroy, Calif.; the exterior of a bar in Dayton, Ohio, and a municipal building in Virginia Beach, Va.

**OPIOIDS**



State and local governments across the U.S. went to court seeking huge compensation from drug companies for the costs of the long-running opioid epidemic. One of the major firms, Oxy-Contin maker Purdue Pharma, declared bankruptcy, seeking protection from its creditors as it sought to settle more than 2,700 lawsuits. The epidemic has killed more than 400,000 people in the U.S. since 2000.

**CLIMATE CHANGE**



The Trump administration began the process of withdrawing the United States from the Paris agreement to curb emissions, and marathon U.N. climate talks ended with no major breakthrough as large-scale polluters balked at intensifying the fight against global warming. Across the world, Greta Thunberg and other young activists called for tougher action as weather data indicated 2019 would likely be the second hottest year on record.

**BREXIT**



Throughout the year, Britain was deeply divided over its pending departure from European Union. Brexit supporter Boris Johnson became prime minister and soon lost key votes in Parliament and Supreme Court. But he succeeded in calling national elections, and his Conservative Party won a resounding victory — seemingly assuring that the exit from the EU would indeed take place.

**US-CHINA TRADE WAR**



The world’s two biggest economies skirmished repeatedly throughout the year in a tit-for-tat trade war. Just ahead of December’s holiday season, the

United States and China announced a limited deal, with the U.S. dropping plans to impose new tariffs and China agreeing to allow more U.S. agricultural imports. But the deal falls well short of the demands that Trump issued when he launched the trade war. Further negotiations will be needed to achieve a more significant agreement.

**BOEING JETS GROUNDED**



Air safety regulators worldwide grounded the Boeing 737 Max jet after one of the planes crashed in Ethiopia, killing 157 people. That occurred just five months after another 737 Max crashed off the coast of Indonesia, killing 189. In both crashes, investigators say, a faulty sensor caused a flight control system to push the nose of the plane down and pilots were unable to regain control. The grounding of the Max has cost Boeing and airlines billions of dollars; Boeing says it will temporarily stop producing the jet in January.

**HONG KONG**



Normally stable Hong Kong was wracked by months of massive and sometimes violent protests. The initial provocation was an extradition bill that many viewed as a sign of creeping Chinese control. But demands multiplied as residents sought to safeguard Hong Kong’s freedoms. During months of clashes, riot police fired 26,000 tear-gas and rubber-baton rounds and arrested more than 6,100 people. Other events that received top votes in the 2019 story of the year voting were the massacre at New Zealand mosques that killed 51 people; the Democratic presidential campaign; and the fire at the historic Notre Dame cathedral in Paris. (Courtesy <https://www.columbian.com/>)

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