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Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Iran says over dozen people killed in shrine attack, Raisi vows to respond

DUBAI, Oct 26 (Reuters) - An attack on a Shi'ite Muslim shrine in the Iranian city of Shiraz killed 13 people on Wednesday, authorities said, and President Ebrahim Raisi vowed that the shooting by suspected Sunni Muslim militants would not go unanswered.

The killing of Shi'ite pilgrims praying at the Shah Cheragh shrine in Shiraz increased tension in a country reeling from weeks of protests sparked by the killing in custody of Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini. Security forces clashed with protesters marking 40 days since death of the 22-year-old's death.

Interior Minister Ahmad Vahidi said many people had been injured in the Shiraz incident and the death toll could rise further. He blamed the protests sweeping Iran for paving the ground for such "terrorist attacks".

Iran will respond to the shrine attack, Raisi said, according to state media.

"Experience shows that Iran's enemies, after failing to create a split in the nation's united ranks, take revenge through violence and terror. This crime will definitely not go unanswered, and the security and law enforcement forces will teach a lesson to those



who designed and carried out the attack," Raisi said.

Future unclear for Syrian refugees as Lebanese repatriations begin
Biden and Israel's Herzog discuss Iran's nuclear program
Turkish competition board fines Meta Platforms \$18.6 million
Saudi Aramco launches \$1.5 bln fund, says energy transition plan flawed
Saudi's recent Ukraine support does not make up for OPEC+ cuts, Blinken says
Early reports said three gunmen were involved in the attack. State news agency IRNA described them as "takfiri terrorists", a label used by officials in predominantly Shi'ite Muslim Iran to refer to hardline, armed Sunni Islamist groups.

Nournews, affiliated with Iran's top security body, said they were not Iranian nationals.

However, the local police chief later said a lone gunman had carried out the attack, and was being questioned after he was captured. He gave no further details.

The semi-official Tasnim news agency said the attacker shot an employee at the shrine entrance before his rifle jammed and he was chased by bystanders.

He managed to fix his gun and opened fire on his pursuers, before entering a courtyard and shooting worshippers. Several women and children were among the dead, it said.

The attack took place on the same day that Ira-

nian security forces opened fire at mourners who gathered in Amini's Kurdish home town of Saqez, according to a witness.

"Riot police shot mourners who gathered at the cemetery for Mahsa's memorial ceremony ... dozens have been arrested," the witness said. Iranian authorities were not available to comment.

The semi-official ISNA news agency said about 10,000 people had gathered at the cemetery, adding that the internet was cut off after clashes between security forces and people there.

Videos on social media showed thousands of Iranians marching towards the cemetery where Amini is buried despite the heavy presence of riot police. Activists had called for protests across the country to mark 40 days since she died after being detained for "inappropriate attire".

Demonstrations ignited by the 22-year-old's death in the custody of Iran's morality police on Sept. 16 have become one of the boldest challenges to the clerical leadership since the 1979 revolution.

A newspaper with a cover picture of Mahsa Amini, a woman who died after being arrested by Iranian morality police, is seen in Tehran
People march down the highway toward the Aychi Cemetery where Mahsa Amini is buried, near Saqez
People march down the highway toward the Aychi Cemetery where Mahsa Amini is buried, near Saqez

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- The Honorable Gezahegn Kebede, ITC, President
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WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

10/26/2022

We Support Daniel Lee For State Representative



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Chairman of International District Houston Texas

Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
Republic of Guiana Honorary consul at Houston Texas

A group of enthusiastic Asian voters gathered in Houston's Chinatown last night to support Daniel Lee's run for Texas State Representative.

Daniel has been a very outstanding lawyer for more than fifteen years. He is not only the legal advisor for our company, he also has hosted a TV show for us and answers all the questions for our audience. He is also a very famous TV host now.

Daniel Lee is running in the Ft. Bend County, City of Sugar Land area where we have a lot of the older Asian population, including our county judge, Mr George, who is Asian American.

Today we urge all our people to go out and vote at the booth just next to our community at the Chinese Civic Center. We especially need to support the Asian American candidates.



Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



A group of runners cross a bridge over the C&O canal on a misty autumn morning in the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque



Ukrainian servicemen fire a mortar on a front line, as Russia's attack on Ukraine continues, in Kharkiv region, Ukraine. REUTERS/Vyacheslav Madiyevskyy



Ukrainian troops stand in a group at a location given as Hoptivka, Ukraine. Twitter @DefenceU/via REUTERS



U.S. President Joe Biden receives an updated coronavirus disease vaccine while launching a new plan for Americans to receive booster shots and vaccinations, onstage in an auditorium on the White House campus in Washington. REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst



Protesters march during a rally against military rule following the last coup, in Khartoum, Sudan. REUTERS/Mohamed Nureldin Abdallah



Britain's new Prime Minister Rishi Sunak speaks outside Number 10 Downing Street, in London, Britain. REUTERS/Henry Nicholls

The \$16 TRILLION Bug — Pandemic May Cost U.S. Economy Total Annual Output



George Washington is seen with printed medical mask on the dollar banknote. (Photo/ © Reuters /File Photo)

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

The U.S. economy may lose a whopping \$16 trillion due to the devastating impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, both in output and people's lives, new research has found. While most studies assess the costs of the deadly virus by its impact on the national gross domestic product (GDP), a paper published in the Journal of the American Medical Association earlier this week offered a different approach. The authors of the study — former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers and Harvard University economist David Cutler — also took into account losses associated with those who have died due to the virus, in addition to the purely economic costs. With the number of coronavirus infections in the US nearing eight million and deaths surpassing 215,000, the researchers believe that the outbreak may result in an estimated 625,000 cumulative deaths in the country through next year. Given the theoretical "conservative value of \$7 million per life," premature deaths linked to the coronavirus could wipe out nearly \$4.4 trillion, according to their calculations. The virus is believed to have long-term effects on health, especially for survivors with severe or critical disease. As those complications lead

to increased risk of premature death, they also have far-reaching consequences for the entire economy, with losses amounting to another \$2.6 trillion for cases forecast through the next year, the authors noted.



Even those who did not contact the deadly virus could also be affected by it, the paper adds. Suffering caused by the possible death of loved ones, as well as the effects of isolation and loneliness, may lead to deteriorating mental health conditions. This also takes its toll on the economy, which could lose approximately \$1.6 trillion due to mental health impairment, according to the research. The rest of the losses — nearly half of the total — are associated with a drop in income due to the coronavirus-triggered recession. The authors cited a previous estimate from the Congressional Budget Office, which projects a total of \$7.6 trillion in

lost output during the next decade. "The economic loss is more than twice the total monetary outlay for all the wars the US has fought since September 11, 2001, including those in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria," the study reads. "The total cost is estimated at more than \$16 trillion, or approximately 90% of the annual gross domestic product of the US," it concludes, adding that the estimated loss for a family of four would reach nearly \$200,000. The paper comes as US lawmakers debate another stimulus package, set to mitigate damage from the virus. The research stressed that any such economic relief should allocate at least five percent of the funds for increased testing and contact tracing, as an investment of approximately \$6 million leads to averted costs of an estimated \$176 million.



"Increased investment in testing and contact tracing could have economic benefits that are at least 30 times greater than the estimated costs of the investment in these approaches," the study said. It added that financial support for health measures should not be dismantled even when the concerns about the pandemic begin to recede.

Related U.S. Employers Cut Record 2 MILLION JOBS As Coronavirus Batters Economy



The Hollywood sign in Los Angeles, California. (File Photo/ US © Reuters / P.T. Fallon)

Job cuts announced by US employers have hit nearly 2 million so far this year, with the entertainment industry accounting for 40 percent of total layoffs, according to global outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas. In its report published on Thurs-

day, the company said that last month's layoffs in the US were down 56 percent from July, but still 116 percent higher than at the same period one year ago. August job cuts of nearly 116,000 lifted the total number of this year's layoffs to 1,963,458. The number has already broken the previous record for the whole of 2001, when US-based employers announced a total of 1,956,876 cuts. Most of the jobs — nearly 800,000 — vanished from the entertainment sector so far this year, followed by firms operating in retail and services. In August, entertainment and leisure companies, including bars, restaurants, hotels, and amusement parks, posted the second-highest number with 17,271 job cuts. Air and transport companies downsized their staff even more last month. According to the report, 26,545 job cuts were announced in the struggling sector — 59 percent lower than in the previous month, but 647 percent higher than in August 2019.

"The leading sector for job cuts last month was transportation, as airlines begin to make staffing decisions in the wake of decreased travel and uncertain federal intervention," said Andrew Challenger, senior vice president at Challenger, Gray & Christmas. "An increasing number of companies that initially had temporary job cuts or furloughs are now making them permanent."

The coronavirus pandemic is still battering the US labor market. According to the latest Labor Department data, seasonally adjusted initial claims for jobless benefits for the week ending August 29 stood at 881,000. While it is around 130,000 down from the previous week's totals, it is only the second time the number of new jobless claims dropped below 1 million since the pandemic hit in March.

U.S. Economy Suffers Sharpest Drop Ever As GDP Crashes Nearly 32% During Coronavirus Peak



The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)

(File Photo© Reuters / B. McDermid) In the worst plunge ever recorded, the US economy contracted by 31.7 percent in the second quarter at the height of the Covid-19 crisis, according to revised data released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis on Thursday. The latest US gross domestic product (GDP) reading is slightly better than the estimate issued last month, when the agency said that the world's largest economy shrank at an annual rate of 32.9 percent in the April-June period. Despite the upward revision, based on better than previously estimated private inventory investment and personal consumption expenditures (PCE), the GDP drop is still the sharpest on record. The previous worst quarterly drop since tracking began in 1947 was observed in the first three months of 1958, when GDP fell 10 percent on an annualized basis.



In the worst plunge ever recorded, the U.S. economy contracted by 31.7 percent in the second quarter.

The plunge came as most business activities were paralyzed for weeks, and millions of Americans lost their jobs amid strict stay-at-home orders to contain the spread of the deadly virus. Despite having the highest number of coronavirus infections, the US gradually lifted lockdowns, possibly paving the way for partial recovery in the next quarter.

However, there are concerns that a second wave of Covid-19 may come this fall, further disrupting the economy. "The full economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic cannot be quantified in the GDP estimate for the second quarter of 2020 because the impacts are generally embedded in source data and cannot be separately identified," the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) said. (Courtesy www.rt.com/business)

In 1957 A Flu Pandemic Hit The U.S., But Maurice Hilleman Was Ready With A Vaccine He Mass Produced In Only Months The Virologist Who Saved Millions Of Children—And Stopped A Pandemic



Virologist Maurice Hilleman with his research team at the Walter Reed Army Medical Research Institute in 1957. That year Hilleman and his team would identify and develop 40 million vaccine doses to combat a flu virus from Hong Kong. (PHOTO/ ED CLARK, LIFE PICTURE COLLECTION/GETTY)

By Guest Writer Sydney Combs

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

In April 1957, a mysterious illness was making its way through Hong Kong. Medical workers encountered throngs of children with "glassy-eyed stares," and more than 10 percent of the city's population was infected with influenza. The scientific community stayed quiet, but American virologist Maurice Hilleman recognized the threat: A pandemic was brewing. Hilleman thought the disease was a new strain of influenza capable of spreading around the world. By the time the virus arrived in the U.S. in fall 1957, he was ready with a vaccine. His work prevented millions from contracting the deadly virus—and that's a small fraction of the people Hilleman would save over the course of his career.



Students sick with the 1957 "Asian flu" lie in

temporary cots set up in the student union building at the University of Massachusetts. More than 100,000 people in the U.S. died from the virus. (PHOTO/ BETTMANN, GETTY)

Born in August 1919, at the height of the Spanish flu, Hilleman was raised on a farm near Miles City, Montana. During the Depression, he managed to get a job as an assistant manager at a J.C. Penney store and planned to spend the rest of his professional career with the company—until his older brother convinced him to apply to college. He went to Montana State University on a full scholarship, graduated first in his class in 1941—and was accepted to every graduate school he applied to. As a doctoral student in microbiology at the University of Chicago, Hilleman proved that chlamydia was actually a bacteria instead of a virus, a discovery that helped doctors treat the disease. Against his professor's wishes, Hilleman went into the pharmaceutical industry instead of academia because he believed

he'd be better positioned there to bring the benefits of his research to patients. By the end of his career, he would develop more than 40 vaccines that prevented disease and death throughout the world.



The Father Of Modern Vaccines, Maurice Hilleman.

Heading off a pandemic

After four years with the E.R. Squibb pharmaceutical company in New Jersey, Hilleman transferred to the Walter Reed Army Medical Research Institute in Washington, D.C., to study respiratory illnesses and influenza outbreaks. There he proved that influenza viruses undergo mutations that allow them to bypass antibodies previously developed to the strain. This explained why one influenza vaccine didn't protect a person for life, as a smallpox or polio vaccine could.

FLU VIRUS 101The influenza virus is a recurring nightmare, killing thousands of people each year. Learn how the virus attacks its host, why it's nearly impossible to eradicate, and what scientists are doing to combat it. Through this research, Hilleman became convinced that the virus in Hong Kong could be substantially different from existing strains, and thus could be deadly if it came to the United States or other nations. When he picked up a copy of The New York Times on April 17, 1957 and read about the situation in Hong Kong, he exclaimed, "My God. This is the pandemic. It's here!" The next day he asked the military to collect virus samples there. A month later, he received gargled saltwater from an ill Navy serviceman who had been to Hong Kong. Hilleman began incubating the virus and testing it against antibodies from hundreds of soldiers and civilians. He couldn't find a single person with antibodies to this strain of influenza. Hilleman sent samples of the new virus to other research organizations, which confirmed that only a few elderly citizens who had survived the 1889-1890 influenza pandemic had any antibody resistance. That meant nearly everyone was at risk of catching

the new strain. "In 1957 we all missed it. The military missed it and the World Health Organization missed it," Hilleman later said in an interview.



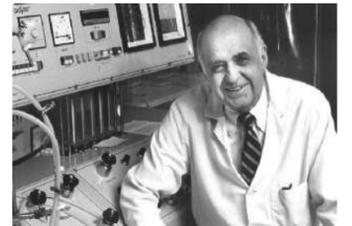
Boxes of Hilleman's vaccines for the 1957 flu are rushed by helicopter throughout the (PHOTO/WALTER SANDERS/LIFE PICTURE COLLECTION/GETTY)

Realizing how little time the country had to prepare, Hilleman contacted pharmaceutical manufacturers directly and asked them to make a vaccine from his samples. He also demanded that roosters that would otherwise have been killed be kept alive to fertilize enough eggs to prepare the vaccine. Even though his work had not yet been reviewed by the main U.S. vaccine regulatory agency, the Division of Biological Standards, the pharmaceutical companies agreed. Because regulations now are far tighter this type of workaround would be impossible today. Because of Hilleman's perseverance, 40 million doses of the vaccine had been created by the time the flu hit American shores in fall 1957. Ultimately, the virus killed 1.1 million people worldwide and an estimated 116,000 people in the United States. But the U.S. surgeon general at the time, Leonard Burney, said the virus would have infected millions more Americans had there been no vaccine. The U.S. military awarded Hilleman a Distinguished Service Medal for his work. "That's the only time we ever averted a pandemic with a vaccine," Hilleman recalled.

Out of the spotlight

Hilleman's success was in part due to his po-

sition at Merck, the pharmaceutical company he worked at for 47 years. He was given direct control over his research there, and with Merck's ample financial resources at their disposal, Hilleman and his team developed more than 40 vaccines for humans and animals. "There was money to spend to do what you needed to do [at Merck]. Money wasn't an object. You could do your research," Hilleman's second wife Lorraine Witmer once told Hilleman's biographer. By working in the private sector—the "dirty industry" as Hilleman joked—he was able to guide his research from the lab to the marketplace with his signature brashness. The pharmaceutical industry had its drawbacks, though, and at times prevented Hilleman from gaining public recognition for his work. "I thought that if my name appeared on the paper, or if I was the one put in front of the television cameras or radio microphones, people would think that I was selling something," Hilleman explained after his name was not included on the paper proving his hepatitis B vaccine was effective.



Virologist Maurice Hilleman.

In the end, Hilleman didn't name a single discovery after himself. Hilleman and his team developed eight of the 14 vaccines currently recommended for children: measles, mumps, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, chickenpox, meningitis, pneumonia, and Haemophilus influenzae (Hib vaccine). The WHO estimates that the measles vaccine alone prevented 20.3 million deaths worldwide between 2000 and 2015. At the time of Hilleman's death, scientists in the field credited him with likely saving more people than any other scientist in the 20th century. "The scientific quality and quantity of what he did was amazing," Dr. Anthony Fauci told The New York Times in 2005. "Just one of his accomplishments would be enough to have made for a great scientific career." (Courtesy https://www.nationalgeographic.com/)