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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## The year in review: What happened -- and what did not

Dec 6 (Reuters) - Sometimes, it's what doesn't happen that matters most.

By the evening of Feb. 25 this year, a day after Russian tanks had crossed into Ukraine in the largest military attack in Europe since World War Two, Moscow's troops had reached the outskirts of Kyiv.

With distant artillery fire booming across the capital, Ukraine's defence ministry urged residents to build petrol bombs to repel the invaders. President Volodymyr Zelenskiy filmed himself with aides on the streets of the city, vowing to defend his country's independence.

"Tonight, they will launch an assault," Zelenskiy said. "All of us must understand what awaits us. We must withstand this night."

The assault never came – and 10 months on, Moscow's "special military operation" is bogged down. In some places, it's in retreat. Many in Moscow had expected Russia's military to sweep to victory, oust Zelenskiy's government and install a Russia-friendly regime.

To be sure, Russian forces remain in control of vast swathes of Ukraine's east and south, and at least 40,000 civilians have been killed and 14 million displaced in the grinding conflict. But Ukrainian forces, reinforced by billions of dollars of Western weaponry, have regularly proven themselves savvier and more effective than the morale-sapped Russians.

Ukraine appears to expose Russian air defence gaps with long-range strikes  
 Beijing drops COVID testing burden as wider easing beckons

Special Report: In France, minority communities decry a surge in police fines  
 EU seeks to reassure Western Balkans on accession amid fears of Russia influence

Khamenei calls for overhaul of Iran's cultural system  
 It was a similar story in the United States, where Republicans and some pundits had predicted a red wave in midterm elections. The Republican Party won control of the House of Representatives, but victory there was slim with a majority of fewer than 10 seats. The party not only failed to take back the Senate, but lost several gubernatorial races. Democrats triumphed in all three secretary of state contests in presidential battleground states where their Republican rivals had denied the legitimacy of the 2020 elections.

Midterms usually deliver a loud rebuke to the party of the sitting president. This time around it was a soft tsk.

In economics, most of the world's big central banks waited until March to begin ratcheting up interest rates. The European Central Bank did not move until July. Monetary hawks complained that the delay allowed inflation to surge. Will that prove costly in the long term? Can the Fed keep the U.S. economy from recession?

The answers will become clearer in 2023. There are early signs that inflation may have peaked in some economies, but



growth is also softening. In a few countries – looking at you, Britain – the outlook remains grim.

At United Nations climate talks in Egypt, countries agreed to create a fund to help poor nations threatened by climate disasters, but failed to agree plans to cut emissions faster. Meantime, record heatwaves in China, floods in Pakistan and Europe, and glacier collapses in India, Italy and Chile were reminders of how fast our planet's climate is shifting.

This was also the year that protests exploded in Iran after the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who was arrested for wearing an "improper" head covering. Eyewitnesses said she was beaten, though Iranian authorities deny that. The protests, led mostly by women, spread through the country and across social classes. The longer they continue, the more of a threat they will pose to the 43-year-old Islamic revolution.

What else happened in 2022? The U.S. dollar soared, crypto imploded, and Elon Musk bought Twitter (which he preceded to shake up so much it has threatened to fall apart). It was the year Latin America lurched to the left, a ceasefire finally came in Ethiopia's civil war, and North Korea fired off missile after missile. And it was the year Britain lost a queen, gained a king and saw three Prime Ministers in Downing Street.

Finally, much of the world emerged from COVID, at least socially if not in epidemiological terms. The big exception was China, whose zero-COVID policy has sparked protests and unrest in the past few weeks. In October, the country's twice-a-decade Communist Party congress had seen President Xi Jinping tighten his grip on power and win a third term, a break with recent party tradition which had seen presidents serve just two terms. Could Zero-COVID rock the status quo?

Servicemen of the Ukrainian National Guard take positions in central Kyiv, after Russia launched a massive military operation against Ukraine, February 25, 2022. REUTERS/Gleb Garanich/File Photo/File Photo

We'll be there if it does. In 2022, Reuters delivered all of these vital stories and tens of thousands more. Over the coming few weeks we'll recap the biggest, dig into why they mattered, and ask where they may be headed. And in 2023, we'll continue to deliver the world to you, wherever you are.

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# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

12/05/2022

## We Are Standing At A Turning Point In History

Tonight we are here from Houston, Texas, to say congratulations on the zoom meeting of the Chinese from both the United States and Taiwan. The topic tonight is the future relations between the United States, China and Taiwan after the Taiwan local election.

Professors from Taiwan joined the meeting to express their concerns on the Taiwan Strait. We all agreed that we must not solve the Taiwan issue by force and hope that in the 2024 presidential election, if the KMT blue camp can regain power, it will immediately improve the bad relationship with mainland China. Both sides should sign a peaceful agreement to coexist peacefully.

Also, as Chinese –American citizens we will actively express our serious concern about the Taiwan issue to our elected officials and educate the public on where we should stand on the issue.

Today we are still the most powerful country in the world. We have a responsibility to seek peace and not allow the Ukraine tragedy to happen again.

More than one hundred years ago, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the founding father of the Republic of China was part of the revolution cause in Honolulu in the United States. Most of the revolution fighters were overseas Chinese.

Today we as Chinese – Americans are standing at a turning point of history. We want to convey the message to Washington, Beijing and Taipei that we just don't want the tragedy of Ukraine to be repeated.



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**Southern DAILY** Make Today Different

## Editor's Choice



Brazil's Neymar scores their second goal from the penalty spot past South Korea's Kim Seung-gyu. REUTERS/Carl Recine



A child with pulmonary infection receives ventilation support at the pediatric intensive care unit at the St. Joseph Hospital Tempelhof in Berlin, Germany December 5, 2022. REUTERS/Lisi Niesner



A Chinese flag flies at half mast in front of the Lujiazui financial district, on the day of the memorial service for former Chinese President Jiang Zemin, in Shanghai, China. REUTERS/Aly Song



Congoese activists attend a vigil in memory of the civilians killed in the recent conflict between Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and rebel forces, in Goma, in the North Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of Congo. REUTERS/Arlette Bashizi



Chinese flags are lowered to half-staff, following the death of former Chinese President Jiang Zemin, on the Bund in Shanghai, China. REUTERS/Aly Song



Local resident Lyudmila, 70, shows her apartment inside a house heavily damaged in recent shelling in Donetsk, Russian-controlled Ukraine. REUTERS/Alexander Ermochenko

The attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan on December 7, 1941, occurred 81 years ago today and the vast majority of people reading this article more than likely were not even born at that time, and those of later generations may even lack a basic understanding of the impact this event had on history. But along with being the overriding action that forced the United States into World War II, the attack on Pearl Harbor shaped the structure of future relationships between the U.S. and other countries for years to come, right up to the present day.

With a single, carefully-planned and well-executed stroke, the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor, one of the great defining moments of history, removed the United States Navy's battleship force as a possible threat to the Japanese Empire's southward expansion. America, completely unprepared and considerably weakened by the surprise strike, was abruptly brought into the Second World War as a full combatant.



On the following day, December 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, speaking before the United States Congress, stated that, "Yesterday, December 7, 1941 --- a date which will live in infamy --- the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan."

Continuing his address, the President announced that at the same time the Japanese had simultaneously also attacked Malaysia, Hong Kong, Guam, the Philippines, Wake Island and Midway Island.



## Japan's Attack on Pearl Harbor – 81 Years Ago Today REMEMBERING PEARL HARBOR "Day of Infamy" Shaped the Course of History

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

"Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area," the President explained. In conclusion, Roosevelt said, "I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December seventh, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire."

Eighteen months earlier, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had transferred the United States Fleet to Pearl Harbor as a presumed deterrent to Japanese aggression. The Japanese military, deeply engaged in the seemingly endless war it had started against China in mid-1937, badly needed oil and other raw materials. Commercial access to these was gradually curtailed as the conquests continued. In July 1941 the Western powers effectively halted trade with Japan. From then on, as the desperate Japanese schemed to seize the oil and mineral-rich East Indies and Southeast Asia, a Pacific war was virtually inevitable. By late November 1941, with peace negotiations clearly approaching an end, informed U.S. officials (and they were well-informed, they believed, through an ability to read Japan's diplomatic codes) fully expected a Japanese attack into the Indies, Malaya and probably the Philippines. Completely unanticipated was the prospect that Japan would attack east, as well.



The U.S. Fleet's Pearl Harbor base was reachable by an aircraft carrier force, and the Japanese Navy secretly sent one

across the Pacific with greater aerial striking power than had ever been seen on the World's oceans. Its planes hit just before 8AM on December 7th. Within a short time, five of eight battleships at Pearl Harbor were sunk or sinking, with the rest damaged. Several other ships and most Hawaii-based combat planes were also knocked out and over 2400 Americans were dead. Soon after, Japanese planes eliminated much of the American air force in the Philippines, and a Japanese Army was ashore in Malaya.

These great Japanese successes, achieved without any prior diplomatic formalities, shocked and enraged the previously divided American people into a level of purposeful unity hardly seen before or since. For the next five months, until the Battle of the Coral Sea in early May, Japan's far-reaching offensives proceeded untroubled by fruitful opposition. American and Allied morale suffered accordingly. Under normal political circumstances, an accommodation might have been considered. However, the memory of the "sneak attack" on Pearl Harbor fueled a determination to fight on. Once the Battle of Midway in early June 1942 had eliminated much of Japan's striking power, that same memory stoked a relentless war to reverse her conquests and remove her, and her German and Italian allies, as future threats to World peace.



The USS Arizona Memorial presents the ship's deck six feet below the water line. The 184-foot memorial was completed in 1961 and a flag is flown from

the destroyed mast. Visitors can see a historic short film recapping the events and explore the Pearl Harbor Museum, complete with wartime memorabilia. The Pearl Harbor Memorial is one of the top Oahu attractions attracting more than a million tourists each year. Numerous Pearl Harbor tours arrive in the afternoon making the morning hours the best time to go. The USS Arizona Memorial can be toured from 7:30am to 5:00pm daily and is closed on all major holidays.

Today, The USS Arizona Memorial pays tribute to those moored at Battleship Row. They were the initial targets of the first wave of attacks on the Americans. The first stop on a visit to the USS Arizona Memorial is the Visitor Center where the Pearl Harbor Museum, dual theaters, restrooms, a snack bar and Pearl Harbor Memorial exhibits are located. Those driving from Waikiki Beach or Honolulu can expect an hour's trip before arriving at the Pearl Harbor tribute. The memorial is also easily reached from the North Shore.

~Photo Essay Pearl Harbor Today~



WWII Valor in the Pacific Battleship Missouri Memorial



National Monument



USS Bowfin Submarine



Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum Museum & Park



Presenting the colors



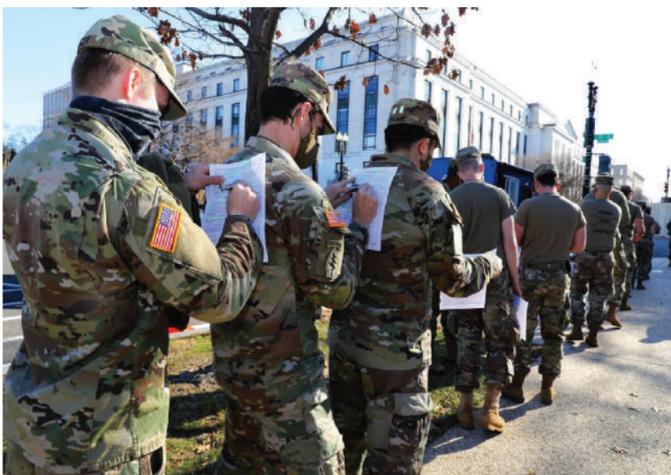
Honoring the survivors



Saluting the past today

### Scientists Believe The Army's Vaccine May Combat Deadly Variants And Even Future Pandemics

## Army's Own Vaccine That Could Fight COVID Variants Begins Human Trials



Maryland Army National Guardsmen fill out medical paperwork to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at the U.S. Capitol Complex in Washington on Jan. 14, 2021. (Sgt. Chazz Kibler/National Guard)

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

As more than 100 million Americans were needed and inoculated against COVID-19 with doses produced by pharmaceutical powerhouses like Pfizer and Moderna, a scrappy team of scientists in an Army lab just outside the nation's capital quietly continued manipulating proteins, testing monkeys and working to conceive a vaccine of the future.

The product born of their experience, reason and labor was injected into its first human test subject on Tuesday.

"We want to win this battle, but we also want to win the long war," said Dr. Kayvon Modjarrad, who leads the vaccine effort as director of the emerging infectious diseases branch of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Once the virus was sequenced in January 2020, he and his then modest team of 10 strategized and took on a blistering 24/7 effort, whittling a selection of two dozen prototypes down to a single vaccine candidate within six months. Over the last decade Modjarrad also led the Ar-

my's vaccine efforts for Ebola and the Zika virus and was principal investigator of its campaign against MERS, a disease itself caused by a coronavirus. And though WRAIR is the oldest biomedical research institute within the Department of Defense, the emerging infectious diseases branch is still young.



Dr. Kayvon Modjarrad sits at his desk adorned with a 3-D model of the vaccine he co-invented. Modjarrad is the director of the emerging infectious diseases branch of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR). (Photo Matt Seyler, ABC

News)

"We're not Apple now -- we're Apple 40 years ago, in the garage," Modjarrad said with a laugh.

Despite the frantic pace, Modjarrad -- who co-invented WRAIR's eventual vaccine candidate -- knew it wouldn't be the first to the public.

"This one takes a little bit longer in designing and then manufacturing," he said.

From the beginning his focus was on next-generation threats, ones that could be thriving in unknown bat caves as you read this sentence, waiting to make contact and proliferate inside humans.

"Even though we got the (available vaccines) within a year, how many hundreds of thousands of people in the U.S. and how many millions of people globally lost their lives before the vaccine was even available?" Modjarrad asked ABC News' Bob Woodruff during an exclusive visit to the lab last week. "We want to get to a point where the vaccine is already out there -- maybe already in people's arms -- before the next variant, next stream, next species of coronavirus occurs."



The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), founded in 1893, is located in Silver Spring, Md. (Photo/Matt Seyler/ABC News)

The three vaccines already authorized for use in the U.S. work by feeding the body genetic instructions to create the spike protein that is found on the surface of the virus. Once the body creates the protein, the immune system is alerted and begins forming antibodies. It's a safe way of triggering a similar immune response as one a person would have after contracting the actual virus.

The WRAIR vaccine skips both the instruction and creation steps, bringing the already-formed spike protein straight into the arm along with an immune-boosting ad-

juvant compound, quickly starting the antibody response.

And unlike other protein-based vaccines being tested, the WRAIR candidate presents virus-looking nanoparticles, each with a consistent array of 24 spike proteins arranged in small bouquets of three protruding from a ferritin base.

"There's a lot of theories as to why something presented in this fashion gives such a good immune response, but in some ways you can see it looks like a virus as well," Modjarrad said. "So it has some properties that educate the immune response in a way that it gives you a very strong, but also a broad response."

Test results with thousands of mice and dozens of monkeys have been promising.



A researcher works on coronavirus vaccine development at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Silver Spring, Md., April 28, 2020. (photo/Matt Seyler/ABC News)

"We think (other) vaccines are probably going to be protective against new variants, but they might be decreased in their protection," Modjarrad said. "What we've seen with our vaccine so far in animals ... is that the vaccine is not decreased in effectiveness against those variants at all. And it is effective against other coronaviruses like SARS-1. So what we have developed now is starting to look like a pan-SARS vaccine ... and we're going to start testing everything in between."

If successful in clinical trials, WRAIR's vaccine could become common among the U.S. population, possibly as a booster for already-vaccinated people.

Being a military lab, practicality was a primary design concern, which could incidentally give their product global appeal. In particular, it is highly stable and doesn't require special freezing. "That means you can put it in a cooler on the back of a motorcycle in the Amazon or the Sahara or wherever, and that vaccine should still be OK," Modjarrad said.

But the "if" remains. Though the WRAIR scientists brim with confidence in conversation, they are soberly aware that their product has yet to be

proven in humans.

"They have some very early data to suggest in the laboratory that the immune response evoked by this vaccine will cover a variety of different strains," said Dr. William Schaffner, a professor of preventative medicine and infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. "Whether that translates actually into protection in people against the variety of strains -- that remains to be determined. Long journeys, first steps."



Cpt. Aaron Sanborn, RN, (far right), discusses the vaccination process with Francis Holinaty (left) during the first day of the vaccine entering clinical trials at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research's Clinical Trials Center, April 6, 2021. (Photo/Walter Reed Army Institute of Research)

On Tuesday, retired Army Col. Francis Holinaty stepped up to be the first to be injected in WRAIR's Phase I trial.

"Over my 30-year career I have served in many places around the world in many different operational settings, some more arduous than others, some more hazardous than others," Holinaty said. "And one day I'm on the Metro, and it's almost as if it was fate -- I just looked up and I saw a poster, and I saw Walter Reed, and it took me a while to process what this poster was saying. And when it dawned on me that they were trying to do a trial for the COVID-19, I saw this as another opportunity to just serve." Holinaty can't be sure whether he received a dose of the vaccine or a placebo, but said afterward that he felt fine. He wanted people to know that there are many ways to fight the pandemic.

"You don't have to be in the military, you don't have to be a first responder, but you can help all," he said. "And if you have a calling to help people this is just one of the ways you can do it." (Courtesy abcnews.go.com)