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Inside C2



Thursday, January 19 2022

Blinken tells Ukraine he will keep working to avert Russian attack

KYIV, Jan 19 (Reuters) - U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Wednesday that Russia could launch a new attack on Ukraine at "very short notice" but Washington would pursue diplomacy as long as it could, even though it was unsure what Moscow really wanted.

On a visit to Kyiv to show support for Ukraine, the top U.S. diplomat said Ukrainians should prepare for difficult days. He said Washington would keep providing defence assistance to Ukraine and renewed a promise of severe sanctions against Russia in the event of a new invasion.

The Kremlin said tension around Ukraine was increasing and it was still waiting for a written U.S. response to its sweeping demands for security guarantees from the West.

The pessimistic statements highlighted the gulf between Washington and Moscow before talks between Blinken and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Friday that a Russian foreign policy analyst called "probably the last stop before the train wreck".

Blinken said he would not present a written response on Russia's proposals to Lavrov in Geneva but promised "relentless diplomatic efforts to prevent renewed aggression and to promote dialogue and peace".

He said a Russian build-up of tens of thousands of troops near Ukraine's borders was taking place with "no provocation, no reason".

"We know that there are plans in place to increase that force even more on very short notice, and that gives President (Vladimir) Putin the capacity, also on very short notice, to take further aggressive action against Ukraine," he said.

He did not spell out how quickly Russia might move. Independent security analysts say they do not believe Moscow has so far assembled the logistics and medical units it would need to launch an immediate attack.

Russia has also moved troops to Belarus for what it calls joint military exercises, giving it the option of attacking neighbouring Ukraine from the north, east and south



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken meets with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy in Kyiv, Ukraine January 19, 2022. Alex Brandon/ Pool via REUTERS

Eight years ago it seized Crimea and backed separatist forces who took control of large parts of eastern Ukraine, but it has consistently denied any intention of invading now.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Western weapons deliveries to Ukraine, military manoeuvres and NATO aircraft flights were to blame for rising tensions around Ukraine.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said he did not believe there was a risk of a large-scale war and reiterated that Moscow had no plans to attack, strike or invade Ukraine.

His comments prompted a rally in Russian and Ukrainian government bonds, hammered in recent weeks by the escalating tensions.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba accused Russia of trying to sow panic in Ukraine; President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said the government was doing everything to resolve the situation through diplomacy and citizens should remain calm.

"Keep a cool head, maintain confidence in your strength, in your army and in our

Ukraine," he said.

'HOPES ARE DIM'

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken meets with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy in Kyiv, Ukraine January 19, 2022. Alex Brandon/Pool via REUTERS

Russia says it feels menaced by Kyiv's growing ties with the West. It wants to prevent Ukraine ever joining NATO and for the alliance to pull back troops and weapons from eastern Europe.

"It's not clear what Russia's central demand is or is not. They've put a number of things on the table," Blinken said.

"Some of them are clearly absolute non-starters like closing NATO's door to new members," he said.

Washington remained ready to discuss anything that enhanced "everyone's security on a reciprocal basis", he said, including arms control, risk reduction, and the scale and scope of military exercises. After Friday, he added, the diplomatic possibilities might become clearer.

Former Facebook employee and whistleblower Frances Haugen testifies during a Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation hearing entitled 'Protecting Kids Online: Testimony from a Facebook Whistleblower' on Capitol Hill, in Washington, U.S., October 5,

But Vladimir Frolov, a former Russian diplomat who is now a foreign policy analyst, said Moscow would not be appeased by the U.S. and NATO offer of arms control talks and was seeking a much more sweeping rearrangement of Europe's security order.

"The Lavrov-Blinken meet is probably the last stop before the train wreck. But hopes are dim, the positions are incompatible," said Frolov.

Describing Russia's military deployment in Belarus as a "huge escalation", Frolov gave a dire assessment of the crisis.

"I think barring a U.S. surrender and their delivering Ukraine to Russia, some kind of a military option is all but inevitable now."



WEALEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

01//19//2022

President Biden's Anniversary



January 20th is the first anniversary of President Biden's coming to power. When we look back at the whole of last year, many people might be disappointed. Covid-19 has fallen into national fatigue, in-fighting against the pandemic in Congress and the Biden administration's

bill are challenges that still remain, but Biden is still repeatedly kidnapped by a few of his own democratic senators.

Because of a lagging supply chain and other problems, inflation has reached its highest point over the last forty years. Robbery and looting in department attempt to pass a major stores are going on in

all major cities. Just last week in the New York City subway system, an Asian woman was killed when she was pushed down by a black man onto the train tracks.

On the diplomatic front, we are still using an anti-China policy of a diplomatic boycott of the Winter Olympics games. Hundreds of

thousands of Russian troops have gathered on the border of the Ukraine making the tensions between Russia and the Ukraine imminent. Secretary of State Blinken who is currently visiting the Ukraine and Europe, hopes to resolve the crisis, but it may have little effect. A Russian invasion is very

Today we are urging

possible.

President Biden to change his current foreign policy. Close relationships and exchange is the trend of the world. We just can't stop it.

Most Asian Americans are supporting the government led by President Biden. If its performance fails to improve over the next three years, the Democratic Party is likely to lose power.







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Editor's Choice



A dead bird lies on a beach during a clean-up, following an oil spill caused by abnormal waves, triggered by a massive underwater volcanic eruption half a world away, in Tonga, in Ventanilla, Peru, REUTERS/Pilar Olivares



Britain's Prince William and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, participate in a therapy session with individuals who have experienced the care system, during a visit to the Foundling Museum in London, Britain. Alastair Grant/Pool via **REUTERS**



A musician reacts during the funeral of late 23-year-old teacher, Ashling Murphy, who was murdered while out jogging, outside the St. Brigid's Church in Mountbolus near Tullamore, Ireland. REUTERS/Clodagh Kilcoyne



An American Airlines commercial aircraft flies past a cell phone tower as it approaches to land at John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, California. REU-TERS/Mike Blake



An Israeli army Black Hawk helicopter flies during full moon off the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, near the Israeli border with Gaza, as seen from Ashkelon, Israel. REUTERS/Amir Cohen



Officers in protective suits leave a closed pet shop in Mong Kok district after a hamster cull was ordered to curb the coronavirus outbreak, in Hong Kong, China. REUTERS/Lam Yik

BUSINESS



Celebrating Asian American And Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Six Charts That Shed Light On Images Of Asian **Americans Held By Many**



By Connie Hanzhang Jin - NPR Writer

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

of Asian descent live in the U.S., mak-

ing up approximately 7% of the nation's

population. They trace their heritage to

different regions around the world, with

people of East Asian and Southeast Asian

descent making up the largest shares, though no group makes up a majority.

More than 1.5 million Pacific Islanders,

who descend from Micronesia, Melanesia or Polynesia, live in the U.S. as well.

ASIAN AMERICANS TRACE

THEIR HERITAGE TO DIFFER-

ENT REGIONS OF THE WORLD

"Smart." "Hard-working." "Nice." Those Currently, more than 22 million people were among the adjectives that respondents offered up in a recent poll when asked to describe Asian Americans.

The poll, conducted by the nonprofit Leading Asian Americans to Unite for Change (LAAUNCH), was another all-too-familiar reminder that Asian Americans are still perceived as the "model minority."

Since the end of World War II, this myth about Asian Americans and their perceived collective success has been used as a racial wedge — to minimize the role racism plays in the struggles of other minority groups, such as Black Americans.

Characterizing Asian Americans as a model minority flattens the diverse experiences of Asian Americans into a singular, narrow narrative. And it paints a misleading picture about the community that doesn't align with current statistics.

Here's a look at some common misconceptions driven by the model minority myth.

Myth: Asian Americans are a single monolithic group

NOTES

The U.S. Census Bureau classifies a person of Asian descent as anyone who traces their heritage to a subset of countries in the continent of Asia. But there may be people outside of this classification who self-identify as Asian.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey

Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

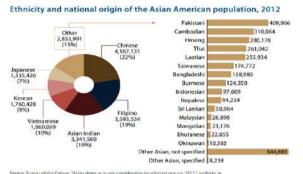
Academics and activists trace the term "Asian American" to 1968, when students at the University of California, Berkeley, founded the Asian American Political Alliance. At the time, the group sought to unite students of Japanese, Chinese and Filipino descent to fight for political and social

"Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders" (AAPI) is a term that has its roots in the 1980s and '90s, when the U.S. Census Bureau used the "Asian Pacific American" classification to group Asians, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders together. In 1997, the bureau disaggregated the categories into "Asian" and "Pacific Islander."

Scholars and activists have critiqued both terms for masking differences in histories and needs among communities, as well as supporting the myth that Asian Americans are a monolithic group.

Within these regional groups, a huge variety of ethnicities exist within the Asian American community. People who identify their heritage as Chinese, Indian or Filipino make up the largest share.

MANY ETHNICITIES FALL UNDER THE ASIAN AMERICAN UMBRELLA



Notes

Ethnicities with fewer than 100,000 people not shown. The U.S. Census Bureau classifies a person of Asian descent as anyone who traces their heritage to a subset of countries in the continent of Asia. But there may be people outside of this classification who self-identify as Asian.

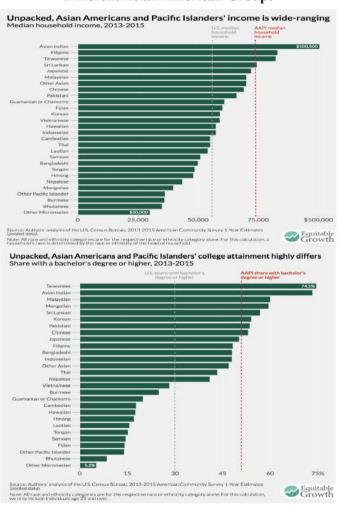
These numbers have risen rapidly in recent years. The Asian American population is the fastest-growing racial or ethnic group in the U.S., growing by 81% from 2000 to 2019. The Hispanic population saw the second-fastest growth, at 70%, followed by Native Hawaiians and Pacific

Islanders, at 60%. The white population grew by only 1% in that time.

Myth: Asian Americans are high earning and well educated Asian Americans have a median household income of around \$78,000 a year, which is higher than the national median of about \$66,000. However, that overall statistic obscures large differences among different Asian-origin groups.

These economic disparities are partially driven by similar disparities in education levels among Asian Americans. The highest-earning groups — Indian American and Taiwanese American households — also have the highest levels of education, while the lowest-earning groups have comparatively lower levels of education.

Key Disparities In Income And Education Among Different Asian American Groups



The U.S. Census Bureau classifies a person of Asian descent as anyone who traces their heritage to a subset of countries in the continent of Asia. But there may be people outside of this classification who self-identify as Asian.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR

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Southern Make Today Different

(Continued From Page C3)

Six Charts That Shed Light On Images Of Asian Americans Held By Many



INDIAN AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS ARE THE HIGHEST-EARNING GROUP, WITH A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF \$127,000 A YEAR. ON THE OTHER END OF THE SCALE, BURMESE AMERICAN HOUSE-HOLDS ARE THE LOWEST-EARNING GROUP, WITH A MEDIAN HOUSE-HOLD INCOME OF \$46,000 A YEAR.

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

In fact, a 2018 Pew Research Center study found that Asian Americans were the most economically divided racial or ethnic group in the U.S., with Asian Americans in the top 10th of the income distribution making 10.7 times more than those in the bottom 10th. Myth: Asian Americans immigrate to the

U.S. in the "right" way More than half of those who identify as Asian American and at least 17% of Pacific Islanders were born outside the U.S., ac-

cording to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Asian American community has the highest proportion of immigrants of any ethnic or racial group in the United States. Yet, Asian Americans are often overlooked in debates about immigration reform.

Asians have a wide range of reasons for immigrating to the U.S., including those coming as refugees or asylum-seekers. Out of the almost 11 million estimated undocumented immigrants in the U.S., around 1.5 million (14%) are from Asia, according to the Migration Policy Institute.

A LARGE NUMBER OF ASIANS IN

AMERICA ARE UNAUTHO-**RIZED IMMIGRANTS**

Out of the top 10 most common origin countries for unauthorized immigrants in the U.S., an estimated one million people come from India, China or the Philippines.

| * * | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| ORIGIN COUNTRY | EST. NUMBER OF UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS | SHARE OF TOTA | |
| Mexico- | 5,572,000 | 51%∂ | |
| El Salvador | 750,000÷ | 7%₽ | |
| Guatemala <i>e</i> | 588,000 <i>0</i> | 5%₽ | |
| India∂ | 469,000€ | 4%∂ | |
| Honduras: | 402,000 <i>₽</i> | 4%₽ | |
| China <i>₽</i> | 394,000€ | 4%∂ | |
| Philippines | 233,000 | 2%₽ | |
| Dominican Republic 191,000 € | | 2%₽ | |
| Colombia ₽ | 182,000€ | 2%₊³ | |
| Brazil | 145,000 | 1%₽ | |
| | | | |

NOTES Data as of 2018. Source: Migration Policy Institute Credit: Connie

Heightened immigration enforcement has also impacted Asian Americans. From 2015 to 2018, Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested about 15,000 immigrants from Asia, according

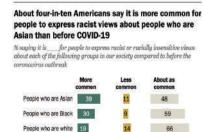
COMMUNITY to a report by the nonprofit Asian Amer-

icans Advancing Justice. The report also found that Southeast Asian immigrants were three to four times more likely to be deported for

old criminal convictions compared with other immigrant groups. Out of the approximately 16,000 Southeast Asians with final removal orders in that period, more than 13.000 had removal orders that were based on old criminal convictions.

Myth: Asian Americans Face Less Systemic Racism And Discrimination Since the coronavirus pandemic started, hate crimes and violence against Asian Americans have increased. In an April survey conducted by the Pew Research Center, 32% of Asian American adults — a greater percentage than any other racial or ethnic group — said that they feared someone might threaten or physically attack them.

ASIAN AMERICANS AND OTHER **GROUPS REPORT NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES SINCE THE** START OF THE PANDEMIC



PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Share of respondents who say each of the following has happened to them since the coronavirus outbreak because of their race or ethnicity.

NOTES

People who are Hispanic 14

Asian American adults were interviewed in English only. Sample does not include Pacific Islanders. Source: Pew Research Center survey of

U.S. adults conducted April 5-11. Credit: Connie Hanzhang Jin/NPR



In response, the House of Representatives passed the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act on May 18. The bill would have the Justice Department appoint a point person to expedite the review of hate crimes related to COVID-19. It would also direct resources toward making the reporting of hate crimes more accessible.

Despite increased news coverage of various attacks against Asian Americans and the upcoming legislation, the LAAUNCH survey, which was conducted between March 29 to April 14, found that 37% of white Americans were not aware of increased incidents of hate crimes.

But anti-Asian bias and discrimination are not new to the pandemic. To understand the current climate, it's important to look at historical context. In past periods of national tension, especially during times when the U.S. has been at war with Asian countries, anti-Asian racism has similarly

Myth: Asian Americans are fairly represented in leadership positions

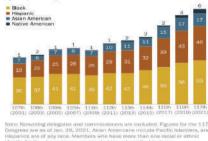
The recent LAAUNCH survey also found that almost half of Americans incorrectly believe that Asian Americans are overrepresented or fairly represented in senior positions within American companies, politics, media or other realms.

In reality, Asian Americans are underrepresented in these positions of power, holding about 3% of these positions in comparison with composing 7% of the U.S. population, a report from The New York Times found last vear.

More specifically, Asian Americans have the lowest degree of representation in political office compared with any other racial or ethnic group.

Asian Americans Are The Most Politically Underrepresented Group

When it comes to holding elected office. as of last year Asian Americans were underrepresented relative to their population by a differential of -85%. White people were overrepresented by 46%.



Asian Americans are even underrepresented in states with a high concentration of Asian American residents, like New York and California, according to a report by the Reflective Democracy Campaign.

Especially since the start of collective activism among Asian Americans in the 1960s, Asian Americans have had a rich history of political activism and involvement. But that history has not always translated to greater representation in political leadership



One finding in the LAAUNCH survey may point to answers: 92% of Americans polled said they were comfortable with Asian Americans as doctors or friends, but only 85% said they were comfortable with an Asian American as a boss and 73% as a president of the United States.

Despite these perceptions, Asian Americans are pushing forward. Asian Americans increased their voter turnout rate by more than any other racial or ethnic group in the 2020 election and in part helped Joe Biden win Georgia. In that same year, 158 Asian Americans ran for state legislatures, the highest number since the 2018 midterms. (Courtesy https://www.npr.org/)