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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## After 30 years, Italy arrests mafia boss Messina Denaro at Sicilian hospital

PALERMO, Italy, Jan 16 (Reuters) - Italy's most wanted mafia boss, Matteo Messina Denaro, was arrested by armed police at a private hospital in Sicily on Monday, where the man who has been on the run since 1993 was being treated for cancer.

Nicknamed "Diabolik" and "U Siccu" (The Skinny One), Messina Denaro had been sentenced in absentia to a life term for his role in the 1992 murders of anti-mafia prosecutors Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino, crimes that shocked the nation and sparked a crackdown on Cosa Nostra.

Messina Denaro, 60, was led away from Palermo's "La Maddalena" hospital by two uniformed carabinieri police and bundled into a waiting black minivan. He was wearing a brown fur-lined jacket, glasses and a brown and white woolly hat.

Judicial sources said he was being treated for cancer and had an operation last year, followed by a series of appointments under a false name.

"We had a clue to the investigation and followed it through to today's arrest," Palermo prosecutor Maurizio de Lucia said.

Magistrate Paolo Guido, who was also in charge of investigations into Messina Denaro, said dismantling his network of protectors was key in reaching the result following years of work.

A second man who had driven Messina Denaro to the hospital was arrested at the scene on suspicion of aiding a fugitive.

Images on social media showed locals applauding and shaking hands with police in balaclavas as the minivan carrying Messina Denaro was driven away from the suburban hospital to a secret location.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni travelled to Sicily to congratulate police chiefs after the arrest.

"We have not won the war, we have not defeated the mafia but this battle was a key battle to win, and it is a heavy blow to organised crime," she said.

Maria Falcone, sister of the murdered judge, echoed that sentiment.

Mug shot of Matteo Messina Denaro  
A screengrab taken from a video shows Matteo Messina Denaro the country's most wanted mafia boss after he was arrested in this handout photo obtained by Reuters on January 16, 2023. Carabinieri/Handout via REUTERS  
"It proves that mafiosi, despite their delusions of omniscience, are ultimately doomed to defeat in the conflict with the democratic state," she said.

FAST CARS, FLASHY CLOTHES  
Messina Denaro comes from the town of Castelvetrano



near Trapani in western Sicily, and is the son of a mafia boss.

Police said last September that he was still able to issue commands relating to the way the mafia was run in the area around Trapani, his regional stronghold.

Before he went into hiding, he was known for driving expensive cars and his taste for wearing finely tailored suits and Rolex watches.

He faces a life sentence for his role in bomb attacks in Florence, Rome and Milan that killed 10 people in 1993 and is accused by prosecutors of being solely or jointly responsible for numerous other murders in the 1990s.

In 1993 he helped organise the kidnapping of a 12-year-old boy, Giuseppe Di Matteo, in an attempt to dissuade his father from giving evidence against the mafia, prosecutors say. The boy was held in captivity for two years before he was strangled and his body dissolved in acid.

The arrest comes almost 30 years to the day since police arrested Salvatore "Totò" Riina, the Sicilian Mafia's most powerful boss of the 20th century. He eventually died in jail in 2017, having never broken his code of silence.

"It is an extraordinary event, of historic significance," said Gian Carlo Caselli, who was a prosecutor in Palermo at the time of Riina's arrest.

Despite the euphoria, Italy still faces a struggle to rein in organised crime groups whose tentacles stretch far and wide.

Experts say that Cosa Nostra has been usurped by the 'Ndrangheta, the Calabrian mafia, as the most powerful organised

A screengrab taken from a video shows Matteo Messina Denaro the country's most wanted mafia boss after he was arrested in this handout photo obtained by Reuters on January 16, 2023. Carabinieri/Handout via REUTERS

crime group in Italy.

"There is a sense that the Sicilian Mafia is not as strong as it used to be, especially since the 90s, they have really been unable to enter the drug market and so they are really second-fiddle to the 'Ndrangheta on that," said Federico Varese, Professor of Criminology at Oxford University.



## 美南電視15.3

每周一至五每晚7點專題節目

每晚7點播出  
專題節目

每天一至五下午6:30播出《美南新聞聯播》

- 每周一晚7點：主持人：黃梅子，《生活》節目（《生活故事會》、《丁師傅私房菜》和《修車師姐》三個單元輪流播出）
- 每周二晚7點：主持人：陳鐵梅，《美南時事通》
- 每周三晚7點，主持人：王潔，《美南時事通》、《美南名人堂》
- 每周四晚7點，主持人：Sky，《子天訪談錄》或馬健《J&J論壇》
- 每周五晚7點，主持人：蓋軍，《美南時事通》

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主持人: 陳鐵梅



主持人: 王潔



主持人: 馬健



主持人: Sky



主持人: 蓋軍

# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

01/14/2023

## The Education Crisis Is The Misfortune Of Our Country



The poor management of the Houston Independent School District may have to be taken over by the State of Texas again which is also a great misfortune for our education system.

Last night I attended the reception at ITC to greet Dr. Mays, the new superintendent of the Alief School District. He also is the first African American to become the school district's leader. In his speech he emphasized that education is almost the only way to change our lives. Today, most people from poor families can become

leaders in society and elites if they study hard and work hard in their early life.

Today the school districts in America, especially in big cities, because of the high population of poor families and low incomes, result in less tax money to fund the schools. Some of them are already bankrupt and don't even have enough resources to function.

Many families are now moving to the suburbs because most of the good schools are in the suburban areas now.

This is our education crisis that is facing us. We need to urge the federal government to find ways to help. This is the most important and urgent issue for our future generation.



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**Southern DAILY** Make Today Different

## Editor's Choice



A view shows the destroyed Antonivskyi bridge over the Dnipro river after Russia's retreat from Kherson, in Kherson, Ukraine. REUTERS/Stringer



Jeff Bridges accepts the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 28th annual Critics Choice Awards in Los Angeles, California, January 15. REUTERS/Aude Guerrucci



Ukrainian prisoners of war (POWs) pose for a picture after a swap, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in an unknown location, Ukraine. Courtesy: Head of Ukraine's Presidential Office Andriy Yermak via Telegram



Bahrain Raid Xtreme's Sebastien Loeb and co-driver Fabian Lurquin in action during stage 13 of the Dakar Rally Shaybah to Al-Hofuf, Saudi Arabia, January 14. REUTERS/Hamad I Mohammed



Bahrain Raid Xtreme's Sebastien Loeb and co-driver Fabian Lurquin in action during stage 13 of the Dakar Rally Shaybah to Al-Hofuf, Saudi Arabia, January 14. REUTERS/Hamad I Mohammed



Emergency personnel evacuate a woman at the site where an apartment block was heavily damaged by a Russian missile strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Dnipro, Ukraine January 15, 2023. REUTERS/Clodagh Kilcoyne

Egg Prices Have Nearly Tripled Since November Fast-Spreading Bird Flu May Be Here To Stay

Avian Flu Has Spread To 30 States, Sharply Driving Up Egg Prices

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



A newly arrived bird flu is sweeping through wild bird populations in the United States...

Approximately 24 million poultry birds including chickens and turkeys have already been lost...

This is because this particular flu virus seems capable of hanging around in populations of wild birds...

It's somewhat surprising how widespread it is already in North America...

Summary Birds Affected 27,016,123 Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5)

viruses have been detected in U.S. wild aquatic birds, commercial poultry and backyard or hobbyist flocks beginning in January 2022.

So far, the risk to humans seems low. But since related bird flu viruses have repeatedly jumped into people in the past...

There has been only one known human case So far, the risk to humans seems low. But since related bird flu viruses have repeatedly jumped into people in the past...

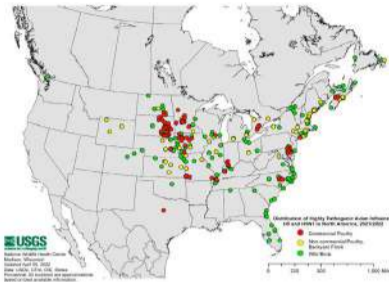
It remains to be seen how much of a toll this virus will take on American bird species.

It remains to be seen how much of a toll this virus will take on American bird species.

person in the United Kingdom who lived in close quarters with ducks; while some of the ducks got sick and died...

Raptors could be especially hard hit Wildlife experts have long known that highly pathogenic bird flus like this one were circulating in Europe and Asia.

Then, in December of 2021, chickens and other fowl got sick and started dying on a farm on the island of Newfoundland, Canada.



The very first moment it got to North America, it was a heads up to us...

In January, government officials announced its arrival in the U.S. after a wigeon duck in South Carolina tested positive.

This outbreak in the wild bird population is a lot more extensive than we saw in 2014 and 2015...

Waterfowl, and raptors that eat their dead bodies, are bearing the brunt of it.

In Florida, for example, more than 1,000 lesser scaup ducks have succumbed to the virus.

So when you start thinking about losing 20% of a specific population of wild birds, that's a pretty substantial impact.

Poultry farmers cull their flocks

Chickens and turkeys raised by the poultry industry have suffered the most deaths...

The bird flu that struck in 2014 and 2015 resulted in the deaths of more than 50 million birds...



So I think I am kind of holding my breath this month...

Wild migratory waterfowl are always flying over the top and when they poop, that poop gets on the ground...

If this virus sticks around in wild bird populations — which some scientists think is likely — poultry farmers may need to just learn to live with this problem.

I hope that this is not the case. I hope that in the U.S. this infection will die off soon...

But there's no guarantee for that, as we've seen in Europe now that this virus has remained present for several years in a row.

Since December, farmers in Europe have had to cull more than 17 million birds.



This week alone, the strain, known as H5N1, likely killed hundreds of birds at a lake northwest of Chicago...

Since January, the USDA has detected H5N1 among tens of millions of wild birds and domestic and commercial flocks...

So far, no cases have been reported among people in the U.S., and the risk to public health is low...

But the bird flu outbreak is affecting consumers' lives in the form of rising egg and poultry prices.

Watchful eyes around people working in poultry facilities

Over time, it's possible that a small number of people could contract the virus.

But Andrew Bowman, an associate professor at Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine...

The current lineage we're seeing is really not fit to go into mammalian hosts...

If a person does get infected, disease experts should be able to quickly test them, he added.

We have a lot of watchful eyes around people working in poultry facilities...

Article Continues Below

Article Continues From Above

Avian Flu Has Spread To 30 States, Sharply Driving Up Egg Prices

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



What We Know Now About The Deadliest U.S. Bird Flu Outbreak In Seven Years



The price of eggs has risen sharply since the start of a bird flu outbreak that has resulted in millions of birds being culled.

A highly pathogenic bird flu virus is tearing its way through U.S. farms and chicken yards...

Here's what you need to know about the outbreak. 22,851,072 birds have been wiped out

than 5 million birds died at an egg-laying facility in Osceola on March 31...

A bald eagle perches on a branch in Milpitas, Calif., on Mar. 12.

The bird flu poses only a low risk to humans, the CDC says

It's rare for a human to become infected with the avian virus.

The virus does not pose a special risk in the nation's food supply...

There have been only four human infections of

low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) viruses ever in the U.S., the CDC says...

The first U.S. warning of the new outbreak came on Jan. 13, when the USDA announced a strain of the highly pathogenic avian influenza virus had been found in wild birds...

The cases then spread north as wild birds migrated and spread the virus to farms.

Ben Slinger, whose family raises turkeys for a meat processor, recently told Iowa Public Radio that he's taking precautions to protect his flocks from infection...

Known cases now range from Maine to Texas, where the virus was found in a commercial pheasant flock in Erath County on Sunday.

Grocery prices for chicken are rising For the current week, the average U.S. price of chicken breasts rose to \$3.93 per pound...

Egg prices have also gone up compared to 2021, and breast tenders cost a full dollar more now than they did a year ago...

Prices for white parts are on the rise with a few exceptions, the department said.

Land is prepared for the disposal of nearly 3 million chickens after avian influenza was recently discovered at a commercial egg opera-

tion near Palmyra, Wis. (Photo Scott Olson/Getty Images)

The last outbreak lasted about 6 months The bird flu outbreak that peaked in the late spring of 2015 was "the largest poultry health disaster in U.S. history..."

Many of those infections were reported in Iowa and neighboring states near "the intersection of the Central and Mississippi flyways used by wild birds during seasonal migration..."

In the 2015 outbreak, fomites — objects that can transfer disease — were seen as a key source of viral transmission.

The 2015 outbreak tapered sharply and ended in June of that year — but 3 million birds still died in that final month.

The history and spread of H5N1 Ancestors of the current H5N1 bird flu were first detected in geese in China in 1996.

The current set of H5N1 bird flu viruses was identified in Europe in 2020, then found in North and South Carolina in January.

The recent U.S. outbreak is the worst since 2015, when multiple bird flu strains, including some H5N1 viruses, spread across the country.

Nearly 50 million birds were slaughtered or died. Bowman said this new outbreak appears to be even more geographically widespread.

Experts attribute the spread of H5N1 to the migration of wild birds, which pass the virus through saliva, mucus and droppings.

The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota recently recommended in a Facebook post that people to stop using bird feeders or bird baths to stop birds from congregating.

But experts said songbirds aren't the main drivers of the spread.

There's 10,000 species of birds and (the virus) doesn't infect them all the same...

For the primary transmission, we're really focused on the waterfowl, especially the dabbling ducks.

Buckles said it's important to keep chickens and

turkeys away from wild birds to prevent the virus from entering our food supply.

As a precaution, people should cook poultry and eggs to a temperature of 165 degrees Fahrenheit, according to the CDC.

If you've come into contact with a bird, wash your hands, Buckles added.

Anytime that you have animals — I don't care whether it's your pet dog or your chicken — you need to practice good hand hygiene...

Related The United States is seeing its largest outbreak of Avian Influenza since 2015.

Who's Most At Risk For The Latest U.S. Bird Flu Outbreak?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said the good news with this outbreak is that human transmission is low.

It hasn't reported any cases of serious illness. ABC10 Health Expert Dr. Payal Kohli said previous versions had a more easily mutated virus that could spread from one host to another.

Typically humans that come into close contact with livestock or poultry are the most likely likely to catch it.

For the average person that doesn't handle livestock, this is not a big threat in my mind right now.

If it does end up being reported in humans, that will change entirely, and then I think we have to be very careful because we know from previous experience that previous versions of the bird flu can actually cause more severe illness and can be more virulent in humans...

The CDC said in order to protect themselves, people should observe all wild birds from a distance.

Birds can be infected even if they don't look sick. The CDC also recommends staying away from surfaces that could be contaminated with the feces of a wild or domestic bird.

For more information on Bird Flu, visit the CDC website here: (https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/index.htm).

Article Continues Below