

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

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CORONAVIRUS DIARY

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The Darkest Day In Our Nation

Pro-Trump rioters stormed Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. yesterday right after a rally in front of the White House where President Trump urged his supporters to fight against the ceremonial counting of the Electoral College votes for President-elect Joe Biden's win.

In the late afternoon hundreds of Trump supporters pushed through barriers set up around the Capitol and broke into the building. The doors to the House and Senate were locked shortly after the House floor was evacuated by the police, including Vice President Mike Pence who was to perform his role in the counting of electoral votes. A woman was shot dead on the Capitol grounds after she tried to break down a door of the building.

The Senate floor was cleared of rioters and as of 3:30 pm police had successfully squeezed them away from the building toward Rotunda. Washington D.C. declared a curfew of 6:00 pm and it took to roughly 5:40 pm for the building to be once again secured.

Both the House and the Senate came back and reconvened the meeting until early in the morning. Vice President Mike Pence made Joe Biden's victory official this morning after long hours of objections from Republican lawmakers.

We saw many of the insurrectionists attacking the Capitol on live TV. They marched through the halls and even posed for pictures in legislators' offices. They held up cameras when someone bashed in a window. One of the reporters said, "We are witnessing a forceful attempt to overthrow the U.S. government."

This is really a sad day for our nation. As former Republican president George Bush said, the violent assault on the Capitol was undertaken by, "People whose passions have been inflamed by falsehoods and false hopes. Insurrection could do grave damage to our nation and reputation."



has caused today, this insurrection."

Deaths reported across the nation have set a record high and we are facing the biggest challenge in recent history. While in Washington, Senator Mitt Romney said, "This is what the president

We all need to be united to overcome the obstacles for this great democratic nation which all of us love.

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Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

COVID-19 HEADLINES 01/08/21

America's Vaccine Rollout: What Went Wrong?



Axios Illustration: Sarah Grillo/Axios

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

The most ambitious vaccination effort in U.S. history has run headfirst into resource shortages and staffing issues caused by the raging pandemic. The Trump administration's goal of vaccinating 20 million people by the end of year fell drastically short, raising concerns about how long it may be until enough people are vaccinated in the U.S. for life to return to normal. Presently, 1.3% of the U.S. population has been vaccinated and 33% of the shots distributed to states have been administered, according to a Bloomberg analysis of CDC data. Operation Warp Speed has distributed 13 million doses, about 7 million doses short of its goal. State officials have given several reasons for why vaccinations have moved at a slower-than-expected pace, per the New York Times. The surge in coronavirus cases, hospitalizations and deaths have overwhelmed health care facilities, hindering their ability to deliver vaccines. Many states have reserved vaccine doses for nursing homes and long-term care fa-

cilities, slowing distribution. The holidays also led to reduced hours and limited staffing in clinics. NIAID director Anthony Fauci said Sunday on ABC's "This Week" that he has seen "some little glimmer of hope" after 1.5 million doses were administered in the previous 72 hours, a marked increase in the vaccination rate. On Friday, President Trump blamed states for not administering the vaccine fast enough. "Some States are very slow to inoculate recipients despite successful and very large scale distribution of vaccines by the Federal Government. They will get it done!" he tweeted. Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti argued on "Face the Nation" that the Trump administration hasn't offered enough vaccine training to the medical workforce. "We are at a pace right now to deliver vaccines in L.A. over five years, instead of over half a year," he said on Sunday.

WHO Urges Vaccinated Travelers To Keep Taking Coronavirus Precautions



American soldiers line up to receive the first COVID-19 vaccines at the Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital, U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, on Tuesday. (Photo/United States Forces Korea via Getty Images)

World Health Organization chief scientist Soumya Swaminathan told a virtual briefing Monday people who've been vaccinated for COVID-19 "need to take the same precautions" as those who haven't "till there's a certain level of herd immunity." Swaminathan was asked whether international travel without quarantine would be possible after mass coronavirus vaccinations. "I don't believe we have the evidence on any of the vaccines to be confident that it's going to prevent people from actually getting the infection and therefore being able to pass it on," she said. WHO Health Emergencies director Mike Ryan noted "there's no guarantee of eliminating or eradicating an infectious disease" — even with a vaccine that has high efficacy as the ones being rolled out are. "That is a very high bar for us to be able to get over," he said. Many tourism-reliant countries, along with the travel and tourism industry, are hopeful that coronavirus vaccinations will see global travel start to make a comeback next year, with international borders reopening. The airline industry has developed mobile apps that would receive coronavirus test and vaccination certificates — though Axios' Joann Muller reports that COVID-19 tests will

be the passport to travel in 2021.

In addition to the uncertainty on whether vaccines will stop transmission of the virus or just prevent people from becoming sick, it's still unknown how long immunity through vaccination lasts, per Axios' Alison Snyder, Eileen Drage O'Reilly. It's also unknown whether people can have rare or delayed side effects, which could be detected in long-term trials with millions of participants.

COVID-19 has killed nearly 335,000 people and infected over 19.3 million in the U.S., per Johns Hopkins. Globally, almost 1.8 million people have lost their lives to the virus and nearly 81.3 million have tested positive.

Ryan said "the likely scenario" for the virus once brought under control is that it will "become another endemic virus that will remain somewhat of a threat, but a very low level threat in the context of an effective global vaccination program."

The Vast Majority Of Nursing Home Residents Remain Unvaccinated

Only about 14% of the roughly 2.5 million COVID-19 vaccine doses distributed to nursing home residents and staff have been administered, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The slower-than-ideal rollout illustrates the complexity of vaccinating what should be one of the easiest populations to reach — and one that remains extremely vulnerable to the virus. The federal government has partnered with CVS and Walgreens to administer vaccines to the vast majority of long-term care facilities.

CVS — which expects to vaccinate up to 4 million residents and staff at more than 40,000 facilities — began administering shots in 12 states the week of Dec. 21, and in another 36 states plus Washington, D.C. last week.

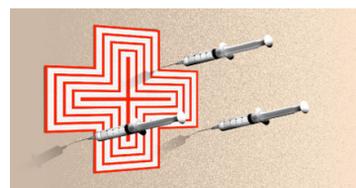


Illustration: Aida Amer/Axios

A CVS spokesman said the rollout is going largely according to plan: "We've encountered no delays, save for some difficulties in getting confirmation from facilities on clinic dates and requests to avoid vaccinating on or around the holidays."

And some states began vaccinations in a specific subset of long-term care facilities, the spokesman added. West Virginia opted out of the federal program, and Gov. Jim Justice said last week that every long-term care facility in the state now has doses in hand. "West Virginia is a smaller state, but this still speaks to the delays with the federal model when they are wrapping up the first round and many long-term care facilities in other states have yet to be even offered the vaccination," said David Grabowski, a health policy professor at Harvard. Vaccine hesitancy is a problem, especially among staff.

Last week, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine (R) said about 60% of the state's nursing home staffers who were offered the vaccine declined it, while 85% of nursing home residents have opted in.

Getting consent from residents "has also slowed things down," Grabowski said.

Every day nursing home residents remain unvaccinated is another day they're at risk of catching the virus that is circulating prolifically around the country. (Courtesy axios.com)



Editor's Choice



A supporter of President Trump carries a Confederate battle flag on the second floor of the Capitol Building in Washington. REUTERS/Mike Theiler



An explosion caused by a police munition at the Capitol Building in Washington. REUTERS/Leah Millis



Supporters of President Trump demonstrate on the second floor of the U.S. Capitol near the entrance to the Senate, January 6. REUTERS/Mike Theiler



Supporters of President Trump climb a wall at the Capitol Building in Washington. REUTERS/Stephanie Keith



People watch an outdoor movie screening while practicing social distancing in Singapore. REUTERS/Edgar Su



A U.S. Capitol police officer shoots pepper spray at a protestor attempting to enter the Capitol Building in Washington. Kevin Dietsch/Pool



Giraffes stand next to each other inside the Nairobi National Park, Kenya. REUTERS/Baz Ratner



Men jump into a lake to catch a wooden cross during Epiphany Day celebrations in Sofia, Bulgaria. REUTERS/Stoyan Nenov

The Challenge Of 2021: Vaccinating The World



Illustration: Aida Amer/Axios

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

Vaccinating the world will be perhaps the single greatest global challenge of 2021, and that process is now beginning in earnest.

If you're reading this in Europe, the U.S. or one of several other wealthy countries, you will probably have access to a vaccine in 2021. But if you're in a lower-income country, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, you could be waiting until 2023.

The first vaccines to gain regulatory approval in the West — from Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna — are bound almost exclusively for wealthy countries, at least in the near term.

Many rich countries have hedged their bets by buying enough doses of several different vaccine candidates to cover their populations even if some candidates aren't approved.

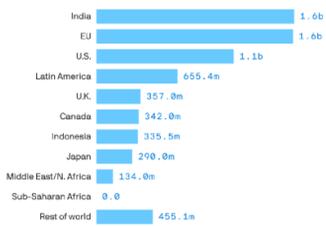
By the numbers

At least 7.7 billion vaccine doses have already been purchased, with another 3.9 billion reserved should countries or blocs

elect to expand their orders, according to Duke University's tracker.

- If you combine both categories, the U.S. has reserved nearly one-quarter of the global supply with 2.6 billion doses.
- Not a single country in sub-Saharan Africa has announced a deal to purchase vaccine doses, though Johnson & Johnson is aiming to produce 300 million doses in South Africa next year.

Confirmed doses of COVID-19 vaccines purchased by country or region



Data: Duke Global Health Innovation Center; **Chart:** Axios Visuals
It's not just that access to doses varies

wildly by income level — richer countries are also buying different vaccines than poorer ones.

- India is home to the world's largest vaccine manufacturer, and has sealed massive deals to begin to cover its population of nearly 1.4 billion.

- Those deals are with Novavax, which has yet to release efficacy data, and AstraZeneca, whose vaccine appears to be about 70% effective but is undergoing further evaluation and testing.

- The EU has purchased roughly the same number of doses but has a much more diversified portfolio. It includes 300 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine, the first shipments of which will begin on Thursday.

- Several developing countries have struck deals for just one vaccine candidate, often from Russia (as with Kazakhstan, Nepal and Venezuela) or China.

Breaking it down: A forecast from The Economist Intelligence Unit projects that the most fortunate countries — including the U.S., U.K., EU and Japan — will spend the first half of 2021 vaccinating priority groups and the second half of the year vaccinating the remainder of their populations.

- **In other high-income countries** — as well as in countries like China, Brazil, India and Russia that are producing or manufacturing vaccines at scale — mass vaccinations will begin next year but likely continue into early 2022.

- **Other middle-income countries** aren't expected to be able to vaccinate all high-priority groups until late 2021, with mass vaccinations continuing throughout 2022.

- **Low-income countries** that

can't afford to purchase doses in bulk will still be vaccinating high-priority groups into early 2022, with mass vaccinations continuing throughout 2023 and perhaps into 2024.



What to watch

There are a number of variables that could shift that outlook significantly in either direction.

- 1. Further announcements** on the safety, efficacy and scalability of additional vaccines, including those from Oxford/AstraZeneca, J&J, Novavax and Sanofi, which have together committed more than 2 billion doses to developing countries.

- 2. More news on Russia's Sputnik V vaccine** and on the several vaccines in development in China.

- 3. The ability to increase manufacturing capacity** in the developing world, and to build strong supply chains to ship and distribute doses globally.

- 4. The efficient distribution of unused doses** by rich countries to poorer ones.

- 5. The engagement of the Biden administration.** President-elect Biden has said he'll re-engage with the World Health Organization and restore America's global leadership, but he hasn't spoken about a U.S. role in global vaccine distribution.

State of play

The single biggest factor will be the success of the COVAX initiative, from the Gavi vaccine alliance, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and the WHO.

Driving the news: Those groups told reporters in a briefing on Friday that they're on track to meet their ambitious goal of ensuring at least 20% of the population in virtually every country on earth has access to a vaccine by the end of 2021.



The big picture: COVAX is the only route to a vaccine for dozens of countries, and wealthier participants will effectively subsidize their access.

What to watch: The aim for the first half of 2021 is to provide enough doses to all participant countries to cover frontline health and social care workers.

- Then comes the 20% wave, which is intended to reach the most vulnerable people in each country.

- Dr. Krishna Udayakumar, director of Duke's Global Health Innovation Center, says the 20% target will be very difficult to hit next year, and 60%-70% vaccination rates — the target for herd immunity — are unlikely before the end of 2022 even in a best-case scenario.

- Vaccinating the most vulnerable and combining vaccination with other public health measures to slow the spread will allow "a real reduction in death and disability but also really an uptick in economic activity," he adds. (Courtesy Axios.com)



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**《破角的春天》
流亡文学，或“去流亡化”的书写**

经验是想象力的出发点

马里奥·贝内德蒂于1920年9月14日出生，童年起就对文学感兴趣，后来他当了记者，做访谈，撰写旅行笔记和评论文章，担任过著名的《前进》周刊的文学主编，再后来，他创办了哈瓦那美洲之家文学研究中心，曾任教于乌拉圭共和国大学人关系。

贝内德蒂关心政治和民生。他于1960年在美期间加入支持古巴革命的知识分子团体，写作描写乌拉圭经济、政治和道德没落的作品——《麦草尾巴的国家》，踊跃地参与政治、军事活动，领导左翼政党“三月二十六日运动”。1973年6月27日，乌拉圭发生军事政变，贝内德蒂离开祖国，长达十二年流亡在外，辗转阿根廷、秘鲁、古巴和西班牙。

《破角的春天》出版于1982年，在乌拉圭公投前一个月。贝内德蒂写作这部小说时的心境，与聂鲁达写下诗歌时的心情，必定产生了共鸣。经验是想象力的出发点，是想象力通过奇妙的思维调和伸向虚构的跳板。回忆的线索经过作家精心的编造，构成具有独创性的文学活动，事件转化为文本的时候也经历了一番深刻的变动，从而获得更普遍的价值。

流亡，在名为“自由”的监狱

《破角的春天》是一部特别的多视角小说。主要人物包括圣地亚哥、圣地亚哥的妻子格蕾西拉、女儿贝阿

特丽丝、父亲拉斐尔和圣地亚哥的朋友即格蕾西拉的情人罗朗多。在圣地亚哥坐牢期间，拉斐尔带着格蕾西拉和贝阿特丽丝流亡异国，得到圣地亚哥旧友的照顾。这些人物的活动、对话、占很大分量的内心独白，构成小说的主干。独白是一种容易引起读者共感的方式，有助于理解人物各自的想法和立场。

书中还有一些斜体字的章节，这些章节是贝内德蒂自己真实经历的描述，或其他乌拉圭流亡者的遭遇的讲述，这部作品以虚实相间、相互印证的方式，完成了历史与叙事、记忆与书写的转化与表达，而真实经历像《破角的春天》这座虚构房屋的坚实地基，让整部作品更有现实感，更有力。不同人物、不同形式之间的自如跳转，表现了作者高超的写作技艺和语言的掌控能力。多线并发，组成复杂又清晰的全景图像。

圣地亚哥服刑的监狱名叫“自由”。这座监狱真的存在。乌拉圭大作家加莱亚诺曾经描述，那里关押着很多政治犯，气氛肃穆，未经允许不准说话、唱歌、吹口哨、打招呼。图书不能有鸟儿、情人、蝴蝶、星星、孕妇等图案，因为它们代表着希望、爱情、自由、光明与生命。监狱是剥夺自由的地方，名之为“自由”，是荒诞的现实，类似虚构的悖谬，不可理喻的证明。据说，有五岁的小女孩去“自由”探望父亲，她带着的图画是一株大树，树叶上画着一些圆圈，女孩悄悄告诉父亲，那是藏在叶间的鸟儿的眼睛。小说里，寄往“自由”的信件都要审查，人们发明一些暗语，小心翼翼地绕过暗礁，偶有消息传递成功，必须抑制喜悦，不可表露于外。

在墙内，独自一人，熬过一个又一个重复的日子。监狱生活的特性，空间的缩小和时间的延长，在圣地亚哥的感官里变得格外鲜明。月光是奢侈的，在最初两年里，连月亮都看不见，圣地亚哥仔细观察墙上的污迹，在污迹中想象面孔、动物、物体。对家人的思念，是他最深切的实在的拥有，他回忆与妻子的爱情，怀抱对

父亲的歉疚，想象他那出生不久就分离的小女孩的成长，担忧父亲的缺席会对她造成的影响。在冬夜里，他等待春天。

拉斐尔是一个典型的流亡知识分子的形象。作为圣地亚哥的引领者，与监狱之外的社会观察家，或者说，作为贝内德蒂本人的主要投射对象，拉斐尔有强烈的漂浮感，觉察到原生文化的风化与无法重组，但是，他在因流亡导致的“残疾，遍体鳞伤，身体的一部分被挖空了，并且失眠”的煎熬中依然不肯放弃：“我们这些老人都是灵车，……灵车还依然可以行驶的人，将帮助他们想起他们曾见过的东西，以及他们未曾见过的东西。”

格蕾西拉和罗朗多，代表了脱离家国之后的新一代移民的本地化，他们打算开启新的生活。流亡的原意是“跳到外面去”，跳跃进入新的生活，无可厚非。而且，也许，就像书中所说，融入另一种生活是对流亡最好的反抗。

新的社会，新的希望，更多地被寄予在贝阿特丽丝这一代人身上，尽管她与父亲从未谋面，在蒙昧的状态里，她已经在承袭，在探寻父亲与祖父的理想，什么是“政治犯”“自由”“祖国”“赦免”，为什么一个人在没有犯罪的情况下会被投入监狱，她以孩童的方式解释那些难以捉摸的貌似庞大实则空虚的概念，在词与词之间，女孩以自己的文体创造着世界。

去流亡化，不能朝现实关上大门
布罗茨基在《我们称之为“流亡”的状态，或曰浮起的橡胶》里写道：问题的实情在于，一个人脱离了专制，则只能流亡至民主。由于他前世的强烈，他能远比民主制度下的居民更强烈地体会到民主制度的社会优势和物质优势。然而，恰恰由于同样的原因（其主要的副产品是语言上的障碍），他发现自己完全无法在新社会中扮演任何一个有意义的角色。

拉斐尔想：我无法确定自己是否能够适应那个转变后的国家，那个此刻正在禁锢的密室中孕育的国家。是的，也许“去流亡化”会跟“流亡”

本身一样艰难。

去流亡化，一直是贝内德蒂写作的核心命题。

流亡，它表现为自由的特质，是向着自由而去的决心的履践。人在躯体上离开故乡，位移进入不同的文化语境，精神上也要经受洗礼和考验。流亡，在情感取向上，又指向怀旧的自我束缚。怀念之情帮助作家驻守在他的故园，在流亡的旅程中领悟往昔的可贵、命运的无常，流亡因此也常常会被浪漫化。但仅仅这样是不够的，作家还要思考自己的作用意义，反思性的怀旧的立足点是当下和未来，要探索国家和族群的潜在机遇和未完成的许诺。

卡彭铁尔说：“在拉丁美洲，小说是一种需要。”马尔克斯说：“不积极参与政治是一种罪过。”贝内德蒂说：“不能朝现实关上大门，如果天真地试图把它关在门外，也不过是白费力气，因为现实会从窗户跳进来。”在拉丁美洲，写作与政治，从来无法分开，也不能分开。

在《百年孤独》《族长的秋天》等作品里，马尔克斯用一种我们称之为“魔幻现实主义”的手法塑造独裁者，贝内德蒂的写作遵循传统的现实主义路径，注重描摹生活细节场景，在写实的基础上作结构、形式的创新与对人物内心的深入刻画。贝内德蒂的另外两部小说《休战》、《感谢火》，都借助主人公的观察和感受呈现碎片化的日常，也都曾经被批评为琐碎与庸碌，贝内德蒂在拉美作家中长期被低估，在近年来的文学回归潮流里，他的重要性方才日渐凸显。

1973年政变之后，乌拉圭成为全世界政治犯密度最高的国家。这就是乌拉圭的现实，现实比小说更魔幻。《破角的春天》所表现的表现，将一个家庭的分离与国家的问题熔为一炉。作品更以文学的形式揭示了，人类总是监禁和流亡在自身之内的困境。虚构小说是拉美民族的私人历史，它比故事走得更远，也比历史走得更远，它赋予全人类一道分享的崇高与不幸。

它说：“没人能将春天从我的手中夺走。”

《破角的春天》

作者：(乌拉圭) 马里奥·贝内德蒂
译者：欧阳石晓

1948年1月13日，智利诗人聂鲁达做了反对维德拉军政府的演讲，此后不久，为了躲避刺杀被迫流亡，经历“盲鼠的一年”，东躲西藏，落脚墨西哥。

聂鲁达写过一首诗：现在，春天，请告诉我有什么用，对谁有用，幸好我还记得/你有什么用/我觉得是用来拯救落在任何一口深井里的人/那个词本身即是青春的仪式/对谁有用，好吧，依我拙见，你对生活有用/比如，我只需念出“春天”这个词，就会感到生命力、勇气和活力。

这首诗出现在乌拉圭作家马里奥·贝内德蒂的小说《破角的春天》临近结尾处。被关押五年之后终获释放，圣地亚哥在飞机上祷告，轻轻念出“春天”这个词，他想：春天就像一面镜子，但我的那一面有一个角破了/那是不可避免的，在经历了无比充实的五年之后它不可能保持完整/即便有一个角破了，镜子也依然可以用，春天也依然有用。