



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to News@scdaily.com or contact John Robbins 281-965-6390 Jun Gai 281-498-4310

Publisher: Wea H. Lee President: Catherine Lee Editor: John Robbins

Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072 E-mail: News@scdaily.com



Inside C2

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Motive in Georgia spa shootings may not be race, but Asian-Americans fearful

ATLANTA (Reuters) - A Georgia man facing murder and assault charges after the fatal shootings of eight people, including six Asian women, at Atlanta-area spas indicated he had sexual addiction issues and may have not been motivated by racial hatred, authorities said on Wednesday.

Tuesday's killings have intensified fears in Asian-American communities around the United States that have been the target of some attacks since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic a year ago. It also was the latest gun violence in the United States with numerous deaths.

The 21-year-old suspect, Robert Aaron Long, was charged with four counts of murder and one count of aggravated assault, the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office said. Long was being held in the county about 40 miles (64 km) north of Atlanta, Georgia's capital.

Officials said Long indicated he may have frequented the spas where Tuesday's violence occurred, although authorities could not immediately confirm whether he visited any of them. Long was heading to Florida when he was apprehended, perhaps to carry out further shootings, authorities said.

"The suspect did take responsibility for the shooting," Captain Jay Baker of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department told a news conference.

"These locations, he sees them as an outlet for him, something that he shouldn't be doing," Baker said. "It's a temptation for him that he wanted to eliminate."

Long lived in Woodstock, Georgia, and attended Crabapple First Baptist Church in Milton, an Atlanta suburb. A mug shot of Long released by authorities showed a white man with a long and scraggly brown beard.

It was not clear if the suspect visited spas for sex.

"This is still an ongoing investigation and at this time we cannot answer any questions pertaining to the businesses, nor services that any of these locations



were offering during or before this incident took place," Officer C.J. Johnson of the Atlanta Police Department said in a statement.

RELATED COVERAGE

U.S. President Joe Biden said he was briefed by the U.S. attorney general and FBI director on the shootings.

"The question of motivation is still to be determined," Biden told reporters at the White House.

The advocacy group Stop AAPI Hate has said the rise appeared to result from Asians and Asian-Americans being blamed for the pandemic, which originated in China. Former President Donald Trump called the novel coronavirus the "China virus," the "China plague" or even the "kung flu."

'LIVING WITH FEAR'

"There is still a lot unknown about this but one thing is clear: the Asian-American community already has been living with fear for the last year because of racism," lawyer John Yang, who worked in former President Barack Obama's administration, posted on Twitter on Tuesday night. "These murders will intensify that fear."

The bloodshed began about 5 p.m. on Tuesday when four people were killed and another was wounded at Young's Asian Massage in Cherokee County, Baker said. Two women of Asian descent were among the dead there, along with a white woman and a white man, Baker said. The surviving victim was a Hispanic

man.

Slideshow (5 images) In Atlanta, police officers responding to a call of a "robbery in progress" shortly before 6 p.m. arrived at the Gold Spa beauty salon and found three women shot dead, Police Chief Rodney Bryant told reporters.

While investigating the initial report, the officers were called to a separate spa across the street where another woman was found dead from a gunshot wound, Bryant said. All four women killed in Atlanta were of Asian descent.

Long was spotted in southern Georgia, far from the crime scenes, after police in Cherokee County issued a bulletin. He was arrested without incident after a highway pursuit, law enforcement officials said.

His arraignment is scheduled for Thursday, they said.



White House says Trump administration rhetoric on COVID has elevated threats against Asian-Americans Dimon condemns racism against Asian Americans after shootings: memo U.S. authorities were trying to determine whether the attacks were inspired by an anti-immigrant or anti-Asian motivation or some personal grievance.

"But whatever the motivation here I know that Asian-Americans are very concerned."

A report by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism this month showed that hate crimes against Asian-Americans in 16 major U.S. cities rose by 149% from 2019 to 2020, a period where overall hate crimes dropped 7%.

敬請關注我們的新媒體賬號 Follow us on social media



Southern News 美南新聞



公共頁 美南網



今日頭條 美國美南網



抖音 美國美南網



美國美南網



Facebook Page: Southern News 美南新聞



Tik Tok ID: Southern News Group



Instagram ID: Southern News

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

CORONAVIRUS DIARY 03/17/2021



Wea H. Lee
Wealee@scdaily.com

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



We Are Now Facing A New Challenge

After more than a one year ordeal and much suffering time, we are finally getting out of the woods. But we are now facing economic and discrimination issues and the pandemic is changing our community in many ways,

When the pandemic hit our community last year, President Trump called the virus a "China virus" and the whole nation was full of an anti-Asian and Chinese atmosphere and the attacks were happening all over the country.

The leading Chinese organization, The Committee of 100, sponsored a virtual meeting to discuss how to protect our community and wants the federal government to enforce the law against



any discrimination case.

We are also ready to organize a virtual community round table meeting to discuss all the

problems we are facing today. The first meeting will be to discuss how to help local businesses apply for financial help through the SBA with the passing of the \$1.9 trillion Rescue Bill.

We all hope this is the light at the end of the tunnel. Now we all need to be united and help each other to work for better tomorrow.



Southern
DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



A City of Atlanta police officer works at the scene outside of Gold Spa after deadly shootings at a massage parlor and two day spas in Atlanta, Georgia. REUTERS/Chris Aluka Berry



A general view shows a section of the border wall in El Paso, Texas, U.S., during a sandstorm, as seen from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. REUTERS/Jose Luis Gonzalez



Ariana Lamcellari, 4, holds a sign at a protest against violence, following the charge of a British Director Christopher Nolan sits in an AMC cinema while waiting to watch 'Judas and the Black Messiah', the first screening on the theater's reopening day in Burbank, California. REUTERS/Clodagh Kilcoyne



A man receives a dose of Sputnik V (Gam-COVID-Vac) vaccine against the coronavirus in a carriage of the Academician Fyodor Uglov medical train, at a railway station in the town of Tulun in Irkutsk Region, Russia. REUTERS/Evgeny Kozyrev



Esther tries on new shoes as she picks up which one to wear for school, a day before her return to school after the coronavirus restrictions were adjusted, in Louisville, Kentucky. REUTERS/Amira Karaoud

COVID-19 Global Pandemic Roundup
03/18/2021



Public transport has been suspended in Shijiazhuang, (Photo/China Image: REUTERS)

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

Leading The News

China Reports Biggest Daily COVID-19 Cases In Over 5 Months



SHANGHAI/BEIJING (Reuters) - Mainland China saw its biggest daily increase in COVID-19 cases in over five months, the country's health authority said on Monday, as new infections in Hebei province surrounding Beijing continued to rise. A county in northeastern Heilongjiang province on Monday moved into lockdown after reporting new coronavirus infections, state television also reported separately. Hebei accounted for 82 of the 85 new local

infections reported on Jan. 10, the National Health Commission (NHC) said in a statement, with Liaoning province also reporting two new cases and Beijing reporting one new case. The country also saw 18 new imported infections from overseas. The total number of new COVID-19 cases stood at 103, the highest since 127 cases were reported on July 30.



Though the recent case tallies remain a small fraction of what the country saw at the height of the outbreak in early 2020, authorities are moving aggressively to curb its spread to avoid

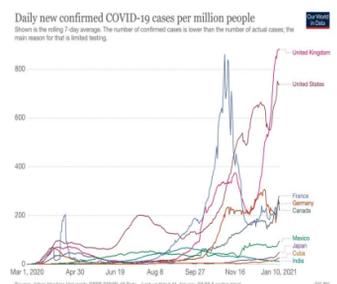
another national wave of infections. The surge comes as the World Health Organization's team of investigators probing the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic are set to arrive in China on Thursday. The NHC, which announced their arrival date on Monday, declined to provide the team's itinerary.

The Pandemic Around The World
How COVID-19 is affecting the globe
Confirmed cases of COVID-19 have now passed 90.2 million globally, according to the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center. The number of confirmed deaths stands at more than 1.93 million. **Indonesia** has extended a ban on foreign visitors for a further 14 days, in an effort to control the transmission of the coronavirus. **Oil prices** have fallen, as a result of concerns about global demand in the face of restrictions in Europe and new measures in parts of China to tackle the coronavirus. **Mexico** has reported more than 10,000 new COVID-19 cases - although the real number is likely to be much higher, officials say. Authorities have also confirmed the presence of the new variant first seen in Britain in the north of the country.



The new variant has also been detected in the port city of **Marseille and in the Alps**, according to French authorities. **The UK** is opening seven large-scale vaccination centres today, to help accelerate the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine. **Israel** has begun to roll out COVID-19 vaccine booster shots, as three weeks have passed since the start of the country's inoculation programme. **Belgium's** death toll from COVID-19 has reached 20,000 - one of the highest per capita in the world. Authorities in **Cuban capital Havana** have announced

new measures to control COVID-19 infections, including a suspension of interprovincial travel, use of some public spaces and other activities.



2. China sees biggest daily COVID-19 case rise in over five months

Mainland China has seen its biggest daily increase in COVID-19 cases in more than 5 months, according to the national health authority. Of the 85 new local infections reported on 10 January, 82 were in Hebei province. Eighteen new imported infections were also reported, with the 103 total the highest since 127 new cases were reported on 30 July. Authorities have moved quickly in an attempt to halt the spread of the virus, with a lockdown introduced in Shijiazhuang, Hebei's capital. People and vehicles are barred from leaving the city, with public transport also halted.

3. COVAX secures 2 billion vaccine doses
COVAX, which aims to secure equitable global access to vaccines, has secured 2 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines, World Health Organization Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Friday. It also has first refusal on an additional 1 billion doses. But, he warned that high and middle-income countries continue to buy up vaccines. "This potentially bumps up the price for everyone and means high-risk people in the poorest and most marginalized countries don't get the vaccine," he said.

A Tweet From the WHO

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
@DrTedros
Jan 10



Vaccine nationalism hurts us all and is self-defeating.
I urge #COVID19 vaccine manufacturers to prioritise supply through COVAX; countries that have contracts for more vaccines than they need should donate them to COVAX immediately & stop making bilateral deals. COVAX is ready. The time to deliver vaccines equitably is now!
Let's show our respect & appreciation for health & care workers by protecting each other & vaccinating ALL #healthworkers EVERYWHERE now. Ending the #COVID19 pandemic is one of humanity's great races & whether we like it or not, we will win or lose this race together. #ACTogether
(Courtesy weforum.org)



Stay Home!

COMMUNITY

Wear Mask!

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.



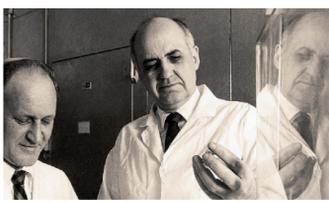
Students sick with the 1957 "Asian flu" lie in

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.

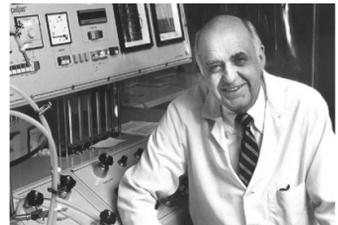
"That's the only time we ever averted a pandemic with a vaccine," Hilleman recalled.

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/)