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Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Biden and Xi clash over Taiwan in Bali but Cold War fears cool

NUSA DUA, Indonesia, Nov 14 (Reuters) - U.S. President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping engaged in blunt talks over Taiwan and North Korea on Monday in a three-hour meeting aimed at preventing strained U.S.-China ties from spilling into a new Cold War.

Amid simmering differences on human rights, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and support of domestic industry, the two leaders pledged more frequent communications. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken will travel to Beijing for follow-up talks.

"We're going to compete vigorously. But I'm not looking for conflict, I'm looking to manage this competition responsibly," Biden said after his talks with Xi on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Indonesia.

Beijing has long said it would bring the self-governed island of Taiwan, which it views as an inalienable part of China, under its control and has not ruled out the use of force to do so. It has frequently accused the United States in recent years of encouraging Taiwan independence.

Zelenskiy, visiting Kherson, vows to drive Russia from all of Ukraine

In a statement after their meeting, Xi called Taiwan the "first red line" that must not be crossed in U.S.-China relations, Chinese state media said.

Biden said he sought to assure Xi that U.S. policy on Taiwan, which has for decades been to support both Beijing's "One China" stance and Taiwan's military, had not changed.

He said there was no need for a new Cold War, and that he did not think China was planning a hot one.

"I do not think there's any imminent attempt on the part of China to invade Taiwan," he told reporters. On North Korea, Biden expressed doubt that Beijing could rein in Pyongyang's weapons programmes, and said the United States could do more to protect U.S. allies in the region. He did not elaborate.

"We would have to take certain actions that would be more defensive on our behalf, and it would not be directed against... China, but it would be to send a clear message to North Korea. We are going to defend our allies, as well as American soil and American capacity," he said.

Beijing had halted a series of formal dialogue channels with Washington, including on climate change and military-to-military talks, after U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi upset China by visiting Taiwan in August.

Biden and Xi agreed to allow senior officials to renew communication on climate, debt relief and other issues, the White House said after they spoke.

Xi's statement after the talks included pointed warnings on Taiwan.

"The Taiwan question is at the very core of China's core interests, the bedrock of the political foundation of China-U.S. relations, and the first red line that must not be crossed in China-U.S.



relations," Xi was quoted as saying by Xinhua news agency.

"Resolving the Taiwan question is a matter for the Chinese and China's internal affair," Xi said, according to state media. Taiwan's democratically elected government rejects Beijing's claims of sovereignty over it.

Taiwan's presidential office said it welcomed Biden's reaffirmation of U.S. policy. "This also once again fully demonstrates that the peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait is the common expectation of the international community," it said.

SMILES AND HANDSHAKES

Before their talks, the two leaders smiled and shook hands warmly in front of their national flags at a hotel on Indonesia's Bali island, a day before a Group of 20 (G20) summit set to be fraught with tension over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"It's just great to see you," Biden told Xi, as he put an arm around him before their meeting.

Biden brought up a number of difficult topics with Xi, according to the White House, including raising U.S. objections to China's "coercive and increasingly aggressive actions toward Taiwan," Beijing's "non-market economic practices," and practices in "Xinjiang, Tibet, and Hong Kong, and human rights more broadly."

Neither leader wore a mask to ward off COVID-19, although members of their delegations did.

U.S.-China relations have been roiled in recent years by growing tensions over issues ranging from Hong Kong and Taiwan to the South China Sea,

trade practices, and U.S. restrictions on Chinese technology.

But U.S. officials said there have been quiet efforts by both Beijing and Washington over the past two months to repair relations.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen told reporters in Bali earlier that the meeting aimed to stabilise the relationship and to create a "more certain atmosphere" for U.S. businesses.

She said Biden had been clear with China about national security concerns regarding restrictions on sensitive U.S. technologies and had raised concern about the reliability of Chinese supply chains for commodities.

Biden and Xi, who have spoken on five phone or video calls since January 2021, last met in person during the Obama administration when Biden was vice president.

G20 summit host President Joko Widodo of Indonesia said he hoped the gathering on Tuesday could "deliver concrete partnerships that can help the world in its economic recovery".

However, one of the main topics at the G20 will be Russia's war in Ukraine.

Xi and Putin have grown close in recent years, bound by their shared distrust of the West, and reaffirmed their partnership just days before Russia invaded Ukraine. But China has been careful not to provide any direct material support that could trigger Western sanctions against it.



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: 黃梅子



主持人: 陳鐵梅



主持人: 王潔



主持人: 馬健



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主持人: 蓋軍

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

11/12/2022

We Are So Grateful That ITC Is Becoming Stronger

More than 600 of our friends got together and attended the 20th anniversary of our International Trade Center, including former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao.

Forty-five years ago we came to Texas and went to Beaumont, Texas, and attended Lamer University. After we got our masters degree, for our first stop we came to Houston. Since 1979 we have published the first Chinese newspaper in the area and we really have adopted Houston as our home. Today as we celebrate the ITC birthday, time really just flies. We can't imagine how much the community has changed into a multi-cultural city, and we still have many people continuing to move here.

We are so glad that so many old friends have continued to help us serve the community.

We are so grateful that most of our friends can now get together tonight since it has not been possible because of the pandemic over the last couple of years.

The International Trade Center will continue to expand our services to local businesses to connect to the world.



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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



Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



A demonstrator stands outside the vandalized building of the farmer's union during a protest as part of a general strike demanding that authorities hold a census next year before elections in 2025, in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. REUTERS/Andrea Martinez



U.S. President Joe Biden meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G20 leaders' summit in Bali, Indonesia. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque



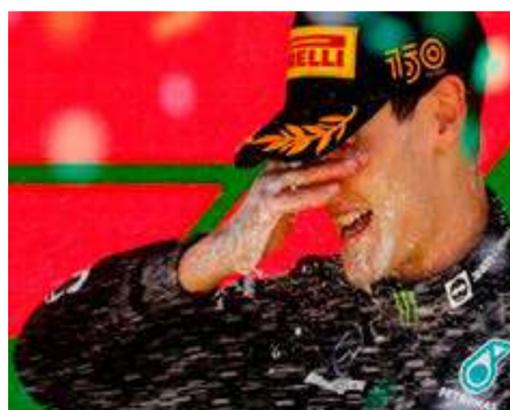
Local residents celebrate after Russia's retreat from Kherson, in central Kherson, Ukraine. REUTERS/Yevhenii Zavhorodnii



U.S. Congressman-elect Maxwell Frost (D-FL) takes a selfie with other newly elected representatives at the AFL-CIO union headquarters in Washington. REUTERS/Michael A. McCoy



Ryan, a 10 year old youth migrant traveling without an adult, is helped onto the bank being smuggled across the Rio Grande river from Mexico into Roma, Texas. REUTERS/Adrees Latif



Mercedes' George Russell celebrates on the podium after winning the Brazilian Grand Prix. REUTERS/Amanda Perobelli

The \$16 TRILLION Bug — Pandemic May Cost U.S. Economy Total Annual Output



George Washington is seen with printed medical mask on the dollar banknote. (Photo/ © Reuters /File Photo)

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

The U.S. economy may lose a whopping \$16 trillion due to the devastating impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, both in output and people's lives, new research has found. While most studies assess the costs of the deadly virus by its impact on the national gross domestic product (GDP), a paper published in the Journal of the American Medical Association earlier this week offered a different approach. The authors of the study — former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers and Harvard University economist David Cutler — also took into account losses associated with those who have died due to the virus, in addition to the purely economic costs. With the number of coronavirus infections in the US nearing eight million and deaths surpassing 215,000, the researchers believe that the outbreak may result in an estimated 625,000 cumulative deaths in the country through next year. Given the theoretical "conservative value of \$7 million per life," premature deaths linked to the coronavirus could wipe out nearly \$4.4 trillion, according to their calculations. The virus is believed to have long-term effects on health, especially for survivors with severe or critical disease. As those complications lead

to increased risk of premature death, they also have far-reaching consequences for the entire economy, with losses amounting to another \$2.6 trillion for cases forecast through the next year, the authors noted.



Even those who did not contact the deadly virus could also be affected by it, the paper adds. Suffering caused by the possible death of loved ones, as well as the effects of isolation and loneliness, may lead to deteriorating mental health conditions. This also takes its toll on the economy, which could lose approximately \$1.6 trillion due to mental health impairment, according to the research. The rest of the losses — nearly half of the total — are associated with a drop in income due to the coronavirus-triggered recession. The authors cited a previous estimate from the Congressional Budget Office, which projects a total of \$7.6 trillion in

lost output during the next decade. "The economic loss is more than twice the total monetary outlay for all the wars the US has fought since September 11, 2001, including those in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria," the study reads. "The total cost is estimated at more than \$16 trillion, or approximately 90% of the annual gross domestic product of the US," it concludes, adding that the estimated loss for a family of four would reach nearly \$200,000.

The paper comes as US lawmakers debate another stimulus package, set to mitigate damage from the virus. The research stressed that any such economic relief should allocate at least five percent of the funds for increased testing and contact tracing, as an investment of approximately \$6 million leads to averted costs of an estimated \$176 million.



"Increased investment in testing and contact tracing could have economic benefits that are at least 30 times greater than the estimated costs of the investment in these approaches," the study said. It added that financial support for health measures should not be dismantled even when the concerns about the pandemic begin to recede.

Related

U.S. Employers Cut Record 2 MILLION JOBS As Coronavirus Batters Economy



The Hollywood sign in Los Angeles, California. (File Photo/ US © Reuters / P.T. Fallon)

Job cuts announced by US employers have hit nearly 2 million so far this year, with the entertainment industry accounting for 40 percent of total layoffs, according to global outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas. In its report published on Thurs-

day, the company said that last month's layoffs in the US were down 56 percent from July, but still 116 percent higher than at the same period one year ago. August job cuts of nearly 116,000 lifted the total number of this year's layoffs to 1,963,458. The number has already broken the previous record for the whole of 2001, when US-based employers announced a total of 1,956,876 cuts.

Most of the jobs — nearly 800,000 — vanished from the entertainment sector so far this year, followed by firms operating in retail and services. In August, entertainment and leisure companies, including bars, restaurants, hotels, and amusement parks, posted the second-highest number with 17,271 job cuts.

Air and transport companies downsized their staff even more last month. According to the report, 26,545 job cuts were announced in the struggling sector — 59 percent lower than in the previous month, but 647 percent higher than in August 2019.

"The leading sector for job cuts last month was transportation, as airlines begin to make staffing decisions in the wake of decreased travel and uncertain federal intervention," said Andrew Challenger, senior vice president at Challenger, Gray & Christmas. "An increasing number of companies that initially had temporary job cuts or furloughs are now making them permanent."

The coronavirus pandemic is still battering the US labor market. According to the latest Labor Department data, seasonally adjusted initial claims for jobless benefits for the week ending August 29 stood at 881,000. While it is around 130,000 down from the previous week's totals, it is only the second time the number of new jobless claims dropped below 1 million since the pandemic hit in March.

U.S. Economy Suffers Sharpest Drop Ever As GDP Crashes Nearly 32% During Coronavirus Peak



The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)

(File Photo © Reuters / B. McDermid) In the worst plunge ever recorded, the US economy contracted by 31.7 percent in the second quarter at the height of the Covid-19 crisis, according to revised data released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis on Thursday.

The latest US gross domestic product (GDP) reading is slightly better than the estimate issued last month, when the agency said that the world's largest economy shrank at an annual rate of 32.9 percent in the April-June period.

Despite the upward revision, based on better than previously estimated private inventory investment and personal consumption expenditures (PCE), the GDP drop is still the sharpest on record. The previous worst quarterly drop since tracking began in 1947 was observed in the first three months of 1958, when GDP fell 10 percent on an annualized basis.



In the worst plunge ever recorded, the U.S. economy contracted by 31.7 percent in the second quarter.

The plunge came as most business activities were paralyzed for weeks, and millions of Americans lost their jobs amid strict stay-at-home orders to contain the spread of the deadly virus. Despite having the highest number of coronavirus infections, the US gradually lifted lockdowns, possibly paving the way for partial recovery in the next quarter.

However, there are concerns that a second wave of Covid-19 may come this fall, further disrupting the economy.

"The full economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic cannot be quantified in the GDP estimate for the second quarter of 2020 because the impacts are generally embedded in source data and cannot be separately identified," the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) said. (Courtesy www.rt.com/business)

COMMUNITY

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.

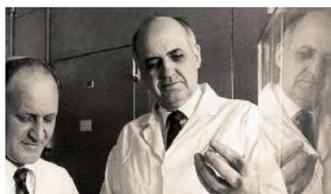


Students sick with the 1957 "Asian flu" lie in

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 101 The 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.

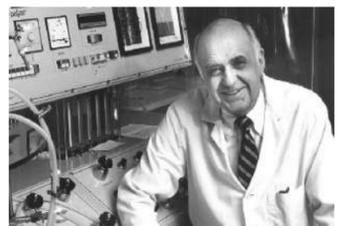
"That's the only time we ever averted a pandemic with a vaccine," Hilleman recalled.

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/)