



### BNU TO OPEN BRANCH IN HENGQIN IN 2016

BNU plans to open a branch on Hengqin Island aiming to support services for Macau corporate entities interested in doing business there

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### GARBAGE INCREASES DURING HUNGRY GHOST FESTIVAL

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### ST. REGIS MACAO TO OPEN DECEMBER 17

The St. Regis Macao, a luxury hotel located in the fourth tower of Sands Cotai Central, is scheduled to open in mid December

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## WORLD BRIEFS

**CHINA** A sinkhole in a northeastern Chinese city swallowed five people in a dramatic scene that was captured on security video and shared widely on Chinese social media. A provincial broadcaster said four people were injured in the Saturday incident in the provincial capital of Harbin. The surveillance camera video shows pedestrians walking or standing on the sidewalk when it suddenly gave in. Three people fell straight into the hole, while a woman clung to pipes just underneath the sidewalk. Another person standing on the edge fell sideways into the hole.

**AUSTRALIA** A Sydney man accused of recruiting foreign fighters to battle the Syrian regime lost a court challenge yesterday to the Australian law that he was charged with breaking. Hamdi Alqudsi, 41, was charged under the Crime (Foreign Incursions and Recruitment) Act 1978 after he allegedly helped seven men go to Syria between June and October in 2013 so they could fight for Jabhat al-Nusra and other al-Qaida affiliates.



**SOUTH SUDAN** A spokesman for rebels in South Sudan expressed doubt yesterday that President Salva Kiir is committed to a peace deal he signed the previous day. There were no reports of fighting yesterday. While rebel and opposition leader Riek Machar is happy that Kiir signed the compromise agreement, the long list of reservations cited by Kiir signals "a lack of commitment," said James Gatdet Dak, a spokesman for Machar.

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weekend Guide

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## AUDIT REPORT

## Subsidy schemes 'to be amended,' Tam's word

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Mr Alexis Tam, pledged "to amend the assessment procedures of subsidizing schemes for underprivileged individuals and families," a note from the Government Information Bureau reads. The pledge was made following a report released by the Commission of Audit, which indicated irregularities of the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) in handling subsidy applications. Secretary Tam has instructed IAS to systemize its assessment standard, and to make appropriate changes to subsidy verification methods and allocation mechanisms in the following 60 days.

## Current account recorded a 'large surplus' last year

The current account continued to register "a large surplus at MOP169.5 billion in 2014 due to net service exports. Meanwhile, the financial non-reserve assets, the dominant component of the financial account, showed a net increase of MOP97.1 billion mainly driven by recurrent growth in foreign financial assets of residents and the government sector," the Monetary Authority (AMCM) announced yesterday in the preliminary balance of payments report. Exports of goods leaped by 19.7% year-on-year and imports of goods increased by 15.5%. With a much larger basis of imports than exports, the merchandise trade deficit enlarged from MOP85.4 billion in 2013 to MOP98.2 billion in 2014. On the other hand, said the AMCM note, "both service exports and service imports decreased in 2014, falling by 0.9% and 10.5%, respectively. As service imports dropped by a larger magnitude, the services account continued to record an increasing surplus, up from MOP333.4 billion in 2013 to MOP339.4 billion in 2014."

## War correspondent's 1937 photos on show

A photo exhibition of Fong Dazeng, the late war correspondent at Lugou Bridge Incident, will open at the Macao Forum. The exhibition will feature the then-25-year old journalist's news reports and photographs that recorded the history of the Chinese National Revolutionary Army's battle against the Japanese in July 7, 1937 at Lugou Bridge (also known as the Marco Polo Bridge). The Incident is seen as the marker for the start of China's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression that lasted eight years between 1937 and 1941. Organized by the Macao Media Workers Association and the Chinese Educators Association of Macau, the exhibition will run up until September 2.

Catarina Pinto

**B**NU'S initial plan to open a branch on Hengqin Island features support services for Macau corporate entities interested in doing business there, said the bank's executive director Ronald Kan. He confirmed that BNU is looking to open a branch on Hengqin Island in the second half of 2016.

On the sidelines of a ceremony to launch the bank's triple currency credit card yesterday, Mr Kan clarified that BNU is still in talks with mainland and Macau authorities about the possibility of opening a branch in Hengqin.

The bank already owns a representative office in mainland China, and thus would be allowed to directly open a branch in Hengqin without having to first open a representative office.

"BNU set up a representative office in Shanghai about ten years ago (...) so when we were in talks with authorities [we concluded that] they consider that enough. Hopefully our branch will be approved and launched in the second half of next year," he said.

Mr Kan recalled that, "we have seen many Macau companies moving to Hengqin, so they're very interested [in our plan]. BNU sees this potential, and we are applying to set up a branch there. So our aim is to support Macau industries in their moves across the border."

BNU's initial business plan focuses on supporting the corporate entities of

## BNU seeking to open Hengqin branch in second half of 2016



Ronald Kan

Macau. "We are not being too aggressive, saying we would like to move everything to Hengqin overnight. We prefer to go step-by-step, but do it safely and comfortably," he promised.

He stressed that BNU is required to follow China's banking laws and liaise with authorities in Macau and the mainland, in particular with China's Banking Regulatory Commission.

Hengqin is now BNU's focus, while its Shanghai operations will remain as they currently are. According to Mr Kan, the bank has no plans to turn the representative office into a branch.

Asked whether the bank has to go through a similar process to set up a branch at the University of Macau's Hengqin campus, Mr Kan clarified that they're not required to follow an appli-

cation process but that UM management has to give their green light to the project.

"The Hengqin campus is under Macau's jurisdiction, so we don't need [to make any] special arrangements to open a branch there. BNU holds a very strong interest in setting up a branch there but it's not a decision that can be made solely by BNU," he recalled.

Mr Kan added that if UM management allows them to open a branch they will not hesitate to move forward.

"We are still in talks but there's no application process involved. It's not because we're having difficulties, but because they have procedures that they need to follow," he conceded.

China's economic turmoil is unlikely to have a great impact on BNU since the bank has no investments in the mainland, according to Mr Kan. He concluded by saying, "We are not being affected. Customers that do have investments in China or Hong Kong may have their fingers burned, but it's too early to tell."

## BNU launches triple currency credit card

**B**ANCO Nacional Ultramarino (BNU) and UnionPay have launched a triple currency credit card specifically designed for customers who often travel between Macau, Hong Kong and mainland China, as well as to overseas countries.

"It is the only 'triple currency' credit card in Macau allowing cardholders to spend [their money] in mainland China, Macau and Hong Kong and settle in RMB, MOP, and HKD respectively," BNU said. Moreover, foreign transaction fees on spending in all other overseas countries are waived.

According to a statement made by Carl-

son Li, general manager of UnionPay, at BNU's press conference yesterday, the bank is a good partner and the triple currency credit card will significantly improve cardholders' experiences.

BNU's executive director, Ronald Kan, highlighted some of the card's advantages: "when customers use their cards in mainland China and Hong Kong, spending is billed in RMB and HKD respectively, thus eliminating all exchange rate fluctuation." Furthermore, he said that customers who hold a RMB, MOP and HKD bank account could use a simple auto-pay method to settle their credit card bills.

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DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela  
CHINA & FOREIGN EDITOR Vanessa Moore vanessa@macaudailytimes.com

DESIGN EDITOR João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, António Espadinha Soares, Brook Yang, Catarina Pinto, Cyril Law, Emille Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Philips, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Riscion, Keith Ip, Renato Marques (photographer), Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Sum Choi, Viviana Segui | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Lusa News Agency, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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**MORE GARBAGE DURING HUNGRY GHOST FESTIVAL**

# Civic Affairs Bureau issues 135 warnings and eight fines

**T**HE Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) has issued 135 warnings and eight fines to residents who violated fire safety and public space regulations when performing Hungry Ghost Festival rituals.

According to local folk tradition, a person's spirit continues to live in the underworld after they have passed away, and the person therefore still has "material needs and desires" for things such as accommodation and entertainment. By burning sacrificial offerings, the living descendants hope that their ancestors are able to receive them in the underworld.

Prior to the Hungry Ghost Festival taking place yesterday, the Fire Services Bureau had received 22 fire alerts and requests for help attributed to the burning of joss papers be-



tween August 14 and 26.

The IACM also dispatched 13 inspectors during the past few nights, where it found remaining paper and fruit offerings left discarded in the street. As of Tuesday, 135

residents had received a warning and eight were prosecuted and fined MOP600.

Head of the IACM's Division of Environmental Hygiene, Ho Peng Hung, acknowledged that the remains left behind

by residents burning paper sacrificial offerings generated two more tons of garbage than usual, and that the cleaning company collected even more in areas such as North Taipa, Fai Chi Kei and the Northern District.

Mr Ho told TDM that "burning paper sacrificial offerings in the street is a local tradition and is permitted by the General Regulations Governing Public Space. However, residents still need to abide by the regulations, including choosing an appropriate location to ignite the joss papers and only burning them inside an iron bucket."

"Residents also should clean up the remains after the ritual; they normally do, but in some locations the situation is left unchecked. Therefore we need to follow up with public education and law enforcement," he explained. **BY**

## Redemption for zodiac banknote to start on August 31

**T**HE Monetary Authority (AMCM) reminded subscribers of popular zodiac banknotes to adhere to their reserved dates to redeem their banknotes of choice after the online registration period just closed.

Registrants have to go to their preferred bank with their identity card during business hours from August 31 to November 20 for redemption.

For those unavailable to redeem the notes themselves, they may entrust another individual through authorization, said the AMCM.

The package of the banknotes include four types, which are dragon, snake, horse and goat. For more information, visit [www.amcm.gov.mo](http://www.amcm.gov.mo).

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Mr Chiang Chong Fai, People's Alliance



Mr Chu Wai Man, Macao Water

## Citizens push for regulation to govern secondary water supply

**I**N light of Hong Kong's high-profile discovery of lead-contaminated drinking water followed by the local government's response of testing the water quality in public housing, the civil group Macau Institution of People's Alliance yesterday explored in its regular forum the necessity of introducing specific regulations targeting the secondary water supply in the region.

Given that the existing law governing water supply does not cover the water quality inside of either public or pri-

ivate buildings, guest speaker Chiang Chong Fai, who presides over the Macao Association of Consumers of Public Utility Companies, told media that many citizens believe that the government has a vital role in overseeing the region's water supply into the future.

"Everyone'd be so delighted to see the tap water at home up to scratch," he said. "Yet is such a thing possible?"

The authorities have previously explained that their limited manpower makes it impossible to address such

demands, which require additional resources for the considerable workload involved therein. Chiang accepted these reasons, yet expressed his desire to see official guidelines come out to instruct locals on how to maintain their own water supplies.

"How can the government guarantee the water coming from household faucets has passed the standards in light of its capabilities?" he questioned. "Yet does this mean the authorities don't have to take care of the water quality therein?"

The president noted that the prevalent concerns among those who had no idea of quality standards and inspections prior to the incident in Hong Kong were always regarding a lack of support from the government, which he thought should take the initiative to offer assistance.

Regarding whether or not the materials used for the region's underground water pipelines might taint the water they carry, Chu Wai Man, Deputy General Manager from Macao Water, said that the pipes

adopted in the region were "durable" and "secure" enough, having a lifespan of at least 50 years, except when damaged due to external factors.

In addition, he assured the public of the water quality in the territory by explaining that every day inspections would be randomly carried out across the city at approximately 90 locations to ensure a high water quality standard.

The majority of the existing pipeline network was said to still be usable, even though it had not undergone any renovations since 1982, three years before the utility company was granted a 25-year concession.

Chu also said that the water company has already diverted some of the pipeline renovation roadworks away from bustling avenues to avoid traffic chaos that might ensue. **Staff reporter**

## Oil pollution at Zhuhai tourist spot prompts clearing efforts from officials

**ZHUHAI'S** tourist island of Miaowan has been hit by heavy oil pollution, allegedly caused by a leak in a nearby overturned vessel, leaving the region's marine officials scrambling to remove the greasy pollutants from the sea.

According to the Guangdong Maritime Safety Administration, roughly 200 square meters of sea near the pier of the island dubbed "China's Maldives" was covered in black oil, which coated both cargo boats and nearby marine life.

The authorities' initial probe into the matter suggested that the chemicals could have come from vessel fuel, despite their origin remaining unconfirmed. However, it was speculated that they hai-

led from a capsized vessel in an area of water close to the polluted site.

The task force dispatched by the mainland authority on Wednesday is currently working on clearing the pollutants out of the water using oil-absorbent sheets. The officials estimated that their work is nearing completion and stressed that the pollution has had no impact on the nearby fish breeding industry.

Miaowan, situated about 49 kilometers to the south of Hong Kong and one of the mainland city's farthest away island clusters, is the only island with wild coral. It has been hailed as one of the top ten most beautiful islands in Guangdong.

## Second phase of Island hospital construction to start at year-end

**T**HE invitation to tender for the construction of the second public hospital's polyclinic and auxiliary facility building received a total of 11 bids from the public on Wednesday.

The construction project for the two blocks, which was expected to commence at the end of the year, was budgeted to cost roughly between 683 million and 880 million. The general hospital forms the largest single building in the complex, covering an area of 11,000 square meters in the center of the plot, while another facility with an area of 4,000 square meters will sit on the western side of the complex.

Tomás Hoi, from the Infrastructure Development Office, said that the authorities had to request for tenders in separate phases owing to the



massive scale of the complex's construction, which also required consultations with professionals about the roof. In addition, he stressed that the phased tender process would cause no delay to the construction project due to the employment of on-site officials for coordination and thorough monitoring of related departments.

It was said that the cons-

truction of the above two sections could take at least 418 days to be completed, and will provide around 500 employment opportunities. Hoi added that the first stage of construction for the foundation of the staff dormitory and the nursing college is currently in progress and will be close to completion in the first quarter of next year.

**Staff reporter**

# St. Regis Macao to open December 17

**T**HE St. Regis Macao, a luxury hotel located in the fourth tower of Sands Cotai Central, is scheduled to open on December 17, according to a press release.

The hotel announced that it is now receiving reservations from guests with rooms available as of December 17.

Sands Cotai Central's fourth and final tower is still under development. The St. Regis Macao features 400 hotel rooms and suites, as well as a mix of Eastern and Western restaurant options, including the hotel's signature restaurant The Manor, and the St. Regis Bar. A spa will also open on the 38th floor.

Sands China said in an interim report filed with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange this month that the total budget for the completed project would be set at about USD380 million.

The Sands Cotai Central opened in phases, beginning in April 2012.

The St. Regis Macao's general manager Paul Cunningham said in statement that all of the staff will under-



Artist's rendition of St. Regis Macao

go the necessary training to ensure they fully comprehend and embrace the hotel's luxury standard philosophy. He recalled that the hotel strives to provide an "uncompromising, personalized, and seductive experience" to guests.

"We believe we are perfectly positioned to cater to a new generation of both leisure and corporate travelers who seek a different experience," said Daniella Tonetto, general mana-

ger of sales and marketing for the St. Regis Macao in a statement. She added that the hotel's world-renowned standard of service strengthens their ability to raise Macau's profile as a world center of tourism and leisure.

Rates start from HKD2,688 for a Deluxe Room. The hotel is also promoting a celebratory package including butler service, daily breakfast, welcome beverages, and late check-out, among other benefits. **CP**

## Mainland importer seizes retail opportunities in free trade zone

**A** supermarket selling imported goods in Shenzhen's Qianhai Free Trade Zone (FTZ) has gained popularity amongst mainland shoppers. Running a cross-border e-commerce company, the businessman is hoping to open a chain of 15 stores in the mainland's free trade zones, including one in Hengqin FTZ by the end of this year.

The supermarket sells commodities that are commonly seen in the SARs but are less easy to come by in the mainland. A shopper from Zhongshan told TDM that she would be reducing her trips to Hong Kong and Macau because she no longer needs to travel to purchase daily necessities.

The e-commerce company's manager, Ni Jun, said that he has invested millions of yuan in opening the supermarket, where most of the goods are imported from Southeast Asia, Europe and Japan. The businessman sees a great business opportunity in selling imported goods to mainland residents, as every day many shoppers travel to Hong Kong simply to buy daily necessities.

Mr Ni told TDM that there currently isn't a difference between the purchase prices in the trade zone and retail prices in Hong Kong shops. He revealed that his company records a turnover of 3 million yuan per day, and that he has been in talks with the FTZs' Administrative Committees about the possibility of expanding his business to Hengqin and other FTZs. **BY**

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# ‘People in the mainland are thirsty for rock and roll’



Fortes Pakeong Sequeira

Catarina Pinto

**A**LTHOUGH local artist and “Blademark” lead singer Fortes Pakeong Sequeira acknowledges that Macau’s audiences are starting to understand what rock and roll is all about, it’s the mainland crowd

that shows and shares greater enthusiasm for the genre.

“We’ve got fans in Taiwan and mainland China, and they’re crazy. Mainland people are thirsty for rock and roll. Everybody gets crazy, shouting and they ask for more,” he shared with reporters on the side-

lines of the opening ceremony of “Blademark, Exhibition by Pakeong” at Albergue SCM on Wednesday.

The rock and roll band is commemorating its tenth anniversary this year. Pakeong found inspiration from the band’s songs when completing most

of the artworks now on display at Albergue’s A2 Gallery.

“I can now fully express myself by combining graphics, visual arts and music and I finally [found] the time to merge them together. All the works here are about rock and roll, my life, my band,” he said.

Looking into the future, Pakeong says he’s eager to play more gigs outside of Macau, and even outside Asia.

Audiences in Macau are probably too well behaved for rock and roll, he conceded.

“The audience in Macau is quite polite. And this is not what I want. I want people to get crazy, so we try hard to drive them and encourage them to be more like us,” he said.

Pakeong acknowledged that most people here might not fully comprehend what rock and roll is: “They think [the genre is] noisy and naughty but we are not. We are telling a story, sharing our lives and feelings.”

Nevertheless, he recognized that Macau’s music scene is slowly changing. “I think more people like our music now. They have started understanding it. They are learning and we are growing, so Macau is changing.”

“Blademark, Exhibition by Pakeong” is on display until September 12.

“Blademark” are marking their anniversary on September 5 with a festival at Albergue, featuring gigs and several booths selling local products, including food and beverages. Three other bands have also been invited to play.

AD

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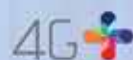
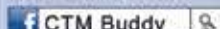
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## corporate bits

## PIERRE HERMÉ PARIS MACARONS &amp; CHOCOLATS SET TO OPEN AT STUDIO CITY

Pierre Hermé Paris has announced plans for its first boutique in Macau at Studio City. Offering a true Parisian experience, the collections of Macarons & Chocolats will be available exclusively within The Boulevard at Studio City, when the integrated resort opens on October 27.

The boutique in Macau will offer Pierre Hermé Paris Macarons such as Infiniment Chocolat Paineiras (Pure Origin Brazilian Dark Chocolate), Infiniment Rose (Rose & Rose Petal) or Mogador (Milk Chocolate & Passion Fruit), to name a few.



## CESL ASIA HOLDS KIDS MOVIE DAY

CESL Asia held its Kids Movie Day for the fifth consecutive year. The company's Social Investment (CSI) Team accompanied around 80 kids to watch the animated movie, Doraemon – Nobita and the Space Heroes, followed by a lunch party at McDonald's restaurant in the Macao Science Center.

CESL Asia invited less fortunate kids from four local childcare institutions, namely the Cradle of Hope Association, Caritas Family Services, ECF Macau Fellowship Orphanage, and Mong-Há Children and Youth Home.

To enhance the young guests' experience at the movies, the CSI Team specially purchased gift sets made and packaged by mentally and physically disabled individuals from the Fu Hong Association and distributed the gifts to the kids participating in the event.

# Dalian Wanda buys Ironman triathlon brand for USD650m

**C**HINESE property and cinema giant Dalian Wanda Group said yesterday that it is buying the company that owns the Ironman triathlon brand and race series as it forecasts explosive demand in China for the sport.

Wanda is paying USD650 million for Tampa, Fla.-based World Triathlon Corp., which it called "a jewel in the crown of world endurance sports," the company said in a statement.

The deal to buy World Triathlon, which operates 250 events a year, "will bring a top international competition to China for the first time," it said.

"Triathlons are on the cusp of explosion in China," the company said in the statement. The purchase "enables Wanda to secure core resources and assets in the global sports industry."

Triathlons, which combine swim-



Dalian Wanda Group Co. Chairman Wang Jianlin

ming, biking and running, have grown in popularity and are now an Olympic event. More people in China are paying attention to fitness as their incomes rise, the company said, adding that the

sport's "unique charm and challenge" is expected to attract the country's millions of cyclists and tens of millions of runners.

The acquisition adds to Wanda's growing stable of sports businesses. In February, it bought Swiss marketing firm Infront Sports & Media for 1.05 billion euros (then \$1.2 billion). A month earlier, it took a 20 percent stake in Spanish champion football team Atletico Madrid for 45 million euros.

Wanda Chairman Wang Jianlin, one of China's richest individuals, said in July that he expected the company to acquire two more sports businesses by the end of the year, though they would have to have operations that can "take root" in China.

Wanda operates dozens of malls, cinemas and hotels in China. It also owns the U.S. movie theatre chain AMC and British yachtmaker Sunseeker. **AP/Bloomberg**

AD

## REAL ESTATE MATTERS

## All you wanted to know about property investment – Character, cash, condition (part 2 of 8)

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor.

Having established the company in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

www.JMLProperty.com  
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JULIET RISDON

This is the second installment of an eight part series identifying the key factors in choosing the right investment property and putting your money to work.

### Real estate factor no 4: Character - Age of the property:

The age of the property is an important factor in determining its value. Older properties have very different styles from modern properties, and this can be both a pro and a con.

Pro in the sense that if your property preserves some nice traditional architectural designs or features larger rooms than a modern property, it may be very attractive for the prospective client, you could take the opportunity to increase the selling price, hence making better profits.

Con in the sense that if the client prefers properties with more contemporary designs, this could have a dire impact on your older property given that it is harder to sell or rent, ending up in price wars which

is lose-lose situation for you. One thing to bear in mind when purchasing an older property in Macau is the length of time you can get the mortgage for.

**Real estate factor no 5: Cash - Price of the property** Price is clearly a major consideration, hence it is essential to do market research in the neighbourhood for properties similar to those you are looking for before making a decision.

Additionally, if you intend to take on financing, you can check out the different bank interest rates, and any related bank charges so that the costs don't catch you by surprise when making the final purchase.

**Real estate factor no 6: Condition of the property** Arguably one of the most important attributes to look out for in a property.

You may have found the best location, the biggest size at the most affordable price, but if it is in poor condition

and not inhabitable, you may end up spending an awful lot more.

Hence, it is crucial to observe the condition of every prospective property and take into account the potential repair fees required, then factor into the overall pricing of the property to see if it is still worthwhile buying that property.

To conclude, we have shared with you some valuable insights into real estate investment as a very feasible method to grow your money, create a steady passive income to achieve your long-term financial goal, and essential tips for choosing a property to fulfill that aim.

The next step is to take action and contact your property agent.

We wish you success in your real estate investments!

NEXT WEEK; Part 3 in the All you wanted to know about property investment - "What is the cost of buying property and what should I be aware of?"

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# Gov't intervenes to shore up stocks ahead of military parade

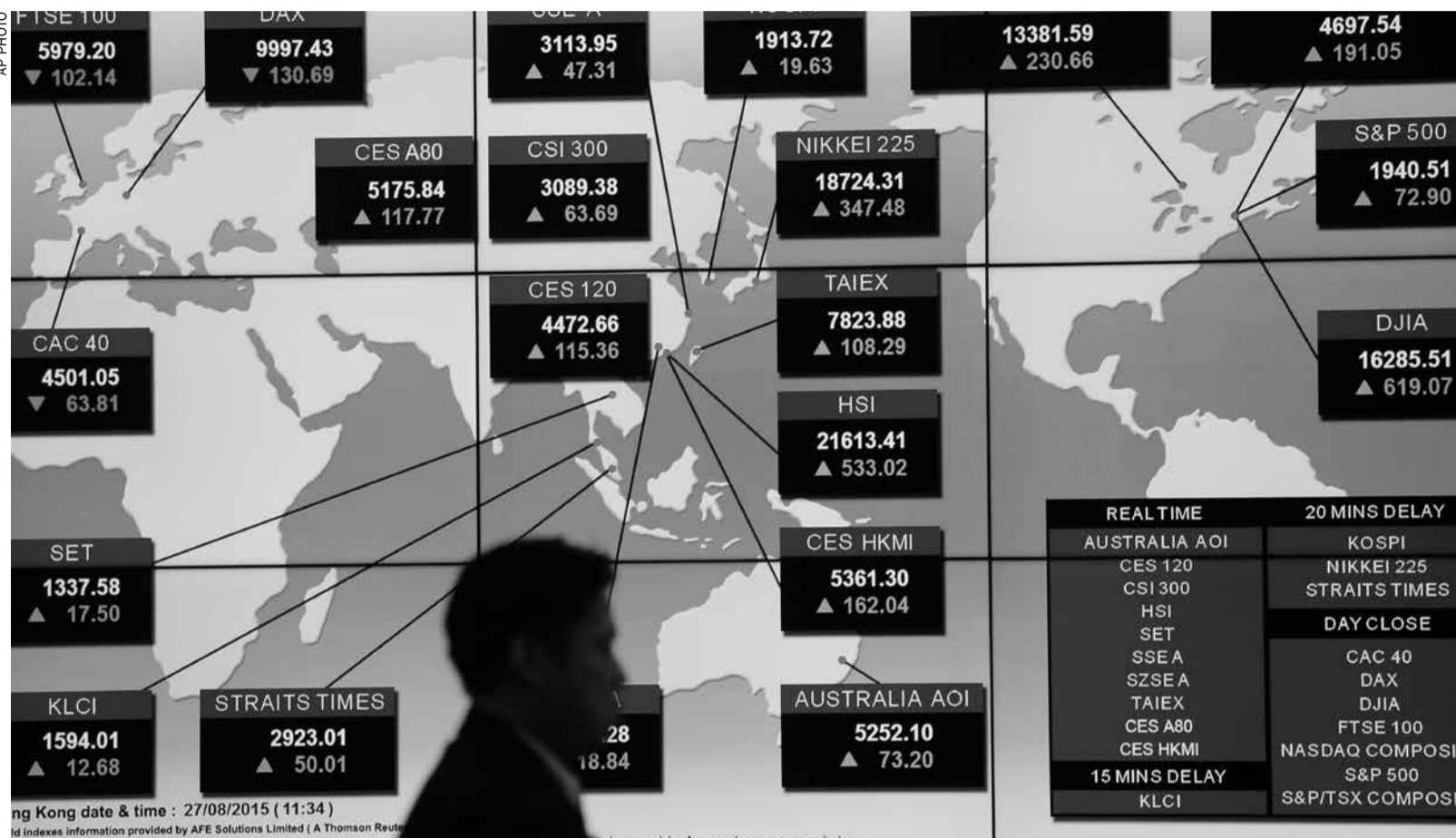
**C**HINA'S government intervened in the stock market yesterday to end a USD5 trillion rout, according to people familiar with the matter.

China wants to stabilize equities before a Sept. 3 military parade celebrating the 70th anniversary of the victory over Japan during World War II, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the move wasn't publicly announced. The intervention is the latest measure to ensure nothing detracts from the parade, an event the government will use to demonstrate its rising military and political might.

The Shanghai Composite Index swung from a loss of 0.7 percent to rally 5.3 percent in the last hour of trading, ending its steepest five-day rout since 1996. The government bought large-company stocks, according to one of the people. The China Securities Regulatory Commission didn't immediately respond to a faxed request for comment.

A gauge of 50-day volatility on the Shanghai Composite surged to its highest level since 1997 this week amid signs the government had pulled back from rescue measures to support the world's second-largest stock market. Officials previously armed state agency China Securities Finance Corp. with more than \$400 billion to purchase shares. The authorities shouldn't withdraw stabilization efforts as equity trading has yet to return to normal, according to a front-page commentary on the Securities Daily.

The government halted intervention in the equity market earlier in the week as policy makers debated the merits of



A man walks past a bank's electronic board showing the share index around the world at Hong Kong Stock Exchange yesterday

an unprecedented rescue, according to people familiar with the situation.

Stocks failed to sustain gains on Wednesday after the central bank cut interest rates and reduced the amount of required reserves for banks. The index tumbled 42 percent from its mid-June peak through Wednesday as margin traders closed out bullish bets and concern deepened that valuations are unjustified by the weak economic outlook.

The military parade has been planned for months and will provide President Xi Jinping his first opportunity to publicly present himself to the wor-

ld as China's commander in chief. Such events, usually held on major anniversaries of the country's founding, serve as a key ritual in establishing the Communist Party chief's supreme authority over the country.

Party leaders, government officials and military commanders have spent much of this month meticulously planning details of the procession, which will feature 12,000 troops and foreign leaders including Russian President Vladimir Putin.

China's financial markets will be shut on Sept. 3 and 4 for national holidays marking the end of the war.

Gauges tracking financial and

industrial companies jumped more than 6.8 percent on the CSI 300 Index yesterday. Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd. advanced 4.7 percent, and Bank of China Ltd. rallied 6.3 percent. Both stocks climbed the most since early July.

"Heavyweight stocks like banks and insurance companies helped pull up the index, and it's possibly China Securities Finance entering the market again to shore up stocks," said Zhang Gang, a strategist at Central China Securities Co. in Shanghai.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index climbed 4.6 percent in Hong Kong, gaining for

the first time in 10 days. The Hang Seng Index rose 3.6 percent from a two-year low. Trading volumes in Shanghai were 12 percent below the 30-day average. **Bloomberg**

**5.3%**

The Shanghai Composite Index rallied to 5.3 percent in the last hour of trading

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# 11 detained over Tianjin warehouse explosion



A shattered window frames the site of an explosion at a port warehouse in northeastern China's Tianjin municipality

CHINESE prosecutors have detained 11 government officials and company executives over a massive warehouse explosion that killed at least 145 people in the country's worst industrial disaster in recent years.

A notice on the national prosecutor's website said yesterday they included current and retired officials in the port city of Tianjin, along with others working for the company that runs the port, the largest in northern China.

All the government officials are accused of dereliction of duty and abusing their positions, the notice said. They are from agencies overseeing transportation,

port operations, workplace safety, planning and land resources, and customs. It points to a charge that the dereliction of duty was widespread and included several departments.

The Aug. 12 explosions at the warehouse owned by Ruihai Logistics were not only one of China's worst accidents but the deadliest ever for first responders, with 115 police and firefighters among the dead and missing.

The investigation has focused on how the warehouse gained permission to handle sodium cyanide and other dangerous chemicals despite being located inside a legally-mandated 1,000-meter buffer zone from

homes and roads. The investigation has also found that the warehouse was storing more chemicals than it was equipped to handle and had kept some in a loading zone rather than storing them securely.

The responsible parties "failed to take strong measures in response to the Ruihai company's illegal and unregulated actions, did not assiduously carry out their duties and issued business permits in violations of rules," the prosecutor's notice said.

Police have already detained 12 Ruihai employees as part of their investigation and are also looking into a company suspected of providing bogus safety assessments. **AP**

## XINJIANG

### Gov't jails 45 on terror-related charges

CHINESE courts in the Crestive, western region of Xinjiang have jailed 45 people on terrorism-related charges, including 18 convicted of organizing illegal border crossings, state-run media reported yesterday.

Among them were at least eight people — most likely minority Uighur Muslims — who were sentenced to prison terms on charges of trying to leave China unlawfully, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Beijing has recently come under international criticism after it succeeded in having sent back to China about 100 Uighurs who had sought refuge in Thailand. The men were filmed being hooded, cuffed and escorted to China under tight police watch.

Authorities have said the Uighurs seeking to leave China are influenced by religious extremism and planning to join jihad, or holy war. Advocates for Uighurs say they are fleeing China to escape repression.

The eight who were sentenced included five people who were given eight to 10 years by a court in Kashgar, after being captured by Tajikistan police near the border with Afghanistan, Xinhua said.

The news agency said they had met frequently to read about religious extremism and plotted to move abroad to join jihad.

In Hotan, a court jailed three men for 10 to 15 years after they were intercepted by Chinese police at the Urumqi airport on their way to Turkey on falsified Turkish passports, Xinhua said.

In two other cases handled by a Karamay court, 18 people — appearing to be from the majority Han ethnic group — were convicted of organizing illegal border crossings, Xinhua said.

In one case, two people — Wei Hai and Chen Qiangui — were imprisoned for life after they and 11 others helped 305 people to illegally cross into Vietnam from December 2013 and June 2014, for a fee of up to USD1,000 per person, Xinhua said.

The Karamay court convicted five more "snakeheads" — a term for those who smuggle migrants — in a separate case, Xinhua said. The men were caught when they were hauling 21 illegal immigrants to Vietnam in April 2014, Xinhua said.

The report did not provide details on the other 19 people who were convicted and jailed. **AP**

## HONG KONG

### Teen protest leader Joshua Wong faces new charges

HONG Kong police charged teenage student leader Joshua Wong yesterday for his role last year in storming government headquarters, which helped trigger 79 days of pro-democracy street occupations that gripped the Asian financial center.

Wong, whose Scholarism group played a key role in the protests, reported to a police station where he was charged with inciting and participating in an illegal assembly.

The charges came nearly a year after Wong and dozens of student activists stormed a fenced-off courtyard outside government headquarters



Joshua Wong

during an evening rally to protest Beijing's plan to restrict elections in the semiautonomous Chinese region.

Police arrested Wong and other key leaders, which drove more people into the streets. Two days later, on Sept. 28, police fired volleys of tear gas in an attempt to disperse the crowds, which only enraged the

protesters further and kick-started what came to be known both as the Umbrella Movement and Occupy Central.

Wong posted photos of his police charge sheets on his Facebook account. He is scheduled to appear in a magistrate's court on Sept. 2.

Two other student leaders, Alex Chow and

Nathan Law, also face charges relating to illegal assembly over the same incident, according to local media reports. Chow is the former secretary general of the Hong Kong Federation of Students, which also played a major role in the protests. Law is the current leader.

Wong, 18, is also expected to appear in court today to face two other charges of obstructing police at a separate, earlier protest in which he and others burned a cardboard copy of a Beijing policy document that asserted full authority over Hong Kong, promised a high degree of control over its own affairs until 2047. **AP**

### Christian lawyer taken away in region removing crosses

A well-known Chinese Christian lawyer had been out of contact for almost two days after being taken away by government workers in an eastern province where local authorities are under a deadline to remove the Christian symbol, the cross, from church roofs, his colleague said yesterday.

The Beijing law firm had received no word on Zhang Kai, and neither had his family, said Yang Xingquan.

Zhang has been providing legal counsel for churches in Zhejiang province in their resistance to the government order, which has been criticized as unconstitutional and infringing upon the right of religious freedom.

Zhang and his assistant were in a church in the city of Wenzhou on Tuesday night when they were taken away by government workers, Yang said.

Wenzhou, a coastal city in

Zhejiang, is known for its entrepreneurship as well as its many Protestant and Catholic churches.

Calls to Wenzhou police were hung up upon the mention of the lawyer.

Local Christians said at least 11 pastors and church members had been taken away by police this week, most likely to deter resistance by churches against the cross removal.

Zhejiang authorities began to remove crosses last year, citing violation of building codes. A rule set earlier this year mandates that all crosses be wholly affixed to building facades, which state media say is for safety concerns.

Critics say the government is trying to reduce the visibility of Christianity, which has been growing rapidly in China and may even rival the ruling Communist Party in size. **AP**

A Thai court yesterday issued an arrest warrant for an unnamed suspect in a riverside blast that occurred a day after the bombing of a shrine in central Bangkok which killed 20 people.

Police spokesman Prawut Thawornsiri said the suspect appeared in a security video that shows a blurry image of an unidentified man in a blue shirt kicking a bag into the water near a busy pier on the night of Aug. 17, soon after the explosion at the Erawan Shrine.

An explosion took place near the spot about 18 hours later on Aug. 18, but caused no casualties.

The blast at the Erawan Shrine was unprecedented in the Thai capital, where smaller bombs have been employed in domestic political violence over the past decade, but not in an effort to cause large-scale casualties.

Police have not determined a clear motive for the shrine bombing, which injured more than 120 people in addition to the 20 fatalities. Possible suspects include Muslim separatists from southern Thailand, parties seeking to avenge the forced repatriation of ethnic Uighurs to China by the Thai government, opponents of Thailand's military government and feuding factions within the security services.

The warrant issued yesterday by the South Bangkok Criminal Court says the suspect in the river blast faces charges of attempted premeditated murder, exploding a bomb that

THAILAND

# Court issues warrant for suspect in second bomb blast



People run from an explosion at a ferry pier in Bangkok on Tuesday

could cause harm and unauthorized possession of explosives, Prawut said. It does not specify the suspect's name or nationality, but describes him as having white skin, a pointed nose and short hair, and being about 170 centimeters tall and weighing about 65 kilograms.

Police have not definitively linked the two blasts according to their public statements. They have said a network of people must have been involved in the shrine bombing. An arrest warrant was issued last week for a suspect in that explosion, also without a name

or nationality. No arrests have been made in either case.

Criticism of the police investigation has been strong because few facts have been clearly established, including the type of explosives used in the bombs. Authorities have been accused of rapidly ho-

sing down the crime scene at the shrine before all forensic evidence was recovered so it could be reopened to reassure the public — especially foreign tourists — that security in the city was back to normal.

The shrine is a popular tourist destination, particularly with Chinese visitors, who represent an important segment of the lucrative tourist market. At least six of the dead were from China and Hong Kong.

Police say they have been handicapped by low-quality and broken surveillance cameras and a lack of sophisticated image processing equipment to enhance the video they do have. They have interviewed taxi drivers who claim to have driven the suspects, and say they are also combing through phone records.

They acknowledge that they have few clues to go on so far and that the bombers may have fled the country.

"I have to say we need some luck," national police chief Somyot Poompanmoung told reporters Sunday. "If the police have good fortune, we might be able to make an arrest, but ... if the perpetrators have good fortune maybe they can get away." AP

PHILIPPINES

# Forbes: Mall tycoon Henry Sy tops rich list

PROPERTY, retail and banking tycoon Henry Sy whose conglomerate owns the chain of SM Supermalls in his country and China has retained the title of the Philippines' richest person for the eight consecutive year, with his net worth up USD1.7 billion from last year to \$14.4 billion.

Forbes Philippines, which puts together the list, said yesterday that the value of Sy's publicly traded conglomerates SM Investments rose 17 percent and SM Prime Holdings 20 percent over the past year. His companies announced record income from banking and

retail businesses and two new mall partnerships in 2014. Sy also has a stake in privately owned power supplier National Grid Corp.

John Gokongwei Jr. of JG Summit conglomerate that owns SM's rival, mall chain Robinsons, is the second richest with a net worth of \$5.5 billion. Forbes said he moved up three spots after his company's stocks rose 30 percent, boosted by revenue growth in its petrochemical business and investments in Meralco, the Philippines largest power distributor. JG Summit also has interests in food and beverage, airlines, telecoms,

property development, banking, retail, and hotels.

Forbes compiles the net wealth of the Philippines' richest based on stock prices and exchange rates, with the value of private companies based on similar companies that are publicly traded.

Alliance Global's Andrew Tan climbed a notch to the third place despite a drop in his net worth to \$4.5 billion from the previous \$5.1 billion. His company's stock price is 11 percent lower due to a drop in income from its resort and casino operations.

Lucio Tan of LT Group whose businesses inclu-

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Henry Sy

de stakes in beverages, tobacco, distilled spirits, banking and property was fourth with a net worth of \$4.3 billion. Tan is also chairman

of Philippine Airlines.

Fifth was International Container Terminal Services' Enrique Razon Jr., who is worth \$4.1 billion.

Rounding out the top 10 are George Ty, the Abotiz Family, Jaime Zobel de Ayala, David Consunji, and Tony Tan Caktiong. AP

## EUROPEAN MIGRANT CRISIS

# Austria finds 20, maybe even 50, immigrants dead in truck

Ronald Zak, Parndorf

AUSTRIAN police yesterday discovered the badly decomposing bodies of at least 20 — and possibly up to 50 — migrants piled in a truck parked on the shoulder of the main highway from Budapest to Vienna.

The shocking finding came as Austria hosted a summit in Vienna on Europe's refugee crisis for Western Balkan nations, which have been overwhelmed this year by the tens of thousands of migrants trying to get into Europe via their territory.

Police ordered reporters at the scene 40 kilometers southeast of Vienna to move away from the vehicle, a white refrigeration truck with images of food items on it.

The state of the bodies in the hot summer day made establishing their identities and even the exact number of dead



A truck stands on the shoulder of the highway A4 near Parndorf south of Vienna

migrants difficult, but the total number could rise to 50, said Hans Peter Doskozil, chief of Burgenland police.

The truck was apparently abandoned Wednesday and its back door was left open, Doskozil said. It had Hungarian license plates but writing on the side and back of it was

in Slovak. The state of the bodies suggested the migrants could have been dead for several days.

Interior Minister Johanna Mikl-Leitner condemned the traffickers.

"Human smugglers are criminals," she said in a statement. "Those who still think that they

are gentle helpers of refugees are beyond saving."

Speaking on the sidelines of the refugee crisis conference, Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann said the deadly tragedy showed how critical it was for nations to work together on solutions to the influx of migrants.

"Today refugees lost the lives they had tried to save by escaping, but lost them in the hand of traffickers," he told reporters.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who was also at the summit, said she was "shaken by the awful news that up to 50 people lost their lives on their way to look for more security."

"This reminds us that we in Europe need to tackle the problem quickly and find solutions in the spirit of solidarity," she said.

The truck apparently used to belong to the Slovak chicken meat company Hyza, part of

the Agrofert Holding, which is owned by the Czech Finance Minister Andrej Babis.

Agrofert Holding, in a statement, said they had sold the truck in 2014. The new owners did not remove the truck's logos as required and the Hyza company has nothing to do with this truck now, the company said.

On one side of the truck was the slogan "Honest chicken" while writing on the back read "I taste so well because they feed me so well."

The Hungarian government said the truck's license number plates were registered by a Romanian citizen in the central city of Kecskemet.

Migrants fleeing war and poverty from the Middle East, Africa and Asia are flocking to Europe by the hundreds of thousands this year.

Many follow the Balkans route, from Turkey to Greece by sea, up north to Macedonia by bus or foot, by train through Serbia and then walking the last few miles into EU member Hungary. That avoids the more dangerous Mediterranean Sea route from North Africa to Italy, where the bodies of 51 migrants were found Wednesday in the hull of a smugglers' boat rescued off Libya's northern coast. **AP**

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USA

# On-air reporter killings gripped millions in social media storm

**T**HE fatal shooting of a reporter and cameraman unfolded on live TV during an early morning show and within hours the carefully scripted carnage carried out by a disgruntled former colleague spread to millions of viewers over social media.

Soon after the shooting, posts on Twitter and Facebook referencing the slain TV pair surfaced on an account under an on-air pseudonym used by the gunman — culminating with a first-person video of the ambush filmed by the shooter.

The social media post made Wednesday (early yesterday, Macau time) through an account under the name Bryce Williams name had a 56-second video clip. It shows Vester Lee Flanagan II quietly approach Parker and Adam Ward, gun in hand, as they conduct an interview. But Ward's camera was aimed at the mini-golf course nearby instead of the reporter. So the shooter waited, cursing Parker under his breath, for 20 seconds until the live television picture was back on the reporter. Then he fired eight shots without saying a word.

Yesterday, one day after the

deaths shocked millions across the U.S., the grieving staff at WDBJ-TV came together for an emotional broadcast of its "Mornin'" show. At 6:45 a.m. — the time of the shooting that took the lives of reporter Alison Parker and cameraman Adam Ward — the station observed a moment of silence, showing the victim's photos on the screens.

The morning broadcast included a series of news pieces on the shooting. One looked at the criminal investigation of gunman Vester Lee Flanagan II, the former WDBJ-TV reporter known to viewers by his on-air name Bryce Williams. He died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound hours after the shooting.

About three hours after the killing, ABC News reported it received a 23-page faxed statement from Bryce Williams, the on-air name used by Flanagan.

The crime played out in real time on Twitter and Facebook. The station's live footage of



Vester Lee Flanagan II, who killed WDBJ reporter Alison Parker and cameraman Adam Ward

the shooting was being shared over and over before even station managers knew the fate of their employees. Some 40,000 viewers had initially tuned in, including the local sheriff, and heard Parker scream. They saw her run as the camera fell, capturing a fleeting image of a man

holding a handgun.

Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe's assurance that an arrest was "imminent" spread quickly, only to be followed soon after with a post on the Twitter account Flanagan apparently used under the pseudonym: "I filmed the shooting see Facebook." It was there that the video appeared.

The 41-year-old Flanagan had been fired by the station in 2013 and had to be escorted out of the building, President and General Manager Jeffrey Marks said.

On Twitter, Flanagan described workplace conflicts with both of his victims. He said Parker had made racist comments and that she was still hired after he filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Ward had reported him to human resources, he said.

Flanagan alleged that other employees made racially tin-

ged comments to him, but his EEOC claim was dismissed and none of his allegations could be corroborated, Marks said.

Flanagan was fired at least twice from small-market stations after managers said he caused problems with other employees.

In the fax to ABC, Flanagan called himself a gay black man who had been mistreated by people of all races. He said he bought the gun two days after nine black people were killed in a June 17 shooting at a Charleston church and wanted to use it to retaliate for what authorities called a racially motivated shooting.

He described himself as a "human powder keg" that was "just waiting to go BOOM!!!!"

The fax also included admiration for the gunmen who carried out mass killings at Virginia Tech in 2007 and Columbine High School in Colorado in 1999. AP

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13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Presence of Anita (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talkshow (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	News
21:45	Miscellaneous
22:10	The Presence of Anita
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Film
01:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SATURDAY

10:45	Boonie Bears
11:35	Documentary Serie
12:00	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:00	News
18:25	Contest
19:20	Miscellaneous
19:50	Macau 360° (Repeated)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:10	Drama
22:45	Documentary Series
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SUNDAY

10:35	Young Children
11:00	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Zig Zag
16:35	Miscellaneous
17:25	Documentary Series
17:50	Miscellaneous
19:40	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Cougar Town S.3
22:00	Where is Flight MH370
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## offbeat

## ISRAEL MUSEUM REPAIRS ANCIENT ITEM AFTER DAMAGE

Israel's leading museum said this week that a young visitor accidentally bumped into a display case and broke an ancient glass artifact, but later changed its account and said the cause of the mishap was unclear.

Israel Museum official Ran Lior initially said a girl inadvertently broke the artifact earlier this week but declined to identify her.

Later Wednesday, the museum's deputy director, Zach Granit, said that security camera footage showed a girl passing by the display, but it was unclear whether she actually stumbled into it or whether the item broke some other way.

The museum refused to allow The Associated Press to watch the security camera footage. It also refused to allow a photo of the artifact to be taken. When asked why the museum had changed its account, Lior said he did not know all the relevant information when he spoke.

Lior said the item, a gold-glass base of a 4th century Roman funerary vessel, broke along a previously repaired crack. He said the museum has restored the item and returned it to the display.

The artifact includes a Latin inscription and a depiction of a Christian couple with their children.

It is one of some 300 ancient Roman and Near Eastern artifacts donated to the museum this year by Robert and Renee Belfer. The artifacts are on public display for the first time.

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

27 AUG - 2 SEPT



## HITMAN: AGENT 47

ROOM 1

4.05, 9.45 pm

Director: Aleksander Bach

Starring: Rupert Friend, Hannah Ware, Zachary Quinto

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 96min



## WILD CITY

ROOM 1

2.15, 5.55, 7.45 pm

Director: Ringo Lam

Starring: Louis Koo, Shawn Yue, Tong Liya

Language: Cantonese/Mandarin (Chinese/English)

Duration: 105min

## PIXELS

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.30 pm

Director: Chris Columbus

Starring: Adam Sandler, Kevin James,

Michelle Monaghan

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 106min

## HERO 2015

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Nikhil Advani

Starring: Haruma Miura, Kiko Mizuhara

Language: Japanese (English and Chinese)

Duration: 90min

## ATTACK ON TITAN

ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: Shinji Higuchi

Starring: Takuya Kimura, Keiko Kitagawa,

Takako Matsu

Language: Japanese (English and Chinese)

Duration: 119min

## MACAU TOWER

20 AUG - 9 SEPT

## PIXELS

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Chris Columbus

Starring: Adam Sandler, Kevin James,

Michelle Monaghan

Language: English (Chinese)



## this day in history



## 2003 BLAIR GIVES EVIDENCE TO HUTTON

Prime Minister Tony Blair has told the inquiry into the death of weapons expert Dr David Kelly he would have had to resign if claims in a BBC report that the government "sexed up" an Iraq weapons dossier were true.

Mr Blair was giving evidence on the 11th day of the Hutton inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the apparent suicide of Dr Kelly.

The government scientist was found dead near his Oxfordshire home last month, days after it was revealed he had admitted to meeting the BBC reporter whose broadcast sparked the row.

During more than two hours of questioning, Mr Blair described the "raging storm" which erupted in the wake of the BBC story.

He called the allegations made in the report, broadcast by BBC journalist Andrew Gilligan on Radio 4's Today programme on 29 May, "extraordinarily serious".

He singled out Mr Gilligan's statement that the government "probably knew" its claim that Iraq could launch weapons of mass destruction within 45 minutes was wrong.

Mr Blair said, "This was an absolutely fundamental charge... which if it were true would mean we had behaved in the most disgraceful way, and I would have to resign as prime minister."

He also said Mr Gilligan's later assertion that the prime minister's communications director, Alastair Campbell, had changed the dossier was an "attack" that "went to the heart of the office of prime minister."

Mr Blair spoke of his uncertainty over the right way to handle the issue after the Ministry of Defence press office let it be known that an unnamed official had come forward.

When asked about the later "question and answer" sheet which told MoD press officers they could confirm Dr Kelly's name if it was put to them by journalists, Mr Blair said, "I think the basic view would have been not to offer the name but on the other hand not to mislead people."

The prime minister was asked whether any concern was expressed about the pressure being placed on Dr Kelly.

"Obviously one looks back on this with a different perspective," he said, "but the best I can say is there was nothing that struck me that 'there is a problem here'".

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The day after the prime minister gave his evidence, his communications chief, Alastair Campbell, announced he would carry out his long-stated intention to resign.

Lord Hutton published his report on 28 January 2004. It was highly critical of the BBC, and said the key allegations reported by Andrew Gilligan were "unfounded".

Lord Hutton absolved the government of any kind of "dishonourable, underhand or duplicitous strategy" over its treatment of Dr Kelly.

But he said the MoD was "at fault" for failing to tell Dr Kelly that his identity as the suspected source would be confirmed to journalists who suggested it.

Shortly after the report was published, BBC chairman Gavyn Davies, the corporation's Director General, Greg Dyke, and journalist Andrew Gilligan resigned.

The BBC apologised unreservedly for any errors in its story, to which Tony Blair replied that it was "all I ever wanted".

In July 2004, Mr Blair came under further pressure over Iraq as the Butler Report criticised the "thinness" of the intelligence used to justify the war, saying it was presented in such a way as to seem "firmer and fuller" than it was.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Go ahead, think about making money. You can be forgiven for placing your career above your family today, especially if you've refrained the last few days.

**Taurus**

April 20-May 20

The last few days haven't been quite as down to earth as usual. Take the day to get back to what has real value in life, especially if you've spent a lot of time around those not particularly enlightened.

**Gemini**

May 21-Jun. 21

If you didn't attempt as much as you wanted, don't beat yourself up over it. Even if you had tried every angle, you still wouldn't have held onto your money. Start looking ahead.

**Cancer**

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You may need to deal with something, like it or not. You have to balance all the numbers in the end, or at least make sense of them. The clock is ticking.

**Leo**

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

It's not too late to redeem yourself, and save on your taxes while you're at it. Try to help someone with what they need. Spend the day researching your options.

**Virgo**

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Your hard work hardly seemed to pay off. At least you're not alone. Instead of dying trying, spend the next few days going for romance instead.

**Libra**

Sep.23-Oct. 22

It's a time to assess your accomplishments and your failures. But being sentimental for a lost bank account? Not such a good place to be in. Look to the future instead.

**Scorpio**

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

As much as you want things to change, it's not the right time to be implementing plans. Your drive for success is laudable, but in this instance, self control means simply waiting.

**Sagittarius**

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

The whirlwind is over, but stay focused on money. That doesn't mean to go shopping, it means allowing others to. Otherwise your taxes may surprise you, or worse.

**Capricorn**

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You know by now whether or not your plans have been working. If you don't see the money by now, use the schoolyard joke and give up until you find a better plan.

**Aquarius**

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

As proud of yourself as you were when you were flush, most of your portfolio has nothing to do with you. You may never be sure why things happened or what to learn from it, unless it's on a subliminal level.

**Pisces**

Feb.19-Mar. 20

The last few months have not been easy, on your or your bank account. Use photos, phone calls, whatever it takes to make the buzz of the season propel you into the next project.

**THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

		1	2		4			
	8			1	7			
2	5		4	3				
9	5		6					
	4		2		1			
			7		5	3		
	3	5		8	2			
5	9			7				
8		2	6					

**Easy+**

			9	1				
2	5	4		8				
		8			2	6	3	
			1		6	8		
8	6					2	1	
	7	2		9				
3	8	7			4			
				3	9	1	8	
			4	5				

**Medium**

4	7		5					
9	1		6	8				
			5	9		3		
		8		4	2			
1					6			
7	8		5					
5		2	9					
	8	5		3	9			
	2		7	4				

**Hard**

1					7	8		
6		2						
	3	2			5			
		5	7					
			4					
6	3			2				
7							4	
								1

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
--	-----	-----	-----------

**CHINA**

Beijing	21	32	cloudy/shower
Harbin	16	20	moderate rain/drizzle
Tianjin	22	32	clear/thundershower
Urumqi	15	23	clear
Xi'an	19	32	cloudy
Lhasa	10	22	drizzle/overcast
Chengdu	19	27	drizzle/moderate rain
Chongqing	22	29	shower/cloudy
Kunming	17	22	moderate rain
Nanjing	22	30	cloudy
Shanghai	24	30	cloudy/thundershower
Wuhan	22	31	cloudy
Hangzhou	22	31	cloudy/shower
Taipei	25	29	drizzle/downpour
Guangzhou	27	33	overcast/thundershower
Hong Kong	27	31	shower

**WORLD**

Moscow	16	24	drizzle/overcast
Frankfurt	16	24	drizzle
Paris	15	24	moderate rain/drizzle
London	11	18	drizzle
New York	17	26	clear

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Golf stroke; 5- \_\_\_ lunch; 10- Sphere; 14- God of thunder; 15- Dens; 16- "A Death in the Family" author; 17- Containing gold; 19- Later; 20- Egg exterior; 21- Primitive form of wheat; 23- Clear tables; 25- Deplete; 26- A hobgoblin; 29- Part of MIT; 31- Homerun king Hank; 35- Faulkner's "\_\_\_ Lay Dying"; 36- Plumlike fruit; 37- Sheath; 38- Lacking depth; 40- Floating ice; 41- Trojan War hero; 42- Diet successfully; 43- Pathetic; 44- Caesar's tongue; 45- Achy; 46- Extremely; 47- Backpack part; 49- Caustic chemical; 51- Legging; 54- Church instrument; 58- Surf sound; 59- Crookedness; 63- Kitchen addition; 64- Chip maker; 65- Bacchanalian cry; 66- Saudi king; 67- Discharge; 68- Equinox mo.;

**DOWN:** 1- School orgs.; 2- No way; 3- Ripped; 4- Hat; 5- Bullfight cheer; 6- Nasser's org.; 7- Juan's uncle; 8- Most loyal; 9- Actor Davis; 10- Knapsack; 11- Currency exchange fee; 12- Goneril's father; 13- Boxer Spinks; 18- Sick "season"; 22- Subtle difference; 24- Grain stores; 25- Function; 26- Kind of metabolism; 27- Milo of "Barbarella"; 28- Huge; 30- Immediately; 32- Elevate; 33- Academy award; 34- Destitute; 36- Biases; 37- Stand used by painters; 39- Unhurried; 40- \_\_\_ favor; 42- Chop off; 45- Loose-fitting skirtlike garment; 46- Stanzas; 48- Knot again; 50- \_\_\_ hoo!; 51- Not kosher; 52- Roster used to assign duties; 53- Pledge; 55- Bestow; 56- Looking down from; 57- Russian no; 60- Numbered hwy.; 61- French possessive; 62- Last. Abbr.



**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 1990 992
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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HKD 6,500sq ft  
**Near Lady of Carmel Church**  
Ref: 15035434

**Fountainside Studio Apartment**  
Macau  
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New development  
HKD 12,800 / 567 sq ft  
Ref: 15070517

**Jou Fai Kuok**  
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HKD 7,815sq ft  
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H 1.14, D 10.5, A 29

FOOTBALL | LA LIGA PREVIEW

# Real Madrid under pressure to win home opener

REAL Madrid is facing an unusually important home opener in the Spanish league, needing a convincing win over Real Betis on Sunday (Macau time) to avoid talks of an early crisis.

It will be only Real Madrid's second game, but anything but a victory could potentially lead to trouble for the rest of the season.

The world's richest sports club entered the season with high expectations but was held to a scoreless draw at newly promoted Sporting Gijon in the first round, while rivals Barcelona and Atletico Madrid got off to a winning start and opened an early lead in the standings.

Another setback at the Santiago Bernabeu could put new coach Rafa Benitez under pressure early in his stint with the club.

The team's slow start is already giving opponents added encouragement. Real Betis players said they will travel to Madrid more motivated after seeing Benitez's team struggle at Gijon.

"We saw that Sporting had



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo

a positive result against Real the other day," former Madrid goalkeeper Antonio Adan said. "It's difficult to do well at the Bernabeu, but if it was impossible we wouldn't even go there. Every year there is some type of surprise there, so why can't that happen to us?"

Betis opened with a 1-1 draw at Villarreal thanks to an equalizer by striker Ruben Castro near the end of the game at the Benito Villamarin Stadium.

Real Madrid's powerful attack led by Cristiano Ronaldo failed in the opener, missing chance after chance in Gijon. But Benitez's offense will be boosted by the addition of Karim Benzema, who is likely to be fit after nursing a muscle injury that kept him out of the first game. Gareth Bale, who had been doubtful because of a toe injury, is also set to play, keeping the attack at full strength.

"We know that this is just the

beginning," Benitez said. "We have to keep improving."

Barcelona also will be making its home debut on Saturday (Sunday, Macau time), facing Malaga at the Camp Nou to try to keep its momentum going after a hard-fought 1-0 win at Athletic Bilbao.

Lionel Messi, who missed a penalty in the opening game, may be able to team-up with Neymar for the first time this season. The Brazilian forward has fully recovered after being diagnosed with the mumps.

Neymar was one of several injury-related problems that coach Luis Enrique has already faced this season. Right back Dani Alves is expected to miss this weekend's game because of a groin injury sustained against Athletic Bilbao, although Sergio Busquets should be fit after leaving that match with an ankle problem. Gerard Pique is out because of a suspension.

Barcelona has beaten Malaga in nine of their last 10 league meetings at the Camp Nou, but the lone loss came last season, a 1-0 defeat that allowed Real Madrid to open a four-point lead at the time. Barcelona eventually recovered to win the title.

Atletico Madrid won its home opener 1-0 against newcomer Las Palmas and now travels to face Sevilla, a team that could also be fighting at the top of the table by the end of the season.

A victory could be important as Diego Simeone's team faces a difficult stretch in the next few weeks. The surprise league winner two seasons ago, Atletico will host Barcelona in the third round before starting its Champions League campaign.

Brazil left back Filipe Luis, one of the team's best players in the opener, missed a practice this week but is set to play in Sunday's match.

AP / Oddschecker.com

AD

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Duration of the Exhibition: 26 August 2015 until 12 September 2015  
Opening Hours: Everyday from 12:00 to 20:00  
Except Monday from 15:00 to 20:00  
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opinion

**Bizcuits**

Leanda Lee



**SINGING THE BLUES**

The social media response a couple of weeks ago to cases of child abuse and the subsequent death of an infant allegedly at the hands of a (probably undertrained and poorly supported) domestic worker, is another knee-jerk reaction to an isolated and extreme case which benefits few.

As reported in MDT (August 14), a Vietnamese domestic worker was accused of shaking a two-month old infant in the first 5 days of her mother's return to work. Police investigations confirmed the events which have sparked vocal concerns from the community about how migrant workers are dealt with once subject to criminal procedures. Wong Kit Cheng called for increased rigor in migrant worker clearance checks, mandating the use of fingerprints and halting the entry of migrant workers on tourist visas. The fingerprinting paints migrants as criminals and the visa control will be arduous to enforce and unwelcoming of bona fide tourists: the comparison between an illegitimate worker and a day-tripping mass-market tourist or a visiting Filipino relative is fraught. If Macau's vision is to be a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure we cannot afford to appear suspicious and unwelcoming of a diversity of people with heavy handed responses.

To save our children, our efforts could be put to better use. On our hideously dangerous streets (2,675 casualties from 7,617 traffic accidents for the six months to June), there are many more children seriously injured at the hands of their parents as their soft skulls hit front car windscreens in the misinformed and ignorant belief that "it'll be OK" to carry them in parental arms over short distances, rather than secured in child-safety restraints. I raise this tangentially to place the 'dangerous maids' concerns into perspective. I fear it's not really about the children, but about demonising migrant workers.

Some basic statistics indicate the Macau government has very successfully managed the jobs-for-locals policy. Foreigners are not taking away local jobs: at the end of 2005 we had 39,411 non-resident workers in a workforce of 258,000 (15%), we now have 180,523 foreigners in a workforce of 405,400 (45%). The workforce participation rate has increased from 64.7% to 73.9% of the population in those 10 years - that means, more jobs for locals. The absolute number of local people unemployed has bumped around the range from 6,438 (in the boom time around April 2013) to 12,665 (in the early part of 2009 after the GFC and the first lot of restrictions on Chinese visas into the territory). The lowest unemployment numbers actually saw the same local unemployment rate we have today.

Macau lives off the efforts of migrant workers. The sheer investment into Macau could not have been achieved, nor maintained if not for this increase in workforce. Depending upon the statistics cited, our national accounts in real terms have increased around 3.5 to 4 times over the 8 years to 2013 - to be tempered by the gaming downturn. The foreign workforce is far from being the sole contributor to Macau's economic miracle, but without foreign human resources, this evolving World Centre of Tourism and Entertainment could not have progressed thus far.

Often migrant workers are worked more than they should be, in appalling circumstances; that is the nature of the power-play between the haves and have-nots in Macau. If there's any regulation needed, it is to rebalance the power between employers and employees and ensure effective enforcement and implementation of those laws. Better selected, better trained, better treated, better able to contribute.

For fear of inciting the masses and bringing down the economy, I've not made the suggestion but something in me has wanted to see a general Blue Card strike - call it Beating the Blues - to bring home to all in this community how fundamentally important these men and women are to our economy and the smooth running of our daily lives, freeing us to socialise and spend time with our families and rest. Rather, a more positive approach is to call upon the government to lead in public recognition of these workers via an official day of celebration of their contributions to our society, our community, businesses, families and to our sanity.

**THE CHINA, HK, CASINO STOCKS RISE ON WALL STREET RALLY AND BARGAIN HUNTING**

China stocks rose yesterday as a strong rally on Wall Street helped calm shaky global markets, prompting Chinese and foreign investors to hunt for bargains after a 20 percent plunge over the past week.

The Shanghai Composite Index posted its first gain in six days, bouncing back from losses that triggered worldwide selling and wiped near-

ly 23 percent off its value over the past week. Hong Kong's Hang Seng advanced 2.9 percent to 21,697.31.

Gaming stocks rose 6 percent overall at the HKSE on bargain hunting.

It might be too early to expect a long-term Chinese rebound, cautioned Huang Cengdong of Sinolink Securities in Shanghai, quoted by Reuters.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	
High Density Residential Area	35-55 Moderate	
Ambient	40-60 Moderate	

SOURCE: DSMG

**Plácido Domingo to debut in Macau tomorrow**



Plácido Domingo (center), Micaela Oeste (right) and Virginia Tola (left)

ONE of the "Three Tenors," Plácido Domingo, is in Macau for the first time with his hand-picked artists to present the concert "Domingo and Macao Orchestra" on Saturday evening.

Taking to the stage at the Macao Cultural Centre, the performance will be held for one night only. The concert has been co-organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Macau Government Tourist Office and is supported by MGM Macau. A limited number of tickets are still available.

The world's most renowned operatic virtuoso, Plácido Domingo is a

highly reputed tenor for his outstanding skills and artistic achievements. He has played over 144 different opera roles in his career, and has performed classical works by composers Giacomo Puccini, Richard Wagner and Giuseppe Verdi, among many others.

Domingo has recorded over 100 albums, some of which sold over a million copies, and has been awarded 12 Grammy awards. Domingo is known for his powerful and highly flexible voice that boasts a wide vocal range, as well as a softness that has led to his work being described as "soft as velvet".

Several countries, such as the United Kingdom, the U.S. and France, have bestowed medals on the tenor in recognition of his musical talent and for his lifetime contributions and support to music. The Economist magazine once described his performance as having "a musical lyricism and a sexual passion that make the cost and the effort entirely worthwhile;" the review also characterized Domingo's performance as "unforgettable" and "luminous."

At a press conference yesterday evening, Domingo said, "We finally came to Macau! We've been talking about it for years."

**times square by rodrigo**



**WORLD BRIEFS**

**UKRAINE** The Ukrainian government said yesterday it has reached a crucial deal with its international bondholders to lighten its public debt burden, a move that will help the country avoid default as it tries to cope with the devastating costs of war.

**UKRAINE** A Ukrainian official says seven government troops have been killed and 13 injured in the past 24 hours, a day after the warring sides said they had agreed to a cease-fire starting next week.

**GREECE**'s president has appointed the head of the country's Supreme Court as prime minister to lead a caretaker government as the country heads to early elections next month. President Prokopis Pavlopoulos named Vassiliki Thanou as Greece's new prime minister yesterday, making her the country's first woman to hold the position.

**IRAQ** An Islamic State suicide bomber killed two Iraqi army generals yesterday as they led forces against IS positions in the turbulent Anbar province west of Baghdad, military officials said.



**SOUTH AFRICA** Oscar Pistorius' parole board review will take place on September 18, meaning the Olympic athlete will have to spend at least another three weeks in jail.

**YEMEN** The Yemeni government is not negotiating with Shiite rebels who captured the capital, Sanaa, last September, Foreign Minister Riad Yassin said yesterday. The rebels, known as Houthis, and troops loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh must lay down their arms and give the government full control over all of Yemen, as required by the United Nations, he said.