



**WU ZHIANG DEFENDS JINAN UNI DONATION**  
The donation of RMB100 million from the Macao Foundation to Jinan University was on the spotlight yesterday

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**MACAU TO BE 'PRIORITY MARKET' FOR POST-EU BRITAIN**

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**AIRPORT SAYS 6.4 MILLION PASSENGERS EXPECTED**  
The Macao International Airport Company has announced its targets for 2016 in terms of passenger numbers

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

**WORLD BRIEFS**



AP PHOTO

**CHINA** At least 75 people in northern China have died or gone missing since Monday in some of the worst flooding in years, the government said yesterday. The figures released by the Civil Affairs Ministry come amid continuing heavy downpours that have caused havoc across usually dry regions, including the capital Beijing. Already, 576 people have been recorded as dead or missing nationwide in the first half of the year.

**MALAYSIA's** prime minister says he is serious about good governance and his administration will "fully cooperate" with the U.S. Department of Justice in its probe into a USD3.5 billion scandal into a Malaysian state fund. Najib was speaking to reporters yesterday, a day after the U.S. Justice Department said it has initiated action to seize more than \$1 billion of the stolen money that was allegedly used to buy assets in the U.S. by people close to Najib.

**AUSTRALIA** A man was arrested after igniting accelerant inside his car and crashing it into the gate of a parking garage at a suburban Sydney police station yesterday, police said. There was no indication the incident had any links to terrorism.

More on backpage

**SHUT DOWN OR MOVE OUT**

# Canidrome presented with ultimatum

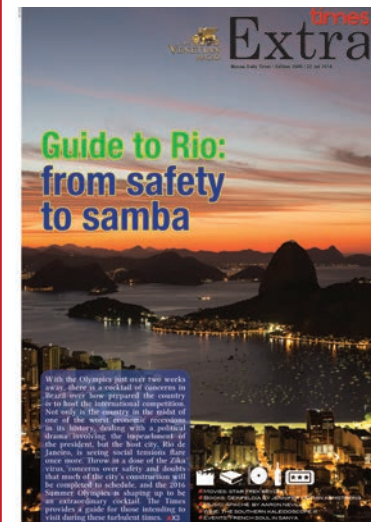
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RENATO MARQUES

# Hong Kong teen leader Joshua Wong guilty in protest trial

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**Extra**  
times  
weekend Guide  
INSIDE



## UM scholar to receive awards from APA



Brian Hall from the Department of Psychology at the University of Macau will receive three Early Career Awards from the American

Psychological Association (APA) in August in Colorado. The three awards include the Theodore Blau Early Career Award for Outstanding Contribution to Professional Clinical Psychology, the 2016 Award for Outstanding Contribution to Trauma Psychology by an Early Career Psychologist, and the 2016 Early Career Psychologist Award for International Psychology. These awards recognize psychological scientists in the early stages of their careers who have attained outstanding achievements or made outstanding contributions to professional clinical psychology, trauma psychology and international psychology respectively.

## MGTO to announce hotel shutdown

The Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) has called a press conference today to announce the shutdown of a hotel. "Several departments related to the issue" will attend the press conference where the shutdown of a hotel will be made public. The hotel in question is not yet clear, but it's possible that it is the Beijing Imperial Palace Hotel that has been subject to multiple complications recently. The latest such complication was announced last week, when the Court of Final Appeal rejected an appeal over unpaid VIP gaming commissions during a dispute over money allegedly owed to Hoi Cheng Nga, who runs Macau-based Energy Travel Agency.

## Regional drill for MERS virus reaction

The Health Bureau (IHM) is co-conducting a drill today, together with mainland China and Hong Kong health departments. The aim of the drill is to test the regional cooperative measures to be enforced in the case of a MERS virus outbreak. The three regions expect to test a communication system, as well as their abilities in co-prevention and co-control to combat the spreading of the virus. A total of 135 people will participate in the drill, including 70 people from IHM, 13 from the Fire Service Bureau, 50 from the Judiciary Police, and two from the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT). Several streets around the IFT building will have limited access, and a number of parking spaces will be closed.

# Growth in consumer prices slows

**T**HE composite Consumer Price Index (CPI) for June 2016 increased by 2.26 percent year-on-year to 108.29, according to information released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). This has indicated a slowdown of 0.38 percentage points from the 2.64 percent year-on-year growth in the previous month.

DSEC accredits the increment rise to higher rental costs for parking spaces as well as increased prices for food and tobacco.

The composite CPI for June increased by 0.11 percent month-to-month. Higher prices of some cigarette brands and new arrivals of summer clothing and footwear drove up the price indexes of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco and Clothing & Footwear by 2.88 percent and 1.71 percent respectively.

On the contrary, falling prices of vegetables and fruits offset the rise in prices of fresh



fish and the cost of eating out, bringing down the price index of Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages by 0.14 percent month-to-month.

The price index of Housing &

Fuels decreased by 0.14 percent due to the greater effect posed by the reduction in rent over the increase in property management fees.

For the 12 months ending

June 2015, the average CPI increased by 3.67 percent from the previous period, led by an increase in the prices of alcohol, tobacco and education, according to DSEC.

## Gov't says five-year plan gathering support



Lao Pun Lap, the Policy Research Office head (center)

**T**HE MSAR has received some 10,800 opinions from residents during a two-month long consultation period on the proposal for the Five-Year Development

Plan, which ended on June 30. The Policy Research Office said over 80 percent of the opinions provided have shown support for the plan.

According to data released this week in a press conference organized by the government think-tank coordinated by Lao Pun Lap, more than 5,700 of the opinions expressed, or 53 percent of the total, were focused on livelihood issues. 2,189 comments, accounting for 20 percent of the 10,802 opinions expressed, related to the future development of the peninsula.

A total of 1,020 comments related to

governance issues, while 982 opinions related to strategic development. A further 859 opinions, or 8 percent, were deemed "uncategorized."

Over the consultation period, the government held a total of 41 sessions to promote the plan, with over 3,800 representatives from different sectors attending those sessions.

The plan was sharply criticized for its vagueness by several lawmakers and public figures. Lawmakers Ng Kuok Cheong and Au Kam San stated the plan is merely "a promotional booklet from the local government without any real value."

**T**HE Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has announced that it is now accepting program proposals for the 16th Macau City Fringe Festival which will be held in January 2017. According to a statement from the IC, all local associations registered at the Identification Services Bureau and artistic practitioners are welcome to submit their proposals by August 26.

Artists and associations are encouraged to transform their ideas into detailed program proposals. Acts can be local, from abroad, or cross-regio-

## IC opens Fringe Festival applications

nal collaborations produced in any art form.

Over the years, the annual festival has adopted the slogan, "All around the city, our stages, our patrons, our artists," reads the IC statement. It is "derived from the abstract concepts by artists locally and from different parts of the world presented in the streets and lanes of the city."

The 16th edition of the festival will include interactive ses-

sions such as "Program Showcase," which will allow foreign artists to have a better understanding about the current state of art development in Macau. It hopes to enhance links and collaboration between local and international artists.

Interested local associations should submit their applications along with supporting documents to the IC building at Tap Seac Square during office hours by August 26.



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**Times**

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Daniel Beittler

ANIMAL WELFARE

# Canidrome presented with ultimatum: close or move

**I**N a meeting held yesterday between the director of the Gaming and Inspection Bureau (DICJ) Paulo Martins Chan and representatives of the Canidrome (Yat Yuen) company, it was revealed that the government is presenting the greyhound racing facility with an ultimatum: close down or relocate to another site.

The Canidrome was informed that a decision must be made shortly, though an exact timeframe was not provided. According to a statement from the Government Information Bureau (GCS), the company would have two years in which to procure a new space.

Moreover, the DICJ director insisted that should the company opt to relocate, the new facility would be required to demonstrate an improvement in the treatment of greyhounds, in accordance with international standards.

However, Anima (Macau) president Albano Martins told the Times that the ultimatum presented to the Canidrome is merely a guise for a decision already taken by authorities to close the facility. He described the announcement as "the death kiss," in reference to a mafia term that indicates a member of a crime family has been marked for death.

Martins argues that "there is no



real decision here [...] even if the Canidrome has been given two options."

"The government doesn't want to say that they have two years and then must close, but this is what they are effectively saying," he reasoned, adding that the option to relocate is "impossible."

Although only limited information was released in the GCS statement yesterday, one justification for the relocation might be to protect workers employed by the company. In the event that the facility closes, the Canidrome will be "responsible for paying [...] compensation to their employees

for termination of employment contracts, and will still be responsible for the relocation and removal of greyhounds from the site," it reads. The Labor Affairs Bureau will follow up the employment issues if required.

This has caused Martins much frustration who says he doesn't understand why so much time has been allotted to the company who will continue to use, kill or sell the greyhounds to mainland China or possibly Vietnam during this period.

In a letter dated July 11, from Anima president Albano Martins to Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong, Martins wrote that the decision to close the Canidrome would be "without doubt the best decision that the government will take, from an economic, community and animal welfare point of view."

He also asked the secretary in the letter "to convince the Macau (Yat Yuen) Canidrome Company

Ltd., and through it the other greyhound owners, to provide all of those animals to Anima, when the decision for its closing is announced, as we believe will happen shortly."

Then the plan was to "try to obtain the necessary financial support to be able to deal with these animals and prepare [their] adoption, which, we believe is only possible internationally, as Macau can only absorb a small number of them."

Angela Leong, managing director of the company, stated yesterday that she respects the decision and pledges a solution before the end of the two-year breathing period.

Albano Martins thinks that this is a ploy by the government to secure the land for itself. "For sure the government wants the land," he said, "they are just protecting themselves with this [ultimatum]."

In the meantime, it is likely that the Canidrome will be free to con-

**The government doesn't want to say that they have two years and then must close, but this is what they are effectively saying.**

ALBANO MARTINS  
ANIMA (MACAU) PRESIDENT

tinue its racing activities and that it will continue to be subsidized by the government, the Anima president believes.

DICJ could not be reached yesterday for a comment on the matter.

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AL PLENARY

# Wu Zhiliang says mainland China is priority in financial support from FM

Renato Marques

**T**HE donation of RMB100 million from the Macao Foundation (FM) to Jinan University was one of the biggest highlights of yesterday's plenary meeting at the Legislative Assembly (AL) in a session entirely dedicated to the reply from several government departments and secretariats to the lawmakers' spoken enquiries.

The president of the FM, Wu Zhiliang was called to the AL to reply to a spoken enquiry. It aimed not only to address the donation given to the university in mainland China, but to clarify the system in use by the foundation to operate and control the subsidies granted to many institutions and associations.

Replying to the question presented by Ng Kuok Cheong on whether the FM "should or should not subsidize institutions in mainland China," Wu clearly stated: "Who should have priority in obtaining financial support? Does it have to be those that have contributed more to Macau, that have a close relationship with the economic and socio-cultural development of Macau and those that can help us more in the future?" he asked.

He concluded that, if the

**The reasons for the support should be directly related to Macau or able to help its development.**

WU ZHILIANG

se should be the criteria, "we know that mainland China has contributed significantly to the development of Macau."

According to the president of the FM, that would be the opinion of "any scholar or citizen, and is not worth justifying it with complicated theories."

Wu remarked, contrary to what legislator Ng raised during the enquiry, the foundation possesses comprehensive regulations to prevent conflicts of interest, and they are strictly enforced.

He also added that, due to doubts regarding the definition of who can be considered a "representative" of an association or institution, during the years of 2008 and 2009 the FM elab-



The president of the FM, Wu Zhiliang (right)

orated and enforced an "Internal Regulation" to clarify on those matters and since then they have been operating under both the administrative code and the additional regulation.

In this sense, Wu considers the donation, which was investigated by the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) and was considered to have been conducted "according to the law," was not only "lawful" but also "rational and justifiable." He added that all financial support from the institution is approved according to four principles: "first, the support

granted to institutions from outside Macau should be a small percentage when compared to the total amount of support granted by the foundation; second, the institutions outside Macau to receive support should be government-owned entities; third, the reasons for the support should be directly related to Macau or able to help its development; fourth, applicants should fulfill all the formalities required to be eligible to get the support."

The FM leader said that by the aforementioned principles, it does not agree with accusa-

tions of a "lack of credibility," concluding that "credibility is not determined by public participation, but [instead] depends on good regimes and rules."

Several of the lawmakers contributed to this topic including Pereira Coutinho who said, "the same regulations have always existed. The problem is that the results [from the regulations] aren't satisfactory."

The lawmaker added that, in "neighboring regions there are stricter regulations that include background checks and [verification of the] associations and institutions that members represent."

Coutinho thinks that the criteria that led to the Jinan University donation are unclear and

**If in this case there is no conflict of interest, when would that occur?**

AU KAM SAN

that the FM should "elevate its transparency."

Au Kam San was another of the lawmakers questioning the answers from Wu. In reference to the case that involves the Chief Executive (CE), Au asked: "If in this case there is no conflict of interest, when would that occur?" emphasizing the position held by the CE of "leadership and high administration."

Leong Veng Chai went one step further and proposed a ceiling on the size of a donation that can be directly approved by the FM, proposing that "high amounts" should be first scrutinized by the AL.

"Maybe we should implement a ceiling on - let's say - over [MOP]10 million which would require analysis [and approval] by the AL," he proposed.

Melinda Chan also agreed with the idea of establishing a ceiling. She separately suggested that the donation's "purpose" should be included on the public accounting report from the FM, instead of only the institution and the amount.

Wu once more replied saying "the criteria is based on the interest and importance to Macau. They [Jinan University] have [helped to educate] more than 20,000 students," he said.

"In the last few years we have been demanding that recipient associations raise the degree of transparency regarding the use of the subsidy. We ask that the associations present detailed reports with the expenses afforded by the subsidy, after it has been delivered and used," he explained.

## Infectious diseases building still not agreeable



Alexis Tam

**A**NOTHER of the highlighted topics of yesterday's AL plenary session was one raised by Song Pek Kei's spoken enquiry.

The lawmaker was calling for a general plan of the infectious diseases building that "still raises many questions from society."

Song remarked on the "urgency" always emphasized by the government on the construction of these facilities, which she thinks can be arranged in harmony with the views of residents.

The lawmaker's enquiry called for a complete plan that would include both a

"budget" and a "construction timeframe."

Replying to her questions was the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, who noted, "the government has been working on this case continuously."

The secretary explained that the decision to lower the height of the building after the debate on May 17 had resulted in "different understandings related to the provision of altimetry quotas" in such a way as to "avoid a potential lawsuit that would create further delay to the construction of the infectious diseases building."

The government representative added: "The separate and programmed demolition process of five buildings will start from now," adding that the works will last for a period of "120 working days and will have a total budgeted amount of over MOP1.1 million." He further remarked that a final decision had been agreed that the building will be eight storeys high and will have 80 isolation wards.

Zheng Anting commented: "We have waited for so long [for the building's

construction] maybe we can wait a little more," also noting that it seems a "rushed" calculation to arrive at "over a million to demolish the buildings [while] the project is still not concluded."

Ma Chi Seng also questioned the new number of wards, unsure of whether the new number would be sufficient.

Several of the lawmakers reiterated their stance that it would be preferable to build a larger unit located on the Islands Health Complex instead. **RM**

### 'ROOT PLANNING' GROUP AGAINST DEMOLISHMENT

**A GROUP** of local urban planners named "Root Planning" opposes the demolition of the old warehouse of the public hospital and the former drug rehabilitation center to make room for the new Infectious Diseases Building. The group claims the buildings have historical and architectural value and urge the government to rethink their decision to demolish them.



Daniel Beittler

BBAM 10TH ANNIVERSARY

# Macau, HK to be 'priority market' for post-EU Britain

**T**HE British Business Association of Macau (BBAM) held a celebratory reception on Wednesday night to commemorate the organization's 10th anniversary since its establishment in 2006. Among the prestigious guests in attendance were the U.K. trade commissioner for Hong Kong and Macau, Frances Moffett-Kouadio, and British consul general for Hong Kong and Macau, Caroline Wilson, who informed the Times of the possibilities for British business in Macau post-Brexit, and promised that the Hong Kong and Macau region would remain a "priority market."

The celebratory evening on Wednesday was well-attended by members of BBAM and other partners and guests of the organization, who were treated to a live performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams' "The Lark Ascending" and a reading by Caroline Wilson of George Meredith's poem of the same name.

Professor Kevin "Kit" Thompson, who introduced the performance, stated that it was quintessentially British, though often mistaken for being French. His Chinese students at the University of Macau sometimes think it sounds Chinese, he added.

Meanwhile, Henry Brockman, BBAM chairman and co-founder, spoke about the origins of the association and the ideas leading to its formation. He said the founders began making plans as early as 1996, though it would be another decade before the plans finally took root.

"To give you a brief summary of what I think we have achieved over the last 10 years - with all due respect to the formal representatives of the British government - is to have flown the flag for the U.K. in Macau. And I'm proud of that," he said.

"We have contributed a lot to developing U.K.-Macau ties," stated Brockman, adding that



BBAM chairman Henry Brockman (left) and British consul general Caroline Wilson (right) cut a birthday cake for the 10-year-old association

"obviously there has always been a British presence in Macau - there was a British presence here long before there was one in Hong Kong - but solidifying it into an organized chamber of commerce like this has really brought things [further], even if we have had no major trophy U.K. investment yet in Macau."

Caroline Wilson later extended her congratulations on the anniversary and thanked BBAM members for raising the profile of British business in the region.

She reassured guests that in regards to the U.K. post-EU referendum, "we are still members of the EU, we are full members and nothing has changed yet."

"[As] we are heading toward the exit [however], we are de-

termined to get the very best deal for the U.K. that we can get, including access to the [EU] single market, and also access to lots of other markets including this one," added Wilson.

"In case you hadn't noticed, British goods and services are even more competitive than before thanks to that little matter of [the fall in the price of] the sterling, so you're going to get a very good deal now," joked the consul general, who has been in the role since 2012.

Both the consul general and Frances Moffett-Kouadio agreed that in the next few years, when new trade agreements are expected to be signed between Britain and many other countries, the Hong Kong and Macau region will be a priority market.

"At the moment, [British] ministers are establishing a priority list of countries and markets around the world," said Wilson. "Clearly this region is going to be an absolute focus and a real priority. In fact our minister [of state for trade and investment] Lord Price has already been to Hong Kong since the referendum and we will have other significant visits in the future. So I think that's an indication of our priority."

Moffett-Kouadio added that there are already a significant number of British trade missions in Hong Kong and Macau, which is another indication of the market's importance to the U.K.

"We regularly bring trade missions to Macau [via Hong Kong] and I think, in some areas, Macau really punches above its weight," she said. "Certainly

in terms of cultural events and entertainment and tourism opportunities."

"We have certainly seen an increase in the number of trade missions coming to Macau," agreed Brockman, "and there seems to be a receptivity [in Macau] to the creative and other non-gaming elements that British businesses can provide."

Brockman, Wilson and Moffett-Kouadio also agreed that Britain can play a major part in the diversification of Macau's economy.

Wilson said that the U.K. can offer expertise in several crucial areas that could make Macau more competitive in the Pearl River Delta region, such as healthcare, education, vocational training, entertainment and the "experience economy."

"We are keenly aware of the need to diversify Macau's economy and we believe with a passion that British goods and services and the business that we represent can play a very important role in that," said Brockman.

Asked whether Hong Kong overshadows Macau in terms of interest from the U.K., Wilson conceded that Hong Kong "is obviously a much bigger market" but added that "doesn't mean that it steals all the lime-light."

"Investment in Macau and Hong Kong can be complementary," Moffett-Kouadio replied, refuting the idea that one would come at the expense of the other. "Both are trying to grow the creative sector, for example, and there is room for collaboration there."

**We are determined to get the very best deal for the U.K. that we can get, including access to the [EU] single market.**

CAROLINE WILSON  
BRITISH CONSUL GENERAL  
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# Macau airport expects 6.4 million passengers in 2016

**T**HE Macau International Airport Company Limited (CAM) has announced full-year targets of 55,000 flight movements, including 3,105 general aviation aircraft movements, 30,659 tonnes of cargo and 6.4 million passengers, released in a statement by CAM.

Chairman of the board of directors, Ma Iao Hang, has further announced that the growth of the local aviation industry remained steady under the current circumstances; particularly the successive drops in income in the gaming and tourism industries. Ma then summarized the results concerning the overall performance of the Macau International Airport (MIA) in the first half of 2016: MIA handled more than 3.25 million passengers and over 28,000 aircraft movements, corresponding to a year-on-year increa-



se of 16.7 percent and 5.8 percent, respectively; cargo traffic recorded 15,117 tons, a year-on-year increase of 8.3 percent; general aviation recorded 1,276 aircraft movements, which already represents 41.1 percent of the annual target. Along with the in-

creasing traffic volume and proper management of non-aviation incomes, the total income of MIA in this first semester increased 8.8 percent compared with the same period of last year.

In regards to the passenger market, four new

routes were added and four new airline companies began running operations in the first half of 2016. MIA currently operates 42 routes from Macau. The launch of a new route between Moscow and Macau has opened up a new pattern for MIA. The main structure of the Passenger Terminal Building North Extension, which was officially commenced in November 2015, was finished by the end of June this year. In turn, the optimization of the parking apron is underway; the number of slots is expected to increase from 24 to 40, and the existing resources will be used more efficiently. Relying on a strategy of frequent short steps, there has been a number of engineering programs carried out in MIA in order to optimize the equipment and to realize an airport extension.

## MSAR and China sign memorandum on reduced taxation

**T**HE local government signed a new memorandum with the mainland on the reduction of taxation on aircraft and ship leasing businesses and on tackling tax evasion on dividends, interest, royalties and capital gains.

The "Protocol on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Evasion of Income Tax" was signed in Beijing.

The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, and the deputy administrator of the State Administration of Taxation, Wang Qinfeng, signed the document on behalf of the MSAR and the Central Government, respectively.

The Government said in a statement

that the memorandum includes a reduction in the withholding tax on lease rentals in aircraft and ship leasing businesses (which are treated as royalties) from 7 percent to 5 percent; and enhancements to measures for tackling tax evasion on dividends, interest, royalties and capital gains.

Leong indicated that the new protocol on tax would improve the fairness of the taxation system as applied to residents of the region and of the mainland, as well as creating a better business environment and enhancing transparency in order to tackle tax evasion.

The arrangement was first signed in 2003 with subsequent revisions in 2009 and 2011.

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**REAL ESTATE MATTERS**  
**Is my security deposit safe?**  
 Part 2 of 3

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



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In the second part of this three part article, we look what steps can be taken to maximize the possibility of getting back the whole security deposit when a tenant vacates a property. What steps can you take to ensure you get your deposit back? Some of the steps you can take:

**A. Check your inventory**  
 Replace any broken and missing items, and of course repair anything that could be considered damaged. Arranging everything neatly so it can be easily counted is also a great help, and you will be surprised how long it takes to go through a full inventory count.

**B. Check the contract**  
 Are there any special conditions about the return of the apartment that you need to comply with? If so, you can either make sure that you comply with them or contact the agent or landlord ahead of time to make an alternative arrangement.

**C. Give the correct notice**  
 Each time a landlord needs to replace a tenant it costs them money. Ensure that you give enough notice in line with Macau law and your contract. The Minimum Rental Contract Term according to the Macau Government Website on Tenancy, there is a MAXIMUM period of 30 years that a rental agreement can run, but there is NO minimum period. If there is no time frame stipulated on an agreement, the government deems the agreement to be valid for 1 year. Under Section 1038 of Macau Civil Code, the Landlord does not have right to terminate a tenancy agreement for residential purposes within 2 years from the starting date of the lease term unless it agreed by both parties. Simply put, it means that if you have an agreement that is 2 years or longer, the landlord cannot terminate the agreement prior to the end of the initial 2-year period. However if both parties agree to a shorter contract that will

terminate after 1 year for example, this is a legally binding agreement

**D. Repair any damage**  
 Hanging pictures and mirrors in the apartment when you arrive is of course standard procedure, but do make sure that you fill and paint the holes that are made in the wall before leaving.

**E. Return the apartment and any linen clean!**  
 If you have pets ensure you do a deep clean of rugs, sofas and their favorite areas. Remove all food from the fridge and freezer and ensure they are thoroughly cleaned, and getting a cleaner in to leave the place tidy and free from overflowing trash bags will also be a big help.

**F. Talk to the landlord or their agent in advance about any concerns**  
 Most of all be pleasant and helpful to the person you are dealing with and show that you are doing your best.

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# Hong Kong stock benchmark enters bull market, erasing 2016 loss

HONG Kong's benchmark stock index erased losses for the year to enter a bull market amid a broad advance for regional equities. Property developers led gains.

The Hang Seng Index added 0.5 percent at the close, taking its increase from a three-year low in February to 20 percent. Cheung Kong Property Holdings Ltd. climbed amid expectations interest rates will stay low. New World Development Co. rose for a ninth straight day, its longest winning run in seven years, after Credit Suisse Group AG raised the stock's rating. The Shanghai Composite Index advanced for the first time in four days.

Real estate companies in Hong Kong, where borrowing costs tend to move in tandem with the U.S., have boosted the equity rally as positive earnings surprises helped push the S&P 500 Index to a record high Wednesday. Japanese stocks climbed as Kyodo News reported that the government was considering a stimulus program.

"Hong Kong shares' valuation is quite attractive and investors are taking advantage of that and the good momentum in U.S. stocks," said Wang Zheng, Shanghai-based chief investment officer at Jingxi Investment Management Co., which oversees about USD300 million. "Given the fundamentals on U.S. equities are solid, the run-up on Hong Kong stocks will probably carry on."

The Hang Seng Index climbed to 22,000.49 in Hong



Kong, taking its gain for 2016 to 0.4 percent. The gauge is valued at 11.5 times its projected 12-month earnings, 12 percent cheaper than the Shanghai Composite, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index of mainland companies listed in the city and the Shanghai gauge increased 0.4 percent each.

The MSCI Asia Pacific Index added 0.4 percent, led by Japanese equities after Kyodo News reported the government is considering a 20 trillion yen (\$187 billion) stimulus program.

New World Development gained 1.7 percent, capping a nine-day, 13 percent gain, after Credit Suisse lifted its rating to outperform from neutral. The stock has rallied 47 percent since Feb. 12, the most among the Hang Seng Index's 50 constituents. Cheung Kong advanced 2.2 percent and Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd. climbed 0.6 percent yesterday.

In mainland trading, liquor makers and appliance manufacturers gained, with Kweichow Moutai Co. rising the

most in a week, while Jiangsu Yanghe Brewery Joint-Stock Co. added 0.9 percent. Midea Group Co. advanced 2.8 percent after the Chinese company said it has an almost 86 percent stake in German robot maker Kuka AG following a tender offer.

Chinese railroad stocks advanced after the nation's planning body unveiled a proposal to expand the network over the next 10 years. China Railway Group Ltd. increased 0.4 percent and Gem-Year Industrial Co., which makes carriage bolts, jumped 2.4 percent.

"The government wants to use infrastructure investment, such as in railways, to counter a decline in economic growth," said Jingxi's Wang.

Margin traders increased holdings of mainland shares purchased with borrowed money to a three-month high. The outstanding balance of margin debt on the Shanghai and Shenzhen exchanges rose to 882.1 billion yuan (\$132.2 billion) on Wednesday to the highest level since April 19. **Bloomberg**

# Lufthansa, EasyJet warn of terror threat to airline profit

EUROPEAN airlines are warning that more turbulence is ahead for their bottom lines as terror attacks sap demand for short- and long-haul travel during the crucial summer travel season, with the effects magnified by aggressive expansion to take advantage of low fuel prices.

Deutsche Lufthansa AG reversed course on its 2016 forecast, calling for a decline instead of a gain in operating profit, as overseas travelers balk at traveling to Europe following a spate of deadly terrorism attacks, Lufthansa said late Wednesday. The German carrier issued the profit warning because it no longer sees a quick rebound.

EasyJet Plc has offered summer fare promotions for the first time ever amid the worst market in 10 years, according to Chief Executive Officer Carolyn McCall. Rather than a hoped-for revival, revenue per seat is down about 7.5 percent so far in the three months through September, with about 35 percent of bookings still to come. The Luton, England-based discount airline, which faces extra burdens following Britain's referendum to exit the European Union, stepped back from a previous profit forecast and didn't offer a new target amid the uncertainty.

"We've never, ever, in a summer had to promote seats in June and July and we have done so this year," McCall said on a call with reporters. "From a customer point of view, that's fantastic; from a business point of view, your pricing being as low as that in your peak summer trading period is not such a good thing."

The terror incidents are exacerbating the business challenges airlines were already facing. Carriers worldwide have added flights as a drop in fuel prices reduced the cost of expansion, but



the profit gains have been limited as the extra seating outpaces demand growth. Consumers, already rocked by attacks in Brussels and Paris and an unexplained crash of an EgyptAir plane, have dropped travel plans since the killing of 84 people in Nice on the French Riviera in mid-July.

"Because of low fuel, there's more capacity in the market, and you also have the fact that it's the summer period as well, so it's the worst possible timing in the year for these type of headwinds," said Jack Diskin, an analyst at Goodbody Stockbrokers in Dublin.

Lufthansa is the first European airline to tie terrorism concerns directly to a profit warning, though Ryanair Holdings Plc cited the effects of attacks when it scaled back an earnings-growth outlook in May. EasyJet refrained from making an earnings prediction for the rest of its fiscal year because of the Nice incident and an attempted coup in Turkey. Those issues come on top of earlier disruptions due to air-traffic strikes, bad weather and an attack that closed the Brussels airport in March. Lufthansa expects a slide of 8 percent to 9 percent in unit revenue in the second half of 2016, excluding currency effects, it said Wednesday. **Bloomberg**

## corporate bits

### FAMILY SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT MGM MACAU



MGM Macau is offering a wide array of fun-filled activities, including creative workshops, interactive experiences at the aquarium, nail and body art as well as themed cuisines for families to enjoy as a pleasant retreat from the summer heat at Grande Praça.

The "Creativity Workshop" for children will be held every weekend in July and August. The workshop features four different sessions, ranging from cookie decoration, dough figu-

rine making, mask painting to lantern decoration.

Children aged between 3 and 12 are welcome to join MGM's onsite professional pastry chefs and artists to create handicrafts together. Each child who participates in the "cookie decoration" session will receive an apron with his or her name on it.

According to a press release issued by the gaming operator, the 8.3-meter-tall MGM Aquarium houses a new colorful mix of fish to greet guests this summer. MGM's TRIA Spa team members are also offering souvenirs at the Body Art Booth in Grande Praça. Guests are treated to free body art, including temporary tattoos and nail art by the spa specialists.

### HUNAN REALITY TV SHOW FEATURES MELCO CROWN RESORTS

"Up Idol II," a renowned Hunan reality TV show credited for jumpstarting "The Age of Female Reality Shows" in China, has chosen Macau as the filming destination in its comeback series. The Macau episode of "Up Idol II" will be broadcast today.

According to a statement by Melco, "after the huge success of season I, 'Up Idol II' will continue to showcase the beauty of Asian women whilst highlighting the uniqueness of each filming destination and the cultural exchange."

"The eight goddesses will compete in different challenges at various attractions. Their objective is to earn the right to choose first which



role in 'The House of Dancing Water' they would like to play. The cast will need to learn the moves and the dances from the internationally acclaimed performing team," said Sunny Yu, senior vice president, Entertainment and Projects of Melco Crown Entertainment Limited.

The highlights of the "eight-goddess" version of 'The House of Dancing Water' will be aired on July 29.

### 'CTM YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2016' CONCLUDED

CTM has concluded its "CTM Youth Development Program 2016" yesterday with 20 candidates completing a one-month training internship opportunity with the telecommunication company.

CTM organized the program with the co-organization of Bosco Youth Service Network and the Macau Federation of Trade Unions.

The 20 candidates received experience in various diversified activities including community care service and an adventure camp. According to CTM, the program has enabled the candidates to increase their understanding of the local telecom industry.

The program was held be-



tween June 17 and July 21, with its graduation ceremony being held yesterday at Macau Tower. During the ceremony, awards were presented to the winners of the "CTM 35th Anniversary Logo Design Contest."

The champion, first runner-up and second runner-up of the contest were awarded a cash prize of MOP20,000; MOP12,000; MOP8,000 respectively and a trophy.



# Hainan Airlines buys TAP Air Portugal share



**HAINAN** Airlines acquired 25 percent of the issue of TAP – Air Portugal convertible bonds for 30 million euros, announced the Chinese company in a statement this week.

This transaction, carried out through Azul (David Neeleman's Brazilian company that is part of the Atlantic Gateway consortium, a TAP shareholder), allows the Chinese group to increase its stake in TAP to 23 percent and gain a seat on the Portuguese airline's board of directors.

The Chinese group recognized in the statement that the financial situation of the Portuguese airline is not "optimistic" but noted the

strategic significance of the deal.

The issue of bonds convertible into TAP SGPS shares approved in March had two series, the first of 90 million euros subscribed by Brazilian airline Azul and the second, 30 million euros, subscribed by Portuguese state stakeholding company Parpública SGPS or by Azul.

The second series was subscribed by the state through Parpública, completing the placement of the issue proposed in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Portuguese State and the Atlantic Gateway consortium, as part of the flagship airline's privatization process. **MDT/Macauhub**

## ANGOLA

# Consul general in China promotes economic diversification

**T**HE need for diversification of Angola's economy was the basis of a visit to three provinces of China by the new consul-general of Angola in Guangzhou, according to a statement quoted by Angolan news agency Angop.

In meetings held in the capital of Guangxi and the provinces of Fujian and Hainan, the consul-general João Baptista da Costa asked partners to mobilize companies and local entrepreneurs to form partnerships in Angola, under the private investment policy in force in the country.

The diplomat recalled the priority sectors whose production could help to develop the Angolan economy, including agriculture, food and manufacturing and the services sectors such as insurance and reinsurance.

In Nanning, capital of the autonomous region of Guangxi, Costa established contacts for cooperation in the development of biodiversity and a green economy and received an invitation from the local authorities for Angola to take part in Expo Asia to be held next September. **MDT/Macauhub**

## ADVERTORIAL

# PERFECT TIME

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## TRANSPORTATION

# Uber backers said to push for Didi truce in costly China war

Alex Barinka, Eric Newcomer and Lulu Yilun Chen

**U**BER Technologies Inc. investors have a message for management: It's time to wrap up the costly fight in China.

Several institutional investors are pushing the ride-hailing company to ink a partnership agreement with China's market leader Didi Chuxing, according to people familiar with the matter, stemming the billions of dollars Uber is spending to expand in the region.

Investors in Uber and Didi have discussed a potential deal, though the companies' own executives would need to negotiate any truce, the people said, asking not to be identified as the discussions aren't public. One Uber investor said he's had more than 10 meetings and calls with Didi shareholders that want the companies to cut a deal. He declined to discuss the identity of the investors.

Uber and Didi are bleeding cash in China as they fight for dominance in the world's most populous country. Uber has said that it is spending at least USD1 billion a year to expand its business in the country. Both are giving out incentives for drivers and free rides to compete for market share.

Benchmark's Bill Gurley - an Uber investor and board member - spoke briefly with Didi President Jean Liu at the Code Conference in Rancho Palos Verdes, California, a few months ago, according to a person familiar with the matter. Liu, who speaks fluent English unlike Didi Chief Executive Officer Cheng Wei, has



made several trips to the U.S., where she evangelizes for the company and meets with backers including Apple Inc.

She also met this year with Emil Michael, Uber's senior vice president of business, another person said. The people declined to discuss whether the conversations included explicit talk of a deal or partnership.

The two companies are not currently discussing a deal, a separate person familiar with the matter said.

With both companies asserting their intent to grow independently, executives at Uber and Didi are concerned that appearing open to a deal could undercut their negotia-

ting leverage with each other, the people said. Didi is in the lead on its home turf, with 14 million drivers signed up in 400 Chinese cities. Uber has set a target of operating in 100 cities this year.

Uber set up a separate corporate entity to insulate its Chinese business, which has gathered local Chinese investors. Still, the parent company has also invested its own money, keeping the units financially intertwined.

Among private technology companies, the rivals are giants. Uber, which was last valued at nearly \$68 billion, says it has access to more than \$11 billion in cash and equity. Didi, which was last valued at

Many investors believe Uber and Didi are playing a game of chicken - burning cash and waiting for their competitor to concede defeat or come to the table

\$28 billion, says it has more than \$10 billion at its disposal in cash and equity.

That cash has been accumulated, at least in part, in an attempt to signal a willingness to continue spending in China. Many investors believe Uber and Didi are playing a game of chicken - burning cash and waiting for their competitor to concede defeat or come to the table.

Outside of China, business is faring better. Uber has said that it is profitable in the U.S. and Canada. But its profits in the developed world are being offset by losses in developing markets.

One potential roadblock to a partnership agreement is how fees would be split, according to one of the people. Didi would want more of the combined revenue share than Uber would be willing to give up, the person said. Investors have also proposed that Uber China be absorbed by Didi, with Uber becoming a minority sharehol-

der in the Chinese company, another person said.

A representative for Uber declined to comment. Didi Chuxing said in an e-mailed statement it "does not have such plans" and would not comment further.

Didi's no stranger to partnering with peers. The company has already formed a global coalition with Lyft Inc. in the U.S., India's Ola and Southeast Asia's Grab.

Its \$100 million investment in Lyft, Uber's main U.S. ride-hailing competitor, further complicates potential negotiations. Lyft has hired the boutique investment bank Qatalyst Partners LP to explore deal options, a person familiar with the matter said in June.

A string of recent mergers in China set a precedent for investors getting what they want, despite initial reluctance from company founders.

Didi and its previous nemesis, Hangzhou Kuaidi Technology Co., combined in early 2015 to form China's largest taxi hailing service, after pressure from investors including Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. and Tencent Holdings Ltd. Last October, online travel companies Ctrip.com International Ltd. and Qunar Cayman Islands Ltd. followed suit, agreeing to merge.

Having raised more than \$15 billion, Uber has a long bench of investors from venture capitalists and hedge funds to sovereign wealth funds. Shareholders' money is currently locked up indefinitely as CEO Travis Kalanick has said he'll wait as long as possible to go public.

Stemming losses in China is one of the main things holding up Uber's potential initial public offering, according to people familiar with the matter, alongside the company's regulatory battles. At its current private valuation, Uber is not only one of the biggest closely held technology startups, but also bigger than 85 percent of the companies in the S&P 500 Index. **Bloomberg**

## Panchen Lama presides over key Buddhist ritual



**C**HINA'S hand-picked Panchen Lama is presiding over a key Buddhist ritual being held in Tibet for the first time in 50 years, in a move criticized by overseas Tibetan groups as an attempt to legitimize him as a religious leader.

The second-highest figure in Tibetan Buddhism was present for the Kalachakra instructions that began yesterday at his home monastery in sou-

thwestern Tibet, the official Xinhua News Agency said. The report said an estimated 50,000 Buddhists were attending the four-day event.

Beijing named its own Panchen Lama in 1995 after rejecting the 6-year-old boy who was recognized by the Dalai Lama, the highest figure in Tibetan Buddhism who fled into exile in India in 1959 after an abortive uprising against Chinese forces.

The government has long vilified the Dalai Lama as a separatist and denies his traditional right to recognize reincarnated lamas.

China claims it has had sovereignty over Tibet for more than seven centuries. Many Tibetans say Tibet was essentially independent for most of that time.

London-based Free Tibet said the resumption of the ritual was intended to bolster the standing of

a cleric who many Tibetans regard as a fake.

"The officially atheist Chinese government has long tried to impose its authority on Tibet by co-opting Tibetan Buddhism," Free Tibet director Eleanor Byrne-Rosengren said in a press release. The Panchen Lama's "presence at this Kalachakra stems from the Chinese occupation rather than from genuine religious legitimacy." **AP**



Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

A Hong Kong court yesterday found teen protest leader Joshua Wong guilty of taking part in an illegal rally that sparked massive student-led pro-democracy street protests in the southern Chinese city two years ago.

The 19-year-old Wong tweeted that he "was found guilty of the charge of participating unlawful assembly by court of Hong Kong."

A magistrate handed down the verdict for Wong and two other young student leaders, Nathan Law and Alex Chow, following a trial earlier this year.

Chow was convicted of the same charge while Law was found guilty of inciting others to join an illegal assembly, according to local media reports.

The three face up to two years in prison. They're due for sentencing on Aug. 15 said Wong, who became globally famous

# Hong Kong teen leader Joshua Wong guilty in protest trial



Teen protest leader Joshua Wong shouts slogans outside a magistrate's court in Hong Kong

**No matter what is the penalty or the price that we need to pay, we will still continue to fight against suppression from the government.**

JOSHUA WONG

for his role in leading the protests, which marked the former British colony's most tumultuous period in decades.

"We might need to go into prison. However, no matter what is the penalty or the price that we need to pay, we will still continue to fight against

suppression from the government," Wong told reporters after the verdict. "Facing the largest communist regime in the world, it's a long-term battle for us to fight for democracy."

The three were charged with storming into a courtyard dubbed Civic Square beside

the Hong Kong government complex on Sept. 26, 2014, to protest Beijing's decision to restrict elections for the semiautonomous region's top leader.

They and dozens of other young activists climbed a tall fence or rushed past a barricade surrounding the square,

which had been open to the public until the government cut off access months before.

Huge crowds of demonstrators turned out to demand their release after they were detained by police, who responded two days later with volleys of tear gas. The move backfired, driving even more protesters to take to the streets, where they remained for 79 days to press their demands for greater democracy in what became known as the Umbrella Movement.

It's the first conviction for Wong, who has been involved in several other court cases this year. Last month he was acquitted of obstruction charges stemming from a separate anti-China protest earlier in 2014. He's also involved in a contempt case still before the courts.

Amnesty International criticized Hong Kong's Public Order Ordinance, on which the prosecution based its case, noting it has been criticized by the United Nations Human Rights Committee for not meeting international human rights law and standards on the right of peaceful assembly.

"The prosecution of student leaders on vague charges smacks of political payback by the authorities," said Mabel Au, the group's Hong Kong director. AP

## Wife, son of prominent Chinese dissident arrive in US

Haven Daley, Kristin J. Bender

THE pregnant wife and 4-year-old son of a prominent Chinese dissident have sought refuge in the San Francisco Bay Area after leaving Thailand, where she said she no longer felt safe.

"My husband is a political activist and fights for freedom and democracy, which puts him in the position of being the enemy of a totalitarian state," Lui Xiaodong told The Associated Press in an interview Wednesday. "We have seen that the government is likely to use the family as a hostage against activists like my husband. That's why we

left and will be safe here."

Liu, 40, the wife of Zhao Changqing, arrived with the boy Tuesday from Bangkok. She was escorted by Yang Jianli, president of Initiatives for China/Citizen Power for China, a grassroots movement dedicated to a peaceful transition to democracy.

Yang said Liu will live with supporters in suburban Hayward and take care of her children. Her baby is due Aug. 23.

Liu and her son left China in May for Bangkok but said she didn't feel safe there.

"I knew the stories. That's why I was anxious. I was afraid they'd kidnap me and take me back like

they had done to other people," Liu said.

The 47-year-old Zhao has been a leading defender of human rights and democracy in China since the 1989 Tiananmen Students Movement. As a former student leader and a prominent political "prisoner of conscience," he has been imprisoned five times in 27 years.

Liu said her husband was released a week ago and is living in China under heavy surveillance.

She said she spoke to him while traveling and he is doing fine physically but having difficulty finding a permanent home. She said he will stay in China to continue his work.

In 2005, Zhao refused to participate in a flag-raising ceremony or sing the national anthem. He was put into solitary confinement for more than a month. He was later returned to solitary confinement for refusing to take part in military drills and for receiving Falun Gong members, according to published reports.

Zhao was part of a loose network of grassroots activists known as the New Citizens Movement who in 2013 were targeted by Chinese authorities as part of a broad crackdown on dissent.

The movement was known in China's beleaguered community of activists for staging small



Liu Xiaodong, 40, wife of prominent Chinese dissident Zhao Changqing, her 4-year-old son, and Dr. Yang Jianli, president of Initiatives for China/Citizen Power for China, after their arrival on a flight from Bangkok at San Francisco

protests to call for education equality or the disclosure of public officials' assets to curb corruption.

Chinese authorities found Zhao and three other activists guilty of "gathe-

ring a crowd to disturb order in a public" for planning street protests and sentenced Zhao in April 2014 to two years and six months' imprisonment. AP



# No 'Pokemon Go' yet in Japan, but government already worried

Satoshi Sugiyama, Tokyo

**T**HE "Pokemon Go" craze has yet to hit Japan, but reports of robberies, traffic accidents and other mishaps abroad already have the government worried.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said yesterday that the government wants players to follow guidelines issued by a national center for incident readiness and cybersecurity.

In a one-page flier, the government-run agency has released nine tips advising players of the augmented reality game to be cautious of scams and their personal safety as well as to carry extra batteries and be mindful of heatstroke.

Fans are eagerly awaiting the launch of "Pokemon Go" in the character's country of birth. A report that the game would finally be released in Japan on Wednesday raised expectations, but turned out to be false.



A stuffed toy of Pikachu, a Pokemon character, is surrounded by children during a Pokemon festival in Tokyo

That left gamers in Akihabara, Tokyo's center for all things tech, still pining to start catching Pokemon in their neighborhoods.

"There are people who have achieved a high score abroad, so I hope it gets released in Japan soon," 16-year-old Souta Horime said.

The game was launched two weeks ago in the United States, Australia and New Zealand, and is available in more than 20 countries, mostly in Europe and North America.

The developer, Niantic, has not announced a release date for Japan. McDonaldsJapan, though, said in a brief statement late Wednesday that it is collaborating with "Pokemon Go" and that the project will be launched soon.

Motomasa Takahashi, 21, said he would be careful playing the game, after seeing reports of accidents related to it. A driver who crashed into another car in Fall City, Washington, in the U.S., reportedly told authorities he

was distracted by the game.

Takahashi said he was fascinated with the game and unhappy that it has been already released elsewhere but not in Japan, even though it is the birthplace of Pokemon.

Serkan Toto, a games industry consultant in Tokyo, said Pokemon itself may be Japanese in origin, but "Pokemon Go" is an American-developed game with a Japanese character or characters layered on it. He also pointed to reports that fears of server outages, which have disrupted the game elsewhere, may be delaying the release.

"Nowhere in the world are the mobile gamers, the end consumers, as critical as in Japan. In the U.S., people are accustomed to slow networks, to server outages," he said.

Naoki Sakuraba, 21, saw a silver lining in the delay. He is anticipating that Japanese fans will get an improved version of the game as technological glitches reported in other countries are repaired. **AP**

AUSTRALIA-THAILAND

## Flight diverted as drunken passengers throw punches

**A** flight from Sydney to Thailand was diverted to Indonesia to offload a group of drunken Australian traveling companions who started throwing punches at each other, officials said yesterday.

Jetstar Flight 27 was carrying 314 passengers when it diverted to Bali on Wednesday night after the six who were traveling together to the tourist island of Phuket became "extremely disruptive among themselves" and refused requests from the crew, the Australian budget airline said in a statement.

The airline said all six were forced off the plane, but Bali officials said only five men were held by airport security and faced deportation to Australia.

It is not clear what happened to the sixth passenger.

Bali airport manager Trikora Harjo said an investigation determined that the only reason the men started fighting was because they were under the influence of alcohol.

"They were not seriously injured, just bruised," Harjo said. **AP**

AD



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Rod McGuirk, Canberra

**T**HE oceanographer whose calculations helped an American adventurer find potential debris from Flight 370 said yesterday that the Malaysia Airlines jetliner could have crashed slightly north of the current search area.

Adventurer Blaine Gibson handed Malaysian authorities in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday three pieces of debris and personal belongings that he found on Madagascar beaches in June, which he suspects came from the Boeing 777 that vanished with 239 people on board during a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on March 8, 2014.

Western Australia University oceanographer Charitha Pattiaratchi said the same drift modeling that Gibson relied on led his team of oceanographers to suspect that the airliner could have gone down just north of the search area in the southern Indian Ocean.

"The best guess that we think is that it's probably around the Broken Ridge region, which is slightly to the north of the area that they're looking at," Pattiaratchi said.

But he could not eliminate the possibility that the aircraft had indeed crashed within the 120,000 square kilometers of seabed currently being searched southwest of Australia.

Despite the drift modeling and other predictions officials have made about the plane's possible flight path, no one knows what happened to the aircraft or precisely where it crashed in what has become one of aviation's biggest mysteries.

Officials from Malaysia, China and Australia will meet in Kuala Lumpur today to discuss the future of the underwater search, with fewer than 10,000 square kilometers remaining to be scanned by ships towing sonar equipment. The search of the

# Oceanographer says Flight 370 could be north of search area



American adventurer Blaine Gibson speaks to The Associated Press during an interview at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport

seabed has not yielded a single clue.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau, which has conducted the seabed search on Malaysia's behalf for almost two years, did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Pattiaratchi's views.

Drift modeling was not used to define the search area because no parts of Flight 370 had been found before a wing flap washed up on La Reunion island off the African coast a year ago. The search area was determined by analysis of satellite signals that the plane emitted in its final hours.

But the ATSB has previously said that wreckage found far away on the southwestern

shores of the Indian Ocean was consistent with the plane crashing in the expansive search area.

Pattiaratchi's modeling was based on how long the first piece of confirmed Flight 370 wreckage took to reach La Reunion, and his team's calculations of the effects of currents, wind and waves on drifting debris put the crash site just north of the current search area.

Pattiaratchi said the results were not definitive. But families of victims are calling for the search to be shifted based on vague clues from debris already found if the seabed search turns up nothing.

The ATSB, like Pattiaratchi, had identified Madagascar as

a potential place for debris to wash up.

Another six pieces of potential debris found there by Gibson are waiting with Madagascar authorities for Malaysia to collect.

Pattiaratchi said he had told Gibson that Flight 370 debris was likely to concentrate on Madagascar. Pattiaratchi's earlier advice had led Gibson to Mozambique where he found debris in February that experts later determined came from Flight 370.

"He rang me from the Maldives and said: 'Where should I go? Should I go to Rodrigues, Mauritius, Reunion, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa?'" Pattiaratchi said yester-

■ Officials from Malaysia, China and Australia will meet in Kuala Lumpur today to discuss the future of the underwater search

day. "I said: 'Your best bet is the northeast part of Madagascar,' which is where he went."

Five pieces of debris found in the southwestern Indian Ocean have been determined as almost certainly from Flight 370.

Gibson gives credit to Pattiaratchi and Australian government oceanographer David Griffin for his finds, although only one has been confirmed as part of Flight 370. Griffin's advice led Gibson to a second Madagascar island where he found the potential debris that he brought to Malaysia.

Gibson said he had been told by Malaysian officials that costs were the reason that a Malaysian investigator had twice canceled plans to fly to Madagascar to retrieve debris he had found.

"They tell me it's a budgetary situation," he said. "If you're spending hundreds of millions of dollars to search under water and finding nothing, and it's only a plane ticket to pick up six pieces and some personal effects, you ought to just do it." AP

## BANGLADESH

# Opposition leader's son sentenced for laundering



Tarique Rahman (center), who was charged with receiving bribes

**B**ANGLADESH'S High Court yesterday sentenced a son of the country's top opposition leader to seven years in jail in a money laundering case, overturning an acquittal by a lower court.

Tarique Rahman lives in exile but remains an opposition figure and heir apparent to his mother, former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, whose rivalry with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina runs deep and strong in

Bangladesh.

Defense lawyer Zainul Abedin said the court also fined him 200 million takas (USD2.54 million). Abedin said they have not decided if they will appeal to the Supreme Court.

A Dhaka trial court in 2013 acquitted Rahman of charges that he and a businessman friend siphoned off 204.1 million takas to Singapore between 2003 and 2007.

Rahman, the senior vice chairman of Zia's

Bangladesh Nationalist Party, was arrested on various corruption charges in 2007 during a state of emergency under a military-backed caretaker government after his mother dithered on handing over power peacefully at the end of her five-year rule. He has lived in London since 2008 after securing bail on medical grounds.

The court ordered authorities to take steps to bring him back, but Bangladesh does not have an

extradition treaty with Britain.

The ruling is the latest challenge to Zia and her son as their party has struggled to build an effective anti-government movement amid low confidence and a crack-down on the party by the government.

Lawyers said the court upheld a seven-year jail term for Rahman's friend, Giasuddin Al Mamun, given by the trial court in 2013. He is in prison. AP





### DISCOVER THE ORIGINS OF ART IN MONTMARTRE

Located in the north of Paris, Montmartre has long been known as the city's legendary artist enclave. It was once the home of famous masters like Edgar Degas and Pablo Picasso during 'Belle Epoque' period in the late 19th century. This July at Aux Beaux Arts, we invite you to experience the second journey of our five part 'Belle Epoque' themed series - a specially crafted 5-course Montmartre menu at MOP 588\* per person plus an option of wine pairing at MOP200\*. Join us on this adventure to the exquisite tastes of this golden age and receive a complimentary set of collector cards.

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# Libya unity government denounces French military involvement

Rami Musa, Benghazi

**T**HE U.N.-brokered government in Libya denounced France's military involvement in the country, shortly after the French acknowledged that their special forces were operating in the war-wrecked North African nation.

France yesterday reiterated its support to the unity government in Tripoli, just a day after it had confirmed that three of its soldiers were killed in eastern Libya — the first time the French government had acknowledged its presence in the oil-rich country.

The acknowledgment was also an embarrassment for France because it exposed that the French forces are in eastern Libya, fighting alongside Brig. Gen. Khalifa Hifter — a bitter opponent of the Tripoli-based U.N.-backed unity government.

Hifter has also for the past two years has been fighting Islamic militias, including an al-Qaida-affiliated group in Benghazi.

On Tuesday, Libyan officials first told The Associated Press that an Islamic militia had shot down a helicopter near the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi, killing two French officers, in an area called al-Magrun, west of Benghazi. French and Libyan officials have not provided information on where the third officer died.



In this March 18, 2015 file photo, Gen. Khalifa Hifter, the head of armed forces based in the east of Libya speaks during an interview with The Associated Press, in al-Marj

Ahmed al-Mesmari, the spokesman for Hifter's forces, told reporters in Benghazi on Wednesday that the French were gathering intelligence on the Islamic State affiliate in Libya.

The deaths of the French officers reveal secretive Western military cooperation with the anti-Islamist eastern forces opposed to the U.N.-brokered government and underscored international community's contradictions where fo-

reign military forces are siding by rival militias and forces in Libya.

Also Wednesday, hundreds of protesters demonstrated in Tripoli against France's involvement in Libya, burning the French flag and calling for attacks on French business interests in Libya. Al-Sadeq al-Gharyani, an ultraconservative cleric, denounced France's involvement as "foreign invasion."

Dodging an explanation as to why French special forces are operating

in Libya, French Foreign Ministry spokesman Romain Nadal said yesterday that "support for the Government of National Accord is a priority for France."

"France encourages all Libyan forces to be placed under the authority of the government to participate in the recovery of the country and the fight against terrorism," Nadal added.

After the 2011 ouster of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi by

NATO-backed rebels, Libya slid into chaos and years later, it split into two governments and parliaments, each backed by a loose array of militias and tribes. In December, a U.N. deal created a new unity government and presidency council, aiming to heal the rift and unite Libyan militias and forces under a joint command.

However, the new government has been facing multiple challenges and resistance from various groups. According to the deal, Libya's internationally-recognized parliament must give a vote of confidence to the new government but it has so far failed to do so, causing political deadlock. That parliament also supports the anti-Islamist forces under Hifter's command.

For the past two years, foreign missions and military experts have joined the two rival sides.

Meanwhile, Libya's pro-government militias — mainly from the western city of Misrata — have been waging a two-month offensive against the Islamic State group in the militants' last bastion in Sirte, a city on the Mediterranean. Reports have suggested that British forces are involved in the anti-IS assault while American warplanes have struck several IS positions in the western city of Sabratha and the eastern town of Ajdabiya. **AP**

## US treasury chief backs Greece debt relief

Elena Becatoros, Athens

**U.S.** Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew stressed yesterday the importance of making Greece's debt sustainable, praising the country's progress in reforming its economy as part of its bailouts but urging it to keep implementing the necessary measures.

Speaking in Athens after talks with Greek Finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos, Lew said further progress on reforms was important so European creditors could begin discussions with the International Monetary Fund on "the timing and details of debt relief."

"Putting Greece's debt on a sustainable path is critical to Greece's long-term economic health and I encourage all parties to be flexible to successfully conclude this fall's negotiations," Lew said.

Lew stopped in Greece amid political turmoil in neighboring Turkey triggered by a deadly failed coup attempt, and following the referendum vote in Britain to leave the European Union.

"The sooner these issues [with Greek debt] are resolved the better [...] My view of the geopolitical significance of Greece is not new," Lew said.

Greek national debt is set to peak this year at 182.8 percent of gross domestic product, according to EU Commission

forecasts.

That is mainly made up of bailout loans from other eurozone countries and the IMF, which Greece has been dependent on since 2010.

To qualify for its bailout loans, successive governments have had to implement austerity measures and reforms, including in the labor market, pensions and social security, as well as raising taxes and selling state assets. The reforms have come at a high cost, with Greece's economy contracting by a quarter and leaving unemployment hovering at around 25 percent.

Making the country's debt sustainable in the long term has been a key issue, with Greece insisting they need to be restructured.

"Our position has been clear for quite some time that it's important for debt restructuring to be part of an overall plan for Greece" and for the country's economic future, Lew said, adding that achieving debt sustainability and stability were key to ensuring a return to long-term economic growth.

The IMF, which has yet to commit to Greece's third bailout program, has argued strongly in favor of debt relief for Greece and has suggested the forecasts underpinning the Greek bailout plan are too optimistic.



United States Secretary of the Treasury Jacob Lew (left) addresses journalists yesterday during a news conference with Greek finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos in Athens

Although eurozone creditors have ruled out an outright cut in Greece's debt, the repayment timetable for loans could be extended and interest rates could be reduced.

Lew stressed it was key for the country to continue implementing the reforms it has committed to.

"Completing the work, continuing to implement privatization, doing the work that's needed to address the non-performing loans will very much strengthen the position that Greece brings in to a negotiation in the coming months."

Lew was also meeting with Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and other government officials before heading to China for a meeting of G-20 finance ministers and central bank governors. **AP**

## Turkish premier says powers to be used swiftly

**TURKISH** Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Simsek said the state of emergency will be used to act swiftly against the perpetrators of the coup.

Simsek insisted that the state of emergency would be different to those imposed in the country previously and that the rule of law will be upheld. He laid out his hope it would be short-lived.

"We will use it in a fashion closer to our allies like France and others," he told reporters as Parliament was debating President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's declaration of a three-month state of emergency on Wednesday.

Simsek said the government will go after "rogue" elements within the state and that there could have been "carnage in the streets" had the coup succeeded.

"We owe it to our people to go after them. We will have a legal framework for it."

Simsek said there will be proper judicial review, but didn't elaborate.

Turkey experienced a national state of emergency in the immediate years after martial law was declared in 1980 following a coup. It was also declared across the restive southeast region between 1978 and 2002. **AP**



## TV canal macau



## FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
18:30	Helena's Shadow (Repeated)
19:20	TDM Talk Show (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Documentary Serie
21:45	Miscellaneous
22:10	Helena's Shadow
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Movie
01:00	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SATURDAY

10:30	Young Children
11:00	Animation
11:30	Documentary Serie
12:00	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:40	Soap Opera
17:15	Documentary Serie
18:15	Miscellaneous
18:30	Contest
19:30	Wild Life
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Drama
22:00	Revenge S.3
22:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Brother's & Sister's S.5
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SUNDAY

10:40	Young Children
11:30	Zig Zag
12:00	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Wild Life (Repeated)
15:25	Zig Zag
16:25	Miscellaneous
17:05	Theatre
17:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
18:40	Miscellaneous
19:30	Comedy
20:10	Ui Di Sabroso S.1
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Contraponto
22:00	Power and the World's Women
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report

## offbeat

## MINIATURE WALL APPEARS AROUND TRUMP'S HOLLYWOOD STAR



On the day Donald Trump secured the Republican nomination for president, a miniature wall appeared around the former reality TV host's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Tourists stopped Tuesday to snap photos of the 6-inch gray wall that was topped with razor wire and plastered with "keep out" signs. The tiny wall was gone by Wednesday morning.

It was the work of an artist who calls himself Plastic Jesus, known for posting "No Trump Anytime" signs on street corners earlier this year. His web site says his art is influenced by news and culture.

During his campaign Trump drew cheers by vowing to build a single wall along the U.S.-Mexico border to stem illegal immigration and drug smuggling **AP**

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

21 Jul - 27 Jul



## FINDING DORY\_

ROOM 1

2.15, 4.05, 5.55, 7.45 pm

Director: Andrew Stanton

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 97min

## COLD WAR 2\_

ROOM 1

9.30 pm

Director: Longman Leung, Sunny Luk

Starring: Aaron Kwok, Tony Leung Ka Fai, Chow Yun Fat

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 110min



## START TRECK BEYOND\_

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Justin Lin

Starring: Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Zoe Saldana,

Simon Pegg

Language: English (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 120min



## GHOSTBUSTERS\_

ROOM 3

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Paul Feig

Starring: Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig,

Kate McKinnon, Leslie Jones

Language: English (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 116min

## MACAU TOWER

21 Jul - 03 Aug

## START TRECK BEYOND\_

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Justin Lin

Starring: Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Zoe Saldana,

Simon Pegg

Language: English (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 120min

## this day in history



## 2003 SADDAM'S SONS KILLED IN GUN BATTLE

The United States says the two sons of Saddam Hussein, Uday and Qusay, have been killed by US troops in Iraq.

The bodies of the two men were identified after 200 American soldiers, backed by helicopters, stormed a house in the northern city of Mosul following a tip-off from an Iraqi informant.

The operation in Mosul lasted for more than four hours. US troops came under fire as they entered the villa in the northern part of Mosul, and the Americans responded with rocket fire from helicopter gunships. Four US soldiers were wounded in the fighting.

Uday and Qusay were among the most influential and feared figures in Saddam Hussein's regime. Reports of their deaths were welcomed with celebrations on the streets of Baghdad, and gunfire erupted across the city.

However, there remains some skepticism over the identity of the bodies among Iraqi civilians, with many expressing doubt about the reported deaths. American officials were quick to insist they had the right men.

"We've used multiple sources to identify the individuals," said the commander of coalition ground forces in Iraq, Lieutenant General Ricardo Sanchez.

He would not be drawn on the question of whether the US would produce evidence, such as photos or video of the dead brothers. The US does not normally publish pictures of dead combatants.

Qusay, 36, was being groomed as Saddam Hussein's heir, and controlled key areas of the country's security. Uday, 39, ran large sections of the media. He was known for his extreme brutality and for the extravagance of his playboy lifestyle.

The two men have been on the run since the collapse of Saddam Hussein's regime three months ago.

Saddam Hussein himself remains at large. Two other people were killed along with the former Iraqi president's sons. They have not been named, but reports say one may be a teenage son of one of the brothers, and the other a bodyguard.

The Iraqi who apparently tipped off the US military stands to gain at least part of two rewards placed on the heads of Uday and Qusay, each with £15 million (\$9.4m).

The two were second and third on America's most-wanted list of the top 55 Iraqis involved in Saddam Hussein's administration.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

After intense debate in Washington, the US released photos of the two corpses on 24 July, and allowed television crews to film them on 25 July.

A third casualty of the gunfight was confirmed as Qusay Hussein's 14-year-old son, Mustafa.

The killing of Saddam Hussein's sons was the first major breakthrough for coalition forces following the fall of Baghdad three months earlier.

It was followed by the capture of Saddam Hussein himself in December 2003.

The country was run by the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), headed by American diplomat Paul Bremer until 28 June 2004 when power was officially handed back to Iraq.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Approach work as if it's a brand new day. If a colleague was a bit insensitive yesterday, then put it behind you. If for no other reason than that office culture dictates you pretend it never happened.

**Gemini**

May 21-Jun. 21

If you think you understand issues on a deeper level than you colleagues, then no wonder they're not listening to you. No one wants to hear a lecture, so go back to considering them partners instead of pupils.

**Leo**

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

People react differently to the boundless energy of a certain colleague. You may think it's annoying or you may find it a lot of fun. Whatever approach you take, try to soak up some of it yourself.

**Libra**

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

Current projects are in the balance, and they're about to tip one way or another. The way you handle yourself today makes all the difference to which direction they'll go.

**Sagittarius**

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

It's human nature to care for those you spend time with. You may all be colleagues, but friendship rules the day. Whether it's a birthday, a long lunch or simply spontaneous goodwill, expect the unexpected.

**Aquarius**

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You get to put your organizational skills to good use today, as well as your social skills. Have fun herding your office mates into a meeting, then running the show.

**Taurus**

April 20-May 20

Your office is getting a breath of fresh air, in the form of someone new. You're not the only one getting a buzz of excitement, but you are the most charming of the group. Pour it on and win them over.

**Cancer**

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You need to do some self nurturing, and you can manage it right at the office. There are ways to take care of yourself that no one will even notice. Get creative.

**Virgo**

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You're tempted to toss down your pencil and say forget it. Don't let yourself get petulant. An even-tempered approach is actually more productive, so force yourself to be easy-going.

**Scorpio**

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

There's just no getting around certain work, no matter how hard you try to evade it. Trust your instincts on this one. Dig in and get it over with.

**Capricorn**

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Some projects seem like they'll only be completed if you trudge along, while others are finished with lightening speed. You never know ahead of time which category they fall into, but you have a pretty good hunch.

**Pisces**

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

It goes without saying your boss will have a different opinion than you do. If you want things to go forward as planned, then keep your opinions to yourself.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	22	32	shower/cloudy
Harbin	16	28	cloudy
Tianjin	21	33	shower/cloudy
Urumqi	21	33	clear
Xi'an	23	34	clear/cloudy
Lhasa	11	23	moderate rain/drizzle
Chengdu	21	31	moderate rain/rainstorm
Chongqing	22	38	cloudy/clear
Kunming	18	24	shower
Nanjing	25	36	clear/cloudy
Shanghai	27	39	clear
Wuhan	24	35	clear
Hangzhou	26	38	clear
Taipei	26	33	cloudy/clear
Guangzhou	26	36	clear
Hong Kong	28	33	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	17	27	cloudy/drizzle
Frankfurt	17	27	moderate rain/drizzle
Paris	16	27	overcast
London	14	21	overcast/cloudy
New York	23	32	clear

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Islamic decree; 6- Brainchild; 10- Not barefoot; 14- Leading; 15- Rich soil; 16- Household; 17- Idealized concept of a loved one; 18- Words to Brutus; 19- Teheran's country; 20- Pulp summer refreshment; 22- Adventurous expedition; 24- Cairo's river; 25- Nuns; 26- Mother of Calcutta; 29- Punjabi princess; 30- I'd hate to break up \_\_\_; 31- Misdeed; 37- Pan-fry; 39- Spicy; 40- Elude; 41- Superintendent; 44- Alaska's first governor; 45- Isn't wrong?; 46- Blow; 48- Pungent sauce; 52- RR stops; 53- Lucky charm; 54- Polite behavior; 58- Georgetown player; 59- \_\_\_ epic scale; 61- Musical sounds; 62- Utah city; 63- Ready for picking; 64- Spring up; 65- Eliel Saarinen's son; 66- Cravings; 67- U-Haul competitor;

**DOWN:** 1- Go belly up; 2- Alast; 3- Side; 4- Light, four-wheeled carriage; 5- Handsome young man; 6- \_\_\_ France; 7- Lavish affection (on); 8- Dig in!; 9- Causing laughter; 10- Transfer; 11- Goddesses of the seasons; 12- Astrologer Sydney; 13- Actor Leary; 21- What there oughta be; 23- Digression; 25- \_\_\_ Domingo; 26- Soviet news agency; 27- Jacob's brother; 28- Enlist again; 29- Perch; 32- Thick-skinned charger; 33- Forest canopy; 34- Othello villain; 35- Mont. neighbor; 36- Basic unit of heredity; 38- Wipe off; 42- Triumph; 43- Queue after Q; 47- Tooth deposit; 48- California-Nevada lake; 49- Love, Italian-style; 50- Purchaser; 51- 1836 siege site; 52- Loudness units; 54- \_\_\_ Crunch; 55- Novelist Bagnold; 56- Zaire's Mobutu \_\_\_ Seko; 57- River of Flanders; 60- Never, in Nuremberg

**Yesterday's solution**

A	T	A	N	A	T	K	A	A	S	A	N	A
B	R	I	O	C	H	I	C	S	T	P	A	T
B	O	R	T	O	U	S	T	K	R	O	N	E
A	N	S	W	E	R	S	I	D	E	A		
C	A	S	T	E	C	A	N	A	G	E	T	A
A	N	T	H	M	A	D	A	M	H	A	R	M
S	E	R	S	A	M	E	B	A	T	R	E	E
A	M	A	T	O	P	A	L	S	F	E	S	S
L	I	N	A	T	E	L	E	A	O	R	T	A
S	A	D	N	E	S	S	B	R	R			
D	U	E	T	S	O	N	W	A	R	D		
A	S	A	I	R	R	A	N	I	A	L	E	E
B	E	A	N	O	A	G	A	S	R	O	U	E
S	T	A	G	S	L	A	M	E	D	E	P	P

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# Russia loses appeal against Olympic track and field ban

Stephen Wilson, London

**R**USSIA lost its appeal yesterday against the Olympic ban on its track and field athletes, a decision which could add pressure on the IOC to exclude the country entirely from next month's games in Rio de Janeiro. The Court of Arbitration for Sport rejected the appeal of 68 Russian athletes seeking to overturn the ban imposed by the IAAF following allegations of state-sponsored doping and cover-ups.

"Today's judgment has created a level playing field for athletes," world track and field's governing body said in a statement.

However, the arbitration court ruling did not necessarily settle the matter for good. The court stressed the decision is not binding on the International Olympic Committee, which has the final say as the supreme organizer of the games.

"The door is open for the IOC to decide, to determine even on a case-by-case principle whether these athletes are eligible or not," CAS general secretary Matthieu Reeb told reporters outside the court headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The IOC said it would "study and analyze the full decision" and make its own final ruling on the participation of Russian athletes "in the coming days." The Olympics



Matthieu Reeb, General Secretary of the Court of Arbitration for Sport, CAS, speaks to journalists

open in Rio on Aug. 5.

CAS upheld the "validity" of the IAAF ban, saying a country whose national federation is suspended is ineligible from entering international competitions, including the Olympics.

The three-person panel ruled that the Russian Olympic Committee "is not entitled to nominate Russian track and field athletes to compete at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games considering that they are not eligible to participate under the IAAF competition rules."

The Russians argued against a collective ban of its track athletes, saying it punishes those who have not been accused of wrongdoing. IAAF President Sebastian Coe said it was "not a day for triumphant statements."

"I didn't come into this sport to stop athletes from competing," he said. "It is our federation's instinctive desire to include, not exclude."

In Russia, two-time Olympic pole vault champion Yelena Isinbayeva — who attended Tuesday's hearing

at CAS — said the decision to uphold the ban on the track and field team represents the "funeral" of her sport.

Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko also lashed out at the ruling.

"In my view, it's a subjective decision, somewhat political and one with no legal basis," he was quoted as saying by Tass news agency.

CAS said it had no jurisdiction over whether the IOC can accept or refuse the entry of Russian track and field athletes, either those representing their country or competing as "neutral athletes."

Reeb said the Russians have the right to appeal to the Swiss federal tribunal within 30 days. However, an appeal can be only on "procedural grounds," not the merits of the decision, he said.

The IOC last month accepted the IAAF decision to extend a November ban on the Russian track team. And, in a telephone interview with The Associated Press and two other international news agencies last week, Bach was asked whether the IOC would accept the CAS ruling if it upheld the IAAF ban. Bach replied: "Yes."

The IOC executive board said Tuesday it would "explore the legal options" for a possible total ban on Russia but would wait until after the CAS ruling before making a final decision. The IOC has scheduled another board meeting on Sunday to consider the issue. **AP**

## Sam Allardyce on verge of being hired to coach England



England is on the verge of hiring Sunderland manager Sam Allardyce to take charge of the national team as Roy Hodgson's successor. A person with knowledge of the situation told AP on Wednesday that the English Football Association is close to finalizing Allardyce's appointment. The FA has to secure Allardyce's release from Sunderland, which urged for a swift resolution last week after revealing that the 61-year-old Englishman had held talks with England. "At the present time Sam Allardyce remains Sunderland manager," Sunderland said in a statement on Wednesday evening. "We share in the anger and frustration of our supporters and would like to assure them that we are working to conclude the matter in the best interests of Sunderland."

## Mario Gomez leaves Besiktas because of political situation

Germany striker Mario Gomez says he is leaving Besiktas because of "the political situation" in Turkey. Gomez scored 26 goals last season to help Besiktas win its first Turkish championship since 2009. Gomez played one season on loan from Fiorentina and Besiktas wanted to keep him. Gomez says the "only reason" for leaving was "the political situation." He says the "terrible events of the past few days" made him take the decision. Gomez was on vacation during the failed coup attempt five days ago. Gomez says he would love to return and play again for Besiktas once the "political problems are solved peacefully." In a personal statement, he says he has become very fond of the club and the country in the past year.

## New York teams up with A-Rod, MLB to build baseball academy

New York state is teaming up with Major League Baseball and others including Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez to create a youth baseball and softball academy in the Bronx. Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced the USD11.25 million initiative Wednesday. He says the academy at Roberto Clemente State Park will immediately begin serving 1,500 young ballplayers. The facility will be funded by \$6.5 million from the state, \$4 million from Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association and \$750,000 from Rodriguez. The new field will be named Alex Rodriguez Field. Baseball Commissioner Robert Manfred Jr. says the academy will establish the next generation of New York's baseball legacy. Rodriguez says the park will give kids a chance to "dream big from the field as well as in the stands."

## China vows zero-tolerance on doping for Olympic team

**S**Eeking to dismiss lingering doubts, a top Chinese sports official says the country has committed to a zero-tolerance stance on doping ahead of the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

Vice Director of the General Administration of Sports Gao Zhidian told the official Xinhua News Agency yesterday that Olympic-bound athletes and coaches are required to sign pledges not to cheat, saying violators would be severely punished.

Gao said athletes, coaches and team doctors must also pass a written exam on banned substances with only those scoring 80 percent or more permitted to go to Rio.

"China has been firmly against doping and has a zero-tolerance approach to this particular problem," said Gao, who is also deputy chef de mission of China's 711-member Olympic delegation. "We have made it very clear that we want to ensure fair play and the well-being of athletes."

China has sought to shake off a reputa-

tion for doping, particularly in distance running and swimming that gave rise to multiple scandals in the 1990s.

That resolve was questioned when it emerged that officials waited six months before revealing that champion swimmer Sun Yang served a three-month suspension after testing positive in May 2014.

Sun, the gold medalist in the 400- and 1,500-meter freestyle at the 2012 London Olympics, was named male swimmer of the meet at the world championships in Kazan, Russia, last August.

China is sending 416 athletes to Rio, including 35 former Olympic champions. China topped the table at the 2008 Games and won the second largest number of medals in London, including 38 golds.

Based on recent performances by Chinese athletes, some studies predict the country could return to the top of the table at Rio with as many as 39 golds. **AP**



opinion

**Kapok**  
Eric Sautédé



**LIVING TOGETHER**

Being in France just a few days after the horrendous truck attack that took place in the Southern French city of Nice on Bastille Day, claiming the life of 84 people, including many children, compels me to reflect on what makes a society hold together. Confronted with this form of indiscriminate terror and such a feeling of powerlessness, both on the side of society and the public authorities, how can we make sure that this kind of dreadful occurrence will be much less likely to happen in the future, close and distant, bearing in mind that zero risk does not exist? Is the call to unity a requirement or a promise, and in that case what will be its grammar? Will we unite because we need to or because we want to? Do we unite because now is not the time to divide ourselves or because we recognise in each and every member of our community, a "brother" or "sister" who is "equal" in status and in exercising his or her "freedom"? "Liberté, égalité, fraternité", the three cardinal values of the French Republic.

What is eminently disturbing is the very fact that terrorists, are, somehow and in effect, winning, because these very values are being trampled over.

First, because in a political environment in which emotions rather than reason prevail, the first and foremost reaction is to resort to a blame game. Of a religious or at least communitarian nature, as if Islam at large was conducive to such violence and we were witnessing some form of holy and civilisational war, disregarding the very fact that a third of the 84 victims were themselves Muslims. Of a strictly politicking nature, when local authorities of a certain political orientation (more conservative and security prone) take aim at the national government of another political inclination (roughly speaking, more concerned with individual and civic rights) for failing to anticipate the highly improbable — a heavy vehicle attack is a first in France, and the only equivalent can be found in attacks perpetrated in Jerusalem over light rail stations back in 2014.

Second, because what is for now visible in terms of public policies regarding the prevention of terrorism is almost exclusively related to security. Everybody wants to feel reassured and safe, and safety is for many the very justification of the existence of a state — and we have known that since Thomas Hobbes. But then, the failures of twentieth century revolutionary ideologies have also taught us that "order without life" is tantamount to the "tranquility of the graveyard", to quote Czech philosopher Jan Patočka, one of the signatories of Charter 77. This is why the Euro Cup organised by France had to take place, even though some strict protective measures were taken, including the now famous but at the time much reviled "fan zones". And then, now that numerous cultural events are being cancelled on the Riviera — Rihanna's concert is only one of them — what are the mid- and long-term horizons of security measures? Are we bound, just like it is now happening in Belgium, to not carry bags and not drive our cars to celebrate our National day? Now, tomorrow, and the day after tomorrow?

Some voices, more insistent on the meaning of the "islamisation of radicalism", to use Olivier Roy's formula, are pointing to the fact that the ideology of Daesh — in whose name all the recent terrorist attacks in France have been conducted — constitutes some form of new transnational utopia, one that offers to "suburban youth a sacralisation of the hatred of society, a hatred resulting from a feeling of social and economic exclusion, injustice and humiliation; and to middle-class youth, an answer to the vacuum of authority, the distaste for oneself or another form of anomia" (Farhad Khosrokhavar).

Education and social economic inclusion will thus be of utmost importance, as rightly emphasised by the European Parliament's Report on the prevention of radicalisation. Beyond the centres for de-radicalisation that are yet to open in France, nations and communities of people will thus have to rediscover what binds them together, all of them.

**THE BUZZ** EX-PHILIPPINE LEADER ARROYO FREED FROM YEARS OF DETENTION

Former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was freed yesterday from years of hospital detention after the Supreme Court cleared her of a plunder charge in what anti-corruption advocates called "a sad day" for justice.

The 69-year-old Arroyo was whisked off a military veterans' hospital in suburban Quezon city and driven to her home in the upscale La Vista residential enclave in the Manila metropolis, her lawyer, Lawrence Arroyo, said.

She did not appear before throngs of journalists who have waited for her release. Back at home, Arroyo had dinner with some of her children and grandchildren and expressed eagerness to return to the House of Representatives, to which she was re-elected in May despite her detention. She planned to attend President Rodrigo Duterte's state of the nation address on Monday, lawyer Ferdinand Topacio, an Arroyo supporter, said.

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High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
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**WORLD BRIEFS**



**TURKEY's** deputy prime minister says his country is to suspend European human rights convention under new state of emergency. Lawmakers in the country convened yesterday to endorse sweeping new powers for President Recep Tayyip Erdogan that would allow him to expand a crackdown in the wake of last week's failed coup. [More on p.15](#)

**LIBYA** France acknowledged yesterday the killing of three of its officers and for the first time said that its forces are operating in eastern Libya. [More on p.15](#)



**US** Republican nominee Donald Trump hinted at a new world order if he becomes president, saying the United States, under his leadership, might not come to the defense of some NATO members if Russia were to attack them. Trump said he would decide whether to protect the Baltic republics based on whether those countries "have fulfilled their obligations to us," shortly before accepting the Republican nomination for president.

**UN** The U.N. Security Council holds its first informal poll yesterday on the dozen candidates competing to succeed Ban Ki-moon as secretary-general on Jan. 1. The 15 council members have decided to keep the vote secret — a sharp contrast to the informal "straw" polls 10 years ago which were made public and led to Ban's election to the world's top diplomatic post.

**Star South Korean pitcher charged in gambling case**

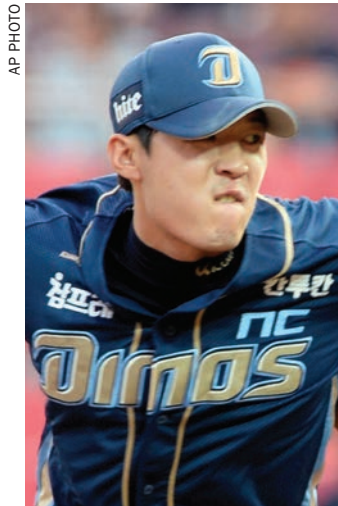
Kim Tong-Hyung

**SOUTH** Korean prosecutors have indicted a leading baseball player for allegedly manipulating games for gambling purposes in what could be another blow to the reputation of the country's professional sports leagues.

Prosecutors in Changwon city yesterday said they formally charged pitcher Lee Tae Yang, a starter for NC Dinos in the Korea Baseball Organization, over allegations that he deliberately allowed first-inning walks and runs in two games last season after receiving 20 million won (USD17,500) from a gambling broker, who has been arrested.

Another player linked to the case is Moon Woo-ram, an outfielder currently with South Korea's military baseball team in the KBO's second-tier competition, who is suspected of receiving 10 million won (\$8,770) in cash and gifts from the broker for connecting him with Lee, prosecutors said.

According to prosecutors, Lee and the broker colluded over four of Lee's starts between May and September last year, and the pitcher successfully delivered in two of the games. Lee had promised to give up at least a run in the first inning in



NC Dinos starter Lee Tae Yang

a May 29 start against the KIA Tigers, when he ended up allowing five runs over four innings in a loss, and at least a walk in the first inning in an Aug. 6 start against the Lotte Giants, when he gave up two runs while lasting only three innings, prosecutors said.

The Changwon-based Dinos issued an apology over the suspicions surrounding Lee, who has been left off the team's active roster since June 28 for what the team had described as an elbow injury, and said it was taking steps to terminate the contract.

Lee, 23, enjoyed a breakout season for the Dinos in 2015, going 10-5 as a starter to help the team reach the playoffs. He was also part of the South Korean team that won the World Baseball

Softball Confederation's inaugural Premier 12 tournament held in Taiwan and Japan in November. This season, Lee was 2-2 with a 4.21 ERA before the team shelved him.

Moon, 24, remains under contract with the Seoul-based Nexen Heroes, and has been serving out his compulsory military service with the Korea Armed Forces Athletic Corps., whose baseball team competes in the KBO's secondary Futures League.

If prosecutors prove the charges against the players in court, both Lee and Moon may receive lifetime bans from the KBO, which would also prevent them from playing professionally in the United States, Japan and Taiwan based on agreements between the leagues, the KBO said.

South Korea's major professional sports leagues, including baseball, soccer and basketball, have been rocked by match-fixing scandals in recent years that have led to jail sentences and lifetime bans of several players and coaches.

The KBO has permanently banned two pitchers from the Seoul-based LG Twins who were convicted in 2012 for taking bribes from gambling brokers in exchange for deliberately walking batters. **AP**

**times square by rodrigo**

