



IC DIRECTORS FACE DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Following a CCAC report, Ung Vai Meng, Leung Hio Ming and Chan Peng Fai will face disciplinary action

P3



'ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS' WORKING

The European Union issued its latest annual report on Macau, claiming that fundamental rights were respected

P3



JUDGE BARS NG'S POST ARREST STATEMENTS

P7

FRI.28
Apr 2017

T. 19°/ 24° C
H. 70/ 90%

facebook.com/mdtimes
+ 11,000

N° 2792 **MOP 7.50**
HKD 9.50

2305 4271

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報® Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Geldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

WORLD BRIEFS



HONG KONG expanded their crackdown on opposition with more arrests of pro-democracy activists yesterday. Police detained up to nine activists for involvement in an anti-China protest last year, according to social media posts from two political parties, whose members were among those arrested. On Wednesday, police arrested two lawmakers who were disqualified over their oaths.

CHINA Two-time Asian Champions League winner Guangzhou Evergrande has been charged by the sport's continental governing body after supporters unfurled an offensive banner aimed at a Hong Kong opponent this week. [More on p13](#)

CHINA Authorities in Xinjiang region are prohibiting parents from giving children some Islamic names in the latest effort to dilute the influence of religion on life in the ethnic Uighur minority heartland. "Muhammad," "Jihad" and "Islam" are among at least 29 names now banned in the heavily Muslim region. [More on p12](#)



SOUTH KOREA, Asia's fourth-largest economy, grew at the fastest clip in nearly a year thanks to recovery in exports, the central bank said, despite a backlash from Chinese consumers over the deployment of a U.S. missile defense system. The economy expanded 2.7 percent during the quarter y-o-y, higher than the 2.4 percent growth during the previous.

[More on backpage](#)



Missile diplomacy

P10-11 US-N.KOREA

HO CHIO MENG TRIAL

Witness Neto Valente reveals 'confidential expenses fund'

P5



Extra
times
weekend Guide
INSIDE



Zhang Dejiang

Report says Zhang Dejiang will visit Macau

Zhang Dejiang, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, is visiting Macau in May, according to a report by HK Server. The visit will reportedly take place in the beginning of May, and is also believed to be Zhang's last visit to the two SARs before China's 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. Zhang previously visited Hong Kong last May. At the city's Legislative Council, Hong Kong's director of the Protocol Division Government Secretariat, Judy Li, recently said that Hong Kong spent HKD7.08 million in total to host top officials visiting Hong Kong, more than HKD5 million of which was used during Zhang's three-day visit to Hong Kong.



IPM organizes forum on responsible gambling

The Forum on Macau Integrated Tourism and Leisure Enterprises and Social Responsibility, organized by the Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM), was held yesterday at the Grand Lisboa Macau. The theme of the forum was "Promoting Responsible Gambling". Organizations participating and presenting at the forum included the six gaming operators in Macau, the Macao Federation of Trade Unions and IPM. According to the organizers, the forum aimed to enhance Macau residents' and visitors' understanding and appreciation of the integrated tourism and leisure enterprises' contributions in promoting responsible gaming in the industry.

CAEAL to make more public spaces available for campaigning

The Electoral Affairs Commission for the Legislative Assembly Election (CAEAL) plans to make 24 outdoor public spaces available for the campaign teams of candidates to present their respective manifestos to the public. That is four more spaces than were available for such use during the 2013 Legislative Assembly Election process, the chairman of the Electoral Affairs Commission, Mr Tong Hio Fong, disclosed on Wednesday. The four new spaces are located in a variety of places, including the area close to the Olympic Sports Centre in Taipa, on the Seac Pai Van public housing estate, at the Northern District Public Services Centre in Areia Preta and at Macau Baptist College in Areia Preta. Tong additionally said the commission would install translucent curtains in voting booths, using the same design adopted in the 2013 election. The aim was to ensure privacy for voters during the act of voting, while also enabling polling station staff to monitor their activity well enough to prevent voters taking photographs or making video recordings inside the booths.

'Play and Play' to open Arts Festival tonight

THE 28th Macao Arts Festival kicks off today with a reinterpretation of Schubert and Ravel's classics by world-renowned North American modern dance company, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane. The performance is titled "Play and Play: An Evening of Movement and Music". The same company will also present the performance "A Letter to My Nephew" on May 1. Both shows will be held at the Macau Cultural Center.

During a meeting with journalists yesterday, Janet Wong, Associate Artistic Director and Video Designer of the company, indicated that the performances do not convey any specific storylines.

"The first act will be just music and dance, people should just relax and absorb it," explained Wong, "but you will see a community of people working together towards a goal. You cannot explain what it really is."



Janet Wong (right)

However, she clarified, "you can appreciate the dancers' movements, the music; you don't need to care too much about whether there is a story or meaning."

Likewise, "A Letter to My Nephew" is an abstract performance without a specific story, according to Wong.

"The second story is very abstract, and is deconstructed, [...] it [may depict a sort of] relationship between uncle and nephew, and it's

an American piece, [...] there might be something about fear, something about this nephew's ballet training when he is eight, maybe something about Macau," said Wong.

Wong, who was born in Hong Kong, pursued her career interests in New York.

This is the first time her team is visiting Macau, and her second personal visit to the territory.

Most noticeably, her dancers will collaborate with

four members of the Macao Orchestra when presenting the show to the audiences.

"Wherever we go, we enjoy collaborating with local musicians," said Wong. "We can use recorded music, but live music and recorded music are really different. [...] It really makes a difference in our muscles and bones to collaborate with something that's breathing and alive. It's really expensive, but I think it's worth it," noted Wong.

The U.S. company is famous for its inventive choreography, for which Bill T. Jones has been awarded several New York Dance and Performance Awards. In the year 2000, The Dance Heritage Coalition named Jones "an irreplaceable dance treasure."

The shows will be held in one sitting at the Macau Cultural Center's Grand Auditorium at 8 p.m. on April 28. **JZ**

TOURISM

MGTO prepares Labor Day holiday expecting crowds

THE Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) released a statement informing the public about their preparations for the upcoming Labor Day holidays, which will take place from April 29 to May 1. The Labor Day holidays are expected to bring many visitors from mainland China to Macau. Preparations include more scrupulous inspections, reminders posted to local businesses, publication of a food guide, training staff to attend to enquiries at different locations



and paying support to entities involved in organizing festive and holiday activities.

MGTO explained that such measures aim to "cater to local residents and visitors with regard to their needs, and keep optimizing the tourism environment and safeguarding service

quality in the local industry."

As such, the bureau will carry out detailed inspections at several tourist spots as well as border cross points during the three-day period.

The bureau will also partner with the police authorities to combat illegal accommoda-

tion, keeping inspectors on standby round-the-clock, which will provide additional security at the tourist information counters as needed.

In order to safeguard visitor rights and ensure tourism quality, MGTO has sent letters to local businesses to raise awareness about issues that may arise during the holiday. Among these are matters of hygiene, fire safety, guest capacity, opening hours, occupational guidelines on tour group operations, assistance in diverting visitors, itinerary ar-

angement, requirements for hotels and catering establishments to declare price lists and for hotels to keep records of hotel guest information upon check-in, as well as hotel swimming-pool management guidelines. In addition, the Office has also advised visitors via text message to visit popular attractions during off-peak hours in order to divert them from overcrowded tourist areas and minimize their impact on traffic, so as to maintain a positive image of the destination.

In anticipation of longer visitor stays during this period, the MGTO will be sending staff to ten different tourist spots to offer information and guidance for visitors and assist in crowd management throughout the holiday period.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

+ 4 Million page views
PER MONTH

Thank You!

+11,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitter, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Viviana Segui
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Denise Lo denise@macaudailytimes.com

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

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

EU: "One country, two systems" works well



THE European Union (EU) issued its latest annual report on Macau, claiming that the "one country, two systems" principle "continued to work well" in 2016.

The report mentions that over the past year, "fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens continued to be respected" and local media "continued to express a broad range of views despite some concerns about increasing self-cen-

sorship."

The Chief Executive being unopposed in the 2014 elections was criticized, with the report noting that this was the third time in a row that only one candidate stood for election as Chief Executive. Consequently, "the EU encourages the Macau authorities to consider ways to promote greater public involvement in the election of the Chief Executive, thereby enhancing the

legitimacy of the position and contributing to good governance."

The local economy's resilience was praised, although it was noted that economic growth suffered from a marked decline in gaming revenue in the first two quarters.

In terms of policy, the key priority highlighted by the EU was "improving the lives of ordinary people, who face mounting living and housing costs." Another issue is the "acute labor shortage". However, it mentioned that "imported labor has become a sensitive issue, and there is no political consensus on how to address it."

According to the report, EU-Macau relations continued to flourish, with a growing portfolio of cooperative activities and solid trade relations. However, EU-Macau trade shrunk in 2016, a factor the report attributes to the contraction in Macau's economy.



The current IC president, Leung Hio Ming (left), taking oath of office

Cultural Affairs Bureau directors face disciplinary action

THE board of directors of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) acting when the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) report revealed recruitment irregularities will face disciplinary procedures.

The Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, revealed yesterday that legal advisers analyzed the report, which criticized the recruitment system in use for the past few years by IC.

"Bearing in mind that there are signs of breach of duty by members of the board, [Alexis Tam] decided to take disciplinary

proceedings against the Cultural Affairs Bureau board members at the time of the report: Ung Vai Meng, Leung Hio Ming and Chan Peng Fai," a statement issued by Alexis Tam office reads.

In order to rectify the irregularities detected, which occurred between 2010 and 2015, IC suggested creating individual work contracts with the affected workers. The secretary said that he will seek legal advice from the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP) to verify that this solution complies with the legal requirements.

AD



Paul Walden & Derek Nicol for Flying Music in association with Adrian Grant for Key Concerts present

FEATURING THE SONGS OF MICHAEL JACKSON

THRILLER

Live

DIRECT FROM
LONDON'S WEST END

Returning to Thrill The Parisian Macao

28 April – 3 September

The Parisian Theatre

Tickets From MOP 180

+853 2882 8818

cotaiticketing.com

Photo of previous cast member



GAMING

Adelson shows 'steadfast confidence in Macau'

LAS Vegas Sands (LVS) posted a year-on-year increase of 41.3 percent in net income in the first quarter (USD578 million). The company's revenue stood at USD3.11 billion, an increase of 14.3 percent, compared to the first quarter of 2016 when revenues were USD2.72 billion.

A conference call with investors and LVS chairman and CEO Sheldon Adelson was held on Wednesday to discuss the results. "Our Las Vegas operation delivered its best quarter since the first quarter of 2008," Adelson



said. "Macau is now growing again for three consecutive quarters. Our strategy was to create a critical mass of interconnected resorts. And we now have almost 13,000 hotel rooms in four interconnected resorts. We have steadfast confidence

in Macau and our Macau business."

During the conference call, Adelson also addressed the process of applying for gaming licenses in Japan: "LVS is by far ahead of the other competition as a candidate to get [Japanese] approval. It's even to the point where a couple of people have said ... that the Japanese government may allow us to have an interest in more than one integrated resort."

Separately, Melco Resorts & Entertainment yesterday announced that it will file its unaudited financial results for the first quarter of 2017 with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on Thursday, May 4, to be followed by a conference call on the same day at 8.30 a.m. Eastern Time (or 8.30 p.m. Hong Kong Time).

In New York, gaming shares of all Macau gaming operators registered gains, with the exception of SJM.

COOPERATION

MSAR and Gansu sign consumer protection protocol

THE Macao Consumer Council and the Gansu Consumers Association signed a consumer protection protocol to establish a mechanism for case transfers, information exchange, and other co-operations this week in Macau.

The council indicated that it has been trying to further its co-operation with provinces and regions included in the One Belt, One Road region. Both the Council and Gansu Consumers Association agree that co-operation between the two parties will help establish a healthy consumption environment and thus encourage economic development.

The protocol between the two consumer organizations provides consumers with a fast and convenient mechanism to solve their disputes and

encourage consumers' confidence.

Meanwhile, due to differences in shopping habits in the two regions, the Council and Gansu Consumers Association will exchange information on consumer protection periodically to encourage a harmonious consumer environment.

These consumer incentives will benefit the economic development in both places and contribute to the One Belt, One Road strategic economic co-operation.


The president of the Executive Committee of the Consumer Council, Wong Hong Neng, and the President of Gansu Consumers Association, Chen Qi Shou, hope to elevate the standard of consumer protection work in the two locations so that consumers are more secure.

MGM: REVENUE UP 7 PERCENT

MGM CHINA announced yesterday the selected unaudited financial data of the first quarter. The gaming operator recorded a total revenue of HKD3.9 billion, an increase of 7 percent from the same quarter last year. Adjusted EBITDA was up by 23

percent from a year ago to HKD1.2 billion. Property EBITDA margin for the quarter grew 412 basis points year on year to 31.4 percent. Mass business accounted for over 80 percent of the profit for the Group during the quarter.

AD


Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau
Direcção dos Serviços de Identificação

Requerimento para a emissão do certificado de associação para efeitos das eleições para a Assembleia Legislativa – 2017

A Direcção dos Serviços de Identificação (DSI) solicita a atenção das associações e organizações, que pretendam requerer o certificado de associação para efeitos das eleições para a Assembleia Legislativa – 2017, para o seguinte:

1. As associações e organizações devem formalizar, atempadamente, junto da DSI, o requerimento para a emissão do certificado de titulares dos órgãos sociais para efeitos das eleições para a Assembleia Legislativa – 2017.
2. Aos requerimentos apresentados já com todos os documentos necessários no dia 8 de Junho de 2017 ou antes desta data, será garantida a emissão do respectivo certificado antes do dia 20 de Junho de 2017, data em que termina o prazo de entrega do referido certificado ao SAEP para o "Pedido de Reconhecimento de Constituição de Comissão de Candidatura".
3. Caso queiram solicitar o referido certificado para ser entregue no SAEP para o reconhecimento da relação dos votantes da pessoa colectiva, as associações ou organizações devem dirigir-se, quanto antes, à DSI para formalizar o requerimento da emissão do certificado.
4. Aos requerimentos apresentados e devidamente instruídos no dia 24 de Julho de 2017 ou antes desta data, será garantida a emissão do certificado antes do dia 3 de Agosto de 2017, data em que termina o prazo de entrega do referido certificado ao SAEP para efeitos do reconhecimento da relação dos votantes da pessoa colectiva.
5. O certificado dos titulares dos órgãos sociais poderá ser usado simultaneamente para fins indicados nos pontos n.º 1 e n.º 2, isto é, caso as associações ou organizações tenham requerido o respectivo certificado para a instrução do "Pedido de Reconhecimento de Constituição de Comissão de Candidatura", não é necessário requerer outro certificado para o reconhecimento da relação dos votantes da pessoa colectiva.
6. Para os requerimentos apresentados depois das datas acima indicadas ou com documentação incompleta, a DSI vai acompanhá-los com o maior esforço.
7. Do certificado a emitir constará somente a relação dos titulares dos órgãos sociais em efectividade de funções em 13 de Março de 2017. Caso a acta da reunião apresentada no requerimento do certificado demonstre que os actuais titulares dos órgãos sociais da associação ou organização iniciaram as suas funções depois de 13 de Março de 2017, a respectiva acta será considerada inaplicável.
8. O pedido para emissão do certificado sobredito faz-se mediante:
 - O preenchimento do impresso próprio para "Pedido de Certificado de Associação" fornecido pela DSI (pode ser obtido através do website da DSI: <http://www.dsi.gov.mo>);
 - O pedido é assinado pelo presidente da assembleia geral ou da direcção da associação requerente ou pelo seu procurador, e aposto o carimbo da associação;
 - O pedido deve ser acompanhado dos seguintes documentos:
 - Acta da sessão da assembleia geral para eleições dos titulares dos órgãos sociais;
 - Fotocópias dos documentos de identificação dos titulares dos órgãos sociais;
 - Procuração, quando o pedido for assinado pelo representante designado pelo presidente da assembleia geral ou da direcção da associação requerente.

Não é necessário a entrega dos documentos acima referidos se tenham já efectuado a actualização do registo dos mesmos na DSI, entretanto podem as associações ou organizações requerentes juntá-los novamente ao requerimento para evitar morosidade, caso hajam erros nos documentos anteriormente apresentados.

Para mais informações sobre o requerimento do certificado de associação destinado às eleições para a Assembleia Legislativa, podem ligar para o número 83940581.

Direcção dos Serviços de Identificação, a 24 de Abril de 2017.

A Directora,
Ao Ieong U

Contacte apenas mediadores imobiliários titulares de licença quando pretender comprar ou vender uma habitação

Linha aberta (853) 2850 0390

De acordo com a Lei da actividade de mediação imobiliária, quem exercer a actividade de mediação imobiliária na qualidade de mediador imobiliário sem ser titular de licença válida, é punido com multa de 50 000 a 300 000 patacas.

Multa
MOP 50,000 - 300,000

Licença de Mediador Imobiliário

Licença de Agente Imobiliário

E ilegal exercer sem licença de mediação

澳門特別行政區政府
Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau
房屋局
Instituto de Habitação

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.

Residence Cleaning
Glass Cleaning
Carpet Cleaning
Pest Control

Call : 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



Neto Valente (center)

HO CHIO MENG TRIAL

Valente reveals 'confidential expenses fund'

Renato Marques

THE trial of the former Public Prosecutor General, Ho Chio Meng, is coming to a close as the last witnesses enrolled by the defense were called yesterday to testify at the Court of Final Appeal (TUI).

The Macau Lawyers Association (AAM) president Neto Valente and lawmaker Leonel Alves were scheduled to testify. The session began with a request from defense lawyer Oriana Pun for a rescheduling of the witness hearing, explaining to the court that Alves was unable to testify yesterday. This is because Alves, as a lawmaker, requires formal authorization to testify from the Legislative Assembly (AL) president Ho Iat Seng, and such authorization had yet to be granted at the time of trial.

The president of the TUI, Sam Hou Fai, replied that the autho-

rization request should have been made earlier, and denied Pun's request to have the hearing delayed. Instead, he authorized Alves' testimony to be delivered in writing.

Valente proceeded to testify, saying that he met Ho many years ago before taking the office as Prosecutor General and while Ho was deputy Commissioner Against Corruption.

Valente recalled that Ho had always conducted himself properly despite the two of them holding different views on many occasions. This remained true throughout the course of their professional relationship, especially as Valente's position as AAM president required him to meet with Ho on multiple occasions to discuss matters related to the judiciary system and present complaints from lawyers.

Questioned by Pun about the accusations made against Ho, Valente mentioned his awareness of a "confidential expenses special

fund" that depends directly from the Chief Executive and is intended for use in confidential matters by the judiciary and security authorities.

He also expressed his awareness that, "not all activities done by the authorities in the search for criminals and other highly confidential matters go into paper," noting that sometimes, "we only get to know that certain diligences were made after it's concluded."



What is being said is that this is not a serious trial.

NETO VALENTE

Valente referred to two particular cases to illustrate his point. In the first, local authorities made "secret" diligences in Cambodia to try to bring a person wanted in the MSAR to justice. He also referred to the "recent finding" of one of his kidnappers in mainland China in a case that goes back to 2001. After his kidnap in Macau, Neto Valente was rescued in a dramatic police raid. One suspected kidnapper leapt six stories to his death while trying to escape. Two other people were detained during the dawn raid.

Valente also said he knew of Ho's political aspirations through

informal talks with several "well related contacts in the mainland", noting that Ho was "very respected, well related and supported in China."

In response to the question of whether he thought that Ho had protected the interests of the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) and of the MSAR during his time leading the office, Valente said, "I have no reason to think otherwise."

Indirectly asking about the functions previously given to Wang Xian Di, Pun asked if it was possible and if it would make sense for Ho to recruit staff to do "low-profile" tasks and even informants.

Valente responded, "It is a fact that this happens. Even nowadays in the duties of security many times we resort to such kind of contacts."

Regarding the large number of criminal swindling accusations, Valente also said, "It is hard to believe that things are exactly like that. But that's my opinion as a citizen". He noted that above and beyond the sheer number of allegations against Ho, the case had created a "bad [public] image of the justice and of the judiciary system of Macau".

The prosecution sought to cross-examine Valente, remarking his testimony was just "rumors," to which Valente responded, "not really rumors but people's opinion," noting once more that it "is bad that in society what is being said is that this is not a serious trial and that the accused had already been sentenced from the start".

The MP also questioned Valente on whether he thought it reasonable and legitimate for Ho to make use of MP's resources to bolster his "political aspirations", to which he responded, "Of course not!"

Sam Hou Fai requested the defence and prosecution to refrain from asking questions based on opinion and commentary and to stick to facts. Fai then interrupted the enquiry session and ended the court session shortly after.

On the sidelines of the session, Pun mentioned that she had a total 19 witnesses for the defense who could not be present in the court. She remarked that about half of that number would present testimony in writing to the Court of Final Appeal. She noted that it was difficult for the remaining witnesses since she did not have direct contact with them.



Volleyball Grand Prix in July

FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix Macau 2017 will be held between July 14 and 16. The local pool pitches Olympic champion China against the United States of America (six times winner of the Grand Prix), Italy and Turkey. Yesterday, a sponsorship contract worth MOP4 million between the organizers (Sports Institute) and the Galaxy Entertainment Group was signed. Tickets for the matches will be put on sale today, at a price of MOP150 per day.

Incineration plant received less construction waste

The Macau Solid Waste Incineration Plant received 510,000 tonnes of solid waste in 2016, representing a smaller increase of 1.6 percent year-on-year. The Environment Protection Bureau (DSPA) replied to lawmaker Zheng Anting's inquiry, stating that, last year, the landfill also received somewhere around 30 percent less construction waste compared to 2015. DSPA also stated that the government has already commenced plans to expand the incineration plant, having already started the design of the plant. The department is also pushing forward plans to establish a central place to process kitchen waste.

Election committee received no reports about AL votes

The Chairman of the Electoral Affairs Commission for the Legislative Assembly Election (CAEAL), Tong Hio Fong, said that the commission did not receive any complaints or reports directly from litigants who claimed to have been pressured to vote for certain candidates. According to a report by Jornal Va Kio, CAEAL indeed received a letter, forwarded by a third party, about local teachers under pressure by their employer school to vote. Tong denied and said that he doubted the authenticity of the report.

PJ arrests parents of newborn found near trash collection point

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) have identified the parents of a newborn baby boy found near a trash collection point located at the junction of Avenida do Dr Francisco Vieira Machado with

Travessa 1º de Maio on Areia Preta, a PJ spokesman told the Times.

According to the information from PJ, both the father and mother of the newborn are non-resident workers and

employees of a local restaurant.

The father is a married Filipino national (30) with a nine-year-old daughter, while the mother is a divorced Indonesian (25) with a six-

year-old daughter.

Both parents have been arrested and will be charged under article 135 of the Macau Penal Code, which, carries a sentence of imprisonment from two to five years.

The baby was found in the early hours of the morning on Wednesday by employees of the trash collection company inside a blue backpack and wrapped in towels.

Upon being sent to the public hospital (CHCSJ) for a medical check-up, the newborn showed no signs of life-threatening conditions and was transferred to a pediatric ward where he remains in a stable condition. **RM**

Audi Vorsprung durch Technik



You drive this. You feel that.

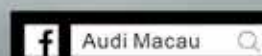
The all-new Audi A4 with Audi Virtual Cockpit and 5 years warranty.
Progress is intense.
Starting from HKD 399,000.00



www.audi.com.hk

Prosperity Motors Ltd.

Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, No. 230-246 Edif. Chun U Villa, R/C, D, E, F, Taipa, Macau Tel: 2831 6318



Judge bars Chinese billionaire's post-arrest statements



Ng Lap Seng

Larry Neumeister, New York

Prosecutors cannot use post-arrest statements a Chinese billionaire made to the FBI at his Manhattan trial on charges stemming from a United Nations bribery scandal, a judge ruled Wednesday.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge Vernon S. Broderick was a victory for lawyers for Ng Lap Seng after they argued the FBI's interview of Ng should not have taken place after he requested a lawyer. The judge called the government's continued questioning of Ng improper.

According to a transcript of the FBI interview included in the court record, Ng said his primary reason for trips to the United Nations was to promote plans to build a U.N. conference center in Macau.

"My goal is to build this exhibition center, the largest in the world," Ng was quoted as saying.

Lawyers for Ng have argued in court papers that the prosecution is politically motivated, saying the United States arrested Ng to block construction of the U.N. center in China that was meant to serve southern hemisphere nations. They said the United States wanted to slow the progress of Chinese influence over developing nations.

The ruling was a victory for Ng Lap Seng lawyers

Ng also was asked during the interview about a photograph on the internet of him with former President Barack Obama. According to the transcript, he said a friend from Taiwan introduced him to Obama.

Ng is confined to a luxury Manhattan apartment under 24-hour guard as part of the USD50 million bail package imposed after his 2015 arrest. He has pleaded not guilty to charges that he contributed a portion of more than \$1 million in bribes that reached a former U.N. General Assembly president.

Also Wednesday, Broderick rejected Ng's request to toss out the indictment and ordered the government to identify Ng's alleged co-conspirators and alleged bribe payments at least two weeks prior to a trial scheduled to start May 30.

Broderick also said over defense objections that prosecutors at trial can refer to Ng as "Boss Wu," though the jury must be informed that the meaning of "boss" in Chinese is a reference to a supervisor or someone with superior status entitled to deference. Defense lawyers had argued that use of the words was highly prejudicial because jurors might think it implies Ng is involved in organized crime.

Prosecutors declined through a spokesman to comment on the judge's rulings.

Tai Park, a lawyer for Ng, also declined to comment. **AP**

Unemployment rate stable at 2 percent in Q1

The general unemployment rate in Macau for the first quarter of 2017 was 2 percent, while median earnings of employed residents stood at MOP19,000 (about USD2,373), as indicated yesterday by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Meanwhile, the unde-

employment rate stood at 0.5 percent. All three indicators were stable as in the previous period of December 2016 to February 2017.

DSEC said total labor force stood at 387,500 and the labor force participation rate stood at 71.0 percent. Total employment was 379,500

and employed residents totaled 278,100, up by 400 and 1,000 respectively from the previous period.

The number of unemployed persons stood at 7,900, similar to that of the previous period. Fresh labor force entrants searching for their first job accounted

for 9.7 percent of the total number of unemployed persons, up by 1.3 percent.

Total employment dropped by 5,500 quarter-to-quarter, of which the number of employed residents decreased by 300. Analyzed by industry, employment in Restaurants & Similar

Activities (22,900) and Construction (35,200) decreased by 4,100 and 2,000 respectively, while employment in Wholesale & Retail Trade (47,400) increased by 1,100.

Median monthly employment earnings remained unchanged from the previous quarter at

MOP15,000 (USD1,873) in the first quarter, with those engaging in Gaming & Junket Activities and Construction earned MOP20,000 (about USD2,498) and MOP15,000 patacas (about USD1,873) respectively. Moreover, median earnings of employed residents stood at MOP19,000 (about USD2,373), up by MOP1,000 (about USD125) quarter-to-quarter.

corporate bits

WYNN HOLDS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATION CEREMONY



Gaming operator Wynn recently organized a graduation ceremony for the first batch of employees who successfully completed the "Leadership Acceleration Program-Gaming," launched in 2016. The ceremony also aimed to encourage the graduates to continue to fulfill their potential and advance further in their careers.

Speaking at the ceremony, Ciarán Carruthers, Chief Operating Officer of Wynn Macau, said that

it wasn't easy for ten graduates to stand out from all candidates and complete the intensive 6-month training course. Their success has proved that Wynn's team members constantly strive to improve and advance their learning and skills. He emphasized that, to grasp opportunities to move upward, frontline employees need to get themselves prepared and elevate their management and communication skills, as well as learn how to handle different challenges in a flexible manner.

According to the gaming operator, the "Leadership Acceleration Program" will continue with a second intake of participants soon and the program will expand its scope to cover non-gaming employees.

HOTEL ROYAL RESTAURANTS ANNOUNCES MOTHER'S DAY OFFERS

Fado Portuguese Restaurant and Catalpa Garden Shanghaiese Restaurant at Hotel Royal Macau have created celebratory cuisine for mothers, offering festive delicacies from May 8 to 14.

Fado's executive chef Luís Américo created a Portuguese-inspired "Mother's Day A-La-Carte Specials" which also offers a complimentary dessert, "Carrot and ginger molten cake with chocolate crumble" for mothers.

Octopus rice with iberico, banana and chestnuts and stuffed free-range chicken breast with turnip top's mousse will also be presented at the restaurant, as cited in a press release issued



by the hotel.

Meanwhile Catalpa Garden is offering its Shanghaiese food including dry braised prawn with brown sauce, double boiled shark's fin soup with chicken, braised superior sea cucumber with shrimp roe and seasonal vegetable, steamed black glutinous rice stuffed with mashed red bean and more.

CTM LAUNCHES 'SOCIAL CARD'

In order to meet the strong demand for data service by residents, CTM has launched the brand new 4G+ prepaid card "Social Card" of face value MOP100. Under the new card, customers may enjoy 30 days of unlimited local data usage for social media surfing at a monthly rate of MOP98, with no deposit and binding contract.

The newly launched card is now available for sale at all CTM shops, selected CTM SIM cards vending machine and 7-Elevens (in Macau), according to

a statement issued by CTM.

The "Social Card" comes with two services: free "CTM buddy" local voice airtime and unlimited CTM Wi-Fi usage in over 4 million hotspots in Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau.

Besides enjoying the unlimited data, a reload bonus of \$10 will be given for every MOP100 reload.

According to the company, it will conduct roadshows with games and giveaways in different districts across Macau.

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The Best Places to Live in Macau - 2017 - Part I

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.

www.JMLProperty.com
info@JMLProperty.com



JULIET RISDON

"Where is the best place to live?" is a question we are often asked by people new to Macau and hunting for a home, so every year for the past four years we have published and updated this guide; The answer to this of course depends largely on your personal perspective and circumstances. There is no 'one size fits all' answer to this question. Over the next five articles we can share with you the places popular with expatriates. Asking and answering some of the important questions below may help to narrow your focus before you start your property search;

- What kind of area do I want to live in?
- What do I need to be near to?
- What facilities do I want in my building?
- Do I need a car park?
- What requirements do I have from my property?
- What is my budget?

Remember there will always be pros and cons in any property and location, so it's advisable to write down your priorities and clarify what is essential and what is desirable to make it a good choice for you. As everybody has different opinions and needs, these are in no particular order:

1. Manhattan, Taipa

Area: Taipa, edge of Old Taipa,

residential.

Amenities: Good for walking to the supermarket, banks, health care, on the main bus route with Bus Stops right outside, schools are easily accessible, as are local bars and restaurants.

Building facilities: Swimming Pool, Cinema Room, Spa Room, large and well equipped Gym, Games Room, BBQ Area, Children's Play area, golf simulator and dance studio. Concierge. Car Parking Spaces available.

Property Features: Dark hard wood flooring and woodwork, some good views, small fitted kitchens with built in ovens as standard, reverse cycle air-conditioning.

Rental Prices: High End

Advantages: Great location

Drawbacks: Apartments on lower floors don't receive much sunlight, limited balconies

2. Hellene Gardens, Coloane

Area: Hac Sa, near the beach, residential near the countryside and walking trails.

Amenities: Short walk to local bar & restaurants, Bus Stop, Public Swimming Pool & tennis courts, trail walks and the beach. Also Children's parks, BBQ Area on the beach and family orientated.

Building facilities: Swimming Pool, Gardens. Car Parking Spaces available

Property Features: Spacious,

with good kitchen area. Light and airy spaces. Good layout, balcony.

Rental Prices: Mid Range

Advantages: Quiet and peaceful location close to the beach

Drawbacks: The age and quality of the apartments

3. One Central, Macau

Area: Central City Area

Amenities: Near to Casino's and high-end stores, hotels and their facilities.

Building facilities: Gym, pool inside & out, rock climbing wall, multi purpose sports court, tennis court, concierge and security. Monthly rental Car Parking available.

Property Features: Light & bright apartments, high-end modern kitchens and bathrooms. Great views from feature windows. Reverse cycle air-conditioning.

Rental Prices: High End

Advantages: Great location for access to the Macau side casinos

Drawbacks: Transient community, building quality issues

In next week's article we look at 3 more of the most popular properties for expatriates.

If you would like further information on these properties or a copy of the information mailed to you in pdf format, please e mail me at Juliet@JMLProperty.com and we will be happy to send you the information.

知得更多 活得更好

KNOW MORE LIVE BETTER

OUT NOW

MACAUCLOSER

TALENTED

10

俊傑十面觀

為慶祝《特寫》創刊十週年，我們邀請到十位城中年輕才俊，與我們大談澳門未來

CELEBRATING OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY
WE MEET 10 YOUNG LOCAL TALENTS
MAKING THEIR MARK IN THE CITY



MACAUCLOSER.COM

生活藝術雜誌 LIVING & ARTS MAGAZINE

Follow us

available on



C&C LAWYERS

Since 1996



合伙人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha • 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues • 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata • 趙魯 Zhao Lu ••

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:

馬傑安 João N. Marques
高文軒 Adelino Correia
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues
馬德龍 Nuno da Luz Martins
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha
杜慧盈 Rita da Costa Andorinho
馬潔冰 Maria João Marques
陶義德 António Isóo Azeredo

白穎怡 Idilia Berenguel
沈玲鳳 Mariana Afonso Esteves
薛明恩 Maria Antónia Giestas
飛嘉華 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira
黃保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
宋若言 João Gonçalves Assunção
羅桃 Luo Tao, Elina
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
曹樂萌 Cao Lemeng, Rui

莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura
楊越華 Vasco leong Ut Wa

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
王洋玲 Ema Wong
陳祖恩 Joana Chan
顏曉蓉 Teresa Xiaorong Yan
孟民諾 Carlos Maurício

WWW.CCADVOG.COM
TEL: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623



• 私人公證員 Notary Public • 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer





RETAIL

Hermes confirms luxury rebound with strong gains in Asia

Robert Williams

HERMES International HSCA reported quarterly sales that beat estimates as the brand's new production sites maintained faster output of Birkin bags and other leather goods to help meet surging demand in Asia.

Revenue climbed 11 percent on a constant-currency basis, Paris-based Hermes said yesterday, beating the 8.8 percent median estimate of eight analysts in a Bloomberg survey. The shares rose as much as 1.3 percent.

The results represent a marked uptick from a year ago, when flagging consumption in China and a terror-related downturn in European tourism saw the company report its slowest quarter in seven years. The luxury-goods industry has bounced back more broadly, with first-quarter results from leading names LVMH and Kering surging past analyst estimates.

"Despite an uncertain economic context we did very well," Chief Executive Officer Axel Dumas said on a call with reporters. "You see an acceleration of the sales in mainland China. The sales are improving in Macau and Hong Kong."

Berenberg analyst Zuzanna Pusz said the results underpinned the industry's recovery, even though the company cautioned that the growth rate could not be projected across the full year because of favorable comparisons in the first quarter.

"Hermes reported a very strong start to the year, pointing to the broader improvements in the luxury sector as well as a very solid underlying demand for its products," she said in a note.

LVMH CEO Bernard Arnault's plan to take full control of Christian Dior SE is a positive because it will boost liquidity in Hermes stock, Dumas said. The deal weighed on Hermes shares earlier this week because

se the Arnault family plans to help fund it via its stake in its Paris rival, dumping more of the shares onto the market.

Sales of leather-goods and saddlery, which account for roughly half of Hermes revenue, jumped 15 percent, benefiting from increased production. Hermes has opened new workshops and trained more leather workers as demand for the brand's handbags held up even during the sector's slowdown of 2015 and 2016.

The company said it was continuing to invest in a third production site in the Franche-Comte region in eastern France. It plans to increase leather-goods production by 8 percent and to hire and train 250 workers this year.

The Chinese customer is quite young, younger than he used to be.

AXEL DUMAS
CEO OF HERMES

Hermes, which affirmed an "ambitious" medium-term goal for revenue growth, was helped in Asia by the renovation of a store in Singapore and the opening of a new outlet in Chongqing, China, Dumas said. The recent strength of the yen held back previously buoyant tourist spending in Japan, he said.

New customers seeking entry-level Hermes goods are boosting the company's performance in China. Sales of the brand's iconic silk scarves and ties rose 8.5 percent in the first quarter worldwide after a decline a year earlier.

"There's been quite a change of the client profile," Dumas said. "The Chinese customer is quite young, younger than he used to be." **Bloomberg**

ADVERTORIAL

VICTORIA'S SECRET

Known for its celebrated supermodels and world-famous runway shows, Victoria's Secret now brings its chic lingerie, prestige fragrances, body care and beauty products, stylish sportswear and sophisticated sleepwear to Shoppes at Venetian with the opening of its first full assortment store in Macao. With intimate fitting experiences and an alluring assortment of the brand's signature products including its popular PINK lines, irresistible intimate apparel awaits at the glamorous new store.

Victoria's Secret, Shop 725, St Mark's Square, Level 3, Shoppes at Venetian



PARISIAN SHOPPING DELIGHT

From now until 10 May, spend over MOP8,000 at Shoppes at Venetian, Shoppes at Four Seasons, Shoppes at Cotai Central and Shoppes at Parisian to enjoy MOP200 worth of Parisian shopping vouchers. Shoppers who spend MOP6,000 or more can redeem an enticing MOP2,000 worth of Parisian shopping vouchers. Spend MOP15,000 for MOP400 worth of vouchers, and MOP30,000 to enjoy MOP1,000 worth of vouchers. Redeem your reward at Shoppes at Parisian, where French brands, exclusive boutiques, and fashion labels at the height of style abound.

*Terms and Conditions Apply

SANDS MEGA BRAND SALE

More than 150 international designer brands will take part in our Sands Mega Brand Sale in May. Comprised of a range of retailers from Shoppes at Venetian, Shoppes at Four Seasons, Shoppes at Cotai Central and Shoppes at Parisian, it's a time to shop like never before with up to 80% off designer goods for a limited time only.

The Sands Mega Brand Sales takes place from 11 to 14 May, from 11am to 10pm, at Cotai Expo Hall D, The Venetian Macao.



To keep up to date with the latest news from Sands Shoppes, follow us on Facebook and Weibo



澳門金沙購物城邦

Sands

SHOPPES

COTAI STRIP MACAO

SHOPPES AT VENETIAN | SHOPPES AT FOUR SEASONS | SHOPPES AT COTAI CENTRAL | SHOPPES AT PARISIAN

opinion

Asian Affairs

Foster Klug, AP

A LOOK AT NORTH'S
EVOLVING BRINKMANSHIP

North Korea observers have long marveled at the ability of a small, impoverished, autocratic nation to go toe-to-toe with the world's superpowers.

Part of the secret to North Korean success has always been the ruling Kim family's mastery of the art of brinkmanship.

What looks to outsiders like bluster, bombast and recklessness is actually a proven technique that over the years has won North Korea grudging respect from Washington and its allies, and at times filled its coffers with aid offered by rivals relieved to see animosity on the Korean Peninsula ease.

In recent weeks, however, the roles may have reversed, with a new administration in Washington bulldozing its way to the brink before finally backing away.

Korean war jitters made global headlines after U.S. President Donald Trump issued repeated, ambiguous warnings about his willingness to take unilateral action and sent U.S. military vessels to Korean waters. This week, however, Trump announced a much softer policy that combines diplomacy and economic sanctions and is strikingly similar to what frustrated past presidents embraced.

North Korea used to employ a comparable method: Forcing the world to pay attention by staging nuclear and missile tests, issuing outrageous threats and occasionally lashing out with violence — and then offering up negotiations.

For decades, the tiny, Third World dictatorship sandwiched between rich behemoths played the game remarkably well. But some now see North Korea entering a frightening new phase, barreling across what were once considered red lines in a dash to build nuclear-armed missiles that can reach the U.S. mainland.

A big part of North Korea's past brinkmanship has always involved its weapons program. That may be changing.

The country is thought to have a small nuclear arsenal, and some analysts believe it can mount atomic warheads on short- and medium-range missiles that can target South Korea, Japan and spots in the Pacific.

Each new nuclear detonation and long-range rocket launch worries Washington because they put North Korea that much closer to its ultimate goal of a nuclear-armed long-range missile.

The tests have also served a political purpose in years past.

North Korea conducted its first nuclear test in 2006, under current leader Kim Jong Un's father, the late Kim Jong Il, but the North took years between its subsequent tests and was willing to talk about giving up its nuclear program for security guarantees from the United States.

Some analysts believe that Kim Jong Un, who took over in late 2011, abandoned this pattern of brinkmanship in 2016 when North Korea sped ahead with nuclear weapons development, conducting two nuclear tests and a long-range rocket launch that year.

This may signal that Kim is now pursuing a nuclear arsenal, which North Korea calls its "treasured sword," as a goal in itself, not as leverage for negotiation.

NORTH KOREA

Rumors rife as gas restrictions in Pyongyang drag on

Eric Talmadge, Pyongyang

AN acute shortage of gasoline in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang that has sparked price hikes and hoarding is raising fears of potentially crippling pain at the pumps if things don't get better soon — and driving rumors that China is to blame.

The shortage, which is extremely unusual if not unprecedented, began last week when signs went up at gas stations around the city informing customers that restrictions on sales would be put in place until further notice. With no indication as of Wednesday night of when the restrictions might be lifted — or why they have been imposed — drivers continue to scramble to fill up their tanks and whatever other containers they can find.

Prices, meanwhile, have shot up. They had been fairly stable, typically at about 70-80 cents a kilogram, but on Wednesday at least one station was charging USD1.40. Gasoline is sold by the kilogram in North Korean filling stations. One kilogram is roughly equivalent to one liter, so a gallon at the station costs about \$5.30.

China supplies most of energy-poor North Korea's fuel, and in lieu of official explanations, rumors are rife that Beijing is behind the shortage. The concerns are adding to a tense and uncertain mood on the Korean Peninsula since U.S. President Donald Trump assumed office with repeated calls for Beijing — Pyongyang's economic lifeline — to get tough on North Korea, which has responded with counterclaims Washington is pushing for a nuclear war.

Though trade between North Korea and China appears to be solid, and possibly even growing, there are indications Beijing has been quietly tightening enforcement of some international sanctions aimed at getting Pyongyang to abandon its development of nuclear weapons and long-range missiles.

Limiting the oil supply has been openly discussed in Beijing as one option. Whether that is actually happening is unclear.

David von Hippel, a senior associate with the Nautilus Institute who specializes in energy and environmental issues, said supplies of crude oil and oil products would drop markedly without Chinese im-

AP PHOTO



A gas attendant waits by a pump at a gas station in Pyongyang

ports. But he stressed other factors could just as well be involved.

"The shortages and price rises being seen may be due to a combination of factors, including both actual shortages of products, more products being routed to other users — specific ministries, key factories, or the military, for example — and, or, more product being placed into government storage facilities," he said in an email. "I do not have a sense, at present, of which of these options, and in what combination, is the driver for the price rises and sales restrictions."

But two days after the restrictions were announced, North Korea's state-run Korean Central News Agency carried an unusually acerbic, and even threatening, editorial denouncing "a country around the DPRK," an obvious if not explicit reference to China. DPRK is short for North Korea's official name — the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"The DPRK's nuclear deterrence for self-defense ... is by no means a bargaining chip for getting something," the commentary said, adding that if "the country" keeps applying economic sanctions "while dancing to the tune of someone ... it may be applauded by the enemies of the DPRK but it should get itself ready to face the catastrophic consequen-

ces in the relations with the DPRK."

It is unclear whether the gas shortage has affected North Korea's military, state ministries and major projects, all of which get priority access to the state-controlled supply. But the North this month has staged a huge military parade, unveiled a sprawling high-rise residential district and on Tuesday conducted its biggest-ever live-fire air, land and sea military drill. It is also believed to be prepared to conduct what would be its sixth underground nuclear test.

Several chains of gas stations are operated under different state-run enterprises — some, for example, are operated by Air Koryo, the national flagship airline — and prices can vary.

North Korea gasoline customers usually purchase coupons at a cashier's booth to fill up. Leftover coupons can be used on later visits until their expiration date. A common amount for the coupons is 15 kilograms (19.65 liters or 5.2 U.S. gallons).

The number of North Korean gas stations has grown steadily in recent years, mainly in Pyongyang, provincial capitals and along major highways. Pyongyang traffic has gotten significantly heavier since Kim Jong Un assumed power in late 2011. The greater number

of cars, including swelling fleets of taxis, has been seen as an indication of greater economic activity.

Many of the vehicles are used for business purposes, such as transporting people or goods.

"When I last visited in 2005, they were filling up our bus with gas rations from buckets," said Curtis Melvin, a researcher at the US-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins University and a contributor to the 38 North website. "Things have definitely changed."

Melvin added that the growth of an actual domestic market for gasoline has made it possible to see when there is a problem, since prices are posted at the gas stations, making trends publicly trackable. There is also less rationing than in the past.

If the apparent shortages are being caused by China, he said, the most likely explanation would be that less fuel is flowing across the border via pipeline.

Such a slowdown or stoppage would have an immediate impact on prices and would take time to compensate for by ships, trucks or trains. The primary place for North Korea pipeline storage tanks in China is in the border city of Dandong. But it was also not clear if North Korean tankers were picking up as much fuel as usual. **AP**

Trump team softens war talk, vows other pressure on Kim

Matthew Pennington & Vivian Salama, Washington

THE Trump administration told lawmakers yesterday [Macau time] it will apply economic and diplomatic pressure on North Korea to dismantle its nuclear weapons program, as an extraordinary White House briefing served to tamp down talk of military action against an unpredictable and increasingly dangerous U.S. adversary.

President Donald Trump welcomed Republican and Democratic senators before his secretary of state, defense secretary, top general and national intelligence director conducted a classified briefing. The same team also met with House members in the Capitol to outline the North's escalating nuclear capabilities and U.S. response options to what they called an "urgent national security threat."

After weeks of unusually blunt military threats, the joint statement by the agency chiefs said Trump's approach "aims to pressure North Korea into dismantling its nuclear, ballistic missile and proliferation programs by tightening economic sanctions and pursuing diplomatic measures with our allies and regional partners." It made no specific mention of military options, though it said the U.S. would defend itself and friends.

The unprecedented meeting in a building adjacent to the White House reflected the increased American alarm over North Korea's progress in developing a nuclear-tipped missile that could strike the U.S. mainland. A flurry of military activity, by North Korea and the U.S. and its partners on and around the divided Korean Peninsula, has added to the world's sense of alert.

While tensions have increased since Trump took office, they've escalated dramatically in recent weeks as American and other intelligence agencies suggested the North was readying for a possible nuclear test. Although such an explosion hasn't yet occurred, Trump has sent high-powered U.S. military vessels and an aircraft carrier to the region in a show of force, while the North conducted large-scale, live-fire artillery drills, witnessed by national leader Kim Jong Un, earlier this week.

On Wednesday, South Korea started installing key parts of a contentious U.S. missile defense system that also has sparked Chinese and Russian concerns.

America's Pacific forces commander, Adm. Harry Har-



Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., talks with reporters after all Senators briefing on North Korea at the White House

ris Jr., told Congress the system would be operational within days. He said any North Korean missile fired at U.S. forces would be destroyed.

"If it flies, it will die," Harris said.

The Trump administration has said all options, including a military strike, are on the table. But the administration's statement after briefing senators — all 100 members were invited — outlined a similar approach to the Obama administration's focus on pressuring Pyongyang to return to long-stalled denuclearization talks. Trump's top national security advisers said they were "open to negotiations" with the North, though they gave no indication of when or under what circumstances.

The US administration said all options, including a military strike, are [still] on the table

The strategy hinges greatly on the cooperation of China, North Korea's main trading partner.

"China is the key to this," said Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona, who got a preview of Trump's message at a dinner with the president this week.

Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff of California agreed. "I think the best approach for the administration is to bring the maximum pressure to bear diplomatically on China, as well as North Korea, but otherwise to walk softly and carry a big stick," he told

reporters after attending the Capitol Hill briefing.

Among the options are returning North Korea to the U.S. state sponsor of terrorism blacklist, which Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said last week was under consideration. His spokesman, Mark Toner, said yesterday that another tactic is getting nations around the world to close down North Korean embassies and consulates, or suspending them from international organizations.

But sanctions will be the greatest tool at the Trump administration's disposal. Tillerson is chairing a U.N. Security Council meeting Friday designed to get nations to enforce existing penalties on North Korea and weigh new ones.

Testifying before the House Armed Services Committee, Harris said he expects North Korea to soon be able to develop a long-range missile capable of striking the United States, as Kim has

promised. "One of these days soon, he will succeed," Harris said.

North Korea's U.N. mission said the nation would react to "a total war" with Washington by using nuclear weapons. It vowed victory in a "death-defying struggle against the U.S. imperialists."

Trump, like presidents before him, faces difficult options. Sanctions haven't forced Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear efforts, but a targeted U.S. attack to take out its weapons program risks a wider war along a heavily militarized border near where tens of millions of South Koreans live. The threat would extend to nearby Japan, another country North Korea regularly threatens.

China has urged restraint by both Pyongyang and Washington. In Berlin, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said North Korea must suspend its nuclear activities, but "on the other side, the large-scale military maneuvers in Korean waters should be halted." That was a reference to U.S. and South Korean war games.

China opposes the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense system, or THAAD, being installed in South Korea, rejecting American assurances that it will only target North Korean missiles. Russia also sees the system's powerful radars as a security threat.

In Beijing, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said THAAD would upset the region's "strategic balance." China will take "necessary measures to defend our own interests," he promised. **AP**

DETERRENT POWER

US test launches unarmed intercontinental ballistic missile

AN unarmed Minuteman 3 intercontinental ballistic missile was launched from California early yesterday [Macau time] in a test of the weapon system that is part of the U.S. nuclear force.

The missile blasted off from a silo at 12:03 a.m. from Vandenberg Air Force Base and delivered a single re-entry vehicle to a target approximately 6,759 kilometers away at Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean, the Air Force Global Strike Command said.

The launch command was issued via an air launch control system aboard a Navy E-6 Mercury jet.

"Tonight's launch was an important demonstration of our nation's nuclear deterrent capability," Col. John Moss, commander of Vandenberg's 30th Space Wing, said in a statement. "Test launches like this one are vital to validating the effectiveness and readiness of our operational nuclear systems, so it is critical that they are successful."

Operational tests of Minuteman 3 missiles are conducted regularly but the timing of yesterday's launch amid U.S. tensions with North Korea over its nuclear and missile programs drew criticism from the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, which has advocated against nuclear weapons for more than 30 years.

"When it comes to missile testing, the U.S. is operating with a clear double standard: It views its own tests as justified and useful, while it views the tests of North Korea as threatening and destabilizing," David Krieger, president of the organiza-



tion, said in a statement on its website this week.

"What is needed is diplomacy rather than military provocations. Threats, whether in the form of tweets, nuclear-capable aircraft carrier groups, or nuclear-capable missile launches, only increase the dangers to us all," he said.

President Donald Trump has in recent weeks ordered an aircraft carrier and other Navy vessels into the region in a show of force to deter North Korea, which this week conducted large-scale, live-fire artillery drills.

On Wednesday, the White House hosted all 100 senators for a classified briefing on North Korea by Trump's secretary of state, defense secretary, top general and national intelligence director.

The briefing team was to meet later with House members in the Capitol.

The most recent previous Minuteman 3 launch was in early February. **AP**

Gerry Shih, Beijing

XINJIANG

Authorities ban list of Islamic names in restive region

AUTHORITIES in China's Xinjiang region are prohibiting parents from giving children some Islamic names in the latest effort to dilute the influence of religion on life in the ethnic Uighur minority heartland.

"Muhammad," "Jihad" and "Islam" are among at least 29 names now banned in the heavily Muslim region, according to a list distributed by overseas Uighur activists.

An official at a county-level public security office in Kashgar, a hub in southern Xinjiang with strong Islamic influences, says some names were banned because they had a "religious background." It is unclear how widespread the ban is or whether it is tightly enforced. The official refused to identify herself, as is common with Chinese officials.

The naming restrictions are part of a broader government effort to secularize Xinjiang, which is home to roughly 10 million Uighurs, a Turkic people who mostly follow Sunni Islam. Top officials including Xinjiang's Communist Party chief have publicly said that radical Islamic thought has infiltrated the region from Central Asia, protracting a bloody, years-long insurgency that has claimed hundreds of lives.

Government-linked scholars

and high-ranking officials, including Chinese President Xi Jinping, have urged local governments to better assimilate their Muslim minorities into the majority Han Chinese culture, and many ethnic policy hard-liners have decried a trend of so-called "Arabization" affecting China's 21 million Muslims.

Aside from the prohibition on Islamic names, local Xinjiang officials have, at times, strongly discouraged or prohibited Islamic veils, while government-linked commentators have called for bans of mosques with domes or other Middle Eastern architectural styles.

Uighur activists and human rights groups say that radical thought had never gained widespread traction, but restrictions on religious expression are fueling a cycle of radicalization and violence.

The names listed on the government document disseminated by Uighur groups include several related to historic religious or politi-

AP PHOTO



Heavily armed Chinese paramilitary policemen on duty in Urumqi

cal figures and some place names. "Imam," "Haji," "Turknaz," "Azhar" and "Wahhab" are on the list, as are "Saddam," "Arafat," "Medina" and "Cairo."

Judgment calls about which names are deemed to be "overly religious" will be made by local government officials, according to Radio Free Asia, the U.S.-funded

radio service which first reported the naming directive.

For instance, "Mehmet," the widely seen Turkic version of "Muhammad," is considered "mainstream" in Xinjiang and would likely be permitted, RFA reported.

Dilxat Raxit, a spokesman for the overseas World Uighur Con-

gress activist group, called the naming directive a policy bearing a "hostile attitude" toward Uighurs.

"Han parents choosing Western names are considered trendy but Uighurs have to accept Chinese regulations or else be accused of being separatists or terrorists," Raxit said. **AP**

AD

SATURDAY SUPER STACK

STILL THE BIGGEST POKER NIGHT OF THE WEEK

PokerStars LIVE Macau hosts the Saturday SuperStack with a HK\$100,000 guaranteed prize pool. With a buy-in of HK\$3,000, you start with a huge 15K starting chip stack.

Don't miss out on the biggest tournament of the week. Every Saturday from 15th to 22nd April.

POKER STARS LIVE MACAU

Level 2, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai

All tournaments are subject to regulatory approval.

THE ONLY TOPLESS CLUB IN TOWN

w e d n e s d a y n i g h t s

BOYZ NIGHT OUT

1 free drink for boyz

D2無上裝酒吧 逢禮拜三男士之夜 免費贈飲1杯

D2 CLUB

www.d2club-macau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edf. New Orleans III
澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良館 III
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

THE ROADHOUSE
BLUES, BIKES, ROCK AND BOOZE!

MACAU

DYNAMITE DRINKS AND FUN FOOD!

LIVE MUSIC
 LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BANDS

DAILY HAPPY HOUR
 FROM 5PM TO 8PM

FREE PICK UP AND DROP OFF
 ANYWHERE IN MACAU, TAIPA & COLOANE

SHOW THIS AD TO OUR ROADIES AND GET A FREE SHOT

BROADWAY, GALAXY MACAU 2875 2945

GERMAN Chancellor Angela Merkel yesterday sought to dash British hopes that its exit from the European Union will have only a limited impact on the relations, rights and privileges it now has.

Speaking to German lawmakers ahead of a weekend summit in Brussels to discuss the so-called Brexit, Merkel said to applause that she had “the feeling that some in Britain still have illusions, and that is a waste of time.”

While Europe still envisions Britain as a close partner, Merkel said once it leaves the EU it will be an outsider and as such “can and will not have the same rights or be in a better position than a member of the European Union.”

“All of the 27 members of the European Union and European institutions are agreed upon that,” she said, to applause.

Britain has two years to complete its deal to leave the 28-nation European Union but is currently preoccupied with a snap election taking place in early June.

Merkel said pressing issues like the treatment of citizens living in each other's nations, the bill of remaining costs to be paid by Britain and border issues in Ireland need to be dealt with before a future relationship can even be

BREXIT

Merkel: Britain should hold no illusions exit will be easy



discussed.

“Without progress on the many open questions of the exit, including the financial questions, it makes no sense to have parallel negotiations over the future relationship,” the chancellor said.

“We need to know how Britain

sees its future relations with us,” she added.

She said Germany will push for the impact of Brexit on Germans and other EU citizens living in Britain to be as minimal as possible, and for cooperation on security issues, like fighting organized crime and terrorism, to remain close.

“Let there be no doubt: Brexit negotiations will demand a lot from Britain and Europe,” she said.

She added that Germany and other EU countries need to define their own “interests and goals,” and that she expects EU nations to emerge from the Brussels summit with a “strong signal of unity.”

EU officials at a meeting in Luxembourg said the EU nations

formed a solid bloc and said little still needs to be agreed on in tough guidelines for their Brexit negotiators, which are to be approved at tomorrow's summit.

The EU's chief negotiator, Michel Barnier, said “we are ready, we are ready” as he entered the meeting.

The 27 European Union nations are heading into two years of divorce negotiations with Britain as a solid bloc, saying yesterday there is a large consensus on the tough guidelines for their Brexit negotiators which are to be approved at a weekend summit.

Often divided on key issues from refugees to the financial crisis, the EU nations said no major questions were left for the leaders during Saturday's summit as the negotiations with Britain draw closer.

The EU's chief negotiator, Michel Barnier, said that “we are united” as he left the meeting of EU foreign and Europe ministers in Luxembourg.

“It was an unprecedented signal of trust, unity and consensus of the 27,” said Maltese Deputy Prime Minister Louis Grech, who chaired the meeting.

Britain has spent lots of time trying to bounce back from the shock referendum result in June. It had to form a new government and now faces a snap election on June 8, making sure that negotiations on Brexit will not start until nearly a year after the referendum.

Once the EU's guidelines are approved tomorrow, the European Commission will pour them into a tight negotiating mandate for Barnier which should be ready May 22. Talks are expected to start sometime after the British elections, when a new government is formed.

“We need to know how Britain sees its future relations with us.”

ANGELA MERKEL

The EU said pressing issues like the treatment of citizens living in each other's nations, the bill of remaining costs to be paid by Britain and border issues in Ireland need to be dealt with before a future relationship can be discussed.

British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson immediately saw problems ahead. “If you're saying that they want the money before they get any substantive talks, then that is obviously not going to happen,” he told the BBC.

Estimates for the British divorce bill go as high as 60 billion euros (USD65 billion). **MDT/AP**

UK LEADER MEETS TOP EU OFFICIALS FOR BREXIT WORKING DINNER

BRITAIN'S PRIME minister took time out from her election campaign to meet the European Union's chief Brexit negotiator and head of the bloc's executive. Theresa May held a working dinner Wednesday [yesterday, Macau time] at 10 Downing St. with

negotiator Michel Barnier and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker. May called a snap June 8 election last week, urging voters to give her Conservatives a bigger parliamentary majority to strengthen Britain's hand in EU exit negotiations.



FRANCE

After Whirlpool battle, Le Pen and Macron clash over fish

AFTER “the battle of Whirlpool,” when Marine Le Pen and Emmanuel Macron both went hunting for France's blue-collar vote at a threatened home appliance factory, the presidential candidates clashed over fish in a return to more traditional campaigning yesterday.

The anti-European Union far-right populist Le Pen was up before dawn to cruise aboard a fishing trawler on the Mediterranean. The sea trip was her latest television-friendly effort to portray herself as the candidate of France's workers against the centrist former banker and economy minister Macron, whom she paints as the candidate of the finan-



cial, political and pro-EU elite.

“My grandfather was a fisherman, so I am in my element,” Le Pen said after her pre-dawn voyage aboard the “Grace of God 2” trawler.

She said France will take back control of its maritime policies if she is elected in the second-round vote on May 7. She again tore into Macron's more pro-market,

free-trade economic program. Macron fired back on Twitter, saying her proposals to take France out of the EU would sink France's fishing industry.

“Have a nice trip. Europe's exit she proposes, it's the end of French fishing. Think about it,” he tweeted, before a scheduled visit to the ethnically mixed Paris suburb of Sarcelles and a na-

tional television appearance today [Macau time].

Many voters can't stomach either candidate. French high school students scuffled with riot police in a cloud of tear gas during a Paris protest in which they painted Le Pen as an extreme nationalist with dangerous views and Macron as too cozy with the finance world.

Students blocked entrances to some high schools and marched through eastern Paris to the Bastille neighborhood, the heart of the 1789 French revolution. Most of the protesters were peaceful, but a few clashed with the riot police ringing the crowds.

Many of the students aren't old enough to vote, yet they

reflect a chunk of the French electorate that is expected to sit out the May 7 election, either because they dislike both candidates or because they assume Macron will win.

While Macron has been considered the favorite for the runoff, pollsters have long noted that a very low

“War is declared,” read a front-page headline of the daily Liberation

turnout could propel Le Pen into the presidency.

Le Pen may have hit a turning point with her surprise visit to the threatened Whirlpool clothes-dryer factory in northern France. The campaign maneuver put Macron on the defensive and prompted him to also meet angry Whirlpool workers later the same day.

Yesterday, newspapers and commentators debated which of the two candidates scored the most points in the remarkable Whirlpool drama that highlighted their clash of styles and which was broadcast live on French news channels.

“War is declared,” read a front-page headline of the daily Liberation. **AP**

MIDDLE EAST

Syrian media: Israel attacked installation near Damascus

Philip Issa, Beirut

AN apparent Israeli missile attack on a Syrian military installation near Damascus International Airport shook the capital yesterday and raised tensions between the two hostile neighbors.

The Syrian military said in a statement that the attack, which could be felt at least 15 kilometers away, was carried out by Israel and aimed to "raise the morale of terrorist groups" the government maintains are waging war against President Bashar Assad's forces.

The military said it would continue its "war on terror" — government parlance for the battle against all groups trying to oust Assad.

Israel appears to be striking at military convoys and installations in Syria at a quickening pace, maintaining it has the right to prevent authorities in Damascus from transferring weapons across the



This frame grab from video, which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, shows flames rising after an explosion near an airport west of Damascus, yesterday

border to the Lebanese militant Hezbollah group.

Hezbollah is a staunch ally of the Syrian government, which is mired in a six-year-long civil war, and also an avowed enemy of Israel, which occupied Lebanon for nearly two decades.

Israeli Minister of Intelligence Yisrael Katz would not comment directly on the incident but said any similar strike would be in line with established policy to interrupt weapons transfers.

"It absolutely matches our

declared policy, a policy that we also implement," Katz told Israel's Army Radio.

Israel is widely believed to have carried out several airstrikes in recent years on advanced weapons systems in Syria — including Russian-made anti-aircraft missiles and Iranian-made missiles — as well as Hezbollah positions. It rarely comments on such operations.

Activists running the widely followed Damascus-focused Facebook page Diaries of a Mortar reported hearing several explosions before dawn, which they said could be felt across the Syrian capital.

Syria's state-run SANA news agency said Israel had fired several missiles from inside the Occupied Golan Heights, 60 kilometers south of Damascus, striking a military installation southwest of the airport that serves both military and civilian flights. It

reported several explosions and material damage but no casualties. It was not clear how Israel was identified as the culprit.

"The buildings shook from the force of the blast," said a media activist who goes by Salam al-Ghoutawi, of the Ghouta Media Center, in the city's opposition-held northeastern suburbs, about 15 kilometers from the airport. He said he heard the roar of jets in the distance at the time.

A string of explosions could be seen silhouetted against the night sky in a video published by the center. Debris is seen flying out as the light of the explosions illuminated a sizeable blast cloud that took shape nearby. A pro-government site Damascus Now said the explosion was near the city's Seventh Bridge, which leads to the airport road.

Hezbollah's al-Manar media station reported an explosion at the fuel tanks and a warehouse next to the airport, which is 25 kilometers east of the city center. Al-Manar also speculated the blast was caused by an Israeli strike.

Hezbollah has sent thousands of its militants to fight alongside government forces in Syria's six-year-long civil war. **AP**

AD

KTRANZ

TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE
TRANSLATIONS

Services

TRANSLATIONS,
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

Languages

ENGLISH, CHINESE,
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,
KOREAN, SPANISH,
FRENCH, ARABIC,
RUSSIAN

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms Amy Yang

Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo

Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

中新广州知识城创新创业大会2016

SSGKC LaunchPad 2016

Presents

DCIC

Delta Creativity & Innovation Celebration

An Event by

SAN JIAO LING

Let's
GO! 文化區

DCIC Presentation

Registration Form

info@sanjiaoling.com

In Cooperation with

SINO-SINGAPORE
GUANGZHOU KNOWLEDGE CITY
中新广州知识城

Official Partners

TV canal macau

FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
16:10	Documentary Serie
17:00	Revenge S1
17:40	Castle S6 (Repeated)
18:20	Now Generation (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talk Show (Repeated) (PT)
19:40	Soap Opera (PT)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Saving Mr. Banks
01:35	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
02:25	RTPi Live

SATURDAY

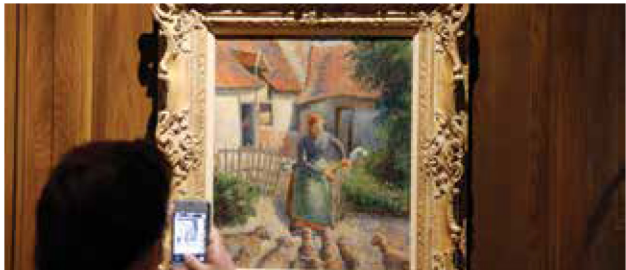
10:40	Comedy
11:15	Blaze Riders
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast (PT)
14:50	Sopa Opera (PT / EN subtitles)
18:30	Miscellaneous
19:50	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Miscellaneous
21:10	Drama (PT)
22:00	Comedy
22:45	Miscellaneous
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	RTPi Live

SUNDAY

10:00	Young Adult
11:00	Sunday Mass (Live)
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	Zig Zag
16:10	Documentary Serie
16:45	Miscellaneous
19:20	Miscellaneous
19:35	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Stacey Dooley Investigates: Canada's Lost Girls
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
23:50	Europa League Magazine
00:45	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeat)
01:20	RTPi Live

Offbeat

WWII PAINTING STOLEN BY NAZIS TO ROTATE BETWEEN PARIS AND US



An 1886 painting that was stolen as part of a Nazi looting campaign that stretched across Europe during World War II has transferred from the University of Oklahoma to Paris. The Oklahoman (bit.ly/2pi2PPe) reports the painting, “Shepherdess Bringing in Sheep,” will be on display at the French museum, Musee d’Orsay, for five years before returning to the university in alternating three-year intervals. The rotating display arrangement is part of a settlement agreement between the university and Leone Meyer, whose father, Raoul Meyer, owned the painting during the German occupation of Paris in WWII. Leone Meyer sued the university to recover the painting, which has been with the university since 2000. The settlement reached acknowledges Meyer’s inheritance rights. University of Oklahoma President David Boren says “a fair and just resolution among all parties has been reached.”

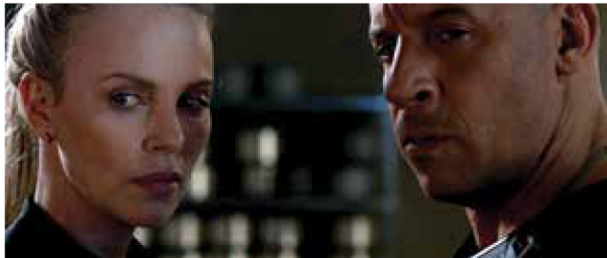
cinema

CINETEATRO

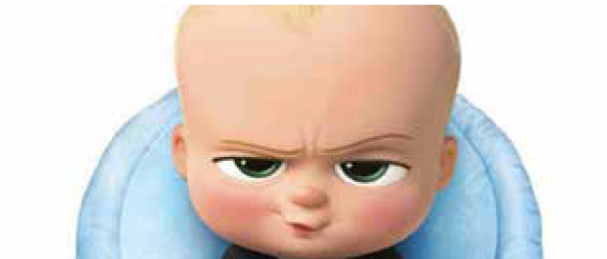
26 APR - 29 APR



SCHOCK WAVE
ROOM 1
2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm
Director: Herman Yau
Starring: Andy Lau, Jiang Wu, Philip Keung, Ron Ng
Language: Cantonese (English and Chinese)
Duration:119min



FAST & FURIOUS 8
ROOM 2
2:30, 9:15pm
Director: F. Gary Gray
Starring: Vin Diesel, Jason Statham, Dwayne Johnson
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 136min



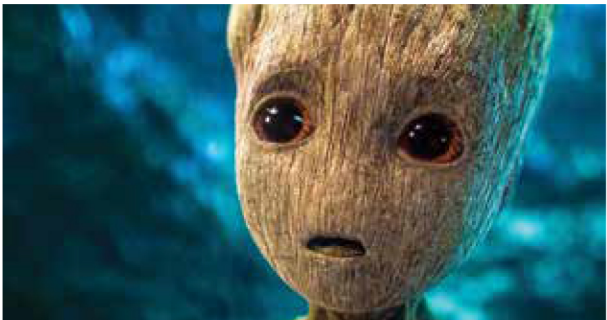
THE BOSS BABY
ROOM 2
5:00, 7:30pm
Director: Tom McGrath
Starring: Alec Baldwin, Steve Buscemi, Jimmy Kimmel
Language: Cantonese (English)
Duration: 97min



BRAIN ON FIRE
ROOM 3
2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm
Director: Gerard Barrett
Starring: Chloë Moretz, Richard Armitage, Jenny Slate
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 95min

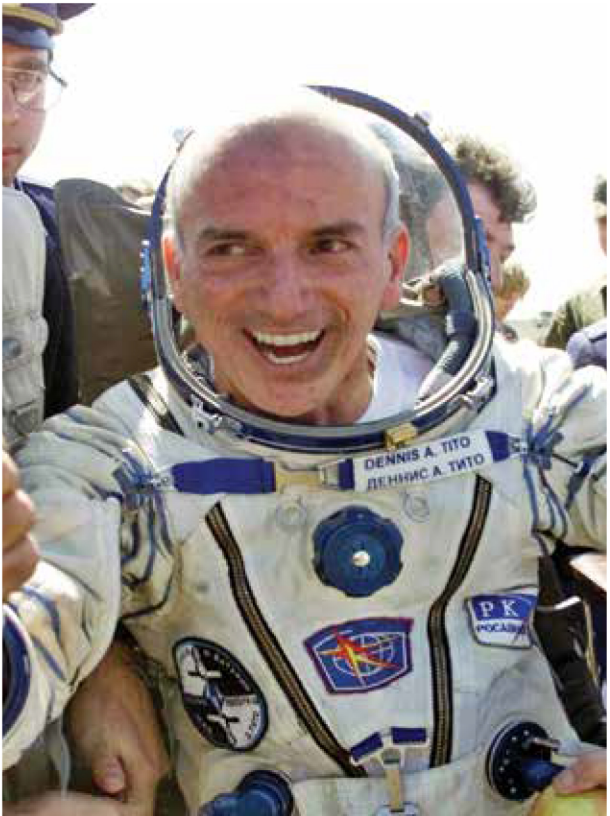
MACAU TOWER

27 APR - 10 MAY



GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY 2
(3D) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm
Director: James Gunn
Starring: Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 136min

this day in history



Dennis Tito

2001 FIRST SPACE TOURIST BLASTS OFF

A billionaire businessman from California has become the first paying passenger to go to outer space. Dennis Tito, aged 60, set off from Kazakhstan at 1338 local time (0838 GMT) for an eight-day holiday aboard the International Space Station. For Mr Tito, a former Nasa employee, it is the fulfilment of a dream he has held for 40 years. He paid \$20m (£14m) for his trip of a lifetime, but he has faced a number of setbacks. First, Nasa rejected his proposal, on the grounds that he is not a trained astronaut. So he turned to Russia. The space authorities in Moscow agreed to take him - but his ticket became null and void after his original destination, the Mir Space Station, was decommissioned and fell back to Earth earlier this year. He was then offered a place on board a scheduled flight with a Soyuz supply mission to the International Space Station. The change of plans provoked a bitter row between the United States and Russia. After months of wrangling, the American space agency only agreed to allowing Mr Tito on board the Space Station on the condition that he agree not to sue if injured, to pay for anything he breaks, and to sleep only in Russian sections of the station. Even then, it looked as though the flight might not go ahead, after last-minute computer glitches forced the Endeavour space shuttle to delay its return to Earth from the ISS and Nasa requested that the Soyuz trip be put off. Moscow refused to delay the mission, and after a tense stand-off Nasa finally relented. Now, though, Mr Tito can put all that behind him, as he heads out of the Earth’s atmosphere and towards the destination that at times has seemed so near - yet so very far away.

Courtesy of BBC

IN CONTEXT

The quarrels between Nasa and Moscow continued throughout Dennis Tito’s week in space. At one point, Nasa demanded compensation from Russia for lost research time. On his return to Earth, Mr Tito described his journey as “a major crossing point in my life”. He split up with his girlfriend, Dawn, shortly after his return, and found his business had suffered in his absence. He has spent much of his time since promoting the idea of ordinary people going into space, although he says he wouldn’t go back and do it again himself. Only two other people have paid to go into space - South African computer millionaire Mark Shuttleworth in 2002, and US businessman and scientist Greg Olsen in October 2005.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You've got some explaining to do, and the person who wants to hear it isn't feeling especially patient. The good news is that their impatience is really just a mask for how eager they are to hear from you.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Every now and then, it seems like the universe has specially arranged for all conditions to be perfect. Today is your day! Everyone you cross paths with will be in the mood to chat, mingle and socialize.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

A new person in your life is also interested in what you have to say, although for reasons that might not be immediately apparent. They are, however, interested in interesting ideas, and you have a lot of them!

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

Lots of calls, emails and unexpected visits will keep you busy at work today, but you won't mind it a bit. The more unexpected they are, in fact, the better you'll enjoy them.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You've never been described as quiet or shy, and you believe in taking chances. So when a certain someone wanders by today, don't let them keep wandering. Ask them a question.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Bills just aren't fun - especially for a sign as rebellious as yours, who believes that the simple things, such as air, water and a place to live, should be free. Still, they're a necessary evil.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Ready for a conversation? A real conversation? Good - because each and every person you exchange more than just a few words with today will expect nothing less from you.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

It might be a fantasy, but it's a nice one - and you won't be willing to let go of it without a fight. Fortunately, the entire world is in the mood to dream big dreams today and to reminisce, too.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You're almost done with a particular project, and now it's time to follow through with the boring, unglamorous final details. In short, just get it done. There is a fierce amount of karma coming your way.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Don't you dare ignore your phone or your email today! You might not be in the mood to talk with anyone initially, but you'll be amazed at how many people will be trying to contact you.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

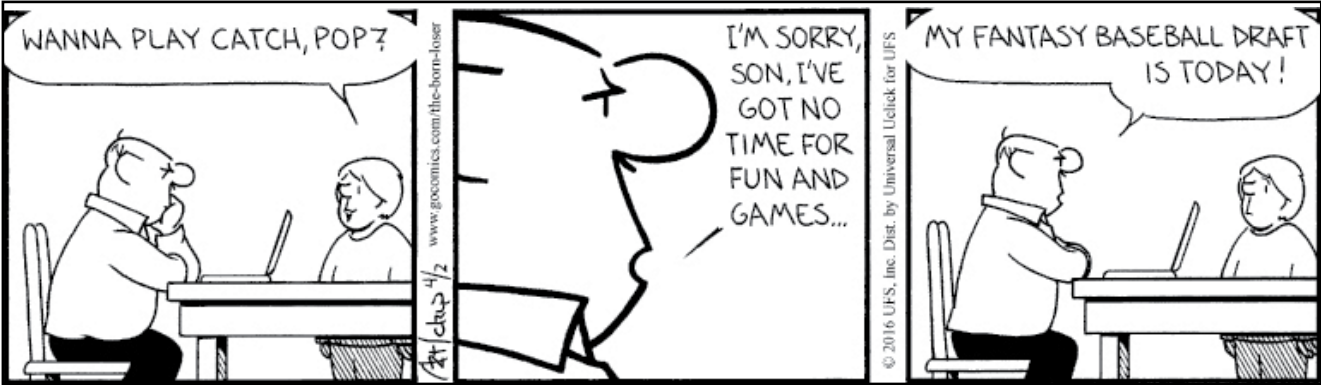
There's no disputing it. You just haven't been yourself lately and it's been going on for some time. Oddly enough, you're not worried about it. You really couldn't care less about it, in fact.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

This is definitely the right time to schedule that 'state of the relationship' meeting you've been putting off, and putting off and putting off. Stop it. Procrastination only leads to guilt.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

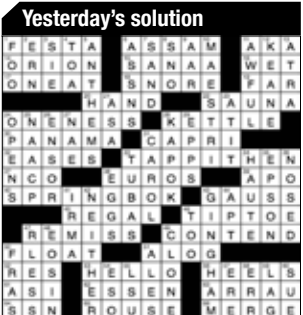
Hard

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- French friends; 5- Confess; 10- Land map; 14- "Chicken of the sea"; 15- Right-hand page; 16- Fabled fliers; 17- ___ Hashanah; 18- Let me repeat...; 19- James of jazz; 20- Alexipharmic; 22- Blender brand; 23- Future tulip; 24- ___ kleine Nachtmusik; 26- Person, slangily; 29- Noble gas; 31- Pertaining to the teeth; 35- Not tied down; 37- Unattractive; 39- Accent; 40- Man, in Milan; 41- Slowpoke; 42- Low-cal; 43- Util. bill; 44- Blue-pencil; 45- President before Polk; 46- One who enjoys inflicting pain; 48- Vintner's prefix; 50- Begley and Wynn; 51- Canadian gas brand; 53- Coarse file, angry tone of voice; 55- Marriott competitor; 58- Credible; 63- Prefix with dextrous; 64- Closes; 65- Good earth; 66- Irritate; 67- Old-womanish; 68- Sunrise direction; 69- Angers; 70- Country singer Tucker; 71- Canonized Fr. women;

DOWN: 1- Gillette razor; 2- Unstable particle; 3- Technical sch.; 4- Indian term of respect; 5- New World songbird; 6- Headed west; 7- Final Four org.; 8- Practical; 9- Pea's place; 10- Soon; 11- Trent of the Senate; 12- Entr'___; 13- Boris Godunov, for one; 21- Sand hill; 22- Undivided; 25- Pastoral poem; 26- Depressed spirits; 27- Alley Oop's girlfriend; 28- Like some stadiums; 30- Marsh of mystery; 32- Sheer fabric; 33- Chipped in; 34- Sly looks; 36- Organizations; 38- In the strict sense; 41- Hardens; 45- Throw; 47- Fast flier; 49- Sickness at the stomach; 52- ___ can of worms; 54- Heaps; 55- Mata ___; 56- Primordial giant in Norse myth; 57- Skilled; 59- Reclined; 60- Fishing vessel,



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993

PJ (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000

Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply – Report 2822 0088

Telephone – Report 1000

Electricity – Report 28 339 922

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



FOR SALE
www.JMLProperty.com

FOR RENT

More info, please contact us
Info@JMLproperty.Com
(853) 2835 2699 Office

Wan Yu Villa, D Unit
Macau
1,800 sq ft / HKD 6,388sq ft
HKD 11.5M
Great Location
Ref: 17035513

Kingsville, Taipa (I Unit)
Taipa
3 Bedroom Apartment
Parking Upon Request
HKD 16,800 / 1,200 sq ft
Ref: 17010631

Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens
Taipa
1,503 sq ft / HKD 7,451 sq ft
HKD 11.2M
Ocean Gardens complex
Ref: 16095497

Villa de Mer – Tower 1
Macau
2 Bedrooms Apartment
Modern Furnishing
HKD 12,000 / 935 sq ft
Ref: 17040645

The Manhattan
Taipa
2,305 sq ft / HKD 7,900 sq ft.
HKD 18.2095M
5-Star Residence
Ref: 17035515

Edf. Nam Long - J Unit
Taipa
2 Bedroom Apartment
Rare & Unique
HKD 12,800 / 750 sq ft
Ref: 17010634

Kam Lai Kuok
Macau
1,380 sq ft / HKD 7,956 sq ft
HKD 10.98M
Fabulous Location
Ref: 17035512

Jardim Lameiras
Taipa
2 Bedroom Apartment
Decorated Throughout
HKD 13,800 / 720 sq ft
Ref: 17030643



Victoria's Secret returns grander than ever



Victoria's Secret opened its first full assortment store at The Venetian yesterday, hosting mini tours at its shop during a private event before opening to the public at 6:30 p.m.

All items worn by Victoria's Secret Angels have been made available at the shop, including lingerie, sportswear, swimwear, leathered goods and bath and body care products such as body mists and lotions.

Its bestseller items under the lines "Very Sexy," "Body by Victoria," "Dream Angels" and "Sexy Little Things" can also be found at the retail store's altered sections.

The brand's bestselling scent "Bombshell: Our #1 Fragrance" is also available as a perfume, mist and lotion.

The newly opened store is divided into several sections, featuring a large screen that plays Victoria's Secret runway fashion shows on loop.

The store also features the brand's "Pink" apparel line, which caters to teenagers.

Located at St Mark's Square at The Venetian Macao, five sets of decorated angels' wings that were presented at Victoria's Secret will be featured at the square until May 31 to celebrate the grand opening. LV



Tales Azzoni, Madrid

TOP FOOTBALL

WHILE Lionel Messi helped Barcelona to trounce Osasuna 7-1, Cristiano Ronaldo was rested by title rival Real Madrid in its 6-2 rout of Deportivo La Coruna in the Spanish league yesterday.

Barcelona and Madrid remain level on 78 points at the top of the standings after their comfortable victories, keeping the title race wide open.

Barcelona is ahead on the head-to-head tiebreaker, but the two-time defending champion only has four games left, while Madrid — seeking its first league title since 2012 — has five to play.

Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane rested Ronaldo and several other regular starters in La Coruna, with a great performance by Francisco "Isco" Alarcon and two goals by James Rodriguez helping the team to victory.

At the Camp Nou, Messi followed up his remarkable performance in the "clasico" against Madrid with another two goals. Andre Gomes and Paco Alcacer also scored twice for Barcelona, and Javier Mascherano netted his first goal with the Catalan club to complete the rout.

Messi's second goal at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium on Sunday was a last-minute winner that gave him 500 career goals with Barcelona, and he was honored for the milestone before the Osasuna game, with

Messi leads Barcelona to 7-1 victory; Real Madrid wins 6-2



a huge banner displayed on the stands with the words "Thank you Leo."

"With Messi, everything is easier," Barcelona coach Luis Enrique said.

Messi opened the scoring with a lob over the goalkeeper after breaking free from his markers

and surging into the area with only goalkeeper Salvatore Sirigu to beat. He neatly headed the ball down before unleashing his 12th-minute strike.

Messi, who has scored 16 goals in his last 11 league games, netted his second with a well-placed left-foot shot from just outside the area in the 61st, two minutes before being substituted to a standing ovation by the crowd at the Camp Nou.

It was the 11th time this season that Messi had scored two goals in a league game.

"We all know about Messi's quality, about what he can add

to the team," Alcacer said. "It's a great joy to be able to play alongside him. He is a unique player and few have the honor to say that they played with him."

Messi has scored twice in the last five games in which he has found the net. He is the league's leading scorer with 33 goals, nine more than teammate Luis Suarez and 14 more than Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo.

Gomes scored in the 30th and 57th minutes, and Alcacer netted in the 64th and 86th. Defender Mascherano, who had yet to score after 318 matches with Barcelona, was allowed to end his drought by taking a 67th-minute penalty kick.

Suarez was rested by coach Luis Enrique in yesterday's game. Neymar couldn't play because of a suspension.

Osasuna, which was mathematically relegated with the loss, played in orange-colored shirts made specifically for the match, as its other shirts were too similar to Barcelona's outfit.

Roberto Torres scored the team's lone goal from a 48th-minute free kick. **AP**

FOOTBALL

Cardiff hotels already full for Champions League final

SUPPORTERS wanting to stay in the city hosting this season's Champions League final are in for a shock.

Hotels in Cardiff are expected to be completely full for the night of June 3, even though the semifinals haven't even been played yet. The only likely space available for fans in the Welsh capital is tents, some of which can cost up to USD2,300 for the Saturday night.

UEFA, the governing body of European soccer, requires host cities to reserve hotel rooms far in advance of games to ensure players, officials and sponsors have accommodation - putting the squeeze on visiting fans when finals are played in smaller cities. With about 350,000 inhabitants, Cardiff is the first location with a population below 1 million to host the Champions League final since Gelsenkirchen, Germany, 13 years ago.



"Cardiff is a compact city and hotels are expected to be at capacity," the Cardiff local authority told The Associated Press. "The council ... agreed a contract with hoteliers to block book a proportion of the hotel stock in Cardiff, so we were able to host this prestigious event."

The pressure on hotel space would have been eased had an English team reached the final, but the last four are all from continental Europe. In the semifinals over the next two weeks, Real Madrid and Atletico

meet in a Madrid derby, while Monaco takes on Juventus.

All hotel chains in central Cardiff, including Hilton and InterContinental properties, have been listed as full online for a year.

"The hotel trade is market driven and the council doesn't have any authority over them," the Cardiff Council said in an email. "Hoteliers that wanted to accept the terms that were being offered did and if they chose not to, that was based on their own commercial assumptions."

The only option now for supporters hoping to stay near to the Millennium Stadium is camping, with the cheapest tents costing 195 pounds (\$250) for one night and the most expensive 1,800 pounds (\$2,300).

"Whilst Cardiff's accommodation capacity is lower than previous UCL final host cities, the Cardiff 2017 LOC (local organizing committee) have taken pro-active steps to ensure that it will deliver a memorable event for all attendees," UEFA said.

UEFA said there would be additional trains and buses to transport 15,000 fans back to London. That is a three-hour journey, without traffic, by road, or two hours by rail. Transport links have also been enhanced late into the night for the one-hour trip to Bristol, where the only available hotel rooms for June 3 start at \$350, according to hotel comparison websites.

Many visitors for the final will only make a fleeting visit to the host city, with plans to fly about 25,000 people in and out on the day by charter aircraft from Cardiff, Bristol and Birmingham, UEFA said.

GOLF

Levy shoots 63 to take 1-stroke lead at China Open

ALEXANDER Levy shot a 9-under 63 yesterday to take a one-stroke lead after the first round of the China Open.

The Frenchman, who won the China Open in 2014, carded nine birdies in a bogey-free round at the Topwin Golf and Country Club to finish one stroke ahead of Pablo Larrazabal.

Levy is looking to become the first golfer to win the Volvo China Open twice and take his tally of European Tour wins to four.

"I played great," he said. "I hit 18 greens today and had some good putts for birdie, two or three long putts that helped."

Peter Hanson and James Morrison (both 67) were tied at 5 under with Raphael Jacquelin, Dean Burmester and George Coetzee.

Jorge Campillo and Yi Cao were among a group of golfers a further shot back.

Bernd Wiesberger, who won last week's Shenzhen International, was six strokes off the pace after a 69, tied at 3 under with defending champion Li Haotong.

Anthony Wall — making his 500th European Tour start this week — shot a 1-under 71, while Ryan Dillon (77) recorded the 14th hole-in-one of the season as he holed a 7 iron from 180 yards on the 13th. **AP**

opinion

Kapok
Eric Sautedé



THE PITFALLS OF POPULISM

It does not happen very often but Mr Fong Chi Keong has a point when he warns the government of the dangers of “populism” in Macao, adding, in plenary session of the Legislative Assembly, that the issue of how the government deals with public opinion and democracy has to be resolved properly.

Topping his concerns is the situation in Europe and what he calls “the paradox of democracy”. From his own reckoning, this so-called paradox was coined by analysts, an admission that in itself is worth stressing as Mr Fong has repeatedly characterised experts and scholars as “useless”. For him the contradiction lies in the overpowering capacity of the people to influence policy-making whereas very few citizens actually master the complexity and the ins and outs of institutional politics and economic development, and simply speaking, lack the ability to form an informed opinion. The consequence being on the one hand that people’s participation is seen as both “excessive” and “blind” (his words), and on the other that citizens can easily be manipulated.

Mr Fong then highlights the two main aptitudes that a government must display if populism is to be warded off. The first is for a government to face its responsibilities. Failing to do so, in his mind, will put the people at a loss, fuel social hostility and ultimately help populism blossom.

Mr Fong’s main target appears to be the excessive recourse to “public consultations”, in which he sees a distortion of the political system, an indication of the weakness of the government’s capacity to change things and a clear lack of self-confidence. And then, if the government does eventually uphold its responsibilities, it needs to act as a mediator — a second necessary skill — in order to mitigate the adverse effects of ongoing developments. Here, the main example given by legislator Fong is the conciliation role the government needs to play in labour disputes, at a time when labour movements have grown in autonomy and thus more demanding.

This is all very well, and being French and having just participated in the first round of France’s presidential election that many have dubbed a “triumph of populism”, I can concur: when “populism” wins, public policies rooted in reason and social stability are put at risk. But then this is one of the characteristics of democracy: sovereignty resides in the people, and even though it might look messy, it also means that people can rebel without resorting to revolution by using the legal channels of election, even if it means breaking away from the European Union or putting in the White House a whimsical twitting-maniac as a the most powerful leader of the planet. Is it challenging? Hell yeah! Are democratic institutions crumbling? Well, Brexit is being engineered by Theresa May along the idea of a “deep and special relationship” with the European Union and Mr Trump has experienced a few setbacks regarding the scrapping of the Obamacare, enforcing illegal travel bans or even letting go the North American Free Trade Agreement.

What does Mr Fong actually mean by populism in a place where the Chief Executive runs unopposed and only 41% of the legislators are returned via universal (competitive) suffrage? What does he mean by the government not “assuming responsibility”? By his own token, given that Mr Fong was one of the most vocal opponents of the domestic violence law (ultimately passed) and the staunchest supporter of the 2014 perks’ bill for senior officials (ultimately withdrawn following the most important street demonstrations since 1989), what would “taking his responsibility” mean? My guess is a bit of courage and for him to resign.

The root cause of populism is not democracy: it is the perpetuation of illegitimate and plutocratic community leaders who have proven time again their incapacity to make the right choices for the common good. In a democracy or even in a result-driven autocracy benefiting the majority, the paradox can somehow be resolved more or less peacefully...

THE BUZZ SPAIN OFFERS TO HOST EU MEDICINES AGENCY AFTER BREXIT

Competition is heating up among European Union countries hoping to reap some of the benefits of Britain’s exit from the EU, with Spain joining the list of nations bidding to host the bloc’s medicines oversight body.

Health Minister Dolors Montserrat told a meeting of business representatives and journalists that Spain believes the Mediterranean port city of Barcelona is the ideal place to

house the headquarters of the European Medicines Agency when it relocates from London.

The Netherlands and Portugal are also among several countries presenting bids for the lucrative oversight body.

The agency, employing about 900 people, is one of the biggest EU institutions with an annual budget of more than 300 million euros.

JFK diary written in post-WWII Europe sells for USD718,000

Crystal Hill, Boston

A diary kept by a young John F. Kennedy during his brief stint as a journalist after World War II in which he reflected on Hitler and the weakness of the United Nations sold for more than USD700,000 yesterday, according to the auction house.

Boston-based RR Auction said the diary sold for \$718,750, far exceeding the pre-sale estimate of \$200,000. Joseph Alsop, a JFK collector from Beverly, outbid one other live and six telephone bidders in a packed house for the 61-page diary. Alsop, 71, plans to add it to his personal collection, auction officials said.

The diary, mostly typed but includes 12 handwritten pages, was written in 1945 when the 28-year-old Kennedy was a correspondent for Hearst newspapers and traveled through a devastated Europe.

Executive Vice President Bobby Livingston said the auction was thrilling, with bidders from around the country vying for the personal observations of the man who’d become president.

“My expectations were exceeded, but I’m not surprised because it’s such a significant and historic manuscript,” Livingston said.



AP PHOTO

Kennedy gave the diary to Deirdre Henderson, a research assistant in his campaign office in the late 1950s who now lives in the Boston area.

In the diary, Kennedy reflected on his time in a gutted Berlin and even saw Hitler’s bunker, speculating that he was not killed. He wrote that Hitler “had in him the stuff of which legends are made.” But Henderson said in an interview last month that should not be misinterpreted as sympathy for the German dictator.

“He said that in reference to the mystery surrounding him and not the evil he represented,” Henderson said.

Kennedy expressed doubt about the effectiveness of the fledgling United Nations,

questioning whether it “will prove effective in the sense of its elaborate mechanics being frequently employed or vitally decisive in deterring war or peace.”

Henderson said she put the diary up for sale so it can be properly preserved, and she’s confident the winning bidder will respect her wish. She said she wanted the sale to coincide with the 100th anniversary of Kennedy’s birth this year.

“I’m more than pleased with the outcome,” Henderson said. “I think it was the right price at the right time.”

Kennedy, the 35th U.S. president, served from January 1961 until he was assassinated in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

times square by rodrigo



Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good	
Ambient	30-50 Good	

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

THAILAND Suspected Muslim insurgents killed four paramilitary army rangers yesterday in an ambush in southern Thailand. Police said a pickup truck carrying six rangers in Narathiwat province was blown off the road by an improvised explosive device and then insurgents opened fire, killing the four soldiers and wounding two others.



INDIA has ordered internet service providers in Indian-controlled Kashmir to immediately block Facebook, Twitter and 20 other social media sites and online applications for one month, after several videos and photos depicting alleged abuses of Kashmiris by Indian security forces sparked outrage and fueled protests. Meanwhile, 3 Indian soldiers, 2 suspected rebels killed in the trouble state.



UK A man with knives has been arrested near Parliament on suspicion of terrorism. London’s Metropolitan Police said the man in his late 20s was arrested yesterday “as part of an ongoing operation.” Knives have been recovered. Police said the man is being detained under the Terrorism Act. They say there is “no immediate known threat” to the public.



RUSSIA-JAPAN President Vladimir Putin hosts Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to discuss a dispute over four islands that has kept the two countries from signing a peace treaty ending World War II. It was the leaders’ third meeting in the past seven months after Putin made a state visit to Japan in December and Abe met Putin in Russia’s Far East in September.