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The "Alliance for Change" list, led by lawmaker Melinda Chan, presented its political platform

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13 HOLDINGS WITH DEBT PROBLEMS

The 13 project remains unopened while the company announced its fourth straight year of net losses

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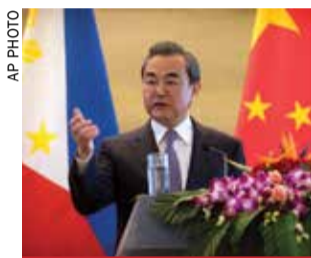
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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA-PHILIPPINES
China's foreign minister told his Philippine counterpart yesterday that Beijing is ready to provide more aid to the Southeast Asian country, as ties between the former antagonists continue to improve. Beijing this week donated emergency aid, sniper rifles and other weaponry to help the Philippine military drive out Muslim rebels who overran the southern city of Marawi.
More on p24

VIETNAM A prominent Vietnamese blogger was sentenced yesterday to 10 years in prison after being found guilty of distorting government policies and defaming the Communist regime.



KOREA South Korea's president readied for talks yesterday with congressional leaders and a White House dinner with President Donald Trump as he looks to reassure Washington that he will coordinate closely on dealing with the threat from North Korea.
More on p26

RUSSIA A jury found five men guilty yesterday in the assassination of Russian opposition leader Boris Nemtsov, bringing to a close a trial that Nemtsov's allies believe failed to bring the slaying's masterminds to justice.
More on backpage

HKSAR 20 YEARS

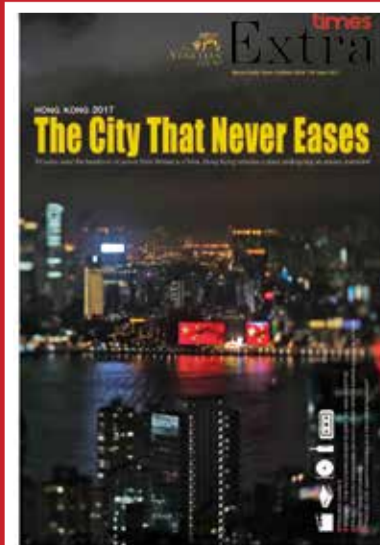
Xi tries soft touch on 1st day in divided city

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Kwan Tsui Hang confirms retirement from politics

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Extra times
weekend Guide
INSIDE

editorial

Paulo Coutinho



TIMES RUN FAST, FASTER IN MACAU

THE notion of time is relative, ask Einstein.

In Macau it is even more relative. We live within a very limited perimeter, and family, work or the leisure dimensions of our lives are just minutes away from each other; they almost overlap giving us not the sensation of the passage of time.

Ten years ago on June 1, 2007, the Macau Daily Times was launched to serve the growing community of English professionals and executives who were coming to town en masse on the wave of a development of such extraordinary magnitude that few could then foresee.

Cotai was under construction with one property, The Venetian, about to open its doors as the biggest resort-casino in the world – right here in one of the tiniest cities in the world. It added yet another contradiction to the land of contradictions and striking contrasts – this should be the tourism authority's slogan, by the way, but I'll spare you the enumeration of the other examples.

Times went so fast that when we woke up, the next decade or so, Macau was 'just' the biggest gaming market on earth, dwarfing mythical Vegas, amassing by May 2014 seven times the GGR of Sin City (West). The gambling dollars shifted gradually from the overcrowded peninsula strip to the 5-sq km new land of Cotai where brand new properties opened (and more to come soon) to meet the fantasies – and hit the wallets – of middle-class Chinese mainlanders.

Every single day around 90 thousand people visit Cotai.

MDT witnessed all this and other dramatic changes, events, demonstrations, high-profile arrests and a mystery suicide. In the meantime, we witnessed the installation of a new chief executive and a brand new policy cabinet that promoted musical chairs around the departments. A new, oh so old, legislature was elected, selected and appointed to the three 'wings' of the Nam Van hemicycle.

We saw demonstrations of discontent against the lack of transparency and checks and balances in our very modest democracy. And on a daily basis we witnessed the dilapidation of the rule of law in the courts, with summary convictions based on ill-prepared prosecutions – these are the accusations made by top lawyers and legal operators written all over the newspapers.

Moreover, how long – and what – will it take to increase the number of judges in the highest court and create an instance of appeal for high officials? Secretary Ao got the heaviest sentence

possible from a panel of three judges and Prosecutor General Ho, with accusations of a Guinness World Records-style account of thousands of crimes against him, will be served a similar fate from an appeal-less system – I'm not talking about the merit of the case(s) but of the means to have them trialed.

Demolition and/or disrespect of heritage assets, deterioration of healthcare services, Ma & Pa shops going south, housing unaffordability, transportation hurdles: the city is engulfed in walls of concrete that obfuscate horizons, while cars in the tens of thousands more than the infrastructure should bear run upon the streets polluting the air we breathe to many a-times perilous levels.

A mountain of toxic waste is piling up for decades, not that far away, at the Northern end of the Inner Harbor Canal, while the government perpetuates the discussion to solve the problem in an environmentally-friendly fashion.

The light rail is nowhere to be seen rolling very soon, while the Y-Bridge is around the corner. Hengqin is growing towards this side of the canal at the speed of light – you can actually see it if your window faces the old Mountain Island. The Grand Bay area is rapidly taking shape and integration is on its unstoppable march.

Is it all that bad? No, median salaries increased 3-fold in a decade or so, tens of thousands of jobs were created; there is no unemployment in the MSAR, and residents are entitled to a range of financial and social benefits that really helped the lower strata of the community. We are the proud producers of a stratospheric GDP per capita – best in the world, just the best (a little White lie).

The very few – traditional families and tycoons incorporated – still call the shots in this little-big town and grab most of those numbers. As a very pragmatic young entrepreneur said the other day: Macau is the land of monopolies. Was he sad about this? No. He just wants to join the elite club.

One cannot escape the unbearable lightness of sameness. What did really change?

PS: We remain indebted to the directors that preceded us at the helm of the Times, Rogério Beltrão Coelho (2009-12) and late journalist Rodolfo Ascenso (2007-2009) who was the first director of the Macau Daily Times. Also, we take the opportunity to acknowledge the fine contribution of hundreds of journalists, experts, writers, designers, proofreaders and assistants that work or have worked at the Times to give shape and substance to this project. Thank you.



Cotai in 2017

DANIEL BEITLER



Macau in 2007 during our first Grand Prix coverage

From the publishers' desk

TEN YEARS WITH YOU FOR YOU

MACAU Daily Times enters its 10th year of publication. We take the opportunity to thank our readers, advertisers, partners, and friends for your constant support. Without you, this endeavor would not have been possible.

It has been a real honor and pleasure to put this daily newspaper on the stands every day, and always striving to improve the quality and the scope of our mission to inform and serve as a communication channel for the readers that cannot command the two official languages of Macau. That was the purpose from day one. In ten years, we stand as a purely commercial operation as we come to understand that English is indeed the third 'official' language spoken by hundreds of thousands of citizens and written in print on zillions of legal-binding contracts in this city we care for.

Macau's ambition to be an International Tourism Destination makes no sense without a good and wider proficiency in the English language. Without that, no international endeavor can bear that distinction.

Kowie Geldenhuys

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MacauDaily 澳門日報 Times

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Alban Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, 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 army@macaudailytimes.com

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 Telephone: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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Kwan Tsui Hang confirms retirement from AL



Julie Zhu

LAWMAKER Kwan Tsui Hang has confirmed to the Times she will not run in the upcoming Legislative Assembly election, stating that she will refuse the position even if invited by the Chief Executive (CE) to be one of the seven appointed CE lawmakers. She nevertheless believes that the CE will not, in fact, issue an invitation.

Explaining the reasons for her decision to the Times, Kwan said, "I am already in my 60s, and I have been in the AL for 21 years. It is time [for me] to stay back in order to let promising young people make their contributions to the AL," adding that "[her] working ability is also not comparable to [that] of young people."

Kwan also expressed a few of her hopes for the current AL election. "I noted that this AL election has many pairs, with this number being the biggest among all [past elections]. [...] The AL election is one of the relatively important political events in Macau. I hope that voters participate actively, and that the election turns out to be a really fair competition. [...] I also hope that the related governmental departments can ensure that it [the election] will be an honest one."

According to official data, this year's election will welcome a total of 25,138 new voters who will

cast their ballots for the first time. For the younger cohort (18 to 24 years old), the percentage of local residents registered to vote is slightly under 50 percent; for older citizens (50 to 64 years old), the percentage of registered voters is about two-thirds.

When asked for her opinion on young people's lack of enthusiasm in voting for the AL election, Kwan responded that the situation is not exclusive to Macau.

"In fact, young people [in general] feel rather indifferent [to politics]. [...] Hong Kong and other places also have to deal with this," said Kwan.

I am already in my 60s, and I have been in the AL for 21 years.

KWAN TSUI HANG

"Maybe young people do not have a deep understanding of the AL election, or maybe they feel that [the] AL's related work has a weak connection to what they do. It is not a good phenomenon. I believe, as time goes by, that young people will realize the importance of having a vote in their hands."

Nevertheless, she believes that young people do not pay enough attention to politics. She also expressed her "absolute disagreement" with the argument that change cannot be brought about by voting, stating that every individual votes for their representatives so that there can be a balanced competition in the AL.

The upcoming AL election will see several young people running for a position, a development that Kwan views favorably.

"Overall, I feel that it would be good for Macau's political culture progress having more young people involved in these activities," she said.

She also believes that further political progress for Macau begins with education. "Our students, especially our middle school students, [should] learn about the relationship between politics and the society," Kwan said. "If they can learn about this relationship, they learn about the connection between politics and livelihood. This kind of education broadens the knowledge of young people."

She also believes the government itself can contribute to Macau's political progress. "The government should do more work on civil education and on publicity because, personally, I think that the government basically has done nothing for publicity, which leads Macau people to not know that much about what the political system is and what an election

consists of."

According to Kwan, the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau could increase their efforts in raising public awareness, and the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau should provide some basic training to students regarding the political systems of Macau and its neighboring regions. "I think the residents need to learn these things gradually. Otherwise, [we] know nothing about elections, making it difficult for them [voters] to effectively use the vote in their possession."

Kwan also discussed her 21 years of contribution to the AL, expressing her gratitude towards the people who supported her, including her friends and voters. "They gave me an opportunity to participate in politics, to supervise the government from the source and to make contributions to Macau's development," said Kwan, adding that she gained more than she lost during the time she served in the AL.

"There were disappointments," she admitted, adding that she will arrange a specific occasion to disclose further details to the media, where she will also discuss her future expectations for the AL.

Kwan added that she will "gradually fade from social activities." However, she remarked that "as a Macau citizen, if the government has policy issues in need of public consultation, I think I will participate as much as possible."

Group tours increase

The total number of visitors to Macau on package tours totaled 681,000 in May, according to information released by the Statistics and Census Service, up by 1.2 percent month-to-month and 20.7 percent year-on-year. Analyzed by destination, package tour visitors from mainland China (524,000), South Korea (42,000) and Taiwan (35,000) rose by 18.9 percent, 56.4 percent and 14.6 percent respectively year-on-year. In the first five months of 2017, visitors to Macau on package tours totaled 3,085,000, up by 8 percent year-on-year. Outbound residents using travel agency services in May rose by 15.1 percent year-on-year to 112,000; those traveling on package tours increased by 23.1 percent to 46,000. In the first five months of 2017, outbound residents using travel agency services totaled 557,000, up by 10.6 percent year-on-year.

Imports up 10.4 percent in May

According to the Statistics and Census Service, the total value of merchandise imports went up by 10.4 percent year-on-year in May to MOP5.84 billion, of which imports of gold jewelry and watches increased by 73.4 percent and 47.5 percent, respectively. The total value of merchandise exports for May 2017 amounted to MOP894 million, up by 7.4 percent year-on-year. The trade deficit therefore amounted to about MOP4.94 billion. In the first five months of 2017, the total value of merchandise imports grew by 5.3 percent year-on-year to MOP29.13 billion. Analyzed by place of origin, a significant portion of these imports came from mainland China (MOP9.57 billion) and the European Union (MOP7.55 billion). Imports from Portuguese-speaking countries amounted to just MOP250 million, down 1.4 percent year-on-year.

0.4 pct of civil servants are non-local

Kou Peng Kuan, director of the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP), said that non-local civil servants represent 0.4 percent of the total number of civil servants in Macau. This disclosure follows allegations that a mainland student who had graduated from the Macau Polytechnic Institute was hired by the MSAR government as a translator through a "special recruitment channel." There are more than 30,000 civil servants in Macau, of which approximately 500 were hired through personal employment contracts, representing 2 percent of the total workforce. Non-locals occupy 2 percent of these 500 employees, according to Kou.

Cultural Center presents show for infants

The Macau Cultural Center (CCM) presented its first staging of "Rain," a performance and installation for infants, on Wednesday. The performance was staged by Australian theater group Drop Bear Theatre. According to a statement from CCM, "Rain" is a kinetic, musical and sensory performance introduced by several actors and a cellist in a soothing and hypnotic atmosphere. The performance marks the beginning of this year's "ARTmusing Summer" program organized by CCM, a series running through August with performances and workshops selected to inspire infants, children and adults alike. "Rain" will run until July 2. Packages for young children and parents are sold out but limited tickets are still available for adults only.

Ng condemns tobacco control law

Lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong has condemned Macau's latest amended tobacco control law for being regressive. The government has already delivered an amendment which will allow local casinos to establish smoking lounges on their premises. Ng declared that this is a serious step backwards for Macau's tobacco control, stating that no smoking lounge can completely isolate smoke from external areas. However, the government has imposed many requirements to be met by all gaming operators who wish to establish a smoking lounge.

AL ELECTION

'Alliance for Change' aims to 'fight for the next generation'

Renato Marques

YESTERDAY, the "Alliance for Change" (Aliança para a Mudança) list, led by lawmaker Melinda Chan, presented its political platform for the Legislative Assembly (AL) Elections.

Under the slogan "Fight for the Next Generation," the list proposes to address several issues such as the development of the political system, support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and promoting the role of Macau as a platform to link with the Portuguese-speaking countries.

Speaking to the media after the program's presentation, Chan said "the first priority [to be addressed] is the housing problem."

She proposes a new approach that is not restricted to building additional public housing units, but also limits the acquisition of new public housing units to local residents buying a house for the first time.

"In the research that we did yesterday, 75 percent of the young people [said] they would like to buy a house in the private market but the first installment is too high, [forcing them] to save for 17 years," Chan said, adding that "this is the group that the government should help more."

Jorge Neto Valente, number three on Chan's list, added that "this should happen, for example, on Zone A [of the new landfills] as well as in other land plots that have been designated for private housing."

He further stated that this should be a "priority" that the government can clearly establish when giving the land plots to concession.

On the second topic addressed by their platform, Valente said, "There is a need to modernize the airport by adding infrastructure... such as building warehouses for the distribution of products from Portuguese-speaking countries."

Valente added that these efforts would be included in the plans to increase the competitiveness of the region, which also includes the development plan for the Greater Bay Area and soon-to-open Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge.



Melinda Chan and Jorge Neto Valente

Regarding support for SMEs, Valente reiterated his stance that "there is a need to make the hiring of non-residents "more flexible" in order to increase local companies' competitiveness.

"This doesn't mean to increase the number of these workers, but to allow for a more flexible system," he said, noting that the relevant law required revision as "it was [tailored for] a manufacturing industry that doesn't exist anymore, and at present, the only two sectors that still

can make use of the law are civil construction and catering."

Valente also discussed the development of Macau's political system. "Of course we do support the universal suffrage in the long run, but realistically speaking, [we would rather focus] on what can be done in the short term," he said, adding the time in which universal suffrage can be achieved is unclear. "For that, [the plan is to] have more the half of the seats [at the AL occupied] by directly elected lawmakers."

AD



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TIME 時間

08:00 for 30 km Corporate Challenge (Registration time: 06:45am)
30公里挑戰線 於早上八時正開始 (登記時間：早上六時四十五分)
10:00 for 10 km Family & Fun Course (Registration time: 09:45am)
10公里樂遊線 於早上十時正開始 (登記時間：早上九時四十五分)

Cut off at 16:00pm
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You may want to hike, jog or run around this scenic
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赛道景色優美，挑战性十足。你可選擇以徒步、慢跑、
慢步或跑步方式完成賽事

RACE CATEGORIES 參賽組別

30 km Corporate Challenge
30公里挑戰線
10 km Family & Fun Course
10公里樂遊線

Each entry is for a team of 4 people (Limited to 500 teams only)
賽事以團隊方式進行，四人為一組 (名額上限 500 隊)

ENTRY FEE 費用

Corporate Challenge at MOP/HKD 1,800 per team
30公里挑戰線費用為每隊澳幣/港幣1,800元
Family & Fun Course at MOP/HKD 1,000 per team
10公里樂遊線參賽費為每隊澳幣/港幣1,000元

Entry fee also includes commemorative TrailHiker T-shirt,
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報名費用包括紀念T恤一件、其他澳門遠足者禮品及
賽後舉行的自助餐聚會

Finisher medal will be granted to the finishing teams
各完成隊伍將獲頒發完成獎牌

Registration Opens 開始報名日期

28th June, 2017 (first-come, first-served)
2017年6月28日 (額滿即止)

Inquiries 查詢

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New graffiti display at Anim'Arte Nam Van

Starting tomorrow local art group "Gantz 5" will be redecorating the graffiti display area at Anim'Arte Nam Van, the lakeside plaza, with a new theme "Midsummer." The Cultural Affairs Bureau has been collaborating with Gantz 5 since May last year, inviting the group to design creative graffiti for Anim'Arte on a quarterly basis. In addition, the "Nam Van Lake Craft Market" will be held on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the same area, where a variety of handicraft workshops will be held. Visitors are welcome to register their participation online in advance or on-site. The current exhibitions at the lakeside gallery, "Macau Artist Society Youth Committee Member's Exhibition 2017" and "Sou Leng Fong Ceramic Art Exhibition", will be extended until July 23. The artworks will be available for sale. Admission to the gallery is free.

Chui to attend Hong Kong's handover celebrations

Chief Executive Chui Sai On will visit Hong Kong from today to Saturday to attend the celebrations for the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover to China. Hong Kong's Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying invited Chui to attend a banquet hosted by the Hong Kong government to welcome President Xi Jinping. During his visit, Chui will also attend the inauguration of the fifth administration of Hong Kong. Accompanying Chui on his trip will be Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, and Director of the Protocol, Public Relations and External Affairs Office, Daniel Fung. Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak will be acting chief executive in Chui's absence.

IndieLisboa Macau this weekend

Organized by the Portuguese Consulate General in Macau and Hong Kong, the second edition of the IndieLisboa Macau Film Festival will be held this weekend at Cinematheque Passion. From today to Sunday, several films from the Lisbon-based IndieLisboa Independent Film Festival - including several that received awards - will be screened, showing some of the best of European alternative cinema. Sponsored by the Orient Foundation and House of Portugal in Macau, the local screening event is an extension of the IndieLisboa Independent Film Festival. All of the films will be subtitled in English.

Macau ATMs need face time before payout to follow the money

CHINESE bettors withdrawing money from some ATMs in Macau need to do more than punch in their PIN code. They also have to stare into a camera for six seconds so facial-recognition software can verify their identity and help monitor transactions.

Regulators in the world's most lucrative gaming hub are deploying machines with "Minority Report"-style technology to keep tabs on capital outflows from China and watch for potential money laundering schemes. China UnionPay Co.'s network is the first to use the software, which will be installed in all the city's 1,200 cash dispensers.

President Xi Jinping's government is trying to curtail the overseas shifting of currency that helps suppress the value of the yuan and drain capital reserves. The People's Bank of China imposed controls as the amount of money leaving China last year topped USD816 billion, according to data compiled by Bloomberg, with Macau considered a primary exit used by private citizens and corrupt government officials alike.

"This is aimed at illicit outflows of capital from China," said Sean Norris, Asia Pacific managing director at Accuity in Singapore. "It's aimed at people drawing out money in Macau, going to the casino, betting very little, getting forex from there and moving it."

The new ATMs represent the first widespread consumer application of facial-recognition security programs in Greater China, where privacy concerns aren't debated as vigorously as in the U.S. or Europe. Government censors scrub the internet of content they deem harmful to the populace or the authority of the Communist Party, and Chinese consumers regularly fork over personal information to mobile payment, e-commerce and food-delivery apps on their smartphones.

"They're not well-educated about how privacy should be important to them," said Simic Chan, a senior analyst at Fung Global Retail & Technology in Hong Kong. "They feel it's a norm to have their data collected."

The rollout in Macau comes as casino revenue posted its largest gain last month in more than three years. Gross gaming receipts in May rose almost 24 percent from a year earlier to MOP22.7 billion (USD2.8 billion), according to the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau.



Identifying the firehoses flooding Macau with money is one reason China's State Administration of Foreign Exchange issued a June 2 notice requiring banks and China UnionPay to report every overseas cash withdrawal and card transaction of more than 1,000 yuan, starting in September.

The amount of money leaving China last year topped USD816 billion

The campaign to halt capital outflows through gambling-related channels has also ensnared foreign casinos who market too aggressively in China where gaming is banned. Earlier this week, more than a dozen employees of Melbourne-based Crown Resorts Ltd. were sentenced to up to ten months jail by a Shanghai court for illegally promoting gambling.

"Although there has been no major policy change in the past six months, we have seen signs of heightened enforcement, particularly on anti-money laundering issues," said Daiwa Capital Markets Hong Kong Ltd. analyst Jamie Soo in a June 22 note. "It seems reasonable to expect a further heightening of enforcement."

Already, the government in December limited withdrawals to MOP5,000 for each transaction from MOP10,000.

It's common in Macau to see people using multiple bank cards to withdraw cash from multiple accounts, or for relatives or friends of the account

holder to withdraw money without them being present.

"This initiative is less about innovation than it is about customer identification and management," said James Lloyd, Asia-Pacific FinTech Leader at Ernst & Young in Hong Kong. "It seeks to better identify who is involved in the money flow."

Most of the ATMs in Macau are made by Duluth, Georgia-based NCR Corp., and the facial-recognition technology would be installed inside existing boxes. Customers first insert a bank card and enter their PIN, and then the machine asks to scan their ID card and take a photo.

The world's largest ATM manufacturer, with about 1,000 machines currently in the Chinese territory, declined to comment on the software, citing a non-disclosure agreement with the Macau government and related parties. The monetary authority wouldn't elaborate, and the China Banking Regulatory Commission and Finance Ministry both declined to comment.

The Macau Monetary Authority is starting with China UnionPay ATMs because that's the biggest network in Macau and has the largest transaction amounts. Other payment providers, including Visa Inc. and Mastercard Inc., will be required to support the technology in the future, it said without providing a timetable. The costs of retrofitting ATMs will be borne by banks, it said.

The global biometrics business is poised for exponential expansion, according to market researcher Tractica. Revenue generated by hardware and software that scan faces, fingerprints, voices and irises is expected to reach \$15.1 billion by 2025, compared with

\$2.4 billion last year.

Apple Inc., Samsung Electronics Co. and Xiaomi Corp. install biometric features on their smartphones. Facebook Inc. has developed a technology that can identify people even when their faces aren't clearly shown in pictures.

Chinese ID cards are valid for as long as 20 years. The recognition software typically can see through the aging process and even plastic surgery, said Chris Foye, a London-based market planning manager at LexisNexis Risk Solutions, a provider of identity management solutions.

The facial-recognition system at Macau's new ATMs involves a relatively basic version of the technology, Chan said.

Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. and Baidu Inc. are investing in biometric technologies to secure mobile payment services and smooth e-commerce flows that have reached 5 trillion yuan (\$734 billion) annually.

Megvii Inc., a Beijing-based developer of such technology, raised at least \$100 million from investors such as Foxconn Technology Group in December. The company doesn't supply its technology for ATMs, though it provides face-scanning systems to Ant Financial, the financial services affiliate of Alibaba, said Xie Yinan, a spokesman.

It would be difficult for hackers to steal banking information through the software because the ATMs use multiple means - including PIN numbers - to verify identities, Xie said.

"The region is looking at this development with interest, and if successful in Macau, there is no reason why it would not be adopted more widely," Foye said. **Bloomberg**

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EDUCATION

UM teachers and staff discouraged from visiting Taiwan

IN an interview broadcast last Sunday by TDM, scholar Hao Zhidong, who is leaving the University of Ma-

cau (UM), claimed that academic freedom is shrinking in Macau and mentioned that the UM has demanded that its

staff report on private visits to Taiwan.

Newspaper Hoje Macau reported yesterday that the new ru-

les were causing a stir within the institution. "When they get into one's private life, including people who do not engage in any political action, then this is no longer the second system. There is something very wrong in all this," a UM professor, who requested to remain unidentified, told the Portuguese-language newspaper.

The Times attempted to obtain a comment from the University Communications Office but there was no response by press time.

According to claims reported by the press this week, UM teachers and other staff members who wish to travel to Taiwan on private trips are obliged to report and justify such trips to the institution's board of directors, and must also issue a detailed report on activities undertaken during their visit.

Furthermore, Hoje Macau reported that these requirements were not initiated by the UM, but had been imposed on it by an undisclosed government department.

The purpose for which the rules were created is also unclear. **RM**

CRIME

Thai man arrested for raping drunken woman

A man was arrested at Macau International Airport on Tuesday, where he was attempting to leave the territory after having raped a drunken woman last week.

The suspect, Makkham, is a 45-year-old who holds a Thai passport, and the victim is a local resident in her 30s. Before he was arrested, Makkham worked for a nightclub in the Horta e Costa area.

In the early morning of June 23, the victim, together with two of her friends, went to the nightclub where the suspect worked. However, the suspect was off-duty during the incident.

The victim and her friends consumed large quantities of alcohol. Both of the victim's companions later left the nightclub without her, at which point three men – who had also been drinking – approached the victim to accompany her.

The victim became extremely drunk, after which the suspect allegedly took her to a hotel and raped her.

He left the hotel at 6.30 a.m. on June 23. At 8.30 a.m. on the same day, the victim was found in the streets near Pui Cheng school. Passers-by spotted the victim lying unconscious on the ground and alerted the police.

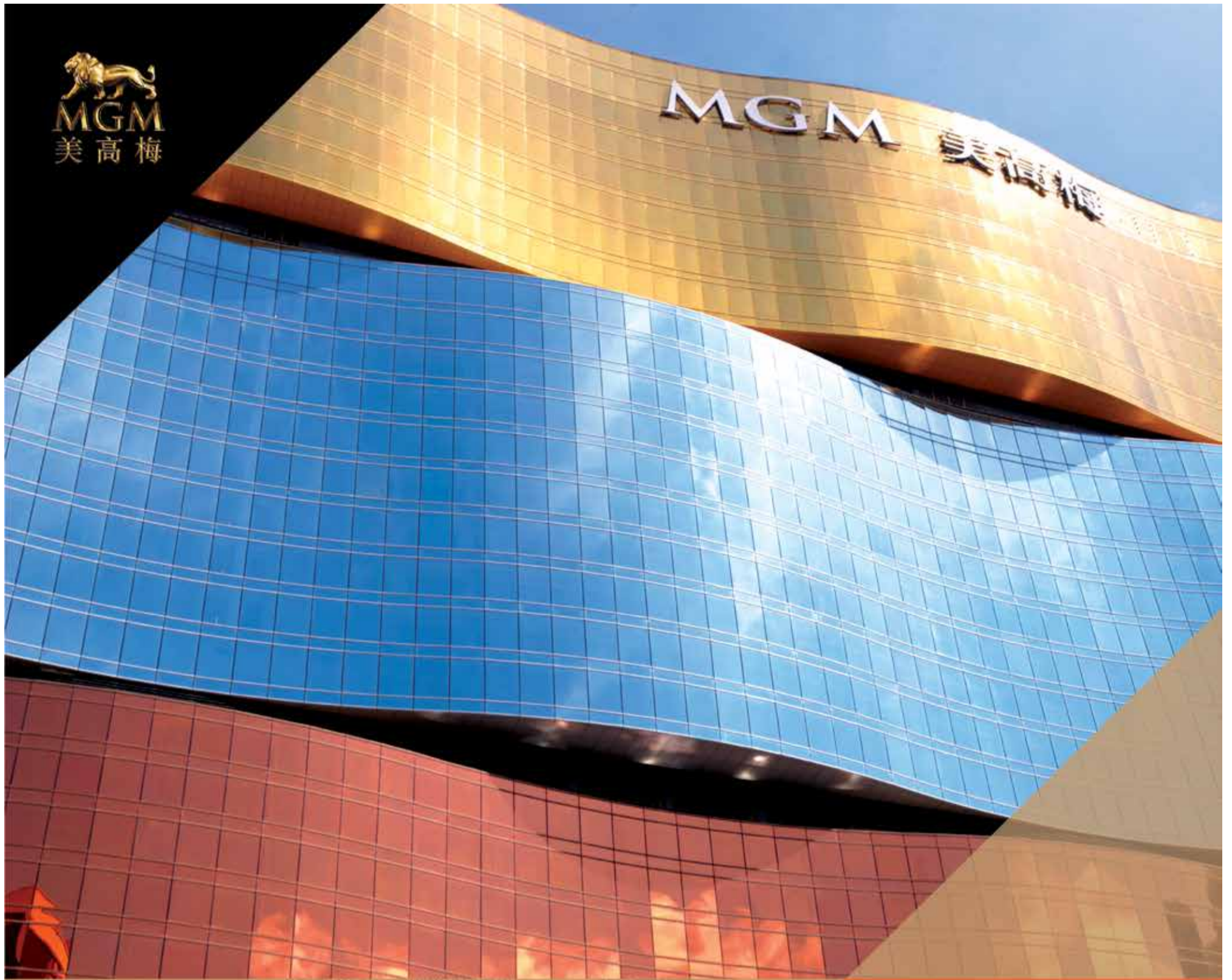
The victim also reported financial losses, including her watch and MOP2,500 in cash. While Makkham admitted that he had raped the victim, he denied the allegations of theft.

AD

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ARTS

Exhibition depicts 70 women portraits



"Leisure," by Guan Huinong (1878 - 1956)

THE Macau Museum of Art (MAM) will inaugurate an exhibition today titled "Representing Women through MAM Collection - 19th and 20th Century," which showcases 70 female portraits from both the Western and Chinese traditions.

According to a statement issued by MAM, "the question of the place of women in the art world has been inspiring museums to look back on their collections in order to understand that subject" from two perspectives.

These perspectives are how women have been portrayed in art history and whether or not female artists are present in museum collections.

Historically, access to the artist profession was limited for women. Typically, they would

act as a source of inspiration for male artists, "who usually portrayed them within the exact roles they were supposed to play: goddess, mothers, servants or concubines."

The exhibition, to be showcased until December 10, is organized into four sections: "A Western Tradition in Macau - 19th Century", "Views of Europeans on China - Late 19th Century", "Calendars and Posters - Early 20th Century" and "Propaganda - Mid 20th Century". The works presented are in a variety of media forms such as oil paintings, drawings, watercolors, gouaches, posters, and sculptures.

Works by several famous artists will be exhibited, including George Chinnery (1774 - 1852), Lam Qua (1801 - 1860), Thomas B. Watson (1814 - 1860), Marciano António Baptista (1826 - 1896) and Guan Huinong (1878 - 1956).

The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. - including on public holidays - but is closed on Tuesdays. Admission is free.

Macau places well in competitiveness ranking

THE "Innovation Project of City Competitiveness Report: China Transformation Lever and Upgrade (No.15)" ranked Macau in fourth place in terms of livable cities in China. The report is the latest of those conducted by the China Academy of Social Sciences' Financial Strategy Research Institute. Besides being ranked among the top ten livable cities in China, Macau has also been ranked seventh and eighth in terms of comprehensive economic competitiveness and sustainability competitiveness respectively.

The other SAR, Hong Kong, ranked second in comprehensive economic competitiveness and first in both livable competitiveness and sustainability competitiveness. Shenzhen was listed the most competitive city in comprehensive economic competitiveness.

The seven remaining cities filling in the top ten competitive cities in economy were Shanghai, Taipei, Guangzhou, Tianjin, Beijing, Suzhou and Wuhan.

Aside from Hong Kong and Macau, the cities of Wuxi, Guangzhou, Xiamen, Hangzhou, Shenzhen, Nantong, Nanjing and Shanghai were classified as top livable cities.

Regarding sustainability, Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Nanjing, Qingdao, and Dalian were the other eight cities among the top ten.

The report studied the economic competitiveness of 294 cities across both mainland China and Taiwan, and studied 289 cities in terms of their sustainability and livability, also in China and Taiwan.

The report emphasized the question: how can cities use the lever effect of house prices in China's transformation?

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Hotel with 30 Rolls-Royces and no guests seeks funds

Denise Wee, Daniela Wei

LUXURY builder 13 Holdings Ltd. has a fleet of 30 bespoke Rolls-Royce Phantoms for its hotel project in Macau, but no guests to ride in them.

That's because the company has yet to receive a license to operate the exclusive The 13 project in Macau's Cotai Strip, despite saying in 2016 that it expected to do so by the end of that year. The firm announced its fourth straight year of net losses yesterday as it considers trying to change conditions on its loans amid the delay. 13 Holdings has total debt of about HKD4.5 billion, more than 10 times its bank balances and cash of HKD323.6 million, according to its filing.

13 Holdings announced it would build the hotel in 2013, which was when total gambling takings for Macau peaked at a record USD45 billion. After that, the world's biggest gambling hub suffered a three-year slump in gaming revenue amid China's anti-corruption crackdown and



Stephen Hung (second from left) signed a deal with Rolls Royce in 2014

slowing economy. While there has been some recovery for the industry this year, risks remain. Macau's government announced plans in May to require facial recognition and identification card checks at ATMs, to curb money laundering and stem outflows.

"13 Holdings' debt problems are emblematic of the issues that gaming-related companies in Macau face in light of China's

anti-corruption crackdown," said Thomas Dillenseger, Hong Kong-based managing director at restructuring firm Alvarez & Marsal. Some companies related to Macau's gaming industry have seen a significant decline in revenue, he added.

The Hong Kong-listed shares of 13 Holdings reversed course to close down 7 percent, the sharpest drop in a year. They had earlier advanced as much

as 1.6 percent.

Certain terms in a bank borrowing of about HKD3 billion outstanding as of March 31 "require the opening of the group's hotel in Macau to be no later than July 31," the firm said in an exchange filing. "If in mid-July the group anticipates that the hotel cannot be opened according to the above schedule, the directors of the company will obtain an extension of the opening date under this covenant."

The luxury builder, which took delivery of the fleet of Phantoms last year, had successfully applied in mid-March for an extension from March 31 to July 31, according to the filing. The company said it doesn't expect any application for a further extension to be withheld by the bank, which it didn't identify.

The occupation permit for the hotel was issued by the Macau government on March 29, and the company "is now in the process of obtaining necessary licenses and approvals for operation of the hotel and related activities," it said. The company

said the hotel and entertainment complex that it's building is expected to open in the second half of this year.

13 Holdings' joint chairman is Stephen Hung, formerly the co-head of investment banking for Asia at Merrill Lynch.

The hotel builder said it is negotiating with commercial banks, other financial institutions and certain shareholders to secure new sources of funding in the form of debt and equity. It added that it has received offers of financing in excess of its net current liabilities and that based on the negotiations, the directors are confident the group "will secure sufficient funds" to support its working capital requirements for the next 12 months.

The group is also negotiating with a lender that it didn't identify for the extension of a maturity date on a borrowing of HKD300 million outstanding as of March 31, which falls due on July 12. Based on the negotiations with the lender, the directors of the company believe that the lender will approve an extension of the repayment date in stages, up to a latest date of April 1, 2018, subject to progress on securing certain funding.

A representative for 13 Holdings wasn't able to immediately comment. **Bloomberg**

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Workers brace for job fight amid electric-car shift

Elisabeth Behrmann

WORKERS at Mercedes-Benz's biggest engine plant, worried about their jobs as the carmaker shifts to electric technologies, are ratcheting up their fight over the site's expansion.

To protest conditions offered by Mercedes parent Daimler AG as it negotiates adding new battery-making facilities at its Untertuerkheim plant in Stuttgart, Germany, staff will stop working overtime next month. Daimler says this will slow engine output, forcing it to cancel shifts for assembling the E-Class sedan.

"The changes that'll happen over the next eight to fifteen years will directly hit plants like Untertuerkheim," said Wolfgang Nieke, worker representative at the site, which employs 19,000 people. "If we don't lay the groundwork for this shift now, the harder it'll be down the line."

Friction is growing between



workers who build combustion vehicles - still the mainstay of most carmakers' profits - and managers seeking to position their companies for a battery-powered future. Mercedes, which is investing 10 billion euros (USD11.4

billion) as it prepares to roll out 10 electric models, expects as much 25 percent of its sales to come from the new technology by 2025, stoking concerns about job security particularly at engine plants.

Daimler and labor representatives have been in talks since May on the company's plan to start making batteries and other electric-car components at Untertuerkheim, a 110-year-old site near Daimler's headquarters.

The works council is balking at the manufacturer's proposed commitments on pay and future investments. Worker representatives have significant influence at German companies and are involved in shaping strategy and investments.

Daimler countered that the site will have to compete with battery makers around the world, indicating that it may choose to invest elsewhere if the terms aren't right.

"We're living in a time of disruption," Daimler's head of powertrain Frank Diess, who also runs the plant, said in a statement. "We can only find a long-term solution with a competitive agreement." **Bloomberg**

H&M sales buoyed by further expansion, cost controls

SWEDISH low-cost fashion brand Hennes & Mauritz AB says second quarter sales increased by 10 percent to 59.5 billion kronor (USD7 billion) mainly because of its continued expansion and tight control on costs.

Its net profit for the three-month period rose by 10 percent to 7.7 billion kronor.

CEO Karl-Johan Persson says online sales developed "very well" while the group's other brands - COS, & Other Stories, Monki, Weekday and H&M Home - "remained very strong, both in stores and online."

However, sales were "more challenging" in several major markets, including the U.S. and China, among others.

The Stockholm-based group said yesterday that it added six new markets - Turkey, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Singapore and Malaysia - to its online offering during the period, taking the total to 41.

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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The Rental Process For Tenants Part 3

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

Having been established in 1994, JML Property offers investment property & homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

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JULIET RISDON

Hopefully you read last week's article about securing an apartment.

Once all deposits, fees and rental amounts have been paid as outlined in last weeks article, the process of moving should be fairly straight forward.

Firstly you should receive a copy of the sign tenancy agreement, and this can be kept in a safe place for future reference.

At JML you also receive a welcome letter giving useful information and tips for living in Macau. For example; 'How to cope with Humidity' and 'How to handle insects'.

On the contract the utility readings should have already been entered for you. As soon as you arrive at the property do double check these are the same or very similar to prevent any future disputes or incorrect payments.

If there is a problem with the utility readings you

should raise this with your Property Agent immediately. Modern technology can be handy, taking a photo on your phone can be very useful.

On move in day you can follow the check-in process set out by your Landlord or their Property Agent for the hand over of the apartment to you.

Usual practice is to walk around with the Landlords representative and sign it immediately upon moving in.

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Clients come to the office to receive the apartment keys so that they can move in at their own pace with minimum stress and hassle.

They also receive a copy of the apartment inventory to check, agree or raise any issues with and sign.

JML's policy is to give tenants 7 days in your own time to review the inventory and

settle in. During this 7 days they can raise any queries on the inventory for resolution. For example a marked wall or missing cutlery. The inventory can then be altered or notes made on it as necessary.

In part 4 of this series we will look at the First Week in Your New Property.

For further information please call me on +853 2835 2699, E-Mail Juliet@JML-Property.com or visit our website Www.JMLProperty.com, or Facebook Www.Facebook.Com/JMLRealEstate .

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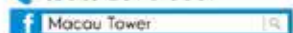
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SINGAPORE

Monetary Authority says not yet time to ease property curbs

Melissa Cheok,
Chanyaporn Chanjaroen

SINGAPORE'S central bank said it's not yet time to ease property curbs and the adjustments made by the government in March don't signal an unwinding of the measures.

While the property market has stabilized, "it is, however, not time yet to ease the cooling measures. They remain necessary," Ravi Menon, managing director of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, told reporters on Thursday at the release of the bank's annual report. Mortgage rates are very low and "the risk of a renewed unsustainable surge in property prices is not trivial," he said.

The city state's government imposed a number of restrictions beginning in 2009 to cool a red hot market, causing prices to decline for more than three years. It relaxed some measures in March, but left most of the restrictions in place.

"The calibrated adjustments by the government earlier this



Residential buildings in Singapore

year do not signal the start of an unwinding of the property cooling measures, as some commentators have suggested," Menon said.

In March, the government reduced stamp duty imposed on sellers and some mortgage restrictions. That helped stoke optimism that Singapore's property market is rebounding, with home sales jumping and developers making more aggressive

bids at land auctions. Redevelopment deals, where a group of homeowners band together to sell entire apartment blocks at a hefty premium, have also made a comeback after slowing to a trickle in the past three years.

Menon said investors are still searching for higher yields and safety in property markets around the world and authorities across the region, including in Hong Kong, South Korea and

New Zealand, have tightened restrictions recently.

"We must be vigilant that tightening measures elsewhere do not lead to spill-over of investor demand into the Singapore market," he said. "Easing the measures now would send a wrong signal."

Singapore was ranked ninth among the world's top global cities for real estate investors, trailing only Hong Kong in Asia, according to asset management firm Schroders.

Weiwen Ng, an economist at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group in Singapore, said an easing in property curbs may only happen if interest rates rise significantly, increasing the burden on homeowners.

"Property prices haven't really collapsed to a level that warrants an easing per se," he said. "We're seeing a slight easing in property prices but it hasn't corrected to the level necessary for anything to take place."

The index tracking 42 real estate stocks in the city-state rose 0.7 percent as of 1:57 p.m. in

Singapore trading, compared with the 1.2 percent gain in the benchmark Straits Times Index.

In its annual report, the MAS said it will closely monitor the recovery in global trade, which has helped to spur growth in the export-reliant economy. The central bank "will be keeping close watch on the sustainability of the cyclical upswing" and the "the unevenness in performance among domestic corporates."

Singapore has benefited from a rebound in exports since the end of last year but two consecutive months of contraction have raised concerns over whether the recovery can be sustained. Demand from Chinese consumers and manufacturers, which has been a key driver for the strong growth in Asian exports this year, may moderate as authorities seek to curb debt.

Menon said economic growth in the city state may exceed last year's expansion of 2 percent, in line with the government's forecast, mainly due to a pick-up in trade and financial services.

The MAS, which uses the currency as its main tool rather than interest rates, stuck to its neutral policy in April. Menon said the "stance remains appropriate for an extended period in view of the stable inflation and growth prospects for 2017." **Bloomberg**

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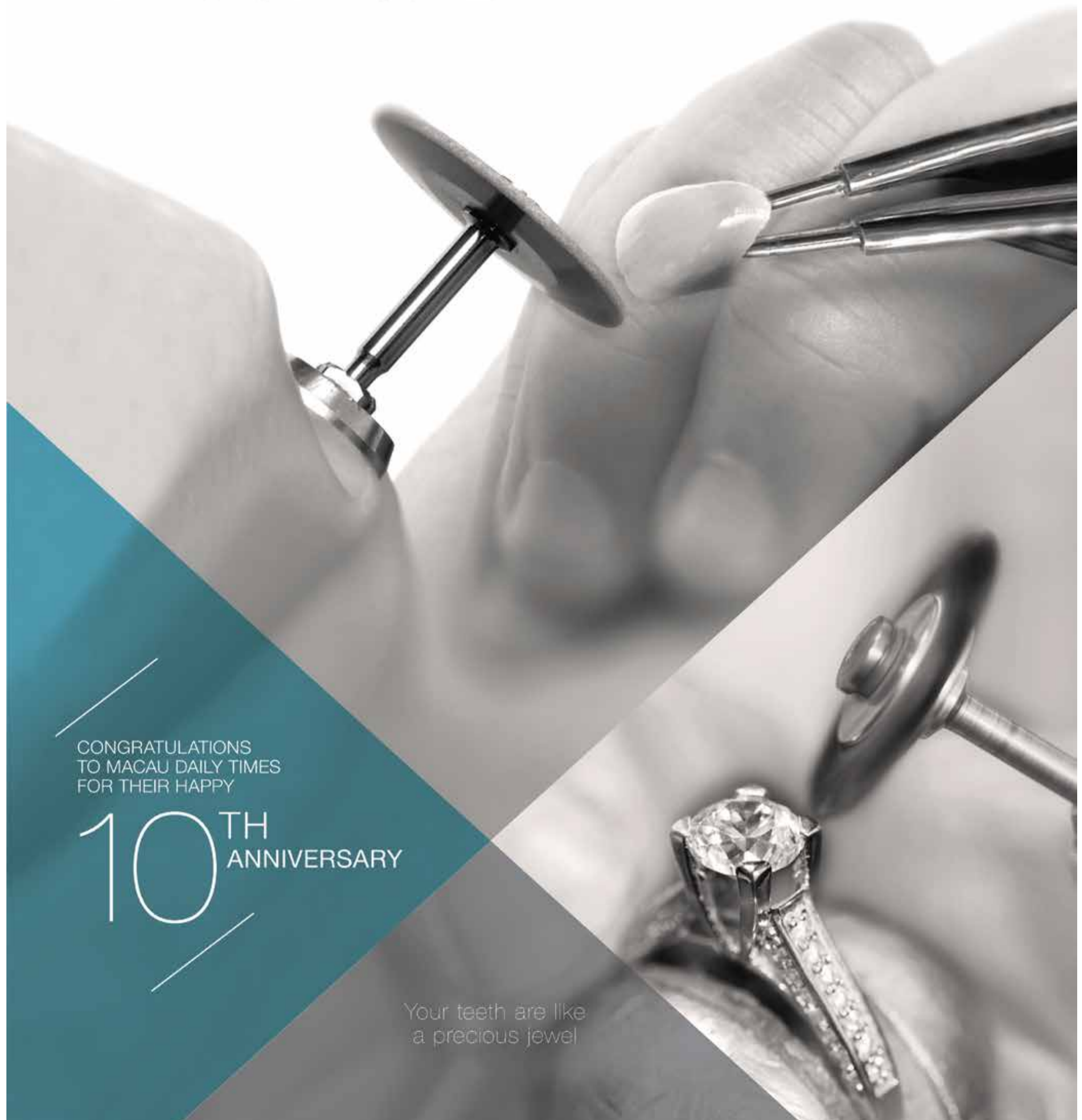
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INFO



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Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

HKSAR 20 YEARS

Xi Jinping in Hong Kong for anniversary as protests planned

CHINESE President Xi Jinping landed in Hong Kong yesterday to mark the 20th anniversary of Beijing taking control of the former British colony, accompanied by a formidable layer of security as authorities showed little patience for pro-democracy protests.

After stepping off his Air China plane, Xi said he envisioned “stable development” of Hong Kong’s “one country, two systems” framework. Pro-democracy activists fear Beijing is undermining the principle — agreed upon when Britain handed over the city back to China — which guarantees Hong Kong can mostly run its own affairs and keep civil liberties including free speech until 2047.

Xi’s three-day visit culminates tomorrow when he will oversee an inauguration ceremony for the Asian financial hub’s new leader, Carrie Lam.

Pro-democracy activists staged protests ahead of his visit and more were expected, including an annual march through the streets tomorrow that has drawn big crowds in the past. Hong Kong authorities were taking no chances with disruptions and deployed heavy security across the city.

Helicopters hovered overhead and police and barricades lined the streets around a downtown convention center and hotel complex where Xi was expected to spend most of his time. Officers questioned passers-by taking photos of the few protests allowed near the area. Authorities even glued the gaps between sidewalk paving stones in an effort to prevent them from being torn up and thrown by protesters.

Three pro-democracy groups said 26 of their members were arrested Wednesday evening on public nuisance charges for staging a sit-in at a giant flower sculpture near the complex.

They were still detained hours after Xi arrived. Police have the power to hold them up to 48 hours.

Those arrested included Joshua Wong, the young activist who helped lead 2014’s “Umbrella Movement” protests, and Nathan Law, another student protest leader who was elected to the legislature last year.

Xi is visiting to mark the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong’s handover, when Britain ceded

■ Authorities were taking no chances with disruptions and deployed heavy security across the city

control of its colony to China at the stroke of midnight on June 30, 1997.

“It’s been nine years since I last set foot in this place. I’m thrilled,” Xi said on the airport tarmac. “Hong Kong has been tugging away at my heart,” he said, adding that the anniversary of Hong Kong’s “return to the motherland” on Saturday is “a big deal, a joyous occasion for the country and for Hong Kong.”

He said one of the purposes of his trip is to plan for Hong Kong’s future.

“We would like to look back at Hong Kong’s extraordinary journey over the past 20 years, to learn from our experience,



Xi Jinping, accompanied by Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying (rear left) and chief executive-elect Carrie Lam (rear right)

and look forward to the future to ensure the stable development of ‘one country, two systems,’” he said in brief remarks before speeding off in a motorcade without answering questions.

Hong Kongers have grown concerned Beijing is backtracking on “one country, two systems” following a string of recent incidents, most notably the secret detention of five Hong Kong booksellers on the mainland.

Xi later visited the site of an arts hub under construction in West Kowloon district and was due to attend a banquet with government officials.

On Friday, he’s expected to inspect Chinese troops at a People’s Liberation Army base. China’s only aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, will pay its first Hong Kong port call to mark the PLA’s 20 year-presence in the city, the Defense Ministry said.

The ship, commissioned in

2012, and its battle group departed northern China on a training mission earlier this week and will likely pass through the Taiwan Strait along its voyage to Hong Kong.

Speaking at a monthly news briefing, ministry spokesman Col. Wu Qian said the ship would take part in “celebratory activities,” but gave no details. Media reports said the ship would arrive in Hong Kong on July 7 for a two-day visit. **AP**

Stocks rally for the president

HONG Kong stocks jumped the most in more than a week, in a rally coinciding with Chinese President Xi Jinping’s visit to the former British colony to mark the 20th anniversary of the city’s handover to the mainland, Nikkei agency reported.

The Hang Seng Index rallied 1.1 percent. More than half the gauge’s 282-point gain yesterday was added by HSBC Holdings, a heavyweight British bank that climbed 6.3 percent, the most since the depths of the global financial crisis, to HKD72.80. The gains followed the Federal Reserve’s signal Wednesday that U.S. lenders were healthy enough to use extra capital on share buybacks and dividend payouts.

Adding to the cheer, Morgan Stanley raised its price target on the stock to HKD84 from HKD70 in a report released late Wednesday, saying it expects “the narrative on HSBC to flip from prior concerns on the dividend to a debate on how to deploy excess capital.” Hang Seng Bank, a Hang Seng Index constituent that is majority owned by HSBC, advanced 2.8 percent, while Standard Chartered, also a London-headquartered lender as HSBC, added 4.4 percent.

President Xi arrived yesterday for the first time since he assumed power amid a tight security

blanket enveloping parts of the city.

Yesterday’s rally took the Hang Seng Index’s advance so far in 2017 to 18 percent, ranking it among Asia’s best-performing equity benchmarks. Still, valuations that are “not too stretched” offer a layer of comfort, according to Victor Au, chief operating officer at Delta Asia Securities.

According to Nikkei, the Hang Seng Index currently trades at 13.7 times its earnings, compared with 14.6 times for the Shanghai Composite Index and a multiple of 21.6 for the S&P 500 Index.

The Shanghai gauge, meanwhile, added 0.5 percent yesterday, taking its increase this year to 2.7 percent. Mainland shares have underperformed Hong Kong this year amid concern over curbs imposed by policy makers to contain financial- and property-sector risks.

However, the People’s Bank of China will hold off on further tightening of its monetary policies, and could even loosen them slightly in coming months to prevent growth from slowing too sharply, Reuters reported Wednesday, citing policy advisers at the central bank.

“I’m quite sure that after July, or in the middle of the third quarter, they’ll try to reengineer strong growth,” Delta Asia’s Au said, quoted by Nikkei.



Pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong is detained by police officers after he climb up to a giant flower statue bequeathed by Beijing in 1997 in Golden Bauhinia Square Wednesday night

AP PHOTO



Liu Xia, wife of 2010 Nobel Peace Prize winner Liu Xiaobo poses with a photo of her and her husband

Beijing defends prison care of ailing Nobel Peace laureate Liu

Didi Tang, Beijing

IN the midst of a growing outcry, China appears to be responding to criticism that prison authorities failed to provide sufficient care to ailing Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo, saying that he received regular health checks but nothing abnormal was detected until May.

Liu, 61, has been released from prison on medical parole after being diagnosed earlier this month with late-stage liver cancer and is being treated in a hospital in the northeastern city of Shenyang. He had been more than half-way through an 11-year sentence after being convicted in 2009 on subversion charges.

A statement released by Shenyang's judicial bureau said doctors found suspicious symptoms during a routine physical checkup on May 31. It said a 22-member medical team was convened and a week later diagnosed Liu with liver cancer that had metastasized. Defending Liu's care, it listed the steps taken and medical units involved.

"Liu Xiaobo and his family expressed their satisfaction with the treatment work undertaken by the prison and hospital," the statement said. Liu's wife, Liu Xia, who has been living under house arrest despite not being charged with any crime, was accompanying him in Shenyang, the statement said.

Meanwhile, a video clip without a clear provenance emerged overnight on YouTube in which Liu thanks wardens for taking care of him. The clip, released anonymously, appears to show Liu receiving checkups, medical consultations and undergoing a magnetic resonance imaging procedure.

"Since I came here, both Captain Dai and Captain Jin truly have taken good care of me, especially of my health," said Liu, wearing a gray prison uniform. He appears relaxed in the footage, which seemed to have been shot over a period of time and edited together.

It is unclear when the footage was taken and by whom, though it is likely that only prison, police and other officials in the security apparatus had such close access to Liu during his incarceration. Also unclear is whether the footage had been manipulated and whether it accurately reflected the conditions of his eight-year detention.

The video spread after the popular dissident news site Boxun.com posted it on its YouTube account with a comment: "This must have been released by the authorities." Watson Meng, who runs Boxun, said he had noticed the video elsewhere on YouTube but didn't know its source.

"Keep in mind, the clip has been edited to show Liu happy and smiling," Meng told The Associated Press. **AP**

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IVANKA SHOES

Activists who probed supplier freed in China

Gerry Shih & Bernard Condon,
Ganzhou

AFTER a month behind bars, three Chinese investigators who went undercover at a factory that made Ivanka Trump shoes walked freely out of the local police station this week. But they still face an uncertain future and the threat of a trial.

Chinese authorities released the three, who have been accused of breaking the law by using secret cameras and listening devices. They were freed on bail, which is extremely rare for individuals who have been detained for alleged crimes, a possible sign they won't be formally charged and put on trial.

But they're not in the clear yet. Political dissidents and other activists who are released in China typically face restrictions on what they can do and say — including comments to the media.

"This is a way of keeping people under pressure, under police control, without subjecting them to actual confinement," said Jerome Cohen, a law professor at New York University



This image taken from video shows Chinese labor activists Hua Haifeng (center) carrying his son Bobo, and Li Zhao (third from left) leave a police station after being released in Ganzhou

and a Chinese human rights expert. "Whether they are prosecuted depends on how they behave."

One of the activists, Hua Haifeng, was clearly relieved as he held his 3-year-old son outside the police station in Ganzhou, a city in southeastern Jiangxi province.

"I appreciate the media following my case the last month," Hua told The Associated

Press, "but I'm not ready to speak yet."

When they disappeared in late May, Hua, Su Heng and Li Zhao of the labor rights group China Labor Watch were preparing to publish a report alleging low pay, excessive overtime, crude verbal abuse and possible misuse of student labor at Huajian Group factories. Some of the factories produced Ivanka Trump shoes, among other brands.

Huajian Group has denied allegations of excessive overtime and low wages. It says it stopped producing Ivanka Trump shoes months ago. Abigail Klem, president of the Ivanka Trump brands company, said that its products had not been produced at a factory in Ganzhou since March but "the integrity of our supply chain is a top priority and we take all allegations very seriously."

NYU's Cohen said he suspects the case now may follow the pattern of the one against Ai Weiwei, the dissident artist who was released on bail in 2011 and never faced trial.

"I think this is face-saving way to get rid of the case," Cohen said. "Formally, the case will exist for another year, then it will be dropped unless these people misbehave."

Separately, the AP recently spoke to three workers at the Ganzhou factory — one current and two former employees — who confirmed some of what the labor group has reported.

The three workers told the AP that beatings were not unheard of and that they had each witnessed a particularly gruesome scene one day: A worker with blood dripping from his head after an angry manager had hit him with a high-heeled shoe.

"There was a lot of blood. He went to the factory's nurse station, passing by me," said one of the former workers, who said he quit his job at the Huajian factory because of the long hours and low pay. **AP**

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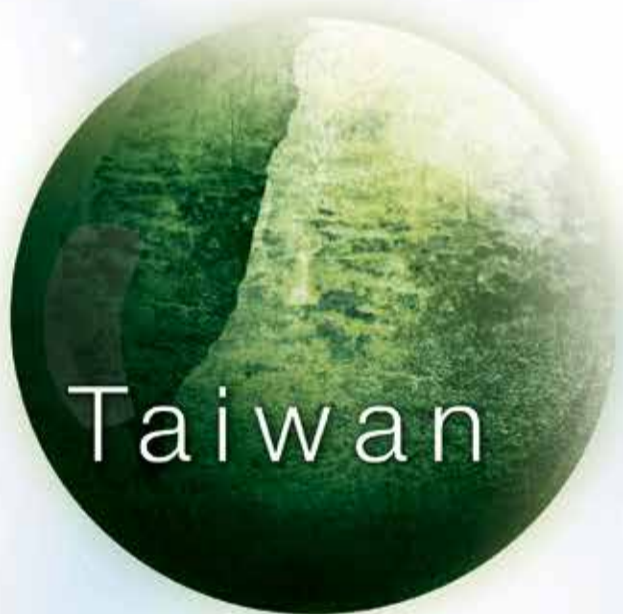
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SOUTH CHINA SEA

Beijing pledges continued assistance to Philippines

CHINA'S foreign minister told his Philippine counterpart yesterday that Beijing is ready to provide more aid to the Southeast Asian country, as ties between the former antagonists continue to improve.

The relationship has increasingly overshadowed the Philippines' longstanding ties with the United States. Beijing this week donated emergency aid, sniper rifles and other weaponry to help the Philippine military drive out Muslim rebels who overran the southern city of Marawi.

At a news conference in Beijing, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said the sides would "continue to improve our mutual trust and control our differences so as to maintain the peace and stability of the South China Sea."

The two countries have overlapping territorial claims in the strategic waterbody and feuded bitterly under



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, left, and Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano arrive for a joint press conference in Beijing

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's predecessor, Benigno Aquino III.

Duterte has pledged to steer Manila closer to Beijing while consistently blasting the U.S., which has criticized his brutal war against mostly small-time drug dealers and addicts.

Beijing has seized on that opportunity and Wang said the relationship "will definitely become wider and [...]"

more solid. The road in the past was a dead end."

Philippine Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano also articulated a more Asian-centric approach.

"We should think less in national borders, less that we are Chinese, we are Filipino, we are Japanese, we are Korean, we are Thais or Indonesians, and start thinking that we are Asians and that peace and stability in our re-

gion will give us the leverage we need to be able to develop our nations and our people."

Separately, Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman Wu Qian appeared to indicate that the shipment of arms delivered on Wednesday was only a start.

"The Chinese side has always opposed firmly any form of terrorism and opposes any person who carries out or supports terrorist activities under any name," Geng said at a monthly news briefing.

"We stand ready to work with regional countries including the Philippines to step up counterterrorism operations against violent terrorist threats," he said.

Despite Duterte's criticism of Washington, the U.S. military has been providing intelligence and logistical support for Philippine troops as they fight to clear Marawi of militants aligned with the Islamic State group. **AP**



Rescuers walk near the crater of Mount Sibayak during a search for missing German hiker Wolter Klaus in Karo, North Sumatra

INDONESIA

German hiker missing on volcano found dead

INDONESIAN officials say a German hiker who went missing last week while climbing a dormant volcano has been found dead.

Search and rescue official Budiawan said the body of Wolter Klaus was discovered yesterday by five university students who were camping on Mount Sibayak in western Indonesia.

Klaus, from Oldenburg city, registered his name on June 21 when he began what should have been a day hike up Mount Sibayak. He was reported missing a day later by his hotel after he failed to return from the 2,200-meter mountain, one of about 130 volcanoes in Indonesia.

Budiawan, who uses one name, said rescuers were on the way to recover the body. **AP**

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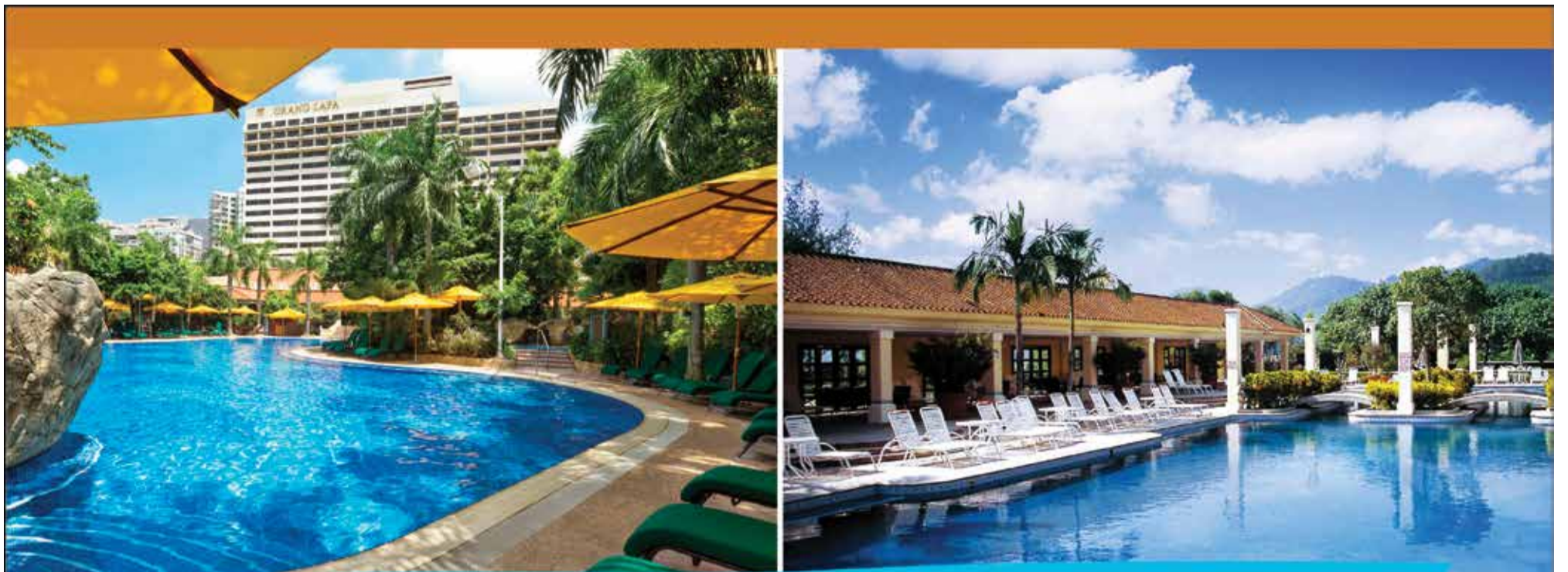


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SOUTH KOREA-US

President Moon looks for common ground with Trump

Matthew Pennington, Washington

SOUTH Korea's new leader vowed to stand firmly with President Donald Trump against North Korea, playing down his past advocacy of a softer approach toward the nuclear-armed nation as he made his first visit as president to Washington.

President Moon Jae-in offered an emotional tribute yesterday [Macau times] to Marines who fought in a fierce battle in the Korean War that helped in the mass evacuation of Korean civilians, including his own parents. Moon said that without those American sacrifices, he would not be here today.

"Together we will achieve the dismantlement of North Korea's nuclear program, peace on the Korean Peninsula and eventually peace in Northeast Asia," Moon said, after laying a wreath at a Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia, as he began his first overseas trip since taking office last month.

A monument at Quantico commemorates the 1950 Battle of Chosin Reservoir, when heavily outnumbered American forces fought a rearguard action against advancing Chinese communist troops that bought time for about 100,000 Korean civilians to be shipped out to safety — 14,000 of them on a single vessel that ferried out Moon's parents. Moon was born in South Korea in 1953.

Moon was underscoring his personal commitment to the U.S.-South Korean alliance in the face of questions over whether his inclination toward engagement with North Korea despite its rapidly advancing nuclear capability could lead to strains in relations with Washington.

Moon's conservative predecessor, who was impeached in a bribery scandal, took a hard line toward North Korea, similar to Trump. Despite Moon's softer stance, the North's rapid tempo of missile tests has continued, deepening U.S. fears that the American mainland could soon be within range.

Trump's national security adviser, H.R. McMaster, said Wednesday that the U.S. is preparing "all options" for North Korea, "because the president has made clear to us that he will not accept a nuclear power in North Korea and a threat that can target the United States."

The talks between Moon and Trump, which begin with dinner and then formal talks today and tomorrow, come amid intense wrangling over North Korea.



President Moon Jae-in (left) with his wife Kim Jung-sook, and Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Robert B. Neller (center)

China is pushing the United States to start negotiations with the North. That prospect appears unlikely as Trump grows frustrated over Beijing's level of economic pressure on the North, its wayward ally.

North Korea shows no sign of wanting to restart talks on abandoning its nuclear weapons program.

Although Moon hopes to forge a personal bond with Trump, there's little in common between them: one a brash American tycoon-turned-populist president, the other a former human rights lawyer who received an elite

education but opted for grassroots activism.

Moon sought to allay concerns over differences with Trump in interviews before his visit. He described his approach to the North as consistent with the U.S. administration strategy of "maximum pressure and engagement."

The White House is also playing down differences.

Moon told The Washington Post that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is "unreasonable" and "very dangerous" and that pressure was necessary. But Moon said sanctions alone would

not solve the problem, and dialogue was needed "under the right conditions."

Six prominent former U.S. officials, including former Defense Secretary William Perry and former Secretary of State George Shultz, on Wednesday also called for dialogue. They wrote to Trump, urging him to establish communication with North Korea "to avoid a nuclear catastrophe."

Missile defense is another contentious topic.

Earlier this month, Moon surprised U.S. officials by delaying the full deployment of a

U.S. system intended to protect South Korea and the 28,000 U.S. forces based there against North Korean missiles. Seoul's previous government supported the deployment despite local opposition and Chinese objections.

Moon's government has ordered an environmental review before allowing additional launchers for the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense system (THAAD). South Korean officials say that does not mean they are placating China or reversing the decision, which risks angering Washington.

Together we will achieve the dismantlement of N.Korea's nuclear program, peace on the Korean Peninsula

MOON JAE-IN
PRESIDENT, S.KOREA

The U.S. has stepped up shows of military force near the Korean Peninsula under Trump, and outrage in Washington over North Korea has only grown since the death last week of U.S. university student Otto Warmbier. He had spent 17 months in detention in the totalitarian nation for stealing a propaganda poster and returned home this month in a coma. Three other Americans and six South Koreans are still being held in the North.

Moon's visit will not be all about North Korea. Addressing the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, he called for further expansion of trade and economic ties. He even looked forward to a time when peace on the divided Korean Peninsula would open up business opportunities inside North Korea. **AP**

Seoul to buy American gas, build new factories in US

SOUTH Korean companies announced yesterday plans to import more American shale gas and build new factories in the U.S. as the two countries' leaders prepare to hold summit talks in Washington where trade is expected to be a key issue.

The Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, South Korea's largest business association, said that major South Korean companies had proposed a slew of new investments ahead of President Moon Jae-in's meetings today with President Donald Trump.

South Korean businesses are highlighting investments and other plans that will help create jobs in the U.S. as the Asian country fends off criticism over a growing trade imbalance in its favor.

Electronics conglomerate Samsung Electronics said earlier this week it plans to spend USD380 million to build a new home appliance factory in South Carolina. It also will spend \$1.5 billion on its semiconductor plant in Texas. LG Electronics said it will put \$250 million into building a new washing machine plant in Tennessee and \$300 million on a new building in New Jersey.

SK Group signed a preliminary agreement with GE and Continental Resources earlier this week to jointly develop U.S. shale gas. The group, which owns South Korea's largest mobile carrier and the country's second-largest semiconductor company, said it will import American liquefied natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas starting in 2020 to help diversify its energy imports.

GS Group plans to start importing American shale gas worth \$220 million for 20 years starting in 2019. Hanjin Group, parent company of flag carrier Korean Air Lines, said it plans to purchase 50 additional planes from Boeing over the next seven years.

The U.S. trade deficit with South Korea has nearly doubled since a bilateral trade agreement took effect in 2012, and Trump took aim at the trade deal while campaigning for president.

Total two-way trade totaled \$144.6 billion last year, with the U.S. running a \$17 billion deficit.


The White House official said Trump would call for the lifting of barriers to U.S. auto sales in South Korea and voice concern over steel exports from China that reach the U.S. via South Korea.

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THAILAND

20 years on, scars from Asian financial meltdown linger

Jerry Harmer, Bangkok

IT'S been 20 years since a financial meltdown spread through much of Asia, wrecking economies and bringing down governments.

They've long since recovered and, analysts say, are now stronger for the experience. But in Thailand — the epicenter of the crisis — the anniversary brings back painful memories for those who lived through it, and lost everything.

"It was like there was no way out for many of us," said Supop Pavanan. Today he makes a comfortable living selling Buddhist amulets at his Bangkok shop and over the internet, but two decades ago he was among millions of victims of the great Asian crash.

Thailand's boom of the mid-1990s, fueled by unrestrained borrowing and a corrupt, lax finance system, collapsed on July 2, 1997, when the government devalued the baht. The currency sank, ruining companies and individuals almost overnight and starting a chain reaction that spread across borders.



Soon, many of Asia's tiger economies were skinned alive.

Recessions struck from South Korea to Indonesia and millions were thrown out of work as investment and real estate bubbles burst, roiling global markets.

Bangkok came to resemble a giant flea market. Wealthy Thais sold their luxury goods at knock-down prices in parking lots. Cars, jewelry, vintage wine — even per-

sonal aircraft — all had to go.

"The worst thing was not knowing what would happen to you," said Supop, who had been an overseas tour guide but was laid off. He ended up selling fish balls from a street stall and his income fell from USD3,000 in a good month to \$200, if he was lucky.

He stuck at it for a year before beginning a slow climb back out

of the economic depths.

"You couldn't apply for a job because no one would give you one," he said. "You couldn't sell goods because no one was buying. You couldn't get a loan for an investment because no one was giving them."

Anger grew as unemployment soared. The government fell. Thailand ended up taking a bailout from the International Mo-

netary Fund.

An exhibition at Bangkok's Museum Siam recalls those grim days. Artifacts convey the pain of ordinary people: A Buddha statue that a businessman confided in because he couldn't face telling his family of his ruin. An office phone over which a woman learned that her bankrupt boss had killed himself.

"I experienced it but wasn't severely affected because I was still in school," said Taweesak Woraritruengaurai, the exhibition's curator. "But when I got to see all these things that are full of stories, I could feel how real it was and how much it affected many aspects of life. It affected people very deeply."

Today, Thailand's banking and finance sector seems more secure. Experts say crucial lessons were learned in 1997. The chances of a rerun, they say, are slim.

When the global crisis struck a decade later, Asia's financial systems were relatively insulated, with less direct exposure to the toxic subprime mortgages that wreaked havoc on U.S. and European markets.

"I don't think there will be another financial crisis," said economics professor Apichart Satitniramai of Thammasat University. "Firstly, there's a high capital adequacy ratio, which can support more risk," he said, referring to the reserves banks must keep to deal with possible crises. AP

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ZERO TOLERANCE

Australian cardinal takes leave from Vatican after sex assault charges



Cardinal George Pell meets the media, at the Vatican yesterday

Nicole Winfield & Kristen Gelineau, Vatican City

CARDINAL George Pell, a top adviser to Pope Francis, took a leave of absence as the Vatican's financial chief yesterday to fight criminal charges in his native Australia that alleged he committed sexual assault years ago.

Pell forcefully denied the accusations, denounced what he called a "relentless character assassination" in the media and said he would return to Australia to clear his name.

"I repeat that I am innocent of these charges. They are false. The whole idea of sexual abuse is abhorrent to me," he said in an appearance at the Vatican press office.

Pell, 76, is the highest-ranking Vatican official ever to be charged in the church's long-running sexual abuse scandal, and the developments pose a new and serious obstacle for Francis in his promi-

sed "zero tolerance" policy.

Victoria state Police Deputy Commissioner Shane Patton announced the charges Thursday, saying police had ordered Pell to appear in court July 18 to face multiple counts of "historical sexual assault offenses," meaning offenses that generally occurred some time ago.

There are multiple complainants against Pell, Patton said, but he gave no other details.

The cardinal has faced allegations for years that he mishandled cases of clergy abuse when he was archbishop of Melbourne and, later, Sydney.

More recently, however, Pell himself became the focus of a clergy sex abuse investigation, with Victoria detectives interviewing him in the Vatican last year.

It is unclear what allegations the charges announced yesterday relate to, but two men, now in their 40s, previously

have said Pell touched them inappropriately at a swimming pool in the late 1970s, when Pell was a senior priest in Melbourne.

Patton said in Melbourne that none of the allegations against Pell has been tested in any court, adding: "Cardinal Pell, like any other defendant, has a right to due process."

Vatican spokesman Greg Burke said the Holy See had learned with "regret" of the charges and that the work of Pell's office would continue in his absence, albeit only its "ordinary" affairs.

In a statement to reporters while sitting beside Pell, Burke said the Vatican respected Australia's justice system but recalled that the cardinal had "openly and repeatedly condemned as immoral and intolerable" acts of sexual abuse against minors.

He noted that Pell had cooperated with Australia's Royal Commission investigation into sex abuse and that as a

bishop in Australia, he worked to protect children and compensate victims.


"The Holy Father, who has appreciated Cardinal Pell's honesty during his three years of work in the Roman Curia, is grateful for his collaboration," Burke added.

Pell's leave takes effect immediately and he will not participate in any public liturgical events while it is in place, the Vatican said.


The cardinal said he intends to eventually return to Rome to resume his work as prefect of the Vatican's economy ministry.

The charges were announced on a major Catholic feast day, when many of the world's cardinals were already in Rome for a ceremony to elevate five new cardinals. As Pell spoke to reporters, preparations were underway in St. Peter's Square for a Mass that Pell had been expected to join, but he stood down after the charges were announced. AP

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UK

Westminster face key vote on government's agenda

Jill Lawless, London

BRITISH lawmakers were set to vote today [Macau time] on whether to approve the Conservative government's plans for a Brexit-dominated parliamentary session, in a test of Prime Minister Theresa May's shaky minority administration.

In a sign of its weakened position after an election wiped out May's parliamentary majority, the government was forced into a concession hours before the vote. Facing defeat on an opposition amendment about abortion funding, ministers said they would pay for women from Northern Ireland to travel to England for abortions.

Abortion is far more tightly restricted in Northern Ireland than in the rest of the U.K., and hundreds of women a year travel to Britain to terminate pregnancies.

Labour Party lawmaker Stella Creasy obtained a vote on a motion calling for those women



to get government funding. Several Conservative legislators said they would support the amendment, prompting the government's scramble to change its policy.

In a letter to lawmakers, Equalities Minister Justine Greening

said that women from Northern Ireland had previously been asked to pay, but "from now on it is our proposal that this will no longer happen."

Creasy's amendment was one of several attempts by the Labour opposition to defeat the go-

vernment in votes on last week's Queen's Speech, which set out the government's proposed legislation for the next two years.

The slimmed-down agenda jettisoned several pledges made by the party before Britain's June 8 election. Several of the planned

new laws relate to Britain's exit from the European Union, due in 2019.

The election left the Conservatives with 317 of the 650 seats in Parliament, several short of a majority. It also severely undermined the authority of May, who called the early vote in a misjudged attempt to increase her grip on power ahead of Brexit negotiations with the EU.

As May struggled to shore up her support, Labour sought to disrupt her plans by proposing amendments that would reverse Conservative policies on Brexit and spending cuts.

But the government is likely to get its way thanks to Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party, whose 10 lawmakers have agreed to support the Conservatives on key votes.

On Wednesday the government, with the help of the DUP, defeated a Labour motion calling for a reversal of public spending cuts. The vote was 323 to 309 — the first of what is likely to be many close calls for May's administration in Parliament.

The DUP deal — secured with a promise of 1 billion pounds (USD1.29 billion) in new spending for Northern Ireland — has dismayed some Conservatives on account of the smaller party's socially conservative policies on issues including abortion and same-sex marriage. **AP**

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Memorial Lectures
RUI AFONSO
An Eminent Citizen of Macau
Ilustre Cidadão de Macau
艾維斯先生公開悼念儀式

On July 3, 2017, at 6:15 p.m., a series of memorial lectures for the late Dr Rui Afonso will be held in the Stanley Ho Auditorium at the Consulate-General of Portugal for Macau and Hong Kong, Rua Pedro Nolasco da Silva. Dr Afonso, a renowned lawyer, and lawmaker passed away in Lisbon on March 17. The public lectures are open to all citizens, residents and non-residents who may wish to attend. Simultaneous interpretation will be made available in both official languages of the MSAR, Portuguese and Chinese.

No próximo dia 3 de Julho de 2017, pelas 18:15 horas, terá lugar no Auditório Stanley Ho, no Consulado-Geral de Portugal para Macau e Hong Kong, sito à Rua Pedro Nolasco da Silva, uma Sessão de Homenagem ao Dr. Rui Afonso, ilustre cidadão de Macau, que foi advogado e deputado à Assembleia Legislativa, falecido em Lisboa no passado dia 17 de Março. O evento é público, de entrada livre e aberto a todos os cidadãos, residentes e não-residentes, que queiram participar. Haverá tradução simultânea nas línguas oficiais da RAEM.

我們永遠懷念的前立法會議員及傑出的澳門市民—艾維斯大律師，於 2017 年 3 月 17 日在葡萄牙里斯本逝世，為悼念尊敬的艾維斯先生，謹訂於 2017 年 7 月 3 日下午 6 時正，於葡萄牙駐澳門及香港總領事館何鴻燊博士演講廳，為艾維斯大律師舉行追思會，誠邀各界人士共同參與。追思會全程以葡語進行，屆時將設中文翻譯。

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FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:00	Revenge Sr 2
17:40	Castle S6 - Final (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)
21:15	Miscellaneous
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Pó di sangui
01:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:55	RTPi Live

SATURDAY

10:40	Comedy
11:15	Blaze Riders
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast (PT)
14:50	Soap Opera
18:35	Miscellaneous
18:55	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:10	Drama (PT)
22:00	Comedy
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

SUNDAY

10:35	Young Adult
11:00	Sunday Mass (Live)
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	Zig Zag
18:15	Miscellaneous
19:30	Documentary Serie
19:45	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Documentary Serie
23:00	TDM News
23:50	Champions League Highlights
00:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:45	RTPi Live

Offbeat

LADY GAGA ON WRITING NEW MUSIC,
PLANNING HER UPCOMING TOUR

Whether it's at a bar or baseball park, Lady Gaga says she's going to give every performance her all.

The singer will launch a summer tour with stops at arenas and stadiums across the globe, and she's

also returning to the Dive Bar Tour with Bud Light to perform a show in Las Vegas on July 13.

She called the first bar crawl, completed last fall around the release of "Joanne," a deep experience.

"For what it's worth, when I got up there, I totally forgot where we were and I just went into performance mode," she said in a phone interview. "For me, no matter how small a venue is, you don't perform it differently than you perform at a big venue, that's not fair to the fans."

Last year's tour included a stop at The Bitter End, the New York City bar where Gaga performed before her pop star days. The new Dive Bar Tour will also include shows in Los Angeles (July 26) and New Orleans (August 30), to be headlined by other artists, who will be announced soon.

Gaga, 31, will launch a world tour on Aug. 1 in Vancouver, British Columbia. It includes stops at baseball parks like Citi Field in New York, AT&T Park in San Francisco, Wrigley Field in Chicago and Fenway Park in Boston.

cinema



CINETEATRO

29 JUN - 5 JUL



DESPICABLE ME 3

ROOM 1

2:30, 4:15, 7:45, 9:30pm

Director: Eric Guillon, Kyle Balda, Pierre Coffin

Starring: Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 90min

TRANSFORMERS: THE LAST KNIGHT

ROOM 1

2:00, 4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Michael bay

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Anthony Hopkins, Josh Duhamel

Language: English

Duration: 148min



THE MUMMY

ROOM 1

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Alex Kurtzman

Starring: Tom Cruise, Sofia Boutella, Annabelle Walls

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

MACAU TOWER

22 JUN - 5 JUL



TRANSFORMERS: THE LAST KNIGHT

ROOM 1

2:00, 4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Michael bay

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Anthony Hopkins, Josh Duhamel

Language: English

Duration: 148min

this day in history



Hostage Brian Keenan and son Jack along with British journalist 30 years later

1985 BEIRUT ORDEAL ENDS FOR
US HOSTAGES

All 39 Americans being held captive by the Shia Muslim Amal militia in Lebanon have been released, after almost three weeks in captivity.

Their freedom was secured after intervention by the Syrian President Hafiz al-Assad. The White House said no deal had been done with the captors.

The hostages were driven in a Red Cross convoy from Beirut to Syrian capital Damascus, 17 days after the plane they were on was hijacked by two members of the extremist Islamic Jihad group.

Most of the passengers were freed hours after the Lebanese gunmen diverted the TWA Rome - Athens flight to Beirut on 14 June, demanding the release of 766 Shia Muslims imprisoned in Israel.

But 40 Americans were forced to remain on the plane. One of their number - US Navy diver Robert Stethem - was killed on the first day of the crisis and his body dumped on the airport tarmac.

Thirty-five of the Americans were imprisoned in various Beirut safe-houses by the Amal militia for most of their ordeal, but four were being held by the radical Hezbollah group.

The freedom of these men is reported to have been obtained by President Assad, who contacted two of the most extreme Shia leaders to order their release.

The group finally left for Damascus at 1545 (1245 GMT) after 24 hours of confusion and uncertainty about whether they would be freed.

Some of the hostages praised their treatment by the Amal militia, saying it had guaranteed the group's safety and looked after their welfare.

The hostages' spokesman, Allyn Conwell, told reporters at a news conference they were all very relieved to be free.

"For anyone and everyone who has prayed for us, talked for us, waited for us or hoped for us - we thank you from the bottom of our hearts," he said.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The hostages were safely transferred to Frankfurt and then to the US after their release.

The White House said it knew the identity of the two original hijackers, but the men have never been brought to justice.

The American Diplomatic Security Service is still offering a reward of \$5m (£3.17m) for information leading to their capture.

The US Navy named the warship USS Stethem after the sailor killed by the gunmen during the hijack.

YOUR STARS

♈ Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You may feel like you've lost everything, but you're mistaken. You need to do what you can to defend what you still have. That doesn't even count what matters most, like your relationships.

♉ Taurus April 20-May 20
It feels like a long time since you've had caresses of any kind, charm or no charm. Getting some extra cash is like a big, wet kiss from the universe today. Pucker up.

♊ Gemini May 21-Jun. 21
Even your closest friends and family members can't read your thoughts today. In fact, they can hardly understand when you speak plainly. You'll have to express yourself in the universal language. Cash.

♋ Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Connecting with others is fine, as long as it's not a form of procrastination. Sticking to your goals means finalizing plans, not just shooting the breeze. Making a profit can't wait.

♌ Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22
You're not impulsive, exactly, but you're not thinking things through all the way to the end. Don't put down so much as a penny without thinking through all the possibilities first.

♍ Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You might not have much of your own on your plate but that shouldn't mean you have nothing to do. Help others with their plans and projects if you need a way to keep busy.

♎ Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22
If you're feeling overwhelmed, join the crowd. You're perceptive enough to see that others are in the same boat, whether they say so or not. Keep that in mind as you interact today.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
You may stumble across a secret it goes without saying you weren't meant to hear. Do a friend a favor and don't act on it. You wouldn't make money on it anyway, if that helps you do the right thing.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Are you pushing onward and upward or are you running around like a chicken with its head cut off? Stop and take a breath. Make sure your need to rush ahead is based on more than desperation.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19
When you're designing new proposals, don't forget about all the annoying details, especially those most likely to change. If you've learned nothing else from the last year, it's to have a contingency plan.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18
A bad economy makes dealing with others trickier than ever. Don't lose your cool the moment you sense someone has a hidden agenda. That should almost go without saying.

♓ Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20
You're so hungry for a project that you'll take almost anything. You may think you can figure out who you're dealing with later, but you should be doing that before you begin. Certainly before you invest a single penny.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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	7		1					5
		1	3	6				
8	4				5	3		
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6				9		4		
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Easy+

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4				5			8	
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2	4					6		

Medium

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Hard

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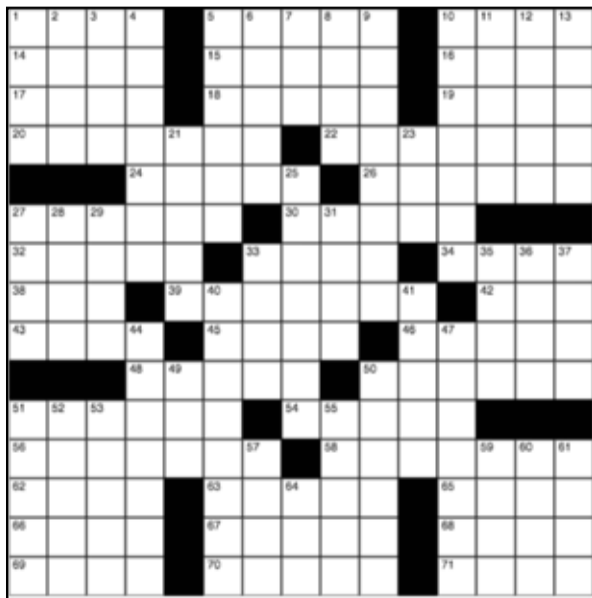
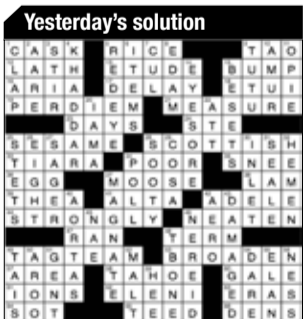
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	24	35	cloudy
Harbin	23	29	thundershower
Tianjin	26	36	overcast/cloudy
Urumqi	17	25	shower
Xi'an	23	33	shower
Lhasa	13	23	drizzle/shower
Chengdu	21	29	overcast
Chongqing	23	32	overcast/cloudy
Kunming	17	23	drizzle
Nanjing	24	27	thundershower
Shanghai	24	31	shower
Wuhan	23	27	rainstorm
Hangzhou	26	33	clear/cloudy
Taipei	27	35	cloudy/thundershower
Guangzhou	28	32	cloudy
Hong Kong	27	32	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	19	28	drizzle
Frankfurt	14	21	drizzle
Paris	14	21	drizzle/moderate rain
London	13	18	drizzle
New York	22	30	overcast/cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- North Carolina university; 5- Doled (out); 10- ___ browns; 14- Course list; 15- Go gaga over; 16- ___ take arms against...; 17- ___ the finish; 18- Hotelier Helmsley; 19- Secluded spot; 20- 16th president of the U.S.; 22- Kelp; 24- You ___ right; 26- "Hotel ___"; 27- Attacks; 30- Russian range; 32- Marsh bird; 33- Let's just leave ___ that; 34- Household; 38- Asian language; 39- Put up; 42- Without delay; 43- Against; 45- Archer of myth; 46- "Die Fledermaus" maid; 48- "The Crucible" setting; 50- Pie coverings; 51- Italian sausage; 54- Les ___-Unis; 56- Minor Prophet; 58- Make good as new; 62- Western pact; 63- Foundation; 65- Muffin ingredient; 66- Bakery worker; 67- Climbing vine; 68- Cross letters; 69- Irene of "Fame"; 70- Senior; 71- Require;

DOWN: 1- Pianist Gilels; 2- Director Riefenstahl; 3- ___ even keel; 4- Screwball; 5- Hammerlike tool; 6- Paradises; 7- Likewise; 8- Sea eagles; 9- Remove air from; 10- Bunk; 11- Senator Specter; 12- War horse; 13- Accord maker; 21- Use a soapbox; 23- Shoe tool; 25- End result; 27- Actress Ward; 28- Alaska's first governor; 29- Jog; 31- Phooey!; 33- Able was ___; 35- Washington bills; 36- Shed feathers; 37- More than one female sheep; 40- Dependable; 41- Bar game; 44- Dancer Duncan; 47- Garbage can; 49- What ___ chopped liver?; 50- Roman general; 51- ___ boom; 52- Manila hemp plant; 53- "See ya!"; 55- Triple; 57- Salute; 59- Writer Sarah ___ Jewett; 60- Steak order; 61- Novelist Bagnold; 64- In a funk;



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AD





Night hero: Goalkeeper Claudio Bravo makes the third save in the shoot-out of the semis match

FOOTBALL | CONFEDERATIONS CUP

Chile crush Portugal on penalties to reach final

Tales Azzoni, Kazan

CLAUDIO Bravo made three penalty saves as Chile crushed Portugal 3-0 in a penalty shootout to reach the Confedera-

tions Cup final yesterday [Macau time].

Bravo, who missed the first two cup games in Russia because of injury, stopped penalties by Ricardo Quaresma, Joao Moutinho and Nani, sending Chile to its

third straight international final after winning consecutive Copa America titles.

Arturo Vidal, Charles Aranguiz and Alexis Sanchez all scored for Chile in the shootout.

The teams were drawing 0-0 af-

ter normal and extra time.

The result was justice for Chile, which had a strong penalty appeal turned down in extra time and then saw the ball hit the woodwork twice in the same move a few minutes later.

Chile and Portugal both came close in the first 10 minutes but there were few chances after that in a lackluster game between two of the main title favorites. Cristiano Ronaldo was off-form for Portugal and Chile gradually took control in front of 40,855 fans at Kazan Arena, most of them behind Chile.

Chile will play Germany or Mexico in Sunday's final in St. Petersburg. It will be seeking its first title outside of South America after winning the Copa America in 2015 and 2016, both times in penalty kick shoot-outs.

"I was injured and I didn't play at my normal pace, but I normally get things quietly," Bravo said. "This is very important to us because it's like completing a very successful cycle. We are very happy to be able to play in the final."

Portugal was looking for its second consecutive title after winning the European Championship last year.

In the shoot-out, Bravo dived to his right to stop weak penalty kicks by both Quaresma and Joao Moutinho, then switched sides to save Nani's timorous shot. Nani tip-toed desperately slowly to the

ball looking for all the world as though he did not want to take the kick. And he patted it gently to Bravo.

"Claudio was amazing, the players who scored their penalties were amazing and I think we deserve to be in the final," Chile coach Juan Antonio Pizzi said. "We have made a huge effort and I think you could see it during the game."

Chile had its chances to win it in extra time when Vidal's powerful right-footed shot struck the far post. From the rebound, substitute Martin Rodriguez hit the crossbar with Portugal goalkeeper Rui Patricio already beaten.

Sanchez had already had a chance to break the deadlock six minutes into extra time, but his header from near the penalty spot went just wide after a well-placed cross by Mauricio Isla.

Chile wanted a late penalty when Francisco Silva was stepped on by a defender inside the area with only a few minutes left, but the referee let the play continue and it was not reviewed by video.

Ronaldo had some chances in regulation time but couldn't capitalize on them, including an 85th-minute header that went wide.

"I think it was an excellent game, a good propaganda for football, two excellent teams," Portugal coach Fernando Santos said. "They both showed they wanted to win." AP

BOXING | THE BATTLE OF BRISBANE

Pacquiao keeps low profile; Horn gets louder ahead of fight

MANNY Pacquiao kept a low profile, apparently at the insistence of local police, leaving opponent Jeff Horn to entertain a bigger crowd at his downtown practice session than he's attracted for previous fights.

Pacquiao, the 11-time world champion, is putting his WBO welterweight world title belt on the line on Sunday at Suncorp Stadium, where he's a hot favorite to register his 60th professional win.

On a previous visit to promote the "Battle of Brisbane," Pacquiao was mobbed by adoring fans in an unexpected rush at an impromptu public appearance.

So local organizers said they took advice from Queensland state police to give the senator from the Philippines time off from promotional activities yesterday while Horn appeared for a light practice session in a makeshift ring near the Queens Street Mall, reveling in the attention of hundreds of spectators enjoying a sunny lunch break.

"For safety purposes, Manny won't be here today," Duco Events director Dean Lonergan said. "We took that on advice from Queensland police."

Pacquiao's camp got his point across to local fans on Wednesday, anyway, when his legendary long-time trainer Freddie Roach predicted the fight would be "short and sweet" and that somebody would get knocked out.

Pacquiao (59-6-2) had the last of his 38 knockout wins in 2009, but he said he's been working harder in preparation for this fight than he has in years. He has kno-



Boxers Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines (second left) and Jeff Horn of Australia (second right) in Brisbane

cked down sparring partners, Roach said, and had to be forced to stop in some sessions because he was working too much.

Horn's promoters have accused Pacquiao's backers of not taking the fight seriously enough, accusing the 38-year-old Filipino of already talking about a potential rematch with Floyd Mayweather and of being disrespectful during a news conference by texting on his cell phone.

But Pacquiao is used to the pre-match games, and says he likes nothing better than to take on an opponent on their home soil and in front of a big crowd.

They'll have that for the afternoon, outdoor fight. Lonergan said more than 47,000 tickets had already been sold — already almost 10,000 more than the Australian record for boxing — and they were on track to top 50,000.

The odds-makers aren't giving Horn, a 29-year-old former schoolteacher who is unbeaten in 17 professional fights, much of a chance against a seasoned, eight-division world champion. AP

AD

opinion

Bizcuits
 Leanda Lee



GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY RAG

Congratulations to Macau Daily Times upon its Tenth Anniversary, and especially to the current management and editorial team – the longest serving at the paper; you do us proud.

When I first came to Macau a little more than these ten years, there was but one English language daily on the newsstands. Macau was in dire need of a paper with international approach: one that would reach out and respond to the growing expatriate and foreign worker community to help make the conundrums of Macau accessible; one that Macau resident returnees keen to get an English speaking cultural viewpoint on what was happening locally and internationally could turn to; and one that could be relied on to freely open a window on Macau for the global community.

To purport to reach these goals would need a rare combination of journalistic professionalism, strong local networks and in-depth knowledge that comes from at least tri-socio-cultural, if not multi-cultural management and newsroom teams. The Macau Daily Times is now a group of individuals that bring together the different perspectives that reflect its readership. From established Portuguese professionals with long memories of Macau – the old hands - to young mainland Chinese interns and the occasional smattering of Brit and Aussie influence, MDT's short history has been colourful. We have had joyous and crazily humorous times but also tragic days of heartache when we have lost colleagues: their work lives on in these pages.

Such a diverse group of people working together has its ups and downs. Different ages and professional approaches, different ethnicities, different languages and behaviours, different views about time and deadlines, different ways to accord and acknowledge respect, all in an environment in which there is a constant sense of urgency, create pressure points. From an academic's perspective where it is not unusual for a paper to take 2 years from writing to publication (rather like the slow-food movement), the under 6-hour turnaround (the fast-food equivalent) that some newspaper articles meet in the process from information gathering from source through drafting, then the editing process, copy-desk review, layout, design and print, all under public scrutiny and criticism shows what people are capable of. Just like the goal-keeper, errors can have irreversible impact and reverberate far and wide but the team has no option but to pick itself up. Tomorrow is another day, another edition. This takes courage.

As if these circumstances are not enough, by need and necessity the majority of those individuals in the MDT newsroom are writing in their second or third language. I tip my hat to each and every one of them.

There are now three English language dailies in the market, each with its own colour and focus and thus not competing to any significant degree. If the international cross-referencing of articles between media outlets and MDT, and the citing of MDT articles by influential analysts is anything to go by, MDT under its most recent leadership has managed to expand its reach and influence as part of the international media community. We should expect to see this continue apace.

Into my eighth year of writing regularly for MDT, first monthly and now fortnightly as contributing editor and critical friend, I have been privy to changes at MDT but more importantly, my attention and that of MDT's readers has been drawn to the social, political, business and community developments in our Macau home through the prism of MDT's editorial decisions. It is a crucial role. May it continue.

THE CANADA EXTENDS MISSION IN IRAQ TO MARCH 2019

Canada is extending its military mission against the Islamic State group in Iraq for another two years.

Defense Minister Harjit Sajjan said yesterday that Canada is renewing its contribution to the Global Coalition until March 31, 2019.

Canada has about 200 special forces soldiers operating in northern Iraq supported by a combat hospital, a helicopter detachment, a surveillance plane and an air-to-air refueling aircraft.

The government calls it an advise-and-assist mission to help train local forces, but opposition parties say Canada is involved in combat.

They pointed to word that that a Canadian special forces sniper, supporting Iraqi forces, killed an Islamic State fighter from 3,540 meters away, in what the Canadian military said is a world record.

Canada previously removed its fighter jets from the mission.

USA

President ridicules female TV host's looks, calls her crazy

Julie Bykowitz, Washington

PRESIDENT Donald Trump ridiculed the looks and temperament of a female cable television host whose show he says he has stopped watching.

In a series of tweets yesterday, the president went after Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough, who have criticized Trump on their MSNBC show "Morning Joe."

"I heard poorly rated @Morning Joe speaks badly of me (don't watch anymore). Then how come low I.Q. Crazy Mika, along with Psycho Joe, came ... to Mar-a-Lago 3 nights in a row around New Year's Eve, and insisted on joining me. She was bleeding badly from a face-lift. I said no!"

Brzezinski responded on Twitter by posting a photograph of a Cheerios box that has the phrase "made for little hands." That was a dig at Trump, who has long been sensitive about the size of his hands.

"It's a sad day for America when the president spends his time bullying, lying and spewing petty personal attacks instead of doing his job," NBC



Mika Brzezinski

News spokeswoman Lorie Acio said in a statement.

The White House did not immediately respond to questions about the tweets, including what it was that set the president off.

On their Wednesday show [yesterday, Macau time], Brzezinski and Scarborough roundly mocked Trump for displaying in several of his golf resorts a fake Time Magazine cover featuring himself.

"That's needy," Brzezinski said on the show.

About 15 minutes before the president himself tweeted, White House so-

cial media director Dan Scavino similarly attacked the hosts.

"#DumbAsARockMika and lover #JealousJoe are lost, confused & saddened since @POTUS @realDonaldTrump stopped returning their calls! Unhinged," Scavino wrote on his personal account.

Trump was correct that the MSNBC hosts spent time at the president's Florida resort, a visit that Scarborough said was to arrange a Trump interview.

The hosts confirmed they are engaged to be married earlier this month. AP

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	15-35 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
Ambient	20-40 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

INDIA Prime Minister Narendra Modi condemned a rise in deadly mob attacks on cattle traders, beef eaters and dairy farmers, saying yesterday that killing people in the name of protecting cows is unacceptable.



ISRAEL-SYRIA The U.N. Security Council is strongly condemning fighting in the buffer zone between Syria and Israel and it's urging the Syrian government and opposition groups to withdraw from the area, which is patrolled by U.N. peacekeepers.

GERMANY will deny permission for Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to address Turks at a rally when he visits for the upcoming Group of 20 meeting in Hamburg, Germany's foreign minister said yesterday.

BRITAIN Last-minute talks between Northern Ireland's main political parties yesterday failed to produce a compromise on restoring their power-sharing administration but Britain is giving the rivals more time to talk before deciding whether to restore direct rule.



VENEZUELA's Supreme Court barred the nation's chief prosecutor from leaving the country and ordered her bank accounts frozen hours after she delivered a scathing critique accusing President Nicolas Maduro of "state terrorism."

BRAZIL Security forces in Brazil's capital have detained a minor who allegedly rammed a car through a gate in an apparent attempt to reach the presidential palace. Guards first fired warning shots, then when the vehicle failed to slow, they fired at the car and it stopped. The driver was not hurt and was taken into custody.

times square by rodrigo

