



USD1 MILLION BRIBE FROM NG LAP SENG
A former United Nations diplomat testified that he received more than USD1 million from Ng Lap Seng

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COUTO IN SURGERY AFTER ZHUHAI CRASH
Macau racer André Couto is undergoing surgery at a Hong Kong hospital following a racing accident

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WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



IRAQ Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi celebrated with Iraqi troops yesterday in Mosul after they drove Islamic State militants from some of their last strongholds in a nearly nine-month campaign, although heavy fighting by holdouts continued in parts of the Old City neighborhood.

CHINA Two foreign specialists who visited Liu Xiaobo said yesterday that the cancer-stricken Nobel Peace Prize laureate can safely travel abroad for treatment, apparently contradicting statements by Chinese experts who say a medical evacuation would be unsafe for China's best-known political prisoner.

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FINANCIAL TIMES
Self-driving cars too labor intensive for humans

UNESCO slams Macau heritage protection

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AP PHOTO



China's aircraft carrier celebrated on Hong Kong port call

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Longtime Grand Prix organizer Barry Bland passes away at 71

Renato Marques

MODESTY and unflappability were just a few of the many qualities appointed to Barry Bland, the longtime organizer of the Macau Grand Prix, who passed away last week at 71 after a lengthy battle with illness.

Known locally for being one of the great minds behind the organization of the Macau Formula 3 race, those who knew Bland well describe him as "most probably" one of the most influential figures in motorsport over the past 40 years.

Besides his roles in setting up and managing the "Queen" of Macau races, Bland worked on other competitions such as the Masters of F3 race in Zandvoort (Netherlands), also known as the "European Macau."

Born in Ilford, East London in 1946, Bland enjoyed a brief racing career before joining the British Automobile Racing Club as competitions secretary and a race-meeting organizer.

In 1971, he joined the Motor Race Consultants team, where he would remain for the rest of his life, coordinating driver entries, logistics and insurance for racing events around the world.

The F3 race started in 1983 under Bland's leadership, and went on to gain momentum and international recognition. In September 2016, Bland announced his withdrawal from the Macau Grand Prix event over "rushed developments" in the race that resulted in the late crea-



tion of the FIA F3 World Cup.

In response to Bland's passing, the Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee (MGPOC) issued a statement.

"It is with deep regret the Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee has learned that Mr. Barry Bland has passed away at his home in England. For more than 30 years, Mr. Bland worked tirelessly with Macau to elevate the Formula 3 Macau Grand Prix to the highest international level. His contribution to building the reputation it enjoys today is immeasurable," the statement reads.

MGPOC's statement goes on to highlight Bland's "unfailing generosity" and concludes by saying, "The Macau Grand Prix will be

forever grateful to Mr. Bland for his many years of loyal service, his guidance and his vision. The Committee wishes to convey its sincere condolences to Mr. Bland's family and many friends."

Other people and organizations that dealt closely with Bland expressed similar thoughts to the Times.

Teddy Yip Jr, son of Teddy Yip – who was also influential in the creation of the Grand Prix and an avid supporter of Bland – said, "Barry was a true gentleman and has [helped] so many of us on our journeys through Macau. Beyond that, he was personally kind, something that I will remember above all. I hope that some of us have learned something from him

along the way too."

Canadian-born Hong Kong racer Adderly Fong, who is currently racing in the GT series with Bentley, said, "I was very lucky to meet Barry in his prime through the Macau F3 race. He helped me out with open arms; especially back when I hadn't had the speed yet."

"He let a young boy fulfill one of his dreams. He had helped me out [from] 2010 until last year. I'm very sad to hear the news. He will be forever missed [and] forever remembered by a lot of drivers, I believe," he finished. Fong has long dreamed of becoming the first Chinese F1 driver, and had the opportunity to drive F1 cars first with Sauber and later with Lotus in 2015 as

a development driver.

Speaking to Autosport, a weekly motor racing magazine, Carlin team boss Trevor Carlin said, "Motorsport fans won't know who they have to thank for the amazing and now legendary battles they've watched at blue-ribbon events such as the Macau Grand Prix and the Zandvoort Masters, but Barry Bland was the man who tirelessly organized both events for years."

"He was also a friend and a true gentleman and the way in which he handled his illness, with such self-effacing dignity, was typical of the man. He will be sorely missed."

The F3 race started in 1983 under Bland's leadership and went on to gain momentum and international recognition

Bland's importance in the history of the Macau Grand Prix was recognized in 2012 when the government of MSAR awarded him the Certificate of Prestige in recognition of his services.

That same year, Bland – who was also the original president of the FIA Single Seater Commission – was succeeded by former F1 champion Gerhard Berger.

According to Autosport, Bland had taken a year's sabbatical in 2017 in preparation for his return to the Masters of F3 organization in 2018.

Bland was married and leaves behind three sons.

Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge to have anti-collision guardrails



CHINESE state broadcaster CCTV published a video of a guardrail along the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge, claiming that it can absorb crashes from vehicles traveling at speeds of over 100km per hour.

The video, uploaded to CCTV's Chinese Facebook page last week, was shot at a crash test site in Beijing's Changping District.

In the video, a tour bus

and a private car – both with test signs – are driven from the top of a hill into a guardrail. Parts of the vehicles broke off upon impact with the guardrail, which was badly bent but did not break.

The clip was allegedly shot in June this year. In the credits, the video states that parties involved in the filming included CCTV's science channel, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Ma-

cau Bridge Authority, Discovery Channel Asia Pacific, Guangdong Radio and Television Station, and Zhuhai Television.

The post was shared more than 1,400 times, but viewers doubt its credibility.

"Test the concrete first," one viewer commented. "What's the point if the bridge columns were made with low quality materials?"

"It seems to be strong," another stated. "But don't expect too much - the best materials are always used in the official video, but only half, or below 30 percent, are used in the actual bridge."

Chinese President Xi Jinping visited the bridge as the final stop of his tour of Hong Kong earlier this month.

The bridge's safety was called into question after the Independent Commission Against Corruption of Hong Kong revealed that a contractor had falsified the concrete test results.

Hundreds of concrete samples were found to have been falsified, but the government said that additional tests on new samples showed no problems.

The bridge is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

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Times

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UN CORRUPTION SCANDAL

Ex-diplomat tells jurors he got USD1m bribe from Ng

A former United Nations diplomat testified that he got more than USD1 million from a Chinese developer who was seeking backing for a UN conference center that he hoped to build in Macau.

The developer, billionaire Ng Lap Seng, is on trial charged with conspiracy and bribery in the biggest UN corruption scandal since the oil-for-food program in the early 2000s. He's accused of funneling hundreds of thousands of dollars to former UN General Assembly President John Ashe and other officials.

Francis Lorenzo, 50, one of the UN diplomats who took the bribes, told jurors in Manhattan last week that Ng hoped to build a permanent home for an annual UN conference on economic cooperation among developing countries. Lorenzo, the former Deputy Ambassador to the UN from the Dominican Republic, said the scheme ran for five years beginning in 2010.



Francis Lorenzo leaves court after pleading guilty to bribery charges on March 16, 2016

He referred to the developer as N.G. in his testimony.

"Why did you do what N.G. was asking you to do?" Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas Zolkind asked Lorenzo. "Because I was getting paid," the former ambassador answered.

Ng's lawyer, Tai Park, told the jury in his opening statement that the payments weren't bribes. Instead, Ng's

Ng Lap Seng reportedly saw the conference center in Macau as a public-private partnership between himself and the UN

intention was to support the project, which he saw as a public-private partnership between himself and the UN.

Ng's plan was to build the center for free to boost the value of a related complex of apartments, offices, a casino and hotel he also planned to develop. Ng and others involved were arrested before the center was built, Lorenzo testified.

The UN officials used their positions to advance Ng's ef-

forts to win formal support for the conference center development, including issuing a contract and agreement letters naming Ng's company as the exclusive developer, he told jurors.

Six people were originally charged, including Ashe, who died in a weightlifting accident last year. In addition to serving as president of the general assembly, Ashe was the ambassador to the UN from Antigua and Barbuda.

The remaining defendants have pleaded guilty, with some agreeing to cooperate with the prosecution. Lorenzo told jurors he's cooperating with the hope he will get a reduced sentence.

Lorenzo was accused of funneling some of the bribe money to Ashe. In his guilty plea, he admitted that he helped get a \$200,000 payment into a foreign bank account belonging to Ashe, saying "the purpose was to influence John Ashe to the benefit of Ng Lap Seng and others." **Bloomberg**



Macau Museum offers free admission

Starting this month, the Macau Museum will offer free admission to the public on Tuesdays in order to improve the quality of its services. It previously only offered free admission on the 15th of every month. The new measure is intended to entice more residents and tourists to visit the museum instead of just the two major attractions in the Historic Center of Macau; namely, the Ruins of St. Paul's and the Mount Fortress. The museum features several different types of exhibitions on the history of Macau.

Police to hold art exhibition

The Public Security Police Force (PSP) will be jointly organizing the "Artwork Exhibition of Police Officers 2017" with Albergue da Santa Casa da Misericórdia (SCM). All featured artworks have been created by students of the PSP's fine arts class, using techniques such as illustration, watercolors, oil painting and calligraphy. The PSP said in a statement that it hopes that the exhibition will help members of the public and tourists gain a deeper understanding of Macau's police culture, as well as portraying mutual trust between police and citizens. The exhibition will run from July 12 to 30 at the Albergue SCM.

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TOURISM

5th Travel Expo an 'effective platform' to seek partnerships

THE 5th Macao International Travel (Industry) Expo (MITE) attracted 303 enterprises and entities from 45 countries and regions.

The three-day expo, which began last Friday, featured various exhibition zones and activities. The event covered six key elements of the tourism industry: dining, lodging, transportation, entertainment, sightseeing and shopping.

A highlight from the expo was the China - Portugal Tourism Seminar & Networking, which drew around 120 participants from the tourism industry. The seminar and networking session was launched at last year's expo to foster cooperation and cultural exchange between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

According to the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO), the event enhanced exchange and cooperation and showcased Macau's advantages as a Sino-Portuguese platform.

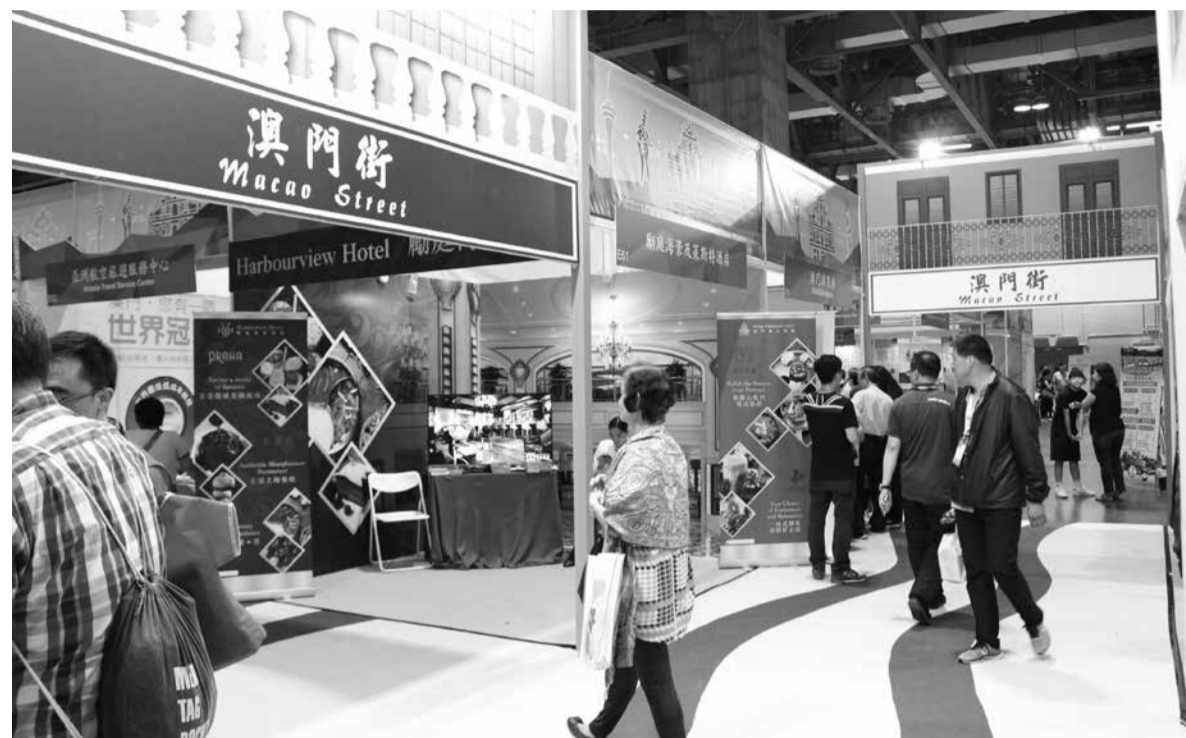
A number of those who attended described the three-day expo as 'an opportunity to get to know the local market'.

Among the participants was Chile-based Click Travel, which aims to work with local agencies in Macau and the south of China.

According to Click Travel's commercial manager Marcelo Zamora, the company exchanged several business cards, which he hoped will help them reach their target market of Chinese agencies.

"We're in the south of the world so not many Chinese people know about the country [Chile]. It's a good opportunity for us to show the country," he told the Times.

Zamora also noted that the MITE is an 'effective platform' for reaching out to mainland Chinese travelers, which studies say are the major driving force for global



tourism.

Just last year, Chinese mainland tourists accounted for nearly 21 percent of global tourist consumption, which amounted to USD261 billion.

Click Travel currently expects to participate in next year's edition of MITE, as this year's event had exceeded their expectations.

"The expo is good because especially now, more mainlanders are going to South America. The demand is growing [and] the timing is just perfect for us," he said.

While some are targeting mainland China, some firms are also seeking work with travel agencies elsewhere in Asia.

Romania-based agency Rome

Travel was looking for possible partnerships to create new tourist packages for Asian residents. Although managing partner Eugen Andreescu admitted that there is still no clear idea how the company will achieve its aim, he implied that the expo is an efficient networking platform.

"We're looking for possible partnerships [...] to create, design and offer new tourist packages for Asian people," he said. "We hope we can find the right partner."

Taipa Village Destinations Ltd, a local company which promotes Taipa Village destinations, also participated in the expo, targeting international travellers.

It hosted a virtual reality (VR) experience that allowed guests to

experience a village tour.

Although the company was pleased with how the expo was organized, its senior marketing manager Pamela Chan said that they may rethink joining next year's event, as their turnout was lower than expected.

"In terms of the expo's impact, it's doing good because the ads are great, but we need to think about joining next year, but so far we are very happy we met with a lot of different people," said Chan.

She added that there were more guests on the opening day than over the weekend.

MGTO director Helena de Senna Fernandes remarked on Friday that Macau is a major

platform for exchange and cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Due to the city's commitment to the development of China's Belt and Road initiative, and the planning of the city cluster development in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area, Macau could make an increasingly far-reaching impact as a platform and bridge.

“We're in the south of the world so not many Chinese people know about the country [Chile].”

MARCELO ZAMORA
CLICK TRAVEL MANAGER

Commenting on the upcoming introduction of direct flights between China and Portugal, the MGTO director expressed her hopes for more of such flights in future. This way, she said, Macau can develop multi-destination tourism products with other destinations in order to secure a common share in visitor markets.

The 5th MITE is supported by the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA), organized by MGTO and coordinated by the Macau Travel Agency Association.

André Couto in surgery after Zhuhai crash

Renato Marques

MACAU racer André Couto is undergoing surgery at a Hong Kong hospital following a racing accident that resulted in a fractured vertebra in his lower back (L1).

The crash occurred on lap 15 of the third round of Saturday afternoon's China GT Championship in Zhuhai, where Couto was driving under the colors of Spirit Z Racing at the wheel of a Nissan NISMO GT-R GT3.

Couto's condition is said to be stable despite his injuries, according to sources including his father Carlos Cou-

to, teammate Yuey Tan from Singapore, and the event organizers.

A China GT Championship spokesperson said the incident occurred after Couto "[lost] control of the Number 23 Spirit Z Racing Nissan NISMO GT-R GT3, which resulted in the car skating across the gravel trap and making [a] front-end impact into the tire barrier." The crash occurred at Turn 6 of the Zhuhai International Circuit (ZIC), a sharp right turn after a long high-speed section.

The organizers added that the accident might be related to "treache-

rous conditions" during the day, "in a race that was marred by multiple incidents triggering suspension of the race no fewer than three times".

Couto was conscious immediately after the accident, and was transported to Sun Yat-sen University No. 5 Hospital in Zhuhai, where he underwent a computerized tomography (CT) scan that revealed a fracture to his L1 vertebrae.

According to both organizers and team members, the crash would have taken place while Couto was driving at a speed between 160 to 200 km/h, meaning that he would have absorbed

a major impact.

"Luckily we are racing drivers in the modern day or that would've been much worse news," said teammate Tan at the time of the crash, referring to the full top-of-the-line protection equipment that both drivers use, as well as the security conditions of the car itself.

On Couto's current condition, Tan said, "He's still telling jokes and was well aware of everything going on. He was also even doing a post-race debrief while lying down. It was a tough moment for all of us in the team, but he's one of the strongest guys in



André Couto

motor racing, and I wish him a speedy recovery."

Couto's father said on Saturday that the driver "is in a stable condition, not in a life-threatening situation" and that he would be transported to Hong Kong "to continue further treatment."

After spending the night at the hospital, Couto was airlifted to Hong Kong via a Medivac helicopter in the early hours of yesterday morning. He will undergo surgery and complete his recovery period in the neighboring city.

Kitchenware supplier forecasts 100 pct sales growth with Sands China

SALES turnover of a few thousand patacas to some MOP2.5 million is a staggering revenue shift for a local enterprise in just two years with its partnership with Sands China.

In just two years' time, Chon Wa Catering Equipment Supply Co. Ltd has seen a boost in its sales revenue with Sands China, as the gaming operator has been keen on purchasing from local suppliers.

Established in Macau several years ago to provide engineering and design for kitchen equipment, the local enterprise only began to supply heavy-duty kitchenware, catering utensils and equipment to local clients in 2015.

With the support of Sands China, this Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) has successfully entered the market, with the gaming operator contributing to nearly 30 percent of its overall revenue.

Anthony Yip, director of Business of Chon Wa Catering Equipment Supply noted that the firm only started with three staff and has increased to its current 12 due to this sudden boost to its business.

"I would like to send my thank you to Sands China because they gave us very good support since starting our business, [giving] us a chance to make offers and orders," Yip remarked.

According to him, the first deal with the gaming operator was only a few thousand patacas, yet this has grown massively with the support of Sands China.

"The first deal was a few thousand. There are many brands that we did not know but [based on Sands China's] inquiries, the brands we wholesale now have increased," Yip added.

The local SME is currently the sole agent in Macau of many kitchenware brands and a distributor of some 100 well-known brands.

The entrepreneur sees this as an advantage as the enterprise can present a wider range of products and brands to other gaming operators.

The entrepreneur mentioned that at the beginning of the business, they did not have many brands to offer to clients.

"In the beginning, I would say that there were zero brands we were offering but after two years of effort and good relationships with suppliers, some brands granted us a license to be a sole agent or distributor," he noted.

Given the aim of the business to offer high quality products to the local market, the company introduced its business to the procurement team of Sands China hoping to establish good relationships with the gaming operator.

Yip mentioned that the business with Sands China has "has continuously grown from moment to moment."

Currently, the local enterprise is expecting to see its revenue with the gaming operator double by the end of the year as it continues to expand its product range.

With the opening of The Parisian Macao in September 2016, the director acknowledged that its contracts with Sands China have contributed to significant growth in its sales volume in 2016.

"We did a lot of business with The Parisian Macao. We sold a lot of products," the director confirmed.

With the continuous partnership with Sands China, Chon Wa has strengthened its credibility with local restaurants, hotels and gaming operators, paving the way for further business prospects.

The enterprise is also benefiting from Sands China's commitment to purchase goods and commodities from local suppliers to further support its procurement base and SME growth.

Thus with this commitment, Sands China offers more business opportunities to local SMEs, micro-enterprises, young entrepreneurs, and "Made-in-Macao" enterprises.

Sands China's Local Small, Medium and Micro Suppliers Support Program – a scheme in line with the MSAR's initiative to "buy local" – has been providing local enterprises with greater prospects to remain successful in the market.



Anthony Yip

If, at the moment, we are successful, this is coming from the support of Sands China.

ANTHONY YIP
DIRECTOR, CHON WA

As Sands China views its suppliers as its strategic partners, the entrepreneur noted that the gaming operator's procurement team have also been assisting them in sourcing quality products to add to its wide range of product and brand selections.

"The procurement team [has assisted] in [rejuvenating our range of] quality products and [the] content of [our] products. That's why we are going to set up our new show room and demo kitchen," he explained.

"In this way, we have more chance to introduce our new products, including to Sands China's procurement department," the director added.

Chon Wa provides before-and after-sales service to aid its clients in choosing the right machine with advice for equipment customization.

The supplier also values after-sales maintenance services to reach high standards in quality heavy-duty kitchenware.

Yip noted that the company is still developing its business and looking for ways to grow. Adding that Sands China has contributed to nearly 30 percent of the supplier's overall revenue receipts, Yip remarked that the firm will further depend on the continued support of Sands China and its local customers.

"I don't think there is problem for us in [terms of] financing [the growth] but the main thing left to us to do is to [further] develop our business and make it grow, but of course this de-

pends on the support [of our customers]," said the director.

"We will continue to work with consistency and integrity to win their trust," the director pledged.

Currently the company is seeking reliable new foreign brands to fit the Macau market.

According to Yip, the group will also focus on acquiring cleaning equipment to supply to its local clients to improve their food hygiene standards. "I think it's a trend and maybe there's a potential market opportunity. That is why we are going to deal with a cleaning machine supplier whose factory is situated in Europe," the entrepreneur noted.

Yip also shared that there are some plans to participate in the Macao International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF) held annually at The Venetian Macao in October, to showcase the group's new products.

The entrepreneur stressed that projects such as acquiring and supplying high-end catering equipment and heavy-duty equipment were all due to the support of its local clients, particularly Sands China.

"They [Sands China] have given us a lot of time ... and made offers to us, and in this period of time, we learned and gained much. That is why we want to express our gratitude to them for giving us a lot of support," Yip voiced.

"If, at the moment, we are successful, this is coming from the support of Sands China," the entrepreneur acknowledged.



Heavy duty equipment



Utensils and equipment supplied by Chon Wa

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For Rent



Riveira H Unit, Tower 1

(Ref: 17060650)
1,238sq. ft. HKD 16,500

Nice two double bedroom, one bathroom apartment. Good size living room with stunning views across the river to China and over the roof tops of Macau. Small fitted kitchen with laundry balcony. Semi furnished.



Coloane, 4 Storey Commercial Building

(Ref: 17040646)
4,003sq. ft. HKD 198,000

The property is a licensed commercial space spread over 4 floors including a basement, ground floor retail, and two upper floors in the heart of the unique Coloane village situated next door to the famous 'Lord Stow's Bakery'. The property features an elevator and staircase to access all floors, and is perfectly suited for a wide range of commercial activities.



Cheoc Van, Coloane

(Ref: 17060651)
6,222sq. ft. HKD 79,800

Combining dazzling sea views, stylish interiors and cavernous comfort, this multi-storey property is a rare find in Macao. In the lower ground floor sits a private swimming pool alongside a large entertainment area that is perfect for entertaining guests during a hot Macau summer. On the ground floor, you'll find a jazzy living space with the perfect amount of natural light entry. If you can take the elevator up to the 1st floor, you'll find two kitchens (yes, two)



Macau, One Central Residences

(Ref: 16050589)
1,819sq. ft. HKD25,000

Fully furnished. 3 Bedroom apartment. Full club facilities. Fantastic views over Nam Van lake and back across Macau city. Central location next to Wynn & MGM Resorts in Macau. Available for tenancy with a 2 year agreement.

For Sale



Sakura Court, Hellene Gardens, Coloane

(Ref: 17065521)
2,063sq. ft. HKD 11.5M
Rate: HKD 5,574sq ft

This medium size apartment in the complex of Hellene Gardens, is spacious, bright, with every room enjoying a beautiful leafy green view of the surrounding mountains and countryside. Nicely renovated throughout the living rooms balcony is built in with floor to ceiling windows making the room feel even larger. Two of the three bedrooms are doubles with the third generally used as a single roomer home office.



Hellene Gardens, Buttercup Court, G Unit

(Ref: 17055520)
1,663sq. ft. HKD 7.98M
Rate: HKD 4,798sq ft

Stunning apartment with open view across towards the back of Hac Sa Beach. Renovated five years ago to a very high standard. The owner opened up the kitchen making a wonderful entertainment area for both living and dining, off the living room is a great size balcony for Al Fresco dining. Further renovations not required.



Cheoc Van, House912 Coloane

(Ref: 17065524)
5,972sq. ft. HKD 98M
Rate: HKD 16,409sq ft

This magnificent property is newly renovated, and has unobstructed sea views from all 5 floors. Both the interior and exterior of the property brandishes stylish and contemporary designs with a mix of beautiful light colours that accentuates the spaciousness and abundance of natural light. An exclusive lap pool and Jacuzzi comes ready to be enjoyed, as well as a state of the art kitchen.



Mandarin Residences Serviced Duplex

(Ref: 17065522)
3,487sq. ft. HKD 88M
Rate: HKD 25,236sq ft

The property comes tastefully designed with elegant, high-grade furnishing and floor-to-ceiling windows that provides a breath-taking panoramic view of the sea and Macau. The modern galley kitchen on the first floor comes fully-fitted with high-grade and stylish appliances from Miele and plenty of space, and the private study room offers the quiet that you need to complete your business affairs.



Lok Pou, Macau

(Ref: 17065523)
700sq. ft. HKD2.98M
Rate: HKD 4,257sq ft

Lovely top floor apartment, two small bedrooms with large open living room with large picture window over looking Tap Seac Square and galley style kitchen. Great opportunity to renovate an old property in a historic area of the city.

Separate access to a large roof top area also means a great opportunity for al fresco entertaining on the cooler months.



Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens, Taipa

(Ref: 16095497)
1,503sq. ft. HKD 10.78M
Rate: HKD7,172sq ft

Very nice 3 bedroom + Maids room apartment in the Ocean Gardens complex, Taipa. This building continues to be one of the premier buildings in Taipa, and is much sought after by both locals and ex-pats. The apartment offers easy access to shops, taxis and the Cotai strip in a popular complex where property is in high demand. The building has a supermarket as well as multiple shops, and a well presented modern lobby area. The current tenants are leaving the apartment during the month of October, and viewings are available from November onward. An accompanying Car Park is also for sale, and may be purchased together with the property.

Email: Info@JMLProperty.com



Roof Top Apartment, Macau

(Ref: 15055441)
799sq. ft. HKD3.98M
Rate: HKD4,981sq ft

Loft style apartment with concrete floor which includes a good size double bedroom, great size separate bathroom, open plan fitted kitchen, lovely bright & spacious dining area with floor to ceiling windows and cosy living area with small picture window of the view. The wooden staircase leads to the second floor open area which could be great to use as a second bedroom, or office, yoga studio or entertainment area. The roof top terrace is wonderful; a great place to entertain friends and family with its open view across the roof tops of the Chief Executives office and beautifully manicured gardens towards Taipa. This property is unique with a view that unlike most in Macau will not change for many years to come.

To view call us now on 2835 2699.



Wan Yu Villa, D Unit, Macau

(Ref: 17035513)
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UNESCO

Committee slams Macau World Heritage Site protection

Daniel Beittler

A United Nations body under the purview of UNESCO has criticized the MSAR government over its handling of the preservation of the Historic Center of Macau.

A World Heritage Site since 2005, the Historic Center of Macau is currently one of the topics under discussion at the 41st session of the World Heritage Group in Poland, which will conclude on July 12.

According to UNESCO, "Decision 41 COM 7B.87" has now been adopted by the organization, outlining the dangers facing the cultural integrity of the Historic Center of Macau.

"It has been adopted without amendments and without discussion," Lucía Iglesias, a UNESCO press officer told the Times last night.

Among other issues, the document highlighted "serious concerns" regarding "adverse development projects" and the danger to



Tourists view the panorama from the Guia Lighthouse

heritage sites posed by violations of the building height restrictions at the Macau Fisherman's Wharf and other locations.

According to the Decision, the committee noted its regret with "the lack of progress with the completion of the [urban] Management Plan, which was due for submission by 1 February, 2015, and reiterates its request to the State Party [Macau government] to complete this Management Plan as a matter

of priority, and to submit it to the World Heritage Center."

The Decision also noted member states' concerns regarding future development projects involving reclaimed land, and requested that Macau authorities submit detailed proposals for all current land reclamation projects.

Following the adoption of the document, the Macau government will now be asked to complete a Heritage Impact Assessment for

future and planned development projects, which should then be submitted to the World Heritage Center for review.

The local government has been asked to submit an update on the state of conservation of the Historic Center of Macau by December 1, 2018.

The President of Macau's Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), Leung Hio Ming, informed last week that the government department would be sending a representative to the 41st session, along with a delegation from the People's Republic of China State Cultural Heritage Administration.

"The wording from the World Heritage Center isn't that strong," Leung said at the time. "It is just a formal way to address the issue. It is an important issue and we are concerned with it, but [...] it is just a list of points that we have to work with [before] the end of 2018."

The IC president was referring to the Draft Decision, published on May 19, which has now been adopted without amendment. It is not

clear whether the bureau raised an objection during the meeting in Poland or previously in its correspondence with UNESCO.

In a statement released on Saturday, the Concern Group for the Protection of the Guia Lighthouse praised the adoption of the document.

According to a statement from the Concern Group, its members contacted the director of the World Heritage Center, Mechtild Rössler and members of the World Heritage Committee, expressing support for Decision 41 COM 7B.87.

The group said that the Decision reflects the will of people in the city, who are seeking to protect World heritage.

The concern group was established in response to the construction of a residential building close to the Guia Lighthouse that contravened a legal height limit regulation issued in 2008. Construction on that particular building began prior to the issuing of the 52.5-meter cap, by which time the residential project already exceeded 81 meters in height.

New Macau Association members met with Rössler last December to express their concerns over what they described as a violation of heritage regulations. The members returned with a warning for the government: halt the controversial project or face repercussions from the international community.

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Hong Kong braces for higher rates as currency losses quicken

Justina Lee

HOW long can it last? That's what watchers of Hong Kong's markets are asking as the gap between local and U.S. interbank rates widens to the most since 2009. The city's currency peg to the greenback effectively ties its monetary policy to that of the U.S., making the growing differential all the more curious.

Now things may be changing, with forward points and interest-rate swaps in Hong Kong's dollar starting to bottom out. The reasoning is simple: with the currency having fallen to the middle of its permitted band and the U.S. expected to continue raising rates, it's a matter of time before the city's exchange rate reaches its weak limit, forcing the local monetary authority to suck in liquidity.

"Once the Hong Kong dollar depreciates to a certain point,



people will start to be scared there will be capital outflows, which should cause rates to rise," said Ken Cheung, a foreign-exchange strategist at Mizuho Bank Ltd. in Hong Kong. "We're at this point now."

As the Hibor-Libor gap wi-

dened, Hong Kong's dollar has weakened 0.7 percent in 2017, putting it on course for its worst year since the current band was put in place in 2005. It traded at HKD7.8109 on Friday, compared with a 1 1/2-year low of HKD7.8139 reached on

Monday last week. The three-month Hibor rose 0.4 basis point Friday, the most since June 12.

Asian equities and bonds look poised to join a global selloff after central banks from Europe to the U.S. struck a more hawkish tone in recent weeks. U.S. jobs data due Friday will shed more light on the strength of the American economy, after a gauge of data surprises rebounded this week.

Hong Kong's interbank rate, known as Hibor, has been below the U.S.'s Libor almost every day since February 2016. The flood of liquidity that flowed into the city since the global financial crisis has mostly remained, and the loan-to-deposit ratio is low.

But when rates rise more quickly, there are bound to be consequences in a city where surging real estate prices have made homes the least affordable in the world

and equities are fresh off a two-year high. Developers, which aren't bound by regulations on bank loans, have even been offering mortgages with high loan-to-value ratios to entice buyers.

One way the Hong Kong Monetary Authority could absorb funds before the currency reaches the weak end of its HKD7.75-7.85 band is by issuing Exchange Fund Bills. Still, this is unlikely as the de facto central bank wouldn't want to give the impression it's trying to sway Hibor, Ronald Man, a strategist at Bank of America Corp., wrote in a note.

To lock in lower rates, corporations sold a record HKD131 billion of Hong Kong dollar bonds last quarter.

It remains to be seen whether market sentiment has changed as forward points and swaps may have rebounded because of seasonal demand for the local currency at the end of June, said Ryan Lam, head of research at Shanghai Commercial Bank Ltd. in Hong Kong.

"Such a wide Hong Kong dollar-U.S. dollar gap is not normal," he said. "Will Hong Kong dollar rates rise more quickly? I think so." **Bloomberg**

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Christopher Palmeri

Caesars hires two executives to lead expansion beyond gambling

CAESARS Entertainment Corp. hired two executives to help expand beyond gambling, including licensing the Caesars and Harrah's brands to hotels that may not feature casinos.

As Caesars' biggest division emerges from bankruptcy protection, a number of potential investors have expressed interest in building resorts flying the company's flags, in the U.S. and abroad, Chief Executive Officer Mark Frissora said in an interview. Caesars' customer loyalty program, with some 50 million members, is an attractive asset that lodging operators could use to market their properties, he said.

"There's a lot of good money out there, developers that would love to have these brands, because they're unique in the marketplace," he said.

Marco Roca, a veteran of Wyndham Worldwide Corp. and Starwood Hotels & Resorts, will join Caesars as president of global development, the company said in a statement last week. Michael Daly, who worked for 15 years at General Electric Co., will serve as senior vice president for strategy and mergers and acquisitions.

With revenue in the USD38.5 billion casino industry climbing only modestly in the U.S., many operators are looking beyond



gambling to spur growth, building sports and entertainment venues, buying social gaming companies and sprucing up their hotel offerings. And Frissora is looking for ways to give Caesars some momentum as a protracted bankruptcy process comes to a close.

The company, which was taken private by the investment firms Apollo Global Management LLC and TPG Capital for about \$30 billion in 2008, has struggled since then under a mountain of debt. Following extensive negotiations with creditors, the company expects its largest unit, Caesars En-

tertainment Operating Co., to exit bankruptcy by September. Frissora, the former CEO of rental-car company Hertz Global Holdings Inc., joined in 2015.

Las Vegas-based Caesars is chasing opportunities in Japan, Canada, Australia, Brazil and Dubai, Frissora said. A planned casino in South Korea catering only to foreigners is still on track, he said, despite a Chinese restriction on travel to the country due to Seoul's deployment of an anti-missile system.

Japan legalized casino gambling last year but is still working on the details of where and how many

to authorize. Caesars is looking to spend much less than the \$10 billion number cited by competitors including Las Vegas Sands Corp. and MGM Resorts International, Frissora said. He said officials in Japan have told him that Caesars' lack of a casino operation in the the Chinese enclave of Macau is a strength because the region is often associated with money laundering and other unsavory practices.

The company is also looking to acquire casinos operating in Colorado, the northeastern U.S. and any market where the company already competes but isn't No. 1, he said.

Development plans are under way in Las Vegas, where the company is building a 300,000-square-foot convention center behind its Bally's casino, with plans to offer space for smaller meetings than the big trade shows at the Las Vegas Convention Center. Business travelers on expense accounts spend as much as \$150 more a night on food than leisure guests do, Frissora said.

Caesars adjusted its customer loyalty program last year to give

more points to non-casino spending than betting, underscoring the growing importance of the business. Points in the company's Total Rewards program can be exchanged for free meals, rooms and even a cruise in a partnership with Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd.

Other casino operators have explored non-gambling properties. MGM has developed non-casino hotels domestically and overseas with its MGM Grand brand. Wynn Resorts Ltd. plans a resort behind its flagship Las Vegas property that won't initially include a casino.

In a deal negotiated with creditors, Caesars' lenders and independent directors will gain the majority of the seats on a newly restructured board. Among directors leaving the board in September are Chairman Gary Loveman and TPG co-founder David Bonderman, moves that were disclosed in a June 5 filing. Bonderman was also on the board of Uber Technologies Inc. until June 13, when he made an inappropriate joke about women at an internal meeting and quickly resigned. **Bloomberg**

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Foreign doctors deem ill Chinese Nobel laureate OK to travel

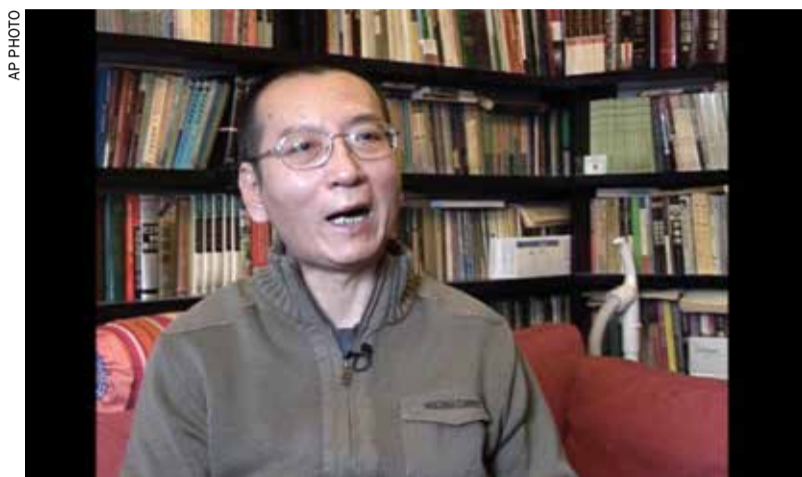
Gerry Shih

TWO foreign specialists who visited Liu Xiaobo said yesterday that the cancer-stricken Nobel Peace Prize laureate would be able to safely travel abroad for treatment, apparently contradicting statements by Chinese experts who say a medical evacuation would be unsafe.

The American and German doctors, who saw Liu on Saturday, issued a joint statement saying that their home institutions — the University of Heidelberg and the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Texas — have agreed to accept Liu, but that any evacuation would have to take place “as quickly as possible.”

Liu, China’s most prominent political dissident, was diagnosed in May with late-stage liver cancer while serving an 11-year sentence for inciting subversion by advocating sweeping political reforms that would end China’s one-party rule.

The differing opinions about the feasibility of Liu traveling could



In this file image taken from Jan 6, 2008, video, Liu Xiaobo speaks during an interview in his home in Beijing

further complicate the tug-of-war over the 61-year-old activist. For weeks, family and supporters have asked for Liu to be fully released and allowed to receive treatment abroad, arguing that authorities are keeping him in China only out of political considerations.

Meanwhile, the Chinese government has maintained that Liu is receiving the best treatment possible at the First Hospital of

China Medical University in the northern city of Shenyang. Chinese state media have labeled Liu a convicted criminal, and the government has warned other countries to stay out of China’s internal affairs.

Following international criticism, China allowed the two foreign experts, Dr. Markus W. Buchler of Heidelberg University and Dr. Joseph Herman of the MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of

Texas, to visit Liu.

Buchler and Herman said in their statement yesterday that they “acknowledged” the quality of care Liu has received in Shenyang. But they said that Liu expressed a desire to leave China, and that they judged that he “can be safely transported with appropriate medical evacuation care and support.”

■ The doctors said that Liu expressed a desire to leave China

Already accused of letting an imprisoned Nobel laureate fall terminally ill on its watch, China’s government faces a public relations disaster whether Liu stays in the country or goes abroad. By deeming Liu physically able to travel, the two foreign experts effectively eliminated a key reason

the government has put forward to justify why Liu cannot leave, said Hu Jia, a Chinese dissident.

“There are no technical obstacles to his leaving, if only the Communist Party is willing to open the cage,” Hu said, adding that Beijing is afraid of letting its most potent opposition symbol go abroad as long as he is able to speak to the media.

“As long as he can still talk, the global media will report and transmit his message to the world,” he said. “Every sound he utters will be recorded as a force for changing China.”

Shang Baojun, a former lawyer for Liu who remains close to the family, told The Associated Press on Saturday that Liu was coherent enough during the visit with the foreign doctors to say that he wanted to go abroad for treatment, preferably to Germany, although the U.S. would also be fine. At times, Liu was lucid enough to communicate in English, Shang said.

The hospital itself released a brief online statement late Saturday that quoted an unnamed Chinese expert as saying that it would be unsafe for Liu to travel abroad. The hospital has previously said that Liu’s liver function is deteriorating, and that blood clots are forming in his left leg and could potentially travel to the brain or the lungs, leading to death. **AP**

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Iain Marlow, Keith Zhai

G20 SUMMIT

Himalayan stand-off makes it an awkward meeting for Xi and Modi

THINGS might have been a little awkward when Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi saw each other on the sidelines of the Group of 20 meeting in Germany.

Far from the plush leaders events in Hamburg, China and India are facing the resurgence of a decades-long dispute over a remote area of the Himalayas. The interruption of summits by such tensions is a regular event, but both sides are now invoking memories of a 1962 border war in which Maoist China defeated newly-independent India.

While the latest flareup is likely to be resolved diplomatically, it adds to an increasingly fraught relationship between the nuclear powers as they jostle for influence in South Asia. India's fast-growing economy is fueling its ambitions and ties to the west, while Beijing is asserting territorial claims in the East China Sea, South China Sea and remote Himalayan passes.

Xi and Modi addressed an informal meeting on Friday of leaders of the BRICS - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - nations, which was held alongside the G-20 summit. There were no plans for a direct sit down.

Both leaders told the BRICS gathering that member countries needed to remain committed to an open global economy and fighting climate change. They did not mention the acrimonious border conflict.

"It has to be seen as part of a larger pattern, where they are becoming assertive, and they're getting into this habit of enforcing their claims that are contested, and sometimes imagined, disregarding the views of others," said Ashok Kantha, a former Indian ambassador to China and head of the Institute for Chinese Studies

in New Delhi.

The People's Daily, a Communist Party newspaper, posted a comment on social media platform Weibo during the BRICS meeting, warning "India, borderline is the bottomline!" The post received almost 290,000 supportive comments.

The countries disagree over who started the most recent skirmish and what happens next, with both sides declining to back down.

Some China observers say Indian troops crossed the border - around the time Modi met U.S. President Donald Trump in Washington, and ahead of the G-20 - to remind the world that India is able to contain Chinese ambitions. In China, it's particularly sensitive because it comes before China hosts a major BRICS summit in September that was personally endorsed by Xi.

"Both China and India are rising powers, but apparently China's development is faster and it has greater global influence," said Zhou Gang, a former Chinese ambassador to India. "India is not comfortable with that. They are jealous," Zhou said. "When the Indian government wants to stir up its nationalism, China becomes the easiest target."

New Delhi is wary of Beijing's infrastructure projects in Pakistan and other neighboring countries. At the same time, Beijing is seeking to build its clout through its Belt and Road trade initiative and believes India's resistance reflects a fear of China's rise.

Stand-offs between India and China have occurred in the past,



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi (left) in conversation with U.S. president Donald Trump during the G20 summit

including when Xi visited New Delhi in 2014. In recent years, both sides have sought to build roads and other infrastructure leading up to their shared border.

The current dispute is at a three-way junction between Bhutan, China's Tibet and India's Sikkim. Bhutan's Foreign Ministry said a Chinese road-building party crossed into its territory on June 16. India later said Bhutanese troops attempted to dissuade the People's Liberation Army-escorted construction team. After that failed, Indian personnel in the region approached and "urged them to desist from changing the status quo."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said Indian troops crossed into China, "breaching" historical conventions and violating international law.

"It is the Indian side who takes 'protecting Bhutan' as an excuse to justify its boundary-crossing and entry into China," he said in a briefing on Thursday.

India's Defense Minister Arun Jaitley, alluding to India's painful loss more than half-a-century ago, said the India of today is different. Army chief Bipin Rawat visited the area, and earlier in June - just before the stand-off - said his forces could cope with a multi front war against China and Pakistan, according to a Times of India report.

For its part, China's state-owned Global Times said in an editorial the Chinese "look down" on India's military and "India will suffer greater losses than in 1962 if it incites military conflicts."

In remarks to the Press Trust of India, China's current ambassador to India said the situation was "grave" and India's troops

must pull out before there are any talks. The ambassador did not rule out a war. "There has been talk of that option," he was quoted as saying.

"The trouble is, this stand off is really one where the Chinese have said they will clearly not back down," said Alka Acharya, an international relations professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. "In earlier standoffs, they were looking for a face saving device, where they can go back to the status quo."

The countries disagree over who started the most recent skirmish and what happens next, with both sides declining to back down.

The risk is the border tensions become further entrenched in the bigger tussle for influence.

"It reflects a broader deterioration in the relationship, and reflects some sort of a concern that India is taking a more aggressive stance," said Harsh Pant, a professor of international relations at King's College London. "India is the only major power that is standing up to China on multiple levels." **Bloomberg**

Aircraft carrier celebrated on Hong Kong port call

CHINA'S sole operating aircraft carrier arrived on its first port call to Hong Kong on Friday as part of efforts to stir patriotism amid commemorations of the city's handover from British to Chinese rule 20 years ago.

The Liaoning steamed into port with its escort of two guided missile destroyers and a missile frigate, dropping anchor at a naval base across from the skyscrapers of Hong Kong Island. Authorities are distributing 2,000 tickets for visits to the ships, limited to Hong Kong permanent residents.

In keeping with the high security accompanying last week's formal anniversary of the July 1, 1997, hand-

over, the area surrounding the naval base has been made a no-fly zone from Friday through tomorrow. The order bars all aircraft apart from official ones, along with drones, model aircraft, kites and balloons, the paper said.

The handover celebrations were highlighted by the presence of Chinese President Xi Jinping, who inspected troops of the People's Liberation Army's Hong Kong garrison and delivered a hard-line speech aimed at pro-democracy activists in the territory.

Increasingly riven by political divisions, Hong Kong returned to Chinese rule under the "one

country, two systems" framework that allowed it to keep its own freedoms and institutions for 50 years. However, many see Beijing as tightening its grip on the thriving financial center by stonewalling calls for democratic reforms and expanding its control over the media.

Chinese authorities are turning to events such as the Liaoning's visit in hopes of stirring pride in China's accomplishments and identification with the Communist government in Beijing.

As the ships pulled in, they were welcomed with gongs, lion dancers, flag-waving greeters and plumes of spray from fire boats. Rear Adm. Ding Yi, comman-

der of the Liaoning battle group, said the visit would showcase China's progress in developing its navy.

"Our navy group is here in Hong Kong to take part in celebrations, and this will enable our Hong Kong compatriots to enhance their understanding of the development of our military," Ding said after stepping off the Yinchuan, a destroyer.

Addressing the gathering, newly inaugurated Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam thanked Beijing for allowing the carrier's visit, according to the South China Morning Post. "This will greatly enhance Hong Kong citizens' understanding and recog-



The Liaoning, China's first aircraft carrier, sails into Hong Kong for a port call

ognition of the country," the newspaper quoted her as saying.

Commissioned in 2012, the Liaoning was built from an unfinished carrier purchased from Ukraine. It carries Chinese J-15 fighter jets along with helicopters

and was undergoing exercises at sea before arriving in Hong Kong.

China's second aircraft carrier is being produced domestically based on the Liaoning and is undergoing final preparations before its commissioning. **MDT/AP**

SRI LANKA

Owners of poached elephants may escape sanction

Krishan Francis, Colombo

A group of wealthy businessmen, a Buddhist priest and other social higher-ups on trial in Sri Lanka for allegedly keeping illegally captured elephants may get their animals back — legally.

Sri Lanka's government says it is ready to forgive the owners of poached elephants and give them a chance to apply for licenses provided they can prove in court that they did not know the animals that were confiscated from them had been illegally captured from the wild.

In the South Asian island nation, an elephant in the backyard has long been a sign of wealth, privilege and power. Though capturing wild elephants has been banned for decades and registration records indicate there should be only 127 elephants in captivity — most of them older — young elephants are a common sight in Sri Lanka's 400 or so Buddhist religious processions and traditional ceremonies every year.

Success of a religious procession is measured by the number of parading elephants.

For Buddhists, who make up 70 percent of the country's 20 million people, elephants are believed to have been servants of the Buddha and even a previous incarnation of the holy man himself. Sinhalese kings rode elephants into battle. And every year, colorfully decorated tuskers



Sri Lankan traditional dancers escort a tusker known as "Nadungamuwe Tusker," who is famous for carrying the sacred tooth relic of the temple of tooth during its annual procession in Kirindiwela village, outside Colombo

carry an ornate box containing a replica of one of the Buddha's teeth.

In the last two years, the government has confiscated 39 elephants whose owners produced either false permits or none at all. Some had paid as much as USD200,000 per captured animal when a previous government was in office, according to the Wildlife Ministry. It would suggest the authorities had either turned a blind eye to the racket or sold fake licenses.

The current trial involves 42 people — four of them accused of illegally capturing and trading in wild elephants, 27 who allegedly altered the offi-

cial elephant registry and issued and obtained false documents, five suspected of possessing elephants without licenses and six held for possessing licenses without actually having an elephant in their backyard.

Among them are a prominent Buddhist priest and a judge. If convicted, they could face a maximum 10 years in prison or a fine or both.

But if the government has its way, some of them could walk free and own an elephant legally.

A measure adopted by the Cabinet in April says only poachers and wildlife officers who collude with them by providing forged

licenses will face punishment.

According to Wildlife Minister Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, owners may get a second chance if they are able to prove that they did not know their elephants were illegally captured or the paperwork fraudulent.

"There are some people who love the animals and maybe they have taken them without knowing. If there are genuine cases proved in court then the court can decide and tell us," Perera said.

It wasn't clear when the court will rule or if it will take the government's view into account. But the suggestion has irked conservationists who say it sets a bad precedent.

"This is nonsense," said Sumith Pilapitiya, a former World Bank environmental specialist. "The onus is on the buyer to make sure the paperwork is right."

"You are trying to legalize something illegal, looking for loopholes," he said.

The reason for the government's unexpected leniency toward owners of poached elephants lies in Sri Lanka's traditions. It wasn't a problem decades and centuries ago, when elephants were plentiful, but the population has since been decimated.

Perera said it's difficult for the government to feed and care for elephants

confiscated from homes and temples. There is also a shortage of elephants in religious processions, most of which take place around the same time this month.

The Sri Lankan elephant is one of three subspecies of Asian elephant and is found only in Sri Lanka. In the 19th century, there were believed to be up to 14,000. That number fell to fewer than 3,000 before hunting and capture were banned.

The reason for the unexpected leniency lies in Sri Lanka's traditions

But while the population has grown since then to nearly 6,000, according to Sri Lanka's first official elephant census in 2011, they are still considered endangered and under threat from habitat loss and degradation. They are confined to small, isolated pockets of jungle and pasture in the north and the east.

Perera said the government's measure was not meant to give an escape route to the offenders.

"We can't give guarantees to anyone, illegal is illegal," he said, adding that prospective owners could re-apply for an elephant license "according to the judgment given by the court." AP



AD

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MISERABLE VICTIMS OF ABUSE

AN ANIMAL protection group wants tourists to know that the elephants they are thinking about riding during their vacation in Thailand are probably miserable victims of abuse. London-based World Animal Protection looked at almost 3,000 elephants working at entertainment venues in six Asian nations and found three out of four of the animals are living in poor and unacceptable conditions. It cited being chained day and night when not working,

receiving inadequate diets and unsatisfactory veterinary care, and undergoing harsh initial training "that breaks their spirits and makes them submissive enough to give rides and perform." The group wants tourists to be aware and counsels tour agencies to shun abusive venues, among other measures. It says it has already convinced more than 160 travel companies to stop sales and promotion of venues offering elephant rides and shows.



In this photo released by the Presidential Communications Operations Office, Malacanang Palace, President Rodrigo Duterte (center left) wearing a bullcap and an assault rifle slung on his shoulder, walks with military officers

PHILIPPINES

President says he's likely to extend martial law

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte said Friday he will likely extend 60 days of martial law he imposed in the southern Philippines to deal with a deadly siege of a city by militants allied

with the Islamic State group because the situation remains critical.

Duterte said he would only lift martial rule, which is to expire in about two weeks, if the military and police tell him the

danger posed by the militants has abated. The Supreme Court upheld his martial law declaration last week in a legal boost to the military offensive he ordered to quell the Marawi city siege.

Duterte has said the offensive is winding down and could end soon in Marawi, which was attacked by hundreds of gunmen waving IS-style black flags on May 23. But scores of gunmen are still holding hostages and continuing to fight in four areas of the lakeside city, a bastion of the Islamic faith in the south.

Duterte said the offensive is winding down and could end soon in Marawi

Asked if he plans to lift martial law this month, Duterte said he consulted the military and police and was told the situation remains critical. He said he would rely on their advice because "they are the ones keeping this republic healthy and alive."

"If they say there is no more danger and everything is OK, then that is the time that we will lift martial law," Duterte said.

Carrying an assault rifle and wearing a military camouflage uniform, Duterte attempted but failed to fly to Marawi to visit troops Friday due to bad weather. It was his second aborted trip to the predominantly Is-

lamic city, large areas of which resemble a smoldering war zone amid intense fighting and military airstrikes.

"I should show my face there," Duterte said, adding he wants to visit during the fighting to demonstrate his desire "to protect the republic."

Security officials hope the crisis will end before Duterte delivers his annual state of the nation address on July 24, but Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana has said he will let commanders set the pace of the battle to avoid adding pressure that could endanger troops.

More than 350 militants, 87 soldiers and police and 39 civilians have been killed in 46 days of fighting, alarming Southeast Asian and Western governments, which fear that the Islamic State group's rule in Syria and Iraq, now collapsing, may have galvanized Asian militants into attempting to create their own so-called Islamic caliphate.

The United States and Australia have deployed surveillance planes to Marawi to help Filipino troops locate the remaining militants holed up in buildings and houses.

Nearly 400,000 residents have abandoned Marawi and outlying towns in Lanao del Sur province, about 800 kilometers southeast of Manila. **AP**

JAPAN

Flood deaths rise to 15

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

THE death toll from heavy rain and flooding in southern Japan this week has risen to 15, officials said Saturday, as rescue workers reached isolated villages where at least 14 others are missing and feared dead.

Heavy rain warnings are still in place for parts of the southern island of Kyushu on Saturday, days after Typhoon Nanmadol swept across Japan, triggering floods and mudslides that wrecked hundreds of homes, roads and rice terraces.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said 12,000 troops, firefighters and other rescuers continued searching for the missing, clearing debris off roads and delivering fresh water and food supplies for the displaced at a school gymnasium. They have reached most of the



previously inaccessible villages, Suga said.

Nearly 1,000 residents were rescued over the past two days, but dozens are still believed to be stranded. The operation has been slowed by mudflows and floodwaters as the rain continued.

In the hardest-hit Asakura city in Fukuoka, the bodies of a woman, her daughter and a grandson were found late Friday on the first floor of their

house that was crushed by a mudslide, Japan's public broadcaster NHK said.

Footage showed inundated rice fields and collapsed homes. Roads and bridges were damaged, covered with broken trees washed down from the mountainside. Hundreds of people in remote villages were being airlifted by military helicopters while soldiers waded through floodwater carrying elderly people

on their backs.

Japan's royal family postponed the formal announcement of Princess Mako's engagement to a college classmate Saturday out of consideration for the suffering of people in the affected areas, palace officials said. A new date has yet to be decided.

Japan's Meteorological Agency said Fukuoka and Oita experienced unprecedented amounts of rain. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

PM greenlights missile defense development

AUSTRALIA will press ahead with a missile defense program to protect its forces, but a U.S. shield system isn't appropriate, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said.

The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system mentioned in recent briefings is "not really suitable for our situation," Turnbull said on Friday. His comments are somewhat overshadowed by North Korea's first successful launch last week of a missile capable of reaching at least part of the U.S.

"The answer in respect of North Korea is the de-nuclearization of North Korea and for it to stop its reckless conduct, its reckless and provocative conduct," Turnbull said. "The nation with overwhelmingly the greatest leverage over North Korea is China. And so we look to China to bring North Korea to its senses."

The Australian government is bolstering its weaponry and military forces in response in part to the "growing threat posed by



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull

ballistic and cruise missile capability" and their proliferation in the Indo-Pacific and Middle East regions, the Department of Defense said in a 2016 report.

While the threat of an intercontinental ballistic missile attack on Australia is "low," longer-range and submarine-launched ballistic and cruise missiles could threaten Australian territory, and shorter-range ballistic and cruise missiles pose a threat to deployed forces.

"We're developing missile defenses," Turnbull said. "The focus is on protecting our forces both at sea and on the ground - our deployed forces in the field." **MDT/Bloomberg**

G20 SUMMIT

Trump, Asian allies seek counter to North Korean 'menace'

Ken Thomas,
Darlene Superville

WRAPPING up his second European tour, President Donald Trump searched for consensus with Asian allies Saturday on how to counter the "menace" of North Korea after its test-launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

"Something has to be done about it," Trump said as he met with Chinese President Xi Jinping. In a separate meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Trump said the two were tackling "the problem and menace of North Korea."

The White House said after the meeting with Abe that the U.S. was "prepared to use the full range of capabilities" in defense of Japan. Trump and Abe committed, the White House said, "to redoubling

their efforts to bring all nations together to show North Korea that there are consequences for its threatening and unlawful actions."

The Trump administration has tried to press Beijing to rein in North Korea, a major trading partner of China, and halt Kim Jong Un's development of nuclear weapons before they can threaten U.S. territory. Trump has voiced his frustration in recent days that China hasn't done more, suggesting he may take steps of his own.

But during his meeting, Trump told Xi, "I appreciate the things that you have done relative to the very substantial problem that we all face in North Korea."

Xi said during the meeting that "sensitive issues remain" in the China-U.S. relationship and more work needed to be done.



Donald Trump and Xi Jinping (right) arrive for a meeting on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit in Hamburg

But he said he had built with Trump a "close contact."

Trump's extensive slate of meetings with Abe, Xi, British Prime Minister Theresa May and others came on the final day of the annual Group of 20 summit,

which has been marked by violent demonstrations by anti-globalization activists. Trump also had a brief, unscheduled meeting with Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan about the situation in Syria.

Abe, speaking through a translator, noted that the security situation in the Asia Pacific region has become "increasingly severe" due to North Korea's push to develop its ballistic missile and nuclear program. Abe said he wanted to "demonstrate the robust partnership as well as the bonds" between Japan and the U.S. on the issue.

North Korea's successful test launch of an ICBM was a milestone in its long-term effort to build a missile that could carry a nuclear warhead to attack the United States.

The issue was a frequent topic of discussion at the summit, and the White House said earlier that the U.S., South Korea and Japan were pressing for additional measures against North Korea to demonstrate the "serious consequences" for its latest provocations.

The three nations have been calling for "early adoption" of a new U.N. Security Council resolution and additional sanctions to demonstrate to Pyongyang the consequences of its actions.

Bringing China on board is a key part of the plan. The administration wants China to fully enforce international sanctions intended to starve Pyongyang of revenue for its nuclear and missile pro-

grams. But Trump has been dissatisfied with China's response.

Earlier in the week, he vented on Twitter that trade between China and North Korea had grown nearly 40 percent at the start of 2017. "So much for China working with us - but we had to give it a try!" Trump officials said later that the president hadn't given up on the relationship.

Something has to be done about it [N. Korea].

DONALD TRUMP

Trade was also a key part of the discussions. The Trump administration is investigating the possibility of putting new barriers on steel imports based on national security considerations, a move that could target China, which has flooded international markets with cheap steel exports.

"Many things have happened that have led to trade imbalances and we're going to turn that around," Trump said during the meeting with Xi. Trump said he wanted a new arrangement that is "equitable" and "reciprocal."

Meeting with May, the British leader, Trump pointed to their "special relationship," and said the two countries were working on a trade agreement.

May was the first foreign leader to visit Trump at the White House and he told her he would soon "be going to London" once details were worked out. Independent trade negotiations between the two countries are a possibility as Britain exits the European Union — a move Trump has supported.

Earlier, Trump said Saturday he had a "tremendous meeting" with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday, his first comments on the talks with the Russian leader. Trump raised the issue of Russia's meddling in the 2016 elections and discussed plans for a cease-fire agreement in Syria.

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Friday that Trump and Putin had a "robust and lengthy" discussion about Russian election interference but Putin denied any involvement.

Putin, in a news conference Saturday, offered his version of events and said he thought Trump believed his in-person denials of Russian meddling. White House officials traveling aboard Air Force One did not dispute that account.

Tillerson, who took part in the meeting, said Trump had been "rightly focused on how do we move forward from something that may be an intractable disagreement at this point?"

In Washington, House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi criticized Trump and called his response to the Russian threat "nonsensical and absurdly inadequate." In a written statement, she said reports of Trump's meeting with the Russian leader "leave the American people asking why the President continues to fawn over Putin instead of standing up for the integrity of America's democracy."

Trump also joined a women's entrepreneurial finance event, a project spearheaded by his daughter and senior adviser Ivanka Trump. He lauded his daughter's efforts to help female entrepreneurs, joking that "if she weren't my daughter, it would be so much easier for her."

Trump returned to Washington on Saturday evening after the conclusion of the annual G-20 meetings. He won't be stateside for long: The president is scheduled to return to Europe next week to attend Bastille Day celebrations in Paris. AP

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of South China University of Technology

ARCHITECT
Qiu Jianfa Ph.D.
Deputy Director of 1st Studio of
Architectural Design and Research Institute
of South China University of Technology

Date: July 15th, 2017 (Saturday)
Time: 09:30 - 13:00
14:30 - 18:00
Language: Chinese (Mandarin) & English
Venue: Macau Polytechnic Institute
Lecture Theatre No. 1
R. de Luis Gonzaga Gomes,
Macau
CPD Hours: 7 Hours
Registration Fee:
Registered AAM & AEM Member:
MOP500.00
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ANTI-GOVERNMENT protests in Venezuela hit the symbolic mark of 100 days yesterday with a grim record of at least 92 dead and more than 1,500 injured. The decision Saturday to release opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez from prison and place him under house arrest has once again stirred hopes that socialist President Nicolas Maduro and his opponents could sit down for talks aimed at ending the bloodshed.

Here's a look at how one of Latin America's richest nations descended into chaos and the prospects for resolution.

HOW DID THE UNREST BEGIN?

The opposition gained control of the National Assembly in 2015 by a landslide amid mounting frustration with Maduro's handling of the economy, spiraling crime and food shortages. After a year of intense feuding, in late March the government-stacked Supreme Court issued a ruling stripping the legislature of its last powers. The decision was later reversed amid a storm of international criticism but it had already touched off anger among the government's opponents and triggered street protests that still occur almost daily.

Then Maduro did something to anger his opponents even more: He called on May 1 for rewriting Venezuela's constitution. A vote to elect delegates to the special assembly to rewrite the charter is scheduled for July 30. Maduro insists rewriting the constitution is the only way to restore peace, but the opposition views it as a ruse to install a Cuba-like dictatorship. They have called for a symbolic vote of their own on July 16 to reject Maduro's plans.

CHANCES FOR DIALOGUE?

One reason that mistrust between the government and opposition is running so high is because negotiations last year ended with little to show for them. Those talks were sponsored by the Vatican and a group of former leaders of other nations led by ex-Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero of Spain, who helped broker Lopez's release.

To sit down again, the opposition is demanding Maduro honor commitments that it says he made

Venezuela marks 100 days of unrest, at a glance



AP PHOTO
Opposition lawmakers brawl with pro-government militias who are trying to force their way into the National Assembly



An anti-government protester throws a homemade petrol bomb at security forces in Caracas

during the previous round of talks, including freedom for political prisoners and a schedule for gubernatorial elections that were postponed last year. It's less clear what the government would bargain for besides an end to the unrest and political cover for some tough measures to get the economy back on its feet. Many also suspect that as Maduro's grip on power weakens he and his inner circle will seek assurances that they won't face prosecution in the event of a transition.

IS THERE A CHANCE OF THE MILITARY INTERVENING?

Last month, a police inspector stole a police helicopter and strafed the Supreme Court and another government building with gunfire and grenades. The surprise attack prompted concerns about a possible uprising by the military, which has traditionally been the arbiter of political disputes in Venezuela.

Since the protests began, more than 100 members of the military are believed to have been jailed for crimes ranging from theft of weapons to rebellion and treason — a high number that suggests the military's support for the government may be wavering.

But while Maduro has repeatedly warned about attempts by what he says are U.S.-backed agents to sow dissent within the

military, there so far is little to suggest a mass revolt is underway. The late President Hugo Chavez and Maduro spent years winning over top military brass with bonuses in sought-after dollars, powerful government jobs and patronage.

STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Oil accounts for 96 percent of Venezuela's export earnings and the plunge in world petroleum prices hit the government hard, leaving it owing money across the board, from foreign airlines to oil service companies. But every day Venezuela is paralyzed by protests it digs itself deeper into an economic hole that will be harder for Maduro or his successor to recover from.

The International Monetary Fund forecast the economy will contract 8 percent this year with inflation expected to soar to four digits next year.

PRESIDENT MADURO'S OPTIONS

Polls say 75 percent of Venezuelans want Maduro gone, but about 20 percent still back him. That is actually similar to the support enjoyed by leaders in Brazil, Chile and Colombia. More importantly, Maduro maintains a tight grip on almost every branch of government and institution, though support within his ruling socialist

party is fraying.

The opposition has historically been divided by big egos and had a tough time connecting with poor peo-

ple who still revere Chavez and his socialist revolution. But the opposition is more united than it has been in recent years. Both

hardcore and moderate opposition leaders want to keep up street protests and push for new general elections. **AP**

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 TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)
 VENUE: 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

BRAND STORY - POP-UP SHOP
 TIME: 10am-8pm
 UNTIL: October 1, 2017
 VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

COMMEMORATIVE EXHIBITIONS OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUN YAT-SEN'S BIRTH
 TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Tuesdays, open on public holidays)
 VENUE: No. 80, Rua das Estalagens
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

Offbeat



Moninda Marube points to the house on Whitman Spring Trail in Auburn, Maine, while recounting his encounter with a pair of bears

PROFESSIONAL RUNNER OUTRUNS 2 BEARS WHILE TRAINING IN WOODS

A professional runner from Kenya who was out training on a nature trail in the woods near his home in Maine says he encountered two charging black bears but was able to outrun them during a frantic sprint to a nearby vacant house for cover.

Moninda Marube said when he saw the bears early Wednesday his instincts kicked in and he did what he does best: run.

He told the Sun Journal that the bears were 18 meters away from him and a vacant house was 18 meters away in the opposite direction. So he made a run for the house, with the bears closing to within 9 meters by the time he found safety on the house's screened porch.

The bears stopped, not realizing they could've easily crashed through the flimsy porch screens, Marube said. They sniffed around for a while before wandering away.

Wardens advise people who encounter black bears to make themselves appear big, make noise and back away slowly. But they recommend people stand their ground if a black bear charges and say if the bear attacks, then fight back.

But Marube said that's easier said than done.

He said he knew that black bears can climb trees, so he couldn't climb to safety. He said he considered jumping in a nearby lake, but he can't swim.

He said he initially engaged in a stare-down with the bears but the bears charged the moment he turned his back on them.

Marube, a student at the University of Maine at Farmington who finished third in the 2012 Maine Marathon and won the 2013 half-marathon, said he'd once encountered a leopard perched in a tree while alone in Africa — but the bears were scarier.

He said he learned an important lesson from his close encounter with Maine's wildlife: "Just make peace with people. You never know when your day comes."

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| 13:30 | News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast |
| 14:50 | RTPi Live |
| 15:30 | FIFA Confederations Cup: Chile - Germany (Repeated) |
| 17:10 | Revenge Sr 2 |
| 17:50 | Now Generation (Repeated) |
| 18:40 | Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated) |
| 19:40 | Soap Opera |
| 20:30 | Main News, Financial & Weather Report |
| 21:00 | TDM Sports |
| 22:10 | Now Generation |
| 23:00 | TDM News |
| 23:30 | Miscellaneous |
| 00:05 | Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated) |
| 00:40 | RTPi Live |

cinema



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7 - 12 JUL

SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING

ROOM 1
 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45pm
 ROOM 3 (3D)
 7:15
 Director: Jon Watts
 Starring: Tom Holland, Michael Keaton, Robert Downey Jr.
 Language: English
 Duration: 133min



DESPICABLE ME 3

ROOM 2
 2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm
 Director: Eric Guillon, Kyle Balda, Pierre Coffin
 Starring: Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker
 Language: Cantonese
 Duration: 90min

THE MUMMY

ROOM 3
 2:30, 9:45pm
 Director: Alex Kurtzman
 Starring: Tom Cruise, Sofia Boutella, Annabelle Wallis
 Language: English
 Duration: 148min

TRANSFORMERS: THE LAST KNIGHT

ROOM 3
 2:00, 4:45, 9:30pm
 Director: Michael Bay
 Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Anthony Hopkins, Josh Duhamel
 Language: English
 Duration: 148min

MACAU TOWER

6 - 26 JUL



SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING

ROOM 1/3
 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm
 Director: Jon Watts
 Starring: Tom Holland, Michael Keaton, Robert Downey Jr.
 Language: English
 Duration: 133min

this day in history



1943 WESTERN ALLIES INVADE SICILY

The armed forces of Britain, the United States and Canada have landed on the Mediterranean island of Sicily.

It is the first major landing of British troops on European soil since the fall of Crete two years ago.

Initial resistance has been surprisingly weak against British forces with little anti-aircraft fire and no enemy naval intervention. However, the US forces faced a tougher fight on their beaches.

The Times reports Allied air forces acted in close co-operation with naval and ground forces. Late last night airborne troops in parachutes and gliders - many of whom fought in North Africa - were dropped over the island.

American paratroops were the first to land at 2110 under the command of Colonel John Cerny, who said a whole battalion had been dropped in one area alone. They were followed by British airborne troops two hours later.

There is little news about them at the moment but all the aircraft carrying them returned to base in North Africa safely. Meanwhile hundreds of ships of all sizes sailed across from North Africa carrying thousands of troops, weapons, armored vehicles and heavy artillery.

The invasion fleet was described by one pilot as stretching across 40 miles of water consisting of huge barges and merchant ships escorted by destroyers.

At about 0300 local time today the British and Canadian troops were brought ashore at Pachino, near Cape Passero on the south-east coast of the south-eastern tip of Sicily.

Americans arrived three hours later near Gela to the west of the British beaches. The Canadians had to cope with fairly choppy seas in the area of their operations but the British were protected by the bay at Passero and were able to land their equipment ashore fairly easily.

They did encounter some heavy sniping from coastal defenses but have made swift progress inland. A Times correspondent arrived with the invading force on a destroyer.

He said the ships "were as unmolested as if this were indeed a peacetime trip to Sicily. Raiders have not appeared in the air, and from the sea the scene might be along some pleasant stretch of coast where our task was protection rather than assault."

Major airfields in and around Catania on the east coast were bombed yesterday and today by Flying Fortresses.

But there was no major bombardment of the coast ahead of the invasion, for fear of alerting the enemy to a major assault - only a brief attack from the Navy and Air Force a few hours before the landings.

Over the past month Sicilian airfields have been attacked to weaken air power on the ground and prevent the arrival of reinforcements.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In reality, the airborne drops faced huge problems including Allied ships shooting at Allied planes.

But once ashore the Allies advanced north and west and controlled a quarter of the island within three days.

The German General Hans Hube took charge of the Italian forces soon after the invasion, withdrew to a defensive line across the north-east of the island and organized an orderly withdrawal.

The American 7th Army under US General Patton made swift progress north-west as the Italians and Germans retreated arriving in the capital, Palermo, on 22 July.

Faced with tough German resistance in mountainous terrain, General Sir Bernard Montgomery's 8th Army - consisting of British and Canadian troops - made slow progress towards Catania midway up the east coast. They finally arrived on 5 August.

General Patton entered Messina on 17 August, a few hours ahead of Montgomery. By this stage 70,000 Italian and 39,000 German troops had been evacuated to the Italian mainland. The campaign was in effect a draw. The liberation of Sicily marked the first time part of the home territories of the Axis powers had been captured and precipitated the fall of Fascist leader Benito Mussolini.

He was ousted on 25 July by Italian King Victor Emmanuel in favor of Marshal Pietro Badoglio who eventually signed an armistice with the Allies on 3 September.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Right now you love nothing better than far-off places, interesting accents and experiences yet to be had.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Although you're ordinarily the very soul of caution, especially when it comes to financial affairs, you're suddenly feeling rather un-cautious.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 For two days each month, we're all wide open to others - and quite willing to let them into our hearts.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You've been working hard for the past couple of days. In fact, you've probably had to take care of something someone else was supposed to do, but never quite got finished.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You're usually not opposed to letting loose and having some fun, especially with the stars so focused on play and recreation.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 After yet another day of trying your best to manage a compromise, you've finally glanced at your watch, realized that it's time for some fun and that you've done all that you can possibly do.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You've got a few more hours to get back into contact with the person you know you need to talk with - and you know it's important that you talk with them now.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 That urge to go all out and say, do and spend whatever you feel like is still in the neighborhood. Is it you? Are you losing your mind? Not at all.

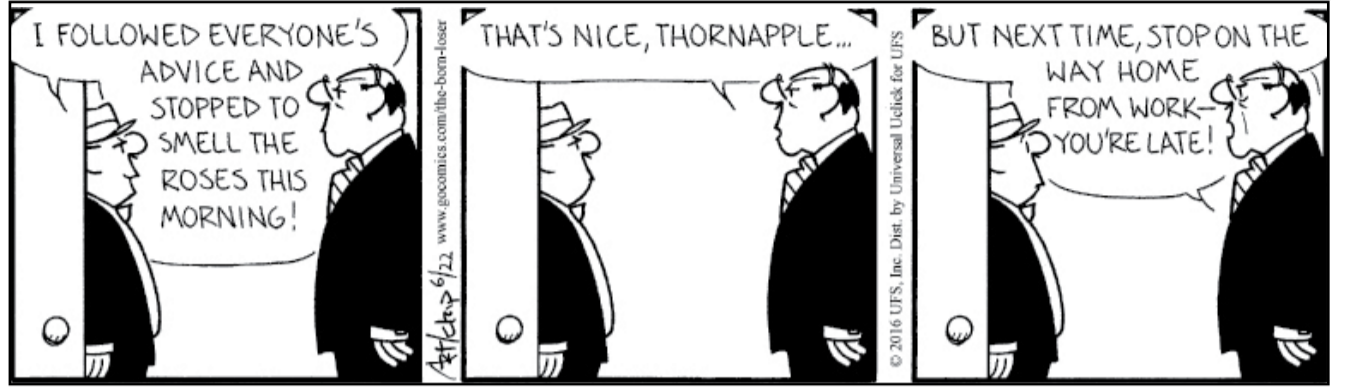
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 With some ultra persuasive and emotional astrological influences at their height, you're not exactly what one might call a veritable font of willpower at the moment - but then, when have you ever been?

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You've been dealing with feeling off balance for days, wanting to completely let go of any semblance of control, even though you know this is prime time for you to keep things in order.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You have only one more day left to get crazy and let go with your friends. Does this mean you should pull out all the stops and do your worst? Really go nuts with the rebellious act?

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 As of late this evening, you'll feel the urge to touch all bases, dot all i's and cross all t's in a most methodical way. Are you up for it, even though you're usually not very fond of rules that encumber your creative side?

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each category contains a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- One of the Baldwins; 5- Adverse fate; 9- Guido's high note; 12- Go sky-high; 13- Lowermost deck; 15- Bit attachment; 16- Spanish river; 17- Software buyers; 18- Part of QED; 19- Commercial capital of Sri Lanka; 21- Billboards, some say; 23- Potter's oven; 24- Actor Gulager; 25- Curd stuff; 28- Indebted; 33- Perform better than; 34- Hatcher of "Lois and Clark"; 35- Not false; 36- The Mustangs' sch.; 37- Sleight of hand; 38- Pub choice; 39- I did it!; 41- Oil-rich Islamic theocracy neighboring Iraq; 42- Expressed disapproval; 44- Derides; 46- Tall; 47- Not emp.; 48- Achy; 49- Run-down hotel; 53- Nutty; 57- Kiln for drying hops; 58- Leg joints; 60- High schooler; 61- Religious practice; 62- Stand used by painters; 63- ... saw Elba; 64- "Wheel of Fortune" buy; 65- Used to be; 66- Tear;

Friday's solution crossword puzzle grid with filled-in words. Includes a list of words like HAMM, ARNE, WALK, ATOI, DUETO, ATEE, GEMS, TINED, TLED, BREAD, OATERS, TIMEOUT, PERS, OSIERS, PROPOSAL, MOLDY, TUTU, NATS, ABO, ESSBS, BAA, TARS, LABS, INERT, ORDINARY, MAORIS, MESS, LONS, GALIOT, RLS, ERDA, RIAL, TSAAC, JOEL, TRMA, CANTO, OAST, DEAR, SKEW, BRIO.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

List of useful telephone numbers including Emergency calls (999), Fire department (28 572 222), PJ (Open line) (993), PJ (Picket) (28 557 775), PSP (28 573 333), Customs (28 559 944), S. J. Hospital (28 313 731), Kiang Wu Hospital (28 371 333), Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) (28326 300), IACM (28 387 333), Tourism (28 333 000), Airport (59 888 88), Taxi (28 939 939 / 2828 3283), Water Supply - Report (2822 0088), Telephone - Report (1000), Electricity - Report (28 339 922), Macau Daily Times (28 716 081).



FOR SALE and FOR RENT advertisement for JML Property, including website and contact information.

Real estate listing for Mandarin Residences Serviced Duplex, Macau, 3,487 sq ft / HKD 25,236 sq ft, HKD 88M.

Real estate listing for Cheoc Van, House 912 Coloane, 5,972 sq ft / HKD 16,409 sq ft, HKD 98M.

Real estate listing for Lok Pou Macau, 700 sq ft / HKD 4,257 sq ft, HKD 2.98M.

Real estate listing for Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens Taipa, 1,503 sq ft / HKD 7,172 sq ft, HKD 10.78M.

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Q30# BORNTOCHALLENGE

FORMULA ONE

Valtteri Bottas wins Austrian GP; Sebastian Vettel second

MERCEDES driver Valtteri Bottas made a great start from pole position to win the Austrian Grand Prix yesterday, while Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel finished just behind in second to extend his championship lead over main rival Lewis Hamilton to 20 points.

Bottas did just enough to hold off Vettel's late charge, with the German driver crossing the line 0.6 seconds behind.

"He was catching up. I had a massive blister in the rear left [tire]," Bottas said. "I was losing more and more stability of the rear. I was happy the race ended on that lap."

Vettel was frustrated at missing out on a 46th career win by so little.

"I was told he was in trouble, I was pushing. The car came alive and I had really good pace," Vettel said. "I think I needed one more lap because he was really struggling up the hill."



From left: Valtteri Bottas, Sebastian Vettel and Ricciardo

Vettel had never finished higher than fourth in Austria, twice retiring from races.

"I really wanted to win, so not entirely happy," Vettel said.

Meanwhile, Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo showed great ability to defend third place from Hamilton, who almost passed the Australian driver on the last two laps but had to settle for fourth.

Bottas, who won in Russia,

clinched the second victory of his career — and both have come since he joined Mercedes from Williams this season. His first career podium was on the same Spielberg track, when he finished third for Williams in 2014.

Bottas is now only 15 points behind Hamilton in the overall standings and close to contending for the title.

"I believe and the team believes," Bottas said. "We're not even halfway yet."



Raikkonen steers his car followed by Lewis Hamilton

Hamilton started from eighth on the grid on Sunday. The British driver had the third fastest qualifying time behind Vettel and Bottas, but was demoted five places for an unauthorized gearbox change after the last race in Azerbaijan two weeks ago, which Ricciardo won.

Ricciardo, who is fourth overall, clinched his fifth straight podium.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen was slowed at the start by a

clutch problem, which dropped him back in the field where he was collected by Alonso's out-of-control McLaren — the fifth time in the last seven races Verstappen has failed to finish.

Bottas got away cleanly but Vettel contested the start on his radio, saying Bottas had jumped the lights. The Finnish driver was later cleared by stewards of any wrongdoing, and defended his lightning start.

"You are gambling between your reaction and guessing," Bottas said. "Sometimes you are a bit late and today was my best reaction to the lights."

Vettel emphatically disagreed.

"I don't want to take anything away from Valtteri, he drove an excellent race," Vettel said. "But I had a strong belief he had jumped the start. In my point of view his reaction [time] was inhuman."

"The lights were held for a long time, more than normal. For sure he went, but the lights weren't out," Ricciardo said, backing Vettel up. "I guess he got lucky. It was on the edge. I don't believe he reacted to the lights, looked like Valtteri jumped."

The 10th race of an exciting season is the British GP at Silverstone next weekend. **MDT/AP**

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 Professor Arch. He Jingtang Ph.D.
 Honorary Dean of School of Architecture
 South China University of Technology

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 Language: Chinese (Mandarin)
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opinion

Views on China

Nisha Gopalan, Bloomberg

KOREAN BEAUTY MAY BE FLEETING AS CHINA EMBRACES COLOR

South Korea's cosmetic brands may find that beauty isn't skin deep after all. Amorepacific Corp. and LG Household & Health Care Ltd. shares have had a tough year. They've trailed the broader market's gains, hurt particularly when South Korea implemented the THAAD anti-missile system that intensified tensions with China.

They're now off their year-lows, but don't expect there to be much of a catch up. Korea's cosmetics companies have a bigger challenge - changing Chinese tastes.

China's consumers, traditionally big buyers of skin care but not necessarily makeup, are dabbling in color. That's especially evident in sales at South Korean duty-free outlets: Where tourists once flocked for their favorite snail cream or mask used by a K-pop starlet, they're now snapping up Dior and Givenchy lipsticks and eye shadows.

Color-makeup sales at duty-free stores increased at a compound annual growth rate of 10.8 percent over the past five years, versus 8.7 percent for skin care. In April and May last year, the top 10 products sold at Lotte and SM duty-free counters were all Korean brands, most of them skin-care, according to Macquarie Group Ltd. By May this year, not a single Korean name made the top five, and color makeup dominated.



No longer condemned as decadent capitalism, makeup is becoming a big trend on the mainland. Amorepacific, whose Dual Eye Cream has won it fans in Hollywood, and LG Household stand to miss out, because both are focused heavily on skin care. Macquarie has an underperform rating on the duo.

China is an important market, however, and can't be ignored. Amorepacific made almost a fifth of its sales there last year, while 7 percent of LG Household's revenue comes from Asia's largest economy. Chinese consumers were behind a 68 percent rise in LG Household's cosmetics sales in South Korea last year, according to Bloomberg Intelligence analyst Catherine Lim. That growth is likely to have taken a hit after China banned groups of holiday makers from going to South Korea, where mainlanders account for about half of all visitors.

This seismic shift in Chinese beauty trends hasn't been reflected by the sell-side. There are 19 buy ratings on Amorepacific, 18 holds and one sell, data compiled by Bloomberg show. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. recently added the company to its GS Sustain 50 list of global stocks it feels can adapt to a more challenging environment. LG Household is an even bigger hit, with 27 buys, nine holds and one sell.

To be sure, both brands are increasing their exposure to makeup, and no-one's suggesting face creams will die an ignominious death. But Korea's cosmetics giants will need to diversify quickly lest their appeal fade.

THE POLAND STARTS EVACUATING 10,000 PEOPLE AFTER WWII BOMB FOUND

Polish officials say they have started evacuating about 10,000 people in eastern Poland after a huge World War II bomb was recently found during road works.

Buses are collecting people from the eastern town of Bialystok and neighboring Suprasl county, and taking them to schools where they will wait until the bomb is safely removed.

Anna Kowalska, spokeswoman for Bialystok town hall, told The Associated Press yesterday that the evacuation was underway. She said that about 10,000 people are registered as residents in the affected area.

The 500-kilogram German ST-500 bomb was found Thursday. Bomb disposal experts will load it on a special truck and destroy it at a test range.

UNESCO

Gulangyu island joins world heritage list

GULANGYU island in East China's Fujian Province, famous for its varied architecture and multicultural history, was included on the UNESCO World Heritage list Saturday.

The 41st session of the World Heritage Committee on Saturday decided to put China's Gulangyu historic international settlement on the prestigious World Heritage List as a cultural site. So far, China has 52 sites inscribed to the list.

Only a six-minute ferry ride from Xiamen, Fujian's dynamic economic and culture hub, Gulangyu has an area of about two square kilometers and is home to 20,000 residents.

A former international settlement, the island features 13 consulates, churches, hospitals, schools, and police stations, built by foreign communities from the middle to late 19th century.

In the early 20th century, the island attracted overseas Chinese elites, who returned and built private residences on the island, often with a mixture of eastern and western architectural styles.

Gulangyu has more than 2,000 intact historical buildings, making it one of the best-preserved international settlements in China.

Wu Yongqi, a historian on Gulangyu, said the styles developed here affected the architecture in southern Fujian and were brought to east and southeast Asia by Chinese immigrants.



"The island was home to an international community made up of local people, overseas Chinese and foreigners," Wu said. "It was a distinct combination and the integration of their cultures made the island unique."

A popular tourist destination, the island receives more than 10 million visitors per year.

"People often come to the island for its beautiful gardens, winding alleyways, pristine beaches and quiet lifestyle,"

Wu said. "However, the island's status as a world cultural heritage tells another story."

In its bid, Gulangyu listed 53 groups of representative historical buildings, four historical roads and seven representative natural landscapes.

"Better protection is what we want to achieve through the world heritage inscription," said Zheng Yilin, director of Gulangyu island management committee. **MDT/Xinhua**

'PIANO ISLAND'

Gulangyu has one of the highest pianos ownership ratios in China, with nearly 600 pianos on an island that is less than two square kilometers. Many of China's most celebrated musicians have come from Gulangyu, and the island is nicknamed "piano island."

"When I was a child, the sound of piano could be heard everywhere on the island," said Fang Site, a 34-year-old

local pianist. Her family was among the overseas Chinese who moved to the island in the early 1900s. Fang said she grew up in a place with strong music traditions. At about six years old, she and many of her peers were sent to music schools on the island. Her family, like many others on Gulangyu, gather weekly to hold a family concert, a tradition that persists to this day.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Matthias Schrader



Oxfam stage a protest demanding less poverty and less inequality from the G-20 summit with figures of top politicians in Hamburg, northern Germany.

| Station | Air quality |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Roadside | 10-30 Good |
| High Density Residential Area | 20-40 Good |
| Ambient | 20-40 Good |

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



JAPAN The death toll from heavy rain and flooding in southern Japan has risen to 15, as rescue workers reach isolated villages where at least 14 others are missing and feared dead. **More on p1**

THAILAND Efforts by the government to curb sales of ivory have been successful following criticism of widespread trafficking in the country, police and conservationists said.

INDONESIA Police questioned the Indonesian business partner of U.S. President Donald Trump at length on Friday over allegations he sent threatening text messages to a deputy attorney general.



GERMANY The Group of 20 summit ended Saturday in Hamburg, revealing tensions on trade, as the U.S. administration and international partners forged a deal that endorsed open markets but acknowledged countries had a right to put up barriers to block unfair practices. **More on p11, 14**



TURKEY The leader of Turkey's main opposition party completed his 25-day "March for Justice" from the capital Ankara to Istanbul yesterday and joined hundreds of thousands of supporters at a rally protesting a large-scale government crackdown on opponents.