



CHUI'S LETTER: THANK YOU!

In two open letters printed in Macau newspapers, the Chief Executive thanked all citizens and civil servants in particular for the help

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SEEKING SOLUTIONS FOR 'TOO MUCH IN OUR BINS'

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FACIAL RECON EXTENDED TO MASTERCARD, VISA

After the UnionPay rollout, the regulations may now include mainland cardholders of major card-issuing companies

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



US A pair of 70-year-old reservoir dams that protect downtown Houston and a levee in a suburban subdivision began overflowing yesterday, adding to the rising floodwaters from Harvey that have crippled the area after five consecutive days of rain that set a new U.S. record for rainfall for a tropical system. More on p14

INDONESIA is allowing Freeport-McMoRan to continue operating a giant gold and copper mine after the U.S. company agreed yesterday to relinquish majority ownership of it.



MYANMAR Once hailed as "Myanmar's Joan of Arc," Aung San Suu Kyi is coming under withering criticism for failing to espouse human rights which she once so passionately upheld. Defenders say she can't risk alienating a still powerful military that could oust her government. Critics question whether she has forsaken her democratic ideals.

BANGLADESH A court yesterday sentenced the owner of a building that collapsed in 2013 in the country's worst industrial disaster to three years in jail for unaccounted income. More than 1,100 people, mostly garment workers, were killed and 2,500 others were injured when the building that housed five garment factories collapsed.

More on backpage

AP PHOTO

MISSILE OVER JAPAN

Trump: All options on the table against Kim

P12-13



The South Korean army's K-9 self-propelled howitzers move on the street in Paju, South Korea yesterday, after North Korea fired a midrange ballistic missile designed to carry a nuclear payload that flew over Japan and splashed into the northern Pacific Ocean.

City at standstill; legislator calls for election postponement

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IN two open letters printed in Macau newspapers yesterday, Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On thanked all citizens, and civil servants in particular, for the help, solidarity and mutual aid as well as their contribution toward the search and rescue activities.

Speaking on behalf of the entire Macau Special Administrative Region government, the CE acknowledged all citizens noting that the government is both, "proud and moved" by the generosity and good spirit of everyone that has contributed to the successful work of frontline staff.

In the same letters he also acknowledged the help provided by "the departments in the mainland, provinces and sisters cities," as well as, "the Macau garrison of the People's Liberation Army."

Summarizing the current situation, the CE noted that water and electricity supplies as well as traffic have been normalized and that the post-catastrophe recovery works are being conducted in an orderly manner.

Chui said that the government concedes that there is "great room for improvement and that the government needs to do a global review of the response

CE grateful to Macau citizens and civil servants



Chui Sai On, shakes hands with a fireman



mechanisms to catastrophe situations."

The communication ends by reaffirming the commitment of the MSAR government to "develop in the best way possible all the rescue and repair works that

will result from the calamity, as well as do an evaluation of this incident that will include the disclosure of weather information, the alert system and awareness campaigns over security, in order to perfect the catastrophe

prevention and rescue mechanism accordingly to the expectations of citizens."

To the civil servants, Chui offered additional gratitude and encouraged their work, together with the request for them to,

"keep assertive and dedicated at their posts, serving the population and contributing to the on-time [resolution] of citizens' difficulties." He thanked them and their families for their tenacious work. **RM**



LEGAL WISE BY MdME

José Espírito Santo Leitão*

ASSESSMENT AND RECOVERY OF DAMAGES: BE MINDFUL

Last Wednesday, the 23rd of August 2017, started as just another stormy August morning. However, by the time the clock struck eleven, the little-noticed cyclone had begun to take its terrible toll on the city's people and infrastructure.

Skyscrapers trembled with the awesome force of rain and wind, going up to a maximum of 200 km/h, cars parked outdoors flipped, windows shattered, even century-old trees were uprooted from the soil as if they had been freshly planted. Infrastructure and working sites were blown away, behemoth-sized cranes bended like straws, while bamboo scaffolding disassembled and dropped from the skies, revealing the considerable damage to private and public infrastructure, that will take considerable time and resources to repair. Macau's inner harbor was completely submerged by flood waters and the entire city lost power and water supply for at least half a day, with certain parts of the city still suffering from water and power shortages. The aftermath of Typhoon "Hato" was worse than any apocalypse scene we could have ever imagined and left an everlasting imprint in the heart and mind of every Macau citizen.

But while the human and emotional

damage will take time to mourn and assess, time can be as inclement as the weather and the infrastructure industry cannot dwell on the storm, particularly in regard to public projects.

Indeed, and regardless of the severity of the typhoon, the law makes no distinction between storms and it is of vital importance that contractors (both public and private) be mindful of their entitlements in these cases and aware of the requirements they must meet to recover their losses.

Regarding private contracts, contractors should review the contract terms and ensure that there are no specific formalities for assessment and claim of damages in these cases. As a matter of caution, contractors are also advised to inform owners at once of the damages, their extent and impact (financial and incompleteness) as opposed to deferring these matters to final account stages.

Conversely, public construction contracts, which are regulated by Decree-Law No. 74/99/M, are subject to a very specific (and draconian) regime for assessment and recovery of damages in these cases. While extension of time should be granted automatically, this would not be

the case regarding losses and damages, which must be claimed in a timely fashion in order to be recoverable by contractors.

As such, and under this regime, contractors are advised in the strongest possible terms to notify the owner within five days counting from the date on which the damage occurred, for the owner to come to the work site and inspect it for assessment.

Thereafter, the owner's representative should prepare a report with its finding and the contractor is entitled to file its request for compensation immediately with this report, or 10 days after, and should present in this claim its basis for compensation and financial requests- to the extent that they can be determined at the time - and may also dispute the owner's finding as set out in this report.

If the owner refuses to carry out this inspection, the contractor may carry it out itself, within the same time period and with the assistance of two witnesses, and prepare a report for submission to the owner.

Failure to follow this procedure will result in forfeiture of any rights to claim of these damages. The Macau Government has been increasingly strict in its enforcement of this provision and denial of

claims that are not compliant with these proceedings, although it would be only fair if public authorities were to extend to the public the same type of understanding and patience that the public has shown them in view of the unpreparedness and clumsy reaction shown before, during, and in the aftermath of the storm.

Typhoon "Hato" may have dimmed the lights of our city, but cannot extinguish them. While it may take Macau a long while to recover from the most traumatic encounter with tropical storms in its recorded history and to fully recuperate from all the material damages and losses, its citizens have showed their endurance in time of crisis, by volunteering in massive numbers to help clean out the streets, by providing water and food for those in need and by standing strong when tragedy strikes. These gestures have far exceeded the isolated instances of speculation and profiteering and, if combined with what we hope to be the ability of the Macau Government to learn from its shortcomings, we have full reason to believe Macau will rise back again, better and stronger than before.

*Partner, MdME Lawyers

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Seeking solutions for 'too much in our bins'

Renato Marques

THE extraordinarily high quantity of waste produced during the typhoon last week and early this week has aggravated an ongoing situation – namely, the inability for facilities such as the Macau Solid Waste Incineration Center to deal with solid waste produced in the region.

According to the latest figures presented by the Civic and Municipal Affairs (IACM), approximately 10,000 tons of waste were collected and sent for further treatment between August 24 to August 28. IACM's president, José Maria Tavares, said this amount far exceeded the capacity that the region could incinerate and claimed that the only solution is to store the waste on a landfill until it becomes possible to dispatch them for incineration.

According to information to which the Times had access, the incinerator plant should have at the moment a capacity of 1,400 tons/day. Half of this capacity comes as the result of a recent modernization of one part of the facility. Nevertheless, specialists

claim that the total modernization, that would provide added treatment capacity, should have been completed about a decade ago in order to keep up with the demand.

The critical situation of the treatment of Macau's solid waste has been raised on multiple occasions, particularly two years ago when lawmaker Kwan Tsui Hang questioned the government about practical measures to deal with the almost-saturated capacity of the incinerator. The government replied through the Macau Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA), stating that the bureau would carry out an assessment on the Macau Solid Waste Incineration Center through a consulting firm.

Around the middle of last year, the DSPA informed that it would tentatively carry out a program within the year to manage the city's solid waste resources, which would include plans for upcoming policies.

The DSPA also acknowledged that it would be necessary to improve the environmental protection infrastructure by building more recycling facilities

and expanding the current ones. The bureau cited figures from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) that showed that the amount of waste taken to the incineration facilities had been growing by close to 11 percent every year.

Another change said to be necessary was the revision on the current policies for managing solid waste resources, since the results from the study seemed to indicate that many of the items being incinerated have a high potential to be both "reduced at the source" and "recycled."

According to DSPA's 10 year plan for the Environmental Protection Planning of Macau (2010-2020), it was estimated that the amount of waste to be treated at the Incineration Center could reach 500,000 tons per year by 2020, a figure that, according to DSEC, was exceeded in 2014 when it registered 509,111 tons.

As for other possible solutions, analysts are looking to Japan – one of the countries that has been providing extensive insights over how to recover and rebuild after natural disasters.

One of the examples comes from the coastal city of Higashi-Matsushima, which was severely hit by the tsunami that struck Japan's northeastern coast six years ago, killing 1,134 people and destroying 73 percent of its homes.

As recently reported by The Straits Times, the city has now become a role model for others based upon its reconstruction capacity and disaster risk management.

According to the official data, the 2011 tsunami left 1 million tons of waste in Higashi-Matsushima, 110 times the amount of general waste generated by the city in a year.

In an incredible recovery from the situation that makes this city



an example, Higashi-Matsushima successfully recycled 99 percent of the disaster waste, made up mainly of wood scraps, concrete pieces and incombustible mixed waste.

The recycling was driven by the city's philosophy that such rubble could be turned into resources, if sorted. Otherwise, it would just be waste.

According to the city's authorities, every other city can replicate the process as long as it is prepared in advance.

Higashi-Matsushima had signed an agreement eight years earlier with a local construction

association, which promised the aid of its men and equipment should a natural disaster strike the area.

The lessons learnt by the Japanese city are now being passed on to other Southeast Asian nations such as Banda Aceh province in Indonesia, which, through the Japan International Cooperation Agency, signed a memorandum of agreement with the Japanese municipality to cooperate in disaster prevention, reconstruction, economic revitalization and other areas in light of their yet to complete recovery from the 2004 tsunami.



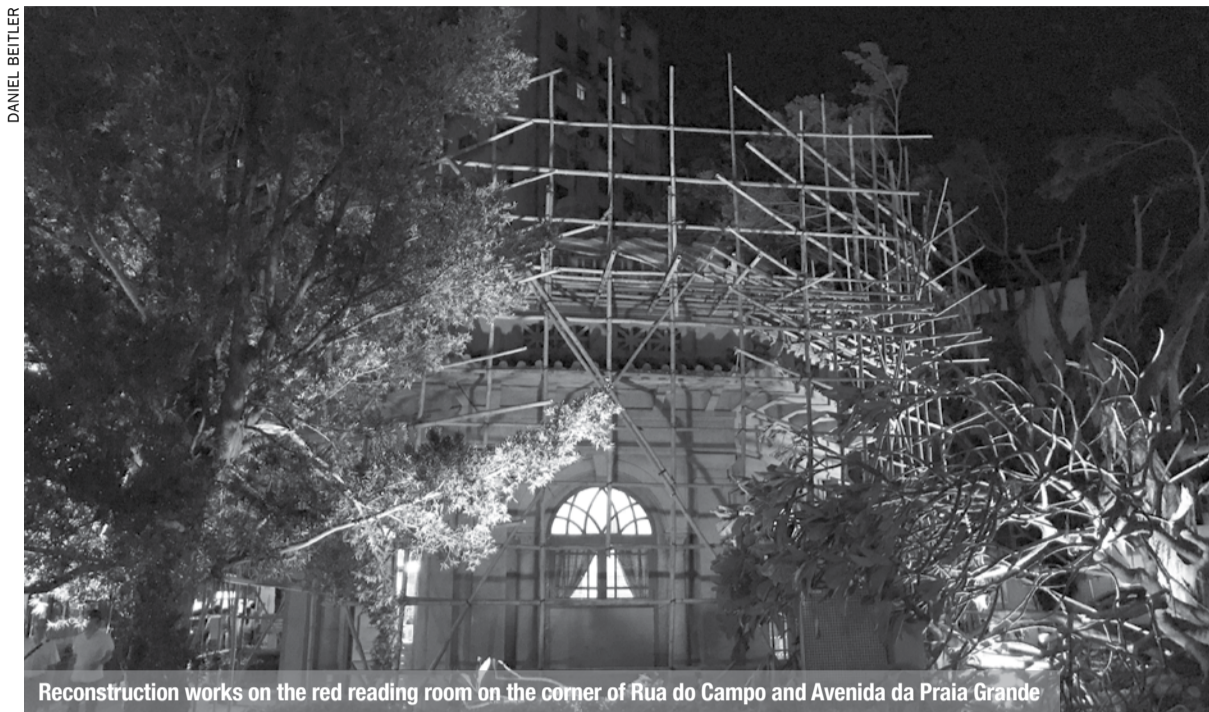
Anti-flooding plan for Inner Harbor by 2018

THE local government has already delivered proposals to China's State Council regarding projects for tackling the Inner Harbor's long-lasting flooding issues, said government spokesperson Chan Chi Ping on Monday. According to Chan, back in 2015, the Macau Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) pro-

posed to build a dam at the Wai Chai waterway to ease future flooding that could occur in the presence of a storm. Chan emphasized that the remediation project does not involve Macau, and that a big part of it needs to be conducted in mainland China. Regarding the Inner Harbor flooding problem, Macau researchers have already

concluded two studies, and the government is currently waiting on feedback from various Chinese ministries. For the remainder of this year, the local government will examine possible dam configurations, and will be expecting to release a first draft by mid next year. A final plan is expected to be released in the second half of 2018.





Reconstruction works on the red reading room on the corner of Rua do Campo and Avenida da Praia Grande



The damaged roof of the Macau Cultural Center

City falls quiet as events canceled, sites shut

WITH the passing of the two typhoons and the street cleanup efforts winding down after an almost week-long communal operation, the city may still be weeks away from a return to normality.

Events and activities from a wide array of sectors in the city have been canceled due to operational, infrastructure and transportation issues, as well as doubts over the appropriateness of holding such activities in the aftermath of the natural disaster.

Several resort operators were scheduled to host celebrations for their resort openings, including

the 10th anniversary of Sands China's The Venetian Macao resort and the dual celebration of the first and 11th anniversaries of Wynn Macau's two resorts in the MSAR.

Government departments also canceled events and activities this week and last, citing the need to siphon further resources to the restoration work after the natural disaster.

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has decided to extend the application period of three subsidy programs to September 18, including the "Financial Support for Local Association Activities/ Cultural Projects Program", the "Talent

Training Program in Arts Management", and the "Community Arts Projects Support Program" for 2018.

It said in a statement that several heritage sites across the city were damaged by the extreme weather phenomenon and would be unavailable for use for some time.

The Macau Cultural Center, an entity under IC's oversight, has canceled several activities and shows while restoration works are pending on the building's roof, which was partially bent out of shape during Typhoon Hato.

The 29th Macau International Fireworks Display Contest, slated

to begin on September 2 was canceled by the Macau Government Tourism Office, which also this week asked local travel agencies to suspend their arranged tour groups of Macau. The suspension was originally due to expire today, but is now said to last until September 2.

The Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau announced

that postage stamps commemorating the 2017 Legislative Assembly election have also been canceled.

The September 17 election is scheduled to proceed as normal. There have been calls for a postponement of the legislative election (see below), but the government has not signaled that it has any intention to back the calls. **DB**

IC SAYS 22 DAMAGED SITES ARE 'IN GOOD CONDITION'

THE CULTURAL Affairs Bureau (IC) has announced that several heritage sites in the city require restoration work, including parts of the boundary walls of the Guia Fortress, the typhoon signal pole that was toppled by the extreme weather, and the ceiling of the portico of the Dom Pedro V Theater that collapsed. The IC reported that the 22 buildings in the Historic Center of Macau are "in good condition, though some were

damaged" by the extreme weather. In a statement issued yesterday, the bureau announced it had contacted the owners and administrators of 44 temples and 17 churches in order to discuss follow-up works, "in order to ensure the comprehensive safety of heritage buildings." The IC is appealing to the owners of heritage buildings who need assistance and encouraging them to contact the bureau when possible.

Angela Leong calls for AL election postponement

LAWMAKER Angela Leong has suggested that the Legislative Assembly (AL) election be postponed by two weeks.

Leong's proposal is motivated by the two recent typhoons, which resulted in

fatal and non-fatal injuries to residents and significant economic loss. She noted that the public is still recovering from the aftermath of the disaster.

Leong noted that many shops, enterprises, organi-

zations, and other groups are still conducting disaster relief works across several areas of the city, further remarking that the public's life cannot return to normal in time for the election.

Postponing the election

would enable society to concentrate all of its resources on immediate disaster relief.

Leong noted that in light of the natural disaster, Macau residents lack spare time and clear minds to consider

matters other than disaster relief, especially topics concerning the election. If the election is conducted as scheduled, it will greatly affect voter turnout, which goes against the concept of a democratic election.

Consequently, this would affect the public legitimacy of the soon-to be elected lawmakers.

Due to the above reasons, Leong has proposed that the electoral committee postpone the election. **JZ**

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Facial recognition to be required for mainland Mastercard, Visa cardholders

THE Monetary Authority of Macau (AMCM) will be adopting facial recognition technology for mainland withdrawals made by Visa and Mastercard cardholders at automated teller machines (ATMs) in September, according to a report by Oriental Daily News.

The facial recognition technology is currently being used at some ATMs for Union Pay customers, as part of local efforts to tackle money laundering and the Central Government's objective to curb capital outflows from the mainland. Now, media reports say that the regulations will be extended to mainland cardholders of other major card-issuing companies.

Local residents will not be required to use the facial recognition technology when withdrawing money from cash machines using cards registered to a Macau account.

The Times attempted to confirm the above information with AMCM, but did not receive a response by press time.



After the UnionPay rollout, the regulations will be extended to mainland cardholders of other major card-issuing companies

According to the report, the banking industry in Hong Kong believes that if Macau implements the policy over withdrawals made using Visa and Mastercard bank cards, the government can fully supervise mainland residents withdrawing money in Macau.

Comments in the report also indicated that adopting facial recognition technology can help the supervising entity and the Macau government to gain insight into mainland residents' capital flow abroad.

On July 4, AMCM requested that ATMs which do not have know-your-customer (KYC) technology

installed to suspend cash withdrawal services for mainland China UnionPay (CUP) cards to protect the legal interests of financial institutions and CUP cardholders, and to ensure the effectiveness of monitoring ATM cash withdrawals by mainland CUP cards.

Along with the rapid economic and banking development of Macau, self-service banking has been continuously optimized as the use of mainland bank cards has become increasingly popular in Macau.

AMCM has requested banks to implement KYC technology in cash machines so as to improve the verification of cardholders' identity. The use of facial recognition technology is aimed at promoting the integrity of the financial system of Macau and at enhancing the protection of the legal rights of mainland cardholders, according to AMCM.

Up until July 2, there were 834 ATMs equipped with KYC technology.

Mainland visitors are currently permitted to withdraw up to RMB100,000 when abroad and

exchange up to USD50,000 in foreign currency each year.

A separate but related regulation stipulates that UnionPay cardholders from China may withdraw up to RMB10,000 each day for every card in their possession.

Consequently, a number of mainland visitors formerly acquired multiple UnionPay cards – often under different aliases or registered to other people – so as to repeatedly withdraw funds abroad.

The implementation of facial recognition technology aimed to put a halt to this practice, by ensuring that the person using the bank card was the same as the person who had registered for the associated bank account.

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority had previously said it was considering a similar rollout in the neighboring territory, but abandoned the plan at some point between May and August 2017, on the basis of the findings from a study on the feasibility and cost efficiency of the technology and other types of biometric authentication systems. **JZ**

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Anthem law officially proposed for MSAR

CHINA'S National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee has officially proposed to list the anthem law into Annex III of Macau and Hong Kong's Basic Law, according to a report by Oriental Daily News.

On Monday, the NPC Standing Committee continued its review of the draft law of the national anthem for its second sitting. The committee suggested bringing the proposal to the committee's next meeting and possible final sitting in October.

Currently under the draft law, those who mock the national anthem could be sentenced to up to 15 days in jail. It is thought that the law deliberately precedes Xi Jinping's next leadership bid at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China this autumn, as a show of patriotism.

The NPC's legal affairs division explained that the anthem law needs to be listed in the Basic Law after it becomes established in mainland China. Moreover, both the SAR's governments should be responsible for announcing and implementing the law.

Several scholars and pro-Bei-



President Xi Jinping (center) sings with Hong Kong Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying (left) Chief Executive-elect Carrie Lam (right) at a ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover to China

jing commentators in Hong Kong considered that the SAR should establish local regulations regarding the anthem law, in addition to setting up punishment articles which would better suit Hong Kong, to avoid unnecessary disputes.

The official proposition follows widespread expectation in Macau after Sonia Chan, Macau's Secretary for Administration and Justice, said in June: "I think that if a national anthem law is proposed in the future, then it is mandatory that

it be implemented in Macau as a national law."

Annex III of Macau's Basic Law details the relevant national laws of the People's Republic of China to be applied in the MSAR, including matters relating to the national an-

them, the national flag and nationality law.

Chinese authorities are highly sensitive to any perceived slight against the country's integrity.

Under the new law, those that mock the national anthem face 15 days in prison

Mocking national symbols of China – which can include referring to them insincerely or showing them at inappropriate times, events or in an unofficial manner – can be considered a criminal offence in Macau.

In July this year, the Judiciary Police confirmed it was investigating the case of several netizens who photoshopped the national flag upside-down onto photographs of Macau and shared the images on social media. The netizens were responding to a mistake in the hoisting of the national flag at the Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal by a staff member of the Macau Customs Service. **DB/JZ**

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The flag of Texas flies outside the New York Stock Exchange

MARKETS

Stocks dip after North Korean missile test and storm worries

Marley Jay, New York

U.S. stocks were lower at the opening session yesterday as investors buy high-yielding stocks as well as bonds and gold. They are looking for safer assets after North Korea's launch of a midrange ballistic missile that crossed over northern Japan and fell into the Pacific Ocean. The dollar is down to its lowest level in two and a half years, which is helping companies that do a lot of business overseas. Stocks in Europe felt sharply.

MISSILE NEWS: South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the North Korean missile traveled over the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido. It seemed designed to

show that North Korea can back up a threat to target the U.S. territory of Guam while also establishing a potentially dangerous precedent that could see future missiles flying over Japan.

The price of gold climbed USD7.80 to \$1,323.10, its highest price in almost a year. Bond prices jumped and yields sank. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.12 percent from 2.16 percent. Lower bond yields translate to lower interest rates, and banks fell as investors expected them to make less money from lending. Citigroup shed 76 cents, or 1.1 percent, to \$67.05 and U.S. Bancorp lost 60 cents, or 1.2 percent, to \$51.36.

The dollar fell, with the ICE U.S. Dollar Index reaching to its lowest level in two and a half

years. The dollar slid to 108.94 yen from 109.09 and compared to the euro \$1.2032 from \$1.1979. The European currency is at its highest level in more than two years, as European Central Bank leaders do not seem poised to take action about its strength.

BLOW THE WHISTLE: Finish Line forecast weak second-quarter results and the retailer cut its forecasts for the rest of the year. It said discounts on shoes are growing, which is hurting its profit margins. Its stock tumbled \$2.02, or 19.4 percent, to \$8.40. It was just the latest in a series of discouraging reports from sporting goods companies this month. Under Armour lost 62 cents, or 3.7 percent, to \$16.31 and Foot Locker shed 56 cents, or 1.6 per-

cent, to \$35.14. Nike lost \$1.42, or 2.7 percent, to 52.31.

Electronics retailer Best Buy had a solid second quarter and raised its forecasts for the year, but it wasn't enough to send the stock higher. Its shares fell \$6.76, or 10.8 percent, to \$55.71. Despite that loss, the stock is up 31 percent in 2017 and it's been setting all-time highs.

STORM DAMAGE: The Gulf Coast region continued to absorb heavy rains from Tropical Storm Harvey. More than 30 inches have fallen in some areas, leading to widespread flooding, and close to two feet more could fall over the next few days. Tens of thousands of people are seeking refuge in shelters.

On Wall Street, energy com-

panies are falling with the price of crude oil. Companies that drill for oil in the Gulf or onshore in Texas are falling the most as investors worry about potential lost production. Anadarko Petroleum gave up 98 cents, or 2.4 percent, to \$40.29 and Apache slumped 88 cents, or 2.2 percent, to \$38.47.

Benchmark U.S. crude gave up 74 cents, or 1.6 percent, to \$45.83 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the international standard, fell 13 cents to \$51.29 a barrel in London. Gasoline prices continued to rise.

Insurers continued to fall as investors wondered if Tropical Storm Harvey will lead to big losses. Metlife fell 95 cents, or 2 percent, to \$46.62 and Assurant declined \$2.09, or 2.2 percent, to \$93.35.

GAINERS: Industrials rose, including defense contractors. Raytheon climbed \$3.18, or 1.8 percent, to \$181.42 while Lockheed Martin added \$4.22, or 1.4 percent, to \$307.83. General Dynamics picked up \$2.89, or 1.5 percent, to \$200.76.

Technology companies were also up. Apple rose \$1.24 to \$162.71 and chipmaker Applied Materials advanced 20 cents to \$43.83.

SHRINKING BOARD: Consulting company Advisory Board is climbing after it confirmed recent rumors that it's selling its health care business to UnitedHealth's Optum unit and its education business to Vista Equity Partners. The company said it expects \$2.58 billion in proceeds after taxes. Advisory Board gained \$3.05, or 6.1 percent, to \$52.90.

OVERSEAS: Germany's DAX slid 1.4 percent and the CAC 40 in France fell 0.9 percent. The FTSE 100 index in Britain lost 0.8 percent. Asian indexes had a smaller reaction. In Japan, the benchmark Nikkei 225 slid 0.5 percent and South Korea's Kospi lost 0.2 percent. In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng shed 0.1 percent. **AP**

corporate bits

BNU INTRODUCES POST-TYPHOON LOAN PROGRAM



BNU will launch a post-typhoon "SMEs and individuals support loan program" to provide financing for the affected small and medium enterprises and individuals today.

The bank will provide support to SMEs through several types of loans for different purposes, including operating cash flow, covering equipment purchases and shop decoration expenses.

The loans will offer a preferential interest rate, and up to 30 months' grace period for principle repayment.

According to a statement released yesterday, the program aims to reduce the operating pressure of the affected enterprises, and help businesses get back on track after the typhoons.

The support loan also covers the affected enterprises who have already applied for a subsidy loan from the government.

BNU also offers two types of loans with a preferential rate to support individuals to rebuild their homes and replace their damaged cars, including personal loans for the decoration of residential units and replacement of furniture, as well as car loans for the replacement of affected cars.

CTM ANNOUNCES TELECOM SUPPORT SCHEME



CTM has announced the launch of the "Telecom Facilities Aid Scheme" to alleviate the burden of small and medium-sized businesses and residents impacted by

Typhoon Hato, by providing several support services.

According to the telecommunication company, no special application process is required to access this

scheme, and customers can call its hotline to report faulty service.

The company will send a technician for onsite testing and evaluation for the replacement of any damaged equipment.

Based on the initial estimation of CTM, this aid scheme will incur a cost of around MOP20 million.

CTM also began providing a series of support services since August 24, including a temporary increase of 4G mobile data usage upon the requests of customers and free access to CTM Wi-Fi hotspots across Macau to facilitate public communication. In addition, mobile handsets 'health check' services, charging stations and on loan mobile chargers are available for free at all CTM shops.



Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop (left) and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi pose for photographers as she arrives for a meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beijing

Australia shuns investing in China despite trade dependence

Michael Heath, Enda Curran

AUSTRALIA, the world's most China-dependent developed economy, invests more in the obscure South Pacific nation of Papua New Guinea than it does in its biggest trading partner.

Part of the reason for such an imbalance is corporate Australia's long history of failure abroad, which deters boards from venturing beyond their often cozy oligopolies at home. Yet when it comes to China, there's also reason to be circumspect.

"It's a high-risk area," said Alan Oxley, a former Australian trade negotiator, citing problems with corruption and difficulties maintaining business relationships in China. "Those that do go in frequently find themselves pressured to share patents."

Market access is becoming a global flashpoint as China shifts from being the honeypot for businesses eager to plug into its vast manufacturing value chains or sell cafe lattes to its 1.3 billion people to being a net acquirer of companies, commodities and real estate. The most recent spark: The U.S. said this month it will investigate whether Beijing is violating international trade law by forcing foreign firms to hand over intellectual property.

"When it comes to investment, the playing field in China is as level as a ski jump," said David Loevinger, a former China specialist at the U.S. Treasury and now an analyst at fund manager TCW Group Inc. in Los Angeles. "Chi-

nese companies have been buying up market leaders abroad, like Shuanghui's takeover of Smithfield. That could never happen in China."

The purchase of Smithfield Foods Inc. by Shuanghui International - now known as WH Group Ltd. - ranks as one of the largest Chinese takeovers of a U.S. company.

It's not just the U.S. that's making noise over access. In November, Germany's Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel urged China to open its borders to foreign investment in response to the growing backlash in Europe's biggest economy to a wave of Chinese investment.

Indeed, European companies in China are increasingly frustrated with the authorities. They're reporting unfair treatment compared with domestic firms in areas such as environmental rules being enforced strongly on foreign companies and less so against domestic ones, according to a survey released by the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China and Roland Berger Strategy Consultants.

"Chinese companies face few, if any, limitations in investing in European industries like construction, healthcare, insurance, logistics and media, yet European companies in China continue either to be fully barred from participation or limited to holding a minority position," it said.

The money trail backs that view: While in 2016 Chinese investment in the European Union jumped 77

percent year-on-year to more than 35 billion euros (USD42 billion), European investment into China dropped by 23 percent to only 8 billion euros.

Australian executives have run into more than just access problems. Stern Hu, who led Rio Tinto Group's China iron ore unit, was sentenced to 10 years jail in 2010 after he was found guilty of taking bribes from steel mills and infringing commercial secrets. In June, a Shanghai court convicted 19 current and former Crown Resorts Ltd. staff of illegally promoting gambling on the mainland. Hu and the Crown staff have all been released.

Australian investments in Papua New Guinea, a former colony whose highland region is so remote that some villagers didn't come

into contact with Europeans until the 1930s, center mainly around energy and minerals. Australia's largest investment in the nation is in a project that started shipping liquefied natural gas in 2014. There are plans to double production by 2023 at a cost upwards of \$20 billion.

In 2016, Australian foreign direct investment into Papua New Guinea totaled AUD15.8 billion (\$12.6 billion) versus AUD13.3 billion into China. By contrast, Australia's two-way trade with China totaled \$117.3 billion last year, versus \$4.7 billion with Papua New Guinea, according to International Monetary Fund data compiled by Bloomberg.

A report this month showed two-thirds of board members in ASX 200 companies have no extensi-

ve experience operating in Asia, while more than half demonstrate little to no knowledge of the region's markets.

While it may lack businesses on the streets of Beijing, Australia has nonetheless been boosted by China's industrialization, which fueled a boom in demand for raw materials such as iron ore. In late 2014, the two nations signed a trade deal designed to drive exports beyond commodities -- while services account for about 70 percent of Australia's gross domestic product, they made up just 17 percent of exports at the time.

Part of the imbalance in market access stems from the fact that investment arrangements with China were accepted when it joined the World Trade Organization in 2001 and at the time was still a poor, developing country, according to David Dollar, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington and a former U.S. Treasury attache in Beijing.

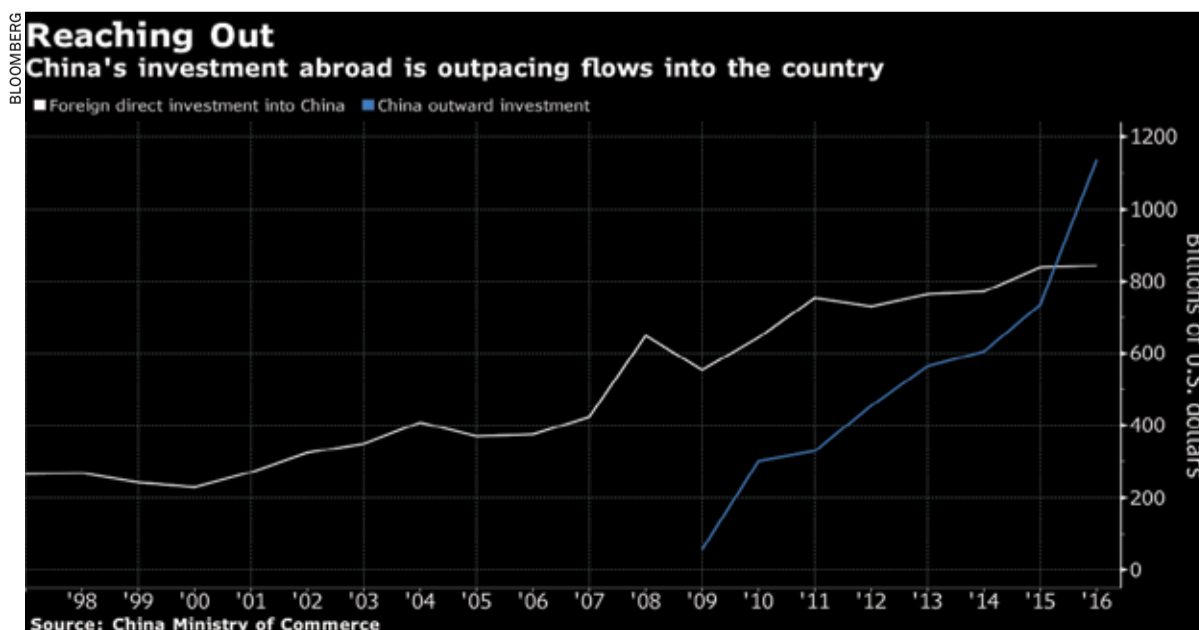
"To persist in these practices now that China is the biggest trading nation and the world's second-largest economy is undermining the global trading system," he said. "In addition to these forced technology transfers, there are other, more out-right thefts of IP by Chinese actors. IP protection in China, however, is improving and the specialized IP courts have turned in many decisions favorable to foreign IP holders."

As China seeks to make the leap to being an advanced economy, self interest may spur efforts to protect intellectual property and open up more sectors to foreign investment and competition. Authorities will "severely" fight against fake or counterfeit products, Premier Li Keqiang said at a weekend seminar on upgrading the manufacturing sector.

But for now at least, many parts of China's economy remain largely off limits.

"China would like to 'select' foreign investments that are valuable to the economy," said Iris Pang, an economist at ING Bank NV in Hong Kong. "China's authorities want to make sure that foreign firms coming in do not just make a profit and go away. They need to create value for the economy, not only by creating more jobs."

Bloomberg



Julie Watson, San Diego

DOZENS of migrants fleeing from Border Patrol agents led authorities to a surprising discovery over the weekend: A tunnel under the US-Mexico border in San Diego used to bring Chinese nationals illegally into the United States.

Drug cartels have built hundreds of tunnels to move drugs into California.

But it's unusual to find such a large group of foreigners, especially from as far away as China, come out of an illegal border tunnel, Border Patrol agent Eduardo Olmos said. Agents detained 23 Chinese nationals and seven Mexicans.

"To say the least, this is definitely a significant event because of the amount of people," Olmos said.

Agents first spotted a large group of men and women on a San Diego street near the Otay Mesa border crossing at about 1 a.m. on Saturday.

When agents headed toward them, the migrants ran toward a hole in the ground near a border fence. The hole was covered with a few branches and a wooden ladder led down to an underground passageway to Mexico.

Olmos said he did not know the tunnel's length or dimensions. Agents captured 30 migrants, he said, but he did not know how many of those detained were gra-

Chinese migrants lead US agents to San Diego border tunnel



bbed while getting into the hole or whether any of them made it back into the tunnel and returned to Mexico.

Cartels have been sneaking drugs under the border for decades, especially after security was increased following the 9/11 attacks.

Many tunnels found by agents in San Diego have had lighting, ventilation and even railroad-type tracks so the drug cartels

could efficiently move their loads into California. In Arizona, smugglers used to move migrants through storm drainage pipes that lie under the U.S.-Mexico border.

Smugglers in San Diego occasionally moved a few people through narrow, quickly excavated tunnels that authorities call "gopher holes."

It was unclear how long the newest tunnel found had been

there and how many people may have used it, but officials said it may have been built as an extension of a previously discovered incomplete tunnel found by Mexican authorities.

Most human smugglers have avoided building elaborate tunnels to move people because the trade was not as lucrative as smuggling drugs, said Mike Unzueta, the former head of investigations at U.S. Immigration and

Customs Enforcement in San Diego.

Smugglers also wanted to avoid having their cargo — the people they were moving — expose their routes, like they did on Saturday.

But the event may indicate it has become profitable enough for them to do so because Chinese nationals can pay up to USD20,000 a person to be brought from their homeland to the United States, Unzueta said.

"You're making a higher profit margin with Chinese nationals versus Mexican nationals," Unzueta said.

Detentions of Chinese nationals crossing the border in the San Diego area has jumped from just four in 2013 to 48 in 2015 to 861 last year, Olmos said. So far 193 have been arrested since July 31 in the sector, including those apprehended over the weekend.

They are being held at a detention center while authorities review their cases, Olmos said. It was not known if a smuggler was among those detained.

U.S. authorities plan to seal the tunnel with cement but will first map it to determine its path between the countries. **AP**

A USD1 trillion power industry overhaul is just starting

CHINA'S move to create the world's biggest power company is expected to be the first such mega-merger in the largest energy consumer.

The newly formed China Energy Investment Corp. - a combination of Shenhua Group Corp., the nation's largest coal miner, and China Guodian Corp., one of its top-five power generators - may be the first of multiple consolidations, which Wood Mackenzie Ltd. estimates would include almost USD1 trillion in assets.

"The Shenhua-Guodian merger is just the beginning of a wave of massive consolidations in China's energy sector," said Frank Yu, a Beijing-based analyst at Wood Mackenzie. "The landscape of major power utilities could be fundamentally reshuffled."

The merger is one of the clearest signals of President Xi Jinping's



A driver stands on the top of this truck filled with coal at an unidentified coal mine and accompanying facilities in Liuling

commitment to consolidate China's power industry as his government seeks to cut industrial overcapacity and accelerate the overhaul of state-owned enterprises. It also dovetails with efforts to lower the country's reliance on coal and expand the use of renewables and natu-

ral gas. At 1.65 terawatts, China has more than 40 percent more generating capacity than the U.S.

"More central state-owned enterprise integration - particularly between power generators or between coal and power companies - will likely emerge," Jenny

Yang, director of China power and renewables at IHS Markit Ltd., wrote in a research note. "Some of the other large power generation companies will likely be targets for future mergers."

China's top five power producers were formed from the 2002 break up of State Power Corp.,

aimed at improving the sector's efficiency. That followed the 1997 creation of State Power, which was carved from what was then the Power Industry Ministry to separate the business and regulatory functions of the sector.

"The 2002 reform was a success in terms of raising China's power generation capacity, and achieved what it was designed to achieve: to break power monopoly and say goodbye to the old planned economy," said Simon Powell, head of Asian utilities research at UBS Group AG in Hong Kong. "What it failed to achieve was to set rules for 'economic dispatch' or limiting what kind of power plants generators can and cannot build."

In 2003, power supply was unable to keep pace with demand, with weekly power failures hitting more than half of China's provinces and regions, as well as major cities including Shanghai. Power generation more than tripled from then until last year, hitting 5.9 trillion kilowatt hours. **MDT/Bloomberg**

Jail for crew found with protected Galapagos sharks

AN Ecuadorean judge has sentenced 20 Chinese crewmembers to jail and levied a USD5.9 million fine after their ship was found with 300 tons of frozen marine animals apparently from the Galapagos reserve, including protected sharks.

Judge Alexandra Arroyo announced late Sunday that the captain of the Fu Yuab Yu Leng 999 will serve four years in jail. Three assistants will each serve three years in jail while another 16 crewmembers received one-year sentences.

Ecuador's navy stopped the ship earlier in August near San Cristobal, the easternmost island of the Galapagos archipelago.

Authorities found more than 6,600 sharks from protected species inside the ship. Shark fin soup is a Chinese delicacy.

Authorities say the crew was fishing inside the Galapagos Marine Reserve, one of the world's largest.

KOREAN CRISIS

In a first, North fires missile over Japan in aggressive test

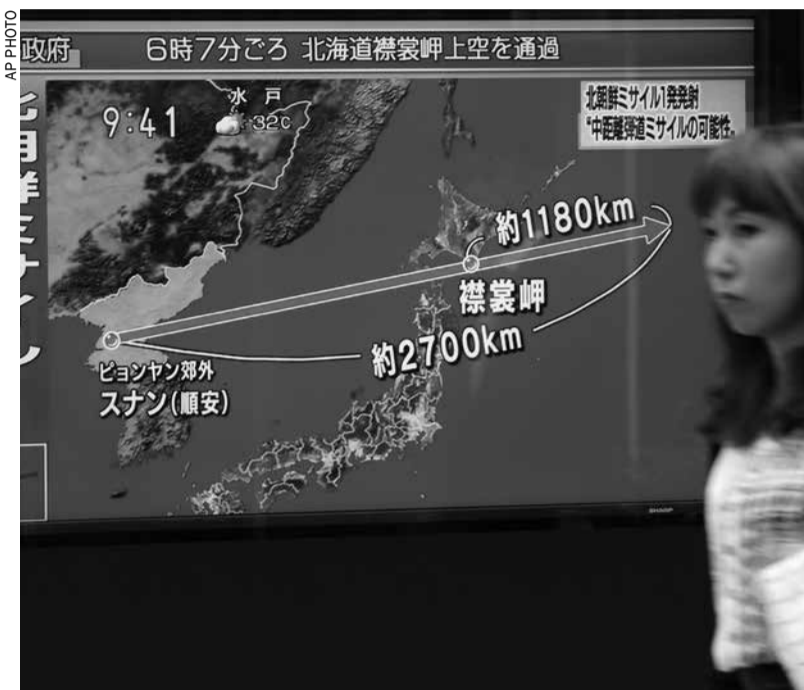
Foster Klug
& Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

IN a first, North Korea yesterday fired a midrange ballistic missile designed to carry a nuclear payload that flew over Japan and splashed into the northern Pacific Ocean, officials said. The aggressive missile launch — likely the longest ever from North Korea — over the territory of a close U.S. ally sends a clear message of defiance as Washington and Seoul conduct war games nearby.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile traveled around 2,700 kilometers and reached a maximum height of 550 kilometers as it traveled over the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido. The distance and type of missile tested seemed designed to show that North Korea can back up a threat to target the U.S. territory of Guam, if it chooses to do so, while also establishing a potentially dangerous precedent that could see future missiles flying over Japan.

Any new test worries Washington and its allies because it presumably puts North Korea a step closer to its goal of an arsenal of nuclear missiles that can reliably target the United States. Yesterday's test, however, looks especially aggressive to Washington, Seoul and Tokyo.

North Korea has conducted launches at an unusually fast pace this year — 13 times, Seoul says — and some analysts believe it could have viable long-range nuclear missiles before the end of U.S. President Donald Trump's first term in early 2021.



TV screens show a broadcast on North Korea's missile attack in Seoul

■ The missile traveled around 2,700 kilometers and reached a maximum height of 550 kilometers as it traveled over the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido

Seoul says that while North Korea has twice before fired rockets it said were carrying satellites over Japan — in 1998 and 2009 — it has never before used a ballistic missile, which is unambiguously designed for military strikes. North Korea also chose not to fire its most recent missile at a lofted angle, as it did in previous launches to avoid other countries, and Seoul's spy service said the North launched from an unusual spot: the international airport in its capital, Pyongyang. The South Korean military was analyzing whether North Korea had launched a Hwasong-12, a new intermediate-range missile that it recently threatened to fire into waters near Guam, which hosts a major U.S. military base that the North considers a threat.

China urges end to 'malicious cycle' of tensions

CHINA has urged all countries involved in the nuclear standoff on the Korean Peninsula to show restraint and end a "malicious cycle" of escalating tensions.

Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said increased military pressure from the United States and South Korea has prompted North Korea to respond with more missile tests, which in turn triggered more military pressure on the North.

She said "time has proven that pressure and sanctions cannot solve the root of the problem."

Hua told a regular daily briefing yesterday that the only way to solve the standoff is by addressing the legitimate security concerns of all sides in a balanced way through dialogue.

China has proposed that the U.S. and South Korea halt regular joint military exercises, and in return North Korea would freeze its development of nuclear weapons while the two sides hold talks.

The launch is also another rebuke to Trump, who suggested last week that his tough approach to North Korea, which included threats to unleash "fire and fury," meant leader Kim Jong Un "is starting to respect us."

Yesterday's missile landed nowhere near Guam, but firing a Hwasong-12 (Hwasong is Korean for Mars, or Fire Star) so soon after the Guam threat may be a way for North Korea to show it could follow through if it chose to do so. Guam is 3,400 kilometers away from North Korea, but South Korea's military said the North may have fired the most recent missile at a shorter range.

South Korea's spy agency told lawmakers in a closed-door briefing that North Korea fired the missile from an airfield at Pyongyang's international airport. Some outside observers said launching a road-mobile missile from an airport runway could demonstrate the North's ability to fire its missiles from anywhere in the country. It was not immediately clear what the launch meant for the few civilian flights that use the airport.

The National Intelligence Service also told lawmakers it was unclear whether the missile's warhead survived atmospheric re-entry, according to the office of Kim Byung-kee, a lawmaker in attendance.

Separately, the spy agency said North Korean leader Kim's third child was born in February, but provided no other details.

North Korea will no doubt be watching the world's reaction to see if it can use yesterday's flight over Japan as a precedent for future launches. **AP**

Russia, UAE tell North Korea: Stop your 'provocations'

THE foreign ministers of Russia and the United Arab Emirates urged North Korea yesterday to stop its provocations and obey United Nations resolutions, after Pyongyang's launch of a ballistic missile over Japan.

Speaking in Abu Dhabi, the two ministers offered a forceful warning for Pyongyang, with Emirati Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan particularly calling for North Korea to stop its "provocations."

But what was left

unsaid between the two ministers was their own diplomatic and commercial ties to North Korea, with the UAE in particular home to thousands of its workers whose wages help Pyongyang avoid international sanctions.

Early yesterday, North Korea fired a ballistic missile from its capital that flew over Japan before crashing into the northern Pacific Ocean.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who is visiting the UAE as part of a three Gulf

Arab nation tour over the ongoing diplomatic crisis involving Qatar, avoided discussing that dispute. He instead focused in part on North Korea.

"Regarding North Korea and the missile tests it is conducting, we stick to the resolutions of the U.N. Security Council and we insist on the fact that our North Korean neighbors should fully respect those resolutions," Lavrov said. "We base our position on these statements during discussions in the Security Council

and will do the same in the session, which as far as we understand is being planned now and which will be dedicated to discussing the last missile launches from North Korea."

Sheikh Abdullah went further.

"The situation cannot continue to escalate between North Korea on one side and Japan and South Korea on the other," he said. "North Korea cannot continue to disregard the U.N. Security Council resolutions and the U.N.'s call to stop its provocations."



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov (left) shakes hands with Emirati Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, in Abu Dhabi

KOREAN CRISIS

Trump: 'All options are on table' after missile launch

U.S. President Donald Trump said that North Korea had signaled its "contempt for its neighbors" and that "all options are on the table" in terms of a U.S. response.

In a terse, written statement yesterday, Trump said that with the missile launch North Korea has "signaled its contempt for its neighbors, for all members of the United Nations, and for minimum standards of acceptable international behavior."

"Threatening and destabilizing actions only increase the North Korean regime's isolation in the region and among all nations of the world," Trump said. "All options are on the table."

Japanese officials made their usual strongly worded condemnations of the launch.

"We will do our utmost to protect people's lives," Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said. "This reckless act of launching a missile that flies over our country is an unprecedented, serious



and important threat."

Tokyo said there was no reported damage from the missile, which Japan's NHK TV said separated into three parts. Residents on Hokkaido were warned of a North Korean missile launch by an alert on their cellphones, with loud alarms and an email that told people to stay indoors. Speakers broadcast an alert saying "missile is passing, missile is passing."

A U.S. congressman visiting Seoul said Washington is now

pressuring North Korea to abandon its nuclear ambitions by shutting down the impoverished country's access to hard currency, the lifeblood of its expensive weapons program.

The goal is to offer international banks that do business with North Korea a choice between bankruptcy and freezing North Korean accounts, U.S. Rep. Ed Royce, the Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said in an interview after meeting with

South Korean leaders.

Yesterday's launch comes days after North Korea fired what was assessed as three short-range ballistic missiles into the sea, and a month after its second test of an intercontinental ballistic missile, which analysts say could reach deep into the U.S. mainland when perfected.

In an unusual move, the military in Seoul released videos of three South Korean missile tests conducted last week. They showed two types of new missiles with ranges of 800 kilometers and 500 kilometers being fired from truck-mounted launchers.

South Korea's Agency for Defense Development said the launches represented the last flight test for the longer-range missile before it is operationally deployed. Such missiles, which would be the latest additions to South Korea's Hyunmoo family of missiles, are considered key components of the so-called "kill chain" pre-emptive strike capability that South Korea is

pursuing to counter North Korea's nuclear and missile threat.

South Korea also said its air force conducted a live-fire drill involving four F-15 fighter jets dropping eight MK-84 bombs that accurately hit targets at a military field near the country's eastern coast. Yoon Youngchan, chief press secretary of South Korean President Moon Jae-in, said the exercise was conducted after Moon directed the military to "display a strong capability to punish" North Korea if need be.

The North's launch over Japan shouldn't be a total surprise. Earlier this month, when threatening to lob four Hwasong-12s into the waters near Guam, North Korea specifically said they would fly over Japanese territory. North Korea in June also angrily reacted to the launch of a Japanese satellite it said was aimed at spying on the North and said Tokyo was no longer entitled to fault North Korea "no matter what it launches or whether that crosses the sky above Japan."

North Korea typically reacts with anger to U.S.-South Korean military drills, which are happening now, often testing weapons and threatening Seoul and Washington in its state-controlled media. But animosity is higher than usual following threats traded between Trump and the North. **AP**

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USA

Trump's turn to face tricky politics of natural disasters

Julie Pace, Washington

GEORGE W. Bush never recovered from his flyover of Hurricane Katrina's devastation. Barack Obama got a bipartisan boost late in his re-election campaign for his handling of Superstorm Sandy.

Now, President Donald Trump confronts the political risks and potential gains that come with leading the federal government's response to a deadly and destructive natural disaster. Hurricane Harvey, the massive storm that has dumped torrents of rain across Texas — flooding Houston and other cities — is the first major natural disaster of Trump's presidency, and the yet-to-be-determined scope of the damage appears likely to require a years-long federal project.

Trump, who is suffering through a long stretch of low approval ratings, has been particularly eager to seize the moment. He will visit Texas today [Macau time] — and may return to the region again on Saturday. The White House announced the first visit even before Harvey made landfall. On Monday, Trump promised Texans will “have what you need” and that federal funding would come “fast.”

“We will come out stronger and believe me, we will be bigger, better, stronger than ever before,” Trump said yesterday during a White House news conference.

Trump was scheduled to be briefed on relief efforts with local leaders and relief organizations during a stop in Corpus Christi, then touring the state emergency operations center in Austin and receiving a briefing on the storm before returning to Washington.

“We will come out stronger and believe me, we will be bigger, better, stronger than ever before [after Harvey].”

DONALD TRUMP

The president's unconventional style has still oozed out. Trump sent about two dozen tweets about the storm since Friday, marveling at the size of the hurricane and cheering on emergency responders: “You are doing a great job — the world is watching!”

Indeed, he argued Monday he specifically timed his controversial pardon of former Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio to capitalize on all the viewers tuned into storm coverage. The Friday night par-

don wasn't an attempt to hide the news, he said: “I assumed the ratings would be higher.”

Trump advisers are well-aware that the hurricane poses a significant test for the White House, which has largely been mired in crises of its own making during Trump's first seven months in office, including the president's widely criticized response to white supremacist protests in Charlottesville, Virginia. Trump, who ran a real estate business and starred in a reality show before taking office, has no experience in the kinds of recovery efforts that will be required in Texas and has struggled at times to show competency in governing.

Administrations often tread carefully in planning visits to disaster-ravaged areas. Mobilizing a president, his staff and his security is an enormous logistical undertaking and can pull local law enforcement resources away from the disaster recovery efforts. But Trump hasn't been cowed.

Aides said it was Trump who pushed for the White House to make his desire to travel to Texas known early. He won't be visiting Houston, where flooding has wreaked havoc on the nation's fourth-largest city. Instead, he is meeting with local leadership and relief organizations in Corpus Christi, then visiting the state's emergency operations center in Austin.

“Conditions haven't cleared in Houston yet so probably not appropriate for him to go up there, probably not safe for him to go up there,” said Rep. Blake Farenthold, R-Texas. “But I do think having your own eyes on the devastation that I have seen is important.”

The optics of a president's initial response to a natural disaster can be long-lasting.

Bush was haunted by his now-infamous declaration that then-FEMA Director Michael Brown was doing “a heckuva job” — a statement that appeared wildly off base after the full scope of the devastation became clear. Images of Bush peering down at the flooding in New Orleans from Air Force One also furthered the impression that he was detached from the horrific conditions on the ground.

“He understands why that picture became a metaphor,” said Dana Perino, who was serving as deputy White House spokeswoman at the time.

Trump has played storm politics before. During his campaign, he rushed to Louisiana, in his signature “Make America Great Again” hat, to view damage from massive flooding. Trump made it to the battered neighborhoods before Democratic rival Hillary Clinton and while President Barack Obama was vacationing.

“We're glad you're not playing golf at Martha's Vineyard,” one

woman told him, a jab at Obama. “Somebody is, somebody is that shouldn't be,” Trump replied.

Over the weekend, Trump offered a sunny assessment of the response efforts while the rain was still pouring down on Houston and other Texas towns. He cited the “great coordination between agencies at all levels of government” and declared, “We have an all-out effort going, and going well!”

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, has so far praised the federal response to Hurricane Harvey, which has been blamed for at least three confirmed deaths. But with nearly 2 more feet of rain expected, authorities worried whether the worst was yet to come.

On its own, a successful federal response to Hurricane Harvey is unlikely to reshape Trump's presidency. But with his approval rating perilously low, it could help Trump convince some Americans that he has the capability to lead the nation through difficult moments.

Trump's predecessors have also benefited from the political opportunities that can arise after natural disasters.

When Superstorm Sandy barreled across the East Coast days before the 2012 election, Obama paused his campaign to monitor the federal response from Washington. He traveled to hard-hit New Jersey, where Republican Gov. Chris Christie, a strong supporter of the president's rival, lavished praise on Obama.

Obama advisers said then that while they didn't believe the president's Sandy efforts were a deciding factor in the election, the praise he received from Republicans was helpful in the midst of a highly partisan campaign. **AP**

RUSSIA-FRANCE

Moscow economy boss: sanctions no longer bite

Angela Charlton, Paris

RUSSIA'S economy minister, a rising star in Kremlin politics, said yesterday that his country is no longer suffering from U.S. and EU sanctions, and sees better prospects for future trade in Asia instead.

Maxim Oreshkin told The Associated Press that the Russian economy is on track to grow at least 2 percent this year — a first after 2014, when the economy sank into recession driven by sinking oil prices and sanctions over the Kremlin's actions in Ukraine.

Oreshkin slammed new U.S. sanctions imposed last month as "interfering" with European trade, but shrugged off the economic impact of the measures, saying that Russia's trade with the U.S. remains "much much smaller" than with European and Asian partners.

He wouldn't comment on widespread Russian disappointment that the Trump adminis-

tration hasn't been as friendly toward Moscow as many expected, and instead stressed that his country has "turned the corner" after the recession's blow thanks to domestic reforms.

"There was a negative effect, it was a big one, but it is already behind us. [...] Of course without sanctions it will be even better," he said in an interview in Paris after meeting with French energy, pharmaceutical and other executives active in Russia — who are also eager for sanctions to be lifted.

Oreshkin said Russia's government is building budgets based on the assumptions that the European and American sanctions will remain in place, and "we should concentrate on what we are doing domestically," on what reforms are working and what are still needed.

After unusually strong second-quarter economic growth of 2.5 percent, he forecast "roughly the same pace through the end of the year," and overall growth of 2 percent or 2.1 percent for the

year. However, the Russian economy remains heavily dependent on oil and gas, and efforts to diversify have lagged.

As western sanctions reach into their fourth year, Russia is turning toward Asian markets, where Oreshkin has a string of upcoming visits.

While the EU was once Russia's No. 1 trade partner and remains a "key player," he said, "these days China is taking the first place in this competition."

"We see more willingness on the Asian side to work with us. We are working with those who want to work with us," he said.

Oreshkin, 35, rose quickly in government and has heightened the profile of his ministry since being named earlier this year. Asked about Russian media speculation that he could be a potential future prime minister, he said only: "I have a lot of work to do on my current job ... I prefer to do what I have to do."

Oreshkin welcomed more "openness" from French President Emmanuel Macron than



Russian Economy Minister Maxim Oreshkin speaks to French executives

his predecessor toward Russia, and said the pace of high-level political and economic meetings has increased since Macron's May election.

In a diplomatic speech yesterday, Macron said it's important to keep dialogue open with Russia, but has insisted on seeing more progress on peace in Ukraine before sanctions could be lifted.

Macron has made the fight against "Islamic terrorism" in Syria and Iraq the top priority in his foreign policy agenda.

Speaking to French diplomats gathered at the Elysee Palace in

Paris, Macron called the Islamic State group "our enemy."

"Restoring peace and stability — Iraq then Syria — is vital priority for France," he said.

He proposed creating a new contact group including the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to help handle negotiations with Syria. He didn't give more details about the exact role and composition of this group, saying the main players of the Syrian crisis would be involved.

The group will first meet at the United Nations in New York next month. AP

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what's ON



REPRESENTING WOMEN THROUGH THE MAM COLLECTION - 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES
 TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)
 UNTIL: December 10, 2017
 VENUE: Macau Art Museum
 ADMISSION: Free
 ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau

A PROMENADE IN THE SMALL CITY: AN ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION OF THE MACAU CULTURAL AND CREATIVE MAP
 TIME: 11am-10pm
 UNTIL: December 31, 2017
 VENUE: Lakeside Gallery, Anim'Arte
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

MACAO ILLUSTRATED - EXHIBITION OF CITY PLANS AND ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS FROM THE MACAO ARCHIVES' COLLECTION
 TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Mondays)
 UNTIL: December 3, 2017
 VENUE: Archives of Macau
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2859 2919

BALLADE - CONTEMPORARY ART ANIMAMIX
 TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)
 UNTIL: October 15, 2017
 VENUE: Macao Art Museum
 ADMISSION: Free
 ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

A GOLDEN WAY OF LIFE - TRES'ORS
 TIME: 12pm-9pm (Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
 UNTIL: September 3, 2017
 VENUE: Level 2, MGM Art Space (via Grande Praça)
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

Offbeat

ROCKWELL PAINTING OWNED BY DEBBIE REYNOLDS TO BE AUCTIONED

A Norman Rockwell painting of Benjamin Franklin owned by Debbie Reynolds will be among the items offered at an auction of the actress' possessions in October.

Profiles in History says the painting featured on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post in 1926 will be among 1,500 items that belonged to Reynolds and her daughter Carrie Fisher that will go on sale on Oct. 7 and 8. The painting, which shows Franklin signing the Declaration of Independence, has been on loan to the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, since December 2015.

The auction house says the piece of art is expected to fetch more than USD2 million.

The work was created for a Saturday Evening Post issue celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.



TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
19:10	The Brazillians (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:25	Ui Di Sabroso Sr. 2
21:40	Miscellaneous
22:10	The Brazillians
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:55	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

30 AUG - 6 SEP

CRAYON SHINCHAN MOVIE 2017

ROOM 1

2:30, 7:30pm

Director: Masakazu Hashimoto

Starring: Tamao Hayashi, Tôru Hotohara, Teiyû Ichiryûsai

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 107min



THE ADVENTURERS

ROOM 1

4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Stephen Fung

Starring: Andy Lau, Shu Qi, Zhang Jingchu

Language: English

Duration: 131min



THE DARK TOWER

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:15, 6:00, 9:45pm

Director: Nikolaj Arccl

Starring: Idris Elba, Matthew McConaughey, Tom Taylor

Language: English

Duration: 132min



A DOG'S PURPOSE

ROOM 2

7:45pm

Director: Lasse Hallstrom

Starring: Josh Gad, Dennis Quaid, Brit Robertson

Language: English

Duration: 95min

DANGAL

ROOM 3

2:30, 6:00, 9:00pm

Director: Nitesh Tiwari

Starring: Aamir Khan, Sakshi Tanwar, Fatima Sana Shaikh

Language: Hindi (Chinese & English)

Duration: 164min

this day in history



1976 NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL ENDS IN RIOT

More than 100 police officers had to be taken to hospital after clashes at the Notting Hill Carnival in west London.

Most were released after treatment but at least 26 have been detained overnight for observation or further treatment.

Around 60 carnival-goers also needed hospital treatment after the clashes which led to the arrest of at least 66 people.

The trouble is believed to have started after police tried to arrest a pickpocket near Portobello Road on the main carnival route.

Several black youths went to the pickpocket's aid and within minutes the disturbance escalated.

The police were attacked with stones and other missiles.

They armed themselves with dustbin lids, milk crates and wire fencing and charged the rioters.

At one stage a group of black youths were seen moving up Westbourne Park road smashing windows.

Gangs of white youths were also said to have been involved in the violence.

One witness, Raymond Hunter, who lives in Westbourne Park Road said he saw a police van set alight.

"The two policemen managed to get out of the van and fled. The gang then turned the van over and set fire to it," Mr Hunter said.

The disturbances effectively put an end to the annual celebration of Caribbean culture.

Police sealed off roads and closed pubs in the area as well as shutting down Ladbroke Grove underground station in an attempt to contain the violence.

In the past, the carnival - now in its 10th year - has been largely peaceful in spite of tensions with police.

A member of the Notting Hill Carnival Development Committee, Selwyn Baptiste, said they had been optimistic after the first day of the festival passed off peacefully.

"We had no reason to suppose it would be any different today. This was supposed to be about fun and love - not violence," Mr Baptiste said.

"I have a dream," he said. "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character."

"I have a dream today.

"I have a dream that one day every valley shall be engulfed, every hill shall be exalted and every mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plains and the crooked places will be made straight and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together."

Dr King, who is president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) first came to prominence in 1955 when he led a 382-day bus boycott in an attempt to end segregation on city buses.

Since then he has endured numerous arrests, violent harassment and a bomb attack on his home.

But his struggle continues and it is believed today's speech will have a lasting impact on all who heard it.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In a subsequent trial 17 black youths faced 79 charges.

However, only two were convicted of carnival related offences after the court case which cost a record £250,000.

Sporadic violence continued to mar what is the largest street festival in Europe that began in 1964 with a street party to celebrate Caribbean culture in west London. The 1990s were relatively peaceful - but in 2000 there were two murders during the carnival.

The London district of Notting Hill had a history of racial problems.

In 1958 it was the scene of race riots instigated by the fascist British Union whose "Teddy boys" clashed with local black people.

Relations between the black community and police had also been problematic over the years.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Communication is important today - but keep it short and sweet.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Focus on today as much as possible - long-term thinking is best put off.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You are in motion today, which is just how you want it. Even your down-time probably involves web surfing.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You need to deal with a few extra elements you hadn't counted on when handling big projects today.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You're torn between two equally appealing options - which is a pretty good problem to have!

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You can't let your heart make decisions today - it's all about your head and the left-brain logic.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You need to try new things today - even if you'd rather poke around in the garden or just watch that same movie for the hundredth time.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You can't stop thinking about some weird little detail that seems to be popping out from a spreadsheet or presentation.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You are thinking hard about things, but you're not really sure what you need to do next.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Today is all about communication, and even your quiet wisdom is much in demand now.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Something small but meaningful could spark a new romance today - if you're looking for one, that is!

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Your creative mind is much more active today, so you may need to find a way to capture all the great ideas that are coming your way.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

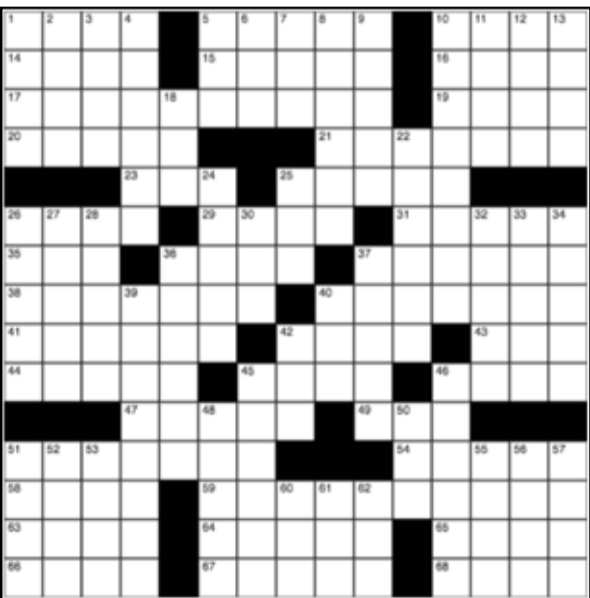
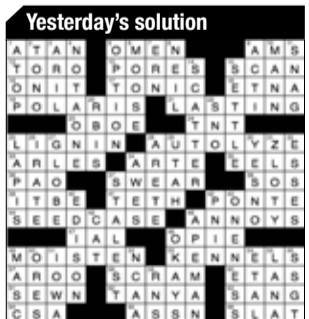
Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each category contains a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

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 ___ boy; 5- Choose; 10- Driving aids; 14- Convene; 15- The Wreck of the Mary... DOWN: 1- Kind of radio; 2- Prefix with conference; 3- Greenish blue; 4- Bear witness; 5- Tokyo, once; 6- The fifth sign of the zodiac; 7- Chow down; 8- Wrinkle; 9- Woman's one-piece undergarment; 10- Commentary; 11- Merit; 12- Monumental; 13- All there; 18- Not many; 22- Velvet; 24- Deep black; 25- Vessel built by Noah; 26- Adhere closely; 27- Jack of 'The Great Dictator'; 28- Representative; 30- Santa ___ winds; 32- Curved letters; 33- Coniferous evergreen forest; 34- Director Welles; 36- Country singer Kathy; 37- Loathes; 39- Tofu; 40- 'The Bells' poet; 42- Magic org.; 45- Goes with the flow; 46- Halogen element; 48- Efface; 50- Back muscle, for short; 51- Pulverize potatoes; 52- Caesar's wings; 53- Fly high; 55- Pest control brand; 56- 'Le Roi d'Ys' composer; 57- Some Ivy Leaguers; 60- Western Hemisphere org.; 61- Fail to tell the truth; 62- Traveler's stop;



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Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
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News At Hand



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TENNIS | US OPEN

Emotional Sharapova tops No. 2 in Slam return

WHEN Maria Sharapova's first Grand Slam match after a 15-month doping suspension ended with a victory at the U.S. Open, she dropped to her knees and covered her face, tears welling in her eyes.

This was merely a win to get to the second round, yes, but it also clearly meant so much more to Sharapova. It meant she was back.

Displaying as much emotion on court as she ever did after one of her five major championships, Sharapova recovered after faltering midway through the match and emerged to beat No. 2-seeded Simona Halep 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 at the U.S. Open over more than 2½ hours Monday night.

■ ■
Behind all these Swarovski crystals and little black dresses, this girl has a lot of grit, and she's not going anywhere.

MARIA SHARAPOVA

"Behind all these Swarovski crystals and little black dresses," Sharapova told the Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd, "this girl has a lot of grit, and she's not going anywhere."

So much about Sharapova was the same as it ever was: the shot-punctuating shrieks, the aggressive baseline style, the terrific returning, the sometimes-shaky serving.

Another familiar sight: She gutted out a win.

"It's been a while," said Sharapova, who missed additional time after her ban because of injuries. "It almost seemed like I had no right to win this match today. And I somehow did. I think that is what I'm most proud of."

After leading by a set and 4-1 in the second, Sharapova showed some fatigue and rust, dropping five games in a row. But in the third, Sharapova regained control by going ahead 3-0, using her power to keep two-time French Open runner-up Halep under pressure.

Sharapova had not played at a Grand Slam tournament since January 2016, when she tested positive for the newly banned heart drug meldonium during the Australian Open.

The 30-year-old Russian was allowed back on the tour this April, but she was denied a wild-card invitation for the French Open the next month. The U.S. Tennis Association did grant



Maria Sharapova, of Russia, follows through in her match against Simona Halep of Romania on Monday

a wild card to Sharapova, who was once ranked No. 1 but is currently 146th.

It was as if every one of Sharapova's winners Monday — and she compiled 60, a startling 45 more than Halep — was her way of declaring, "Look out, everybody!"

Halep was among eight women who entered the U.S. Open with a chance to top the WTA rankings by tournament's end. The draw at Flushing Meadows randomly paired the two players, providing a buzz-generating matchup that managed to live up to the hype on Day 1 at the year's last Grand Slam tournament.

"I gave everything I had," Halep said. "She was better."

And at an event that began without Serena Williams, who is expecting a baby, and is already missing two of its top seven seeded women — No. 7 Johanna Konta, a Wimbledon semifinalist just last month, was upset by 78th-ranked Aleksandra Krunic of Serbia 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 — Sha-

rapova must be considered a serious title contender. She did, after all, win the U.S. Open in 2006.

But Sharapova wasn't interested in looking too far ahead just yet.

"This is a big win for me, and I will enjoy it," she said, "then move on to the next one."

The last match on Monday's schedule actually finished at 2:04 a.m. on Tuesday: After Sharapova won, the fourth-seeded man, Alexander Zverev, needed to get through an 80-minute first set before eventually beating 168th-ranked qualifier Darian King 7-6 (9), 7-5, 6-4. King is the first player from Barbados to participate in a main-draw match at a major.

Sharapova vs. Halep was a tremendously entertaining and high-quality contest, more befitting a final than a first-rounder.

These two women have, indeed, faced off with a Grand Slam title at stake: Sharapova beat Halep in the 2014 French Open final, part of what is now

her 7-0 head-to-head record in the matchup.

On Monday, they traded stinging shots, often with Sharapova — dressed in all black, from her visor, to her dress that sparkled under the lights, to her socks and shoes — aiming to end exchanges and Halep hustling into place to extend them.

"I expected her to hit everything," Halep said. "Some balls were really good. I couldn't even touch them."

Points would last 10 or 12 strokes, or more, repeatedly leaving a sellout crowd of 23,771 in Arthur Ashe Stadium clapping and yelling and high-fiving, no matter which player won them. The chair umpire repeatedly admonished spectators to hush.

Halep blinked at the end of the hour-long first set, double-faulting to face a break point, then watching Sharapova punish a 71 mph second serve with a forehand return winner. That was Sharapova's sixth return winner; she would finish with 14, more than enough to counter

her seven double-faults.

Halep lamented that her serve was "very bad."

Asked why, she answered: "I didn't have the timing, the feeling. I don't know why."

It was quickly 4-1 for Sharapova in the second set and she held a break point there to allow her to go up 5-1 and serve for the victory. But she couldn't convert it. Then, only then, did Sharapova struggle for a bit. Her footwork was off. Her forehand lost its way. She would end up losing that game and the next four, too, as Halep managed to force a third set.

But with the outcome in the balance, Sharapova once again looked as if she had never been away, improving to 11-0 in first-round matches in New York.

She was asked during her on-court interview what the low point was while forced off the tour.

"There were definitely a few," Sharapova allowed, before adding: "But I don't think this is the time to talk about that." AP

opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



GOOD CRISIS MANAGEMENT

The government performance in managing the recent crisis caused by Typhoon Hato has revealed some major problems of governance in Macau. All the textbooks on managing crises, especially where they involve large numbers of people, tell us that poor preparation and communications quickly lead to breakdowns in operational responses; confusion, fear and anger among the people affected by the crisis; perceptions that crisis leadership is inept, at best, and criminally negligent at worst; and long, dragged out, and excessively costly, resolution of the resulting problems. In Macau, with the recent typhoon we seem to have experienced all of these poor crisis management issues, and more.

The first, and most obvious, rule of crisis management is to be prepared and anticipate what problems might occur. Typhoons have been happening in this region forever, and climate change is unsettling weather patterns so they are only going to get worse. Civil infrastructure is often designed for the "100-year worst case", and Typhoon Hato is the worst one in the last 50 years so it is well within the worst case scenario which should guide Macau planning.

The fact that windows have been blown out of relatively new buildings all over town indicates that the building design codes are either inadequate or not properly enforced. Either oversight is totally unacceptable - we pay the civil servants involved well, and should demand competent performance.

The older parts of Macau have been flooding after heavy storms for many, many years. Clearly, the storm water systems are inadequate and this is a well known and long standing problem that should have been rectified years ago. Cost is not the issue - the government never spends its annual budget, and the manpower and expertise to do the work is readily available in the region. Similarly, issues of electricity supply failures are also well known and could have been resolved by spending money. The electricity company seems to make good profits, perhaps at the local community's expense because they have not been adequately investing in supply infrastructure. And the same goes for the water company.

The second rule of crisis management is good communications and leadership by people who have been well trained and prepared. Government communications seem to have been largely non-existent during the recent typhoon. There seem to be no spokespeople, training or preparation. Also, the only working communications channels seem to have been social media, with all their problems of false rumours and panic. The crisis response by the local cable TV company seems to have been to simply shut down operations and abandon ship. By contrast, the local TV station tried to keep people informed, and full marks to them. The government website and social media presence seems to have been largely non-existent. On this point, it is totally unacceptable in a place with so many tourists and expatriate workers, to not provide information in English (the international language) as well as Chinese.

The third rule of crisis management is notification and monitoring systems. Most of this seems to have come from the general public posting photos and other information on social media. And members of the public initiating and coordinating clean-up efforts. The only other group to have made a significant and coordinated effort has been the PLA - and they deserve great thanks. Why has government leadership and coordination been largely non-existent - again, this is totally unacceptable. Are government jobs just sinecures, or do we really expect competence from our civil servants?

We must do better at handling public crises in the future in Macau, and the way forward is relatively clear. It is well past time for improvements to begin.

THE BUZZ 92-YEAR-OLD MAN FOUND DEAD IN SAI VAN LAKE

A 92-year-old local male resident was found dead in Sai Van Lake in Macau yesterday, according to a report by TDM. The Judiciary Police (PJ) has preliminarily confirmed that there are no suspicious causes behind the death.

According to the PJ, on Monday afternoon, the late man left his home alone and could not be contacted afterward. Then, early yesterday morning at around 1 a.m., a friend of the late man, went to search for the elderly resident in the vicinity of Sai

Van Lake, having spotted his friend's crutch. He subsequently found a dead body floating in the lake, and reported it to the police.

The Fire Services Bureau and the Customs Service confirmed the man's death upon arriving at the scene.

According to the PJ, no suspicious injuries which might have caused the death were discovered. The case is being followed up by the PJ's investigation department.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	30-50 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	40-60 Good	😊
Ambient	20-40 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



AP PHOTO

SRI LANKA A former Sri Lankan general accused of war crimes by human rights groups has left Brazil, where until recently he was his country's ambassador to six nations in South America, an embassy official said yesterday.

IRAQ's ethnically-mixed Kirkuk province, long claimed by both the Arab-led central government and the autonomous Kurdish region, voted yesterday to take part in a vote on Kurdish independence slated for next month.

ETHIOPIA A drugstore in Ethiopia that was selling banned substances to athletes across the road from the country's main track stadium has been shut down pending an investigation, anti-doping authorities said yesterday.

RUSSIA's economy minister, a rising star in Kremlin politics, said yesterday that his country is no longer suffering from U.S. and EU sanctions, and sees better prospects for future trade in Asia instead. *More on p15*

AP PHOTO



GERMANY Officials expect to bring new charges against a nurse already serving a life sentence for two murders after determining that he might have killed another 84 patients, if not more, a prosecutor said yesterday.

CHILE President Michelle Bachelet has introduced a bill to legalize gay marriage, the latest in a series of recent reforms in a country long regarded as one of Latin America's most socially conservative. "We can't let old prejudices be stronger than love," Bachelet said.

Indiana senator, outsourcing critic, selling company stock

Brian Slodysko, Indianapolis

AN Indiana senator who is a longtime critic of outsourcing jobs to foreign countries says he's finalizing his sale of stock in a family arts and crafts business that operates a factory in Mexico.

Sen. Joe Donnelly, considered one of the most vulnerable Democrats up for re-election in a deep red state next year, vowed on July 14 to sell stock worth as much as USD50,000 in the Stewart Superior Corp. The promise came after The Associated Press first reported that the company, which is operated by Donnelly's brother and has been in his family for generations, benefits from the same trade practices Donnelly has blasted throughout his political career.

The Donnelly campaign said in an email Monday night that the senator signed over his stock in the company on Aug. 11 for \$17,410 and plans to donate the proceeds to 10 different charities across Indiana.

"Joe will donate the amount paid in the sale of the stock to ten foodbanks across Indiana and is grateful for their continued work to serve Hoosiers in need, and is eager to continue to work across the aisle to stand up for Hoosier jobs and build support for the End Outsourcing Act," campaign manager Peter Hanscom said



AP PHOTO

in a statement to the AP.

Donnelly has yet to file a mandatory financial disclosure documenting the sale, which Senate ethics rules require him to file within 30 days of receiving notification of the transaction. His campaign says that he is still waiting to receive payment.

Donnelly has long criticized free-trade policies for killing American jobs. He accused Carrier, an air conditioner and furnace maker, and its parent company of exploiting \$3-an-hour workers when it announced plans to wind down operations in Indiana and move to Mexico.

However, Stewart Superior continues to capitalize on some of the same trade policies and low-paid foreign labor, operating a factory in the state of Jalisco through a Mexican subsidiary company, Diverstech Color de Mexico.

Since at least 2012, Stewart Superior and its subsidiaries have been shipping thou-

sands of pounds of raw materials to the Mexican factory, where it produces ink pads and other supplies, according to customs records from Panjiva Inc., which tracks American imports and exports. The finished products are then transported back to a company facility in California, the records show.

Since the AP's first report, Stewart Superior has removed sections from its website mentioning the Mexican operation. But the company initially touted the factory, stating that it "brings economical, cost competitive manufacturing and product development to our valued customers."

The issue has the potential to haunt Donnelly during the coming campaign. Already the National Republican Senate Committee hired a mariachi band, which performed outside Donnelly's formal campaign kickoff event this month. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Alastair Grant



The Princess of the People. Tributes and memorabilia for the late Diana, Princess of Wales outside Kensington Palace in London, ahead of the 20th anniversary of Lady Di's death, in a car crash in Paris Aug. 31, 1997.