



### SPACES FOR YOUNG ARTISTS TO PAINT ARE LACKING

Australian artist Denis Murrell points out that aspiring artists face hurdles when trying to find a suitable place to paint

P7



### ENGLISH BEEF PROMOTION TO LAST ONE MONTH

"English beef has made a comeback and is now featured in some of the finest establishments in HK and Macau," the event's promoters say

P7



### HK ROLLS OUT NEW ELECTION PLAN, LEGISLATORS STAGE WALKOUT

P11

**THU. 08**  
Jan 2015

T. 12°/ 17° C  
H. 55/ 75%

Blackberry email service powered by CTM

N° 2224 **MOP 5.00**  
**HKD 7.50**

Barcode: 12305 4271

# Times

## MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

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

www.rcr-macau.com

**MACAU RCR electronics**

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

### WORLD BRIEFS

**INDONESIA** Divers and an unmanned underwater vehicle spot the tail of the AirAsia plane that crashed into the Java Sea with 162 people on board, an important finding because the jet's black boxes are located in that part of the aircraft. **More on p13**



**SOUTH KOREA** Prosecutors charge the former Korean Air Lines executive who notoriously kicked a crew member off a flight with violating aviation security law and hindering a gov't investigation. Cho Hyun-ah, the daughter of the airline's chairman, ordered a senior crewmember off a Dec. 5 flight after being offered macadamia nuts in a bag, instead of on a dish.



**SRI LANKA** The retired postal worker knows who he's voting against in today's presidential election. Like most ethnic Tamils in Sri Lanka, he cannot even imagine voting for the current president, Mahinda Rajapaksa (pictured), a man who solidified his power base by crushing a brutal Tamil insurgency and then largely ignored Tamil demands to heal the wounds of the decades-long civil war.

More on backpage

AP PHOTO

TERROR HITS PARIS SATIRICAL NEWSPAPER, 12 DEAD

# Satanic cartoons

Masked gunmen stormed the offices of the French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo's office, in Paris, yesterday killing at least 12 people before escaping, police and a witness said. The weekly has previously drawn condemnation from Muslims. Obama offers US help to bring terrorists to justice

P14,15 FULL COVERAGE

## Rita Santos to leave Forum Macau

P3

## HEALTH

# Down's syndrome screening to be made available to all pregnant women

**F**OLLOWING complaints that the prenatal screening test for Down's syndrome is no longer offered to expectant mothers at local health centers, the Health Bureau (SSM) has promised that all pregnant women will be provided with the tests.

According to the maternal healthcare handbook issued by the bureau, a free test to check the thickness of the fetus' nuchal translucency will be offered to local pregnant women between 10 and 14 weeks of gestation. It will be combined with a blood test that checks the AFP and hCG levels between 15 and 20 weeks of pregnancy.

"Either test promises accuracy at 70 percent for a Down's syndrome diagnosis, and, when undertaken together, can increase the diagnostic accuracy up to 86 percent. These two tests will be made available for pregnant women below the age of 35. For mothers above the age, we launched a DNA test service this year



The SSM held a press conference on Tuesday evening, following the criticism made by a civic group under the Macau Federation of Trade Unions

as an alternative that has higher accuracy," clarified Chan Wai Sin, the SSM deputy director and Conde de São Januário Central Hospital (CHCSJ) director.

The SSM held a press conference on Tuesday evening, following the criticism made by a civic group under the Macau Federation of Trade Unions (FOAM). They claimed that a turnover of medical personnel in the city's public hospitals and health centers has hindered the timely deli-

very of nuchal translucency tests.

"We've received several complaints that starting from January 1, doctors at the health centers told expectant mothers that they will not provide pregnant women the opportunity to take the fetus' nuchal translucency test because they couldn't arrange it for some reason," revealed Mr Lam U Tou, vice chairman of the Choi In Tong Sam Association, during the group's press conference Tues-

day morning.

"The need for technical accuracy in this test is relatively high, as outcomes can be affected by a millimeter. We learnt that the CHCSJ has lost three senior doctors in its obstetrics department recently, so the manpower shortage has led to a tight scheduling of the diagnostic screenings," he added, "although the SSM responded by saying that the gap in manpower has been filled, it triggered more doubts in the community."

Mr Lam further argued that the authorities seemed to imply that the nuchal translucency test is unnecessary. "If this test is not provided on schedule, the mothers will face a higher risk of carrying a baby with Down's syndrome," he stressed, "the SSM should confirm that the efficacy of prenatal screening won't decline due to manpower shortage."

It is estimated by the SSM that there will be about 2,000 pregnant women in need of a prena-

tal checkup, including local residents and the floating population. Mr Chan has stated that the Bureau has enough manpower to cope with the demand.

In recent years, Macau has seen a baby boom starting from the Year of Dragon (2012). Meanwhile, some experienced mothers have complained over a decline in the quality of both prenatal checks and pediatric services. "The government should make a plan to be deployed in advance to meet surging demand and be ready to ensure that services to local mothers will not worsen," urged the group.

Asked whether local mothers will be prioritized in arranging the prenatal checkups, Mr Chan assured that "the public medical institutions shouldn't select the pregnant women [based on their residency] and will treat them equally in conducting prenatal screening," adding that the checkups for local mothers are free of charge. **BY**

## Chui visits Zhongshan to intensify cooperation

**D**URING his visit to Zhuhai and Zhongshan, Chief Executive Chui Sai On stated his belief that 2015 would be an important year to further intensify the collaboration with Zhuhai. He also expressed his hope that the collaboration with Zhongshan will generate key tangible outcomes in the long-term cooperation between Guangdong and Macau.

In the meeting with Zhuhai government officials, the CE said he believed this year would be an important one to further intensify bilateral goals. Such goals include strengthening industry diversification, expediting cross-boundary infrastructures and capitalizing on the new boundary-crossing policy.

The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, who also took part in the visit, said that the establishment of reputable traditional Chinese medicine centers in Macau - notably, the State Key Laboratory for Quality Research in Chinese Medicine, and the center set up by the World Health Organization - would enable its products to meet international standards so that they may be

exported worldwide.

Meanwhile, Li Jia, Secretary of the committee of the Zhuhai Communist Party of China (CPC), commented that the next five years would be important not only for Macau but also for Zhuhai. This is due to the introduction of the Hengqin Free Trade Zone and the completion of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge. He suggested both governments should better prepare for industry diversification, and establish effective mechanisms for the opportunities emerging in the inter-metropolitan areas of Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Macau.

After his talk with Zhuhai officials, Chui Sai On visited Zhongshan and met with the city's CPC committee secretary, Xue Xiaofeng. The CE stated that he has received a positive response from the leaders in Beijing concerning discussions with Zhongshan, including the building of the Cuiheng New District. Alongside the Guangdong provincial government, Chui said Macau will strive to include projects in collaboration with Zhongshan into the Guangdong-Macau Cooperation Framework Agreement.

## CRIME

## Restaurant head waiter detained for substituting pricey wines

**T**HE Judiciary Police (PJ) has detained a 30-year-old former restaurant head waiter who allegedly replaced high value wines with low-cost ones and has profited more than RMB800,000 from the act.

Authorities were notified of the case on Monday, when a representative from a hotel in the central area approached PJ headquarters with the suspect. The representative claimed that the suspect was a head waiter in their hotel's French restaurant until November last year.

During stock-keeping in December, the restaurant found the labels of 50 bottles of red and

white wines were different from the usual ones. After checking the wines, the restaurant suspected that the labels of more expensive wines had been attached to low-cost wines. They also suspected that it is the former employee who committed the act. The restaurant then inquired about the issue to the suspect, who allegedly confessed the wrongdoing. He also promised to turn himself in on Monday.

During the investigation, the restaurant told PJ that the 50 bottles of wine cost a total of HKD2.13 million. The suspect claimed that when he was working in the restaurant, he took

those bottles and searched the internet for a sample of their labels. After creating the labels with images found, the man had bought 50 bottles of wine worth around MOP100 each on which he used the home-made images.

As for those 50 bottles he stole from the restaurant, the man was alleged to have sold 43 of them on the Internet with a profit of RMB804,250 from them. The remaining seven bottles were in the hands of a Japanese commission merchant. The suspect also claimed to have spent all the money. PJ will hand the man over to the Public Prosecution Office.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

MDT's Website has logged over  
**85 million** page views  
since January 1st, 2012 up to today.

Thank You!

Like us? facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門每日新聞  
**Times**

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF\_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR\_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS\_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela  
CHINA & FOREIGN EDITOR\_Vanessa Moore vanessa@macaudailytimes.com

DESIGN EDITOR\_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS\_Alberto Martins, António Espadinha Soares, Brook Yang, Catarina Pinto, Cyril Law, Emille Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Philips, João Pedro Lau, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Keith Ip, Renato Marques (photographer), Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Sum Choi, Viviana Segui | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS\_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES\_Associated Press, Bloomberg, Lusa News Agency, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY\_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

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

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

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

## TCM announces salary hike, claims operation losses



A statement was released by the bus Sociedade de Transportes Colectivos de Macau (TCM) in the Macau Daily announcing the company's decision to increase the salaries of its drivers. It also claimed to have been suffering losses, due to the fact that the Macau government has yet to approve its application for a higher service fee.

In the statement, TCM said that in order to thank the drivers for their efforts, the board has decided to raise their salaries by 10 percent, effective January 1 this year. As for TCM employees in other positions, the statement said that their salaries would also be adjusted "in accordance with their performance".

Moreover, the bus operator said that it is experiencing losses because the government did not approve its applications launched in 2012 and 2013 for a higher service fee. "Since the MSAR government has yet to approve our application in 2012 and 2013 to adjust the annual service fee, our service fee... at present still remains at the 2011 level, while the salaries for drivers have accumulated a growth of 67 percent. We are operating (...) under the stress of serious losses," it said.

Furthermore, TCM claimed that, in order to maintain sufficient financial capability to provide a stable bus service, it has been operating a bus rental service, utilizing buses that are not in operation. It also stated that all the drivers operating the rental buses are part-time drivers. TCM has confirmed that "the rental service does not have any negative impact on our provision of a bus service to the public."

TCM deputy general manager Leong Mei Leng told Macau Daily that she hopes the salary hike can attract new drivers. She also claimed that the current average salary for TCM drivers is at least MOP3,000 higher than that for shuttle bus drivers. The company has already attracted two to three drivers. However, Leong said TCM still needs to hire around 20 more drivers, as some of their drivers will be retiring soon.

Currently, the bus service concessions of both TCM and another bus operator, Transmac, are under the bus service operation model that came into effect in 2011. Following the 2013 bankruptcy of Reolian, the third bus operator in Macau, the government has signed a new bus operation service contract with New Era, the operator that took over Reolian. The authority claimed that it would work towards changing the contracts with TCM and Transmac as soon as possible. **JPL**

# Rita Santos leaves Forum Macau in March

**T**HE deputy secretary-general of the permanent secretariat of Forum Macau, Rita Santos, has told Radio Macau that she will be retiring and stepping down from her post in March.

The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, has accepted her request for early retirement.

Ms Santos said that on March 3, she would be required to renew her contract as coordinator of the Support Office for Forum Macau. "I decided to submit my retirement and to also ask for the termination of my contract as deputy secretary-general. I believe that, after so many years of [public] service, I need to devote [my time] to my family," she said.

Quoting people familiar with the matter, newspaper Hoje Macau reported last month that Ms Santos would be leaving Forum Macau, to be replaced by Echo Chan, who is currently serving as the director of the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM).

Ms Santos gave a positive review of Forum Macau's



Rita Santos (center)

work since its establishment in 2003. She believes that the forum has helped mainland China recognize and acknowledge the importance of the Portuguese-speaking countries, as well as the role played by the Macanese and Portuguese communities. Moreover, Ms Santos stressed that Forum Macau has also contributed to reinforcing the status of the Portuguese language.

More than simply working together with government departments, she believes that the focus of Forum

Macau should be to further its cooperation with the private sector, thus contributing to the diversification of the city's economy. "I believe that Macau businessmen should take more advantage of the role [Macau plays] as a platform [between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries]," she said.

The Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries (the forum's official name) was established to further multilateral relations.

**I decided to submit my retirement and to also ask for the termination of my contract as deputy secretary-general**

RITA SANTOS

## OFF THE RECORD

# Secretary Chan wants open communication



**T**HE Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, met yesterday with representatives of mainstream English, Chinese and Portuguese media outlets to "strengthen

communication and understanding between the Government and the press," a note of Ms Chan's office said.

The meeting was held to promote

"government action transparency" while also "to hear the ideas and suggestions of the heads of media organizations" in recognition of the need for "constant optimization of services in the areas of administration and justice in order to better plan for the future."

Secretary Chan considered that any policy or measure implemented by the government has "to seek the citizens' understanding and support." Therefore, as an intermediary between the parties, the media plays "an important role in gaining the understanding and the support of all society in order to create a brighter future," stated Ms Chan's office.

Ms Chan stressed that the government is committed to setting up a healthy and efficient framework for disseminating news.

Secretary Chan thanked the media representatives for their opinions and suggestions, which she deemed to be "very constructive."

More than 30 officials and representatives from media outlets, including from MDT, were present at the meetings, which were also attended by the Chief of the Office for Administration and Justice, Ms Yvonne Iao Man Leng, along with other members of Sonia Chan's team. **MDT**

# 'Fai D Fai D' – bringing homes and restaurants closer

Catarina Pinto

**SÉRGIO** Almeida is striving to bring Macau's residents closer to local restaurants. 'Fai D Fai D,' currently operating on a trial, aims to deliver clients' favorite restaurant dishes to their homes or offices within an hour.

"Macau is a small and overcrowded place with serious traffic issues. Small restaurants get easily packed at rush hours, and people who want to order take away sometimes have difficulties in finding car park spaces," said Sérgio, a local resident.

Realizing that restaurants face challenges in operating their own delivery service, Sérgio thought that outsourcing such a service would be a more suitable option.

The idea took shape six years ago, when he was still living in Beijing. A few months after moving back to Macau last year, his girlfriend ordered food using a similar type of service,



Sérgio Almeida

which Sérgio thought was an effective way to help people get their favorite dishes without having to leave their home.

In such a busy and crowded city, many face hurdles when trying to get their preferred lun-

ch option at the office as well, which makes Macau a perfect place to develop delivery service projects, Sérgio stressed. "People who work in the NAPE area, for instance, have very little options for lunch, and those available are usually full. Also, people who work until late in the evening and have no time to cook find themselves having the same delivery options," he recalled, stating that 'Fai D Fai D' was created to broaden those options.

"Everyone at some point has already thought: 'Oh I wish I could eat that food from that restaurant' without having to leave home. We hope to be the first thing that comes to these people's minds when they want that," he added.

But how does a food delivery service operate, particularly in terms of charges? Sérgio clarified that it really depends on what type of service people request. "We have a couple of services on our website [www.faidfaid.com]. The main servi-

ce we provide is an under one hour delivery from any restaurant [available on the website], which is free and we hope to keep it that way," he said.

The main service provided by 'Fai D Fai D' does not require the client to pay an extra charge, and the price of each dish remains the same as if ordered at the restaurant.

Everyone at some point has already thought: 'Oh I wish I could eat that food from that restaurant' without having to leave home

SÉRGIO ALMEIDA

Other services include a premium delivery option, which comes at an extra cost. "We are requested to pick up food from restaurants that we don't have an agreement with. Even though we have had clients using this service already, it's still quite new and subject to changes," he acknowledged.

'Request a delivery' is another option, which allows a client to request a delivery from any place as long as it's related to food and drinks. The price will depend on how many people are needed to operate the delivery and the mode of transportation required, as well as the size of the order and distance.

Orders are currently placed via the company's website, but they're hoping to launch an app or call center at a later stage.

'Fai D Fai D' is currently working with seven local restaurants, namely Boa Mesa (Portuguese food), Tacos (Mexican), LB Super Pollo, Metro-pizza, Greens Kitchen & Juicery, Doçuras e Ternuras and Fai D Catering. They are negotiating cooperation with nine other restaurants.

The main service is available between 11am and 3pm, as well as between 6pm and 8pm. The 'request a delivery' service is available between 11am and 10pm.

AD



**優悅 牙科護理中心**  
**ICQ Oral Health Center**

ICQ dental team is a group of dental specialists with internationally recognized qualifications. We provide all range of dental services:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Oral examination and radiology investigation</li> <li>- Restorative and Cosmetic Dentistry</li> <li>- Children Dentistry</li> <li>- Orthodontic Treatment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Oral and Dental implant Surgery</li> <li>- Endodontic Treatment</li> <li>- Periodontal Treatment</li> <li>- Emergency Treatment</li> </ul>
---	---

We are committed to deliver high quality dental services with personalized care. We ensure the highest level of infection control.

Website: [www.icqoral.com](http://www.icqoral.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/icqoral](http://www.facebook.com/icqoral)

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT: OFFICE HOUR: 10:00AM-19:00PM  
CLOSE ON SUN, TUE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Rm1907, 19/F, AIA Tower, Nos. 251A-301, AVENIDA COMMERCIAL DE MACAU, MACAU SAR  
TEL: (853)28373266 FAX: (853)28356483 EMAIL: [info@icqoral.com](mailto:info@icqoral.com) WWW: [www.icqoral.com](http://www.icqoral.com)

## KTRANZ

TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE  
TRANSLATIONS

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

**Services**  
TRANSLATIONS, PROOFREADING,  
COPYWRITING, DATA INPUT,  
NEWS MONITORING

**We translate +10,000 words a day**

Contact: Ms Juliana Cheang  
Email: [juliana@ktranz.com.mo](mailto:juliana@ktranz.com.mo)  
Tel: +853 2871 6081 / 2 Fax: +853 2871 6084  
Address: Av. Infante D. Henrique, 62 2/F, Macau

## Drivers Needed

**Requirement:** Must be a Macau BIR holder  
Must have a valid Macau drivers license

**Monthly Salary** between MOP15,000 and MOP20,000

**Please contact** Ms. Juliana at 2883 3008

**New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.**

*Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry*

Edvard Pettersson

COURTS

# Jacobs authorized to use secret investigation report

**S**ANDS China Ltd.'s secret investigation of Macau government officials, allegedly ordered by its Chairman Sheldon Adelson, is fair game in the feud between the billionaire and the casino operator's former top executive.

Steven Jacobs, locked in a four-year battle with Adelson, yesterday won the right to use a report on the probe in his wrongful-termination lawsuit. Jacobs contends he was ousted in 2010 as chief executive officer of the China unit of Las Vegas Sands Corp. because he clashed with Adelson over demands he collect information on Macau officials to exert "leverage" on them.

Jacobs claims the report by a Hong Kong risk consultant, and two others on alleged ties between Sands China associates and Chinese organized crime, will expose the company to "serious political and legal problems." Sands argued that Jacobs "stole" the documents when he was fired, and that they should be legally off-limits for use in the lawsuit.

Nevada District Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez, at a hearing yesterday in Las Vegas, ruled Jacobs can use the reports while ordering that they be treated as confidential information, meaning they may not become public. Sands had asked for them to be treated as highly confidential, meaning only attorneys and the judge could see them.

"In some cases, they would call this blackmail," J. Randall Jones, a lawyer for Sands China, said of Jacobs's effort to use the information. The case has been bogged down over the question of whether Jacobs can sue the Chinese subsidiary in Nevada. Sands says the unit doesn't do business in the U.S.

Jones said Jacobs wants to use the reports' "sensitive information" as leverage against Adelson to gain a financial



Steven Jacobs

advantage. Gonzalez rejected Jones's request to hold a separate evidentiary hearing on whether the reports are relevant to the question of the case belonging in Las Vegas. She set a hearing for April 20 to consider whether Las Vegas is the proper location.

Todd Bice, a lawyer for Ja-

cobs, told the judge that the reports are relevant because they demonstrate who was really in charge in Macau, namely the Las Vegas-based parent company. The company has conceded that at least two of the reports were commissioned by Las Vegas Sands Corp.

"These documents substantiate what Mr. Jacobs said was going on in Macau," Bice said. Sands wants to keep them under wraps because they are embarrassing and contradict Adelson's public statements, Bice said.

"I never asked or authorized Jacobs to conduct a private in-

vestigation of or 'create a dossier' on Macanese officials," Adelson said in his court declaration. "We believe unequivocally that Jacobs initiated the investigation on his own for his own purposes."

Jacobs contends Sands engaged in "a game of doublespeak," because the company first disavowed any involvement in the reports and later argued they should remain confidential or be barred as evidence. Jacobs returned at least some of the original documents to Sands and kept copies for himself, according to court records.

A second report Sands wan-

ted to keep out of court was a background investigation of Cheung Chi Tai, an alleged member of a Hong Kong organized-crime group known as a triad who has been involved in operating VIP rooms in Macau casinos.

According to Hong Kong court records, Cheung was one of the owners of Neptune Group Ltd., a listed company that has invested in junket operators. According to Neptune's 2014 annual report, it operated VIP clubs at Sands China properties.

A U.S. Senate investigative committee has identified Cheung as one of the nine leaders of the Wo Hop To Triad, the Justice Department said in a court filing.

Jacobs, in a revised version of his lawsuit filed Dec. 22, claims one of the issues he and Adelson clashed over was whether the board of directors should be informed about findings related to media reports that the company was conducting business with Chinese organized crime syndicates.

The third document Sands sought to keep sealed is a background check on Heung Wah Kong, also known as Charles Heung, a Hong Kong movie producer.

Vickers, former commander of the Royal Hong Kong Police's Criminal Investigation Bureau, spoke at an April symposium at the University of California at Berkeley about the role of organized crime in moving money from mainland China, where gambling is illegal, to Macau, where visitors are restricted from bringing large amounts of cash with them. **Bloomberg**

## In some cases, they would call this blackmail

J. RANDALL JONES  
LAWYER FOR SANDS CHINA

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

30m pageviews per year  
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

**Times App**

New look more features

Times App on App Store & Google Play

MacauDaily TIMES

THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

*Varanda* Restaurant 怡心閣餐廳  
1/F The Landmark Macau

**Portuguese Lunch Buffet**  
Mon - Sat 12:00 - 14:30  
Traditional Portuguese Gastronomic Cuisine

MOP **Jan 99** Per Person  
Subject to 10% service charge

<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>Cream of Pumpkin &amp; Black Eye Pea Soup Baked Red Snapper with Potatoes in Olive Oil &amp; White Wine Stewed Beef Shank Roasted Lamb Leg with Baked Paprika Potato</p>	<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>Cream of Carrot Soup Fish Fillet Cutlets Portuguese Style Lamb Curry Portuguese Style Baked Veal &amp; Clam</p>	<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p>Portuguese Cauliflower &amp; Ham Soup Stewed Mixed Meat 'Viseu' Style Portuguese Fish Stew Grilled Beef Medallions with Onion</p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p>Green Vegetable Potato Soup Veal Cutlets Roasted Pork Loin in Paprika Sauce Penne in Tomato Sauce</p>	<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p>Mixed Vegetable Soup Traditional Portuguese Boiled Assorted Meat, Sausages, Veggies &amp; Rice Baked Sea-Bass with Paprika Potatoes &amp; Sausage</p>	<p><b>Saturday</b></p> <p>Chickpeas and Spinach Soup Cascais Style Baked Sardines Stewed Pig's Trotters with Red Bean Roasted Mongolian Rack of Lamb</p>

Landmark Patisserie presents Cake of the Month for only \$98. Book one day in advance and save 10%.

FREE 2+1  
Reservation No. ☎ (853) 8795 6181



Be your own boss

Get a business cooking with Thermomix.

Thermomix gives you the opportunity to work for yourself as an independent Consultant in a business that offers fun, freedom, flexibility and good money.

Our advisors show customers how to use this revolutionary machine at demos and cooking classes in Macau.

As a Thermomix representative you will receive ongoing training and support and attend cooking classes. You can turn your passion for food into a great full-time or part-time income while participating in our fantastic promotions.

If you would like to make a difference and do something you love, please contact our head office.

Tong Jia de Ramirez  
Phone Number : +853 6668 1771.

**One night in MONTE CARLO** 蒙地卡羅之夜

FMBA Charity Gala Dinner 法國澳門商會慈善晚宴

An enchanting & glamorous night...

**Friday 23/01/2015**  
Grand Ballroom, MGM Macau

6:30 pm • Cocktail 雞尾酒會  
7:30 pm • Dinner 晚宴

Great singers, musicians and artistic performances, exciting lucky-draw with all proceeds to charity, dancing and laughter till midnight...

design by LOCO Creative Works LTD

www.francemacau.com

Enquiries, Reservations & Sponsorships 如有垂詢, 訂票及贊助:  
☎ (+853) 8798 9699 | info@francemacau.com

Organiser FRANCE MACAU BUSINESS ASSOCIATION 法國澳門商會

BBAM  
澳門英國商會  
British Business Association of Macao

**Seminar on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2015**  
“Legacy and Estate Planning – is yours in order?”  
At Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16  
Promenade Room, 6/F

How your current financial arrangements affect your estate when you die –  
How your family deals, financially with your death –  
How where you are (age and geographic location) can affect tax liabilities –  
How your children are affected if you don't write a Will for Guardianship –  
How a mixed marriage can affect the estate when one or both parties die –  
How Trusts can help Estate Planning.  
**Knowledge is the key.**

**Speaker: Annette M Houlihan**  
Manager Director at Carey, Suen and Associates Limited

6.15 pm: Registration  
6.30 pm: Presentation  
7.15 PM: Q & A session  
7.3- 8.30 pm: Drinks  
Members: MOP/HKD 190.00  
Non-Members: MOP/HKD: 290.00

RSVP: [bbam@britchammacao.org](mailto:bbam@britchammacao.org) or Tel +853 8798 9697

Catarina Pinto

**A**USTRALIAN artist Denis Murrell is convinced that Macau has “a lot of untapped [artistic] talent”. However, the city is currently lacking studio spaces for young artists to develop their skills.

Rental prices, he recalled, have increased at such a rapid pace that aspiring artists face hurdles when trying to find a suitable place to paint.

Based in Macau since 1989, Denis Murrell has been teaching some of his students a self-developed technique that combines the use of acrylic paint and absorbent tissue. Some of his works, along with those of his students, are now on display at the Rui Cunha Foundation.

The exhibition, entitled “Starting Point: Denis Murrell and His Young Artists’ Paintings,” will be on display until January 31.

“We have a group of people who have just started painting for enjoyment and have so far managed to do this very well. They can become artists, but they need to keep painting. And that’s the main problem in Macau: there are no longer places for painting because of rentals,” he stressed.

Mr Murrell revealed that rental prices have increased to such an extent where “nobody can

## Macau lacks spaces for young artists to paint, says Denis Murrell



Denis Murrell (center)

afford to get a studio, even as a group.” He added that a while ago, a group of artists would collaborate and pay for a space in an industrial building. However, now that owners of old factories have realized the

surge in demand for such places, rental prices have gone up.

“Owners suddenly realized that artists were looking for empty factories. Prices went up and now they have no one renting them,” he added.

The exhibition at Rui Cunha Foundation combines artworks by Denis Murrell and several of his students, some who were enrolled in painting workshops he conducted at the Macau Museum of Art.

Although relatively inexperienced, Murrell’s students have managed to learn and apply his technique. The Australian painter said that “the standard of the painting series [on display] is very high, as they’ve achieved

great things in a short period of time.”

Helen Leong, one of his students, said she had always been intrigued by his technique, and therefore enrolled at the Macau Museum of Art workshops as soon as the opportunity arose. The freedom such a technique permits was what attracted her. “I knew Denis for many years and I knew he had a special painting technique. It was easy for me because this technique is very free, I didn’t have to think about what I wanted it to become, we can do anything we want,” she said.

Candice Chi Lok, one of Murrell’s English language students, said this is the first time she has attempted painting. “I think it’s quite easy for beginners, because I had no previous experience and still managed to learn the technique,” she said.

Dennis Murrell concluded by saying that this is “a very unusual exhibition” due to the limited opportunities available for students and teachers to display their work together.

## English beef promotion to last one month

João Pedro Lau

**B**EEF may be considered a very common ingredient. But if the cattle are raised in the right conditions, it can result in an excellent quality of beef ideal for a variety of dishes.

Collaborating with 13 restaurants in Macau and Hong Kong, EBLEX, the English beef and lamb industry association, will be organizing a month-long English beef promotion between January 12 and February 12.

“English beef has made a comeback and is now featured in some of the finest establishments in Hong Kong and Macau. We’re encouraged by the response we’ve received and especially pleased that the two restaurants in Macau are now part of our efforts,” said Jean Pierre Garnier, head of export services at EBLEX.

Besides delicious meals, the promotion includes a “Shoot-Check-Win” feature. Restau-



Poached English beef brisket with organic tofu, glass noodles and red miso broth (Jing Ying - City of Dreams)

rant guests are encouraged to take photos of the promotional dishes, upload them to a specially created Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/Englishbeef](http://www.facebook.com/Englishbeef)) and invite their friends to like them. The pictu-

res with the most likes will be in the running to win restaurant vouchers of up to HK\$4,000.

The Times has talked to Chef Calvin Soh, the director of culinary operation, food and beverage of Melco Crown En-

“English Beef has made a comeback and is now featured at some of the finest establishments in Hong Kong and Macau

JEAN PIERRE GARNIER

tertainment. He said that the difference between English beef and other beef available on the market is its flavor. “You can really taste the beef’s flavor. Some beef [is good for their] texture and tenderness” he said.

Chef Soh said the beef’s texture can be softened using a variety of

techniques. “But the taste, you can never create a beef taste”, he said. “So, for English beef, it is the taste and flavor that I like the most.”

The Jin Ying in the City of Dreams Macau, alongside the Ying in Altira Macau, are the two restaurants that will participate in this promotion. Chef Soh has introduced to the Times the dish “poached English beef with organic tofu, glass noodles and red miso broth” from Jin Ying. He said that due to the excellent quality of English beef, they have decided to poach the beef slowly at a low temperature. “It’s a little bit like the Vietnam boiled beef”, the chef said. “So you can really taste the softness of the meat”.

Currently, there are three English beef brands in Hong Kong – Ashdale, C&K Meats and Stapleton Park. All are from cattle raised entirely on grass and kept outdoors most of the year. They are from the English part of the UK – from Cornwall in the southwest to Kent in the southeast all the way up to Northumberland and Cumbria in the north – bordering on Scotland in the north and Wales in the west.

Lukanyo Mnyanda

**T**HE euro dropped for a fourth day versus the dollar, the longest streak in two months, as consumer prices in the region fell more than economists predicted and strengthened the case for asset purchases by the European Central Bank.

A dollar gauge climbed to the highest since 2005 as a private report showed U.S. companies added more workers than forecast in December before the Federal Reserve releases minutes of its last meeting amid signs policy makers are moving toward raising interest rates. The 19-nation shared currency reached a nine-year low amid speculation the ECB will announce a sovereign-bond buying program as early as this month. Brazil's real led advances among major currencies.

"The ECB has been on a trajectory toward full QE for some time now and all their statements are telling us they're about to pull the trigger, either on Jan. 22 or, at the latest, the meeting after that," said Sonja Marten, a currency strategist at DZ Bank AG in Frankfurt, referring to quantitative easing, or bond buying. "For the euro, we've had a pretty tough couple of weeks. Looking at the next few weeks, the bias is going to remain very much on the downside."

The euro dropped 0.5 percent to USD1.1835 at 8:43 a.m. in New York and touched \$1.1819, the weakest level since 2006. The euro gained 0.3 percent versus Japan's currency to 141.24 yen. It slipped 2.9 percent in the previous three days. The dollar strengthened 0.8 percent to 119.30 yen.

Intercontinental Exchange Inc.'s U.S. Dollar Index, which tracks the currency against six major peers, rose 0.6 percent to 92.021 after climbing to

# Euro falls as consumer prices drop most since 2009



An employee drops freshly struck Lithuanian one euro coins into a collection tray in the Bank of Lithuania mint in Vilnius

## The dollar extended gains after companies in the U.S. added 241,000 workers in December

92.118, the highest level since December 2005.

The dollar extended gains after companies in the U.S. added 241,000 workers in December, figures from the Roseland, New Jersey-based ADP Research Institute

showed yesterday. The median projection of 45 economists surveyed by Bloomberg called for an advance of 225,000. Estimates ranged from gains of 185,000 to 310,000.

Labor Department data in two days may show private payrolls climbed by 228,000 workers last month as the jobless rate fell to a 6 1/2-year low of 5.7 percent, according to Bloomberg surveys.

Yesterday's Fed minutes may offer insight into the meaning of the central bank's guidance that it will be "patient" when considering the timing of the first rate increase since 2006. After its Dec. 16-17 gathering, Chair Janet Yellen said the Fed was unlikely to raise borrowing costs at the next cou-

ple of meetings, in January and March.

Consumer prices in the currency bloc dropped 0.2 percent in December, the European Union's statistics office in Luxembourg said yesterday. That's the lowest rate since September 2009. Economists in a Bloomberg survey predicted a decline of 0.1 percent. Unemployment held at 11.5 percent in November, Eurostat said in a separate report.

The common currency has weakened 0.7 percent in the past month compared with a 3.5 percent gain for the dollar among 10 developed-nation currencies tracked by Bloomberg Correlation-Weighted Indexes. That's reflecting the

divergence in their monetary policy outlook as the U.S. economy recovers and Europe's stagnates.

With officials in Frankfurt led by ECB President Mario Draghi working on a plan to buy government bonds, the currency has also been weakened by renewed political turmoil in Greece. The country is set for elections this month that may bring into power a party opposed to austerity measures that are a condition of the nation's financial bailout.

Paris was put on the highest terrorist alert after at least 12 people were killed in shootings at the offices of the French satirical weekly Charlie Hebdo in eastern Paris. Four more people are in a critical state and an additional 20 have been injured, police said.

A slide in Greek bonds yesterday sent the 10-year yield above 10 percent for the first time since September 2013. "With Draghi looking increasingly likely to override German objections to QE at the Jan. 22 ECB meeting and the U.S. economy firmly on track for higher interest rates this year, any euro bounces should be modest," said Sean Callow, a currency strategist at Westpac Banking Corp. in Sydney.

The real advanced 0.8 percent to 2.6798 per dollar, the strongest level on a closing basis since the end of 2014. Swap rates, a gauge of expectations for changes in borrowing costs, decreased 0.05 percentage point to 12.73 percent on the contract maturing in January 2016. **Bloomberg**

## corporate bits

Cathay Pacific Airways announced yesterday that it has expanded the code-sharing agreement with the Flybe Group, enabling passengers travelling from Hong Kong to be connected to four destinations in the United Kingdom (UK) via Amsterdam or Paris. Flybe is a British regional airline group based in Exeter in the south-west of England.

Under the new code-sharing agreement, Cathay Pacific's "CX" code will be used on selected Flybe flights between Amsterdam and Birmingham / Southampton, and between Paris and Birmingham / Manchester / Exeter. Tickets for the new code-sharing services will be available from Jan. 12, 2015.

According to Xinhua, "the arrangement will provide more choice, greater convenience and improved connectivity for pas-

### CATHAY PACIFIC EXPANDS CODE-SHARING AGREEMENT WITH FLYBE



sengers traveling through the Hong Kong hub to the UK."

This also marks the first time that Birmingham has been included in Cathay Pacific's code-sharing network. Passengers traveling to and from the city - located in the West Midlands - can take advantage of this new

arrangement. Cathay Pacific and Flybe already have a code-sharing agreement covering selected Flybe domestic flights between Manchester and seven destinations in the UK, namely Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Exeter, Inverness, the Isle of Man and Southampton.

### SANDS OFFERS DISCOUNTS ON SHOPPING, DINING AND LEISURE

Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao (Sands Resorts), recently launched its new Sands Resorts Passes. Starting at HKD/MOP 399, the pass offers savings of up to 25 per cent for an assortment of entertainment, shopping, dining and leisure experiences at The Venetian Macao; Conrad, Sheraton and Holiday Inn at Sands® Cotai Central; and Four Seasons Hotel Macao, Cotai Strip.

There are two types of Sands Resorts Passes available: the Sands Resorts Pass and the Sands Resorts Luxury Pass. The Luxury Pass offers greater discounts at a wider number of outlets.

At the heart of Macau's bustling entertainment and hospitality district, Sands Resorts



- comprising of The Venetian Macao; Conrad Macao, Cotai Central; Sheraton Macao Hotel, Cotai Central; Holiday Inn Macao Cotai Central; and Four Seasons Hotel Macao, Cotai Strip - offers

more than 9,000 guest rooms and suites to suit all budgets and tastes. There are over 100 international restaurants and over 600 duty-free shopping options and spas.



### Guinea-Bissau expected to export 200,000 tons of cashew nuts



**G**UINEA-BISSAU is this year expected to export about 200,000 tons of cashew nuts, according to a forecast from the Ministry of Trade and Crafts, cited by the Portuguese News Network.

The official forecast is based on the tonnage exported in 2014, around 136,000 tons, and an additional 20,000 tons that were intercepted in the port of Bissau for illegal export and more than 70,000 tons that were seized along the northern border with Senegal.

“The mechanisms that we are already preparing for this year will allow these values to be added and to have a single figure, which may exceed 200,000 tons of exported cashew nuts,” a ministry source told PNN.

At a meeting held in Bissau on 11 and 12 December, participants identified four major constraints to the normal course of the cashew campaign, including poor access roads for selling cashew nuts, high export taxes, the exchange of cashew nuts for low quality rice, disrespecting parity in trading and the major constraints on monitoring. **MDT/Macauhub**

## Portuguese group Sonae expands to Mozambique



Pedestrians carry shopping bags as they exit Alexa Mall, operated by Union Asset Management Holding AG and Sonae Sierra Brasil SA, ahead of Christmas in Berlin, Germany

**P**ORTUGUESE group Sonae has boosted the internationalization of its specialized retail businesses by opening the first MO store in Mozambique, the first in sub-Saharan Africa, said the chief executive of Sonae SR, Miguel

Mota Freitas.

The MO brand is now present in five countries – Spain, Portugal, Malta, Bulgaria and Mozambique and, according to the statement from Sonae SR, of the Sonae group “MO also exports its products to France, Belgium

and Romania, where the brand is sold in other retail stores.”

The first store of Sonae SR’s clothing brand in Africa is located in Maputo, the capital and largest city in Mozambique, which is also the country’s main financial, bu-

■ The first store of Sonae SR’s clothing brand in Africa is located in Maputo

siness and shopping centre. With an area of 500 square metres, the store was opened via a franchise scheme, although the investor has not been identified. The store is located on one of the city’s main streets and offers clothing and other items adapted to the local climate and culture.

In addition to MO, Sonae SR also owns the Zippy chain, specialising in children’s clothing and child-care articles, which is present in 18 countries, with more than 100 stores. **MDT/Macauhub**

AD

new business opportunities are just a handshake away

DELTA BRIDGES 珠三角纵横

MACAU AFTER WORK

deltabridges.com

sales@deltabridges.com (+853) 66965212 (+86) 13326647710

# SATURDAY NIGHT IS FOR POKER

This Saturday 6pm, the PokerStars LIVE Macau HK\$3,000 poker tournament has a guaranteed prize pool of HK\$50,000. Winners also receive a coveted Daily Tournament Medal.

It's part of the exciting new schedule of poker tournaments we're running Tuesdays - Sundays.

Cancel all other plans

Find out more at [PokerStarsLIVEMacau.com](http://PokerStarsLIVEMacau.com)

Level 2, Casino Estrada do Istmo, Cotai Macau SAR

All tournaments are subject to regulatory approval.

新濠天地

## OIL PRICE WOES

## Ecuador gets USD5.3 billion China credit

**E**CUADOR'S state-run Enews agency says the Andean country has secured a USD5.3 billion line of credit from China to help it cope with a budget shortfall caused by plunging oil prices.

Yesterday's announcement by Andes quoted Finance Minister Fausto Herrera as saying the money would be used for social spending, infrastructure and irrigation.

It comes as President Rafael Correa begins an official visit to China, his country's principal creditor.

Lower petroleum prices have forced Ecuador to cut its budget by \$1.4 billion, impose tariffs on imports from neighboring Peru and Colombia and revoke a 5 percent raise that state employees were to have received this year.

The credit line comes from China's Eximbank, which is already financing hydroelectric projects in Ecuador.

## Grenada reaches deal to pay only half of USD22M it owes Taiwan

**G**RENADA'S prime minister says the eastern Caribbean island will only have to pay half of a USD22 million debt it owes Taiwan.

Keith Mitchell said earlier this week that the government of Taiwan agreed to a payment plan for loans it awarded over a 10-year period.

Taiwan's Export-Import Bank had been seeking sought to recover \$22 million from Grenada for loans taken out for a sports stadium, road construction projects and other developments.

Grenada severed ties with Taiwan in 2005 and sided with China as it sought funds following heavy damage by Hurricane Ivan in 2004. **AP**

## SHENZHEN

## Chinese upstart takes lead in fast-growing drone market

Joe McDonald  
Business Writer, Shenzhen

**A**N amateur photographer in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, drew crowds when he used a drone mini-helicopter made by China's DJI Technology Co. to capture images of historic church steeples and other sights.

"I get some amazing photos with it," said Scott Richardson, a voice teacher who bought DJI's four-rotor Phantom 2 Vision+ model in May. "With a drone, you can hover three feet above the steeple and get a picture you can't get any other way."

Founded in 2009 by an engineer with a childhood love of radio-controlled model planes, DJI has become the world's biggest supplier of civilian drones — possibly the first Chinese company to achieve that status in any consumer industry.

It has grown from 20 employees to a workforce of 2,800, including Chinese, Americans and Koreans at its headquarters in this southern Chinese city and at outposts in Los Angeles, Tokyo and Frankfurt, Germany.

"It's really amazing what they have managed to do," said industry analyst Maryanna Saenko of Lux Research Inc. in Boston.

From the start, DJI was "very polished, had just the right capabilities and the right price point" — less than USD1,000 when most rivals cost at least \$5,000, Saenko said. "They hit the sweet spot."

DJI's latest model, the Inspire 1, released in November, carries a camera that can send live video to a smartphone, with a GPS system to compensate for wind and hold it still in midair.

The company is part of an emerging wave of Chinese startups in fields such as robotics, clean energy and telecommunications. The Communist Party hopes they transform this country from the world's low-wage factory into a creator of profitable technology.

DJI and its rivals, including France's Parrot SA and 3D Robotics Inc. of the United States, foresee demand for drones to shoot movies and news footage, survey farmland or oilfields, inspect power lines and oil pipelines and give firefighters a bird's-eye view of burning buildings.

Privately owned DJI, based in Shenzhen, on the outskirts of Hong Kong, declined to

AP PHOTO



A DJI Technology Co.'s Inspire 1 drone flies against the backdrop of a DJI's advertisement board during a demonstration in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province

## DJI Tech has grown from 20 to 2,800 employees, including Chinese, Americans and Koreans at its headquarters in Shenzhen and at outposts in LA, Tokyo and Frankfurt

disclose sales or profit figures. But founder Frank Wang told the South China Morning Post in Hong Kong that revenue in 2013 was \$131 million. The company says revenue grows by 300 to 500 percent a year.

For professional use, DJI launched its Spreading Wings series of bigger copters with up to eight rotors last year. They offer advanced steering and image-stabilizing systems and sell for up to \$10,000.

Richardson, a former news photographer, said he got on

DJI's waiting list for the latest Phantom model as soon as he read about it.

"I use it mostly to take pictures from vantage points that you couldn't get any other way," he said. Portsmouth's North Church has been around since the 1600s, but he gets photos of it that "have never been taken, ever."

In February 2012, DJI released its first full-fledged drone, the spindly Flame Wheel. Later that year, it added a camera to the first Phantom after seeing customers mount GoPro Inc.'s wearable video cameras on their drones.

Since then, research has spread to include cameras, software for imaging and control and stabilization systems. Expanding beyond drones, the company has used its know-how in stabilizing images to create the Ronin, a hand-held camera mount. Priced at \$3,000, it is marketed as a lower-cost alternative to steady cam systems used by film and TV studios.

The company has opened its software-development process to outsiders to create additional tools. A Swiss software maker, Pix4D, has designed an application to transform images shot by DJI or other drones into three-dimension-

nal maps. Huawei says its next smartphone model will have an app to control a DJI drone and receive live video.

In October, the company briefly entered American pop culture when characters on the "South Park" cartoon used a video-equipped drone modeled on DJI's Phantom to spy paparazzi-style on their neighbors.

DJI rolls out new models as little as five months apart, a rapid pace that reflects intense competition with smaller brands promising lower prices and more features.

"The development cycle is tricky," company spokesman Michael Perry said. Referring to the Inspire 1, he said, "One of the main reasons we wanted to get this out is, we didn't want anyone else to do it first." Unusually for a startup, DJI handles almost every step of its process itself, from research and production through worldwide sales and repairs. That has led to complaints as repair centers struggle to keep pace with sales.

Richardson had to wait 2 1/2 months for his radio control unit to be returned after a broken switch was replaced.

"I'm very happy with the product," he said, "but customer service wasn't so great." **AP**

Jack Chang & Kelvin M. Chan,  
Hong Kong

HONG KONG

# Pro-democracy lawmakers walk out of LegCo

**P**RO-DEMOCRACY legislators walked out of the much-awaited start of a debate on democratic reforms in Hong Kong yesterday to protest the government's intention to stick with a plan to screen all candidates in an election of the city's top executive in 2017, an issue that sparked massive recent street protests.

Chief Secretary Carrie Lam, the city's No. 2 official, opened the consultation with a speech in the territory's Legislative Council. Lawmakers aligned with the pro-democracy movement calling for free elections immediately raised yellow umbrellas — symbols of the street protests — and walked out.

Pro-democracy legislators hold 40 percent of the seats, enough to block the election plan. However, that would only preserve a status quo that is also unappetizing to democracy activists. Currently, the chief executive is chosen by an elite committee that is friendly to central Chinese authorities.

The pro-democracy legislators accuse leaders in Hong Kong and mainland China of breaking promises to let the city choose its chief executive through universal suffrage by 2017. The central Chinese government pledged such a vote when the financial hub was handed from colonial British to Chinese rule in 1997 under a form of autonomy dubbed "one country, two systems."

"The walkout is to signify our protest against this government that's been cheating Hong Kong people on the political reform front," said legislator Claudia Mo, who joined the protest. "We tried for years, democrats in general to try to appease Beijing and play it soft and try to be negotiable and it's all to no avail and now we know we need to stand firm for our younger generation."

An earlier consultation from

AP PHOTO



Pro-democracy legislators holding yellow umbrellas walk out of the Legislative chamber to show their protest in Hong Kong

**The walkout is to signify our protest against this government that's been cheating people on the political reform front**

CLAUDIA MO  
LEGISLATOR

December 2013 to May 2014 was followed by a report announced in August that recommended the Beijing-backed plan for a panel to screen all candidates. The panel is generally believed to favor the central government.

Lam urged the pro-democracy legislators to take part in the consultation and argued that a popular vote, even under Beijing's rules, would be an important step forward for the city's democracy.

"I urge the members to think twice and not completely destroy the limited space for political discussion even before the second consultation has started," Lam said to a half-

empty chamber.

The Hong Kong government said in a report Tuesday that it remains committed to the Beijing-crafted plan. That plan prompted thousands of protesters to block streets in Hong Kong for more than two months demanding open nominations for the chief executive.

The report noted that "constitutional development is an extremely controversial issue," but said it was the "common aspiration" of Hong Kong's residents, its government and Beijing authorities to hold the election according to the city's own Basic Law and the central government's plan.

The council must approve

any election plan by a two-thirds majority, and then submit it to authorities in Beijing.

Willy Lam, a political analyst at Chinese University in Hong Kong, said city officials are now trying to persuade at least four of the 27 pro-democracy legislators to support the government plan, which would give the proposal enough support to pass. The city's chief secretary mentioned in her speech concessions such as opening up the nominating committee to more sectors of society.

"There is still some room for change which could persuade some of these soft pan-democratic legislators," Lam said. **AP**

## China arrests scholar on charge of running illegal business

**A** Chinese scholar who helped an activist escape house arrest has been arrested on the charge of operating an illegal business, nearly three months after he was taken into police custody, his lawyer said yesterday.

Guo Yushan, founder of the nongovernmental think tank Transition Institute, was arrested on Saturday, said the

**Guo was detained at a time when Hong Kong protesters were demanding universal suffrage**

lawyer, Li Jin.

In 2012, Guo helped the blind activist Chen Guangcheng travel to Beijing after Chen escaped from house arrest in an eastern Chinese villa-

ge. Chen's daring escape and his recounting of brutal treatment by local officials embarrassed the Chinese government just as it was preparing for high-level China-U.S. talks.

While in Beijing, Chen sought shelter in the U.S. Embassy, and Hillary Rodham Clinton, then the U.S. secretary of state, managed to negotiate for him to go to the United States.

Guo's Transition Institute conducted research on social and economic issues in China, but Beijing authorities, citing lack of proper registration, shut down the orga-

CHINACHANGE.ORG



Guo Yushan

nization in 2013.

Guo was detained at a time when Hong Kong protesters were demanding universal suffrage in elections for the se-

liautonomous city's top official. Dozens of other people also were detained for showing support for the protesters.

It is unclear whether Guo's arrest is related to the Hong Kong protests. He is not known to have made any public comments in support of the pro-democracy movement.

Beijing police did not immediately respond to a faxed request for comment on his arrest.

Li, the lawyer, declined to discuss the charge, saying she had yet to meet with Guo in detention. **AP**

EXCLUSIVE | S KOREA

# Slaves freed from salt farms face misery in shelters



A man walks through a salt farm on Sinui Island, south of Seoul

Foster Klug & Kim Tong-Hyung,  
Mokpo

**L**IFE as a salt-farm slave was so bad Kim Jong-seok sometimes fantasized about killing the owner who beat him daily. Freedom, he says, has been worse.

In the year since police emancipated the severely mentally disabled man from the remote island farm where he had worked for eight years, Kim has lived in a grim homeless shelter, where he has been preyed upon and robbed by other residents. He has no friends, no job training prospects or counseling, and feels confined and deeply bored.

"I want to go back," Kim, 41, said during a recent interview in the shelter near Mokpo, the southwestern mainland port that is the gateway to dozens of salt islands where a months-long investigation by The Associated Press found that slavery still thrives, an open secret among locals.

"I feel trapped here," he said. Kim's plight illustrates the continuing failure of one of Asia's richest countries to help workers who have been enslaved on the farms — often people with mental or physical disabilities. Three other disabled ex-slaves also told the AP that they wanted to return to the salt farms because of their misery and sense of aimlessness in the crowded homeless shelters that officials placed them in.

On the farms, they said, they at least had a fixed daily routi-

ne, a job they became skilled at and a sense of purpose. An official on Sinui, one of the salt-farming islands, confirms that at least one ex-slave has returned to a farm. Activists and officials suspect there are many more.

While the initial reports on slavery shocked many South Koreans and led to a nationwide investigation last year, "Society continues to fail in providing

■ **'I want to go back,' Kim, 41, said during a recent interview in the shelter near Mokpo, the gateway to dozens of salt islands where a months-long investigation by AP found that slavery still thrives**

basic help for our most vulnerable members even after they were pulled out of slavery on the islands," said Choi Jung Kyu, a lawyer whose office represents 18 former slaves. "Our society is treating the victims worse than

the salt farmers did."

Salt farmers often describe themselves as doing society a favor by taking in the homeless, the disabled, the uneducated and those who can't get jobs anywhere else and whom the rest of the country would like to forget. They also acknowledge a harsh economic reality.

"It would be extremely difficult to run a salt farm without disabled people," said Park Jong-won, 69, a salt farm owner on Sinui Island who recently received a suspended sentence for exploiting a mentally disabled man for profit. "Normal people wouldn't work at salt farms even if we begged them."

Prosecutors had sought a prison term for Park, but an appeals court showed leniency in part because it said Park provided the victim with "food and a place to stay."

Revelations of slavery involving South Korea's disabled on island salt farms have emerged five times in the last decade. Last year's government probe found more than 100 workers nationwide who'd received no, or scant, pay. A later investigation by police and activists found 63 more such workers in the islands, three quarters of whom were disabled.

The investigations began after Seoul police went undercover to rescue a disabled man who had written to his mother to say he was enslaved on a salt farm. That man, Kim Seong-baek, is expected to testify Wednesday in a Seoul court as his former boss appeals a 3½-year prison

sentence.

Kim Seong-baek, now living in Seoul, has no desire to go back; he says even looking at salt disgusts him. But several other recently freed slaves interviewed by AP say they feel more hopelessness and fear than relief about their lives away from the salt farms. Most of them were homeless before being lured to salt farms by illegal job brokers hired by farm owners.

Kim Jong-seok, the former slave languishing in the homeless shelter near Mokpo, said that his ex-owner, who is being investigated for abuse but hasn't been arrested, recently visited and asked if he'd work for him again for about \$90 a month.

Lawyers helping the victims said they are alarmed that some disabled ex-slaves are in regular contact with their former masters, but add that the law does not prohibit it.

Others released from slavery also struggle to fit into society.

Han Sang-deok was freed by police last year after 20 years working without pay on a salt farm on Sinui, the same island where both Kims had been exploited. Until his release, not once did the 64-year-old mentally disabled man leave the island, Han said in an interview at a cafe in Mokpo.

Asked about his relationship with the farm owners, Han says: "I just worked. I was there on my own. I went to work, I slept. Like that."

Han, whose relatives had thought he was dead for two

decades, pauses for a long time when asked about his future plans, finally saying, "I don't know what I should do."

Kang Seong-hwan, an official at the Sinui island ward office who is in charge of monitoring disabled workers, told AP that at least one salt farm slave had returned to his employer after being rescued last year. He said he has little actual power to check up on workers and suspects there are more cases of returned slaves because they have been essentially neglected after moving to shelters.

Activists trying to keep tabs on freed slaves often track down victims only to hear them say that they have returned to the salt farms and do not want to be contacted again, said Huh Joo-hyeon, the director of an activist group in Mokpo.

Park Su-in, Huh's colleague, describes a system in which disabled workers on the islands become dependent on their owners for food and medical care, leading to exploitation. One disabled former slave she talked to didn't know the words "password" or "bank account," yet he had a bank account, controlled by his owner, where his disability payments were sent.

Amid short-lived public anger last year, regional government officials vowed to open an exclusive facility for the freed slaves and connect them with new jobs. The promises haven't been kept, and activists believe there's little chance they will be. Many of the ex-slaves are now in a bureaucratic limbo. Because they have been moved away from the islands in Sinan County, county officials say they can't help the victims and, besides, they don't have the space for them.

An official from the homeless shelter near Mokpo where Kim Jong-seok lives said freed slaves were supposed to stay there only temporarily, and wondered when Sinan County would take them back. The official, who refused to give his name because he wasn't authorized to speak publicly, said the facility barely has room for the homeless people in the area, and it's not their responsibility to provide job programs and counseling.

In some cases, guardians have been appointed to protect former slaves' interests. One ex-slave, Heo Tae-yeong, has a guardian who orchestrated his move from a Mokpo area homeless shelter to a residential facility for the mentally disabled in Gwangju.

Heo, who cannot read or count, worries that he will struggle in a new environment, but is excited about the idea of learning job skills in Gwangju. He hopes to one day work in a factory.

When asked what he'll do with the money he earns, Heo takes a long drag off his cigarette.

He doesn't know. "I've never had any money." AP

NEW ZEALAND

# All 13 on skydiving plane leap out before crash

Nick Perry, Wellington

**A**LL 13 people aboard a New Zealand skydiving plane that suffered an apparent engine failure yesterday managed to leap out in parachutes moments before the plane plunged into a lake, authorities said.

Police spokeswoman Kim Perks said there were six passengers, six crew members and a pilot aboard and all of them landed safely and without significant injuries.

Roy Clements, the chief executive of plane operator Skydive Taupo, said the passengers were all overseas tourists who had each been assigned an instructor for a tandem dive at planned heights of 12,000 feet for some and 15,000 feet for others.

But soon after the plane took off, something went wrong at an altitude of about 2,000



A police boat circles a crashed plane in Lake Taupo in New Zealand

feet, he said.

"The plane just made a big bang and then it stopped," he said. "The pilot told them to get out. He didn't have to tell them twice."

He said the instructors were

already wearing parachutes but each needed to hastily clip their passenger's harness with four attachments before leaping from the plane. He said the pilot was also wearing a parachute, which is standard in skydiving operations, and leapt only after ensuring everybody else was safely off the plane.

He said the staff had practiced emergency drills before and everybody remained calm during the incident, perhaps not realizing at the time the extent of the peril they faced. He said everybody managed to maneuver their parachutes over the water and onto the beach or shoreline before landing.

"I was happy to see them all walk back into the hangar," Clements said.

He said transport accident investigators were on their way to the crash site to open an investigation into what

went wrong. The plane was a New Zealand-built Pacific Aerospace Ltd. P-750 XL, he said.

Robbie Graham, an artist who works at the Wildwood Art Gallery in the town of Waitahanui, said he was standing in front of the gallery when he saw a number of people in parachutes coming down above the lake about one kilometer away. He said he didn't see the plane crash.

"I saw all these people coming down, and I thought that was a crazy place to be coming down, that they would all end up in the lake," he said.

Graham said it was a stunning day and that many holidaymakers would have witnessed the crash from a nearby beach.

Lake Taupo is popular among holidaymakers and tourists at this time of year, during the Southern Hemisphere summer. **AP**

FLIGHT 8501

# Tail of crashed AirAsia plane discovered in Java Sea

**D**IVERS and an unmanned underwater vehicle yesterday spotted the tail of the AirAsia plane that crashed into the Java Sea with 162 people on board, an important finding because the jet's all-important black boxes are located in that part of the aircraft.

Powerful currents and murky water continue to hinder the operation, but searchers managed to get a photograph of the debris — about 9 kilometers from where Flight 8501 lost contact Dec. 28 — after it was detected by an Indonesian survey ship, National Search and Rescue chief Henry Bambang Soelistyo told reporters.

One released image appeared to show an upside down "A" painted on a piece of metal, while another grainy shot depicted some mechanical parts.

"Today we successfully discovered the part of the plane that became the main aim since yesterday," Soelistyo said. "I can ensure that this is part of the tail with the AirAsia mark on it."

Tony Fernandes, AirAsia's chief executive officer, welcomed the news. If it is the right part of the tail section, he tweeted, then the cockpit voice and flight data recorders, or black boxes, "should be there." **AP**

AD

advertising@macaudailytimes.com



Unique Visitors **5,921,859**

Visits **7,720,688**

Pageviews **85,357,009**

**11.06** Pages Per Visit

# Happy New Year!

[www.macaudailytimes.com.mo](http://www.macaudailytimes.com.mo)

# 85 million page views

Top Ranking Countries



MacauDaily Times

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

## TERRORISM

# 12 dead in attack on Paris newspaper, France goes on alert



French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, center left, and Paris' mayor Anne Hidalgo, center right, arrive at the French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo's office

Jamey Keaten & Lori Hinnant, Paris

**M**ASKED gunmen shouting "Allahu akbar!" stormed the Paris offices of a satirical newspaper yesterday, killing 12 people before escaping. It was France's deadliest terror attack in at least two decades.

French President Francois Hollande called the attack on the Charlie Hebdo weekly, which has frequently drawn condemnation from Muslims, "a terrorist attack without a doubt" and said several other attacks have been thwarted in France "in recent weeks."

France raised its security alert to the highest level and reinforced security at houses of worship, stores, media offices and transportation. Top government officials were holding an emergency meeting and Hollande planned a nationally televised address in the evening.

A witness who works nearby, Benoit Bringer, told the iTele network he saw multiple masked men armed with automatic weapons at the newspaper's office in central Paris. The attackers went to the second floor and started firing indiscriminately in the newsroom, said Christophe DeLoire of Reporters Without Borders. "This is the darkest day of the history of the French press," he said.

Luc Poignant, an official of the SBP police union, said the attackers left in a waiting car and later switched to another vehicle that had been stolen.

## Minutes before the attack Charlie Hebdo had tweeted a satirical cartoon of the IS leader giving New Year's wishes

Paris prosecutor's spokeswoman Agnes Thibault-Lecuire confirmed that 12 people were killed in the attack.

Video images on the website of public broadcaster France Televisions showed two gunmen in black at a crossroads who appeared to fire down one of the streets. A cry of "Allahu akbar!" — Arabic for "God is great" — could be heard among the gunshots.

The extremist Islamic State group has threatened to attack France and minutes before the attack Charlie Hebdo had tweeted a satirical cartoon of that extremist group's leader giving New Year's wishes. The cartoon entitled "Still No Attacks in France" had a caricature of an extremist fighter saying "Just wait — we have until the end of January to present our New Year's wishes."

Yesterday's attack comes the same day of the release of a book by a celebrated French novelist depicting France's election of its first Muslim president. Hollande had been due

to meet with the country's top religious officials later in the day.

The satirical weekly has a history of drawing outrage across the Muslim world with crude cartoons of Islam's holiest figure. The magazine's offices were firebombed in November 2011 after it published a spoof issue that "invited" Muhammad to be its guest editor and put his caricature on the cover.

A year later, the magazine published more Muhammad drawings amid an uproar over an anti-Muslim film. The cartoons depicted Muhammad naked and in demeaning or pornographic poses. As passions raged, the French government defended free speech even as it rebuked Charlie Hebdo for fanning tensions.

The small-circulation weekly leans toward the left and takes pride in making acerbic commentary on world affairs through cartoons and spoof reports.

"We treat the news like jour-

nalists. Some use cameras, some use computers. For us, it's a paper and pencil," the Muhammad cartoonist, who goes by the name Luz, told The Associated Press in 2012. "A

## This is the darkest day of the history of the French press

CHRISTOPHE DELOIRE  
REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS

pencil is not a weapon. It's just a means of expression."

Chief editor Stephane Charbonnier, who publishes under the pen name "Charb," has also defended the Muhammad cartoons.

"Muhammad isn't sacred to me," he told The AP in 2012. "I don't blame Muslims for not laughing at our drawings. I live under French law. I don't live under Quranic law."

Islam is not alone in being singled out by Charlie Hebdo's satire. Past covers include retired Pope Benedict XVI in amorous embrace with a Vatican guard; former French President Nicolas Sarkozy looking like a sick vampire; and an Orthodox Jew kissing a Nazi soldier.

The magazine occasionally publishes investigative journalism, taking aim at France's high and mighty.

Charlie Hebdo has come under pressure ever since its 2011 Muhammad issue. Its website has been hacked, and Charbonnier has needed police protection. Riot police guarded the magazine's offices after the 2012 issue hit the stands. **MDT/AP**

## OBAMA: US STANDS WITH FRENCH IN TIME OF SUFFERING

### PRESIDENT BARACK

Obama's top spokesman says the United States is determined to help the French apprehend those responsible for the attack on a satirical Paris newspaper. Press secretary Josh Earnest says U.S. officials have been in close contact with the French after the bloody attack yesterday on the Charlie Hebdo weekly. Earnest tells CNN the French have been "stalwart allies" in the

U.S. fight against Islamic State extremists. The spokesman also says, "We know they are not going to be cowed by this terrible act." Earnest also says Washington will work hard to protect Americans at home and abroad. He says, "We obviously are trying to monitor what we consider to be a very important threat, which is the threat of foreign fighters."

## TERRORISM

## Charlie Hebdo shootings Europe's latest deadly terror attack



French soldiers patrol at the Eiffel Tower

A gun assault on the Paris offices of satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo was the deadliest terrorist attack in France's recent history. Some other terror attacks in Western Europe:

**March 11, 2004:** Bombs on rush-hour trains kill 191 at Madrid's Atocha station in Europe's worst Islamic terror attack.

**July 25, 1995:** In France's deadliest previous attack, a bomb at the Saint-Michel subway station in Paris kills eight people and injures some 150. It was one of a series of bombings claimed by Algeria's GIA, or Armed Islamic Group.

**July 22, 2011:** Anti-Muslim extremist Anders Behring Breivik plants a bomb in Oslo then attacks a youth camp on Norway's Utoya island, killing 77 people, many of them teenagers.

**July 7, 2005:** 52 commuters are killed when four al Qaida-inspired suicide bombers blow themselves up on three London subway trains and a bus.

**Aug 15, 1998:** A car bomb planted by Irish Republican Army dissidents kills 29 people in the town of Omagh, in the deadliest incident of Northern Ireland's four-decade conflict.

**March 2012:** A gunman claiming links to al-Qaida kills three Jewish schoolchildren, a rabbi and three paratroopers in Toulouse, southern France.

**May 24, 2014:** Four people are killed at the Jewish Museum in Brussels by an intruder with a Kalashnikov. The accused is a former French fighter linked to the Islamic State group in Syria.

**May 22, 2013:** Two al-Qaida inspired extremists run down British soldier Lee Rigby in a London street, then stab and hack him to death.

**Nov 2, 2011:** Offices of Charlie Hebdo in Paris are firebombed after the satirical magazine runs a cover featuring a caricature of the Prophet Muhammad. No one is injured. **AP**

POLITICAL leaders, journalists' groups and others around the world have expressed horror at the attack by gunmen on the Paris offices of satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo. Here are some of the reactions:

"I don't understand how people can attack a newspaper with heavy weapons. A newspaper is not a weapon of war" — Charlie Hebdo editor-in-chief **Gerard Biard** to France Inter radio.

"This is an act of exceptional barbarism." — French President **Francois Hollande**.

"I strongly condemn the horrific shooting at the offices of Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris that has reportedly killed 12 people.... France is America's oldest ally, and has stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States in the fight against terrorists who threaten our shared security and the world. Time and again, the French people have stood up for the universal values that generations of our people have defended. France, and the great city of Paris, where this outrageous attack took place, offer the world a timeless example that will endure well beyond the hateful vision of these killers." — U.S. President **Barack Obama**.

"This abhorrent act is not just an attack on the life of French

# World expresses shock at attack on Charlie Hebdo newspaper



People hug each other outside the French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo's office

citizens and the internal security of France. It also represents an attack on freedom of opinion and of the press, a core element of our free and democratic culture, for which there can be no justification." — German Chancellor **Angela Merkel**.

"This House and this country stand united with the French people in our opposition to all forms of terrorism and we stand squarely for free speech and

democracy. These people will never be able to take us off those values." — British Prime Minister **David Cameron** in the House of Commons.

"This was a barbaric act and an outrageous attack on press freedom. My thoughts are with the victims and their families. We stand in full solidarity with our ally France. All NATO allies stand together in the fight against terrorism. Terrorism in all its forms and mani-

festations can never be tolerated or justified." — NATO Secretary General **Jens Stoltenberg**.

"We decisively condemn this cynical crime. We reaffirm our readiness to continue active cooperation in combating the threat of terrorism." — Russian President **Vladimir Putin** in a telegram of condolence to Hollande.

"Egypt stands by France in confronting terrorism, an interna-

tional phenomenon that targets the world's security and stability and which requires coordinated international efforts to eradicate." — Egyptian Foreign Minister **Sameh Shoukry**.

"This is a brazen assault on free expression in the heart of Europe." — **Robert Mahoney**, deputy director of the Committee to Protect Journalists.

"This is a dark day for freedom of expression and a vibrant press culture. But above all, it is an appalling human tragedy." — **Stephan Oberreit**, director of Amnesty International France.

"This will create fear among people on a whole different level than we're used to. Charlie Hebdo was a small oasis. Not many dared do what they did. I don't know what's going to happen to them. Can they continue to publish the magazine?" — Swedish artist **Lars Vilks**, who lives under police protection after drawing caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad.

AD

# MAGNUS SECURITY SERVICES

# 馬格納斯 保安 (澳門) 有限公司

License No. 5/2010

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69

Edif. Ind. Fok Tai, 12 floor "B", Macau SAR

Tel.: (853) 2822 1341

Fax.: (853) 2822 0824



SECURITY SERVICES  
全面保安服務  
EVENTS SECURITY  
活動場地保安  
SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
特別行動  
SECURITY SYSTEMS  
保安及安全系統  
RISK ASSESSMENT &  
RISK MITIGATION  
風險評估及應對措施  
SECURITY FORCE TRAINING  
& EVALUATION  
保安部隊訓練及評核

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

www.magnus-security.net

"MAGNIFYING YOUR SECURITY"

contact@magnus-security.net

## what's ON



FROM SKETCH TO SCULPTURE  
TIME: 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)  
3pm-8pm (Mondays)

UNTIL: January 20, 2015  
VENUE: Albergue SCM/ No. 8,  
Calçada da Igreja de S. Lázaro  
Admission: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550 / 2852 3205

NOMADS  
- SOLO EXHIBITION OF KENT KEONG TAN  
TIME: 10am-7pm  
UNTIL: January 27, 2015  
VENUE: Flugent Art Gallery, Rua de S. Paulo 54 -  
58B, Mei Tai Grand Garden, R/C A, Macau  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 3710  
ORGANIZER: Flugent Art Gallery

KOREAN ART EXHIBITION OH YOUNG SOOK  
AND KIM YEON OK  
TIME: 11am-7pm  
UNTIL: February 15, 2015  
VENUE: IAOHIN Gallery, Rua da Tercena no. 39a  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2892 1908

UNEARTHING THE PAST  
TIME: 10am-6pm  
(ticket counters close at 5:30 pm)  
UNTIL: January 11, 2015  
VENUE: Macau Museum  
ADMISSION: MOP8-15  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

GRAND TAIPA NATURAL PARK  
PARK AND SCULPTURE ZONE: 24 hours  
GRASS-SKIING FIELD: 2:30pm-5:30pm (Tuesdays  
to Fridays); 10:30am-5:30pm (Weekends and  
public holidays)  
VENUE: Rampa do Observatório, Taipa  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0087

## Offbeat

MARDI GRAS COUNTDOWN STARTS  
AMID HUGE, BRIGHT PARADE FLOATS

A brass band strolled through a riverside warehouse holding huge, colorful parade floats as New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu and other city officials yesterday kicked off the city's official countdown to Mardi Gras.

"Everybody knows that this is what we live for," Landrieu said during the event at Mardi Gras World, where many of the floats used in the yearly Carnival season processions are stored. Officials took part in the ceremonial slicing of a King Cake, a traditional seasonal treat. It all took place amid tables laden with beads and trinkets that float riders toss to parade watchers. "Nobody handles the business of joy better than the city of New Orleans," said Landrieu.

Later, a group of masked revelers called the Phorty Phunny Phellows took their annual "Twelfth Night" streetcar ride through town, a decades-old tradition marking the 12th night after Christmas and the official start of the season.

Carnival is celebrated along the Gulf Coast with parties, balls and parades culminating on Mardi Gras, or Fat yesterday, a final day of celebration before the solemnity of Ash Wednesday and Lent. Mardi Gras falls on Feb. 17 this year.

In addition to being a tradition for residents, Carnival season is a major tourist draw in New Orleans, especially in the final two weekends when the best-known parades roll, often with local and national celebrities aboard the floats. It's a major factor in the city's \$6 billion tourism economy, along with the annual Jazz and Heritage Festival, the Essence Festival and other major cultural and sporting events.

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
18:35	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:25	Criminal Minds S8
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
00:00	Miscellaneous
00:55	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:25	RTPi Live

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

08 JAN - 14 JAN



TAKEN 3  
ROOM 1  
2.00, 3.55, 5.50, 9.30 pm  
Director: Olivier Megaton  
Starring: Liam Neeson, Forest Whitaker, Framke Janssen  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 109min

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB  
ROOM 1  
7.45 pm  
Director: Shawn Levy  
Starring: Ben Stiller, Robin Williams, Owen Wilson  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 97min



SEVENTH SON  
ROOM 2  
(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm  
(3D) 7.30 pm  
Director: Sergei Bodrov  
Starring: Jeff Bridges, Julianne Moore, Ben Barnes  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 102min

WOMEN WHO FLIRT  
ROOM 3  
2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm  
Director: Pang Ho-Cheung  
Starring: Zhou Xun, Huang Xiao Ming  
Language: Mandarin (English/Cantonese)  
Duration: 97min

## MACAU TOWER

01 JAN - 21 JAN

TAKEN 3  
2.30, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm  
Director: Olivier Megaton  
Starring: Liam Neeson, Forest Whitaker, Framke Janssen  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 109min

## this day in history

1989 DOZENS DIE AS PLANE  
CRASHES ON MOTORWAY

A Boeing 737 airplane has crashed onto the M1 motorway near East Midlands airport, killing 46 people. Eighty have survived, of whom ten are seriously injured.

The British Midland flight 092 was forced to crash land after both engines of the brand new aircraft failed. It slammed into the motorway embankment at 2026 GMT, breaking into three pieces.

Motorists on the M1 had a lucky escape as there were no vehicles in the immediate vicinity at the moment of impact.

The flight to Belfast was forced to divert to East Midlands airport 10 minutes after leaving Heathrow, when one of the plane's two engines caught fire. As the aircraft began its descent the remaining engine failed too.

Experts said later the chance of suffering such a double engine failure was a hundred million to one.

The plane passed very low over the village of Kegworth, Leicestershire, crashing just a few hundred meters from the safety of the runway, where emergency services were waiting.

The most severely injured were given medical attention immediately, while others were lifted from the twisted fuselage and taken to local hospitals.

Survivor Gareth Jones described the moment when the plane hit the ground.

He said: "There was a shudder, crash, like a massive motor car accident, crunch, blackness, and I was by the emergency hatch."

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

A report by the UK Air Accidents Investigation Branch later found the flight crew had shut down the wrong engine.

The crew had responded "incorrectly" to a fractured fan blade in the No.1 engine, by shutting down the No.2 engine "which was running satisfactorily".

The report made several recommendations, calling for increased engine inspections and improvements to engine vibration indicators on Boeing 737s.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You can get quite a lot done today - more so than usual - thanks to a weird influx of focused energy that feels different than your usual boisterous, direct power. Make the most of it!

Taurus April 20-May 20 Your great energy manifests itself as intuition - and you should be able to get yourself back on track with an old social situation thanks to this burst. Make sure you're as focused as you can be.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your thinking is a little fuzzy today, but that doesn't mean that you can't get any work done. Things just need to proceed at their own pace, and you can catch up with them later.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You're not so sure about your new influx of energy - where did it come from? But you should make the most of it, as nothing lasts forever. It's a good time to shake things up at home.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You've got a modest side that needs to become dominant - at least for today! Your energy should take a rest while others hog the spotlight. Things will feel better tomorrow.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Try to get organized today - even though you are most likely already pretty far down that path. Things are good, but they could always get better. You've got the mental energy to make it work!

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 It's life's little pleasures that give you what you need today - so make sure that you're not fretting over stuff you have no control over. Things are getting better even if you can't see that yet.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 This is not the time to try to control your friends, family, coworkers or pretty much anyone else (unless they try to run out into traffic). Your energy is better spent observing than managing.

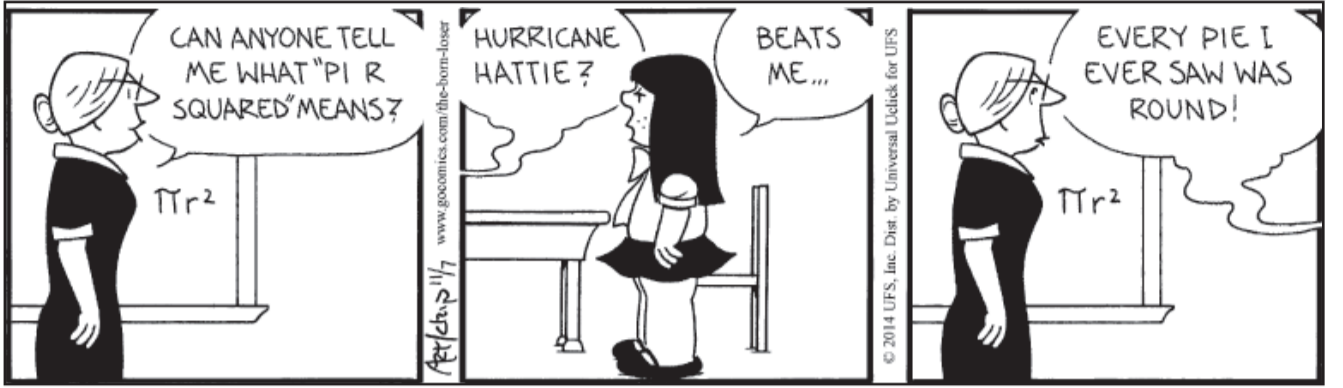
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Your ability to shift attitudes and adjust your behavior to suit your circumstances is key right now. Can you bounce back from whatever it is that's been bugging you? See if you can just let it slide.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Try not to take it personally when things start to go south today - it's not your fault! It may just be time for you to step back from whatever situation has you so riled up.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Get a little extra exercise today - your energy needs a lift to keep moving forward. It could be as simple as taking the stairs, but whatever works for you will have to do. It's more important than it seems!

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Romance is in the air - are you ready for it? Your energy is more charged than you may realize, so it's a good time for you to find an outlet. This could mean a getaway with your sweetie or a hot date.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

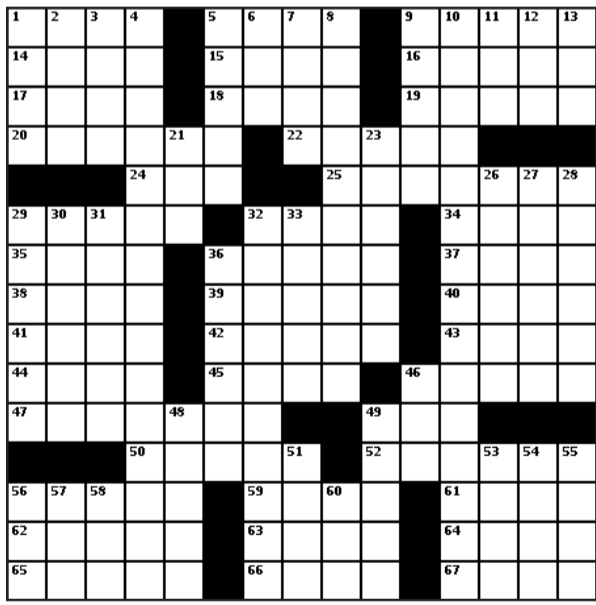
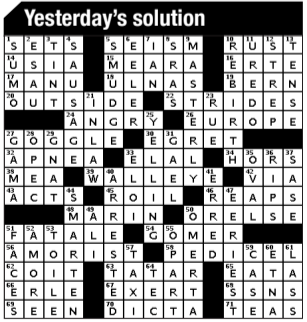
WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Examine, search; 5- Went through, as the paper; 9- Saying; 14- Architect Saarinen; 15- Start of a counting rhyme; 16- Attack; 17- Public disturbance; 18- Sawbucks; 19- Club alternative; 20- Blossom; 22- Sleep issue; 24- Promising words; 25- Strategic withdrawal; 29- Vacant; 32- Terrible time?; 34- Actress Daly; 35- Deep wound; 36- Thorax; 37- Encounter; 38- Baby blues; 39- Thin as \_\_\_; 40- Red Muppet; 41- Closed; 42- Variety show; 43- Dresden denial; 44- I did it!; 45- Abound; 46- Kett and James; 47- Swabs; 49- Menu words; 50- Soft; 52- Good to go; 56- Dark; 59- Smell or fragrance; 61- Sock \_\_\_ me!; 62- Device with 88 keys; 63- City in Western Nevada; 64- Madcap; 65- Straighten; 66- Pizazz; 67- Greek letters;

DOWN: 1- Slave; 2- Slather plaster on the upper surface of a room; 3- Buck follower; 4- In spite of; 5- Back in; 6- Shoebox letters; 7- Sigmund's daughter; 8- Rare-earth element; 9- It's a plus; 10- Divide up; 11- \_\_\_ standstill; 12- Deity; 13- Vane dir.; 21- Dreyer's partner in ice cream; 23- Snuggle; 26- Grommet; 27- Hemoglobin deficiency; 28- Wyoming range; 29- Discharges; 30- Perhaps; 31- Pretended; 32- Sixty; 33- Interlace; 36- Bloc; 46- Building add-on; 48- Boarded; 49- Homerun king Hank; 51- Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon; 53- Sports figure; 54- Sicilian spewer; 55- Playthings; 56- Put \_\_\_ fight; 57- Goose egg; 58- China's Chou En-\_\_\_; 60- \_\_\_ roll



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
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
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



AD

FOR SALE www.JMLProperty.com
FOR RENT More info, please contact us Info@JMLproperty.Com (853) 2835 2699 Office

Excellent Investment Property Nova City Tower 14 Taipa 1,340 sq ft / HKD 10.184M
One Oasis D and J Units Coloane 2 Bedroom Apartment Great Location HKD 19,500 / 1,177 sq ft

Designer Apartment Perfect weekend home Macau 679 sq ft / HKD 6.588M
Warehouse, Keck Seng Macau Warehouse for Rent Immediate Occupation HKD 32,800 / 3,755 sq ft

Hellen Garden, LOT 3 Coloane 1,663sq ft / HKD 11.308M
Nova Taipa Car Park Taipa Car Park In Central Taipa HKD 2,000 / 258 sq ft

Coloane Village Investment Property Coloane 597 sq ft / HKD 5.671M
Pearl On The Lough, Unit E Taipa 3 Bedroom Apartment Excellent move-in Condition HKD 32,000 / 2,200 sq ft

JML property Since 1994 卓雅物業

# Jeep®

## GRAND CHEROKEE



## Mature · Wild · Challenge

- The New Uconnect® System features an 8.4-inch touchscreen, the most luxury control panel ever.
- Quadra-Lift® air suspension system the ultimate control of your suspension.
- Selec-Terrain traction control system - five modes to tackle any condition.
- New eight-speed automatic transmission - quicker and smoother.

\* about the picture may be different from Macau specifications



Find us on  
"Jeep Macau"

**Xin Kang Tai Auto Parts & Motor Services Limited**

Showroom: Avenida do Dr. Francisco Vieira Machado, No. 459, Edifício Industrial Nam Fung, R/C, C-D, Macau

tel : 2871 7762



Palestinian football players warm-up during a training session at the Asian Games athletes' village in Incheon, South Korea

FOOTBALL | ASIAN CUP

# Palestinian team aiming for knockout stage of the tournament

John Duerden  
Sports Writer

**W**HILE it didn't generate anything remotely like the attention of Germany's 7-1 thrashing of Brazil at the World Cup, the Palestinian team's 1-0 victory over the Philippines in the AFC Challenge Cup final may have been one of the most significant international football results of 2014.

The teams, both outside the top 100, met at the Maldives in May, with the winner guaranteed a spot at the Asian Cup. And so it was a momentous win for the fledgling Palestinian team.

And that set the newcomers on course for a big debut against defending champion Japan at Newcastle, Australia, next Monday.

While the Palestinians are outsiders against continental heavyweight Japan, subsequent group games against Iraq and Jordan will likely be more important in determining whether the Cup rookies can surprise a continent by making the last eight.

"Japan is the best team in the group," coach Ahmad Al Hassan said after arriving in Australia. "The chances of the other three teams, however, are equal and we will be trying

our best to get the best results for Palestine."

Following victory in the AFC Challenge Cup, the Palestinians performed strongly at the Asian Games; a largely under-23 tournament that features more countries than any other Asian competition. The Palestinians had never won a game at previous Asian Games, but in South Korea they topped a group containing Tajikistan, Singapore and Oman. Finishing first was rewarded with a second-round match against Japan, resulting in a 4-0 defeat.

The senior squad was in good form leading into the trip Down Under, with wins over Taiwan, India, Pakistan and India in friendlies, a 0-0 draw with China and a 1-0 loss to Uzbekistan.

There have been issues. Not only will the team be without the injured Swedish-based midfielder Imad Zatara in Australia, but Jamal Mahmoud quit as coach in September after three successful years in charge for reasons that are still not completely clear. Al Hamad, who had spent the previous two years as technical director for the national federation was appointed as the replacement.

On top of the changes and challenges of working with li-

imited facilities, the team must constantly deal with the political and security difficulties at home.

All but six players in the 23-man squad are based in the Palestinian territories. Holding training camps and traveling overseas has been problematic due to difficulties obtaining permits. The Palestinian federation has complained about Israeli travel restrictions on some of its players in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a territory ruled by the Palestinian Islamic militant group Hamas.

Israel has cited concerns about possible attacks by Palestinian militants as the main reason for sweeping restrictions on movement that affect most Palestinians, including athletes.

To be competitive, much depends on the experience of the Palestinian players who live abroad. Ashraf Nu'man, who scored the only goal of the AFC Challenge Cup final against the Philippines, plays for Al Faisaly in Saudi Arabia.

"Arab football has improved a lot in the past 10 years, the situation is better in this area than in East Asia and this is our dream to go to the World Cup," the Nu'man told Australia's SBS network. "We watched how the Algerian side played in the World Cup at a high level and no-one expected that; this is the big dream for us and at the same time it's not impossible."

Avoiding defeat in the opening game against Japan would be considered a major success. The big game comes against 2007 champion Iraq, a talented but unpredictable team — as it demonstrated when finishing bottom of its group during November's Gulf Cup. That failure led the Iraqi FA to hire a new coach.

Following that is a group game against Jordan, also getting to grips with a new coach. Former English international Ray Wilkins, a one-time midfielder star for Manchester United and Milan, was appointed in September. **AP**

## Asian Cup to feature 5 Australian stadium sites

**A**USTRALIA'S three largest cities — Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane — will host matches at Asian Cup matches, as well as the national capital of Canberra and the industrial city of Newcastle.

Here's a look at the five venues for the Jan. 9-31 tournament (group in parentheses; groups listed at end):



### SYDNEY

Stadium Australia, capacity 83,500. Matches (7): Jan. 10 — Uzbekistan vs. North Korea (B); Jan. 13 — Oman vs. Australia (A); Jan. 15 — Qatar vs. Iran (C); Jan. 19 — Qatar vs. Bahrain (C); Jan. 23 — Quarterfinal, 1D vs. 2C; Jan. 26 — Semifinal, winner match 25 vs. winner match 27; Jan. 31 — Final, semifinal winners.

Sydney is Australia's largest city and its Harbour Bridge and Opera House help make it the country's biggest tourist attraction. The stadium in western Sydney, site of the 2000 Summer Olympic opening and closing ceremonies and athletic events, annually hosts the National Rugby League grand final and major rugby union tests.



### MELBOURNE

Rectangular Stadium, capacity 30,000. Matches (7): Jan. 9 — Australia vs. Kuwait (A); Jan. 11 — Iran vs. Bahrain (C); Jan. 14 — North Korea vs. Saudi Arabia (B); Jan. 16 — Palestine vs. Jordan (D); Jan. 18 — Uzbekistan vs. Saudi Arabia (B); Jan. 20 — Japan vs. Jordan (D); Jan. 22 — Quarterfinal, 1A vs. 2B.

Melbourne, capital of Victoria state, is Australia's second-largest city and its most sports-centric, with Australian Rules football matches attracting hundreds of thousands of spectators each season. The stadium is the newest venue in the tournament, opened in 2010, and is situated directly across from the Melbourne Park sports precinct and close to the Melbourne Cricket Ground.



### BRISBANE

Brisbane Stadium, capacity 52,500. Matches (7): Jan. 10

— Saudi Arabia vs. China (B); Jan. 12 — Jordan vs. Iraq (D); Jan. 14 — China vs. Uzbekistan (B); Jan. 16 — Iraq vs. Japan (D); Jan. 17 — Australia vs. South Korea (A); Jan. 19 — Iran vs. United Arab Emirates (C); Jan. 22 — Quarterfinal 1B vs. 2A.

Brisbane, capital of Queensland state, is the northernmost venue in the tournament, about an hour's flying time from Sydney and two hours from Melbourne. The stadium is home to the popular Brisbane Broncos, six-time champions of the National Rugby League.



### CANBERRA

Canberra Stadium, capacity 25,000. Matches (7): Jan. 10 — South Korea vs. Oman (A); Jan. 11 — United Arab Emirates vs. Qatar (C); Jan. 13 — Kuwait vs. South Korea (A); Jan. 15 — Bahrain vs. United Arab Emirates (C); Jan. 18 — China vs. North Korea (B); Jan. 20 — Iraq vs. Palestine (D); Jan. 23 — Quarterfinal 1C vs. 2D.

Canberra is Australia's "new" capital city, established in 1911 and designed by American architect Walter Burley Griffin. The lake which now bears his name is a focal point of the city's Parliament and downtown area and is about 10 kilometers (6 miles) from the stadium.



### NEWCASTLE

Newcastle Stadium, capacity 33,000. Matches (4): Jan. 12 — Japan vs. Palestine (D); Jan. 17 — Oman vs. Kuwait (A); Jan. 27 — Semifinal, winner match 26 vs. winner match 28; Jan. 30 — 3rd Place, semifinal losers.

Newcastle is located about 160 kilometers (100 miles) north of Sydney and can be easily reached by train or car in about two hours. The city has a population of about 550,000 and has two professional teams — A-League football's Jets and the National Rugby League's Knights.

### GROUPS

Group A — Australia, South Korea, Oman, Kuwait.

Group B — Uzbekistan, Saudi Arabia, China, North Korea.

Group C — Iran, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain.

Group D — Japan, Jordan, Iraq, Palestine.

opinion

**HK Observer**  
 Robert Carroll



**CREDIBILITY AT STAKE AGAIN**

According to the government's report, recently submitted to Beijing, which focused on the Occupy Central movement, it is the common aspiration of those in Hong Kong to have universal suffrage in 2017 "as scheduled and strictly in accordance with the Basic Law and [Beijing's rulings]". There appears to be nothing wrong with the first part, which invokes the idea of "one person, one vote" in 2017 for the CE, but the second, in part, is plain distortion. The NPC's rulings have been highly controversial and a primary driving force behind the Occupy movement. Wasn't this report a consequence of a government meeting with student leaders, where an official promise was made to reflect public opinions?

It does seem as though the government is obstinately refusing to take any responsibility at all for creating the crisis when surely it must take part of the blame. As with the representatives of the people of Hong Kong who misinformed Beijing about popular sentiment over constitutional reform, in the summer report on public survey on constitutional development, the onus was on the government's court not to provide the report that they thought Macau and Hong Kong Affairs Office and Beijing would like to receive. Given the massive outpouring of protest both on the streets and social media, and, after having an openly broadcast meeting with student leaders, it would have been more sensible to relax a little and to show that the protestors' views were reflected. The alternative would be to keep singing the same tune.

A number of CY Leung's political critics accuse him of stubbornness and a refusal to admit mistakes, while others accuse him of being a yes-man for Beijing who fails to stand up for the people of Hong Kong. If the former is true, considering he backed down late last year over remarks that poor people should not be allowed to vote, there should have been the hope that there could be flexibility over the latest report. It is a pity if he has not seen this missed opportunity to reach out to the next generation of Hong Kong voters, many of whom will be casting their ballots for the first time in the 2016 Legislative Council election, and possibly in the 2017 Chief Executive election pending the approval of the universal reform bill. On the other hand, if the latter is true and he is, as many believe, a puppet for Beijing, then could we have expected any better? Should all who believe in a more representative government give up as the unequal struggle continues between the more liberal forces here and on the mainland, and conservative forces over there who dominate Chinese and Hong Kong governments?

No. No one can predict the future. History regularly presents astonishing surprises. For example, who would have foreseen that the student movement would have grown so fast and so extensively, culminating in the Occupy movement? Who would have predicted that a demographic once regarded as politically apathetic would now be so engaged and have such eloquent leaders displaying budding political skills?

**THE BUZZ** GUYANA POLICE SEIZE USD13M WORTH OF COCAINE ABOARD CARGO SHIP

Authorities in the South American country of Guyana say they have discovered USD13 million worth of cocaine aboard a ship that arrived from neighboring Suriname.

The director of the anti-narcotics unit says that officers have so far found an estimated 1,400 kilograms aboard the Cyprus-registered

ship named "The Delta Diedre." James Singh said the ship's crew was detained Tuesday.

He said the ship was traveling toward the southeastern port town of Linden to load bauxite from China's Bosai Minerals Group. The ship was then scheduled to travel to Spain, the Netherlands and Belgium.

SURPRISE SIDES

**Tooth, plastic in McDonald's meals in Japan**

Yuri Kageyama  
 Business Writer, Tokyo

**MCDONALD'S** Corp. officials in Japan bowed deeply yesterday to apologize for a human tooth, plastic pieces and other objects found in the burger chain's food, highlighting how consumers here are both loving and hating the fast-food eatery.

The hubbub over objects turning up in the food comes on the heels of a different kind of problem at the popular chain — a lack of fries, stemming from a shortage set off by labor disruptions on the U.S. West Coast. Last year, McDonald's in China and Japan along with other fast-food brands were hit by a scandal over expired meat from a Chinese supplier.

In the recent cases, a child's mouth was injured by a piece of plastic in an ice cream sundae in December. The fragment had fallen into the dispenser while being assembled, according to McDonald's.

In another case, a customer who bought a Big Mac set in August last year found a tooth in the fries. McDonald's said none of its employees at the outlet or its suppliers had lost a tooth, and there were no signs the tooth had been fried. It was still investigating how the tooth and plastic got in the food.



People eat at a McDonald's restaurant in Tokyo

"To make such cases zero is our goal," said Takehiko Aoki, a senior executive. "We are doing our utmost to tackle them, one by one."

Aoki denied such cases highlighted an overall quality-control problem and called them "isolated" cases. He acknowledged there were other cases, including metal in a pancake and plastic in a McMuffin, but declined to give a tally of the incidents.

He said it was possible that outsiders had planted the tooth and other items.

In two other cases, pieces of plastic were found in the Chicken McNuggets, delivered from a plant

in Thailand. One was blue, and so it could have fallen in during production, but the other was clear, a type not used at McDonald's, officials said.

"I will eat McNuggets. I will feed McNuggets to my children. I have no doubts," said Aoki.

McDonald's is popular in Japan, running more than 3,000 restaurants.

Over the years, it has survived "mad cow" scares and more general health worries about high calories. Orders for fries were limited last year to small servings because of a potato shortage. Large fries came back Monday. AP

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**



Notwithstanding its worldwide recognition, Macau seems to still be able to amaze some of the 30 million plus tourists we desperately welcome per year.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	85-115 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	85-115 Moderate
Ambient	80-110 Moderate

SOURCE: D5M6

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**PHILIPPINES** When Pope Francis visits the Philippines next week, traffic enforcers won't let the capital's streets get gridlocked if they have to answer the call of nature. About 2,000 traffic enforcers who will be on duty during the Jan. 15-19 papal visit will be required to wear adult diapers, said Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chairman Francis Tolentino. Tolentino also encouraged people who will wait for hours to see the pope to also wear diapers.

**INDIA** A passenger bus veers off a road in southeastern India and falls into a gorge, killing at least 16 people, most of them college and middle school students, police say. More than 50 other people are injured in the accident, which took place near the town of Penukonda in Andhra Pradesh state.



**INDIA** Police say they are now treating the death of the wife of a prominent former government minister and U.N. diplomat as a murder and have set up a special team to investigate her death in a New Delhi hotel last year.

**TOUR** German broadcaster ARD says it will resume live coverage of the Tour de France after skipping the event three times because of various doping scandals in the sport. ARD television producer Volker Herres says "recent German successes, especially in the Tour de France, and a new generation of German cyclists who have worked time and time again for a sport free of doping, have led to this sporting event's greater appeal."