

GOV'T RETRIEVES UP TO MILLIONS FROM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Five scholarship recipients have to repay up to MOP3.18m after failing to meet their obligation of returning to Macau

P2 MDT REPORT



MDT CARTOON AWARDED IN SOUTH KOREA

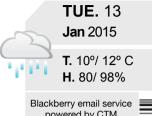
P4



HK PRO-DEMOCRACY TYCOON'S HOME, BUSINESS ATTACKED

Hong Kong police are investigating after small firebombs were thrown at the home and business of Jimmy Lai in an apparent intimidation attempt

> . P11



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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA Police shoot and kill six would-be bombers in the latest violence to strike the restive far northwestern region of Xinjiang, a local government spokesman and official website say.



south Korea LG Display said yesterday two people were killed and four others sickened by a nitrogen leak at its factory north of Seoul. LG Display Co. said in a statement that the victims, employed by a LG contractor, were carrying out a regular repair and maintenance work when the nitrogen leak occurred not long after midday at the factory in Paju city.

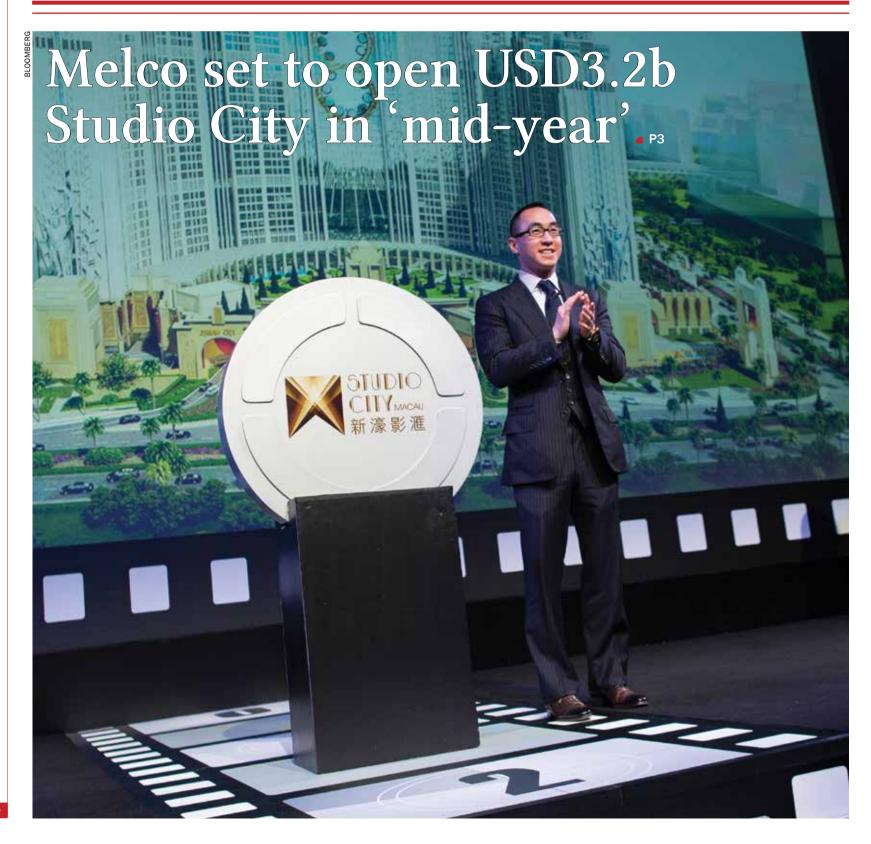
SRI LANKA Less than a week after its longtime president was surprisingly voted out of office, Sri Lanka welcomes Pope Francis today, with the island nation's Catholic minority hoping he can help heal the lingering wounds of the country's 25-year civil war. The war between minority Tamil rebels, who are mostly Hindu, and the central government ended in 2009.

AFGHANISTAN The

Afghan government is announcing its full list of Cabinet nominees after months of delays and missed deadlines. Abdul Salaam Rahimi. chief of staff for President Ashraf Ghani, read a list of 25 cabinet nominees yesterday, as well as nominees for director of the Afghan intelligence service and governor of the central bank. Salahuddin Rabbani, the former head of the country's high peace council, is nominated for foreign minister.

More on backpage

Stanley Ho's nephew arrested over prostitution ring.



João Pedro Lau

THE Macau Foundation **▲** (FM) revealed that five recipients in a scholarship program have to repay up to MOP3.18 million in total after failing to meet their obligation of returning to Macau. The Times has learnt, however, that the number of recipients who did not uphold their end of the bargain might number more than the five cases the FM has identified.

The Special Scholarship program was established in 2006, as a collaborative project between the FM and the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ). It is offered to Macau residents who are pursuing their first bachelor degree in prestigious universities designated by the FM all over the world. Recipients will be given a lump sum each year, depending on the continent within which their university is located. For example, the annual lump sum in 2014 for students studying at America, Europe and Oceania is MOP300,000.

The recipients have to maintain an all-pass record during their studies and to remain in the course and university they declared to the FM. Moreover, the authorities required the beneficiaries to start working or serving in Macau or mainland China for the duration no shorter than the period they receive the scholarship, starting no later than six months after they finished their degree. They also have to submit relevant documents to prove their employment status. So far, the program has supported 276 students, involving funding in the amount of MOP140 million.

In an e-mail replying to the Times, FM stated that until 2014, there were five Special Scholarship beneficiaries who had not returned to Macau or mainland China. The foundation thus has

Gov't retrieves up to millions from scholarship recipients



The Macau Foundation headquarters

to retrieve more than MOP3 million from these individuals. It claimed that if the recipients refused to repay the scholarship, FM will hand the case over to the Coercive Collection Bureau of the Financial Services Bureau.

Meanwhile, the Times has spoken with a Special Scholarship recipient who asked to remain anonymous. While the FM has permitted them to defer their return to Macau for personal reasons, our source, who finished their first degree in the North American region, claimed that several of their friends and fellow scholarship beneficiaries have made no attempt to return to the MSAR.

"They have already been hired by big corporate companies. Therefore, they felt that it is worth risking [paying back the scholarship] if the FM really chooses to chase after them," our source claimed. They added that their friends have yet to receive any notice or warning from the FM.

The Special Scholarship program is one of several scholarship and subsidy programs established by the FM or the DSEJ that requires the recipients to be admitted by designated universities or to study specific courses. DSEJ is currently managing an Exceptional Financial Assistance program and a Special Financial Assis-

tance program provided by the bureau's Student Welfare Fund. These two schemes provide financial support to students who undertake particular higher education programs. They also require the recipients to return to Macau and serve for at least three years following their

DSEJ revealed to the Times via e-mail that, in the previous five years, there was only one recipient of the two programs who decided not to return to Macau. That individual has to repay MOP27,000 to the program.

HUNDREDS DEFAULT DSEJ STUDENT LOAN

UP UNTIL the end of October this year, 268 individuals who received the student loan from DSEJ have failed to make their payment. The amount involved totalled at more than MOP14 million. DSEJ has said that student loan recipients have to make monthly payments to the bureau seven months after they stop receiving the loan. According to DSEJ, in the year 2012/2013, 6,010 individuals have been granted student loans, involving up to MOP1.9 billion.

Alexis Tam meets domestic violence concern groups

THE Secretary for ■ Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, invited the Macau Domestic Violence Legislation Coalition for a meeting yesterday afternoon. He promised to draft instructions to assist police officers in assessing domestic violence cases.



Cecilia Ho

person, Cecilia Ho, said after the meeting that they want a safety net for domestic violence victims involved in cases that are considered "mild" by the authorities. She said that the Social Welfare Bureau director, Iong Kong Io,

The coalition's spokes- promised to list these cases as "suspected cases" and will analyze them afterwards.

Regarding the fact that same-sex couples were not protected by the proposed domestic violence legislation, the Coalition said that the government has an open attitude on

this issue, but did not mention when they would amend the law. Before the meeting with Alexis Tam, the Coalition handed a petition to the Legislative Assembly, asking that it open the AL Standing Committee to the public when the Committee discusses the domestic violence legislation. The bill was scheduled to be debated and voted at the AL today.

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STUDIO CITY

Melco teams up with Time Warner to open family entertainment center



Lawrence Ho speaks during the unveiling ceremony of the Studio City casino resort

Brook Yang*

ELCO Crown Entertainment is set to open its USD3.2-billion Studio City resort in "mid-year" 2015, adding 1,600 hotel rooms and an intended 400 gambling tables to the Cotai Strip, the company's co-chairman and CEO Lawrence Ho announced yesterday.

Inspired by Hollywood, the cinematic-themed resort will comprise a 30,000-squarefoot Family Entertainment Center in collaboration with Time Warner Inc. subsidiaries Warner Bros. and DC Comics. Highlighted in the unveiling ceremony, the entertainment center is said to feature popular DC Comics characters, such as Superman, Wonder Woman and The Flash. Visitors will be taken on a virtual reality Batman ride in the resort, as well as a 130-meter-tall Ferris wheel.

The resort will also feature a 5,000-seat multi-purpose venue for performances and top

We built with a capacity for 500 tables, but the truth of the matter is that I have no idea how many tables we are going to get

LAWRENCE HO

sporting events, a TV broadcast studio, a magician stage, as well as a 300,000-square-foot mall and a nightclub under the Pacha branding made famous in Spain.

The operator explained that the Studio City would take advantage of its location beside the Lotus Bridge Cotai Frontier Post. "We are positioning it to be more mass focus, because we expect people to cross Lotus Bridge, and literally walk thirty seconds and you are at the Studio City," said Ho at the press conference.

"Given the product, we're really trying to make it more mass [focus]; but given what we build there, it's still – to be honest – more premium than a lot of the resorts in Cotai right now. So there's going to be a strong premium component to it," he added.

The CEO further stressed that "it's time to rebalance" the gaming industry from its reliance on junket revenue to embracing the mass market, and Melco is "very happy" about the trend.

"As a company, we love the mass segment; the customer base of ours is a much higher margin business," he said. "The full junket or full VIP revenue does no good to anybody either."

"Ten years ago, when we did the IPO for Melco Crown on Nasdaq, I was telling people that mass was going to take over. Now, I'm early by seven years with my prediction that is coming true, and ultimately with the rise of the middle class in China and their consumption, that's really the future of Macau and all gaming markets," he suggested.

Despite the continuous plunge in Macau's gaming revenue over the past seven months, Ho thinks that there are still development opportunities in the territory.

"There are no jurisdictions [for gaming] as good as Macau, whether it's Japan or anywhere. (...) We don't want to go into any jurisdiction if we can't build something we are proud of. I think that's the bottom-line, and that's why we have turned away a lot of the smaller jurisdictions and the 'foreigners only' stuff."

"Don't forget that after we're done with the phase one of Studio City, there's still phase two. We've only built the land on two thirds of the size," he said, adding that the future construction on the rest of the land will depend on whether it can get concurrence from the minority shareholders.

Chinese President Xi Jinping last month urged Macau leader Fernando Chui to diversify the territory's economy, which relies on the casino industry for more than 80 percent of total government revenue. The former Portuguese colony suffered its worst year in 2014, recording the first annual decline in casino revenue, as Xi's anti-corruption drive turned away highend players.

According to previous reports, Studio City generated controversy about its eligibility to operate a casino. Former Secretary for Transport and Works Lau Si Io said that there was no casino in the blueprints that Studio City presented to his department. Meanwhile, the former Secretary for Economy and Finance, Francis Tam, said Studio City was eligible for gaming operations.

Ho dismissed any doubts, stating that the new resort will comprise two hotel buildings featuring 1,600 rooms and be able to accommodate up to 500 gaming tables. He declared, "There is no possibility that the government is not going to give us tables." He then admitted that there is uncertainty regarding the gaming component of the resort: "We built with capacity for 500 tables, but the truth of the matter is that I have no idea how many tables we are going to get."

Melco Crown's CEO highlighted that Studio City is said to provide the "next generation of outstanding entertainmentdriven leisure destination experiences" that will help Macau evolve into a more diversified economy. He also called on Macau, the only Chinese city that legally allows casino gambling, to nurture new growth areas and to turn the city into a world tourism and leisure center. In order to operate Studio City, Melco Crown expects to hire between 8,000 and 10,000 workers. *with agencies

LAWRENCE HO EXPLAINS DELISTING

MELCO CROWN said on January 2 that it would delist from the Hong Kong stock exchange because of low trading volume and significant additional costs, while keeping its Nasdaq listing. Lawrence Ho explained that this move isn't related to the Macau gambling slowdown, nor to China's anti-graft campaign. "Our primary listing has always been on Nasdaq since the very

beginning. The sole purpose of the delisting is that we have 99 percent of our trading volume in the U.S., so having an additional listing is really just a waste of cost and also a waste of time (...). So, in no way is the delisting related to the slumping in gaming revenue of Macau, nor has it got absolutely anything to do with the anti-corruption issue in China," stated Ho.

Revenue drop with impact on credit analysis: Moody's

DECLINING gaming revenues in Macau are credit negative for the local economy, according to a report by credit rating agency Moody's.

"The gaming revenue downturn is negative for the government regarding the credit analysis, since the gaming industry has a central role in public financing," the report, cited by Lusa, reads.

Nevertheless, the rating

agency highlights that the MSAR has the financial resources to counter the gaming revenue drop.

"The diminishing gaming industry revenue will hinder the economy and public finance, but the lack of public debt and the high [monetary] reserves offer a confortable 'pillow' that is sufficient," Moody's says.

The agency predicts that the slowdown in

gaming revenues is expected to continue, as long as the anti-graft campaign in China continues. Moreover, Moody's says that the gaming industry is still "maturing." The available economic

data indicates that the gaming industry stands for 46 percent of the Gross Domestic Product, followed by the real estate sector, which represents 9 percent of the local economy. MDT/Lusa



MDT cartoon awarded in South Korea



Amacau Daily Times cartoon received an honorable mention at the 23rd Sejong International Cartoon Contest SICACO 2014, held in Seoul, South Korea. The cartoon was drawn by Rodrigo de Matos, who is the author of the section "Times Square" every Friday on MDT.

Rodrigo was awarded in the contest's free section for a cartoon that shows a construction loader about to devour a traditional pagoda, and which was published in our August 29, 2013 edition. "The cartoon was inspired by a report

about the problems of protecting the architectural and historic heritage in Asia," explains the artist. "It shows the pressures that come with the rapid economic growth in the continent and the fast and almighty construction industry."

In a competition where 1,374 works were submitted by cartoonists from 60 countries and territories, including Macau and Hong Kong, the Grand Prix was won by Pavel Constantin, from Romania. Rodrigo brought an honorable mention to Macau. "To me, it's always an honor to represent Ma-

The cartoon was inspired by a report about the problems of protecting the architectural and historic heritage in Asia

RODRIGO

cau in these international contests, which I do very often and expect to be doing in the future," Rodrigo said

Last year, the cartoonist won the Grand Prix in the Press Cartoon Europe, held in Belgium, for a work he created for Portuguese weekly Expresso. He clinched another accolade with a piece of work that was published in the Times – namely, the third prize in the World Press Freedom International Editorial Cartoon Competition, held in Canada.

Kiang Wu Hospital predicts 9pct staff turnover

KIANG Wu Hospital predicted an up to 9 percent turnover of its staff due to the government's new recruitment plan for the public healthcare system.

Public hospital and healthcare centers will recruit more than 500 new staff members throughout this year, with over 70 percent of them being medical personnel.

Currently, the privately run Kiang Wu Hospital has some 1,800 staff, including some 320 doctors and a nursing team of nearly 900 members. "Depending on different types of work, the hospital is expected to see a staff turnover from 3 to 9 percent," said the hospital's vice superintendent, Chan Tai Ip.

"We hope the government could conduct its recruitment phase by phase instead of all at once, so that we can have time to organize training of medical staff and even hire some experienced medical professionals from neighboring regions," he added.

Mr Chan also said that al-



though the staff turnover will have a slight effect on Kiang Wu, it will have little impact on its overall medical quality and healthcare environment.

Moreover, the hospital is preparing to add more manpower and equipment to bypass the demand for prenatal screening that has been pressing on the public healthcare system. "The Health Bureau director hopes that we can double our daily quotas of 50 nuchal translucency tests [for Down's syndrome diagnosis] when needed. Whether it's in manpower or equipment, we have enough to meet the demand," added Chan.

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Nephew of Stanley Ho arrested over prostitution ring

HOTEL Lisboa's executive director Alan Ho was sent in handcuffs to the Public Prosecutions Office yesterday morning, along with five associate suspects, for running a multi-million-pataca prostitution ring that was based at the hotel.

According to the Judiciary Police (PJ), the syndicate started operation in 2013; simply by charging prostitutes an annual membership fee, the syndicate earned a profit of more than MOP400 million during last year.

Besides a MOP150,000 annual membership fee, the syndicate charged the prostitutes a monthly security fee of more than MOP10,000. In exchange, it offered them hotel rooms for prostitution activities.

Evidence obtained by the PJ shows that between 2014 and the beginning of 2015, at least 2,400 women were registered with the prostitution ring. In a police raid



Alan Ho (center) at the moment his arrest

carried out on Saturday evening, the PJ searched 90 premises in the hotel and seized MOP1 million worth of cash in RMB, which was allegedly two days of prostitution earnings.

The six handcuffed suspects also include two senior hotel managers, a se-

nior security manager and a lobby staffer. One of the senior hotel managers was hired by Alan Ho and was in charge of the membership system and room assignment.

The other suspect was a private driver who was responsible for recruiting prostitutes online from the mainland, where, as suspected by the PJ, the syndicate also had cohorts.

The 68-year-old Ho is the nephew of Macau casino magnate Stanley Ho, who has been in charge of the hotel's food and beverage operations and is known for his expertise in wine collection.

A body of evidence was sent to the public procurator as well. Whether Ho will be charged depends on suspects' testimony and verification of the evidence.

The 96 women busted for prostitution in the crackdown were also transferred to the prosecutor, where it was found that 30 of them were either illegal immigrants or holding fake travel documents, and one was a suspect wanted by the authorities. The women were aged between 20 and 27, with 95 of them coming from mainland China and one from Vietnam.

Two injured in separate assault cases

Two assault cases involving knives took place yesterday, with one allegedly related to domestic violence. The first case of assault took place at around 1 p.m. in a residential apartment on Rua da Erva. Information suggested that a Vietnamese couple was involved in an argument that descended into a physical altercation. The husband allegedly took a knife from the kitchen and attacked his wife. The victim was stabbed multiple times and fell to the bed. The police later arrived at the scene and took the man into custody. The woman was sent to the hospital. Another case took place later in Taipa at around 2.50 p.m. A 46-year-old man told the police that a man wearing a cap assaulted him with a knife when he was leaving a parking lot. He sustained multiple injuries and was sent to the hospital for

Vigil 'Je suis Charlie – All together!'



The Macau Portuguese and English Press Association (AIPIM) and the Rui Cunha Foundation will organize a vigil tomorrow to protest against the three days of terror that killed 17 people in France. "The objective of the vigil is to remember the journalists killed in the horrific and barbaric

terrorist attack at the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo," said AIPIM's president, João Francisco Pinto. He added that AIPIM "fully defends the freedom of the press and freedom of expression. We also feel that these values are shared by the civil society and, therefore, we approached the Rui Cunha Foundation to try to organize this vigil, which comes one week after the terrorist attack." The vigil 'Je suis Charlie – All together!' will take place at the Rui Cunha Foundation at 6.30 p.m.

■ AD





AL PLENARY

Lawmakers divided on Labour Law amendment

João Pedro Lau

THE Legislative Assembly **1** passed the first reading of an amendment to the Labour Law yesterday, which will see an increase in the compensation maximum owed to employees who are dismissed without proper reason. However, clear division was apparent among lawmakers when discussing the bill. Some AL members, especially those from the labor sector, criticized the government for merely proposing a higher limit on the amount of maximum compensation without removing the limit altogether. Lawmakers representing the business sector, on the other hand, argued that the amendment will place additional pressure on enterprises.

The current Labour Law stipulates that employers must compensate employees when making them redundant without providing a proper reason. The "basic monthly salary" used to calculate the amount of the compensation is now MOP14,000. The amend-

ment introduced to the AL yesterday seeks to increase the amount to MOP20,000, which means that the maximum compensation for people earning MOP14,000 per month or above will rise. The government also proposed to have the new maximum amount reviewed every two years.

However, the proposal failed to impress lawmakers from both the labor and business sectors, and has drawn criticism from both camps.

Kou Hoi In, a lawmaker indirectly elected by the business sector, claimed that the proposed new maximum is too high. He claimed that employers are the weaker party when it comes to employment contract termination, especially when employees actively seek dismissal by their employers. Kou also opposed the proposal to review the maximum limit every two years, asking whether the government would also review the other types of employee compensation regularly.

His colleague, indirectly elected AL member Chan

Chak Mo, said that while he conceded that the proposed adjustment was "reasonable to a small extent", the law, he believes, will have a significant impact on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). "If you raise the limit like this, it would not have affected the gaming corporations too much. But it is terrible for ordinary businesses. For example, some small noodles shops that have been open for decades may have to compensate up to MOP800,000 to their employees if they want to close for some reason," he said.

Their comments, however, were refuted by the lawmakers from the labor sector. Kwan Tsui Hang said that the figure given by Chan Chak Mo was "absurd", and said that Chan should not have casually given examples like this in the AL chamber.

She then argued in favor of the upward adjustment, saying that the compensation is what an employee is entitled to, and pointed out that there are already mechanisms to determine whether an employee deserves to be awarded the compensation. People have to understand that this compensation is not an amount a worker wants to take from the pocket of their employer. It is a compensation where the initiating party is the employer, and [the case] has to go through the Labour Affairs Bureau or even the court before the compensation is awarded," Kwan said.

Meanwhile, her colleague Lei Cheng I said that the labor sector has actually been asking the government to remove this basic monthly salary limit since the conception of the Labour Law, because she thinks it is unreasonable to place a limit on lawful compensation.

Now that the government has proposed to raise the limit, Lei has demanded that the officials justify the new proposed amount. She questioned the government's explanation, which claimed that the adjustment has already considered the endurance of the business. "I think the government has to make sure not to mislead the public and clarify one issue – the compensation is not payable to all employees. Employers have to terminate the contract with employees without giving a reason – a situation where there is no choice for the employees before they will pay the latter the compensation," she said. "The government should not mislead the public into thinking that the adjustment of the limit means that all enterprises have to pay this amount to all their employees."

Furthermore, all the law-makers criticized the government for its failure to provide more data for them to analyze the impact of the bill on SMEs.

In response, Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong said that representatives from the business and labor sectors were divided when discussing the adjustment in the government's Standing Committee for the Coordination of Social Affairs. He stressed that the administration had already considered various issues before proposing this amount.

ON THE LAWMAKERS AGENDA

PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE Lau

Veng Seng has asked the government to implement policies to improve the Portuguese proficiency of Macau residents. The lawmaker pointed out that the central government has assigned Macau the mission of being the platform for communication between China and Portuguese-speaking countries. Therefore, the Portuguese language is valuable to the MSAR in several aspects, including culture, economics and technology. Although the government has already rolled out some measures to promote Portuguese among residents, and the language is increasingly popular in Macau, the number of speakers of Portuguese in Macau is dropping, according to the lawmaker. Lau Veng Seng has thus called on the authorities to introduce the Portuguese language to students earlier in order to allow them to start language training sooner.

OLD NEIGHBORHOODS Wong

Kit Cheng pointed out that the government has yet to reveal any information regarding the policy on old neighborhood revamps since the relevant bill was withdrawn in 2013. "Since the current Legislative Assembly started more than a year ago, the government still has not released any substantial information. Residents have been waiting and waiting but have got nothing in return. The government has also claimed that it will foster old neighborhood revamps through allowing land-swapping between old and new neighborhoods. However, half a year has passed and there is still no news on that," she said.

PUBLIC HOUSING Lei Cheng I suggested that while the government claims that it is restricted by limited land resources in Macau, it has failed to swiftly deal with idle lands in the city. The lawmaker said that the government, in 2010, proposed a stronger approach to tackling idle lands by lawfully reclaiming them. However, she said that progress has been slow and had to wait until April 2012, when the Chief Executive finally announced that he had signed documents that would launch the procedures to declare the awarding of 10 lands void. Until now, the authorities have only finished 48 case analyses and have launched the award revocation procedures against only around 20 cases. This, she said, means that the residents will not see any results in the near future.

TRADITIONAL SHOPS Ma Chi Seng said that many traditional enterprises and shops in Macau are popular among tourists. However, some of them have been shuttered in recent years due to various reasons. In order to prevent these traditional shops from disappearing, the lawmaker proposed that the government implement a series of measures. He said that the authorities should first launch a survey to gather information on the current conditions of these traditional enterprises in order to understand their needs. After gathering the relevant information, Ma proposed that the government should draft and implement policies that help the survival and operation of these enterprises, as well as provide financial support and training to the enterprises. The lawmaker also believes that the authorities can encourage traditional enterprises to "industrialize" so that they can continue to develop in future.

BARRING VISITORS 'A MATTER OF COURSE'

buring his speech before the agenda, government-appointed lawmaker Tsui Wai Kwan defended the police's decision to deny the entry of various individuals, including a one-year-old baby from Hong Kong, into Macau. The lawmaker said that any country or region has its own immigration policies and laws, and it is "a matter of course"

to bar individuals according to the relevant laws. He also slammed the New Macau Association as "shameless" for reporting the Public Security Police to the Commission Against Corruption, accusing the association of "disrupting Macau [and] hurting the feelings of Macau residents", and further accusing it of colluding with non-local entities.

Fox looks to bring 'lce Age' characters to China theme park rush

is seeking Chinese sites for amusement parks featuring themes from "Ice Age," "Alien" and "The Simpsons," as entertainment companies rush to build vacation spots for the country's surging middle class.

Rupert Murdoch's film and television company is looking for local partners to help set up "more than one" Chinese park in the next few years, Fox Consumer Products President Jeffrey Godsick said in an interview in Hong Kong. The studio is also in talks with Asia's two largest Internet companies - Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. and Tencent Holdings Ltd. - about licensing digital content and other partnerships, Godsick said.

Fox follows Comcast Corp. and Walt Disney Co. in trying to leverage the global appeal of their film franchises to provide getaways for hundreds of millions of newly affluent Chinese families. The company would like to follow up the expected completion of its first theme park in Malaysia next year with an expansion into China, where some sites are within a three hour's journey of 30 million potential customers, Godsick said.

"China offers something that probably no other country in the world does," he said, adding that Fox has found some receptive ears in key locations. "We're talking with several major companies. The government is always involved and the government has been very supportive in certain places."

While Godsick declined to



provide a time frame or specify locations, he said thrill rides based on the animated hits "Ice Age" and "Rio" were likely in the mix. Officials near Chengdu, Sichuan province, and Ningbo, Zhejiang province, have been in talks with Fox about possible projects, according to government websites.

Comcast said in October that it would team up with Chinese investors to spend more than 20 billion yuan (\$3.2 billion) to build a Universal theme park in Beijing. The Shanghai Disney Resort is similarly scheduled to open at the end of this year.

Fox plans to finish its first theme park in Malaysia in November 2016. The site -- close to a casino resort near Kuala Lumpur -- covers 25 acres (10.1 hectares) and will feature more than two dozen rides and attractions, it said in 2013.

The studio said in July it plans

to build a second, 75-acre facility in Changwon, South Korea. That park would be attached to a resort stretching more than 700 acres.

In addition to theme parks, Fox has been meeting with representatives from Alibaba and Tencent about other kinds of content partnerships, Godsick said. A team from Tencent met with Fox right before Jack Ma led a group of Alibaba executives to the company during an October tour of Hollywood studios.

"They are all amazing, because they have numbers that to us, from an American stan-

China offers something that probably no other country in the world does

JEFFREY GODSICK

dpoint, are staggering," Godsick said. "We're looking for partners that want to be innovative."

Fox is exploring the possibility of opening a store on Alibaba's e-commerce sites, Godsick said. The discussions include ways to fight digital piracy.

Tencent said in December that it would partner with Fox to stream more than 300 hours of programming from the National Geographic Channel.

Fox is also bringing its Ice Age Live! to China this year. The show, featuring characters such as "Sid" and "Manny," will tour about 10 cities including Beijing and Shanghai, Godsick said.

The company is setting up an educational exhibition using its characters to teach children about actual ice ages, the last of which ended about 12,000 years ago. The exhibit at museums and science centers would likely arrive in Asia by 2017, Godsick said. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

Chinese New Year is about spending quality time with family and loved ones. Wvnn Macau's Michelin-starred signature Chinese restaurants - Golden Flower and Wing Lei - have prepared auspicious menus for the occasion. A selection of traditional festive cakes will also be available for quests. A Chinese New Year menu will be available at Golden Flower and Wing Lei from February 19 to 25. At the Michelin two-star Golden Flower, Master Chef Liu Guo Zhu has created three-course and four-course set menus, together with a range of delicate Lunar New Year dishes, which highlight "Prosperous family": chicken soup with abalone, fish maw, prawn and sea cucumber; and deep-fried glutinous rice cake in Beijing style. Executive Chef Chan Tak Kwong of the Michelin-starred Wing Lei has

RING IN THE YEAR OF THE GOAT WITH GOURMET AND DELICACIES AT WYNN MACAU



designed a Chinese New Year specialty menu, featuring panfried jumbo scallops with morel mushrooms in Chinese wine sauce, and marinated goose web and skewer with barbecued pork and goose liver.

For casual Chinese dining, Red 8 will serve traditional Chinese New Year soup and a variety of northern and southern festive

dishes. Known for its specialty dishes from the Northern provinces, 99 Noodles will serve Chef's Lunar New Year specialties.

Festive gatherings will not be complete without traditional Chinese New Year cakes. Four flavors of Chinese New Year cakes are available for sale and collection from February 2 to 18 at the Wing Lei festive counter.

VOLKSWAGEN, FORD TAKE TOP AWARDS AT THE DETROIT AUTO SHOW

The Ford F-150 has been named North American Truck of the Year at the North American International Auto Show. The car of the year is the Volkswagen Golf. The press preview days for the North American International Auto Show officially kick off with the awards. The announcements came yesterday morning at Cobo Center in Detroit.

The other finalists for the car award were the Ford Mustang and Hyundai Genesis. The F-150 beat out the Lincoln MKC and Chevrolet Colorado for truck honors. About 60 automotive journalists vote on winners from the list of finalists. A vehicle must be entirely new or substantially changed



in order to qualify.

This is the award show's 22nd year. Organizers accept

no advertising, but carmakers try to capitalize on the marketing value of the honors.







Seminar on Wednesday, 14th January, 2015 "Legacy and Estate Planning - is yours in order?" At Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16 Promenade Room, 6/F

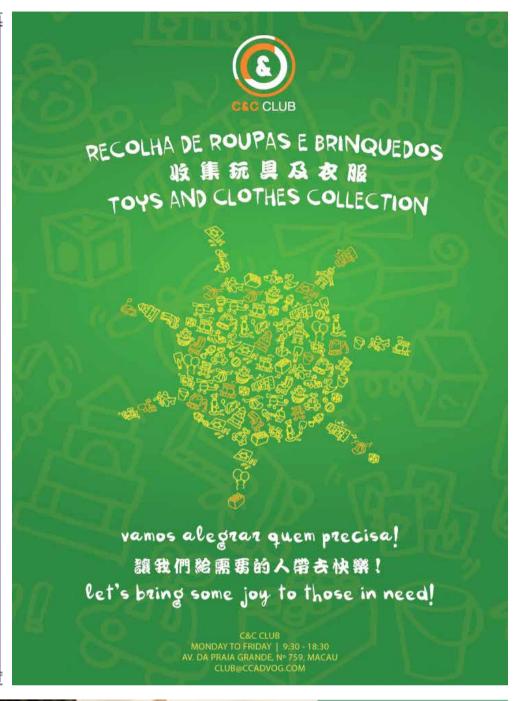
How your current financial arrangements affect your estate when you die -How your family deals, financially with your death -

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

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Angola faces additional difficulties in paying public debt

ANGOLA and countries & Such as Gabon and Nigeria will have increasing difficulties in paying their public debts as oil revenues fall and the depreciation of their currencies makes the value of the debt, namely in dollars, more expensive, according to an analysis by the United States' Brookings Institution.

In an essay on the negative effects of lower oil prices in sub-Saharan African countries, among which is the second largest producer of this region, Angola, analysts at the **Brookings Institution said that** there are other associated problems, including difficulties in placing debt on the market, political risk in oil importing African countries, volatility in the markets of oil exporting countries and risks to the future of the economy of these countries.

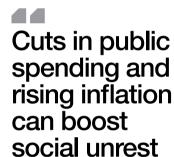
In addition to this there are still some oil-dependent countries that depend on oil to balance the budget, as is the case of Angola and Nigeria, among others, and which do not have a big enough budgetary 'cushion' to accommodate the



price drop, so "will be required to adjust expenditure or devalue the currency, which can lead to increased inflation."

The problem, they point out, is that "cuts in public spending and rising inflation can boost social unrest, especially when they affect sectors of the population that are quick to show their discontent, such as students or trade unions."

In contrast, oil-importing



UNITED STATES' BROOKINGS INSTITUTION African countries are the most benefited, and ratings agency Fitch, cited in the text, even expects the decline in crude oil prices to boost the region's growth to 4.5 percent in 2014 and 5 percent this year.

The last two trends noted in this analysis by the Brookings Institution, cited by Portuguese news agency Lusa, are the volatility of foreign exchange markets and dangers for the future of the economy in the exporting countries: in Nigeria, the local currency fell 10 percent since mid-June until the end of 2014, making it even more difficult for investors to withdraw their profits from the country.

The price per barrel in benchmark oil markets has fallen by over 50 percent since mid-June, down below the psychological barrier of US\$50 since earlier this year, upsetting the public accounts of the countries that depend on oil exports to balance their budgets and forcing them to implement corrective measures to prevent runaway budgets. MDT/ Macauhub

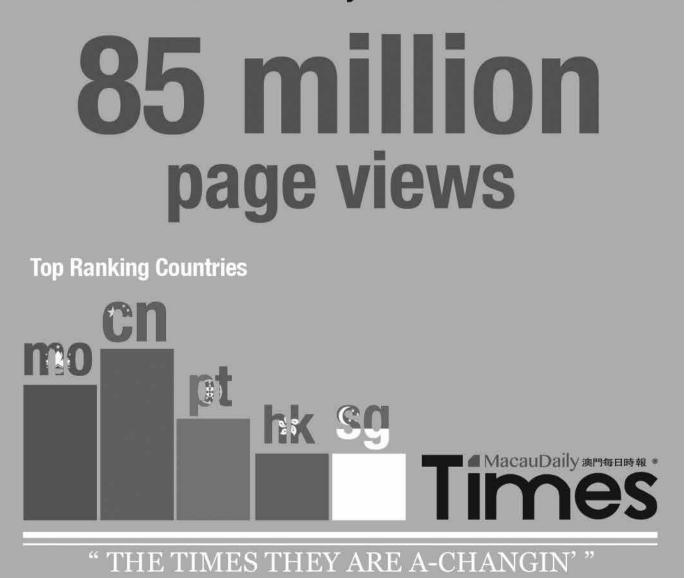
MOZAMBIQUE Sena railroad reopens to traffic

The Sena Railroad, connecting the coal town of Moatize, in Mozambique's Tete province to the port of Beira, in Sofala, was reopened to traffic Saturday after four days off due to damage caused by the rains in various parts of the route, according to daily newspaper Notícias. The newspaper said everything began last Wednesday morning as a result of torrential rains in the Lower Zambezi starting on 1 January. Due to strong currents, a considerable part of the ballast was washed away and water spilled over aqueducts and culverts, causing three cuts to the line craters opening up in the track bed. The rail director of Mozambican port and railway company CFM, Boaventura Mahave, said the three cuts that led to the stoppage on the line affected around 350 metres of the track. According to Mahave an average of 25 trains travel along the Sena line every day. Work is underway to expand the railroad's capacity from 6.5 million to 20 million tons per year, carried out by a consortium of Portuguese companies Mota-Engil and Edivisa, the latter from the Visabeira group, a project with an estimated cost of 163 million euros due to be completed this year.

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ROWTH in auto sales in China, the biggest market by number of vehicles sold, slowed last year but reached 19.7 million vehicles as domestic brands lost more market share to foreign competitors.

Sales of passenger vehicles for the full year rose 9.9 percent, down 5.8 percentage points from 2013, an industry group, the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers, reported yesterday.

Global automakers looking to China to drive sales despite declining growth rates as Beijing tries to steer the world's second-largest economy to more self-sustaining expansion and away from reliance on trade and investment.

Automakers are investing heavily in trying to appeal to Chinese tastes. Global brands have responded to slowing sales growth in major cities by stepping up efforts to sell in towns and the Chinese countryside.

Sales in December rose 16 percent over a year earlier to a monthly record of 2.06 million vehicles, according to CAAM.

Total vehicle sales, including trucks and buses, rose 6.9 percent to 23.5 million vehicles,

China auto sales slow in 2014 but reach 19.7 mln vehicles



the group said. Sales in December rose 12.9 percent to 2.4 million vehicles.

China's fledgling domestic

auto brands were battered by foreign competition.

Full-year sales of sedans by Chinese manufacturers slum-

ped 17.4 percent, according to CAAM. That was offset by a 50.4 percent increase in SUV sales but total sales by Chinese brands rose only 4.1 percent for the full year.

The total market share for Chinese brands declined by 2.1 percentage points to 41.2 per-

Fledgling domestic auto brands were battered by foreign competition

Among foreign brands, sales by Japanese automakers rose 19.1 percent in December while those for German, U.S. and Korean brands were up 12.3, 13 and 9 percent, respectively.

 Volkswagen AG, which vies with General Motors Co. for the title of China's most popular auto brand, said sales by the company and its state-owned local manufacturing partners rose 12.4 percent in 2014 to 3.7 million vehicles.

 Sales by GM and its Chinese partners rose 12 percent to a record of 3.5 million vehicles. In December, sales rose 31.9 percent from the same month a year earlier to 357,375 vehicles.

— Nissan Motor Co., the most popular Japanese brand in China, said 2014 sales rose 0.5 percent over a year earlier to 1.2 million vehicles. December sales were off 9 percent at 121,900.

 Toyota Motor Co. sales rose 112.5 percent over 2013 to just over 1 million vehicles. December sales rose 115.3 percent over a year earlier to 125,000 vehicles.

 Ford Motor Co. said sales of Ford brand vehicles rose 19 percent over 2013 to 1.1 million vehicles. Sales rose 13 percent in December to a monthly record of 107,244.

 Germany's BMW AG said sales in China of its BMW and Mini brands rose 16.7 percent to 455,979 vehicles. AP

Volvo to sell Chinese-made cars in US

TOLVO Cars, the Chinese-owned Swedish automaker, said yesterday it will export cars made in China to the United States, a step forward for Beijing's ambitions to extend the global reach of its auto manufacturing industry.

The cars would be exported from Volvo's factories in China, said a Volvo public relations manager, Chen Yu. She said she had no details on when shipments would start or a sales target.

A handful of vehicles made in China have been exported to the United States but if Volvo's plan goes ahead, it could represent the first mass-market sales of Chinese-made vehicles there.

China's domestic automakers and joint ventures between global brands such as General Motors Co. and local producers export sedans, minivans and other vehicles to Latin America, the Middle East and other emerging markets.

Several Chinese brands have expressed interest in entering developed markets but have vet to satisfy U.S. emissions and safety standards.

Volvo was acquired in 2010 by Geely Holding Group Ltd., which also sells cars under its own name. The following year, Volvo announced an \$11 billion, five-year



A Volvo car during the China Auto show held in Beijing

global expansion plan.

The company has assembly lines in the southwestern city of Chengdu and in Daqing in the northeast and an engine factory in the central city of Zhangjiakou. Volvo has created an extended version of its S60 sedan, the S6oL, for the Chinese market.

Among other Chinese auto exports, Liu-

zhou Wuling Motors Co. sold small trucks in the United States in 2004-05 for off-road commercial use but they were not permitted on public streets.

Another manufacturer, BYD Auto Co., opened a U.S. factory in Lancaster, California, last year to manufacture electric

CAMBODIA

China-developed biggest hydropower project begins operation

TAMBODIA'S biggest hydropower dam began operating yesterday as Prime Minister Hun Sen inaugurated the Chinese-built project to help supply electricity for underserved villages

and factories.

He was joined by the Chinese ambassador at the official opening of the 338-megawatt Russei Chrum Krom hydropower project, which took almost five years to USD500 million.

The project in southwestern Koh Kong province was developed by China's state-controlled China Huadian Corp., which will opera-

build at a cost of about te the dam until turning it over to the Cambodian government in 35 years. About 60 percent of Cambodia's villages have access to electricity, according to government officials. While

development has increased residential access, demand for power has grown in the industrial sector.

China is the biggest foreign investor in Cambodia and has put more than \$1.6 billion into building six Cambodian hydropower projects with a combined capacity of 928 megawatts, with the last one due to be completed later this year. AP



XINJIANG

6 attackers killed by police in latest strike of violence

THINESE police shot and killed six would-be bombers yesterday in the latest violence to strike the restive far northwestern region of Xinjiang, a local government spokesman and official website said.

Police were called to a business district in the town of Shule in the morning to investigate a suspicious man carrying what appeared to be an explosive device, according to TS News, which specializes in news about Xinjiang.

It said the man was shot and killed after he charged police with an axe and attempted to detonate the device. Another five suspects with bombs were also shot and killed as police conducted a cleanup operation, the site said, without elaborating. It said no officers or onlookers were injured.

An official with the Shule county propaganda department, who gave only his surname, Yu, confirmed the report but declined to offer further details.

Chinese authorities tightly control information from the Xinjiang region, and independent accounts of events there are not available.

No word was given on the identity of the suspects.

At least 400 people have been killed in and outside the region over the past two years in violence China blames on radicals among Xinjiang's native Uighur ethnic group.

Homemade explosive devices have often featured in the violence, which has ranged from assaults on police stations to knife attacks on train travelers.

Critics and human rights advocates say Uighurs have chafed under the repressive rule of the Han Chinese-dominated government and complain of economic disenfranchisement with the inflow of Han Chinese to their homeland.

Authorities have responded to militants' attacks by launching a one-year crackdown on violence in Xinjiang, where security was already tight following riots in the regional capital in Urumqi in 2009 that left nearly 200 people dead. AP

Police arrests dozens for selling pork from diseased pigs

Police in China have arrested more than 110 people on suspicion of a W people on suspicion of selling pork from diseased pigs in the country's latest food safety scandal.

More than 1,000 tons of contaminated pork and 48 tons of cooking oil produced from the meat have been seized in the operation that began last year across 11 provinces, the Public Security Ministry said in a statement yesterday.

The suspects belonged to 11 different syndicates who purchased pigs that died of disease from farmers at cut-rate prices then illegally processed them into bacon, ham and oil, the statement said.

Producers obtained the pigs by bribing government livestock insurance agents, several of whom were also sent for prosecution, it said. The agents informed the syndicates when insurance claims were filed, allowing them to swoop in and buy the pigs as soon as the deaths had been verified, it

The statement put the value of seized pork and oil at more than 100 million yuan (\$16 million). It did not give a precise figure for arrests, but said 75 suspects had already been sent for prosecution.

Public trust in food safety has been deeply undermined in China by a series of scandals, ranging from bogus baby formula to the widespread sale of "gutter oil" processed from garbage and scraps and sold to restaurants for cooking. AP



This screen capture taken from a surveillance video shows a car backing up to the gates of pro-democracy media magnate Jimmy Lai's home

HONG KONG

Pro-democracy tycoon's home, business attacked

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

ONG Kong police are investigating small firebombs were thrown at the home and business of a pro-democracy media magnate in an apparent intimidation attempt.

Surveillance video showed a car backing up to the gates of Jimmy Lai's home early yesterday and a masked attacker getting out and throwing what looks to be a Molotov cocktail before driving off.

At about the same time, another incendiary device was thrown from a car at the entrance to his Next Media company. Its publications include the flagship pro-democracy Apple Daily, one of the city's most popular newspapers.

No one was injured and the small fires were quickly extinguished. The cars used in the attacks were later found burned out and stripped of their license plates, according to local media

Lai is well known as a critic of Beijing and a staunch supporter of Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement, which occupied streets for 11 weeks last year to press their demands for free elections. He was among the thousands of protesters who were tear-gassed by police as the protest movement erupted in September.

"The goal is intimidation," said Next Media spokesman Mark Simon of yesterday's attacks. He

[This is a] continuation of the attacks against Mr. Lai and Next Media for its editorial position, which is at odds with the antidemocracy forces

> MARK SIMON SPOKESMAN, NEXT MEDIA

said they were a "continuation of the attacks against Mr. Lai and Next Media for its editorial position, which is at odds with the anti-democracy forces."

Lai was one of the many people arrested by police when they moved in to shut the protest camps down in December. Shortly after, he stepped down as chairman of Next, citing family and personal reasons, but remains the controlling shareholder.

The protesters wanted free elections for the semiautonomous Chinese territory's leader in 2017. Backed by Beijing, Hong Kong's government plans for all candidates to be authorized by a pro-Beijing committee.

Lai and his company have been the subject of frequent attacks and Simon said the tycoon shrugged off the latest one. In 2013 someone rammed a stolen car into the gate of his house and then left a machete on the driveway before fleeing. Last year hundreds of emails were leaked online detailing Lai's donations to local pro-democracy political parties and politicians.

In a separate early morning incident, copies of the Apple Daily were left scattered across a street after two people in a van stole some bundles of newspapers from a vendor and an undercover police officer fired four shots trying to stop them. Police wouldn't say whether it was related to the arson attacks. AP

FLIGHT 8501

Divers find black boxes in AirAsia crash, retrieve one of them

IVERS retrieved one black box yesterday and located the other from the AirAsia plane that crashed more than two weeks ago, key developments that should help investigators unravel what caused the aircraft to plummet into the Java Sea.

The cockpit voice recorder was found hours after officials announced that the flight data recorder had been pulled from beneath a piece of the aircraft's wing and brought to the sea's surface, said Suryadi Bambang Supriyadi, operation coordinator for Indonesia's national search and rescue agency.

He said the voice recorder was about 20 meters away from the data recorder but remained lodged beneath heavy wreckage, and divers were struggling to free it at a depth of 32 meters.

Searchers began zeroing in on the location a day earlier



A black box of the ill-fated AirAsia Flight 8501 that crashed in the Java Sea, is briefly displayed at airport in Pangkalan Bun, Indonesia

after three Indonesian ships picked up intense pings from the area, but they were unable to see the devices due to strong currents and poor visibility.

The two instruments, which emit signals from their beacons, are vital to understanding what brought Flight

8501 down on Dec. 28, killing all 162 people on board. They should provide essential information about the plane and all of the conversations between the captain and co-pilot for the duration of the flight.

"There's like 200-plus parameters they record," said aviation safety expert John Goglia, a former U.S. National Transportation Safety Board member. "It's going to provide us an ocean of material."

The flight data recorder will be taken to Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, for evaluation, and the other black box will be sent as soon as it is retrieved. It could take up to two weeks to download and analyze their information, said Nurcahyo Utomo, an investigator at the National Committee for Safety Transportation.

The slow-moving hunt, which has often gone days with little progress, was boosted over the weekend when the Airbus A320's tail was lifted

from the seabed. It was the first major wreckage excavated from the crash site, but the black boxes were not found inside as hoped.

Search efforts have been consistently hampered by big waves and powerful currents created by the region's rainy season. Silt and sand, along with river runoff, have created blinding conditions for divers.

Henry Bambang Soelistyo, head of the national search and rescue agency, said Sunday that divers had located a wing and debris from an engine. Officials have been working urgently to locate the main section of the plane's cabin, where many of the victims' corpses are believed to be entombed.

So far, only 48 bodies have been recovered. Decomposition is making identification more difficult for desperate families waiting to bury their loved ones. Nearly all of the passengers were Indonesian. AP

PAKISTAN

School reopens after Taliban massacre of students

Zarar Khan & Riaz Khan, Peshawar

PAKISTANI children returned yesterday to the school where Taliban gunmen killed 150 of their classmates and teachers last month, clutching their parents' hands tightly in a poignant symbol of perseverance despite the horrors they had endured.

It was the first time the school had reopened since the assault and security was tight. The nation has been reeling from the Dec. 16 terrorist attack in Peshawar — one of the worst Pakistan has experienced. The violence carried out by seven Taliban militants put a spotlight on whether the authorities can end the stubborn insurgency that kills and maims thousands every year.

The massacre also horrified parents across the nation and prompted officials to implement tighter security at schools.

For Peshawar parents like Abid Ali Shah, yesterday morning was especially painful as he struggled to get his sons ready for school, something his wife used to do. She was a teacher at the school and was killed in the violence. Both of his sons attended the school. The youngest was shot in the head but survived after the militants thought he was dead.

"A hollowness in my life is getting greater. I am missing my wife," Shah said. He said he had wanted to shift his children to a different school or city but decided not to because they still have to take exams this spring: "Everything is ruined here, everything."

His older son, Sitwat Ali Shah, 17, said it wasn't until he saw his brother break down in tears as they prepared to go to school that he did as well. Sitwat said both he and his brother have trouble sleeping and often wake up, crying for their mother.

"Those who have done all this to all of us cannot be called humans," Sitwat said, adding he still wanted to go back to school and become an air force officer.



Pakistani students of a government-run girls school pray for the victims of Taliban attack on the Army Public School

A ceremony was held at the school to mark its reopening, but classes were to restart on Tuesday. Security was tight, part of a countrywide effort to boost safety measures at schools in the wake of the attack. Schools around Pakistan have raised their boundary walls, added armed guards and installed metal detectors, although many have questioned why it took such a horrible attack to focus attention on school safety.

The government has stepped up military operations in the tribal areas, reinstated the death penalty and allowed military courts to try civilians — all attempts to crack down on terrorism. But in an attack on Monday, gunmen killed seven paramilitary soldiers in the southwestern Baluchistan province, underscoring the dangers the country still faces.

In Peshawar, media and vehicles were kept hundreds of meters (yards) away from the Army Public School, which had coils of barbed wire freshly installed on top of the compound's walls, and two helicopters circled overhead. The chief of Pakistan's army, Gen. Raheel Sharif,

was on hand with his wife to greet and console the students.

Some women brought garlands of flowers and draped them around the children. Passages from the Quran were read and the national anthem was sung while parents, students and teachers were given a pamphlet about the psychological impact of terror attacks on children.

On social media, some Pakistanis questioned why top government officials were not at the ceremony.

Teacher Andleeb Aftab, who lost her 10th grade son, Huzaifa, in the atta-

A hollowness in my life is getting greater. I am missing my wife

ABID ALI SHAH WIDOWER OF A SCHOOL TEACHER ck, came in a black dress and head scarf, walking to the place where she had last seen her son alive. She said she chose to go back to school rather than sit at home and keep mourning.

"I have come here because the other kids are also my kids," she said. "I will complete the dreams of my son, the dreams I had about my son, by teaching other students."

On Sunday night, 15-year -old Ahmed Nawaz said he is still in constant pain and being treated for his badly wounded left arm but that he was determined to go back.

For the militants, he said he had one message: "We are not scared of you."

But in many families, apprehension mixed with anger. Aurangzeb Khan lost his 16-year-old son in the attack while his other son survived.

"We all are scared after this incident," Khan said. "I am not satisfied about what they are claiming or what they are doing for security and safety of the children." AP









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TERRORISM

Kosher market attack deepens fears among European Jews



A security officer directs released hostages after they stormed a kosher market to end a hostage situation, Paris

Colleen Barry, & Aron Heller, Milan

THE killing of four French ■ Jews in last week's hostage standoff at a Paris kosher market has deepened the fears among European Jewish communities shaken by rising anti-Semitism and feeling vulnerable due to poor security and a large number of potential soft targets.

In the wake of the attacks, which follow deadly strikes on a Belgian Jewish Museum and a Jewish school in southwestern France, Israeli leaders have called on European Jews to immigrate to the Jewish state. But European Jews are deeply ambivalent about leaving, and their community leaders, along with top politicians, have urged people to stay in their homelands.

"The European Jewry is the oldest European minority and we have our experience of surviving under all possible circumstances," Moshe Kantor, president of the European Jewish Congress, told The Associated Press. "We will not give up our motherland, which is called Europe. We will not stop the history of European Jewry, that is for sure."

Kantor called for increased security at Jewish sites, concerted action against anti-Semitism across the continent and better coordination of intelligence forces against religious extremism. But he acknowledged that if any Jewish European does not feel safe, "I say you should leave in this

Many French Jews already

are. Last year, 7,000 emigrated to Israel as anti-Semitism spiked across France, fed by tensions with the country's large Arab population after the outbreak of Israel's war against Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip. That was double the previous year, making France, for the first time, the No. 1 source of immigration to Israel, according to the Jewish Agency, a nonprofit group that helps Jews move to Israel.

Officials in Israel are expecting - and encouraging - a new influx following the Paris standoff. Since last week's attacks, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has encouraged European Jews to move to the Jewish state.

In an interview with Israel's Channel 10 TV Saturday, Yohan Cohen, one of the hostages who hid inside a free-

We dream in French, we think in French, our culture is French, our language is French. **Obviously** France is our country.

> HAIM KORSIA CHIEF RABBI, FRANCE

zer at the kosher market for five hours during the hostage-taking, said he would now move his family of four children to Israel.

"On Monday I am going to make Aliyah," he said, using the Hebrew term for immigration to Israel. "We are not going to wait around here to

Overall, immigration was up 88 percent from Western Europe in 2014, with the arrival of 8,640 immigrants compared with some 4,600 in 2013, with surges also from Italy, Belgium and Britain, according to the Jewish Agency.

Experts say European Jews have not felt this threatened since World War II, when some 6 million Jews were murdered in the Nazi Holocaust. Researchers at Tel Aviv University monitoring anti-Semitism have reported a chilling increase in attacks in Europe over the past decade, including deadly shootings in Toulouse, France, in 2012 and Brussels last year. In recent years, France has had the highest number of incidents of any single country.

For many of Europe's 2 million Jews, the mood following the Paris attacks was one of tense vigilance amid increased security and additional personal precautions. Some were defiant and determined to remain. Others wondered whether their way of life can continue.

Heightened security measures, visible and non-visible, were swiftly enacted at Jewish places of worship, study and business across Europe over the weekend. Security officials and Jewish leaders in Italy, Britain, Poland, the Netherlands, Germany, and Austria confirmed increased surveillance of vulnerable sites without providing details.

Still, many Jews are taking their own precautions: An Israeli mother of three, who has been living in Berlin for several years, said she no longer allows her children to talk in Hebrew outside the home.

"When we are outside, I tell my kids to only speak English. I'm too afraid that somebody will recognize that we are Jewish or Israeli and then harm us," said the woman, who did not want to give her name out of fear.

Security at Rome's soaring Art Deco synagogue along the Tiber River was noticeably heightened during Friday evening prayers.

In the predominantly Jewish north London neighborhoods of Golders Green and Temple Fortune, police vans drove by frequently Sunday, while members of the Community Security Trust — a charity established to combat threats to the Jewish community - patrolled on foot. The Shomrim volunteer organization added extra patrol cars - which resemble police vehicles - in London neighborhoods after the Paris attacks and urged the Jewish community to remain calm, but be vigilant about possible copycat attacks.

Rivki Rokach, a manager at Kosher Kingdom supermarket, said management was putting into place new security measures, declining to specify. She said business had not dropped off since the attacks.

"People are in a bit of panic mode, but thank God people need to shop," she said. "We are doing everything we can to make sure people are comfortable."

A spokesman for the Jewish community in Rome, one of the oldest Jewish communities in the world, noted that security has long been tight. Metal barricades and other cement planters keep passersby and cars from getting close to the main synagogue, and Italian police officers with automatic weapons stand guard in sentry boxes day and night. An attack by a Palestinian terrorist on the main Rome synagogue claimed the life of a toddler in 1982.

Yohan Cohen, one of the hostages who hid inside a freezer for five hours during the hostagetaking, said he would now move his family of four children to Israel

Even with the high security, "the members of our community are living through this moment with greater apprehension," said Fabio Perugia, the spokesman.

In Milan, Jewish community leader Walker Meghnagi welcomed the government's deployment of additional se-

"I can't say we are tranquil. What they are doing is the best that they can give," Meghnagi said.

Netanyahu's calls for immigration have not been entirely welcomed. In France, home to the world's third-largest Jewish community, political leaders stressed that Jews are an integral part of the French Republic, having gained citizenship during the French Revolution.

"France, without the Jews of France, is not France anymore," Prime Minister Manuel Valls said.

Haim Korsia, the chief rabbi of France, emphasized Jews' 2,000-year history in France in comments to iTele.

"We dream in French, we think in French, our culture is French, our language is French," he said. "Obviously France is our country." AP

TERRORISM

Amid hunt for attack accomplices, France deploys 10K troops

Lori Hinnant & Sylvie Corbet, Paris

RANCE yesterday ordered 10,000 troops into the streets to protect sensitive sites after three days of bloodshed and terror, amid the hunt for accomplices to the attacks that left 17 people and the three gunmen dead.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls said the search is urgent because "the threat is still present" after the attacks that began Wednesday with a massacre on the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo and ended when the three attackers were killed Friday in nearly simultaneous raids by security forces.

Meanwhile, France's defense minister said the country is mobilizing 10,000 troops to protect the population. Jean -Yves Le Drian said the deployment will be fully in place by today, and will focus on the most sensitive locations.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said 4,700 security forces would be assigned to protect France's 717 Jewish schools.

The common-law wife of one of the attackers crossed into Syria on Thursday, the day after the Charlie Hebdo massacre, and the same day her husband shot a policewoman to death on the outskirts of Paris, according to Turkey's foreign minister.

Mevlut Cavusoglu told the state-run Anadolu Agency vesterday that Havat Boumedienne arrived in Turkey from Madrid on Jan. 2, ahead of the attacks and stayed at a hotel in



Hayat Boumedienne, the suspect in the kosher market attack

Istanbul with another person before crossing into Syria on Thursday.

Video emerged on Sunday of her husband, Amedy Coulibaly, explaining how the attacks would unfold. Police want to find the person who shot and posted the video which was edited after the attacks were over.

"The work on these attacks, on these terrorist and barbaric acts continues ... because we consider that there are most probably some possible accomplices," Valls told BFM television.

Turkish intelligence tracked Boumeddiene from her arrival on Jan. 2. She and her traveling companion, a 23-year-old man, toured Istanbul, then left Jan. 4 for a town near the Turkish border, according to a Turkish intelligence official, who was not authorized to speak on the record.

Her last phone signal was on Jan. 8 from the border town of Akcakale, where she crossed over apparently into Islamic State-controlled territory. Their Jan. 9 return tickets to Madrid went unused.

Survivors say the Charlie Hebdo attackers, brothers from Paris, claimed they were from al-Qaida in Yemen, the group the U.S. considers the most dangerous offshoot of that network. In the video, Coulibaly pledges allegiance to the Islamic State group.

Ties among the men date back to at least 2005, when Coulibaly and Cherif Kouachi were jailed together. It later emerged that Cherif's older brother, Said, fought with or was trained by al-Qaida in Yemen; Cherif, was convicted in 2008 along with several others in a network that sent jihadis to fight American forces in Iraq. AP

Russia urges West to restore anti-terror cooperation

Russia's foreign gaminister says terror a have attacks in France have highlighted the need to restore anti-terror cooperation between Moscow and the West.

Sergey Lavrov said yesterday that such cooperation, which the West suspended last year amid ten-



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov

sions over Ukraine, its stance on Ukraiwas essential for fighting terror.

Lavrov represented Russia during Sunday's unity march in would benefit global Paris after 17 people were killed in attack in the French capital.

Lavrov has rejected conditional to "persothe argument that nal sympathies or per-Russia should change sonal offenses." AP

ne to allow anti-terror cooperation with the West to resume, saying that such ties peace. He says that a common response to terrorism shouldn't be

Pope: Fundamentalist terrorism result of 'deviant religion'



Pope Francis yesterday denounced the religious fundamentalism that inspired the Paris massacres and ongoing Mideast conflicts, saying the attackers were enslaved by "deviant forms of religion" that used God as a mere ideological pretext to perpetuate mass killings. In his annual foreign policy address to Vatican-based

ambassadors, Francis called for a unanimous response from the international community to end "fundamentalist terrorism" in the Mideast. And he called for Muslim leaders in particular to condemn "extremist interpretations" of their faith that seek to justify such violence. The leader of the 1.2-billion strong Catholic Church has stepped up his call for Muslim political, religious and intellectual leaders to vocally insist that Islam doesn't condone such violence.

USA

Republican questions US lowprofile at French march



Republican Sen. Marco Rubio says he thinks the United States had too low a profile at a solidarity march yesterday in support of the French people after the terrorist attack against a Paris newspaper. Rubio, who's considering a run for the presidency, tells "CBS This Morning" he can understand why President Barack Obama

didn't travel there. Rubio says the president must be accompanied by a large security detail and travel party, and said that could have proved distracting. But he also says, "I think, in hindsight, I would hope they would do it differently" next time. Secretary of State John Kerry plans to travel there Thursday.

GERMANY

Men detained over German newspaper arson attack released



German police say two men detained following an arson attack on a newspaper that reprinted cartoons from French weekly Charlie Hebdo have been released. Hamburg police said yesterday the two denied any connection to the weekend attack in

which several files at the Hamburger Morgenpost's archive were destroyed. Forensic tests also produced no evidence against them. Police appealed for witnesses to the attack. Also yesterday, the government said Chancellor Angela Merkel and several ministers will take part in an anti-terrorism rally organized by Germany's Central Council of Muslims and Berlin's Turkish community. The vigil, titled "Stand Together, Show Your Face," will take place at Berlin's Brandenburg Gate today.

FRANCE

Paris opens probe into comic for 'defending terrorism'

The Paris prosecutor's office says it has opened an investigation into the controversial comic Dieudonne after a Facebook post in which he said "I feel like Charlie Coulibaly." The post from Dieudonne, who has faced allegations of anti-Semitism for a gesture that many say mimics a Nazi salute, has since been taken down. It merges the names of Charlie Hebdo, the satirical newspaper where two gunmen massacred 12 people, with that of Amedy Coulibaly, who prosecutors say killed four hostages at a kosher supermarket. All three gunmen were killed in nearly simultaneous raids by security forces. The investigation for "defending terrorism" was opened yesterday, said prosecutor's spokeswoman Agnes Thibault-Lecuivre.

what's ON



THE PROMOTION PROJECT OF MACAU ARTISTS, "Exhibition of Photos by Tam Kai Hon"

TIME: 10am-7pm (open in public holidays)

UNTIL: January 18, 2015 VENUE: UNESCO Centre of Macau, Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpção

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 7066

EXHIBITION "BETWEEN SCIENCE AND ART: THE MARVELS OF ASIA IN THE EYES OF POLISH

JESUIT MICHAŁ PIOTR BOYM, SJ." TIME: 10am-7pm (Mondays to Saturdays)

11am-7pm (Sundays) UNTIL: January 18, 2015

VENUE: Sir Robert Ho Tung Library

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2837 7117 ADMISSION: Free

"SEE AND TOUCH"

- Touchable Arts Exhibition

TIME: 12pm-7pm (Closed on public holidays)

UNTIL: March 31, 2015

VENUE: Artistry of Wind Box Community Development Association / Rua Tomas Vieira 3A

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6685 9215

Make Your Own Legend - Paintings by Joey Ho Chong I

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: January 25, 2015 VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

Admission: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

RED SANDALWOOD ART EXHIBITION OF OLD BEIJING CITY GATES

TIME: 12pm-9pm (Tuesdays to Sundays, open on

Mondays that fall on a public holiday)

UNTIL: March 22, 2015 VENUE: Level 2 MGM Art Space

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

WATER AURORA TIME: 24 hours daily

VENUE: MGM Macau, Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

SPACEX SUPPLY SHIP ARRIVES AT SPACE STATION WITH GROCERIES

A shipment of much-needed groceries and belated Christmas presents has finally arrived at the International Space Station.

The SpaceX company's supply ship, Dragon, pulled up at the orbiting lab yesterday, two days after departing Cape Canaveral, Florida. Station commander Butch Wilmore used a robot arm to grab the capsule and its 2,300 kilograms of

The space station's six astronauts were getting a little low on supplies. That's because the previous supply ship - owned by another company - was destroyed in an October launch explosion. NASA scrambled to get replacement equipment aboard Dragon, as did schoolchildren who rustled up new science projects. Then Dragon was stalled by rocket snags.

Wilmore is especially eager to get more mustard. The sta-

tion's condiment cabinet is empty.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:50	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
18:40	TDM Sports (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:40	Happy Endings S2
22:10	Brazil Avenue

Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)

cinema

TDM News

Miscellaneous

CINETEATRO

23:00

23:30

00:00

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_

поом 1

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

коом 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



2004 SERIAL KILLER SHIPMAN **FOUND HANGED**

Harold Shipman, the former GP who is believed to have killed more than 200 people, has been found dead in his prison cell.

He was found hanging by a bed sheet strung around the bars of his cell at Wakefield Prison at 0620 GMT. Prison staff tried to revive him but he was pronounced dead at

Shipman, who hanged himself in his cell on the eve of his 58th birthday, was one of 563 inmates at the jail, regarded as one of the UK's best high-security prisons.

Prison officials have described his death as an "apparent suicide" and added he was taken off suicide watch 18 months ago. Shipman was on a standard security watch at the West Yorkshire jail at the time of his death.

The Prison Service said Shipman was "showing no signs whatsoever of pre-suicidal behaviour at all". The 57-year-old was behaving normally and there was "absolutely no indication" of the events to come, according to a spokeswoman.

Shortly after 1100 GMT, an undertaker's van took Shipman's body from Wakefield prison to the Medico Legal Centre in Sheffield for a post-mortem and formal identification.

Prisons Minister Paul Goggins said prisons ombudsman Stephen Shaw would carry out an investigation into Shipman's death. A separate police and coroner inquiry will also be carried out.

Shipman was jailed for life at Preston Crown Court in January 2000 for murdering 15 patients.

The murders took place between 1975 and 1998 with the victims dying from lethal injections administered by the doctor. His oldest victim was a 93-year-old woman and the youngest a 41-year-old man.

Dame Janet Smith, who ran the ensuing Shipman inquiry, reported in 2002 that she believed that over a period of 23 years he had killed 215 patients and there was a "real suspicion" that he had killed another 45.

Shipman was serving 15 concurrent life sentences and had been told by the government he would never be allowed parole.

He had shown no remorse for - nor ever admitted to - his crimes, insisting he always delivered appropriate treatment to his patients. He was planning an appeal of the convictions when he died.

There have been calls for an investigation into how such a notorious inmate was apparently able to kill himself. For 23 years, Shipman had convinced people in the clo-

se-knit Manchester suburb of Hyde that he was a good family doctor. The GP preyed mainly on elderly women living alone as

his victims and he often administered lethal injections on home visits. He worked for many years as a solo GP, free from the scrutiny of other doctors. Shipman stockpiled diamorphine by issuing false pres-

criptions and retaining leftover supplies from patients, helped by an inadequate system for monitoring control-

Over Christmas 2003, Shipman was put on "basic privileges" after he was uncooperative with staff. He would have had to wear prison uniform and would have had no TV in his cell. He was moved back to the "standard privilege" level a week before he died.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

An inquest into the death of mass murderer Harold Shipman is due to be held in April 2005.

A spokesman for the coroner said the resumed inquest would be at Leeds Crown Court on April 11, and was expected to last two weeks. Two post-mortems have provisionally concluded Shipman's death was consistent with being hanged by a ligature.

His body was released for cremation but it has never been retrieved from a mortuary in Sheffield.

Shipman's family are understood to have doubts that he took his own life and believe his corpse has unexplained injuries. But a Home Office spokesman said: "We can't comment until we

receive the results of the coroner's inquest and independent investigation into Harold Shipman's death.'

Times

YOUR STARS



Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

It's a great time to start up on something new - maybe a new business venture, or maybe something as simple as a new way to organize your work. Things are sure to move forward quickly.



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Your energy is practically causing you to shake with delight - and you should find that you're able to get started on seventeen different projects at once. Other folks can pick up the slack later.



Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Express yourself — you need to speak from the heart today. Things may not be going exactly how you want them to, but you can still at least tell your friends or family what you want.



Libra

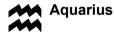
Sep.23-Oct. 22

You and a friend or customer are flirting up a storm — but neither one of you thinks it means anything. Just have fun and keep the energy alive, because things are sure to stay



Nov. 22-Dec. 21

A friend asks you a question that turns out to be a lot thornier than you think at first. Give it some time before answering, if you can, because thinking is key to getting this one right.



Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Someone new comes into your life and a real connection is forged. This feels qualitatively different from your other relationships, so take it more seriously and see where



Taurus

April 20-May 20

You take a sudden interest in your health - possibly thanks to a friend or coworker who takes a sudden turn for the worse. It's not selfish; if anything, this could turn out to be quite important.



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Nothing seems to be going smoothly for you today - but that doesn't mean that you should give up! Just make sure that you're still in the game and that others know how to reach you.



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You and someone close are coming

even closer — but it's a practical matter, not just an emotional one. In fact, it may be all business, so look far and wide to figure out what's going on.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

If things start to get weird today, you just need to shrug your shoulders and accept (temporary) defeat. That simple gesture is all it takes for you to find yourself back in the running.



Capricorn

Work is all-consuming today, even if you're in between gigs. Yet somehow, you feel disconnected from your peers. The good news



Pisces

is that you can get quite a lot done

Feb.19-Mar. 20

You're thinking more clearly than ever about the issues that matter most to you — and some that don't matter all that much, really. You may be obsessing over an old debt, for example. Let it go!



A MAI ? NA3M UOY OO TAHW BIG SPORTS FAN-DON'T I ALWAYS ENJOY WATCHING THE SUPER BOWL MITHYOUZOF COURSE I WANT 3HT HOTAW OT WORLD SERIES



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WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	-6	4	clear/smoggy
Harbin	-25	-11	clear
Tianjin	-3	5	clear/cloudy
Urumqi	-10	0	clear
Xi'an	-2	8	cloudy/overcast
Lhasa	-11	1	clear
Chengdu	3	13	cloudy
Chongqing	7	14	overcast/cloudy
Kunming	0	13	cloudy/clear
Nanjing	1	10	cloudy/overcast
Shanghai	5	9	clear/cloudy
Wuhan	3	12	cloudy
Hangzhou	3	13	clear/cloudy
Taipei	14	19	overcast
Guangzhou	9	14	drizzle/moderate rain
Hong Kong	13	16	drizzle/heavy rain

WORLD

Moscow	-3	0	flurry
Frankfurt	4	6	drizzle
Paris	5	7	overcast/drizzle
London	7	9	drizzle
New York	-1	2	clear/sleet

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Baby powder; 5- Nobelist Bohr; 10- Prejudice; 14- Colorful fish; 15- Dam extending across the Nile; 16- It is in Spain; 17- Comedian Carvey; 18-__ there yet?; 19-Defense grp. since 1949; 20- Rebirth of the soul in a new body; 23- Back of the neck; 24-Frat party staple; 25-You ___ right!; 28-K-O connection; 31-Govt. security: 35-Generic: 37-Descartes's conclusion; 39- Lay down the lawn; 40- In spite of; 44- Salt Lake City player; 45-Hung. neighbor; 46- Tranquii; 47- Song part; 50- Baseball club; 52- Pierced with homs; 53- Henpeck; 55- Synagogue; 57- Rubella; 63- Monetary unit of Germany; 64- Castle water pits; 65- First name in scat; 67- What ___ mind reader?; 68- The brainy bunch; 69- The back end of something; 70- Drew on; 71- Item having exchange value; 72- Abominable snowman;

DOWN: 1- Director Browning; 2- On _ _ with; 3- Alley; 4- Portable power saw; 5- Civil rights org.; 6- Sharon's land; 7- Pitcher; 8- Mown grass; 9- Move stealthily; 10- Not malignant; 11- Golfer Aoki; 12- Env. notation;

Paulo, Brazil; 21- Mother-in-law of Ruth; 22- Hanoi holiday; 25- Cancel; 26- Like tubers; 27- Computer key; 29- Beethoven's Solemnis"; 30- Writer Hentoff; 32-Bendable twig, usually of a willow tree; 33-1,000 kilograms; 34- Created a border; 36- LAX posting; 38- Bell and Barker; 41-Wheel center; 42- Old Ethiopian emperor; 43- Whimsical humor: 48- Encroachment: 49-Engine part; 51- African fly; 54- Type of ray; 56- Attacks; 57- Wrigley varieties; 58- Part of HOMES; 59- Denials; 60- ___ best friend; 61-Gen. Robert ___; 62- Narrow strip of wood; 63- It's bottled in Cannes; 66- Former Bush spokesman Fleischer



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70	+	+	+		71	\vdash	\vdash	\vdash	\vdash		72	+	+	+

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993 **PJ** (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000 Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283 Water Supply - Report 1990 992

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Ref: 14100445

property





AD







HE second set of group matches kicks off today at the Asian Cup, with host Australia against Oman at Sydney and two-time champion South Korea playing Kuwait in Canberra.

Here's some things to watch in the Group A matches:

Australia v Oman, 5pm. Australia opened the Asian Cup last Friday with a resounding 4-1 win over Kuwait in Melbourne, a confidence-boosting start to the tournament for the hosts after conceding a surprising early goal.

Socceroos coach Ange Postecoglou will be forced into changes against Oman, though, with skipper Mile Jedinak struggling with an injured left ankle. Veteran Tim Cahill, Australia's leading international goalscorer, will lead the team in Jedinak's absence.

Oman had a 1-0 loss to South Korea in its opening match in Canberra, narrowly missing a stoppage-time equalizer that would have earned the team a valuable point.

Postecoglou said he'd heed the lessons learned at the World Cup in Brazil — when the Socceroos took Chile and Netherlands right to the wire before a lopsided loss to 2010 champion Spain in their last group match — and rotate his players in the preliminaries rather than going into later matches with a fatigued starting lineup. Australia and South Korea meet in the last group match on Saturday.

"We've learnt pretty clearly at the World Cup by the third game we were pretty spent as a group because we relied on a core group of players," Postecoglou said. "We don't want to fall into the same trap. We want to do well in all three games and (Oman) is a very, very important game for us."

Postecoglou said Oman made it tough for South Korea, and

FOOTBALL | ASIAN CUP

Host Australia and champion S Korea play today before clash against each other



South Korea's Cho Young Cheol, right, and Oman's Abdul Sallam Al Mukhaini compete for the ball during the first round soccer match of the AFC Asia Cup between South Korea and Oman in Canberra, Australia

he expected his lineup to confront a similar bustling, counter-attacking game.

"While (South) Korea dominated the chances and possession you saw right up until the last minute the game was

in the balance," Postecoglou said. "They are always a tough opponent for us."

Center back Trent Sainsbury said three points against Oman would give Australia every chance of progressing.

"We got off to a great start against Kuwait, but this is equally as important, if not more so," he said. "If we get that three points, then we're through. It's a massive game for Australia. We're at home, we've got a point to prove."

Kuwait v South Korea (3pm). Swansea City midfielder Ki Sung-Yueng's is expected to be central to South Korea's push for back-to-back group wins.

Coach Uli Stielike is demanding improvement from his South Korea lineup, which dominated possession and had considerably more chances against Oman but had to settle for a 1-0 win, courtesy of Cho Young-cheol's goal in first-half stoppage time. Oman didn't get a shot on goal until substitute Amad Al Hosni's header in injury hit the crossbar.

Stielike said the two-time champions were under intense pressure in South Korea to improve on the semifinals appearances at the last two Asian Cups. He said he saw positive signs in the second-half against Oman.

"I prefer a hard, tough match in our opening game so we can learn from our mistakes and get better and better in the tournament," he said. "I feel that's better than winning 5-0 and then everyone thinks you can win the Cup and you get smaller and smaller instead." There was some doubt over the fitness of defender Kim Chang-soo and Bolton Wanderers' midfielder Lee Chung -yong, who were both injured during the opening match.

"Normally the players know one day before the game the starting lineup (but) in this case it's not like this," Stielike said. "Not because I don't want to give it to them, but at the moment we don't know what players are ready."

And despite Kuwait's lopsided opening loss to 2011 finalist Australia, Stielike said the team had South Korea's full attention.

"I don't consider Kuwait a weak side," he added. "I know some people believe South Korea will have an easy time against Kuwait, but I will tell my players to be careful."

Kuwait went into the tournament opener with limited preparation under new coach Nabil Maaloul, who is hoping to have attacking options Bader Al Mutawa and Yousef Naser fit and ready to start.

Team spokesman Nawaf Al Enezi said the players had put the loss to Australia behind them.

"Against Australia we played well, and created a lot of chances, and the players' sprit was high," he said. "We know the Korean style, and I hope we can play with the style that (Maaloul) wants and get a good result." AP

ASIAN CUP

Japan opens with 4-0 win over Palestine in Group D

DEFENDING champion Japan won its first match of this year's Asian Cup, beating newcomer Palestine 4-0 yesterday in its opening Group D match.

Yasuhito Endo, Shinji Okazaki and Keisuke Honda scored in the first half to give Japan a big lead against the tournament debutants in wet and windy conditions at Hunter Stadium. Maya Yoshida scored after the break from Shinji Kagawa's cross to complete the rout.

Ahmed Mahajna was

sent off in the 73rd minute to make it a tough first tournament start for the Palestinians, who qualified by winning the 2014 AFC Challenge Cup in the Maldives.

Japan has won four Asian Cup titles in the past six editions and is seeking a record fifth continental crown in Australia.

The Japanese needed only eight minutes to score their first goal as Endo's long-range strike beat Palestine captain and goalkeeper Ramzi Saleh's dive.

The Palestinians then sat



Palestine's Mural Said, left, and Japan's Shinji Kagawa attempt to head the ball during the AFC Asia Cup soccer match between Japan and Palestine in Newcastle, Australia

deep in defense to negate Japan's intricate passing and movement but had no answer for Takashi Inui's strong run and cross that found Kagawa, who sent a shot from the edge of the box. Okazaki stooped low with his head to deflect the ball past Saleh in the 25th minute.

It wasn't until the 40th minute that the Palestinians managed a scoring chance with Ismail Alamour's shot sliding wide of Eiji Kawashima's goal. But then the defending champions scored again when Hon-

da stroked home a penalty after Musab Battat pushed Inui in the box in the 44th minute.

Yoshida scored from a powerful header from Kagawa's cross just after halftime.

The best chance for the Palestinians came in the 81st but Abdallatif Albahdari sent his strong header narrowly wide.

Despite the lack of chances, a small contingent of Palestinian fans in the crowd of 15,497 waved flags, beat drums and sang for the duration of the match. AP



opinion

World Views

The Editors, Bloomberg

WOOING SRI LANKA FROM CHINA'S EMBRACE

Is Sri Lanka the next Myanmar? After the stunning ouster of strongman Mahinda Rajapaksa in last week's elections, another small, strategically vital Asian nation would appear to have rejected China's embrace. Whether the U.S. and India can exploit this opportunity, however, will depend on whether they recognize what's unique about Sri Lanka.

The first thing to appreciate is that voters weren't necessarily driven by resentment of China. They elected Maithripala Sirisena as president because they had tired of the opacity and perceived cronyism of Rajapaksa's administration, symbolized in part by multibillion-dollar projects handed out to Chinese companies with little oversight. Elites had begun to fear that Beijing would soon demand more political and military influence as part of its largesse. Yet, unlike Myanmar, which shares a land border with China, such concerns remain somewhat theoretical. Sri Lanka has vast infrastructure needs - and therefore good reason not to reject Chinese money

If other nations want to compete, they're going to have to demonstrate they are as willing and able as China to carry out large projects. India is itself seeking Chinese money for infrastructure. At the same time, Japan, Sri Lanka's largest donor, has shown interest in increasing its investments in the region, and there should be room for Tokyo and New Delhi to combine forces.

The second thing that's different about Sri Lanka's transition is that it has sidelined the people who have been most directly implicated in past human-rights abuses - including President Rajapaksa and his brother Gotabaya, who served as defense secretary during the last stages of the brutal war against Tamil Tiger insurgents. This should make it easier for the U.S. and India, which has a large and vocal Tamil minority, to work with the new government and eventually strengthen military-to-military ties. The U.S. shouldn't drop its backing for U.N.-led efforts to investigate allegations of Sri Lankan war crimes, but it should allow the new president a chance to promote internal reconciliation and accountability. The campaign to end Sri Lanka's longstanding culture of impunity will have far higher chances of success if it is led from within, rather than imposed from

Finally, there is the reality that China still has a legitimate interest in expanding its presence in the Indian Ocean, given its dependence on the region's shipping lanes. By the same token, Sri Lankans could benefit greatly if Beijing's plans for a "Maritime Silk Road" integrate the infrastructure and economies of the whole region. So in one sense, India and the U.S. shouldn't be aiming to "win" Sri Lanka back at all.

Ideally, China will continue to cultivate its interest in Sri Lanka as one investor among several – and play by rules more aboveboard than before. Worthwhile public projects should proceed with open bidding and labor and environmental safeguards. And needlessly provocative actions - such as the docking of Chinese submarines at Sri Lankan ports, which Rajapaksa allowed - should cease.

President Sirisena's incoming government has as much reason as the U.S., India or Japan to broaden foreign involvement in his country in this way. After all, it's what Sri Lankans voted for.

BUDVAR BEER EXPORTS REACH RECORD HIGH IN 2014

Czech state-owned brewery Budejovicky Budvar, which has been fighting a long legal battle with U.S. beer giant Anheuser-Busch over the use of the "Budweiser" brand, says its overall output and exports reached record highs in 2014.

Budejovicky Budvar NP says exports rose by 6 percent to reach 813,000 hectoliters of beer, the best result in 119 years.

Budvar exported to 70 countries last year, five

more than the previous year. Overall output reached 1.457 million hectoliters, up 2.5 percent from 2013.

Profit figures from the brewery are due in April.

Both Budvar and Anheuser-Busch - which was taken over by Belgian brewer InBev in 2008 to form AB InBev — claim exclusive right to the Budweiser name.







Tina Fey, left, and Amy Poehler







Kinder, gentler Golden Globes kept lid on partying

Frazier Moore Television Writer, New York

POR their third and (so P they say) final year, co -hosts Amy Poehler and Tina Fey proved themselves yet again the Golden Girls of the Golden Globes awardscast, airing live on NBC Sunday night (yesterday in Macau).

They didn't spare North Korea or the embattled Sony comedy "The Interview": Poehler said that nation's demands that the film be suppressed ended up "forcing us to pretend we wanted to see it.'

A certain scandal-beset comedian felt their sting, too. In describing the best movie musical nominee "Into the Woods," Poehler said "Sleeping Beauty just THOUGHT she was getting coffee with Bill Cosby.

They even tweaked the Golden Globes itself, which tends to focus on films at the expense of TV:

"Let's talk about television," said Poehler late in their duologue, at which point Fey abruptly cut her off: "I'm being told that we're running out of time."

Further razzing North Korea was a character played by Margaret Cho: a stern, goose-stepping North Korean Army general and the newest member of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association voicing a collection of complaints about Hollywood as well as the Globes: "I think 'Oran-

ge is the New Black' should be in Drama category," rather than Comedy, she barked in broken English. "It funny, but not ha-ha funny.'

The bit scored a twofer: It leveled a comedic takethat at North Korea, while making some viewers cringe at its borderline racism.

Billy Bob Thornton, winner of best actor in a TV miniseries, had a tough act to follow once his name was called: Jennifer Lopez, whose cleavage-baring gown prompted her co-presenter, Jeremy Renner, to make the evening's most obvious wisecrack. After JLo said she had the nails to open the envelope, Renner muttered, "You have the globes, too.'

Thornton, observing moments later that "vou can say anything in the world and get in trouble," declared, "I'm just gonna say thank you." Then he did and took his leave.

Otherwise reliable wags Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig flopped as co-presenters for best screenplay. Their routine, meant to demonstrate the vital nature of the writer's contribution, seemed to have been dashed off at the last minute. Note to this pair: Next time, consider a rewrite. Another thing that didn't work: Whatever it was that made most people look orange rather than tan.

Who wasn't moved by Jeffrey Tambor? Viewers beheld that old pro, his rich baritone trembling with emotion at winning as best actor in a TV comedy for "Transparent" (the Amazon series in which he plays a transgender character) as he thanked his colleagues for helping him "find more of Jeffrey than I have ever found in my entire life" - before dedicating his award to "the transgender community."

Nomination for funniest say-what? line: Tina Fey declaring "Our next presenter is a woman who's known by only one name: Winfrey!"

Nomination for best acceptance-speech bite: Kevin Spacey, receiving his first-ever Globe for his performance in Netflix's "House of Cards": "I just want it to be better. I just want to be better. But this (award) is very encouraging."

Nomination for best "aww" moment, thanks to George Clooney as he gazed from the stage to the table where his new wife, Amal Clooney, was beaming back at him: "It's a humbling thing when you find someone to love."

That reflected the tone of the Globes. It wasn't the usual cheeky, boozy party — at least, from the viewers' standpoint. Instead it was a kinder, gentler Globes this time — perhaps reflective of the killings in Paris. Next year, maybe the party will resume. AP

35-55 Roadside Moderate High **Density** 30-50 Residental Good Area 25-45 **Ambient**

Air quality

Station

WORLD BRIEFS

AFGHANISTAN Afghanistan national football coach Mohammad Yasouf Kargar was recovering from stab wounds after being attacked by four men outside his house in the Afghan capital. Afghan criminal investigation police chief Mohammad Farid Afzali said that Kargar was in good condition at a Kabul hospital after being injured in his head and waist.



EGYPT An Egyptian court acquitted 26 men arrested in a televised raid last month by police looking for gays at a Cairo public bathhouse, a ruling that set off deafening cheers and jubilation inside the courtroom as some of the defendants uncovered their faces and cried with relief. Same-sex relations are not explicitly prohibited in Egyptian law but homosexuality is a social taboo in the conservative, Muslim-majority country.



SPAIN Spanish police have arrested 16 people, including 12 lawyers, for alleged ties with the armed Basque separatist group **ETA.** The Interior Ministry yesterday said the 16 are being charged with membership of a terrorist organization. Twelve are also charged with money laundering and tax fraud. Besides the lawyers, four treasurers for a group that represents ETA prisoners were arrested.

MOZAMBIQUE's

government declared three days of mourning after 69 people died from drinking contaminated traditional beer at a funeral over the weekend. Northeast Tete province Health, Women and Social Welfare Director Paula Bernardo said vesterday that 196 others have been admitted to hospitals there. Pombe, a traditional Mozambican beer, is made from millet or corn flour