



MP KEEPS ALAN HO AND OTHER SUSPECTS ARRESTED

The Public Prosecutions Office has finished the preliminary investigation into a case involving a prostitution ring allegedly operating in Hotel Lisboa

P5



LETTER AGAINST HOSPITAL RED TAPE

New Macau Association delivered an open letter to the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture against bureaucracy at the hospital

P5



MIGRANTS: A TEMPORARY HOME THAT BECOMES PERMANENT

P6 FEATURE



THU. 15
Jan 2015

T. 10°/ 19° C
H. 45/ 80%

Blackberry email service powered by CTM



N° 2229
MOP 5.00
HKD 7.50

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報® Times

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



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA Shanghai police detain nine terror suspects from an ethnic minority in western China plus 10 Turkish people accused of helping them in an attempt to illegally travel abroad, including to Syria, a state newspaper says. *More on p11*

N KOREA-USA North Korea says that "many things will be possible this year on the Korean peninsula" if the United States agrees to suspend its annual military exercises with South Korea in exchange for Pyongyang's suspension of nuclear tests. North Korea's new deputy U.N. ambassador, An Myong Hun, refused to give details during a news conference but said the suspensions would open "genuine dialogue" between the two Koreas and remove the risk of war.



CAMBODIA Hun Sen (pictured), Cambodia's tough and wily prime minister, marked 30 years in power, one of only a handful of political strongmen worldwide who have managed to cling to their posts for three decades.

JAPAN's Cabinet approves the country's largest ever defense budget, including plans to buy surveillance aircraft, drones and F-35 fighter jets to help counter China's rising assertiveness in the region. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet endorsed a nearly 5 trillion yen (USD42 billion) defense budget for the year beginning in April as part of a record 96.3 trillion yen (\$814 billion) total budget. *More on p12*

More on backpage

SURVEY Youth gambling addiction on the rise

P3



CY Leung warns of 'anarchy' in Hong Kong policy address

P11

Gov't makes concession on animal protection legislation

João Pedro Lau

GOVERNMENT representatives have agreed to suggestions proposed by lawmakers to differentiate between farm animals and pets during a meeting of the Legislative Assembly (AL) First Standing Committee yesterday. Kwan Tsui Hang, president of the committee, said that the change affords greater flexibility to businesses such as pet shops when providing accommodation for the animals they are selling.

Ms Kwan said that the lawmakers and government representatives focused their discussion yesterday on Article 11 of the draft legislation, which contains a clause demanding that animal owners provide a "suitable living environment" for their pets. The lawmakers believe that a clear definition of "suitable environment" is



Kwan Tsui Hang

needed. Kwan explained that the government still does not provide a detailed standard and only mentions some factors that can affect the living environment of an animal. "Without a clear standard, residents and industries would not know if they have met the requirement," she said.

Moreover, the president said that it is necessary to differentiate between farm animals and pets, and thus stipulate different requirements regarding their ownership. She explained that apart from the usual farm animals such as chickens - which are sold or slaughtered in local wet markets for consumption - animals that are sold at pet shops should also be considered farm animals. "The fact is, before they are sold by a pet shop and have an owner, they are seen as farm animals. It is because they are for sale; there has to be a diffe-

rentiation," she said.

The president continued to point out that there is no regulation on pet shops in Macau. If animals in pet shops are considered pets, the pet shops then have to comply with the requirements related to keeping pets. She said that, without precise categorization, the law may be in conflict with the current practices of pet stores in Macau. She said that the government agreed with the lawmakers and will be adding the new category into the draft bill.

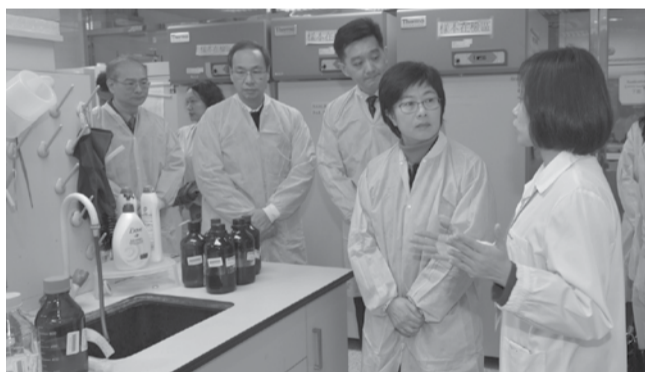
Furthermore, the meeting touched on the issue of freeing captive animals, an act that is considered by Buddhists as a compassionate one. It is not uncommon for Buddhists in Chinese societies to buy captured animals in order to set them free. However, this practice is outlawed in Macau and considered a breach of animal protection legislation. Kwan Tsui Hang said that, while she and other lawmakers understand the rationale behind the government's decision to ban the practice, they believe that the decision should be subject to review after further discussion on the issue.

Sonia Chan demands IACM service improvements

THE Secretary for Public Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, paid a visit to the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) this week to learn about its operations, functions and the progress of different projects in the civil administration and livelihood fields.

IACM officials from various departments briefed Chan on their work regarding afforestation, food safety, laboratory tests, citizen affairs and environmental hygiene. She also talked with frontline staff to find out about their daily work and encouraged them to continue their good performance.

In a meeting with members of the IACM's administrative committee and department officials, the secretary stressed that "IACM staff must redouble their efforts" to effectively carry out their scientific



Sonia Chan listens to a briefing on water testing procedures

and people-oriented governance.

"Citizens' expectations of the MSAR government's administration have risen along with society's rapid development. The IACM's functions expand across municipal and social affairs, and all of these are inseparable from citizens' daily lives," she indicated.

"The IACM staff should advance with the times, proactively perform their duties, as well as continuously enhancing work

efficiency and quality with the courage to assume responsibilities and provide the citizens with better and better services," she added.

Each department also introduced to Chan the difficulties and challenges they currently face in their work, as well as making suggestions regarding the topics of electronic governance and optimization of administrative procedures. Chan stated that she will maintain good communication and exchange with the staff.

Mortgage lending falls in Nov

ACCORDING to statistics released yesterday by the Monetary Authority of Macau, new approvals of residential mortgage loans (RMLs) and those of commercial real estate loans (CRELs) decreased simultaneously in November 2014.

With regard to outstanding balance, RMLs and CRELs both witnessed increases. In November 2014, new RMLs approved by local banks decreased 26.9 pct month-to-month to MOP3.4 billion; of which, 97.6 pct was extended to residents. In terms of value, new RMLs to residents and those to non-residents decreased 26.6 pct and 38.2 pct respectively. When compared with the same period of 2013, new approvals of RMLs witnessed an increase of 14.2 pct.

New CRELs decreased by 5.7 pct month-to-month to MOP3.6 billion; of which, 95.2 pct was granted to residents. In terms of value, new CRELs to residents and non-residents decreased 4.8 pct and 20.4 pct respectively.

On an annual basis, new approvals of CRELs increased by 12.9 pct. As at end-November 2014, the outstanding value of RMLs reached



MOP150.9 billion, an increase of 1.1 pct from one month earlier or 29.3 pct from a year ago. The resident component made up 94.1 pct of the total.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

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

Thank You!

Like us? facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門每日新聞
Times

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela
CHINA & FOREIGN EDITOR Vanessa Moore vanessa@macaudailytimes.com
DESIGN EDITOR João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, António Espadinha Soares, Brook Yang, Catarina Pinto, Cyril Law, Emille Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Philips, João Pedro Lau, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Keith Ip, Renato Marques (photographer), Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Sum Choi, Viviana Segui | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Lusa News Agency, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com
SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com
ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84
Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com
For subscription and general issues: general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

SURVEY

Local youths show increasing symptoms of gambling addiction

João Pedro Lau

A survey conducted by the Bosco Youth Service Network (BYS) found that young people in Macau are displaying more symptoms of gambling addiction. There has also been a surge in sports betting participation in 2014.

This is the sixth year in which the group has conducted a survey on the gambling situation amongst Macau's young people. Between September and December 2014, BYS received 802 valid questionnaires from local secondary school pupils aged between 14 and 21, with half of the respondents aged between 13 and 15 years old. After gathering the data, BYS then used the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV) to assess to what extent a respondent is likely to suffer from a gambling addiction. The results showed that the amount of people who scored 0, which indicating their gaming behaviors do not affect their studies, family and interpersonal relationships, was at 79.9 percent. However, the number of respondents scoring 1 to 3, meaning that gambling has serious effect on their studies, family and interpersonal relationships, has risen from 14.2 percent in 2013 to 17.1 percent in 2014. As for those who scored 4 points or above, which suggests a gaming addiction, the figure increased from 2.2 to 3 percent. The above figures did not only exceed those in 2013; they were also the highest in the six-year history of the survey.

While it is more likely for male respondents to attain a higher score, the survey found that the



Vincent Yp, executive director of BYS

■ The survey found that there has been a surge in football betting in 2014

number of female respondents scoring 1 – 3 points rose from 7.5 percent in 2013 to 13.5 percent in 2014, a considerable change noted by BYS. However, it is unclear as to whether the surge is an incidental phenomenon.

Moreover, BYS found that there has been a surge in participation in football betting in 2014, from 3.8 percent in 2013 to 9.1 percent last year. This makes it the

third most popular gaming item after poker (28.3 percent) and mahjong (22.6 percent). The increase is attributed to the World Cup that took place during June and July in 2014. Online gaming, which was the third most popular gaming item in 2013, went down one place and ranked fourth in the 2014 survey. However, a rise in participation from 5.8 percent to 8.2 percent was still recorded.

Vincent Yp, executive director of BYS, speculated that the increase in the figures was partly due to the fact that the respondents in this year's survey were born in the early 2000s. This could mean that they have a different understanding of gambling compared to the respondents in the previous five years.

A better domestic economic situation also means that young people have more money in their hands. And without the teaching of good financial management skills at schools, it is possible that they would spend the money on gambling.

Furthermore, Yp has noticed a trend where, although parents may explicitly forbid their children from gambling, they may not oppose their children's playing poker or mahjong. Yp believes that parents should have a clear understanding of gambling and adopt a stance which strictly reflects this.

In terms of the measures to prevent young people from participating in gambling, Yp said that young people enjoy group

activities; this can be seen as a measure to keep them from participating in gambling activities. "When young people have the space to develop and activities to participate in, there is less chance for them to gamble. From the young people we have encountered, especially those who were addicted to gambling, many of them only had very few [extra-curricular] activities, [with most of them staying] at home by themselves. Therefore, it would be helpful for the family and the school to encourage students to take part in other activities, which can serve as alternatives [to gambling]," he said.

The executive director also advised parents to better communicate with their children regarding gambling. He suggested that more support and relevant resources be given to education teachers in schools as well.

As for quitting gambling, Yp said that, like other addictions, it is not easy because there are factors that have led a person to the addiction in the first place. "We also see that people will return to gambling after quitting. After all, even if a person can quit gambling for a short time, it is easy for them to return to the addiction if it has become a habit for them," he said.

Dr Mark Ng from the Hong Kong Shue Yan University Enterprise and Social Development Research Centre, who has assisted the survey, also commented that it is too easy to gamble in Macau, thus making it easier for people to relapse. "If a person quits gambling and goes to a place where they cannot gamble, then the chance of picking up the habit again will be smaller," he said.

Positive impression of new gov't from Portugal's cabinet member

THE Secretary of State of Portuguese Communities Abroad, José Cesário, said yesterday that he has "a very good impression" of the new government's secretaries, several of whom he met yesterday.

The politician revealed that the Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, assured him that Portuguese citizens "will conti-

nue to enjoy a treatment of positive discrimination" concerning residency permits.

As the Times reported last August, Portuguese nationals are claiming to face difficulties when trying to obtain residency permits. Various applicants have had to deal with initial rejection, with authorities providing them an opportunity to

argue their case through a written hearing.

One of the reasons for rejecting an application is related to social and economic matters. Several applicants who were offered salaries below MOP20,000 saw their residency permit requests denied, although some people with salaries above MOP20,000 have also been rejected, according

to media reports.

However, during yesterday's meeting, Wong Sio Chak told José Cesário that "there's total availability to cooperate with us [Lisbon's government] and with the Portuguese Consulate when trying to solve more delicate situations that can occur, and in order to give continuity to the residency granting process."



Raimundo Rosario (center), poses for a group photo with José Cesário (left) and the Consul-General of Portugal to Macao and Hong Kong, Vitor Sereno (right)

After the meeting with Wong Sio Chak, José Cesário held meetings with the Secretary for Transport and Public Work, Raimundo do Rosario, and with the Secretary for Social Affairs and Cultu-

re, Alexis Tam.

José Cesário will visit the Portuguese Consulate today to inaugurate the new electronic platform aimed at speeding up the issue or renewal of identification documents.

Experts trying to choose a pair of pandas to send to Macau

AFTER attending yesterday's AL Standing Committee meeting, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, told the media that Hoi Hoi, the male panda living in the Seac Pai Van Park, may be returned to the mainland if experts decide Macau is not the ideal place for him. The president of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) executive committee, Alex Vong, also revealed that experts are considering whether or not the bureau needs to relocate the Asian bear Bobo from the Flora Gar-



den due to an increased population in the area. The Secretary said that experts have been trying to choose a pair of pandas to send to Macau, after Chinese President Xi Jinping announced that the central government will be giving Macau another two pandas during his trip to the region in December. "Whether [Hoi Hoi] will stay or not, this has to wait until the new pair of pandas arrive before the experts

can decide," she said. "We do not rule out that [Hoi Hoi] will be sent back to the mainland." Chan also stressed that the current panda pavilion in the Seac Pai Van Park is capable of accommodating three pandas and therefore no expansion is needed. Meanwhile, IACM's president Alex Vong said that his colleagues were also concerned with Bobo's living conditions; the Asian bear has called Flora Garden home since the 1980s. He said that IACM officials are assessing the environment surrounding Flora Garden and will decide whether or not Bobo should be moved. Seac Pai Van Park is a possible option.

Furthermore, the president suggested that, given the increase in population near the Seac Pai Van Park, IACM is considering converting it from a country park to a city park. A team is currently evaluating the situation. He said that IACM will reveal more information on this matter when it becomes available. **JPL**

■ Experts are considering whether the bureau needs to move Asian bear Bobo from the Flora Garden

Heritage exhibition offers free admission to senior citizens and groups

THE Tak Seng On Pawnshop heritage exhibition is offering free admission to residents aged 65 or above, as well as to schools and non-profit organizations who make prior reservations. The admission fee for other citizens and tourists remains at MOP5.

Originally owned by Mr Kou Ho Neng, a wealthy local merchant, Tak Seng On Pawnshop was established in 1917. Comprised of the main counter and storehouse, it is one of the most complete pawnshop establishments still existing in Macau. The Tak Seng On Pawnshop was restored by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) and opened to the public on 21 March 2003. It offers visitors a glimpse into the historical operation modes and processes of the pawnshop industry by displaying pawn tools, tickets and records. Video guided tours have been available since January 2015 to intro-



duce visitors to the rise and prosperous development of pawnshops in Macau.

According to a press release, through this change IC "aims at promoting the Heritage Exhibition of a Traditional Pawnshop Business and the historical development of pawnshops in Macau to more people."

The "Heritage Exhibition of a Traditional Pawnshop Business" is open to the public from 10:30am to 7pm every day except the first Monday of every month. It can host a maximum of 20 people at a time.

AD

KTRANZ TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE
TRANSLATIONS

Languages

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

Services

TRANSLATIONS, PROOFREADING,
COPYWRITING, DATA INPUT,
NEWS MONITORING

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms Juliana Cheang

Email: juliana@ktranz.com.mo

Tel: +853 2871 6081 / 2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Address: Av. Infante D. Henrique, 62 2/F, Macau

ALBERGUE SCM

澳門仁慈堂婆仔屋

CELEBRATION OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF
MACAU HANDOVER TO CHINA

SKETCHES BY
YU CHANG

EXHIBITION PERIOD

17/12/2014

20/01/2015



OPENING HOURS: Everyday from 12:00PM to 8:00PM,
Monday from 03:00PM to 08:00PM

EXHIBITION VENUE: Albergue SCM - A2 Gallery

FREE ADMISSION

ALBERGUE SCM

ADDRESS: CALÇADA DA IGREJA DE SÃO LÁZARO N° 8, MACAU
TEL: 853 - 28522550 / 853 - 28523205 FAX: 853 - 28522719

INFO: facebook.com/creativealbergue.scm
EMAIL: creativealbergue@gmail.com

Organizers :



Co-organizer :



Sponsor:



Management :





Alan Ho expected to spend CNY in prison

THE Public Prosecutions Office (MP) has finished its preliminary investigation into a case involving a large prostitution syndicate alleged to be operating in Hotel Lisboa for over a year.

The decision was made to remand six suspects in custody. Among these suspects is Alan Ho, nephew of SJM Holdings chairman Stanley Ho. He is expected to spend the Chinese New Year in Coloane prison, awaiting trial.

Alan Ho is among the 102 people detained by the Judiciary Police on Saturday during an operation. The MP noted that, among them, more than 90 people were witnesses and 7 were suspects. After examining the evidence, the responsible prosecutor has decided to advise the judge to hold six of the suspects behind bars, with this decision going ahead. The MP said it will continue to investigate the case.

The Times tried to contact SJM for comment, but did not receive any response.

Born in 1947, Alan Ho completed a business administration degree in the United States in the early 1970s and tau-

■ The MP decided to remand six suspects in custody

ght at the Hong Kong Chinese University from 1979 to 1985. He then pursued a PhD degree at Harvard University and worked at a law firm, before officially joining the Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau (STDM) in 1991.

Ho was the administrative director and manager of Hotel Lisboa. He was involved in the management of several hotels in Macau, as well as that of SJM. Some media reports have called him “the defender of the Lisboa empire”.

Ho has served as president of the Association of Macau Tourist Agents and, in 2011, was granted the Medal of Merit in Tourism by the Macau government. He is also famous for his love and appreciation of wines.

An article, published on Business Insider, titled “It Doesn’t

Matter Who’s Your Daddy in Macau Anymore” analyzes the symbolism of Alan Ho’s detainment, and said that Chinese President Xi Jinping has decided to fight corruption in China – including the MSAR – even if it drastically transforms Macau’s social and economic structures.

The article said that there is a “new regime” in Macau where people previously perceived as being able to conduct illegal activity without fear of prosecution are now vulnerable to possible police action. It also named the former junket operator Paul Phua, who was also alleged to have ties with the Triad, as another example, arguing that his arrest in Macau last year proves the situation has changed.

Moreover, the article suggested that high rollers in Macau will not be as “flashy” as they once were because of the fear that they will fall victim to the anti-corruption wave. Therefore, it said, Macau – like Las Vegas in the 1970s and 80s when gang members were forced out of the city by law enforcement – needs to look quickly for a clean source of revenue. **JPL**

HEALTH

New Macau criticizes bloated hospital bureaucracies

THE New Macau Association (ANM) delivered an open letter to the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, yesterday, urging the government to start reforming the hospital system from “bureaucracy” and establishing a trial registration system for doctors.

The letter indicated that the core of the region’s medical system problems is inadequate human resources, but “many of the medicine graduates outside Macau are not willing to return home to practice their profession.”

“Together with bureaucracy in the hospital system, a lack of further training and a security system when medical incidents occur, the staff is facing great pressure with ever-increasing demands,” ANM stated.

“In the short term, the authority should bring the extended bureaucratic departmental structure and culture under control and establish the registration system for doctors before they can practice their profession, in order to raise their morale and their professional validation, and provide a clear outline for medicine graduates outside Macau once they return home,” the association suggested.

Furthermore, the group stressed that the authorities

should prepare to establish a local medical school as soon as possible so as to provide a training base for local doctors.

Regarding the University of Macau (UM)’s intention to establish a medical school, the ANM urged for a timeline of the plan, as “Macau doesn’t have enough specialized doctors and medical personnel don’t receive enough medical training.”

“Macau has a small population. Do we have enough experience and enough medical cases to develop an academic institute for medical services?” asked the ANM president Sulu So, adding that they are also concerned that the institute’s professionalism will be affected due to the fact that Macau society is based on close interpersonal relations.

“Will the new school’s admission of students, along with their assessment and graduation be affected by the interpersonal connections?” he stressed. “Thus we specially suggest that the future medical school shouldn’t be operated solely by local universities such as the UM.”

The ANM further suggested that Macau’s future medical school should collaborate with medical institutes in neighboring regions or establish itself as a regional branch. **BY**



AD

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.



Portable Chemical Toilet Hiring

- Regular Units, Flush Units
- Units with Sanitizers, Sinks
- Deluxe Units
- Daily, Weekly or Monthly
- Deliver, Pick-Up & Pump Out of Portable Toilets

FREE DELIVERY

Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



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

- Oral examination and radiology investigation
- Restorative and Cosmetic Dentistry
- Children Dentistry
- Orthodontic Treatment
- Oral and Dental implant Surgery
- Endodontic Treatment
- Periodontal Treatment
- Emergency Treatment

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

Website: www.icqoral.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/icqoral

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

Rm1907, 19/F, AIA Tower, Nos. 251A-301, AVENIDA COMMERCIAL DE MACAU, MACAU SAR
TEL: (853)28373266 FAX: (853)28356483 EMAIL: INFO@ICQORAL.COM WWW.ICQORAL.COM

Fátima Valente, Lusa

MIGRANT WORKERS

A temporary home that becomes permanent

Leonardo Dioko is considered a success story amongst the Filipino population, the second largest migrant community in Macau. Nicknamed "Don," the Macau Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) lecturer arrived in Macau in 1991 with the intention of living here for "three years maximum." However, he loved the city so much that he is still living here today.

"If someone were to have told me when I was young that I was going to spend most of my adult life in Macau, I would have thought they were crazy. Before I arrived here, I didn't even know where Macau was," he says.

Leonardo Dioko could have hardly imagined that he would go on to marry a Macanese citizen and raise a family in the territory. Nowadays, he states that family was the main reason behind his decision to live in Macau for so long. However, he stresses that it was not the only reason: "I [actually] had an invitation to work elsewhere before and right after I married. After all, I think that the community feeling we have here, as well as the simple and relaxed way of life, makes it hard to go away."

Comparing his Macau experience of almost 23 years with those of his colleagues who have relocated, Leonardo Dioko doesn't hesitate to say that the decision to head to Macau was "one of the best things" that has ever happened to him.

"My colleagues who went to the United States and Europe also managed well, but considering the tax burdens, limited ability to save, and quality of life – they

PAULO BARBOSA



The Filipino population is the second largest migrant community in Macau

spend countless hours in traffic. [In terms of] acceptance and tolerance, I would say that my stay in Macau has been fulfilling" he says. "I would say the same thing even if Macau's economy hadn't surged," he stresses, alluding to the gaming sector.

The Filipino is a permanent Macau ID holder, unlike

most of his compatriots who work in Macau as non-resident workers, holding a type of working visa commonly known as a "blue card."

Nevertheless, the scholar says that he supports the policies adopted by the local government to protect the most destitute, stressing that employers

have to abide by rules concerning areas such as holidays and insurance. But, in his view, "there is a lot to improve, for example in giving [the migrants] legal representation so that they can have access to justice whenever they need it."

"The government should work with employers to ensure that

workers live in decent, healthy and safe conditions. The responsibility of finding lodging is still on the workers' side. Access to healthcare should also be improved," Leonardo Dioko says.

The tourism expert advises migrant workers to play an active role in "improving their living conditions through professional training programs and

“If someone were to have told me when I was young that I was going to spend most of my adult life in Macau, I would have thought they were crazy”

LEONARDO DIOKO

by working the hardest they can" in order to achieve success in the workplace.

Although he has a different background compared with most of the Filipino non-resident workers, Leonardo Dioko has identity issues like any other migrant.

"I have three sons born here and they feel very Macanese, although they are starting to discover that their identity is much more complex," he comments. "To them, Macau is our permanent home." **MDT/Lusa**

Scholar says a mechanism to supervise work agencies is urgent

The lack of further legislation to regulate the work of employment agencies leads to abuse that affect non-resident workers in Macau, according to Cecilia Ho, Social Work lecturer at the Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM).

The scholar explains that these workers are often forced to pay "excessive" recruitment fees to agencies and advocates for the creation of an evaluation system for agencies, and the "black-listing" of those who don't abide by the law.

"The most urgent matter concerning domestic helpers is the creation of a mechanism to supervise employment agencies and the creation of an evaluation system that protects

■ A model for a mechanism to evaluate agencies already exists and is being enforced in Taiwan

the employer and domestic helpers," Cecilia Ho told Lusa news.

The scholar accuses the agencies of trying to bypass the legislation. In spite of not being allowed to receive any recruitment fee from domestic

helpers, those agencies "charge for training fees, air tickets, housing and food fees as well as medical exams that were already paid for at the country of origin of the employees," she says.

Cecilia Ho (who also directed the award winning 2009 documentary "HERstory – Jeritan," which recounts the story of a Indonesian migrant worker) argues that the model for a mechanism to evaluate agencies already exists and is being enforced in Taiwan, whereas agencies that act accordingly are classified with an 'a.' Those that commit mild violations are classified with a 'b,' and the worst are classified with a 'd' mark, which opens grounds for the cancela-

tion of the license.

Cindri Purnasari, 34, is an Indonesian citizen who has been living in Macau since 2004. She claims that she had to pay fees to agencies several times. "When I arrived in Macau there were only two or three agencies. I was lucky. They only deducted my salary (MOP2,500 at the time) during three months," she says.

George Young, a member of the Peduli Indonesian Migrant Concern Group, stresses that the migrant workers start paying fees before they arrive in Macau. "There are many middle men who demand money for everything under the sun. Sometimes migrants have to pay MOP20,000 besides the money they



Cecilia Ho

have to pay to bribe people in order to make feasible their departure from Indonesia [to work abroad]," he says.

Mr Young says that these obstacles increase the debt burden faced by young women before they leave their home country.

"They need to borrow a lot of money and probably won't be able to repay it after one year working here. Sometimes they need two or three years to repay, because they also need to send money back to their families," he says. **MDT/Lusa**

IF you think a taboo is something nobody dares to mention, think again, because TABOO at the City of Dreams Macau is definitely one of the hottest topics in town!

Shattering all taboos in an intimate and seductive journey that teases your senses, the new season of TABOO, the hot hit cabaret experience in Macau, gets a makeover with spectacular new performers and provocative acts.

After Moulin Rouge, Le Lido and the Crazy Horse in Paris, here is TABOO, the first and only world-class playful cabaret experience in Asia. Highlighting more A-list artists from across the world with even more riveting performances and stunning scenes, TABOO promises to capture the wildest imaginations in a stunningly playful rendition of all things cabaret.

And to give audiences one more reason to set foot inside TABOO, Lucky Hell from Finland has returned to the premises to charm everyone into her exquisite world of sensation and excitement. Among the few sword-swallowing artists in the world, Lucky Hell will

THE TABOO EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT

The Return of Danger



Lucky Hell

be delivering a performance that will stun you with the risks she takes, pinning you

to your seat with the thrill she creates.

Besides Lucky Hell's beau-

ty, her spine-chilling talent and sexy, sultry dance is guaranteed to push the bou-

ndaries of senses and taboos to bring about an unforgettablely mesmerizing number set in a teasingly treacherous atmosphere.

TABOO's playful performance likewise reels in a stellar cast of other unique signature acts, including Ukrainian dancers Anastasia Krutikova and Artem Panasyuk, who play host to the "Hand to Hand" performance that translates lovers' sweet entanglement into sexy balancing acts and stunning acrobatics. Meanwhile French lover performers Cécile Magdeleine and Roman Bonaton, unleash ferocious desires and violent struggles in the adrenaline-pumping "Double Straps", combining strength with captivating visuals.

Similarly ensuring that viewers' eyes remain locked on the show, Taboo brings the 'Morph' performance to the TABOO stage. This unique artistic spectacle, in which a kaleidoscope of lights is projected onto a dancer dressed in white to create a startling visual impact, delivers a playfully dazzling act.

Of course, when it comes to visual impact, the 'Naked Light' combines an impeccable pole-dancing performance with stunning graphic projections. French pole dancer Vanessa Biel, who was the champion of the 8th International Pole Championship China, is set to play a key role in TABOO with a signature act that is an ultimate fusion of both Western dance moves with Eastern symbolic images and music.

If there is part of your brain that is yet to be stimulated by all the eye-catching performances, Trenyce, the top five singer from American Idol Season 2, is the lead singer in the all-new TABOO show. Her alluring voice will certainly make sure that your whole mind will be captured by her romantic repertoire.

Counting down to Valentine's Day in less a month, this seductive and hot night-out may be the best part of your all-inclusive romantic Valentine's experience. To allow visitors to relax and enjoy TABOO without worrying about the accommodation, City of Dreams Macau has rolled out the TABOO Hotel Package that offers one night's stay in a Standard King Room at either Hard Rock Hotel, Crown Towers or Grand Hyatt Macau, plus two TABOO tickets, starting from HKD1,398.

Come and indulge yourself in the world of TABOO and immerse yourself in a unique and sophisticated theatrical experience, where pleasure and enjoyment is never off-limits.

Sponsored Feature



Double Straps



TABOO has attracted quite a number of A-list celebrities for review including international Superstar Ms. Carina Lau



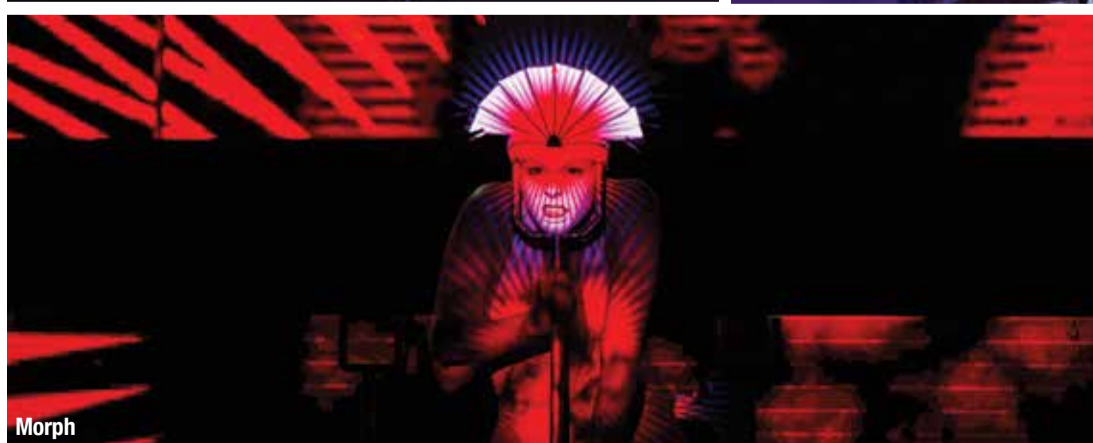
Naked Light



Trenyce



Hand to Hand



Morph

Hong Kong suspends immigration program for wealthy investors

Michelle Yun

HONG Kong is putting on hold an investor immigration plan that has granted residency in the city to more than 20,000 mainland Chinese in the last decade.

The Capital Investment Entrant Scheme, which takes applications from foreigners investing more than HK\$10 million (USD1.3 million), will be suspended starting today, Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying said in his annual policy address yesterday. The government will continue to process the applications it currently has on hand.

Hong Kong is cutting the program at a time when tensions with China have increased, underscored by pro-democracy protests that ended last month. It was introduced in 2003 when the government sought to boost an ailing economy and in the



A man in a suit stands at a street crossing in the business district of Central in Hong Kong

same year relaxed its border to mainland Chinese tourists. "It hasn't been effective in bringing in productive money," said Joseph Cheng, a political science professor at City University of Hong Kong. "It attracted investors but Hong Kong doesn't need more hot money."

Real estate investing was removed from the program in 2010 to curb investor demand as home prices surged in the city. The number of mainland Chinese buyers, who have helped drive up home prices in recent years, has declined since Leung announced an additional 15

percent tax on foreign buyers in 2012.

A total of 24,481 people were approved for residency under the plan as of Sept. 30, of which 21,822 were Chinese nationals, according to immigration data. Investments made totaled HK\$205.8 billion.

The suspension came as a surprise and will hurt business for immigration consulting companies such as Midland Immigration Consultancy Ltd. and Goldmax Immigration Consulting Co.

"I've been receiving phone calls from our business partners and customers all day," said Benny Cheung, a director at Goldmax, which derives about 80 percent of its customers from China. "We expect to lose at least 20 percent of business. We are still thinking about what to do."

About 30 percent of Midland Immigration's revenue may be affected by the scrapping of the program, according to chief executive officer Thomas Kut. The company is a unit of Hong Kong-based realtor Midland Holdings Ltd.

"We'll reallocate our resources to other areas, such as immigration to the U.S. and European countries such as Portugal," Kut said.

Bloomberg

corporate bits

GALAXY AND HK CONSTRUCTION SECTOR SOCCER TEAMS PLAY FRIENDLY MATCHES

Galaxy Entertainment Group's ("GEG") Staff Social Club recently held friendly soccer matches with the Hong Kong construction sector to encourage its staff members to exercise more, uplift their team spirit and strengthen positivity in the community. The event was GEG Soccer Team's first match in 2015 and serves as a warm-up to the upcoming second annual "GEG Lunar New Year Soccer Cup". The participants brought their family members and friends to cheer on the sidelines while enjoying a lively afternoon.

Divided into two friendly matches, the event consisted of the GEG Soccer Team, formed by team members and executives, playing against the Hong Kong construction sector's Elite Team and Elderly Team. After two games, the GEG Soccer Team emerged as winners in both matches.

TIGERAIR TO OFFER PROMOTIONAL KAOHSIUNG-MACAU TICKETS

Tigerair Taiwan, the first budget carrier based in Taiwan since it took to the skies last September, is increasing its bid in the low-cost air travel market by offering 1,000 one-way tickets between Kaohsiung in southern Taiwan and Macau for NT\$777 (USD24).

The budget carrier, a joint venture between Taiwan's China Airlines and Singapore's Tiger Airways, said Monday that the tickets would go on sale at noon Tuesday.

The promotional campaign came after its offer of an inaugural Taipei-Macau flight for NT\$88 (US\$2.75) last month, in the hopes of building up travel momentum to the Chinese Special Administrative Region, according to the airline.

The NT\$777 (US\$24) tickets, which do not include tax, can be used between April 1 and June 30, it said.

AD

Let's act in compliance with the "Courtesy Living Charter"

Protect the environment

民政總署市民服務熱線
Linha do Cidadão do IACM
Civic Service Hotline

2833 7676 www.iacm.gov.mo

(做個好公民·為己又為人)

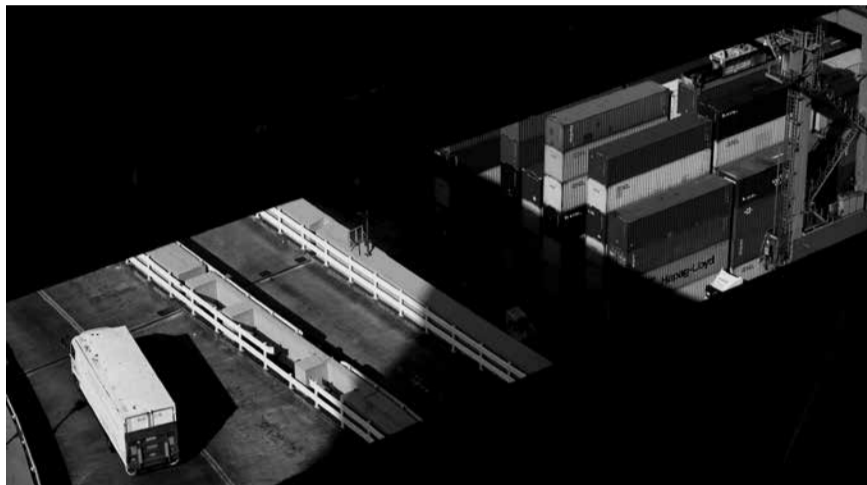
9,000 Portuguese companies currently export to Angola

OVER 9,000 Portuguese companies currently export to Angola about 2000 Angolan companies, are at least part-owned by Portuguese investors, according to figures from Portuguese Agency for Investment and Foreign Trade (AICEP).

The same figures also showed that two-way trade amounted to 7 billion euros in 2013, and of that total 3.1 billion euros were goods exports and 1.4 billion euros were services exports from Portugal to Angola.

“In the first ten months of 2014 compared to the same period of last year, Portuguese exports to Angola increased by 3 percent, after an absolutely record year in 2013,” the head of the AICEP delegation in Luanda, Luís Moura, told Portuguese news agency Lusa.

In this scenario, the introduction in March of the new Angolan



Customs Tariff, which increases the price of some products to encourage domestic production, has not affected the Portuguese exports.

“We are not falling and, for example, the export of beer has increased,” noted Moura, referring specifically to a market in which Portuguese companies compete

with Angolan brands and which has seen price increases due to the new Customs Tariff.

With 9,000 companies exporting to Angola, the focus in 2015, according to AICEP, includes industry and setting up Portuguese subsidiaries, in addition to the 2,000 already operating in the country. **MDT/Macauhub**

ANGOLA

Minister inaugurates project built by Chinese company

CHINESE company Sinohydro built a new plant for collection, treatment and distribution of drinking water and the system to expand and improve the medium voltage grid and public lighting system in the city of Menongue in Angola's Kuando Kubango province, all of which were inaugurated by the Minister of Energy and Water, João Baptista Borges.

The new plant for collection, treatment and distribution of drinking water, which cost USD45 million, has a capacity to pump 11 billion cubic metres of water a day and will benefit many of the inhabitants of the urban and suburban areas of the city of Menongue and the Missombo commune.

This project, which took 20 months to complete, has a reservoir of 6,000 cubic meters of water and a network extension of 59.9 kilometers, and also included building 100 water fountains in the district.

The project for the expansion and improvement of the medium voltage grid and the public lighting system of the city of Menongue cost US\$53 million and will enable about 12,000 residential connections in the city of Menongue and Missombo commune.

The work, which was also carried out by Sinohydro in a period of 20 months, included installation of 59 630 and 250 KVA transformer stations, and 15 kilometers of street lighting in the main roads of the city of Menongue. **MDT/Macauhub**

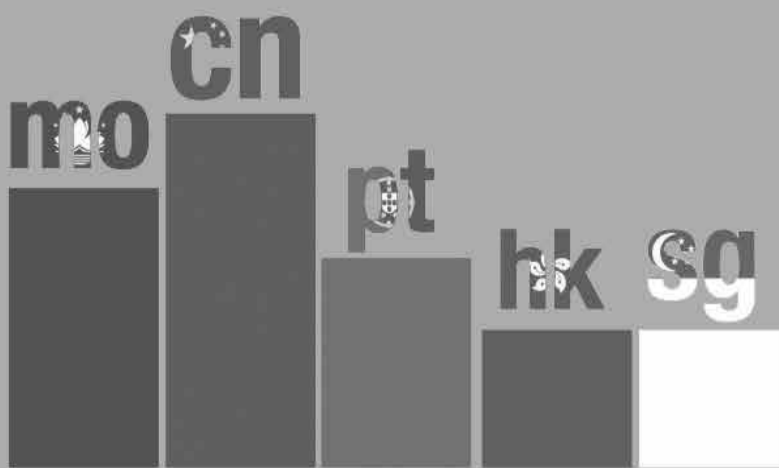
AD

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

85 million page views

Top Ranking Countries



Unique Visitors 5,921,859
Visits 7,720,688
Pageviews 85,357,009
11.06 Pages Per Visit

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times

“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

Ting Shi

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping said there will be no let-up in his “fierce and enduring” battle against corruption, which has already taken down thousands of senior officials including the country’s former security chief.

Xi vowed to maintain “high pressure” and “zero tolerance” on graft this year, as corruption “has not vanished” and “temptations still remain,” in speech at a plenary session of the Communist Party’s top disciplinary agency in Beijing on Tuesday.

“The anti-graft work in 2014 was effective and the campaign was a matter of life-or-death for the party and the nation,” Xi was quoted by the official Xinhua News Agency as saying at the plenum of Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. “The situation remains arduous and complex.”

While Xi is seeking to address a problem that he says risks undermining the party’s legitimacy, he is also trying to weaken some well-entrenched vested interests and consolidate his power, according to Jean-Pierre Cabestan, director for government and international studies at Hong Kong Baptist University.

“Xi wants to turn what is a campaign into a standard practice aimed at, if not ferreting out corruption, at least keeping it under control; hence the longevity of this new crackdown,” Cabestan said in an e-mail interview. “The jury is still out as far as the results

Xi vows to wage enduring anti-corruption campaign

■ Xi vowed to maintain “high pressure” and “zero tolerance” on graft this year

of this campaign are concerned; obstacles to deepening reforms are still formidable.”

His crackdown on graft - the harshest since the republic’s founding in October 1949, according to state media - kicked off weeks after he became party boss in November 2012 and has snared more than 100,000 communist cadres, including both “flies and tigers,” or low- and high-level officials, according to CCDI figures released last month.

The past two years bear out the importance of “catching tigers,” Li Chengyan, director of the Research Centre for Government Integrity Building at Peking University, said in a phone interview. “Only beating big tigers can exert a sufficient deterrent effect.”

In the speech, Xi cited for the first time the names of Zhou Yon-



Xi Jinping

gkang, a former member of the party’s Politburo Standing Committee in charge of domestic security, and Ling Jihua, a former top aide of retired president Hu Jintao, as high-profile examples in his graft-busting efforts. These cases “demonstrated to the world the Communist Party has a head-on approach to problems and correcting mistakes,” Xi said, calling the effort “self-purifying.”

The risk of Xi’s anti-graft drive has “probably receded” since

Zhou was formally put under investigation in July, according to Cabestan.

“For Xi, the most dangerous period was prior to July when he had to convince the leadership and the elder leaders of the party to get rid of Zhou and prosecute him,” he said.

In laying out goals and challenges for this year, Xi stressed the importance of institutionalizing his campaign. “Only by making it into a habit, a norm” can we deli-

ver long-run and lasting impacts, he said.

Xi said this year’s anti-graft work would focus on strengthening official accountability mechanisms, keeping a closer eye on family members and close allies of potentially corrupt officials, and improving supervision of state-owned enterprises, a corruption-plagued area that saw hundreds of senior officials toppled in the past two years. **Bloomberg**

A spate of murders by North Koreans inside China’s border is prompting some residents to abandon their homes, testing China’s ability to manage both the 880-mile shared frontier and its relationship with the reclusive nation.

The violence reflects a growing desperation among soldiers, including border guards, since Kim Jong Un took over as supreme leader in Pyongyang three years ago. As well as seeking food, they are entering China to steal money.

“Bribes were one of the key sources of income for these guards to survive, but after Kim Jong Un came to power and tightened controls, it became difficult for them to take bribes, thus the criminal deviations,” said Kang Dong Wan, a professor of international relations at Busan’s Dong-a University in South Korea.

The murder of four residents of a border village last month prompted China to file a complaint with North Korea, risking tensions between the two allies in contrast to Kim’s

North Koreans walk across frozen border river to murder Chinese



The Chinese and North Korean flags are attached to a railing as trucks carrying Chinese-made goods cross into North Korea on the Sino-Korean Friendship Bridge at the Chinese border town of Dandong

recent overtures toward South Korea. Kim defied China in 2013 to conduct North Korea’s third nuclear test, and in the same year executed his uncle, Jang Song Thaek, who had promoted commercial ties with China.

In the December incident, a North Korean soldier shot four residents of Nanping, a border village of about 300 in northeast-

ern Jilin province. Around 20 villagers have been murdered in Nanping by North Koreans in recent years, a senior local official said in an interview.

Some residents are leaving the village, located within sight of an unnamed North Korean army base, said the official, who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the subject matter.

In the winter months the Tumen river outside of Nanping freezes over, allowing North Koreans to walk across, and it is common for soldiers to enter the village to demand food, the official said by phone on Jan. 8. The December attack followed the murder of three members of the same family in September.

“Barbed wires separating China and North Korea are as good as non-existent, with some parts of the border river being so shallow that you only risk getting yourself wet from the knee down when you wade across it,” Kang said. “The geographic extensiveness of the border also makes it very difficult to maintain a complete watch.”

North Korea has suffered from food shortages and as many as 1.1 million people died during the famines of the 1990s, according to South Korean estimates. The country’s elite and the military tend to be better supplied with food, though distribution to more remote areas has deteriorated, said Kwon Tae Jin, who researches the North Korean food situation at the GS&J Institute in Seoul.

“Military units in fringe areas or with less influence also get less food,”

Kwon said. “This will get worse. It is estimated about 2 million North Koreans are still unable to feed themselves properly even though the days of them starving to death are over.”

In the September attack, a North Korean civilian entered Nanping and bludgeoned three family members to death to steal 500 yuan (USD81), said 34-year-old Yong Weiliang, whose brother-in-law was one of the victims.

“The village officials told me the North Korean man was later caught by soldiers at the border,” Yong said by phone. The village government gave him 3,000 yuan in compensation, he said.

“The relationship between China and North Korea was abnormal in 2014 and is unlikely to see a recovery this year,” Yan Xuetong, Director of the Institute of International Studies at Tsinghua University, told reporters yesterday in Beijing, citing North Korea’s nuclear pursuit as an obstacle for improved ties. **Bloomberg**

State paper: Police arrest Turks smuggling Uighurs to Syria

SHANGHAI police have detained nine terror suspects from an ethnic minority in western China plus 10 Turkish people accused of helping them in an attempt to illegally travel abroad, including to Syria, a state newspaper reported yesterday.

The Global Times said the Turks were arrested in November when the nine Chinese Uighurs attempted to sneak out of China with altered Turkish passports. The nine Uighurs, plus two other Chinese nationals who allegedly helped them, also were detained.

China is in the middle of a one-year clampdown on what it says are terrorist activities in the western region of Xinjiang, home to Turkic-speaking Uighur minority Muslims, who have complained of being discriminated against and economically marginalized.

Citing Shanghai police, the report said each of the nine Uighurs was charged 60,000 yuan (USD10,000) to leave the country via Shanghai Pudong International Airport, in China's east. They also allegedly paid \$2,000 to get visas using fake invitation letters at the Chinese Embassy in Turkey.

The Global Times, published by the ruling Communist Party, said terrorism-related videos were found on the suspects' phones and some had confessed that they planned to go to Syria, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The Turkish suspects were arrested for organizing illegal border crossings and the Uighurs from Xinjiang were being held for organizing, leading and participating in terrorist organizations, the newspaper said.

Asked if he could confirm the report, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei told reporters he believed it was "full and accurate" and that he had nothing to add on the case.

Calls to the Shanghai police's press office were unanswered and the Turkish Embassy in Beijing did not immediately comment.

Violence linked to Xinjiang has killed about 400 people in and outside the region within the past two years, according to state media reports. Beijing has blamed the attacks on radical separatists with foreign ties, although critics and human rights advocates say Uighurs have chafed under the repressive rule of the Han Chinese-dominated government.

Turkey has a sizable Uighur diaspora, many of them exiles disgruntled with Beijing. **AP**



HONG KONG POLICY ADDRESS

Leung says election under mainland rules or nothing

Michelle Yun

HONG Kong faces a standstill unless China-backed plans for restricted elections and measures to cool record home prices are implemented, Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying said in his first major address since pro-democracy protests divided the city.

The city will forgo having its first-ever election for the chief executive in 2017 if it can't agree to China's terms, Leung said. The public also needs to accept that an attempt to increase land supply for homes will mean making choices, he said. The city's housing shortage is caused partly by lowered development intensity and land zoned for country parks in the past, he said.

"We must make choices," Leung said at the start of his annual policy speech. "We have to choose between implementing universal suffrage and a standstill; on the economy, between progress and stagnation; and on people's livelihood, between reforms and clinging to the status quo."

Leung is seeking to push through electoral reforms that face opposition from lawmakers, after China's decision to vet candidates for the city's first election triggered 11 weeks of street protests. He also yesterday earmarked HK\$50 billion (USD6.5 billion) for a retirement fund and raised minimum wages, as he seeks to bolster public support.

Halfway through his five-year term, Leung needs to show progress with his pledges to improve housing affordability, narrow a wealth gap and implement universal suffrage in 2017.

Property curbs failed to stop home prices from climbing to a record last year, while China's insistence last August that all candidates for the election must be screened brought tens of thousands of protesters onto the streets for almost three months. Leung has rejected the demands of the activists for public nomination as against the law.

"As we pursue democracy, we should act in accordance with the law, or



Pro-democracy legislator Raymond Chan is taken away by security guards after he protested against Hong Kong Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying during Leung's annual policy address

We have to choose between implementing universal suffrage and a standstill; on the economy, between progress and stagnation; and on people's livelihood

LEUNG CHUN-YING

Hong Kong will degenerate into anarchy," Leung told lawmakers.

Protesters had surrounded government offices and occupied key roads, endured tear gas and pepper spray, and clashed with the police before pu-

blic opinion swung against them. Leung's popularity dropped to a record low during the biggest political crisis the city has faced since its return to Chinese sovereignty.

Leung yesterday also urged the public to cooperate with the government's work to increase land supply for housing.

"The consultation process for land planning and development has become drawn out with increasing controversies and uncertainties," he said. "Society as a whole must make hard choices."

There will be about 14,600 units of new private homes available annually over the next five years, a 30 percent increase from the preceding five years, Leung said.

Home prices advanced to a record last year as buyers shrugged off property curbs imposed by Leung, which included a 15 percent levy on foreign buyers. The government price index gained 12 percent in the first 11 months last year to an all-time high in November, driven by smaller-sized flats.

"I don't think today's speech will change the market expectation on property

price in near term," Raymond Yeung, an economist at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. said yesterday. "Judging from the hot pre-selling of both public and private projects, demand seems to hold up."

Leung also yesterday announced a raft of measures to improve people's livelihood. Other than the retirement fund, Leung raised minimum wages by 8.3 percent to HK\$32.50 an hour. Separately, Hong Kong will abolish a program that allowed foreigners to gain residency by investing in the city.

"CY Leung has decided to stick to his guns, unwavering, on the political reform," said Jean-Pierre Cabestan, a political science professor at Hong Kong Baptist University. "CY's proposed welfare and housing reforms may help him regain some popularity, but it will not solve the challenges that his government is facing. As a consequence, I sadly predict more trouble for the government, its relations with the community and the Central government-Hong Kong society relationship." **Bloomberg**

JAPAN

Cabinet OKs record military budget with eye on China

Mari Yamaguchi
and Elaine Kurtenbach, Tokyo

JAPAN'S Cabinet approved the country's largest ever defense budget yesterday, including plans to buy surveillance aircraft, drones and F-35 fighter jets to help counter China's rising assertiveness in the region.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet endorsed a nearly 5 trillion yen (USD42 billion) defense budget for the year beginning in April as part of a record 96.3 trillion yen (\$814 billion) total budget.

The budget must still be approved by parliament, but Abe's coalition holds majorities in both houses.

The 2 percent rise in defense spending is the third annual increase under Abe,



In this Oct. 26, 2014 photo, members of the Japan Self-Defense Forces march during the annual Self-Defense Forces Commencement of Air Review at Hyakuri Air Base, north of Tokyo

who took office in December 2012 and ended 11 straight years of defense budget cuts.

The increase mainly covers new equipment, including P-1 surveillance aircraft, F-35 fighter jets and amphibious vehicles for a new unit similar to the U.S. Marine Corps. The aim is to boost Japan's capacity to defend uninhabited islands in the East China Sea that it controls but which are also claimed by China.

The 2015 budget also covers the cost of purchasing parts of "Global Hawk" drones, planned for deployment in 2019, two Aegis radar-equipped destroyers and missile defense system development with Washington.

Abe favors a stronger role for Japan's military, despi-

te a commitment to pacifism enshrined in the U.S.-inspired constitution drawn up after the country's defeat in World War II. Japan's defense guidelines were revised in December 2013 as tensions rose over the East China Sea islands.

Chinese patrol boats often visit waters near the islands, which are known as the Senkakus in Japan and as the Diaoyu islands in China.

China has been stepping up military spending, which rose 12.2 percent to \$132 billion last year, second only to the U.S. It also has a large and sophisticated defense industry.

Japan, meanwhile, is seeking to build up its defense industries with an eye toward the global market.

The defense budget is designed to achieve "seamless and mobile" defense capability that can respond to various contingencies, the ministry said in the Cabinet-approved budget plan. It will provide effective deterrence and contribute to stability in the Asia-Pacific region and improvement of the global security environment, the ministry said. **AP**

SRI LANKA

Thousands gather as Pope celebrates mass, canonizes saint

Nicole Winfield and Jayampathi Palipane, Madhu

POPE Francis pressed his call for Sri Lankan unity and reconciliation yesterday with a Mass in Colombo to canonize the country's first saint and a visit to the war-ravaged north to pray at a shrine revered by both Sinhalese and Tamil faithful.

Tens of thousands of people waving Vatican flags packed the capital's seafront park for the Mass, with some spending the night under the stars to ensure a good spot. Seemingly rested after a grueling first day of his Asian tour, Francis arrived well ahead of time to greet the crowd, getting off his popemobile to kiss the sick and handicapped.

Bells rang out and the crowd erupted in applause when Francis declared the Rev. Joseph Vaz a saint at the start of the service. Vaz was a 17th century Indian missionary who revived the faith in Sri Lanka during a time of anti-Catholic persecution by Dutch colonists, who were Protestant Calvinists.

The Catholic Church considers Vaz a great model for



Pope Francis kisses a child upon his arrival in the seafront Galle Face Green for the canonization ceremony of Joseph Vaz, in Colombo

today's faithful, ministering to the faithful of both Sri Lanka's ethnic groups and putting himself at great risk to spread the faith.

Francis told the crowd that Vaz lived at a time — like today — when Catholics were a minority and often persecuted, and yet he ministered to all, regardless of their ethnic or religious background.

"St. Joseph shows us the importance of transcending reli-

gious divisions in the service of peace," Francis said in his homily, delivered in English and then summarized for the crowd in both Sinhalese and Tamil. "As the life of St. Joseph Vaz teaches us, genuine worship of God bears fruit not in discrimination, hatred and violence, but in respect for the sacredness of life, respect for the dignity and freedom of others, and loving commitment to the welfare of all."

After Mass, Francis was to fly by helicopter to the northern city of Madhu to pray at the Our Lady of Madhu shrine. The visit is the first by a pope to the northern Tamil territory that was devastated by Sri Lanka's 25-year civil war, which erupted in 1983 with Tamil demands for an independent homeland because of perceived discrimination by the Sinhalese majority. **AP**

FLIGHT 8501

Singapore: fuselage of crashed AirAsia plane located

A Singaporean navy ship has located the fuselage of the crashed AirAsia plane in the Java Sea, Singapore's defense minister said yesterday.

Defense Minister Ng Eng Hen said on his Facebook page that images taken by a remote controlled vehicle from the ship showed parts of the plane's wing and words on the fuselage. "The MV Swift Rescue has located the fuselage of the AirAsia plane in the Java Sea," Mr Ng said on Facebook, adding that Indonesian search officials have been notified so they can begin recovery operations. The AirAsia slogan could be seen on the wreckage in the pictures.

The plane disappeared from radar on Dec. 28 less than halfway into a two-hour flight from Surabaya, Indonesia, to Singapore. It was carrying 162 people, but only 48 bodies have been recovered so far.

Many of the victims are believed to be entombed in the main section of the aircraft's cabin.

The plane's tail was recovered over the weekend, and its two "black boxes" — the flight data recorder and cockpit flight recorder — were retrieved on Monday and Tuesday. Investigators are analyzing the information in the data recorders to piece together the cause of the crash. **AP**



VOLVO XC60 AT HOME, EVERYWHERE



XC60
FR. \$488,000



XIN FU HOU MOTORS LIMITED

Tel: 2872 1222
Showroom: Rua dos Pescadores, No. 354-408, R/C, C-D, Macau



Standup Comedy Show

18/1/2015, 9pm

Warning: TakeOut Comedy causes hysterical laughter at the Lion's Bar! This is Gina Yashere, who was awarded the "Best Female Comedian" at the recent Black Entertainment & Comedy Awards at UK. She will have her exciting debut in Macau to kick off the New Year. The funniest of comedians, fits of laughter, bursts of witty jokes, enjoy your most amusing night ever at MGM MACAU!

Entrance fee: MOP\$188 (include two standard drinks)

For enquiries and reservations, please call (853) 8802 2376



MGM MACAU Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE, Macau
Tel (853) 8802 8888 mgmmacau.com

One night in MONTE CARLO

蒙地卡羅之夜

FMBA Charity Gala Dinner 法國澳門商會慈善晚宴

An enchanting & glamorous night...

Friday 23/01/2015

Grand Ballroom, MGM Macau

6:30 pm • Cocktail 雞尾酒會

7:30 pm • Dinner 晚宴

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



www.francemacau.com



design by LOCO Creative Works LTD

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



FRANCE MACAU BUSINESS ASSOCIATION 法國澳門商會

SATURDAY NIGHT IS FOR POKER

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

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

Cancel all other plans

Find out more at PokerStarsLIVEMacau.com

PokerStars LIVE CITY OF DREAMS

濠洲天地

Level 2, Casino Estrada do Istmo, Cotai Macau SAR

All tournaments are subject to regulatory approval.

thermomix

美善品輕鬆「煮」意 THE WORLD OF THERMOMIX

比A4尺吋的紙張還要細的美善品多功能料理機, 為生活帶來非一般的烹調樂趣!

Hardly larger than an A4 piece of paper, offering unique advantages to your daily life and cooking style!

輕鬆快捷 QUICK



With Thermomix it is all possible. While Thermomix is preparing the lunch, you have can enjoy the time for other activities.

美善品多功能料理機無論您需要烘培或者煮食, 它都完全幫到您! 使用它可以為您節省寶貴的時間!

易學易用 EASY



Thermomix will change your life by opening for you a culinary horizon you would never imagine!

美善品多功能料理機讓您輕鬆地攪拌各種食料, 簡單易懂, 從此您將會以下廚為樂!

經濟實惠 ECONOMICAL



Prepare a variety of dishes quickly and easily and amazingly keep your budget level!

自己動手, 一定要選擇優質食材, 絕對新鮮, 吃得安心; 而且, 更省下出外用餐的昂貴費用。



Contact Person: Tong Jia de Ramirez
Contact Number: +853 6668 1771



www.ming-jia.com.mo



People browse a newsstand advertising "We don't have any more Charlie Hebdo"



People queue up to buy the new issue of Charlie Hebdo newspaper at a newsstand in Paris

Lori Hinnant, Paris

FRANCE

As Charlie Hebdo fronting Muhammad sells out, comic detained

CHARLIE Hebdo's defiant new issue sold out before dawn around Paris yesterday, with scuffles at kiosks over dwindling copies of the paper fronting the Prophet Muhammad. In the city still shaken by the deaths of 17 people at the hands of Islamic extremists, a controversial comic who appeared to be praising the men was detained.

The core of the irreverent newspaper's staff perished a week ago when gunmen stormed its offices, killing 12. Those who survived put out the issue that appeared on newsstands yesterday, working out of borrowed offices, with a print run of 3 million — more than 50 times the usual circulation.

The storming of the newspaper was the opening salvo of three days of terror and bloodshed in the Paris region, ending when security forces killed all three gunmen on Friday. A top leader of Yemen's al-Qaida branch claimed responsibility for the Charlie Hebdo attack, saying in a video posted yesterday that the massacre was in "vengeance for the prophet."

The claim came in an 11-minute video posting by Nasr al-Ansi, a top commander of Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP as the branch is known, which appeared on the group's Twitter account.

He said AQAP "chose the target, laid out the plan and financed the operation" against the weekly, though he produced no evidence to support the claim.

The two brothers, Said and Cherif Kouachi, who carried out the Charlie Hebdo attack were "heroes," al-Ansi said.

Charlie Hebdo had received repeated threats for posting

■ A top leader of Yemen's al-Qaida branch claimed responsibility for the Charlie Hebdo attack, saying that the massacre was in "vengeance for the prophet"

caricatures of Muhammad and was firebombed in 2011. Its editor and his police bodyguard were the first targeted in the newsroom.

France's government was preparing tougher anti-terrorism measures, and there were growing signs that authorities were ready to use current laws to their fullest extent. Yesterday's detention of Dieudonne for defending terrorism followed a four-year prison sentence involving the same charge for a man in northern France who seemed to defend the attacks in a drunken rant while resisting arrest.

French police say as many as six members of a terrorist

cell that carried out the Paris attacks may still be at large, including a man seen driving a car registered to the widow of one of the gunmen. The country has deployed 10,000 troops to protect sensitive sites, including Jewish schools and synagogues, mosques and travel hubs.

Dieudonne, who popularized an arm gesture that resembles a Nazi salute and who has been convicted repeatedly of racism and anti-Semitism, is no stranger to controversy. His provocative performances were banned last year but he has a core following among many of France's disaffected young people.

The Facebook post in question, which was swiftly deleted, said he felt like "Charlie Coulibaly" — merging the names of Charlie Hebdo and Amedy Coulibaly, the gunman who seized a kosher market and killed four hostages, along with a policewoman.

In a separate post Monday afternoon, the day the investigation was opened into Dieudonne, the comic wrote an open letter to France's interior minister. Like many European countries, France has strong laws against hate speech and especially anti-Semitism in the wake of the Holocaust.

"Whenever I speak, you do not try to understand what

I'm trying to say, you do not want to listen to me. You are looking for a pretext to forbid me. You consider me like Amedy Coulibaly when I am not any different from Charlie," he wrote.

In a posthumous video, Coulibaly had claimed allegiance to the Islamic State group. Brothers Said and Cherif Kouachi, who stormed Charlie Hebdo, had told survivors they were sent by al-Qaida in Yemen.

Solidarity for Charlie Hebdo, although not uniform, was widespread in France and abroad. Defending his caricature of Muhammad on the cover, Charlie Hebdo cartoonist Renald Luzier, also known as Luz, argued that no exceptions should be made when it comes to freedom of expression.

He said that when Charlie Hebdo drew threats and attacks in the past, the reaction was often: "Yes, but you shouldn't do that (publish cartoons of Muhammad). Yes, but you deserved that."

Yesterday, the new issue vanished from kiosks immediately. Some newsstand operators said they expected more copies to arrive today. One kiosk near the Champs Elysees, open at 6 a.m., was sold out by 6:05. Another, near Saint-Lazar, reported fistcuffs among customers.

"Distributing Charlie Hebdo, it warms my heart because we say to ourselves that he is still here, he's never left," said Jean-Baptiste Saidi, a van driver delivering copies well before dawn yesterday.

French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve was among those to get a copy before they sold out.

"I rediscovered their liberty of tone," he told France-Inter radio, describing the issue as one of "tender impertinence." AP

FRANCE ARRESTS 54 FOR DEFENDING TERROR

THE PARIS prosecutor's office says 54 people have been detained for defending or glorifying terrorism since Islamic radicals began a rampage a week ago that left 17 people dead. The arrests are part of a broader French crackdown that includes a government push for tougher anti-terrorism measures after the attacks, the worst in France in decades. Government spokesman Stephane Le Foll said yesterday some of those detained have already been convicted.

what's ON



POSTER DESIGN EXHIBITION IN CELEBRATION OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MACAU HANDOVER
TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: March 15, 2015
VENUE: The Handover Gifts Museum of Macau, Avenida Xian Xing Hai, NAPE
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8504 1800

FROM SKETCH TO SCULPTURE
TIME: 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)
 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
UNTIL: January 20, 2015
VENUE: Albergue SCM/ No. 8, Calçada da Igreja de S. Lázaro
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550 / 2852 3205

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

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

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

PENGUINS UNDERCOVER ICE WORLD WITH THE DREAMWORKS GANG
TIME: 11am-8pm
UNTIL: March 8, 2015
VENUE: Cotai Expo
ADMISSION: MOP120
ENQUIRIES: 2882 8818

Offbeat

HUCKABEE BLASTS OBAMA FOR LETTING DAUGHTERS LISTEN TO BEYONCÉ

Former Arkansas Gov. and possible presidential candidate Mike Huckabee has accused President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, of double standards in parenting, saying in an interview published Tuesday that the first family shelters its daughters from some things but allows them to listen to the music of Beyoncé.

The sharp rhetoric signals that, should he run for the Republican presidential nomination, Huckabee, a favorite of conservative Christians, would make cultural and social issues the cornerstones of his campaign.

While promoting his new book, the former Baptist pastor told People magazine, "I don't understand how on one hand they can be such doting parents and so careful about the intake of everything — how much broccoli they eat and where they go to school... and yet they don't see anything that might not be suitable" in Beyoncé's lyrics. He also said Beyoncé's choreography is "best left for the privacy of her bedroom."

In his book, Huckabee describes the Grammy Award-winning Beyoncé's lyrics as "obnoxious and toxic mental poison." He also accuses Beyoncé's husband, rapper Jay-Z, of "exploiting his wife" like a "pimp."

The first lady's office declined to comment on Huckabee's comments.

During a 2012, USD40,000-per-ticket fundraiser in New York, the president thanked Beyoncé and Jay-Z for their friendship.

TV canal macau

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

cinema

CINETEATRO

15 JAN - 21 JAN



INTO THE WOODS

ROOM 1

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Robert Marshall

Starring: James Corden, Emily Blunt, Meryl Streep

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 125min



CLOUDS OF SILS MARIA

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Oliver Assayas

Starring: Juliette Binoche, Kristen Stewart, Chloe

Grace Moretz

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 124min

WOMEN WHO FLIRT

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Pang Ho-Cheung

Starring: Zhou Xun, Huang Xiao Ming

Language: Mandarin (English/Cantonese)

Duration: 97min

MACAU TOWER

01 JAN - 21 JAN



TAKEN 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Olivier Megaton

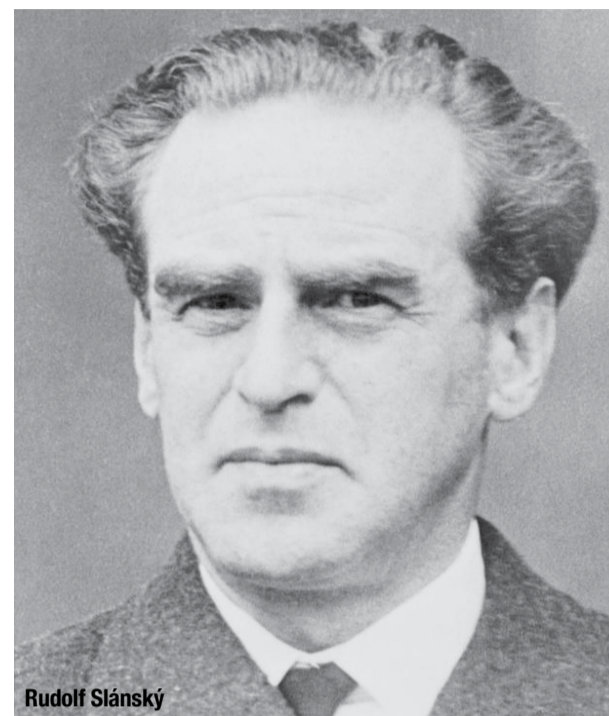
Starring: Liam Neeson, Forest Whitaker, Franke

Janssen

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

this day in history



Rudolf Slansky

1953 EAST GERMAN PURGE BEGINS

The East German authorities have begun a purge of senior officials accused of plotting against the state and spying for "imperialistic" powers.

Several officers, including the Christian Democratic Foreign Minister, Georg Dertinger, and a number of Jewish politicians, have either been removed or have disappeared in the past few days.

The arrests follow a similar purge in Czechoslovakia last November which led to the trial in Prague of 14 senior Communists, 11 of them Jewish, charged with espionage and treason.

Former Communist Party General Secretary Rudolf Slansky was among those convicted of plotting against the Czech Government and executed on 3 December.

The chief prosecutor at the trial claimed Slansky had had criminal contacts with Israeli agents and that these agents had been interfering in government.

Two weeks after the Prague trial it was revealed in Moscow that several doctors, some of whom are Jewish, had conspired to poison the Soviet leader Joseph Stalin.

The so-called Doctors' Plot coincided with a spate of anti-Zionist propaganda and was followed by a number of arrests as the ailing Soviet dictator tried to bolster his position.

Reports today from Berlin say it is not yet clear why Mr Dertinger has been detained, but he was known to be friendly with Otto Fischl, the Czech representative in East Berlin, who was one of those hanged last month.

He has always been openly supportive of the Soviet Union but as a member of the East German Christian Democratic Union he was also a supporter of a united Germany.

He has been foreign minister since the provisional East German Government was formed in September 1949.

Reports say Peter Florin, a Jewish member of the foreign ministry, has also been replaced.

It looks as if these arrests are only the beginning of a more widespread purge of political groups and organisations in East Germany.

Meanwhile in West Germany there have been mounting protests, especially among right-wing politicians, at the arrest yesterday of several leading neo-Nazis by the British.

The British High Commissioner said those detained were accused of infiltrating West German political parties and were known as the Naumann circle after Dr Werner Naumann, former State Secretary in Goebbels' Ministry of Propaganda.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The arrests in East Germany were just the beginning of a purge which extended to all political parties, trade unions, youth organisations, women's and pensioners' groups.

It followed similar purges in other Eastern Bloc countries, as the Soviet leader Joseph Stalin sought to consolidate his power behind the Iron Curtain.

Forces of the East German police raided the homes and offices of all Jewish people in the Soviet Zone and East Berlin. Many documents were confiscated and families were instructed to remain close to their homes. Georg Dertinger was imprisoned in 1954 for espionage and treason. He was pardoned in 1964.

The number fleeing to West Berlin increased - and on 17 June 1953 there was a public uprising, which was quickly put down by Soviet tanks.

But unrest at the speed of economic recovery in the west led to a continual exodus from the east and led to the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961.

Werner Naumann was held in custody for seven months and then released. He later tried to run for political office but was unsuccessful.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Honesty is key right now — even if it means hurting someone's feelings a little bit.

Taurus April 20-May 20 You've got to work your magic on new people today — maybe folks from far away!

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You may have felt this good a few times in the past, but something today really reaches deep inside you and pushes the 'on' button!

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You're having a hard time getting much done today, but don't despair — it's just temporary.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You need to travel! If you're somehow out there in the world now, you're having tons of fun — but if not, you need to make plans and get going as soon as humanly possible.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You are incredibly responsible, and today highlights that quality in a big way.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You've found a new balance in your life — one that may have you feeling pretty great!

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You need to let your feelings shift and sway today — especially if you're digging up new philosophical or spiritual teachings.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You need to make a show of goodwill today, if only to help your people get along better.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You may fall into a bit of a black hole today, but don't despair — things are sure to get better if you just stick it out.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You need to spend time with a group of some importance to you — now is just one of those times when your organizational skills (and yes, you do have some) are much needed by your people.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You are tempted to slack off or look away when your conscience comes calling — but you've got to do what's right!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather conditions for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

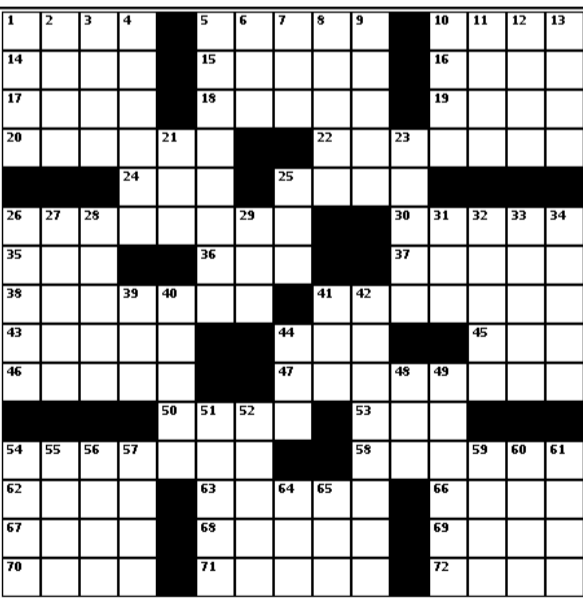
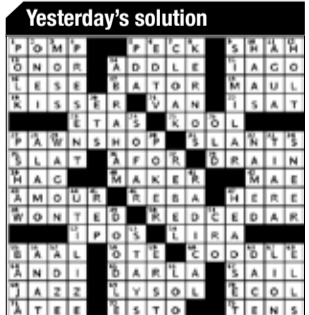
WORLD

Table listing weather conditions for various world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Swedish auto; 5- Actress Braga; 10- Antiquing agent; 14- Treater's words; 15- Not odds; 16- Grammy winner Erykah; 17- Former name of Thailand; 18- Sleight of hand; 19- Energy units; 20- On the beach; 22- Farewell; 24- IV units; 25- ___ chance; 26- Indonesian volcano; 30- Figure skater Cohen; 35- Sounds of hesitation; 36- Biblical verb ending; 37- Really bother; 38- Contort; 41- Split; 43- Without a break; 44- Bodybuilder's pride; 45- 1959 Kingston Trio hit; 46- ___ voce (softly); 47- Translucent, waterproof parchment; 50- Rod's partner; 53- Bolted down; 54- Letter opener; 58- Of little width; 62- Bones found in the hip; 63- Outmoded; 66- Actress Skye; 67- Ethereal; 68- Musical study piece; 69- Iowa city; 70- Puts down; 71- Helicopter part; 72- For fear that;

DOWN: 1- Slugger Sammy; 2- Black cuckoos; 3- Eastern nanny; 4- Jeer or deride; 5- Academic session; 6- Eggs; 7- Bit of film, to a photog; 8- English architect Jones; 9- Cravat; 10- Asleep; 11- Attire; 12- Jittery; 13- Trick; 21- Nipper's co.; 23- Desert havens; 25- Slangy denial; 26- Praise; 27- Thick-skinned charger; 28- It's a good thing; 29- Giant Mel; 31- Small batteries; 32- Stub; 33- Poker Flat chronicler; 34- Shed ___; 39- Big bang cause; 40- Smells; 41- Law enforcement agency; 42- Inhabitant of Oahu, Mindanao, or Java; 44- "You've got mail" co.; 48- Mom-and-pop org.; 49- Of flight; 51- Breed of duck revered for its feathers; 52- Muse of love poetry; 54- Clock face; 55- Zeno of ___; 56- Breezy; 57- Beams; 59- Capital of Italy; 60- Addition column; 61- Sunset direction; 64- Boy king; 65- Tokyo, formerly;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Table listing various telephone numbers for services like Emergency calls, Fire department, Taxi, Water Supply, etc.



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

Real estate listings for various properties in Macau, including 'Excellent Investment Property', 'Coloane Village', 'Hellen Garden', etc.

Advertisement for 'mi property' (卓雅物業) with logo and contact information.



HOUSING LOAN

Still dreaming about a new house?

For Residence or Investment, BNU offers you the best interest rate!

As low as

1.828%

For enquiries, please visit any BNU Branch, the BNU website www.bnu.com.mo, or call 2833 5533.

BNU

Banco Nacional Ultramarino
大西洋銀行

FOOTBALL | ASIAN CUP

China toasting qualification quarterfinals

John Pye
Sports Writer, Brisbane

CHINA coach Alain Perrin was thinking about uncorking some champagne as his players celebrated with raucous singing and high-fives after clinching a spot in the Asian Cup quarterfinals.

Wu Xi and Sun Ke scored second-half goals to propel China to a 2-1 comeback win over 2011 semifinalist Uzbekistan yesterday, ensuring top spot in Group B and a Jan. 22 quarterfinal match against either Australia or South Korea.

There's still the matter of a remaining group match against winless North Korea on Sunday in Canberra, but with wins over Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan already, Perrin decided it was OK to celebrate China's first run to the knockout stage since it hosted the continental tournament in 2004.

Perrin said he'd open two bottles of good champagne back at the team hotel, adding that the coaching and staff had celebrated the opening win and now he'd invite the players.

"We played a very beautiful match," the Frenchman said. "Now we can move to the knockout stage in the first ranking of the group. It's fantastic."

Australia and South Korea, each with six points from two wins, will meet on Saturday to determine top spot in Group A. Uzbekistan and Saudi Arabia will play in Melbourne on Sunday to decide which team goes through from Group B with China. Both teams have three points from wins over North Korea.

The North Koreans are already out of contention following the 4-1 loss to the Saudis in Melbourne, where a small but vocal group chanted the name of Kim Jong Un during the match.

Ryang Yong Gi gave North Korea the lead in the 11th minute when he swooped on



The China team celebrate with China's Sun Ke center, after scoring a goal during the AFC Asia Cup soccer match between China and Uzbekistan in Brisbane, Australia

a failed clearance from Saudi goalkeeper Waleed Abdullah — his country's first goal in the Asian Cup since 1992 — but Naif Hazazi equalized before halftime and Mohammed Al Sahlawi scored twice in as many minutes to make it 3-1 in the 54th. Nawaf Al Abid added the fourth goal after Ri Yong Jik was sent off in the 77th for an intentional handball.

"I'm happy we won the game and also we had a good performance," Saudi Arabia coach Cosmin Olaroiu said. "Now we have to forget it quickly to

prepare for the game against Uzbekistan."

After weathering China's early attacking raids, Uzbekistan seized its first real opportunity when Odil Ahmedov's strike from 25 yards deflected off Wu and looped inside the far post. Uzbekistan appeared to be in control until holes opened up in the defense after halftime.

Wu made amends when he equalized 10 minutes into the second half and Sun, who went on in the 66th, made an angled run from the left two

minutes later and struck from the edge of the area.

Uzbekistan coach Mirdjalal Kasimov said his squad needed to regroup quickly ahead of the last group match, and suggested changes were possible after he started with the same 11 for consecutive matches.

Iran and United Arab Emirates have three points each and will be aiming to qualify from Group C with wins on Thursday. Iran takes on Gulf Cup champion Qatar in Sydney and the UAE plays Bahrain in Canberra. **AP**

FOOTBALL | ASIAN CUP

Iran, UAE look to maintain Group C lead

Neil Frankland, Melbourne

IRAN and the United Arab Emirates can all but assure themselves of advancing to the quarterfinals, while Bahrain and Qatar are playing to survive in Group C today.

Here's some things to watch:

QATAR VS. IRAN (5pm): Three-time Asian Cup champion Iran showed why it's the favorite to top Group C after a powerful display of speed and strength against Bahrain.

2014 Gulf Cup champion Qatar, meanwhile, will need to draw on all its resolve to recover from an error-riddled 4-1 loss to the United Arab Emirates, when mistakes by goalkeeper Qasem Burhan contributed to at least two goals. Ehsan Hajsafi was the



Iran's Reza Ghoochannejhad, right, challenges for the ball with Nigeria's Kunle Odunlami I during the group F World Cup soccer match between Iran and Nigeria at the Arena da Baixada in Curitiba, Brazil

standout for Iran in its 2-0 win in Melbourne.

The Iranians will be the clear favorites to beat Qatar in Sydney, but recent history shows it will not be a formality.

Iran has lost just once to Qatar in 10 matches since 2007, but the fact that five of them ended in a draw is a more te-

ling statistic.

Thursday's game will be just the second time the two teams have met at the Asian Cup. Iran won the previous match 2-0 in 1988.

Despite the background, Iran coach Carlos Queiroz said Qatar would start as favorite following its title in the

recent Gulf Cup.

"We know that we face a well-prepared and motivated Qatar team after their success in the Gulf Cup," he said. "Queiroz said. "We aim to be the best team on the pitch and win the match."

Iran's star striker Reza Ghoochannejhad says while his side is under

a lot of pressure to continue to perform at the tournament, it is ready for the challenge.

"Everybody is excited to play against Iran, and everybody is motivated, especially because we are coming from the World Cup, but this is the situation right now we can't complain, we can't make excuses," he said.

Iran has lost just one of its past 15 Asian Cup matches, winning nine.

BAHRAIN VS. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (3pm). Fresh from a 4-1 win over Qatar, the United Arab Emirates will be virtually assured of a quarterfinals spot with a win over another Gulf rival Bahrain in Canberra.

The win will be no formality, however, after Bahrain put up a spirited challenge to regional powerhouse Iran in a 2-0 loss at Melbourne on

Sunday.

The UAE and Iran share the Group C lead with three points each after their opening wins.

Ahmed Khalil and Ali Mabkhout scored two goals each in the UAE's dominant opening performance, while playmaker Omar Abdulrahman was dangerous in midfield.

"This was the key game for us," UAE coach Mahdi Ali said. "The first step gives players motivation and confidence for the second game ... from tomorrow we work harder."

Bahrain striker John Okwunwanne constantly troubled Iran in their opener, and Sami Al Hussaini demonstrated that he won't be overawed by the tournament's big name players.

In the six matches they've played against each other since 2004, the UAE has won the past three, while Bahrain has won two.

UAE has never won its opening two games at an Asian Cup. **AP**

opinion

Vox Parva
Benedict Keith Ip



HAVE A MERCIFUL HEART FOR NEWCOMERS

This January marks the end of the cycle in the twenty-four solar terms. The so called "solar terms" are developed from traditional East-Asian lunisolar calendar systems. In every 15 degrees of longitude, the position of the sun is associated with a particular astronomical event, and signifies some natural phenomenon.

Currently the position of the sun is almost the farthest, which is now between "minor cold" 小寒 and "major cold" 大寒 after the winter solstice. In Taiwan there is an idiom to describe the phenomenon, "People and horses are safe if the period of minor cold and major cold are chilly enough" 小寒大寒人馬安. Therefore, tradition tells us that there's a good chance of having a good year in 2015 for we are now experiencing the coldest time in Macau, and it is very cold indeed.

While the coldest is gone, the Earth begins another season to open a new chapter of life. It is called the "start of spring", which usually falls on February 4. The natural cycle demands and dictates the end of lives, and makes way for new lives for other opportunities. History tells us that nobody can escape this perishing and blooming cycle. It is the very present moment which links the past and future in order to create a living cycle, rather than simply a cynical spiral of commemoration.

In Hong Kong there is a phenomenon of keeping the dead living. Some people are very attached to fading glories in history. From time to time, these people are so mean that they become the obstacles in preventing new ideas and youngsters blossoming, not even offering them any room to express their viewpoints. Society is too oppressive for new movements, which are constraining their creativeness.

Recently, we lost an excellent voice actor Mr. Lam Pou-chuen 林保全, who was famous for dubbing the Cantonese version of renowned cartoon character Dorae-mon on TVB. People especially my age who grew up with his voice mourn his death. It is as if the spirit of Dorae-mon is buried together with him.

To some extent, it is legitimate to mourn because he was so successful that his spirit unites with the cartoon character and creates a very unique image. However, can we accept the fact that he has passed away? Or, are we able to accept a new voiceover to dub the voice of the character, so that the true spirit of Dorae-mon can continue to serve the new generation?

History should be used for obtaining a clear and distinct mind, and should not be used as a tool solely for consolation. We should free the spirit from death and make way for newcomers to create more memories. It is too brutal to put Dorae-mon to death together with Mr. Lam. We will miss him for sure; and so, please accept the truth and free his spirit, as we have freed other heroes in the past for our next generation.

THE BUZZ TURKISH POLICE CHECK NEWSPAPER OVER CHARLIE HEBDO CARTOONS

A pro-secular Turkish newspaper says police stopped trucks as they left its printing center to check the paper's content after it decided to print a selection of Charlie Hebdo caricatures.

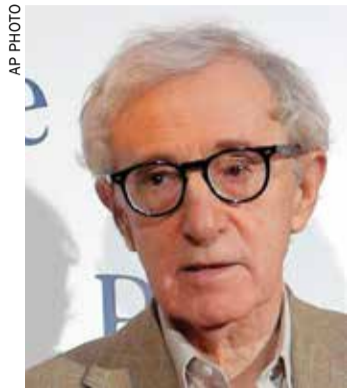
Cumhuriyet newspaper says police allowed distribution of the newspaper to proceed yesterday after verifying that the satirical French newspaper's controversial cover featuring the Prophet Muhammad was not published.

The paper printed a four-page selection of

cartoons and articles yesterday in a show of solidarity with Charlie hebdo but omitted religiously sensitive cartoons.

Police intensified security outside Cumhuriyet's headquarter and printing center as a precaution.

The state-run Anadolu Agency said a few pro-Islamic students staged a protest outside the paper's office in Ankara denouncing its decision to print Charlie Hebdo cartoons.



AP PHOTO

Amazon signs Woody Allen to create his first TV series

AMAZON Studios is delivering Woody Allen as creator of his first-ever TV series.

The Oscar-winning filmmaker will write and direct all of the episodes of the half-hour series. A full season has been ordered for Amazon's Prime Instant Video, the company announced yesterday. The series is expected to premiere in 2016.

No details on casting were disclosed, nor was the series title announced.

Amazon Studios vice president Roy Price called Allen "a visionary creator who has made some of the greatest films of all time," keeping him "at the creative forefront of American cinema" during a career that spans 50 years.

"I don't know how I got into this," the 79-year-old Allen said in a wryly modest statement. "I have no ideas and I'm not sure where to begin. My guess is that Roy Price will regret this."

Allen has masterminded and often starred in more than 40 films since his maiden directorial effort, "What's Up Tiger Lily?" in 1966. His latest movie pro-

ject is "Magic in the Moonlight," released last year, with yet another film in the pipeline for this year.

The late 1970s saw two of his most celebrated films, "Annie Hall" and "Manhattan."

He has won four Oscars and two Golden Globes. Last year he was presented with the Golden Globes'

ts Over Broadway," ran on Broadway last year.

Allen's signing adds yet more luster to Amazon Studios. Its freshman series, "Transparent," on Sunday won two Golden Globes, including best comedy series, as it continues to help redefine what "television" means.

Amazon started Amazon studios in 2010 to develop full-length films and TV shows.

Morningstar analyst R.J. Hottovy estimates Amazon spent nearly USD2 billion on streaming license rights and original content in 2014, of which Amazon Studios would amount to about \$400 million.

Amazon's goal is not only to develop successful TV shows but also to grow its \$99 annual Prime loyalty program membership by bolstering the Prime Instant Video component of the loyalty program.

"I don't think it moves the needle on Prime membership yet, but I think it has the potential to do so as they build their catalog of original programming," said Wedbush Securities analyst Michael Pachter. **AP**

I don't know how I got into this

WOODY ALLEN

Cecil B. DeMille Lifetime Achievement Award.

But his skills were honed on television, where he first gained widespread notice in the early 1960s as a stand-up comic, and during the 1950s, when he wrote for Sid Caesar and other TV stars.

His prodigious output through the decades has also included magazine essays, books and plays. A musical adaptation of his 1994 film comedy, "Bulle-

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



AP Photo/Lionel Cironneau

A newspaper seller installs Charlie Hebdo newspapers to a shelf at a newsstand in Nice, southeastern France, yesterday. 5 million copies of the "hebdo," featuring a caricature of the Prophet Muhammad, were sold out in two days. More on p15.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	50-70 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	50-70 Moderate
Ambient	40-60 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



AP PHOTO

S KOREAN officials arrest a leftist activist for allegedly praising archrival North Korea, just days after an American was deported on similar charges and adding to criticism that the government seeks to limit free speech and suppress dissidents. The Seoul prosecutors' office arrested Hwang Sun (pictured) soon after the Seoul Central District Court issued an arrest warrant, according to court spokesman Kim Dae-hyun.

INDIA Authorities in an Indian state suspend 23 officials in a crackdown on illegal liquor sales, as the death toll among villagers who drank from a bad batch of cheap alcohol climbed to 38.

INDIA's top court grants an Italian marine's request for extended medical leave abroad, before he and a fellow marine face expected charges over the 2012 shooting of two Indian fishermen. The case has caused a diplomatic uproar between India and Italy because the two marines have been held in India for almost three years without formal charges.

INDONESIA An American couple go on trial in Indonesia on charges of murdering the woman's mother last year on the resort island of Bali. The badly beaten body of Sheila von Wiese-Mack was found in a suitcase in the trunk of a taxi outside an upscale hotel.

UKRAINE An attack on a passenger bus in eastern Ukraine has killed 11 people, likely dealing the final blow to hopes that a short-lived and shaky cease-fire could take hold.

USA Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says President Barack Obama is working on sending Congress a new authorization for the use of military force against the Islamic State group.