



COURT POSTPONES LUÍS AMORIM TRIAL

The MP received additional evidence about the case of the Portuguese teenager who died under suspicious circumstances in Macau

P2



IPM STUDENTS PROTEST SOCIAL WORKER REGISTRATION PROPOSAL

P7



PROGRESSIVE AGENDA IN STATE OF THE UNION SPEECH

Obama proposed tax increases for the wealthiest Americans coupled with more breaks for the country's shrinking middle class

P15

THU.22
Jan 2015

T. 12°/ 20° C
H. 40/ 75%

Blackberry email service powered by CTM

N.º 2284
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

AP PHOTO



YEMEN Shiite rebels in control of Yemen's capital now hold the country's president "captive" at his home, his aides said yesterday, putting in question who actually rules the Arab world's most-impooverished nation. Embattled Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi appears to have run out of options to continue governing the country, months after the Houthis began a blitz in September, seizing the capital and state institutions.

CHINA A New Yorker journalist famed for his reporting from China says the state-run newspaper China Daily faked an editorial under his byline after interviewing him. More on p10

JAPAN is doing all it can to free two hostages the Islamic State group is threatening to kill within 72 hours, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe says, vowing never to give in to terrorism. More on p13

AFGHANISTAN A free media had been hailed as one of Afghanistan's greatest achievements since the 2001 invasion. Since then, more than 40 journalists have reportedly been killed and many reporters feel pressured by the government, insurgents and corrupt warlords to self-censor to avoid trouble or leave journalism entirely.

INDONESIA Lawyers representing an American couple charged with murdering the woman's mother and stuffing her in a suitcase argue that the indictments are absurd and inaccurate.

More on backpage

XINHUA



31m tourists visit Macau in 2014, growth expected

P3 TOURISM SECTOR REVIEW



Locally based actress tries to pursue career in China

P5 MDT REPORT

Court postpones Luís Amorim trial to analyze extra evidence

THE legal action filed against the MSAR in 2012 by the family of Luís Amorim - a Portuguese teenager who died under suspicious circumstances in Macau - had an initial hearing scheduled for yesterday at the Administrative Court. However, the trial session was postponed due to the Public Prosecutions Office's (MP) claims to have received additional images of the two autopsies performed on Amorim's body, along with other evidence.

The teenager was found dead under the Nobre de Carvalho Bridge, lying on Avenue Sun Yat Sen, on September 30, 2007. In an initial investigation phase, the local police labeled the case as a suicide. But such a conclusion failed to convince Amorim's parents, who firmly believed their son wouldn't have committed suicide.

At the parents' request, the Portuguese Judiciary Police conducted a separate investigation. The investigation and second autopsy, made in Portugal in 2010, point to a case of homicide. Since then, four Portu-



Luís Amorim

guese forensic physicians have ruled out suicide as the reason behind the death. The second autopsy came to cast serious doubts over the accuracy of the first examination, performed in Macau, as forensic experts found injuries "incompatible

with a fall from a height." They concluded that such serious injuries, namely bruises on the neck and the abdomen, could not have been caused by the teenager's fall from the bridge.

Prior to that, the National Institute of Forensic Medi-

cine had also analyzed the boy's clothes, which, according to Pedro Redinha, had never been subject to proper

■ **The second autopsy came to cast serious doubts on the accuracy of the first postmortem examination performed in Macau**

analysis in Macau. The report on this forensics examination concluded that some buttons had been ripped off and that he had a torn shirt. Damage was also found to a metallic part of his belt. Such damage was more consistent with a fight rather than a fall from a

bridge, the experts reported.

The family is not hoping for a re-opening of the case, as after six years, results may be difficult to achieve. They are instead asking the court for compensation amounting to MOP15 million, alleging that gross errors were committed during the investigation conducted by local authorities.

The MP states that the 31 new documents received on Jan 19 need to be reviewed in order to assess their "admissibility" and "substance." According to the family's lawyer, Mr Redinha, the motives alleged by the MP to postpone the session are acceptable, but pointed out that one of the key witnesses, namely the president of the Portuguese National Institute of Forensic Medicine, Duarte Nuno Vieira, has a very tight schedule and is supposed to give his testimony in Macau.

Over 20 witnesses are expected to be heard by the Administrative Court. The trial has been postponed to March 11, and two other sessions are scheduled for March 18 and April 15. **MDT/Lusa**

Taxi sector slams gov't for 'unreasonable' rules and approach

IN a meeting with the Transport Bureau (DSAT), local taxi trade unions said that the industry welcomes the police clampdown on illegal taxi driver behavior, but not some of the new parking restrictions and authorities' overzealous law-enforcement approaches.

The drivers urged DSAT to review its regulations that forbid taxis to pick up or drop off passengers on the side of roads marked with yellow lines and complained that many passengers are not aware of such rules, thus causing disputes.

Some argued that the lack of taxi stations and restrictions on taxis' parking and pulling away have made drivers fearful and put them under stress that they might get fined if they venture onto the wrong line to follow a passenger's request.

"If you still want Macau to have a taxi industry, you really have to review and think through the relation between taxis and the yellow lines," Mr Wong, a driver,

stressed. "You need to give us back the legal space to operate so that we drivers can survive."

"Both are a public service; buses can stop at busy streets but why don't we have more spots there for taxis?" another driver added.

Some attendees further argued that the authorities should save the sector's normal operation from damage when carrying out law enforcement and concentrate the crackdown on illegal behavior such as excessive fare charging and driving extra distances.

"Some approaches of the police's law enforcement are not appropriate, for example they tend to target taxis that stop at the busy downtown streets but neglect some black spots where illegal behaviors are severe," a driver complained.

Besides adding more taxi stations and locations for taxis to stop at, the drivers also appealed for venues where they can



park and rest.

"A vacant private car can park by the street but we can't, if we pull off we'll get a ticket by the police immediately. But without rests, our health will seriously suffer," said Mr Cheong.

The head of DSAT's Traffic Planning and Construction Division, Kuong Vai Cheok hosted the meeting. While recognizing drivers' concerns, he acknowledged that some past conditions should be adjusted now. **BY**

Secretary: security authorities facing challenges

SECRETARY for Security Wong Sio Chak predicts that law enforcement practiced by security authorities will face more challenges, while more unstable factors will affect the city's security situation.

Hosting a dinner for media representatives yesterday, Wong stated that "with Macau's continuous internationalization and the gaming industry developing into an adjustment period, Macau's public security and safety situation will be affected by more factors of instability; each department under the Secretariat for Security will face more challenges in their law enforcement."

The recently appointed secretary said he has learnt about the difficulties and deficiencies in each department's work through a series of visits and inspections. He intends to submit a work plan with a timetable to the Chief Executive in the first quarter of 2015. **BY**

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](https://www.facebook.com/mdtimes)

MacauDaily 澳門每日新聞
Times

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela
CHINA & FOREIGN EDITOR_Vanessa Moore vanessa@macaudailytimes.com

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

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

TOURISM

More visitors expected during Chinese New Year

João Pedro Lau

DURING an annual press conference yesterday, director of the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO), Helena de Senna Fernandes, stated that the office estimates a five percent growth in the number of visitors travelling to Macau during the Chinese New Year (CNY) period this year, with around 1 million people expected to visit Macau in the first week of CNY. She also confirmed that the office will be launching four new walking tour routes shortly before CNY.

“[MGTO] estimates that the number of visitors in the CNY period will have a mild growth compared to last year, with about 800,000 mainland visitors travelling to Macau [during that period]. I think the increase will be around 5 percent. However, we still do not have a more concrete figure because we are yet to communicate with the Guangdong Tourism Bureau. As you know, we need to first receive the figures from the Guangdong authority before we can determine whether there is growth or a drop in the number of visitors,” she said.

In terms of crowd management in the central area during CNY, Ms de Senna Fernandes explained that the responsibility will fall to the police, although MGTO will still assist in helping them better direct tourists with signs. The office will also deploy around 30 personnel at some intersections leading downtown. MGTO staff will provide tourists with directions so



that they can travel to their destinations without the need to enter areas like San Ma Lo (Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro) and Senado Square. An additional 50 MGTO inspectors will also be stationed at different tourist spots to monitor

the situation.

Moreover, MGTO revealed that their 2015 budget will amount to a total of MOP303 million, mainly for the office’s administrative expenses. An additional MOP114 million will be spent on investment

and development, including a revamp of the Tourism Activities Centre and the development of other tourism facilities. The director said that the center has been in use for more than 20 years and a new arrangement is required. There will also be improvements to the Grand Prix Museum and to the Wine Museum, such as the addition of more interactive facilities in order to keep the museums up-to-date. This year’s tourism-related expen-

ses also include a Tourism Fund of MOP1.07 billion that will be spent on the promotion of Macau overseas and collaborative programs with different organizations.

Furthermore, Senna Fernandes said that MGTO will roll out four new walking tour routes before CNY, culminating in eight routes in total. They will cover the Our Lady of Fatima parish, the St Anthony parish, the Our Lady of Carmel parish in Taipa and St Francis parish in Coloane. The office will also make adjustments to the current four walking tour routes. There will be more information provided by businesses nearby the routes, such as restaurants, in order to boost the economy of their communities.

Another new tourism goal for 2015 is an increase in 3D mapping shows. Senna Fernandes said that, according to a survey conducted by MGTO last year, many residents support the creation of 3D mapping shows. As a result, MGTO will be pushing to have 3D mapping shows organized in different communities throughout the year and some larger scale 3D mapping shows at special festivals.

The director has also shed some light on the decision to create a master development plan for the local tourism industry on the sidelines of the event. MGTO will commission a private institution to draft the plan, with the bidding process opened at the beginning of January to local and overseas firms. More than 10 local and overseas companies have purchased the bidding document from MGTO so far.

Ms de Senna Fernandes said that Macau has never had any master plan for tourism development. Such a plan is regarded as important for the mid-to-long-term development of the industry. “This project will cover many aspects. It is going to review the current conditions and to see what [tourism] products and facilities need development. It will also look into the tourist-carrying capacity,” she said; “it is continuing or consolidating what we have right now, and looking into different ways to improve what we can do [in the future].”

Region received 31m tourists in 2014, 5 pct growth expected this year

FIGURES from the MGTO revealed that the total number of visitor arrivals in 2014 was 31,525,000, an increase of 7.5 percent compared to 2013. Helena de Senna Fernandes predicts that annual visitor arrivals will grow by 5 percent in 2015.

Mainland China is still the largest tourism market, providing Macau with 67.4 percent of the city’s tourists last year. It is followed by Hong Kong (20.4 percent), Taiwan (3.0 percent) and South Korea (1.7 percent).

Among all the mainland tourists, 42.4 percent were from Guangdong province. The next largest mainland market was Fujian province, supplying 4.3 percent of the main-

land tourists to Macau last year.

Moreover, the average length of stay for visitors was 1.9 days, with 46.2 percent of them in 2014 choosing to stay overnight. The average occupancy rate of hotels in Macau is 86.5 percent, up by 3.4 percent, with total overnight guests in 2014 reaching 10,710,000. The average room rate of 3 to 5 star hotels in Macau was USD199.9; an increase of 8.6 percent.

Between January and September 2014, visitors in Macau spent a total of USD39.7 billion, increasing 0.7 percent compared to the same figure a year ago, with more than USD34 billion spent on gaming.

TOP 10 VISITOR SOURCE MARKETS

Markets	2014	Change in percentage
Mainland China	21,252,000	+14.1%
Hong Kong	6,426,000	-5%
Taiwan	953,000	-4.7%
South Korea	554,000	+16.9%
Japan	299,000	+3.2%
Philippines	262,000	-4.1%
Malaysia	250,000	-14.1%
Singapore	196,000	+3.6%
Indonesia	189,000	-9.3%
U.S.A.	181,000	+1.1%

Inflation for 2014 at 6 percent

The inflation rate for 2014 stood at 6.05 percent, according to information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). Inflation was mainly fuelled by higher rentals and rising charges for eating out, according to the official statistics. Throughout 2014, a significant increase was observed in the price index for the categories of Housing & Fuels (+11.93 pct) and Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+6.11 pct), while the price index for Communication decreased by 0.31%.

One injured in Galaxy construction accident

A mainland worker has fractured his leg after he fell 7 to 8 meters from a height at the Galaxy phase 2 construction site. Information suggested that the 40-year-old was decorating the outside wall of the building when the accident occurred. He was sent to the Kiang Wu Hospital and remained conscious throughout. A fire broke out a week ago at the same construction site. Black smoke was visible coming from the top of the building under construction. Around 6,000 workers were evacuated and nobody was injured.

LI GANG

Anti-graft campaign 'not major reason' for fall in gaming revenue

THE head of the Central Government's Liaison Office in Macau, Li Gang, claimed there are various reasons that led to the decline in the region's gaming revenue. He is also confident that the gaming industry will return to a stable condition mid-year.

While admitting that the central government has invested extra effort into combating corruption, Li said it is not the main reason behind the tumbling gaming revenue. He stated that the reasons also include "the slowdown in China's economy (...) the increase in casinos in regions near Macau, the tightening of control in visitor arrivals, as well as the natural adjustment of the Macau gaming industry. You cannot say that the drop is due to the central government's tackling of corrupted officials. [Those corruption officials] were only very few [in number]... How many corrupt officials do you think have come to Macau? The gaming revenue of Macau in a year is MOP330 billion. How much do you think the corrupt officials can embezz-



Li Gang

le?" he said.

Mr Li also said that Macau's current situation has not worsened to the point of needing assistance from the central government. He said that the fall in the gaming revenue is mainly due to a decline in the VIP market. But the mass market is still growing.

He thinks that Macau is only changing from a high-speed growing stage to a mid-speed

stage. After some adjustments, he believes that the gaming industry will recover.

Moreover, the Liaison Office head has asked the Macau government to "widely consult the opinions of the public" regarding the review on gaming licenses. He said that the MSAR administration has to properly settle the relationship between the development of the gaming industry and the diversification of the Macau economy. Meanwhile, the China Daily

reports that the central government will strengthen its supervision over the assets of corrupt officials who may transfer their assets abroad through the casinos in Macau. South China Morning Post (SCMP) also reported that mainland officials may visit Macau to meet officials of the territory's financial watchdog and bankers.

When asked about the SCMP report, Li Gang said he did not receive any relevant information on the issue. **JPL**

GOLD MOON GROUP CLOSES COTAI CENTRAL VIP ROOMS

THE JUNKET operator Gold Moon Group on Tuesday decided to shutter its VIP room located at Sands Cotai Central. But four other VIP rooms belonging to the group in the Altira, Galaxy, Wynn and Landmark will remain open. Before the closure of the Cotai Central VIP room, Gold Moon had a total of 86 VIP gaming tables. Information from the company's website shows that its first VIP room was opened in 2007 in the

Altira, with 35 gaming tables. The closing of the Gold Moon VIP room followed another junket operator David Group's decision to close three of its VIP rooms. A member of the group's senior management told the Hong Kong Economic Journal that the group has a bearish outlook on the future of Macau's gaming industry so it is only preserving those VIP rooms that have guaranteed sources of guests.

AD

ALBERGUE SCM
SANTA CASA DA MISERICÓRDIA DE MACAU
澳門仁慈堂婆仔屋

ALBERGUE SCM
澳門仁慈堂婆仔屋

BEYOND THE SURFACE - MIO PANG FEI FEATURED ART EXHIBITION
MACAU

OPENING CEREMONY
04 / 02 2015
WED
FREE ADMISSION 6:30PM

EXHIBITION PERIOD: 04/02/2015 - 27/02/2015
OPENING HOURS: Everyday from 12:00PM to 8:00PM
Monday from 3:00PM to 8:00PM
VENUE: 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:

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



Catarina Pinto

WHEN thinking of forging her acting career, Australian-born actress Sally Victoria Benson thought Beijing could be an improbable yet effective choice. The hurdles of learning a complex language or getting a grasp on a very peculiar film industry did not seem to be enough reasons for discouragement and Sally managed to spend six years living away from home; acting in Chinese films right in China's capital.

Last year, she decided to return to her roots and relive some of her childhood memories here in Macau where she grew up. Although now based in Macau, Sally is still on Chinese movie screens as two of her latest films were just released there last month, namely "A Murder Beside Yanhe River," where she plays the role of a Russian journalist, and "Love on the Cloud."

"A Murder Beside Yanhe River" was shot in Mao Zedong's home town, and tells the story of a soldier who murdered a young woman after she refused his marriage proposal. The soldier thought he would be granted amnesty from Mao Zedong but ended up being executed.

Sally moved to Macau at a young age to join her father, but would eventually move back to Australia at the age of 16 to finish high school.

After high school and with a minor in journalism under her belt, Sally focused on furthering her career in acting, and decided to head to Beijing in 2008. "I tried to do some ac-

Locally based actress tries to pursue career in China

ting back home but one of the things I realized was that if you're gonna be a success at anything, you kind of need to go somewhere where you can be unique, particularly if you don't already have family or

■ Sally moved back to Macau last year and created her own company, The Red Studio, focusing on workshops and training programs in acting and other areas of the performing arts

connections in the industry and my connections were in Asia. It didn't make sense to try and struggle in Sydney," she recalled.

It took her about two years to gain a sound knowledge of Mandarin, although she was able to take part in a commercial within one week of arrival. "It took me a good two years to get the language. A lot of people could act in movies speaking Mandarin, as you can memorize the lines and deliver them quite well. The problem comes with working with the production and crew on set. How can you live there if no one speaks English?" she stressed.

In 2011, Sally got her first breakout role in a big TV serial in China. "That gave me a name in casting circles. I am by no means famous in China (...) as a foreigner there you might not get to the height where you will be really famous, but you can definitely be a successful working actor and have good stable jobs," she assured.

The TV series role was one of her favorite and most memorable jobs: "It gave me my first break. I was on a TV show for four months, which was really hard; it was a hard acting job."

Another opportunity that made Sally affirm that she had made the right choice to move to Beijing came in 2012, when she was cast for the lead role in the Romanian-Chinese production "A Song for Autumn." She recalled: "I was lucky enough to be the lead and

went to Romania to shoot the film for six weeks. It was by far my best role to date for two reasons: I had the pleasure of being the main character and it was shot in Romania, which was amazing," adding that the movie was released about one year ago.

Sally moved back to Macau last year and created her own company, The Red Studio, focusing on workshops and training programs in acting and other areas of the performing arts.

Living outside Beijing, she believes that it's possible to seek projects as an actress in mainland China, as a great part of films are not shot in China's capital but rather in Shanghai or in the South.

There's plenty of inspiration and talent from which artists and actors can draw from in Macau too, she assures. She's also trying to write her own stories here, but acknowledged that it is hard, as sometimes she still feels like a foreigner. "My memories of Macau are very much of an old Macau. So when I am trying to create a story I've got to resist the temptation to set it all the way back in the 1990s," she recalled.

She recognized that many cinema professionals from Macau have actually left town

to further their careers elsewhere. "It's a shame because if you come to Macau and say I've got a great idea for a feature film, the best local cinematographers or directors or actors are not here because they've gone abroad because they're good. There needs to be a way to draw people to stay here," she said.

Acknowledging that the government has been investing in subsidies for local artists and cinematographers, Sally added that there needs to be "a way to keep the talent here and ensure that they can be employed... This will happen eventually. Perhaps foreign companies will be interested in shooting here; what the government did in Australia to encourage production was to offer tax rebate to American productions if they shot films there," she stressed.

Indeed, it was while growing up in Macau that Sally first became interested in films. "I loved films before I even thought about acting (...) I had probably watched hundreds of films by the time I turned 18," she said.

Considering Macau her home, Sally sees herself living in Asia for the long term. "It's the best place right now for business, to be an actor, especially given my history in Asia."

thermomix

美善品輕鬆「煮」意 THE WORLD OF THERMOMIX

比A4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能幫您輕鬆挑戰各種食譜，絕無難度。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 low!

自己動手，一來更能確保食材絕對新鮮，食得安心；而且，更省下出外用餐的昂貴費用。



銘嘉
JIA
IMPORT/EXPORT LTD
進出口有限公司

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

www.ming-jia.com.mo

new business opportunities are just a handshake away



MACAU AFTER WORK



deltabridges.com

DELTA BRIDGES
珠三角纵横

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

SATURDAY NIGHT IS FOR POKER

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

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

Cancel all other plans

Find out more at PokerStarsLIVEMacau.com

Level 2, Casino Estrada do Istmo, Cotai Macau SAR

All tournaments are subject to regulatory approval.

PokerStars LIVE CITY OF DREAMS



RECOLHA DE ROUPAS E BRINQUEDOS
收集玩具及衣服
TOYS AND CLOTHES COLLECTION



vamos alegrar quem precisa!
讓我們給需要的人帶去快樂!
let's bring some joy to those in need!

C&C CLUB
MONDAY TO FRIDAY | 9:30 - 18:30
AV. DA PRAIA GRANDE, Nº 759, MACAU
CLUB@CCADVOG.COM

João Pedro Lau

IPM students protest social worker registration proposal

UP to 100 students from the Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM) yesterday confronted officials from the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) during a special consultation session, held for students of the institute, concerning the proposed registration regime of social workers. They wore black clothes and held signs, demanding independence in determining their future professions.

This is the second consultation period for the government's proposed registration system, which started in January and will end on February 13.

Soon after the beginning of yesterday's session, just as the IAS deputy director Vong Yim Mui was due to give an opening speech, the IPM students stood up and turned their backs on Vong, in silence for several minutes. Attached to their backs, they wore signs reading "professional independence."

During the Q&A session, students raised many questions in relation to the social workers' professional committee, as proposed in the consultation document, which suggests that the committee will have various responsibilities including



The students staged a protest yesterday

the registration and discipline of social workers. Like participants in a previous consultation session for social workers held several days ago, the IPM

students questioned the proposal. The initiative will see all nine members of the committee appointed by the government. They said that this will dama-

ge their professional independence and the authority should at least allow social workers in Macau to elect some of the committee members.

There are also questions about the proposal to allow people without a bachelor's degree in social work to register due to their experience in the field. Some participants said this might undermine the professionalism of social workers.

IAS officials replied that, according to the Basic Law, the MSAR government has to be the dominant party in all professional registration practices in Macau. They also said that the committee should not just consist of professionals with an educational background in social work since it has to consider the general interests of the public as well.

IAS director Iong Kong Io said that even though he is open to the suggestions made by students and professionals, he cannot make any promises regarding the outcome of the legislation, which must be reviewed by the Executive Council and be voted in by the Legislative Assembly.

Property prices expected to rise, says Jones Lang LaSalle

Brook Yang

MACAU'S residential and office sectors are predicted to experience continued growth this year, while the retail property sector is likely to face a drop, according to real estate agency Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL).

The realtor has indicated that Macau's office sector proved the most robust among all property sectors last year, with dramatic growth driven by low

supply and an increasing number of new corporations in the city.

While overall office capital values surged by 54.2% year on year, overall office rental prices soared by 61.5 percent. "In the leasing market, demand mainly came from the retail and gaming sectors, and government departments," said JLL Macau's Capital Markets senior manager Oliver Tong.

"There has been an increasing number of China

-based developers taking up office space in Macau, with a plan to expand to Hengqin," he explained, adding that most of the new companies registered last year were from the wholesale, retail, construction and financial sectors.

The realtor further stated that the overall office vacancy rate remained at a very low level of 6 percent at the end of 2014, while Grade A office vacancy rates rose to 15 per-

cent. "We expect the office sales market to maintain stable growth in 2015, while office rental values will grow by a further 5 to 10 percent," said Tong.

Residential rental prices are predicted to have a 5 to 10 percent increase this year, due to the strong demand for imported labor. With an array of new entertainment projects due for completion in Cotai, the number of imported workers is expected to grow strongly, pushing up

residential demand.

In 2014, according to the agency, both the high-end and mass-to-medium residential sectors recorded a slowdown in growth. Capital values for the high-end and mass-to medium residential sectors grew by 19.7 and 17.4 percent respectively, while their rental values respectively rose by 7.1 and 12.3 percent.

"With the strong residential deposit and the limited residential su-

pply in the near future, coupled with the Central Bank's interest rate cut policy, the residential sales market is expected to remain stable in 2015," said the company's managing director, Gregory Ku.

"The affordability of imported labor is not that high but at middle level. So living in Zhuhai will be the solution especially for the mass market, and sharing flats will be the trend," he added.

AD



優悅牙科護理中心
ICQ Oral Health Center

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

- 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

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.

- Septic Tank Pump Outs
- Sewer Transfer
- Grease Trap Pump Outs



Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry

China's 2nd-richest grabs stake in Spanish soccer club Atletico Madrid

WANG Jianlin, China's second-richest man, is buying a 20 percent stake in Spanish soccer team Atletico Madrid while eyeing more deals including another European club and a multi-billion-euro unspecified purchase in Spain.

Dalian Wanda Group will pay 45 million euros (USD52 million) for the Atletico stake, marking the first investment by a Chinese company in a top European soccer club, Wanda said in a statement announcing the agreement. Wang, who is Wanda's chairman and founder, said yesterday he'd also met Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy to discuss a 3-billion-euro "megadeal."

"If you use the language of soccer - we have kicked the ball to the Spanish side," Wang said of the 3-billion-euro deal at a briefing held in Beijing, without specifying which industry it would be in. "We'll finalize the deal" as long as both parties' plans complement each other, he said.

Wanda, a closely held group whose businesses include movie theaters and shopping malls, has led Chinese developers including China Vanke Co. and Greenland Group on an overseas buying spree with plans to buy a stake in film studio Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. and build properties in Beverly Hills. The Beijing-based group spun off Dalian Wanda Commercial Properties Co. in a Hong Kong initial public offering last month.

Wang also said he's interested in adding more soccer clubs to his



Billionaire Wang Jianlin, chairman and president of Dalian Wanda Group

collection, which wouldn't necessarily be confined to Spain. British newspaper the Daily Mirror reported in January 2014 that Wang may make a bid for English Premier League club Southampton.

A longtime supporter of soccer in China, Wang helped the city of Dalian's government set up the Dalian Wanda Football Club in 1994. He said the Atletico investment is "purely for public good" and will offer a path for young Chinese soccer players to advance.

"I have a passion for soccer," Wang said. "As long as three or five players could compete in first-tier European soccer clubs in the future, Wanda isn't wasting money in this deal."

Wanda and Atletico will each invest 15 million euros to build a training center for young soccer players in Madrid and will open three soccer schools in China, according to yesterday's statement.

The soccer club will also play matches in China each year after the deal.

"The purchase of a renowned European brand will boost Wanda's brand recognition," Liu Yuan, Shanghai-based research director for Centaline Group, China's biggest property agency, said in a phone interview before the Atletico announcement. "Also, Dalian Wanda is trying to reduce risks in the increasingly competitive domestic commercial real estate market by tapping into other industries and countries."

China's housing market has ended its period of rapid growth after expanding at an "unhealthy, crazy" rate over the past few years, Wang said in an interview last month. His \$24.6 billion fortune is behind only Alibaba Group founder Jack Ma's in China, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. **Bloomberg**

Li Ka-shing's CKI to raise USD500m to fund UK rail deal

Bonnie Cao

HONG Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing's Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Ltd. is seeking to raise more than USD500 million to help fund its joint purchase of the U.K.'s Eversholt Rail Group.

CKI will offer about 69 million shares at HK\$56.60 (USD7.30) to HK\$58.60 each through a placement, with proceeds financing the Eversholt purchase, according to deal terms obtained by Bloomberg News Tuesday.

CKI and ultimate parent Cheung Kong Holdings Ltd. will spend at least 1.03 billion pounds (\$1.6 billion) for the British owner of rolling stock, according to a joint Hong Kong stock exchange filing Tuesday. CKI said the purchase marks its entry into a new segment of the transportation industry.

"Eversholt Rail is poised to extend our growth momentum and generate recurring profit contributions similar to that of our other infrastructure projects" CKI Chairman Victor Li said in a separate e-mailed press release. "CKI will continue to seek acquisition opportunities from around the world."

Maximum capital commitment by Cheung Kong and CKI is 600 million pounds each, according to the exchange statement.

Li Ka-shing, 86, this month proposed to rearrange assets at his two main holding companies, Cheung Kong and Hutchison Whampoa Ltd. If approved by shareholders, the plan will create two new corporations with specific focuses: one for real estate, and the other with assets from ports to retail stores that span more than 50 countries.

Cheung Kong agreed in November to pay \$1.89 billion to buy 45 planes from companies including General Electric Co.'s aviation services unit. **Bloomberg**



corporate bits

A JOURNEY OF TRUE LOVE FROM AN INTIMATE SPA TO A ROMANTIC DINNER



This Valentine's Day, at MGM Macau lovers can savor a 6-course, candlelight Valentine's Dinner at Aux Beaux Arts and an intimate spa treatment at Six Senses Spa.

Paris is renowned for its roman-

tic ambience. Now, Chef de Cuisine, Elie Khalife and his team at Aux Beaux Arts recreates that mood through exceptional gastronomy on a special 6-course menu of Parisian delicacies, creatively named after the different stages of love journey.

While Six Senses Spa, begin with a soothing foot care ritual and a body polish to restore the skin's naturally healthy glow, and enjoy a holistic massage afterward to relax tightened muscles. Next, hydrate and rejuvenate with a Six Senses Spa facial made from plant extracts and flower essences. Complete the pampering journey with a glass of champagne and chocolates, followed by an invigorating dip in the Vitality Pool.

FORD SALES BREAK RECORDS IN MACAU AND HK



Ford Motor Company saw its sales in 2014 break its record for the Macau and Hong Kong markets, reaching 1,018 units, almost double that of 2013. On Friday shares of Ford Motor Company closed at USD15.02. The company's sales growth for last 5 years was 0.50% and EPS growth for next 5 years is recorded as 11.40%.

Furthermore, Ford also announced that the Mustang is now on its way to China. It's the first time in the Mustang's 50-year history that it will be sold overseas. The company says its first shipload of around 100 vehicle has left Portland, Oregon, and is headed to China. Shipments to Europe will begin later this year.

CAM 2014 BUSINESS SUMMARY AND 2015 WORK PLAN

Macau International Airport Company Limited (CAM)'s 2014 Business Summary and 2015 Work Plan meeting was held at CAM's Office Building on 16th Jan. Chairman of the Board of Directors - Mr. Ma lao Hang, Chairman of the Executive Committee - Dr. Deng Jun and all staff attended the meeting, listened to the reports of all Department Directors and Office Chief Representatives on the previous year's business summary and prospects for business development and planning in 2015.

Following the "Growth-Oriented Innovation and Market Expansion" Strategy, in 2014, MIA operators achieved MOP4.38 billion, a 6.6% increase compared to 2013, of which CAM's



revenue (calculated as at 10 Jan 2015) exceeded 1.04 billion, a 13.6% increase year on year.

China largest importer of farm products from Brazil in 2014

CHINA was the country that imported the most agricultural and livestock products from Brazil in 2014, according to figures from the Brazilian Agribusiness Foreign Trade Statistics System (AGROSTAT).

In second to fifth place on the list are the United States, the Netherlands, Russia and Germany, and the top five countries last year imported agricultural and livestock products worth USD42.32 billion, or 43.7 percent of the total.

China, with a total of USD22.07 billion, was in first place, and soy complex – beans, meal



and oil – accounted for US\$17.01 billion, of which US\$16.62 billion for soy beans, which was followed by forest products, with US\$1.89 billion.

Figures from Agrosat, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, showed the United States were in second place, with imports of US\$7 billion.

The Netherlands took third position on the list, with US\$6.13 billion, Russia came fourth with US\$3.65 billion and Germany was in fifth position with US\$3.48 billion. **MDT/Macauhub**

Japan funds construction of electrical substation in Mozambique

JAPAN will donate USD18.5 million for the construction of a new electrical substation in Namialo, Meconta district, in Nampula province, northern Mozambique, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) said in a statement.

The JICA statement said the amount to be donated includes funding for improvements to the existing substations in the city

of Nampula, including Nampula 220 and Nampula Central.

This project to boost the power transmission network is intended to introduce reliability and redundancy to the power supply along the Nacala Corridor, where energy demand is increasing rapidly.

The donation will pay for engineering, construction of the Namialo substation, equipment acquisition and installation, in-

cluding new transmission towers and supply of transformers for electrification of the two secretarial posts, also located in Nampula province.

In the statement, JICA said that in this way the Japanese government is contributing to economic development in the region and improving the lives of people living in the Nacala corridor.

JICA is a Japanese government



Mozambique's president Filipe Nyusi (l) and prime minister Carlos Agostinho do Rosario pose for a photo after the swearing-in ceremony of the new cabinet in Mozambique's capital of Maputo, Jan. 19

institution responsible for implementing programs to support developing countries. It opened an office in Mozambique in 2003. **MDT/Macauhub**

GUINEA-BISSAU South Korea donates boats for fishing inspection

Guinea-Bissau last weekend received two boats donated by South Korea to increase fishing surveillance in its territorial waters, a government source said in Bissau. The two patrol vessels were delivered to the State Secretariat for Fisheries and the Maritime Economy along with computer equipment, an aid package valued at 118,000 euros. The Secretary of State Ildfonso de Barros, cited by Guinea News Agency (ANG), said the gesture from the South Korean authorities had helped Guinea-Bissau overcome some difficulties in the sector, including inspections in the country's exclusive economic zone (EEZ). The Fisheries Surveillance Authority (FISCAP) in the Guinea-Bissau EEZ has limited capacity, but has nonetheless been able to detect and deter some illegal fishing vessels. According to FISCAP, since the new government came into office in July until November, seven foreign fishing vessels were seized when they were found to be fishing illegally. For over two years, including the transition period following the coup of April 2012, the territorial waters of Guinea-Bissau went without inspection patrols.

AD

advertising@macaudailytimes.com



www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

85 million page views

Top Ranking Countries



MacauDailyTimes Times

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

New Yorker writer says he didn't pen op-ed in mainland paper



Jack Chang, Beijing

A New Yorker journalist famed for his reporting from China wrote that the state-run newspaper China Daily faked an editorial under his byline after interviewing him.

Peter Hessler said on Facebook on Tuesday that he didn't write the piece posted on China Daily's website a day earlier titled "US observer: Comparing Egypt

with China" and that his words were taken out of context.

Hessler wrote that the China Daily reporter asked him to compare China with Egypt. Hessler formerly was based in China but now reports from Egypt.

The resulting editorial repeats Communist Party talking points, lauding China's stability and education system while counseling that any changes in Chi-

na are "likely to be subtle, incremental, and coming from the top."

After living in Egypt, the editorial reads, "I think I have a better understanding of how essentially stable the Chinese system is."

The article continues: "It reminds me that in China, even in a tiny village, there was a great deal of government activity. The villagers were very clearly connected to the larger political sys-

tems and issues of the country."

Hessler, however, wrote on Facebook that he was asked mainly about his reflections on the past year and that the piece misrepresented his larger points.

"It omitted crucial parts, including the most important point: that I believe it's harder to make a political change in China, where the system is deeper rooted than in Egypt, and thus the flaws are also more deeply rooted," Hessler wrote. "I said that this is the reason why the current anti-corruption campaign will be a failure, because China is not addressing its systemic flaws."

A China Daily editor said yesterday she didn't have details about the dispute but would make inquiries.

The newspaper removed the online piece in English, but it remains available in state media in Chinese. On Facebook, Hessler wrote he asked the China Daily for a retraction but the paper refused.

Having worked in China for about a decade until 2007, Hessler wrote extensively about the country, producing four popular books about his experiences there. **AP**

Kenya gov't considers request to repatriate Chinese hackers



Tom Odula, Nairobi

THE Kenyan government is considering a request by the Chinese government to repatriate 76 Chinese nationals arrested in Kenya for hacking, an official said yesterday.

China made a formal request to extradite its nationals, the foreign affairs ministry's political and diplomatic secretary Ben Ogutu said on a live TV talk show.

During an official trip to Kenya earlier this month, China's Foreign Affairs minister Wang Yi asked for the extradition of 37 of the suspects, who have been charged in court. Yi made the remark while answering questions from journalists, saying the crimes were perpetrated against Chinese nationals in China and not Kenyans. Edwin Limo, a spokesman at Kenya's foreign affairs ministry, confirmed that the formal request was for all the Chinese suspects.

Activists have asked the government not to bow to China's pressure for extradition. The two countries have signed billion dollar contracts on trade and development of infrastructure in Kenya.

Limo said Kenya is a sovereign state and cannot be pressured to do anything.

Police arrested the 76 Chinese nationals and one Taiwanese early December with sophisticated equipment in houses in plush neighborhoods of Nairobi. Police said they were investigating them for espionage, among other crimes.

Police were alerted of the alleged hacking operation when computer equipment in one of the upscale houses the Chinese nationals had rented near the U.S. Embassy and U.N. headquarters caught fire, killing one person.

The more than 70 Chinese arrested in Nairobi very likely belong to a cross-border telecommunications fraud group, Mao Yizong, spokesperson of the Chinese Embassy in Kenya said in a statement in December.

The statement said cross-border fraud groups are using communication equipment to call and cheat their targets within China. The statement said the groups defraud their victims by making them believe that they have committed financial offenses with their banks, insurance companies or other financial institution and extort money by disguising themselves as prosecutors or authorities. **AP**

HONG KONG

Gov't warns public to avoid outdoors as pollution soars

Natasha Khan

HONG Kong's government said air pollution reached the highest level on its gauge at more than half of its monitoring stations, as light winds in the city failed to disperse pollutants.

The pollution index reached 10+ at monitors in Central, Mong Kok and Causeway Bay, the city's main business and entertainment districts, at 5:00 p.m. local time, according to the Environmental Protection Department. Other general stations recorded the highest or second-highest levels of pollution severity. The index scales from 1 to 10+, which is marked as "serious."

"Higher than normal levels of nitrogen dioxide and particulates have been recorded in the territory since this morning," the government said in a statement yesterday. "The light wind also hinders the effective dispersion of air pollutants and promo-

tes the formation of nitrogen dioxide at street level."

Air quality in Hong Kong normally worsens in the winter months as pollutants get swept in from China, adding to the smog generated by the city's vehicles, ships and power stations. The government plans to introduce low-emission zones and has offered subsidies for the replacement of older, more polluting vehicles.

A reading of 10+, indicated with a black warning sign, triggers a government advisory for the general public to "reduce to the minimum the time of their stay outdoors, especially in areas with heavy traffic."

Air quality will improve over the weekend when a relatively humid easterly airstream is expected to affect the coastal areas of the nearby Chinese province of Guangdong, the EPD said.

Pollution levels showed slight improvement last year, with nitrogen dioxide at all monitoring stations



falling after government subsidies spurred the installation of catalytic converters in vehicles, environment monitoring group Clean Air Network Ltd. said Jan. 8. Outdoor pollution can cause lung cancer, according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a World Health Organization agency. **Bloomberg**



In this Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015 file photo, a woman prepares to lay flowers at the site of a deadly stampede in Shanghai

SHANGHAI sacked four officials and punished seven others for not providing enough security to prevent the deadly New Year's Eve stampede, the first punishments meted out after President Xi Jinping ordered a probe into the accident.

Officials from Huangpu district, where the disaster occurred, failed to monitor crowd traffic and didn't respond to emergencies quickly, Xiong Xinguang, head of Shanghai's emergency reaction office, said yesterday at a briefing announcing results of the investigation. Huangpu district Party Secretary Zhou Wei and district chief Peng Song were among the officials removed from their posts, according to an investigation report.

"Huangpu district officials underestimated the risk of massive numbers of people gathering at the site," Xiong said. "There was a serious lack of precautions and preparations."

Shanghai Vice Mayor Zhou Bo, a key member of the investigation team, said the city sends its "deepest condolences" and "deepest apologies" to families of the victims.

"The incident of Dec. 31 should not have happened and was totally avoidable," Zhou said at a news conference. "We feel very pained, guilty and responsible for this."

The stampede in the historic Bund area, which killed 36 people, was the city's deadliest since 2010. The disaster tarnished Shanghai's image as it seeks to become a global financial center and spurred

Shanghai fires four officials for deadly New Year's stampede

the government to cancel several large events celebrating next month's Lunar New Year holiday.

Yesterday's investigation report provided details on the chain of events leading up to the stampede. The trampling occurred at 11:35 p.m. when crowds suddenly grew large and people started falling from stairs leading up to the

Huangpu district officials underestimated the risk of massive numbers of people gathering at the site. There was a serious lack of precautions and preparations

XIONG XINGUANG
HEAD OF SHANGHAI'S EMERGENCY
REACTION OFFICE

Bund's famous riverside promenade. The number of revelers surged to about 310,000 from 120,000 within two hours, according to the investigation, which examined 70 hours of video clips from 36 security cameras.

The report also blamed the officials for not adequately communicating to the public that an annual New Year's countdown event at the Bund had been canceled and a large number of visitors were expecting the event. Notice that the event was canceled was only made the day before, the report said.

Chenyi Square, where the stairs are located, is the most densely packed area of the Bund as it is about 500 meters from two subway lines, the report said. The two subway stations were operating that night in a break from past years.

Zhou and Peng were also among officials found to have violated the Communist Party's frugality rules for dining on public funds on the night of the stampede, according to the website of the discipline inspection commission. The government began an investigation after Caixin reported that Huangpu officials held a party at a high-end Japanese restaurant.

"This is in line with expecta-

tions that the incident would lead to some changes in Shanghai's official circles," said Hu Xingdou, a professor at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Beijing Institute of Technology. "So far, the results are satisfactory."

Of the 49 people that were injured, three are still hospitalized, Shanghai government spokesman Xu Wei said yesterday. Two-thirds of the fatalities were female, according to a name list posted by the government. Most who died were in their 20s or teens, the list showed. The youngest was 12.

Relatives of the victims have questioned whether authorities adequately notified the public of the cancellation of the light show. They also have questioned whether the city government took proper emergency measures when hundreds of thousands of people still swarmed to the Bund, and whether police and medics responded effectively after the stampede.

Fan Zhizhong, whose sister-in-law Gu Yinli died, said in a telephone interview that the report was "pretty fair" and much as he expected, but that he still had questions about how the medical response was handled.

"We have no evidence to show that the hospital didn't

do a good job in rescuing, but we have doubts," Fan said.

Shanghai officials have canceled other events as a precaution, and have kept tight control over gatherings of the victims' relatives to prevent them from forming a group that could draw sympathy and galvanize public calls for greater accountability.

President Xi told local governments to prioritize safety ahead of the mass celebrations for the Lunar holidays that start Feb. 18 and last for a week.

Shanghai canceled five of 29 events scheduled to celebrate the Chinese New Year, Vice Mayor Zhou Bo said at the briefing. The city announced Jan. 10 that it won't hold its annual Lantern Festival event for safety and management reasons. The government will conduct a scan of potential safety risks in schools, subways and sightseeing venues by end-June, Xiong said.

Inadequate surveillance and shoddy work standards in the city's construction industry were the cause of a high-rise apartment building fire in 2010 that left 58 people dead, according to then-Shanghai Mayor Han Zheng, who has since been promoted to the city's highest-ranking Communist Party official. **Bloomberg/AP**

PHILIPPINES

Manila: China's reclamation in disputed reefs now massive

Jim Gomez, Manila

CHINA'S land reclamation in contested reefs in the South China Sea has become "massive," and is continuing despite protests from other countries, a Philippine official said yesterday, citing surveillance photographs.

Philippine Foreign Undersecretary Evan Garcia and the top U.S. diplomat for East Asia, Daniel Russel, said after annual security talks that their governments have separately urged Beijing to stop activities that could worsen tensions and violate a 2002 accord designed to prevent armed conflicts over disputed islands and reefs.

"It is massive, just look at the photographs. These are not small adjustments. These are huge activities that are obviously designed to change the status quo," Garcia said in a joint news conference with Russel.

"Let me add also that the massive reclamation of China in the South China Sea is a clear violation of what we have agreed upon" in the 2002 accord, Garcia said. "It is not helpful in terms of finding a way forward and it is not an example of what anybody would un-



U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Daniel Russel gestures during a press conference with his Philippine counterpart on the fifth Philippines-United States Bilateral Strategic Dialogue in Manila

derstand as self-restraint."

The photographs Garcia referred to were not immediately distributed to the media.

The Chinese Embassy in Manila had no immediate comment, but Beijing's foreign ministry has said that the area

where the reclamation is reportedly underway is part of China's territory, and that any Chinese activities there should be of no concern to Manila.

In May last year, the Philippine government released military surveillance photos

of Chinese land reclamation in Johnson South Reef, called Mabini in the Philippines and Chigua in China, in the disputed Spratly chain of islands, reefs and atolls.

Military chief of staff Gen. Gregorio Pio Catapang told

reporters two weeks ago that China's reclamation work in at least three reefs appeared to be "50 percent complete," including one with an elongated portion that is 1 to 2 kilometers long and could be turned into an airstrip.

Catapang told The Associated Press yesterday that the latest surveillance photos of China's reclamation work were obtained by the military in October and new photographs would be pursued.

The Philippines, Vietnam and Malaysia have protested the reclamation on Johnson South Reef and other reefs. The reclaimed areas could be used by Beijing as a military base and a resupply and refueling hub, according to military officials.

Brunei and Taiwan also claim parts of the sprawling sea that China claims virtually in its entirety.

China's reclamation work and other related activities are "an ongoing concern" for the U.S. and other nations, which rely "on freedom of navigation and sea lanes and the principle of unimpeded, lawful commerce" in the South China Sea, Russel said. The South China Sea has some of the world's busiest commercial sea lanes.

"But behavior that raises tensions, behavior that raises questions about China's intention and behavior that would appear to be inconsistent with the principles that I've enumerated work counter to those goals," he said.

Russel and Garcia said their governments support a peaceful resolution of the disputes based on international law. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

Gov't detains Malaysian killer but won't allow execution

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

A fugitive detained in Australia has created a diplomatic problem for the Australian government which cannot by law extradite someone who could face capital punishment.

Sirul Azhar Umar, a 43-year-old former policeman, was sentenced last week to death for the murder of a Mongolian woman who was shot and blown up with explosives in 2006 after her yearlong affair with a friend of Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak ended in a messy disagreement.

Sirul fled to Australia before a panel of five Supreme Court judges upheld his conviction and ordered that he be hanged.

Australia's Department of Immigration and Border Protection confirmed that Sirul was detained in the east coast city of Brisbane on Tuesday.

"The department is aware of the Malaysian authorities' interest in this individual, however due to privacy reasons cannot comment further," the department said in a statement yesterday.

Don Rothwell, an Australian National University expert on international law, said if Sirul was extradited, Malaysia would first have to ensure he would not be executed.

"The Extradition Act makes it quite clear that if a person has been sentenced to capital punishment or has been charged with

an offense which could lead to the imposition of capital punishment, the attorney general can refuse extradition until such time as appropriate assurances are given that capital punishment wouldn't be applied," Rothwell said.

Sirul's case was particularly complicated because the Malaysian court had already passed sentence, Rothwell said.

"Unless Malaysia was able to give to Australia those assurances, under Australian law extradition would not take place," he said.

Malaysian Home Minister Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar told the Bernama news agency that Malaysia would consider bringing legal action against

Australia, which has abolished capital punishment, if the government refuses to extradite Sirul.

A spokeswoman for Attorney-General George Brandis, who signs extraditions on behalf of the government, did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment.

Foreign Minister Julie Bishop declined to comment.

Malaysian prosecutor Abdul Majid said last week that Sirul and his police colleague Azilah Hadri, who was also convicted of murder, could appeal to the state sultan to commute their death sentences to life in prison.

The case arises as Australia pressures Indonesian authorities to grant



Kamarul Hisham Kamaruddin, center, defense lawyer for one of the accused, speaks to the media after the verdict to restore the death sentence against Azilah Hadri and Sirul Azhar Umar for the murder of Altantuya Shaariibuu at the Putrajaya court of appeal outside Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

clemency to two Australian heroin traffickers who have been sentenced to die by firing squad.

Bilateral relations were chilled for years after Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke condemned as "barbaric" Malaysia's execution of two Australian heroin traffickers, who were hanged under Malaysia's tough anti-drug laws in 1986.

Sirul and Azilah were initially convicted in 2009 of the murder of Altantuya

Shaariibuu but both won an appeal in 2013. The Supreme Court upheld the initial High Court ruling.

The prosecution contended that the murder of Shaariibuu, 28, was ordered by her former lover, Abdul Razak Baginda, a prominent defense analyst, after their affair ended.

The High Court in 2008 acquitted Abdul Razak, a married man and a former confidante of Prime Minister Najib, of charges of abetting the murder. **AP**

TERRORISM

Japan's Abe 'fighting against time' seeking to free hostages

Elaine Kurtenbach, Tokyo

JAPAN is doing all it can to free two hostages the Islamic State group is threatening to kill within 72 hours, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said yesterday, vowing never to give in to terrorism.

Abe returned to Tokyo from a six-day Middle East tour slightly ahead of schedule and convened a Cabinet meeting soon after.

"We are fighting against time, and we'll make an all-out effort and use every diplomatic route that we have developed to win the release of the two," he said.

Abe said he was consulting with leaders in the region. A convoy carrying a Japanese envoy, Vice-Foreign Minister Yasuhide Nakayama, left the Japanese embassy in Jordan's

capital Amman yesterday for an unknown location in the city. He was dispatched from Abe's Middle East entourage to handle the situation.

Abe and other Japanese officials have declined to discuss whether Japan will pay the ransom for the captives, 47-year-old freelance journalist Kenji Goto and 42-year-old Haruna Yukawa, the founder of a private security company.

The Islamic State group demanded a USD200 million ransom in a video posted online Tuesday that showed a knife-brandishing masked militant standing over the two kneeling captives.

Government spokesman Yoshihide Suga confirmed that Japan believed the threat to be authentic.

"Japan's aim is not to kill the

Muslim people, as the militant group claims it to be," Suga said. "We strongly urge them not to harm the two Japanese and release them immediately."

Abe has limited choices, among them to openly pay the extremists or ask an ally like the United States to attempt a risky rescue inside Syria. Japan's military operates only in a self-defense capacity at home.

Abe and other government officials have not said directly whether Japan was considering paying the ransom. But they remain adamant that Japan will continue to provide non-military aid to the region.

"We will never give in to terrorism," Abe said.

In past international hostage situations involving Japanese, one Japanese has been killed while most have been released.



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

It is unclear how many times Japan has paid ransom previously. The only confirmed case was in Kyrgyzstan in 1999.

Japanese media reported yesterday, citing unnamed official sources, that Goto's wife received an email from an anonymous source on her mobile phone in December demanding

a ransom of more than 2 billion yen (\$17 million).

She exchanged several emails with the source, whose email address was similar to one used by the Islamic State group, the Kyodo News service and other media reported. The messages did not include a threat to kill Goto, it said. AP

AD

MAGNUS SECURITY SERVICES

馬格納斯 保安 (澳門) 有限公司

License No. 5/2010

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69

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

Tel.: (853) 2822 1341

Fax.: (853) 2822 0824



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

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

www.magnus-security.net

"MAGNIFYING YOUR SECURITY"

contact@magnus-security.net

FRANCE

Police to get better guns, more intel agents to fight terror

Sylvie Corbet and
Nicolas Vaux-Montgny, Paris

FRANCE announced sweeping new measures to counter homegrown terrorism yesterday, including giving security forces better weapons and protection, going on an intelligence agent hiring spree and creating a better database of anyone suspected of extremist links.

The measures detailed by Prime Minister Manuel Valls came as four men were handed preliminary charges of providing logistical support to one of the Paris terror attackers — the first charges issued for three days of mayhem that left 20 people dead, including three gunmen.

The new security measures

Four men were handed preliminary charges of providing logistical support to one of the Paris terror attackers



French Prime Minister Manuel Valls unveils new security measures at the Elysee Palace in Paris

include increased intelligence-gathering on jihadis and other radicals, in part by making it easier to tap phones. Valls said Internet providers and social networks “have a legal responsibility under French law” to comply with the new measures.

Some 2,600 counter-terrorism officers will be hired, 1,100 of them specifically for intelligence services. Anti-

terror surveillance is needed for 3,000 people with ties to France — some at home, others abroad, the prime minister said.

Since three police were among those killed by the Paris terrorists, Valls said improving officers’ weapons and protective gear was among the top priorities.

France will spend 425 million euros (\$490 million) over the

next three years for all the counter-terror efforts, he said.

France has repeatedly strengthened its counterterrorism laws over the years, including a measure passed in November that focused on preventing French extremists from joining fighters abroad. Another measure — expected to be activated in the coming weeks — would allow authorities to ask Internet service providers

to block sites that glorify terrorism.

Isabelle Falque-Pierrotin, head of France’s national data protection agency CNIL, told reporters yesterday her agency would insist that any additional snooping privileges for France’s intelligence services should only be allowed if they are matched by greater protections for personal data.

Falque-Pierrotin said the attack on the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo — which had been under police protection due to threats before the Jan. 7 attack that left 12 dead — had come as a “particular shock” to CNIL’s staff because “the protection of personal liberty is our essence.”

Outlining a web of phone calls, shared keys and prison friendships, Paris Prosecutor Francois Molins said the four suspects given preliminary charges — all in their 20s, all arrested in the Paris region — will remain behind bars while the investigation continues.

He identified them only as Willy P., Christophe R., Tonino G. and Mickael A.

Three of the men are suspected of buying weapons — and one kept them at his house — for Amedy Coulibaly. Coulibaly shot a policewoman to death Jan. 8 on the outskirts of Paris and then a day later killed four hostages at a kosher supermarket before being killed in a police raid.

Three of the four suspects charged had criminal records; at least one met Coulibaly in prison, Molins said. Coulibaly himself had met Cherif Kouachi, one of the two gunmen in the Charlie Hebdo attack, in prison. **AP**

ISRAEL

Palestinian attacker stabs passengers on Tel Aviv bus

Ian Deitch, Jerusalem

A Palestinian man stabbed nine people on a bus in central Tel Aviv yesterday, wounding four of them seriously before he was chased down, shot and arrested by Israeli police in an attack praised by the Islamic militant Hamas group.

The assault, described by police as a “terror attack,” was the latest in a spate of attacks in which Palestinians have used knives, acid and vehicles as weapons in recent months, leaving dead and injured. Police identified the assailant as a Palestinian from the West Bank and said he had entered Israel illegally.



Israeli police officers secure the scene of a stabbing attack in Tel Aviv

The man, who was on the bus himself, travelling with the other passengers, began stabbing people, including the driver, then managed to get out of the bus and started fleeing the scene.

Officers from a prison service who happened

to be nearby and saw the bus swerving out of control and a man running away, gave chase, shot the man in the leg, wounding him lightly and subsequently arrested him.

“We believe it was a terror attack,” said police spokesman Micky

Rosenfeld. He said four people were seriously hurt and another nine sustained lighter wounds. The stabber was in custody and the police are questioning him now, he said.

The stabbing follows the type of “lone-wolf” Palestinian attacks that have plagued Israel in recent months, killing about a dozen people, including five people killed with guns and meat cleavers in a bloody assault on a Jerusalem synagogue.

Cheli Shushan said her uncle, Herzl Biton, the bus driver, was stabbed in the upper body and liver and was in surgery. She said he had tried to fight back and sprayed

the attacker with pepper spray.

Biton called his friend, Kazis Matzliach, as the attack was unfolding, describing the mayhem. Matzliach said he could hear the sounds of screaming while his friend was talking, asking him if “something happens to me, please take care of my children.”

At the scene, a Jewish head covering lay on the floor of the bus, with blood splattered nearby.

Hamas, the Islamic militant group that controls the Gaza Strip did not claim responsibility but praised yesterday’s attack as “brave and heroic” in a tweet by Izzat Risheq, a Hamas leader residing in Qatar.

The stabbing is a “natural response to the occupation and its terrorist crimes against our people,” Risheq said.

Israeli officials say the attacks stem from incitement by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and other Palestinian leaders.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated those accusations yesterday.

“The terrorist attack in Tel Aviv is the direct result of the poisonous incitement being disseminated by the Palestinian Authority against the Jews and their state,” he said. “This same terrorism is trying to attack us in Paris, Brussels and everywhere.” **AP**

USA Obama calls for closing income gap

Mike Dorning and
Angela Greiling Keane

U.S. President Barack Obama declared the U.S. economy healed and said the nation now must begin work to close the gap between the well-off and the wanting.

"Tonight we turn the page," Obama said in his sixth annual State of the Union address. "We have risen from recession freer to write our own future than any other nation on Earth."

Obama didn't give a listing of detailed policy proposals in his first speech to a Congress with both chambers controlled by Republicans. Instead, he outlined the rationale for an agenda that reflects a shift in the final two years of his presidency from spurring a tepid recovery to promoting a vision for reshaping the U.S. economy as it gains strength.

"It's now up to us to choose who we want to be over the next 15 years, and for decades to come," he said. "Will we accept an economy where only a few of us do spectacularly well? Or will we commit ourselves to an economy that generates rising incomes and chances for everyone who makes the effort?"

This year's State of Union address is one of Obama's final chances to make full use of the presidential bully pulpit to set the terms for the national debate before attention turns to the 2016 presidential election. It offers Obama a chance to reach beyond his presidency to shape campaign themes and possibly the governing agenda of a Democratic successor.

Even with his party's losses in the congressional elections last November, Obama has maintained the initiative on national policy with a series of executive actions including an order protecting 5 million undocumented immigrants from deportation, an end to the half-century-old Cuba embargo and a climate deal with China.

While giving a nod to possible areas of compromise such as trade deals, the president made no effort to temper his aspirations to the political realities of Republican control of Congress. Nor did he signal any attempt to pull back from a collision course with Republican lawmakers on several issues, repeating his threats to veto any attempt to gut his signature health-care law or unravel Dodd-Frank financial regulations.

"The verdict is clear. Middle-



Vice President Joe Biden and House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio applaud President Barack Obama, on Capitol Hill in Washington

class economics works," he said. "We can't put the security of families at risk by taking away their health insurance, or unraveling the new rules on Wall Street, or refighting past battles on immigration when we've got a system to fix."

The headline elements of Obama's proposals, such as free access to community college, higher taxes for the wealthiest Americans to fund tax credits for middle-income families and requiring employers to provide paid sick leave, hold little appeal for Republicans.

Obama delivered the speech amid signs that the strengthening recovery is giving him a boost with voters. An ABC News/Washington Post poll taken Jan 12-15 showed him at

50 percent approval, up from 41 percent a month earlier, though other polls haven't shown as great a surge.

The economy's performance in the past two quarters - an average of 4.8 percent growth - was the strongest in a decade. Private-sector employers added an average of 280,000 in each of the past three months, roughly double the monthly rate since the 2009 end of the recession. Consumer confidence in January reached an 11-year high.

Yet median household income fell 3.9 percent to USD51,939 in 2013 compared with 2009 when Obama took office, U.S. Census Bureau data show. The poorest fifth fared even worse, with incomes dropping 5.9 percent to \$20,900.

In their response following Obama's speech, Republicans will counter that government programs - especially Obama's health initiative - aren't the best way to lift the middle class.

"We see too many moms and dads put their own dreams on hold while growing more fearful about the kind of future they'll be able to leave to their

children," Senator Joni Ernst, an Iowa Republican, will say in her response, according to excerpts House Republicans released. "Americans have been hurting, but when we demanded solutions, too often Washington responded with the same stale mindset that led to failed policies like Obamacare."

Obama made only a glancing mention of one Republican priority and a source of friction between the White House and Congress, building the TransCanada Corp. Keystone XL pipeline. Obama has said he would veto legislation that would force approval of the \$8 billion pipeline to carry oil from Alberta, Canada, through the U.S., bypassing an administration review.

The president indirectly referred to the project when he talked about the need to create jobs by improving U.S. infrastructure, saying, "Let's set our sights higher than a single oil pipeline."

As he has done throughout his presidency, Obama sought to engage private industry in advancing economic priorities. He mentioned companies including CVS Health Corp.

and United Parcel Service Inc., lauding them for paying for education benefits, and Tesla Motors Inc. and Google Inc. for creating jobs of the future.

CVS Chief Executive Officer Larry Merlo was among the guests invited to join first lady Michelle Obama to view the speech at the U.S. Capitol.

Also sitting with her was Alan Gross, the American man who spent five years in a Cuban prison and was released as part of the deal to end the freeze between Washington and Havana. In a nod to the concerns of Cuban dissidents and pro-democracy advocates, Boehner's guest was Jorge Luis García Pérez, who spent 17 years in a Cuban prison. His father was a well-known Cuban dissident who was killed in a car accident that his family believes was suspicious.

Obama appeared at ease throughout the address, ad-libbing at times and responding to the audience reaction. As he neared the end of his speech, he declared, "I have no more campaigns to run." As Republicans erupted in laughter, Obama retorted, "I know, because I won both of them." **Bloomberg/AP**

I have no more campaigns to run. I know, because I won both of them

BARACK OBAMA

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

NOMADS

- SOLO EXHIBITION OF KENT KEONG TAN

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: January 27, 2015

VENUE: Flugent Art Gallery, Rua de S. Paulo 54 - 58B, Mei Tai Grand Garden, R/C A, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 3710

ORGANIZER: Flugent Art Gallery

KOREAN ART EXHIBITION OH YOUNG SOOK AND KIM YEON OK

TIME: 11am-7pm

UNTIL: February 15, 2015

VENUE: IAOHIN Gallery, Rua da Tercena no. 39a

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2892 1908

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

"SEE AND TOUCH"

- TOUCHABLE ARTS EXHIBITION

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

UNTIL: March 31, 2015

VENUE: Artistry of Wind Box Community

Development Association / Rua Tomas Vieira 3A R/C

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6685 9215

Offbeat

MAN CITED IN US FOR EATING CHEESEBURGER WHILE DRIVING

A man says he was cited by police outside Atlanta for eating a cheeseburger while driving. Madison Turner tells Atlanta station WSB-TV (<http://bit.ly/14Xxy83>) he ordered a double quarter-pounder with cheese from a McDonald's shortly before he was pulled over last week.

Turner says the officer told him he saw him eating the cheeseburger for 3.2 kilometers, telling the man "You can't just go down the road eating a hamburger."

The ticket, issued under Georgia's distracted driving law, states in the comments section that the offense is "eating while driving." Turner is to appear in court Feb. 3. Cobb County police spokesman Mike Bowman declined comment.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:10	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
19:00	Montra do Lilau (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:30	Criminal Minds S8
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

22 JAN - 28 JAN



BLACKHAT_

ROOM 1

2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45 pm

Director: Michael Mann

Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Viola Davis, Wei Tang

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 133min



INTO THE WOODS_

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Robert Marshall

Starring: James Corden, Emily Blunt, Meryl Streep

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 125min



AMERICAN SNIPER_

ROOM 3

2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45 pm

Director: Clint Eastwood

Starring: Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller, Kyle Gallner

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 132min

MACAU TOWER

01 JAN - 23 JAN

TAKEN 3_

2.30, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Olivier Megaton

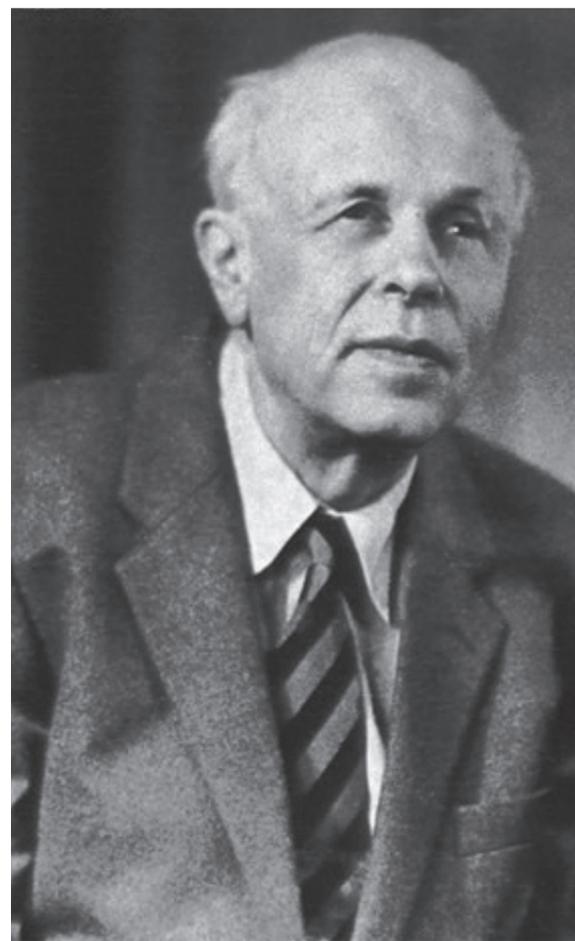
Starring: Liam Neeson, Forest Whitaker, Franke

Janssen

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

this day in history



1980 SOVIET DISSIDENT SAKHAROV BANISHED

One of the Soviet Union's most outspoken critics, nuclear physicist Dr Andrei Sakharov, has been ordered into internal exile. Officials in Moscow were angered by an interview Dr Sakharov gave American television last week, in which he called for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

It was the final straw after the Nobel peace prize winner had escaped arrest during more than 13 years of dissident activity. In the interview, Dr Sakharov also told American viewers he supported plans to boycott the summer Olympics in Moscow. He said he was in favor of the US sanctions ordered by President Carter in retaliation for the invasion.

The scientist and his wife, Yelena Bonner, were seized by officers of the Soviet secret service, the KGB, while walking in a Moscow street. Dr Sakharov was stripped of his official honors. The couple were given two hours to pack before being sent to Gorky, an industrial city 250 miles east of Moscow and off limits to foreign reporters.

Dr Sakharov was credited with creating the first Soviet hydrogen bomb - but later became involved in campaigning for nuclear disarmament. He won the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize because of his fight for human rights.

In a recent interview with the BBC, Dr Sakharov spoke about the need for change in the Soviet Union. He said: "Our country, like every modern state, needs profound democratic reforms. It needs political and ideological pluralism, a mixed economy and protection of human rights and the opening up of society."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Dr Sakharov spent nearly seven years in exile in Gorky where he continued to write letters and appeals in support of human rights activists.

He staged three hunger strikes protesting at his own persecution and seeking permission for his wife to go to the United States for medical treatment for eye and heart problems.

In 1983, Yelena Bonner was charged with slander against the Soviet state as she was about to board a plane to fly to the US. Dr Sakharov claimed it was a trumped-up charge to prevent her travelling abroad. She, too, was ordered to remain in exile in Gorky.

After President Mikhail Gorbachev ordered his release in 1986, Dr Sakharov became a leading member of the pro-democracy movement.

He also helped to lead the opposition in the new Soviet parliament in 1989 and was involved in drafting a new constitution. He died on 14 December 1989 of a heart attack.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You are near-certain to get all the help you need today...

Taurus April 20-May 20 If someone is pushing your buttons today, you just need to roll your eyes...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You may find yourself changing your mind over something that had once seemed immutable...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Your energy is a bit out of sorts in comparison with the rest of the world today...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You need to come up with good solutions in order to win the day...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You've got to think more clearly about today's big, weird problem...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Your social awareness is blossoming into something new and lovely...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You're struck by a sudden impulse - but it's one that involves moving furniture...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Your social energy helps you to really connect with someone new...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You need to think about change - but it may be too soon to actually implement it...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You've got to really listen today - that's the best way to get others to do the same...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You have got to lighten up - you're doing just fine, and beating up on yourself is just going to cause more problems...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Easy' difficulty.

Easy+

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Easy+' difficulty.

Medium

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Medium' difficulty.

Hard

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Hard' difficulty.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

Weather forecast table for CHINA with cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

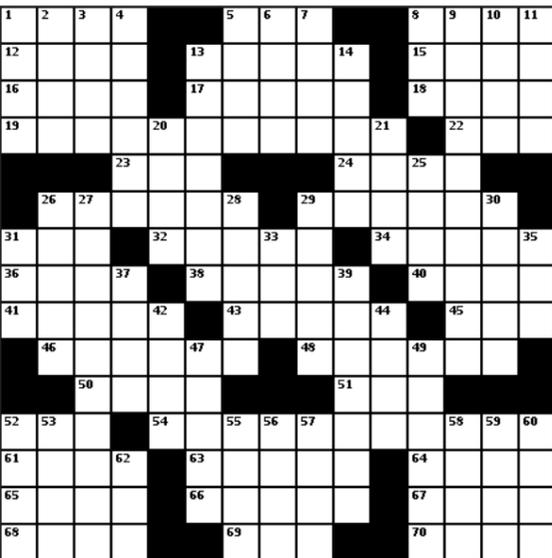
WORLD

Weather forecast table for WORLD with cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Go it alone; 5- That girl; 8- Storage shelter; 12- Purple fruit; 13- Fable; 15- Stiff bristle; 16- Give the eye; 17- Command; 18- Swedish auto; 19- Capital of Florida; 22- "Treasure Island" monogram; 23- Before, once; 24- Abrupt; 26- Spuds; 29- In danger; 31- Involuntary muscular contraction; 32- Chairs; 34- Portents; 36- Per; 38- Songs for two; 40- First king of Israel; 41- Pay for; 43- ___-foot oil; 45- Eye infection, pig house; 46- Respiration disorder; 48- Baby's sock; 50- Antitoxins; 51- Fannie ___; 52- Clay, today; 54- Indescribable; 61- Choir attire; 63- Of a pelvic bone; 64- German river; 65- Electric fish; 66- Refinement; 67- Send out; 68- Assist, often in a criminal act; 69- Conductor ___-Pekka Salonen; 70- "The Sweetest Taboo" singer;

DOWN: 1- Small blemish; 2- Gymnast Korbut; 3- Soothe; 4- Beaten egg dish; 5- Circle dance; 6- Terminates; 7- Numbered rds.; 8- Draft org.; 9- Peace of mind; 10- And others, briefly; 11- Small amounts; 13- Stuck together; 14- Upright; 20- Son of Zeus in Greek mythology; 21- Monetary unit of Austria; 25- Lens holders; 26- Ornamental coronet; 27- Easy to reach; 28- Sweatbox; 29- Take ___ at (try); 30- Coach Rockne; 31- Hanoi holiday; 33- Peg used on the first in golf; 35- Artful; 37- Abhor; 39- Abdomen; 42- Drive-___; 44- Drench; 47- Crazy; 49- Tantalizes; 52- Space; 53- "Stay" singer Lisa; 55- Plumlike fruit; 56- Name of 12 popes; 57- I could ___ horse!; 58- Crimson Tide, for short; 59- Put down; 60- Romaine de Tirtoff, familiarly; 62- Superlative suffix



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



AD

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

Excellent Investment Property Nova City Tower 14 Taipa 1,340 sq ft / HKD 10.184M
Warehouse, Keck Seng Macau Warehouse for Rent Immediate Occupation HKD 32,800 / 3,755 sq ft

Coloane Village Investment Property Coloane 597 sq ft / HKD 5.671M
One Oasis D and J Units Coloane 2 Bedroom Apartment Great Location HKD 19,500 / 1,177 sq ft

Hellen Garden, LOT 3 Coloane 1,663sq ft / HKD 11.308M
Vai Nam Taipa Taipa 2 Bedroom Apartment Open Plan Living/Dining Area HKD 12,000 / 715 sq ft

Designer Apartment Perfect weekend home Macau 679 sq ft / HKD 6.588M
The Manhattan, Unit D Taipa 4 Bedroom Apartment Luxury Residence HKD 36,000 / 2,488 sq ft

JML property Since 1994 卓雅物業

Jeep®

GRAND CHEROKEE



Mature · Wild · Challenge

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

* about the picture may be different from Macau specifications

 Find us on
"Jeep Macau"

Xin Kang Tai Auto Parts & Motor Sevices Limited

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

tel : 2871 7762

Roof open or closed for Super Bowl?

Josh Hoffner, Phoenix

THE Super Bowl stadium in sunny Arizona will present a dilemma for NFL officials as they grapple with a question that is faced by many pro sports teams in an era of retractable roofs: Whether to play the game with the roof open or closed.

The NFL says it plans to keep the retractable roof open at University of Phoenix Stadium for the Feb. 1 game between the Seattle Seahawks and New England Patriots, but if there is a sign of inclement weather, the roof will be shut.

The fact that the question is even up for debate may seem strange given the location. The game will be played in a place where tens of thousands of visitors flock each winter for the sole purpose of basking in the warm sun.

But the occupants of the stadium and the other three NFL teams with retractable roof stadiums actually play many more games indoors than with the roof open, even as their counterparts in cold-weather cities like Buffalo, Green Bay and Chicago get by in open-air facilities.

The Arizona Cardinals did not play a single game with the roof open this season, despite spectacular weather for some late-season games. The Dallas Cowboys opened the roof of their USD1.3 billion stadium once in the past two NFL seasons. The Indianapolis Colts



The roof remained closed at University of Phoenix Stadium, where the NFL football's Super Bowl XLIX will be played, while the grass field remained outside in the sun

have played about a third of their games outside since opening their stadium in 2008, while the Houston Texans have opened their roof for about 40 percent of the games dating to their founding in 2002.

Since the Cardinals' stadium was built in 2006, the team has played 22 games with the roof open and 71 with it closed.

To the Cardinals, another stat is more telling. The team has sold out every game at University of Phoenix Stadium since it opened. In the 18 years it occupied the outdoor Sun Devil Stadium at Arizona State University, it sold out 12 games. The stifling heat and uncomfortable

bleacher seating were partly to blame, but the team was also one of the worst in the league during that period.

The need for retractable roofs has played a role in recent public debates over stadium projects, especially those relying on scarce public money. A retractable roof typically adds \$25 million to \$50 million to a domed stadium project, and it typically costs a few thousand dollars to open and close the structures each time, said Mark Waggoner, a structural engineer who has had a hand in several pro sports stadiums.

In Minnesota, lawmakers scoffed at bids to have the public

kick in toward a retractable roof on a \$1 billion Vikings stadium being built in downtown Minneapolis, particularly given the cold climate. Team owners decided against paying for it themselves, and settled for a fixed roof and bank of glass windows on the side that will slide open to let fresh air in.

A USD1.4 billion stadium being built by the Atlanta Falcons to replace the 23-year-old Georgia Dome has a retractable roof, but the team is picking up most of the cost for the project.

The roof dilemma for the Arizona stadium is complicated by the vast swings in weather the Phoenix area sees over the

course of a season. For the pre-season and first month of the season, temperatures are in the unbearable range of 38 to 44 degrees, making it an easy call to close the roof. By season's end, the temperature can dip into the low teens. In the middle of the season, the temperature is fabulous but fans on one side of the arena complain that the setting sun is too bright.

"For a quarter or more of the game you're staring right in to the sun. And (fans) have frankly made us aware loud and clear that that's not an optimal experience for them," said Mark Dalton, vice president of media relations for the Cardinals. **AP**

Jimmy Golen, Boston

BOSTON residents will get their first chance on today [Macau time] to see how Olympic organizers would handle the 2024 Summer Games if they are awarded to the Massachusetts city.

Local bid organizers are planning a public encore for the presentation that won over the U.S. Olympic Committee last month. The privately run Boston bid committee is also planning to release many of the documents that detail how the games would be staged and financed. Later, the group will hold the first meeting of its Citizen's Advisory Group.

Boston beat out bids from San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., earlier this month to be selected as the U.S. nominee for the 2024 Games. The city now goes up against potential bids

Boston organizers to make 2024 Olympic bid info public



The Boston city skyline is illuminated at dusk as it reflects off the waters of Boston Harbor

from Rome, Paris, and Berlin or Hamburg, Germany, among others. The IOC will make its decision

in 2017. Boston has promised a walkable, sustainable games that would take ad-

vantage of facilities and fundraising at the area's 100 colleges and universities and require no public

funding. But very little of the bid information has been made public so far.

Doubters cite recent cost explosions at the

the bidding has been conducted in secret and called for all of the bid information to be released.

"They still seem to be taking their orders from the USOC," said Chris Dempsey, one of the group's founders, calling for all of the documents that were signed by the mayor and submitted to the USOC to be made

■ Boston beat out bids from San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., earlier this month to be selected as the U.S. nominee for the 2024 Games

Sochi and Beijing Games and say the Olympics is a bad deal for the city. The group No Boston Olympics has complained that

public. "Releasing just a partial set doesn't exactly reassure the public that this bid is good for the citizens who live here." **AP**

opinion

HK Observer
 Robert Carroll



REALITY CHECKS

How will Hong Kong continue to be governed, given the great social impasses revealed during the Occupy Movement? On the one hand, there are those seeking Beijing's good will, which nobody can deny is a sine qua non for Hong Kong's future, but which - as many see it on the pan-democrat side and among students - demands an unpalatable obeisance to an unrepresentative political system evolving too slowly. On the other hand, there continues to be a disconcerting accommodation for the handful of business families who dominate the economy, which has led to great income inequality.

While these dozen or so tycoons may do wonders for their shareholders, contribute greatly to the economy and provide local employment, under the present laissez-faire aspects of the economy from which they benefit - and extensive monopolization and government collusion - they have no qualms about squeezing every cent from every corner of the territory's economy in the name of sound, profit-making business principles. Unfortunately, for the current system in place for the election of the Chief Executive, hundreds out of the total 1200 votes are controlled by these tycoons. C. Y. Leung admitted quite frankly that he could not be elected without currying their favor and that it was a waste of his time to seek blessings from the near-half of the population which earns less than HKD11,500 per month. Government figures in 2013 show the median income at HKD12,000.

In between these two groups are the ever-shrinking middle classes and much of the mid-to-late- secondary and tertiary student body. These are traditionally represented by the pan-democrats who, given their veto power in the Legislative Council, are able to stymie the government by obstruction. In order to govern HK, this 'three-legged stool' should find room for compromise: why is this not happening?

Perhaps the easiest conclusion to make is of an inevitable inflexibility within the Chinese leadership, a predictable reaction to the confrontations and strident demands by both pan-democrats and student movements. We must also take on board the fact that, given their Leninist, Stalinist, Maoist origins, as well as their internal politics, the Chinese Communist Party is based on a system of top-down control. It also cannot show weakness publicly and, being China, giving face is crucial. Moreover, the fact is that Hong Kong is only a pimple, albeit an important one, on the map of China. The territory has served the country very well economically, and continues to do so, especially in IPOs which help fund State Owned Enterprises and are directed by CCP core leaders and their families. Essentially, maintaining these IPOs is considered a cornerstone of CCP power.

As such, Beijing is, on the one hand, happy to reap the economic benefits of Hong Kong and therefore tolerate the pre-1997 status quo - to a degree. We have much more liberal markets than on the mainland, even if they are mostly restricted within the few families controlling the lion's share of the economy's private sector. We also have free press - again, up to a point. And, so far, Beijing has allowed us rule of law. However, that's arguably being chipped away at too. Last but not least, China has been mostly disengaged with local administration, except in areas of high political sensitivity, or where they see national security at stake.

China genuinely welcomes all the advantages that HK has long offered their market - most notably, access to the developed world on a legally binding trust basis - but the rules here inevitably fail to align with Stalinist, Maoist, Deng and their successors' CCP thinking. There lies the challenge for Hong Kongers.

So that's stool leg number one. As for stool leg number two, there's the question of the ten families that dominate the economy's private sector and wield great political influence. Given that they naturally cozy up to Beijing, why shouldn't they also cozy up to stool leg number three - the pan-democrat politicians and their very substantial voter support? It seems they don't think they need to. While they are almost unrepresented in direct elections, their tentacles are well-spread in the small circle election of the functional constituencies. This is enough to block inconvenient legislation that might reduce their profits.

The third stool leg is made up of the pan-democrat politicians, now joined by student movements. Why are they not reaching a compromise with the two other legs? Firstly, they feel they are not only not being listened to, but also lack highly vocal members who are strident in their demands and can directly challenging the authority of the Chinese leadership. They are inebriated with the promise of democracy for China, a country which has, at least politically, gone against the flow of most of the world. Secondly, it is because they have mistakenly taken a vast gamble on democracy models which are just not going to develop as quickly as they would like, if at all, with the present conservative and suspicious CCP leadership. If any progress is to be made the pan-dems and the students need to climb down from the high perch. Politics, even if it leaves a bad taste in the mouth, is compromise, and, to repeat the much used axiom, the art of the possible.

That brings us to the one person-one vote CE election in 2017. As long as there is any sort of promise, this is not the end-point of political reform. However, as one senior Chinese official said last year, it is just another step on the way of ongoing reform. Surely now that the HK government is mooting a return to the low nomination threshold for the 2017 chief executive, the universal suffrage deal on offer is a better starting point than continuing with the present system.

THE BUZZ EMIRATES CEO INTENDS TO BUY 100 MORE A380s

Emirates, the biggest customer for the A380 superjumbo, said it has told Airbus Group NV it would commit to buying 100 more of the planes if the manufacturer agrees to go ahead with an upgrade involving a new engine. The world's largest airliner has "enormous" possibilities in terms of its passenger appeal and potential contribution to profitability, and developing a so-called Neo upgrade would help press home those advantages, Emirates President Tim Clark told Bloomberg Television in Davos. "What we've said as Emirates is if you're going to

do the Neo, we're in for 100," he said at the World Economic Forum. "Put it on the table, we'll start off for you."

Clark's comments increase the pressure on Airbus to commit to further development of an aircraft that's no longer at the top of its agenda as sales slow and it focuses on boosting production of the new A350 wide-body. Dubai-based Emirates has 57 A380s already in its fleet with 15 more arriving this year out of an order for 140 in total, it said Jan. 13.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	170-200 Bad
High Density Residential Area	170-200 Bad
Ambient	160-190 Bad

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

NEW ZEALAND Authorities struggle to control poaching in Antarctic waters, where illegal fishing boats can hold catches worth more than USD1 million.

PHILIPPINES A Philippine official says surveillance photographs show that China's land reclamation in contested reefs in the South China Sea has become "massive" and is continuing despite protests. *More on p12*

SRI LANKA's new government will re-investigate high-profile assassinations including that of a newspaper editor and politicians during the previous administration that were alleged to have had state backing, an official says.

INDIA A court orders the Indian government to release USD300,000 sent by Greenpeace's foreign partners for use in India by the environmental group. The funds were frozen in June last year amid accusations that Greenpeace's environmental campaigns were hurting India's development projects.

AP PHOTO



NIGERIA Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau has claimed responsibility for the mass killings in the northeast Nigerian town of Baga and threatened more violence. As many as 2,000 civilians were killed and 3,700 homes and business were destroyed in the Jan. 3 attack on the town near Nigeria's border with Cameroon, said Amnesty International.

UKRAINE's president is courting European support against what he says are 9,000 Russian troops occupying 7 percent of his nation's territory. Moscow has denied Ukrainian and Western claims that it provides manpower and arms to the separatists but has acknowledged that some Russians have joined the insurgents. Yet the sheer amount of sophisticated heavy weaponry in insurgent hands is widely seen in the West as irrefutable evidence of Russia's direct involvement.

Volcanic eruption in Tonga creates new island

Nick Perry, Wellington

A volcanic eruption in Tonga has created a new island - although one scientist said yesterday it could soon disappear.

The volcano has been erupting for a month in the ocean about 65 kilometers (40 miles) northwest of the capital, Nuku'alofa. Last week it disrupted international air travel to the Pacific archipelago for several days.

New Zealand volcanologist Nico Fournier said he traveled by boat to within about a mile of the new island on Saturday to take a closer look.

He said it's made mainly of loose scoria and its dimensions are about 1.8 kilometers by 1.5 kilometers, and that it rises about 100 meters above the sea.

"It's quite an exciting site, you get to see the birth of an island," he said. "Visually it was quite specta-



A volcano erupts near Tonga in the South Pacific Ocean

cular, but there was no big sound coming with it, no boom. It was a bit eerie."

He said that once the volcano stops erupting, it will likely take the ocean no more than a few months to erode the island entirely. He said it would need to be made of lava or something more durable to survive.

Fournier, who works for New Zealand agency GNS Science, said he was able to establish that the volcano was mainly belching steam into the atmosphere, and

that the small amount of ash it was sending out was rising no more than about 2 kilometers.

That will come as a relief to airlines, as it is the ash that can be dangerous to planes.

Fournier said the ocean around the island is likely fairly shallow, perhaps only about 100-200 meters deep. He said there is no name yet for the new island, and he has been told that any naming rights will fall to Tonga's king. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Xie Chen



A railway-themed restaurant opened recently in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui province. It is composed of two carriages and a locomotive sculpture. The restaurant also holds art exhibitions.