



## MIO PANG FEI BRINGS 'BEYOND THE SURFACE' TO TOWN

The "Beyond the Surface, Mio Pang Fei Featured Art Exhibition" is taking place at the Albergue SCM until March

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## PHILADELPHIA AND MACAU ORCHESTRAS TIGHTEN TIES

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## PRESIDENT'S TWEETS ON CHINESE ACCENT CAUSE FUROR

Argentine President Cristina Fernandez tried to mimic a Chinese accent by switching "r's" with "l's" in a tweet in Spanish

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "



## WORLD BRIEFS



AP PHOTO

**AUSTRALIA** For more than a year, the three jailed Al-Jazeera journalists did their best to prepare for the unsettling possibility that one of them would be released from the Egyptian prison, while the others were forced to stay. Yesterday, Peter Greste returned home to Australia, relieved and jubilant in his freedom, but still grappling with the reality that Mohamed Fahmy and Baher Mohammed remained trapped in their cells.

**CHINA** A Canadian woman detained in China along with her husband on suspicion of stealing state secrets has been released on bail, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said yesterday. Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said Julia Garratt was released while the case remains under investigation. She and her husband Kevin were detained on Aug. 4 by the state security bureau in China's northeastern city of Dandong, which borders North Korea. Their detentions came amid a crackdown on Christian groups aiding North Korean refugees along the border.

**INDIA** Police say they have detained dozens of people for protesting against attacks on churches in the Indian capital in recent months, accusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government of inaction to prevent or investigate the incidents.

More on backpage

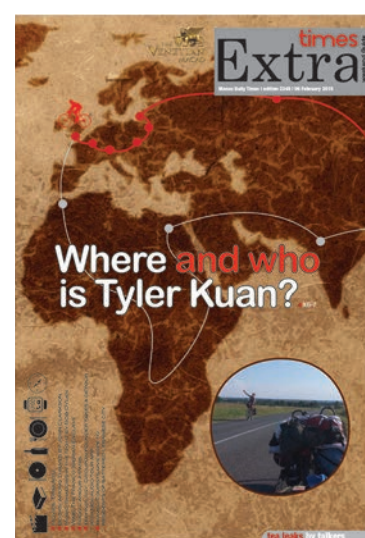
# Crashed Taiwan plane engine replaced in Macau

P5,11

## Non-gaming is the future of Macau, Adelson says

Sheldon Adelson, Chairman and CEO of Las Vegas Sands Corp., is about to take the position of Sands China CEO. He sees a bright future ahead for Macau's most profitable concessionaire, thanks to the investments he has made since 2002. Yet he also believes that now is the time for the other concessionaires to invest more in non-gaming attractions and thereby help to further diversify Macau's economy.

P2,3 EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW





EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW | SHELDON ADELSON

# ‘We originated non-gaming development’

Anthony Lawrance  
Exclusive to MDT/Macau Inc

BY the time The Parisian Macao opens in 2016, Las Vegas Sands Corp. will have invested more than USD13bn in Macau since Sands China Ltd became a concessionaire 13 years ago. Given that the company's Chairman and CEO, Sheldon Adelson, owns more than half of LVS's issued stock, it would be fair to say that he has taken more out of his pocket and put it into the ground here than any of the other concessionaires have 'as companies.'

So when Adelson says that he knows something about investing, he ought to be taken at his word.

"It all depends on how much risk you are prepared to take," Adelson says, sipping from an iced tea during our interview at Sands Cotai Central on a chilly Wednesday afternoon this week. "Some people don't like risk. I do. I took the risk back when Cotai was nothing."

It is not so much the size of the investment that is important, however. It is what Adelson invested into, which at the time, was a much larger risk proposition than the other concessionaires were prepared to contemplate.

"We originated non-gaming development," he says. "We built a meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions [MICE] industry here. We built a 15,000-seat arena when no one else would. We put Macau on the map as a shopping destination."

This all began at a time when not even Galaxy Entertainment Group, the other concessionaire initially granted land in Cotai, was ready to start building, and Melco-Crown's plans for City of Dreams came later. "One of my competitors once said to me, 'If you are successful, I will follow.' Well, they lost six years of development time from that decision," Adelson says.

Now, he believes, everyone else needs to do more. "Less than 3% of our floor space is devoted to gaming," Adelson says. "Going forward, no one should be allowed to have more than 5% of their floor

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space for gaming. Non-gaming is the future of Macau."

It is obviously not lost on the canny 82-year-old Adelson that the local and central governments are of a similar view. China's President, Xi Jinping, urged Macau to do more to diversify the economy during his speech on December 20 last year for the anniversary of Macau's return to

Chinese sovereignty. Macau's new Secretary for Finance and the Economy, Lionel Leong, has since then announced a review of the concessions based on their contribution to the diversification of the economy. All of this must be music to the ears of someone who has already invested so heavily in non-gaming facilities and services.

"When I came out to Cotai, I thought I was being exiled," Adelson says. "But then I had a vision to build the equivalent of the Las Vegas Strip. I did things that everyone else has followed."

The investments that followed were listed in detail on the company's earnings call with analysts last week (see box).

He hasn't done all of those investments just for the sake of a corporate social responsibility statement, clearly. Adelson believes investment into all the components of an integrated resort makes good business sense, too.

His confidence is hardly surprising. Having just released impressive fourth-quarter and annual results, with Ebitda up more than 11% in 2014 - despite the slowdown in gaming revenues in the second half - one might expect Adelson to be gloating about the contribution of non-gaming revenues to the bottom line.

## When I came out to Cotai, I thought I was being exiled

He doesn't gloat. Instead, he prefers to highlight what to him seems obvious, that he is positioned in the middle of the world's biggest industry - tourism - on the southern tip of the world's biggest population.

"There is nothing more predictable, and cyclical, than the tourism business," Adelson says. "Development happens, then you get competition, then things start to change. But it always comes back."

"That is what is happening now. The government has intervened to cool things down in the VIP segment, but eventually that intervention will run its course, achieve its effect, and things will start to recover. It's cyclical."

"I can't see anything wrong with the outlook for Macau over the remainder of the concession period, despite what is going on now, and we are very well-placed to capitalize on that with our diverse spread of offerings."

"We have eight years to go. We are not going to let up on anything we are doing. I don't see any reason to change course. We are going to cooperate with the government and do what they want, and I think

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we do a lot more than what our competitors do.”

Adelson seems particularly excited about the outlook for the MICE business in Macau as infrastructure developments come online that will make it easier for international travellers to access Macau.

“There are three places where I have come in and remade with MICE,” Adelson says. “The first was Las Vegas, the second was Macau, and the third was Singapore. The backbone of my strategy has always been the MICE business. Why? Because there isn’t a city in the world that doesn’t want the MICE business. It drives incremental economic development for the community. And there is nobody in this field with greater credentials than our company.”

To be clear, however, with all these achievements, being vindicated doesn’t matter, Adelson insists. It’s not about being right; it’s about doing what is right. It’s about taking care of employees, customers, and the community. And it’s about doing business in a moral way - which includes focusing on strengthening regulatory compliance.

“I am a social liberal,” Adelson says, eliciting a chuckle from this interviewer, who alludes to his well-documented confrontation with labor unions in Las Vegas. “Do you know why those unions cannot get my staff to sign up with them in Las Vegas? Because we treat them so well,” he explains. “The local union boss came out and admitted it recently.”

Staff care and benefits are clearly issues close to Adelson’s heart. He walked into this interview after receiving a rousing ovation in the room next door from several hundreds of the company’s 28,000-strong workforce in Macau, where he announced that their annual bonus would be paid, despite the current slowdown in gaming revenues.

Again, it’s not just about the money, Adelson says, pointing to the fact that more than 26,000 people have passed through the Adelson Center for Education, receiving career-enhancing skills at the company’s expense. So it is more than the facilities he has built that have helped to diversify Macau’s economy. It is also the value he has added to the skill sets of the local population.

Adelson believes the same approach he takes toward staff is the way to deal with suppliers in the wider community. It shouldn’t be the middlemen who get all the economic benefits, he says, but “the farmers”. That is one reason why the company recently held a large-scale meeting with local small and medium enterpri-



ses to discuss ways to improve communication in managing its vast procurement process.

“I believe people should not be abused or exploited unreasonably,” he says.

Similarly, this internal focus has been extended to the company’s efforts to strengthen its legal and regulatory compliance systems. For Adelson,

## There is nothing more predictable, and cyclical, than the tourism business

it is an important moral issue.

“What is the point of doing business the wrong way?” he asks rhetorically. “You can make just as much, if not more, doing things the right way.”

Whereas some people tend to just “focus on the money,” Adelson says he has a “very high moral standard”.

“I was brought up with nothing by my poor parents,” he

says. “Except values. And those included: Never lie, always keep your commitments, and follow the law.”

Regulatory compliance is straightforward for Adelson. “The Department of Justice and Securities and Exchange Commission are very worried about terrorism and money-laundering,” he acknowledges. “In the casino business, in the past we didn’t pay too much attention to where the money came from. But now the government agencies are more focused on it. And so I decided that if they are focused on it, we had better be, too.”

Adelson is adamant that he is not forgoing a financial opportunity by following such a straight moral line with staff, community, and compliance. “We just reported annual Ebitda of more than \$5.5 billion. Last time I checked, that was an awful lot of money,” he says with a wry smile.

That pile of money could grow in other ways, of course, such as by selling assets in Macau. But Adelson is unfazed. “We are growing so fast, why would I sell anything?” he says. “Our retail business grew 23 per cent last year, so why would I still want to do a REIT on the malls?”

Looking much further out, beyond the concession ex-

piry dates, is not something that interests this visionary much. When asked for a view on where Macau is headed over the next 25 years, Adelson notes simply that there is little land left to develop, so unless reclamation takes place on a large scale or Hengqin island is somehow merged with Macau, it is obviously hard to see the integrated resort industry sustaining

the kind of growth rates it saw for the first 20 years of its existence.

Which brings up the delicate topic of whether he himself will be around to see all of the change that will likely come after the concessions expire in 2022.

Adelson doesn’t bat an eyelid. “I’m living like I have no restrictions,” he says. “I have no expectations.”

### SANDS INVESTMENTS

**HOTEL ROOMS:** Upon completion of The Parisian, Sands China’s room supply will increase to nearly 13,000 rooms, representing approximately 45% of the total sleeping room inventory built in Macau.

**SHOPPING:** Over 1.4 million square feet of retail mall offerings on the Cotai Strip, which represents more than 70% of the total retail mall developments in Macau, and which will continue to expand as the rest of Sands Cotai Central (SCC) and Parisian comes online.

**MICE:** Over 1.5 million square feet of meetings, incentive, convention, and exhibition space; which is almost five times larger than the combined total MICE space of the other Macau operators. This will increase further to nearly 2 million square feet as

The Parisian and incremental capacity at SCC is completed. That will continue to represent approximately 75% of the MICE capacity that will exist by the end of the current concession period.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** A 15,000-seat arena that this year will host more than 54 shows from around the world – shows that are televised to billions of people. These shows have included The Voice of China; music superstars such as the Rolling Stones, Rihanna, Alicia Keys and Beyonce; National Basketball Association teams from the US; celebrity events such as the Huading Awards, Asia Pacific Film Festival and the China Music Awards; and, coming up on March 7, China’s first professional boxer, Zou Shiming, fighting for a world title.



João Pedro Lau

ART

**T**HE “Beyond the Surface, Mio Pang Fei Featured Art Exhibition” is taking place at the Albergue SCM until March 1. It showcases a number of featured artworks by the renowned local artist Mio Pang Fei, including “The Water Margin Series” and “Post Calligraphy.”

Mr Mio said that the theme “Beyond the Surface [超以象外 in Chinese]” aims to express that most of the art pieces in the exhibition are not created in a realist style. Instead, they are in the expressionist style.

Recalling his discovery of contemporary painting styles, such as abstract expressionism and impressionism, the veteran artist said that when he was studying art at a mainland university, he was not taught about the history of contemporary painting, due to political reasons. However, out of curiosity, he began to study various contemporary painting styles through reading books in the library, and found “a huge universe” portrayed in those books. However, he was still unable to freely create contemporary art pieces. Therefore, he switched to creating Chinese paintings.

Mio said that, at the beginning, when he was looking into the modern painting styles, he found that some of them were too rough for Chinese culture. Hence, he has integrated some elements of Chinese culture into Western



Mio Pang Fei

painting styles.

“For example, in my abstract expressionist art collection, the ‘Post Calligraphy’ series, I drew some essence from Chinese calligraphy and inserted this into abstract expressionist paintings,” he said.

In terms of his painting style, Mio said that he would describe his pieces as neo-orientalist, which is the integration of Chinese tradition with contemporary painting techniques. “When I came to Macau and organized

some exhibitions, people told me that they did not know how to categorize my art pieces... They see my artworks and do not know what styles they represent. People asked me if I could give a name to describe the style of my art. I told them that if there has to be a name [for his style], it can be called neo-orientalism,” he said.

Mio explained that there had been Western people who tried to learn the artistic styles of the East, mostly by learning from Japanese art. Even though some Western people also tried to learn calligraphy, Mio said that they only “scratched the surface” and that some of their pieces, though containing Eastern artistic features, were still profoundly Western. “My neo-orientalism is different from their work. It requires a deep understanding of the Chinese and Western cultures... We have to review the Chinese culture from the Western perspective and then transform it. The outcome [of the transformation] would [contain elements from] both Chinese and Western culture and, at the same time, [continue to be] captiva-

ting,” said Mio.

Mio moved to Macau from the mainland in 1982, and hosted his first exhibition in the city in 1985. However, not many residents understood his work. Mio’s wife, also a renowned artist named Um Chi Iam, recalled that Mio’s paintings were not appreciated. Mio also revealed that very few local Chinese came to the opening ceremony of his 1985 exhibition. The majority of the audience was Portuguese. “When I was sitting in the venue of my [1985] exhibition, I heard [local Chinese] people say things like ‘What the hell are these [paintings]?’ or ‘These are rubbish,’” he recalled.

In fact, in an interview with Macau Daily for that exhibition, a

reporter told the artist that local Chinese people could not really understand his creations. Mio was then subsequently invited by two local Chinese newspapers to write columns to introduce his different painting styles.

Now approaching the age of 80, Mio said that his physical condition does not allow him to paint as often as he used to. Therefore, he is currently focusing on calligraphy. “Although calligraphy is less physically demanding than painting, it is still a bit tiring for me. I am almost 80 years old now, so there will not be many great changes in my creations,” he said, adding that he does have some ideas on creating new art pieces, but he lacks the physical strength to realize them.

#### MIO TO REPRESENT MACAU IN VENICE

**SEVERAL OF** Mio Pang Fei’s art pieces will showcased at the Macau Exhibition for the 56th Venice Biennale, held between May 9 and November 22. Preparation for the event has entered its final stage, and all works are expected to be shipped to Venice by the end of February.

Mio said that three series of his artworks will be showcased in the exhibition, including those pieces from the “Water Margin” and “Post Calligraphy” series. There will also be re-creations of paintings that Mio was forced to destroy during the Cultural Revolution.

#### CRIME

## PJ busts illegal betting website, detains Korean nationals

**T**HE Judiciary Police (PJ) has detained three South Koreans after cracking down on an illegal sports betting website based in Macau.

The authorities claimed that they received a tip-off, which suggested that illegal activities might be taking place in a residen-

tial apartment in the Villa de Mar building lots, located in the Areia Preta neighborhood. After arriving at the apartment, PJ investigators found an unusual amount of computers in it. The PJ claimed that further investigation revealed that three South Koreans, who are holders

of tourist visas, have been operating an illegal sports betting website, which has been running since November last year.

The authority found that around 100 accounts had been opened in the website, with these being mainly registered by South Koreans. The

website is alleged to receive bets on global football matches and NBA (National Basketball Association) matches. The accumulated bets have reached HKD7 million since the website started operating, with about HKD100,000 worth of bets placed each day.

The PJ speculates that the suspects chose Macau to operate the site because gambling is illegal in most parts of South Korea. The authorities explained that the clients of the website would deposit their bets into bank accounts in Korea, before making their bets online.

The PJ suspect that there are yet more individuals involved in the illegal site who remain at large. It will notify the Korean law enforcement agency through the International Criminal Police Organization.

The three men will be handed over to the Public Prosecution Office, to be charged with operating a crime syndicate and for the illegal exploitation of gaming.

AD



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5:00 am to 5:30 am 9 <sup>th</sup> February, 2015	CTM email platform upgrade	TM e-Mail Services will be temporarily suspended.

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# Crashed TransAsia plane changed engine in Macau

**T**HE crashed ATR-72 TransAsia Airways plane had one engine changed at the Macau International Airport before the new aircraft flew into Taiwan. The Macau Civil Aviation Authority clarified yesterday that the engine replacement was not carried out by a Macau-registered maintenance organization, but was instead overseen by the airline's own staff, sent from Taiwan.

"During the new aircraft's delivery trip to Taiwan, TransAsia Airways applied to the Civil Aviation Authority for landing at



The main fuselage from TransAsia Airways Flight 235 is hoisted away in Taipei, Taiwan

the Macau International Airport on April 19 [2014], due to engine technical reasons," confirmed the Authority.

"During its stay in Macau, the plane's engine replacement was

conducted by a team of maintenance staff that was sent from Taiwan by TransAsia Airways to Macau," it added. "After the completion of repairs, the airplane departed from Macau on

April 21."

According to TransAsia's vice president, Wang Cheng-chung, the original engine was returned to the manufacturer, Pratt & Whitney Canada, after a glitch was found.

A team from ATR, a French-Italian company based in France, has been sent to Taiwan to help in the investigation. The company has sold close to 1,500 aircraft, and has over 180 operators in more than 90 countries. Every 15 seconds, an ATR turboprop takes off somewhere around the world, according to ATR's website. **BY**

## Cape Verdeans organize disaster relief event

The recently created Association for the Promotion of Cape Verdean Culture is today organizing a cultural event to show solidarity toward the residents of Ilha do Fogo, who were affected by the eruption of a volcano. The eruption destroyed two villages and forced the relocation of its 1,500 residents. Participants in today's event at the Hard Rock Café (starting at 11 p.m.) can contribute funds for the disaster relief efforts.

## ANM petitions for constitutional reform

Sulu Sou Ka Hou and several of his New Macau Association (ANM) members have submitted a petition to Chief Executive Chui Sai On, urging him to launch Macau's constitutional reform process as soon as possible. The ANM president said that although the National People's Congress (NPC) has added two more steps into the constitutional reform process, by passing an interpretation to the Basic Law in 2012, it is still up to the CE to initiate the process by submitting a report to the NPC Standing Committee. "Therefore, our message is clear: we hope that Chui Sai On will stop evading his responsibility and confusing the public. Let's tell the residents that the MSAR government has the responsibility to kick-start the process," he declared.

## Airport traffic continues to grow

**P**ASSENGER volume at the Macau International Airport (MIA) surpassed 430,000 passengers in January, representing an increase of 3 percent. Over 4,700 aircraft movements were registered, representing a 6 pct increase compared with the same period last year.

According to a press release issued yesterday, Southeast Asian routes recorded the most significant growth (23 pct) and occupied 44 pct of the overall market. Meanwhi-

le, the Taiwan and mainland China markets recorded slight declines. The airport argues that the fall "is mainly due to the effect of relevant policies of mainland China," as well as the fact that the Lunar New Year was in January last year. Passenger traffic is expected to peak in February.

"Even with the slowdown of growth in the Macau gaming industry, the passenger traffic of MIA still maintains an upward trend so far, due to the attraction of the Macau



tourism market, and the recently added Southeast Asian routes continue to provide support to the entire market," the airport stressed. In the future, the airport's management intends to "continue to monitor market trends, and further strengthen the development of international routes."

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Catarina Pinto

**I**T'S been 41 years since the Philadelphia Orchestra became the first Western ensemble to play in China. Since then, American and Chinese musicians have worked towards building an enduring relationship, which the U.S. orchestra is now hoping can take center stage in Macau.

On Wednesday, members of the Shenzhen, Philadelphia and Macau orchestras came together to deliver an "Ode to Humanity" in a performance held at The Venetian Macao.

The Times spoke to members of the Macau and Philadelphia orchestras ahead of the concert, as both ensembles expressed a desire to further their cooperation and to transform it into a long-term relationship.

"It's a very logical relationship that the Philadelphia Orchestra has with China, because if the Philadelphia Orchestra represents a premier cultural organization, we're coming to the birthplace of culture. China is, in fact, where the idea of the human expression was born," Paul Arnold, second violinist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, recalled.

Craig Hamilton, Philadelphia Orchestra's vice president of Global Initiatives and Government Relations, added, "This is the year in which we began to have a more official relationship with the Macau region, as we've come to perform and have done some community residency activities."

The Philadelphia Orchestra, whose assistant conductor is Macau-born Lio Kuokman, came to the city last summer for a two-night concert, which was supported by The Venetian Macao and the Cultural Affairs Bureau. Having returned this week for a concert and community residency activities, both orchestras stressed that this is the beginning of a journey that will further their relationship, and will tighten ties between American musicians and those who are building musical careers in the Pearl River Delta region.

"We've been working with our Macau friends to solidify that, and do something bigger. Macau could even be a hub city for these types of collaborations," said Mr Hamilton.

As one the "big five" American orchestras, the Philadelphia ensemble acknowledges the need to constantly challenge itself, encouraging its musicians to collaborate and grow stronger from cooperating with other orchestras across the globe.

Mr Hamilton added, "What we are trying to do is to find creative partners who want to think outside the box, and who are willing to experiment and do different things."

From the Macau Orchestra's point of view, such a rela-



Members of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Macao Orchestra and Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra perform "Ode to Humanity"

## MUSIC

# Philadelphia and Macau orchestras tighten ties

**We are trying to find creative partners who want to think outside the box, and who are willing to experiment and do different things**

CRAIG HAMILTON

tionship can help a relatively young ensemble build up its own tradition and sound.

"Last year, we had a concert side by side, and it was very successful (...) The Macau Orchestra is quite young, only about 11 years old. But because of our culture and support for the arts, we want to give tonight's [Wednesday] audience a unique concert, a fusion concert," said Ka Wong, manager of the Macau Orchestra.

Rosie Turner, an Australian national who joined the Macau Orchestra as second trumpet in 2011 upon finishing her degree at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, shared a similar opinion, stressing that the

local ensemble "is very young and takes time to establish a tradition."

That is why collaborations with the Philadelphia Orchestra can help propel musicians in the right direction: "It's very interesting to work with an orchestra that has such a long tradition, and with musicians who are confident of their position and music."

Mr Wong recalled that Wednesday's concert was also a symbol of what Macau is: a cultural melting pot. "It's above all a fusion concert: this is Macau, a city that welcomes lots of cultures. You see a church and you walk ten minutes to find a temple. This is Macau," he stressed.

"Ode to Humanity - A symphony concert with over 100 choristers" brought together musicians from Shenzhen, Philadelphia and Macau, who delivered a seven-part performance that paid tribute to Confucianism and the five elements (Ren, Yi, Li, Zhi, Xin), which represent benevolence, righteousness, etiquette, wisdom and integrity.

Lio Kuokman, who was appointed Philadelphia Orchestra's assistant conductor last summer, acknowledged that incorporating an ancient Chinese belief system into this unique performance is particularly hard to translate into words. "It's something so deep... in our Chinese culture. And, at the same time, we're performing

with Western orchestra music. Artists from different backgrounds come together. I don't think we can get any better with this kind of unique performance," he stressed.

Lio was born in Macau, and his interest for music flourished at quite a young age. He was four years old when a classical music concert sparked a sudden interest in him to become a conductor. As a teenager, Lio moved to neighboring Hong Kong, where he attended the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. Later, from Julliard in New York, he went on to attend Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.

Having worked as an assistant conductor since last summer, Lio is also an inspiration to youngsters who are living in the Pearl River Delta and are eager to pursue careers in music. "Lio became an ambassador for other young people. As human beings, we look for heroes, and, in many ways, someone like Lio becomes a hero and inspiration

for young people," said Paul Arnold.

He added that although Chinese musicians haven't been exposed to Western music with the same intensity as those living in the West, China "now has many of the greatest players in the world."

"Ode to Humanity" was a special opportunity for both orchestras, said Mr Arnold, adding that the American ensemble can help spread the word that "there's talent in China." "That's part of our mission, and that's why we took the 'Ode to Humanity.' It can even become part of our repertoire that we [showcase] around the world," he said.

The performance was supported by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and was part of the Pearl River Delta Residency Week, which is sponsored by The Venetian Macao again this year.

Throughout the Residency Week, the Philadelphia Orchestra will tour around Macau, Shenzhen, and Hong Kong.

## ORCHESTRA PLAYS FOR CARITAS

**RETURNING TO** Macau this week, the Philadelphia Orchestra took part in a series of community events. Three of the ensemble's cellists, John Koen, Derek Barnes and Alex Veltman, performed for elderly citizens at Caritas' care center in Taipa. About 50 elderly residents living

in the center attended the cellist trio's concert. Participating in the Pearl River Delta Residency Week, the Philadelphia Orchestra also exchanged thoughts and experiences with local music organizations, such as the Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra Association and the Macao Band Directors Association.





Commemoration of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Macau S.A.R. Establishment Day

## MGM MACAU • Red Sandalwood Art Exhibition of Old Beijing City Gates

Known as the "Imperial Wood", natural red sandalwood is as rare and precious as gold. MGM MACAU is honored to invite the China Red Sandalwood Museum to present the miniature red sandalwood landscape carvings of two of Beijing's most renowned landmarks - The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests in the Temple of Heaven, and the Yongding Gate, the main gate of the outer city. Requiring exquisite craftsmanship as well as reflecting the majestic style of the original architectural designs, these two landscape carvings on display are truly unique and magnificent works of art.

Along with this special occasion, MGM MACAU will also host China Daily's "One Hundred Photographers Focus on Macao" Exhibition, featuring the extraordinary works of 100 master photographers in capturing the unparalleled allure of this small but world-famous city.

### Schedule:

**20.11.2014—22.03.2015**

From Tuesday to Sunday (Open on Mondays that fall on a public holiday)

Time: 12noon to 9pm

Venue: Level 2 MGM Art Space (via Grande Praça)

**The exhibition is open to the public. Admission is free.**

Co-organizers :

Red Sandalwood Art Exhibition of Old Beijing City Gates

"One Hundred Photographers Focus on Macao" Exhibition

Co-organizers



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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

What To Expect As A Landlord  
Clarifying Costs For Owners / Landlords

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor. Having established the company in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

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info@JMLProperty.com



JULIET RISDON

As a property owner about to lease out your property for the first time, the road ahead may appear straightforward. But are there hidden costs waiting for you?

Experienced landlords know what to expect.

The cost of owning and leasing a property does not end with the purchase price, landlords have numerous costs to consider when renting a property and these can be broken down into 3 different areas;

Property Costs - Improvements and furnishing, negative cash-flow  
Administration Costs - Legal Fees, Agency Fees  
Maintenance Costs - Ongoing maintenance

Property Costs

The first decision to be made by a landlord is what type of rental property they are going to provide. Unfurnished, Furnished, Fully Furnished?

This very much depends on the property type, and who the target audience is of course;

1. Furnishing

Even when a property is 'unfurnished' it usually contains 'white goods' such as a fridge and washing machine.

Furnished means basic furniture such as a sofa, beds, tables and chairs, whilst fully furnished usually means cutlery, plates and cups etc.

The budget will depend on the size of the property and the choice of furnishing level.

nishing level.

Be warned that unfurnished apartments are less popular and take longer to rent, and money saved on furnishing is often a false economy if a unfurnished property sits empty for months.

2. Improvements

Landlords may want to invest some money improving a property. Painting walls, a new TV and new audio equipment are all popular ways of improving an apartment and making it an attractive rental proposition.

3. Cash-Flow

This is often overlooked, but whilst a property is under renovation and without a tenant, the landlord is still paying a mortgage. With no income, this means a negative cash-flow, which must be accounted for when considering the overall cost.

Once a property is rented, if the rent does not cover mortgage payments the cash-flow shortfall must also be taken into account.

Administration Costs

1. Legal & Tax Costs

An often overlooked cost, landlords may have cause to consult lawyers on contractual issues, but they will certainly have to consider rental income tax.

The rental income tax is 10% of the rental revenue received, with a maximum allowance of 10% of the annual rent for maintenance costs.

2. Insurance

The contents of the property are the responsibility of the tenant, and tenants should take out insurance in case of fire or burglary.

However, landlords must purchase insurance to cover the cost of a re-build should something happen to the structure. This is often a bank requirement if the property has a loan.

3. Agency Fees

Agency fees vary from country to country. In Macau, the standard agency fee is equivalent to one month's rent when renting an apartment.

Maintenance Costs

1. Ongoing maintenance

Once a tenant is renting your property, there will be some ongoing maintenance costs.

It is usual that most of these costs will occur during the first 3 months of occupancy. As the tenant moves in and uses the facilities, it soon becomes obvious if something is not working properly.

2. Periodic Maintenance

During the tenancy there will be some periodic maintenance required.

Landlords may be tempted into thinking that all costs should be paid by tenants, but in many cases this is a false economy.

For example, re-gassing air-cons every two years keeps them in good shape and means they will last a lot longer, and therefore do not need to be replaced.

Next Week: The cost of selling

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PROJECT POKER

BY BARRY GREENSTEIN

The Ebola Poker Scare

Recently, I was playing poker at the Commerce Casino and heard a player tell a dealer he would send her to Africa so she can get Ebola. Without skipping a beat, she replied, "When I come back, I'll give you a big wet kiss!" When I tweeted that story, it was supposed to be humorous, but someone replied that the dealer should be arrested for making a death threat. It's a perfect example of how out of hand the Ebola scare was in the U.S.

Ebola dominated news headlines in the United States this fall. Many politicians sounded off about how poorly the situation was handled. It was almost like a scene out of the movie Contagion.

In fact, the Ebola situation was actually handled pretty well. While it is a real danger in Africa where there is little access to good healthcare, no one who remained in the United States during the scare died from the disease. Two people died after coming from Africa and not getting treated here in time to be saved, but the few care workers who were infected are now cured.

So why was everyone making such a fuss about Ebola? The short answer is it was the month before an election. When something scary and newsworthy comes up near an election, everyone who is not in office will blame those currently in power for not doing a good job. Politicians are great at fear mongering and in this case, it made the story blow up.

Those of us who play poker know all about fear mongering. It's the reason we're not playing online poker in the United States

anymore. One casino owner is spending millions of dollars to scare people into believing it's safe to gamble in his casinos, but unsafe to play online poker in the privacy of your own home. Politicians love to scare people by telling them online poker is used to launder money for terrorists. They love to talk about how online poker will lead to an epidemic of underage gambling, when in reality, age verification protocols have made this problem virtually nonexistent. I've had conversations with politicians who try to bring up the underage argument and I'll remind them that I'm a father too. How many of you have had a problem with your kids trying to play online poker? And how many have had a problem with your kids chatting online to strangers that could potentially put them in danger? How many have had to discipline kids for spending too much time on Facebook or other social media platforms? How many have opened up a credit card statement to discover their kids ran up hundreds of dollars of charges for in-app purchases on an iPhone game? As parents, we all have issues with our kids doing stuff online that we don't want them to do, but it's almost never playing online poker.

Now that the U.S. elections are over, we're already hearing a lot less about Ebola. I think it will stay that way. Hopefully, since we don't have another election cycle for two years, we won't have to deal with politicians trying to scare us about Ebola and online poker and we'll again have the freedom to play in the safety and privacy of our own homes.

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# Caesars names ex-Hertz chief Frissora to succeed Loveman

Christopher Palmeri

**C**AESARS Entertainment Corp. named former Hertz Global Holdings Inc. Chief Executive Officer Mark Frissora as its new CEO to succeed Gary Loveman, three weeks after the casino company put its biggest unit in bankruptcy.

Frissora, who left the car-rental agency in September, will join the company immediately as CEO-designate, become a member of the board and take over as CEO on July 1. Loveman will end his term as CEO on June 30 and remain chairman, according to a statement on Wednesday.

Loveman said it was his decision to step down. He is credited with expanding the company's Total Rewards loyalty program, now widely copied in the industry, and establishing Caesars' online gaming business. Loveman failed to gain access for Caesars in Macau, now the world's biggest gambling market, and oversaw the USD30.7 billion buyout of the company in 2008, as the industry entered its worst slump in history.

"After 12 years as CEO, Caesars has accomplished more than what we could have imagined when I arrived in 1998," he said in the statement. "Now, with the company in the midst of a formal restructuring of one of its subsidiaries and a merger between entities, the time is ripe for a transition."



Mark Frissora

Loveman, 54, will continue to oversee the restructuring of the company's largest division, Caesars Entertainment Operating Co., which filed for bankruptcy court protection last month.

Caesars is controlled by the private-equity groups Apollo Global Management and TPG Capital.

Frissora, 59, joins at a time when Caesars, the largest owner of casinos in the U.S. is challenged on several fronts. The company is trying to reduce debt at the operating company, and merge the parent again with Caesars Acquisition Co., a unit that went public in 2013. Caesars is battling some creditors who have sued the company, saying its restructuring efforts have stripped assets from them.

Caesars is also coping with

increased competition and a slowdown in spending by consumers in many of its markets. The company's revenue shrank to \$8.5 billion in 2013 from \$10.1 billion five years earlier.

Frissora joined Hertz as CEO in 2006, after its own leveraged buyout. He supervised an expansion of the business beyond airports as well as the 2012 acquisition of Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group Inc.

He left after the company said its audit committee had found errors in its accounting and after activist investor Fir Tree Partners called for his replacement. The company didn't file reports for 2014 and disavowed the previous three years of results. Before that, Frissora was CEO of Tenneco, the auto-parts maker.

After Caesars completes its bankruptcy court restructuring, the company will likely sell assets such as its non-core properties in Las Vegas, according to Chris Jones, an analyst with Union Gaming Group. Frissora's experience courting business customers at Hertz could aid Caesars' convention business, he said.

Loveman is the rare former college professor to run a major U.S. company. An economist who taught at Harvard Business School, he developed strategies for customer relationship management and consulted with Caesars before joining the business full time. Loveman grew the business through acquisitions and new casinos in Ohio and Maryland. He also focused the company on non-gambling amenities in Las Vegas. **Bloomberg**

## Greece sticks to anti-austerity demands after ECB severs funding lifeline

**G**REECE held fast to demands to roll back austerity as the European Central Bank turned up the heat before Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis was to meet one of his main antagonists, German counterpart Wolfgang Schäuble. The encounter in Berlin comes hours after Greece lost a critical funding artery when the ECB restricted loans to its financial system. That raised pressure on the 10-day-old government to yield to German-led austerity demands to stay in the euro zone. Shares of Greek banks plummeted. The government "remains unwavering in the goals of its social salvation program, approved by the vote of the Greek people," according to a Finance Ministry statement issued overnight. Its aim is "coming up with a European policy that will definitively put an end to the now self-perpetuating crisis of the Greek social economy." The next move is up to Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, who swept to power promising to reverse five years of spending cuts that accompanied 240 billion euros (USD272 billion) of bailout loans. While he's retreated from demands for a debt writedown, he's so far sticking to promises to increase pensions and wages that breach the conditions for financial aid. **Bloomberg**



Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis

## corporate bits

### THE GRAND AT HO TRAM STRIP APPOINTS WORLD GAMING GROUP AS POKER OPERATIONS PARTNER



Shaun McCamley

Ho Tram Project Company Limited and World Gaming Group Limited yesterday announced the signing of an agreement for World Gaming Group (WGG) to create, develop and maintain poker operations at Vietnam's only integrated resort, The Grand Ho Tram Strip.

President of The Grand Ho



Andrew W Scott

Tram Strip, Shaun McCamley said, "The Grand has long been committed to developing and expanding gaming offerings to suit a wide variety of players from around the region and around the globe. In WGG we have found a partner with a legacy dating back almost two decades in Asian poker which is ideally positioned

to drive our growth in this exciting area of the gaming industry. We enter this partnership with a view to bringing a truly world class poker tournament to our truly world class property here in Vietnam."

Chief Executive Officer of World Gaming Group, Andrew W Scott, said, "We're very excited to be partnering with The Grand Ho Tram Strip – it's a brilliant property that is building itself a solid reputation among gamers from around the region. Our partnership here is set to build upon this foundation, providing us a huge platform for growth. You're certainly going to be hearing a lot about the Ho Tram Strip in the future."

### KATY PERRY – THE PRISMATIC WORLD TOUR COMING TO MACAU



International superstar, Katy Perry, announced yesterday that she will bring The Prismatic World Tour to Macau on May 1-2. This tour is presented by The Venetian Macao

and AEG Live, and sponsored by Citi. She will be touring in support of "Prism", which debuted at number one on The Billboard 200. The platinum album has given Katy her biggest ever single with "Roar", while "Dark Horse" just became her lucky 13th Top Ten hit on The Billboard Hot 100.

Tickets for the show go on sale starting February 13.

Citi is the official card of The Prismatic World Tour, and will offer its card members a 3-day presale. This advance purchase period will run from 10am February 10 to 10pm February 12.

"We are absolutely delighted to be able to bring artists of the caliber of Katy Perry to

The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena," said Scott Messenger, Senior Vice President of Marketing, Sands China Ltd. "We are equally thrilled to be able to offer her legion of fans in the region a chance to see what has so far been an electrifying tour. Katy joins an illustrious list of performers that Sands China has brought to Macau as part of our efforts to diversify the cultural landscape of Macau and turn it into a center for leisure and tourism."

"I'm thrilled to bring the Prismatic World Tour to some of my favorite places in Asia, as well as some sensational places I've never been. I can't wait to take in the sights and the culture, and share my music and meet all of the new fans," said Katy.



# Angola's 2013-2017 National Development Plan still in place



Monument paying homage to the Cuban soldiers that fought in Angola's civil war, Malanje

**T**HE government of Angola has concrete measures to address the current drop in oil prices without having to disrupt the national economy, the national director for local budgets of the Ministry of Finance said Tuesday in Luanda.

Lino Quienda Mateus Sebastião made the statement during a lecture organized by the National School of Administration, in order to raise society's awareness of the influence of international oil prices and their consequences for the Angolan

economy.

Mateus Sebastião said the government's targets included in the 2013-2017 National Development Plan remain valid and in place, as they include projects that make the country grow safely, according to Angolan

news agency Angop.

The national director of external marketing of the

## The rationalization of expenditure at all levels should be the government's response

Oil Ministry, Manuel Albino Ferreira said that the rationalization of expenditure at all levels should be the government's response and of families in general to face the current oil price drop on the international market.

The lecture was intended to help increase the efficiency and quality of public and private services to solidify Angola's economic growth and sustainable development.

MDT/Macauhub

# Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, receives first train made in China

**T**HE first train to run on Line 4 of the Rio de Janeiro metro connecting the Olympic Village to the Copacabana game center, is already in the city, three months after being shipped from China, the Chinese media reported.

Built by Changchun Railway Vehicles, of the China CNR Corporation group, this is the first of an order for 15 trains and should start operating at the end of March or early April.

Besides being rust-proof, given the high level of relative humidity in Rio de Janeiro, the new train and those due to be delivered in the future have explosion-proof doors and windows and air conditioning to keep the temperature in carriages at between 20 and 23 degrees Celsius.

At 16 miles long, Line 4 will carry 300,000 passengers a day and its construction, by the Rio Barra consortium, which brings together Odebrecht Infraestrutura, Queiroz Galvão and Carioca Engenharia, is expected to cost 8.5 billion reais (USD3.1 billion).

This metro line, which is still under construction, is scheduled to start operating in time for the 2016 Olympic Games, which will take place in Rio de Janeiro from 5 to 21 August.

MDT/Macauhub

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Ralph Jennings, Taipei

TAIWAN

# Mayday call issued before plane crashed into Taipei river

**M**OMENTS before the TransAsia Airways propjet banked sharply and crashed into a river, one of its pilots said, “Mayday, mayday, engine flameout,” according to a Taiwanese aviation official.

“Engine flameout” refers to flames being extinguished in the combustion chamber of the engine, so that it shuts down and no longer drives the propeller. Causes could include a lack of fuel or being struck by volcanic ash, a bird or some other object. “Mayday” is an international distress call.

At least 32 people on board the ATR 72 were killed and 15 survivors were injured in the crash in Taiwan’s capital, the latest in a series of aircraft disasters befalling Asian airlines. Divers were searching in the river for the remaining 11 people on board, including the two pilots. The plane’s black boxes were found overnight.

Video images of Flight 235’s final moments in the air captured on car dashboard cameras appear to show the left engine’s propeller at standstill as the aircraft turned sharply, its wings going vertical and clipping a highway bridge before plunging into the Keelung River in Taipei minutes after takeoff Wednesday.

An audio recording of the pilot’s communications with the control tower at takeoff and during the brief, minutes-long flight were widely broadcast. A Taiwan Civil Aeronautical Administration official who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed the distress call and its wording yesterday, but did not say how it might relate to a cause for the crash.

Among the injured was Huang Jin-sun, a 72-year-old passenger who said he tried to help others struggling in the river outside the wreckage.

“I saw others are drowning,” he told the ETTV broadcaster

AP PHOTO



Relatives of the victims in a commercial plane crash pray over the wreckage along the river bank in Taipei

from his bed at Tri Service General Hospital in Taipei. “If I did not move quick enough to help them, soon they would be dead.”

He suspected trouble with the flight from the start.

“I felt something was not right after the plane took off,” he said. “I said to the woman next to me to buckle seatbelts, hold on to the seat and cover our heads. I (had) just finished saying it and

then plane went down.”

About 10 Taipei fire agency divers were looking for any more bodies that may be at the cold river bottom. A crane was used to bring the rear section of the plane to the shore Wednesday night. The fuselage of the turbo-propeller jet was largely dismantled by hydraulic rescue tools and now lay alongside recovered luggage.

At midday yesterday, about a dozen relatives of Taiwanese victims arrived at the riverbank in the capital to perform traditional mourning rituals. Accompanied by Buddhist monks ringing brass bells, they bowed toward the river and held aloft cloth inscriptions tied to pieces of bamboo meant to guide the spirits of the dead to rest.

Relatives of some of the 31 passengers from mainland China reached Taipei on a charter flight yesterday afternoon.

Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou visited two Taipei hospitals yesterday to check on the recovery of people injured in the crash and stopped by a morgue to comfort relatives who were examining bodies of crash victims, his office said.

“This kind of air safety inci-

dent not only wrecks countless happy families but also affects trust in our tourism climate among tourists from outside Taiwan,” Ma’s office said in a statement on the visits, a reference to the 31 mainland Chinese passengers. “We must undergo this bitter experience and make all-out improvements.”

Police diver Cheng Ying-chih said search and rescue efforts were being hampered by “zero visibility” in the turbid river and cold water temperatures that were forcing divers to work on one-hour shifts. He said the front of the plane had broken into numerous pieces, making the job all the more difficult.

“We’re looking at a very tough search and rescue job,” Cheng told reporters gathered on the river bank.

The pilots’ actions in the flight’s final moments have led to speculation that they attempted to avoid high-rise buildings by following the line of the river and then banked sharply in an attempt to bring it down in the water rather than crash on land.

Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je praised pilot Liao Chien-tsung as a hero for having avoided

crashing the plane into buildings or major infrastructure.

“We really have to thank that pilot,” Ko said. “He really tried his hardest.”

Both the administration and Taipei-based TransAsia Airways declined to speculate on causes for the crash at about 10:55 a.m. Wednesday near the downtown airport.

The crashed aircraft, less than a year old, had once changed an engine, TransAsia Airways Vice President Wang Cheng-chung told a news conference Wednesday. He said the original one was returned to the manufacturer, Pratt & Whitney Canada, after a glitch was found.

“P&WC gave a complete, brand new engine to TransAsia ... and installed it for us,” Wang said.

The engine was replaced in April before the aircraft went into use, an airline publicist said.

Also among the survivors of Wednesday’s flight was a family of three, including a 2-year-old boy whose heart stopped beating after three minutes under water. He recovered after receiving CPR, his uncle Lin Ming-yi told reporters. **AP**

## SURVIVORS OF TAIWAN AIR CRASH WERE ALL SEATED IN REAR OF PLANE

**SURVIVORS OF** TransAsia Airways Corp. flight GE235 that crashed into a river in Taipei were seated toward the rear of the plane, the section of an aircraft typically considered the safest zone in the event of a crash. Each of the 14 passengers who lived through the Feb. 4 crash had seats in or behind Row 11 of the single-aisle, 72-seat ATR72-600 aircraft, based on a seating chart and survivor list from TransAsia. The 15th survivor was one of two flight attendants on the aircraft. The two pilots of the nine-month old aircraft and an observer in the cockpit are among those killed. Chinese passengers accounted

for 31 of those on board the flight from Taipei to Taiwan’s outlying Kinmen island, with three of those people listed as injured. The three patients at Taipei’s Tri-Service General Hospital are each in a stable condition with minor injuries, Superintendent Yu Jyh-Cherng told Bloomberg News yesterday. One of the patients has facial lacerations and another a dislocated shoulder, he said. The ATR aircraft, a twin-engine turbo-propeller model carrying 53 passengers and five crew, lost contact with the ground within four minutes, the airline’s Chief Executive Officer Peter Chen said.



## NORTH KOREA

# Wary of sanctions, Pyongyang woos money-laundering watchdog

Eric Talmadge, Tokyo

**N**ORTH Korea, long accused by the U.S. and others of engaging in counterfeiting, drug trafficking and even online gambling scams, is trying to repair its international image by courting a little-known but influential body that fights money laundering and terrorist financing.

Most mainstream financial institutions won't go near North Korea, which is isolated by U.N. sanctions over its nuclear weapons program and by accusations it uses illegal activities to prop up its anemic economy.

So many North Korea watchers have been surprised and puzzled to see it engaging with the Asian affiliate of the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, a key body supported by the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Bank and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. North Korea remains one of just two countries on the task force's blacklist, the other being Iran.

In a rare interview this week in Pyongyang with an AP Television News crew, the deputy governor of North Korea's central bank said the country has taken several measures to cooperate with the task force since July, when Pyongyang announced it had joined the 41-member Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering as an observer.

The official, Jang Sam Ryong, said the moves are aimed at countering attempts by Washington to "disgrace the image of our country by abusing this organization."

Jang said North Korea has already taken measures that include the creation of an independent Financial Intelligence Unit, the ratification of an international covenant on financing terrorism and revisions of its penal code.

To "intensify cooperation with the Financial Action Task Force," he said, a National Coordinating Committee on the issue was created in August, made up of members from the Cabinet, law enforcement organizations, the central bank, the Financial Intelligence Unit and the ministries of finance and foreign affairs.

"We thought it was necessary to correct the misunderstanding of member nations brought about by the U.S. and promote mutual understanding

AP PHOTO



Jang Sam Ryong



North Korean bank notes

by responding to the organization's continual requests for negotiation," Jang said.

The task force has welcomed Pyongyang's moves, while noting that they are only a first step.

Gaining observer status in the Asia/Pacific Group isn't a high bar — the group's policy is to maintain contact with non-members to exchange use-

changes to its financial system to satisfy the international community.

"I would imagine the DPRK has joined for two reasons," said James Hoare, a former diplomat who established the British Embassy in North Korea and now teaches at the University of London. "One, to learn what is going on and what others are doing and, secondly, and probably more important, to make sure that its own interests are protected."

The North is undoubtedly wary about growing support in Washington for what's known in policy circles as the weaponization of finance: the aggressive use of sanctions and market-access denial to bring rogue players back in line.

President Barack Obama has vowed retaliation against North Korea for last year's massive hack attack on Sony Pictures, though Pyongyang denies involvement. Congress, meanwhile, recently debated a bill to empower the president to shut the U.S. financial system off to foreign banks that facilitate proliferation of weapons technology, arms trafficking, "kleptocracy" and imports of luxury goods by North Korea's government.

Such proposals have won the day before.

In 2005, Washington took strong action against North Korea by imposing sanctions against a Macau-based bank, Banco Delta Asia, which held about USD25 million in North Korean funds. The move was aimed at cutting off funds for North Korea's top leadership, but created a ripple effect in the global financial system. It was later lifted to facilitate nuclear talks.

Jang said the watchdog organization first requested contact with the North in 2006, while the Banco Delta sanctions were in force, but Pyongyang refused because of the task force's "hostile policies."

David Asher, a senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security who oversaw the George W. Bush administration's strategy against illicit activities and finances in the North, said Washington's action in 2005 was justified and doubts Pyongyang has since changed its ways.

"The U.S. Department of Justice and Secret Service had the Central Bank dead to rights back in 2005 for not only counterfeiting, and printing the dollar, but also its leadership for circulating the notes and laundering money, so it would seem to be a remarkable turn of events," he said in an email to The Associated Press. "I am extremely skeptical of the deputy governor's sincerity."

The task force also is unconvinced. In October, after North Korea had become an observer in the Asia/Pacific Group, the task force reaffirmed the country's "high-risk and non-cooperative" status. It said in a statement that Pyongyang had not systematically addressed the problems and the "serious threat this poses to the integrity of the international financial system."

The task force urged member states to continue to take countermeasures to protect their financial sectors from "ongoing and substantial" risks emanating from the North.

The problems are focused on money laundering. The U.S. re-

moved North Korea from its list of state sponsors of terrorism in 2008.

North Korea is a rare beast in the world of international banking and finance — it's almost invisible.

Running a business, or even an embassy, in the country often requires physically carrying large amounts of cash across the border to pay rent and salaries. Though the U.S. action in 2005 was lifted, the stigma effect it created turned North Korea into kryptonite for most banks, which avoid transactions with the country even when they are not expressly banned.

North Korea is not a member of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund or the Asian Development Bank — meaning it has essentially no access to the potentially huge financial benefits cooperation with those institutions could offer. Wary that even data as basic as its GDP will be used as a weapon by its enemies or critics, the country simply doesn't report them.

Observers do not expect that to change, but they see strong reasons for North Korea to raise its profile in the global finance world.

"From Pyongyang's perspective, it is a highly rational — even compelling — move," said Lee Sung-yoon, of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. "By becoming an observer, North Korea will be better positioned to deny and deflect charges of money laundering, garner sympathy, and persuade its enablers like China to come to its defense." **AP**

**■ In 2005, Washington took strong action against N Korea by imposing sanctions against a Macau-based bank, Banco Delta Asia, which held about USD25 million in N Korean funds**

ful information. But becoming a full member would require North Korea to participate in a mutual peer review system to determine its level of compliance with international standards.

Experts doubt that the North, officially known as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, intends to make dramatic



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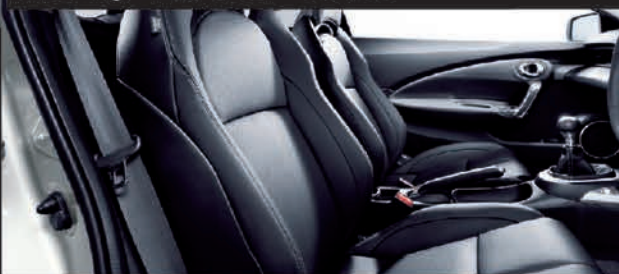
**CR-Z**



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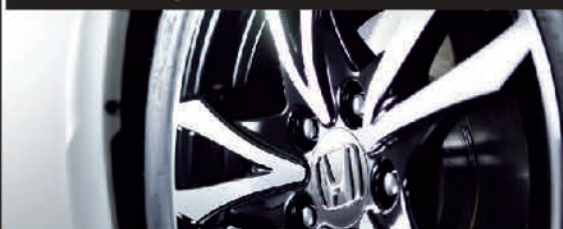
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## ARGENTINA

# President's tweets on Chinese accent cause furor

AP PHOTO



Argentinean President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner delivers a statement

**EMBATTLED** Argentine President Cristina Fernandez, while on a state visit to China seeking badly needed investment, caused a furor Wednesday by joking about her hosts' accents on Twitter.

Fernandez tried to mimic a Chinese accent by switching "r's" with "l's" in a tweet in Spanish that translates as: "Did they only come for lice and petroleum."

A few minutes later, she added: "Sorry, the levels of ridiculousness and absurdity are so high they can only be digested with humor."

The tweets came as she met with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

As of late Wednesday, there was no official response from China about the comments by Fernandez, a prolific tweeter who has 3.53 million followers.

But that didn't stop the Twitverse in the South American country and beyond from exploding with criticism of what many considered a racist tweet.

"Cristina Fernandez's lack of tack and respect is incredible," wrote @FaundezLafarga. "She

goes to China looking for (economic) agreements and she makes fun of their accents."

@GuyChazan wrote: "Faux pas in China. Really, this sort of joke went out of fashion in the 70s."

Since Twitter is blocked in China and no Chinese state media have reported on it, the accent-mimicking went largely unnoticed by the Chinese public.

For a handful of Chinese who read about it in foreign media, some brushed it off as a joke with no ill intent, while others challenged Fernandez to speak proper Chinese. There was no immediate response from Chinese diplomats.

The latest controversy comes as Fernandez struggles to distance herself from the mysterious death of prosecutor Alberto Nisman, who was found dead in his bathroom Jan. 18, hours before he was to elaborate on allegations that Fernandez helped shield Iranians connected to the 1994 bombing of a Jewish community center that killed 85.

Fernandez has vehemently denied the accusations, saying Argentina had nothing to gain from such a deal. She has suggested that rogue elements in

the intelligence services ordered Nisman's hit, but has not elaborated.

Earlier this week, just as her visit to China was getting underway, investigators looking into Nisman's death said they had found a copy of an arrest warrant for Fernandez that Nisman had written up. While he never presented it, the revelations brought Fernandez back to the center of the case.

On Wednesday, relatives of victims of the bombing marched with family members of the victims of Argentina's military dictatorship and other national tragedies to demand an end to impunity and the truth about what happened to Nisman.

Hundreds of demonstrators gathered in front of Congress in Buenos Aires with the march ending in the famed Plaza de Mayo.

"The demand for truth and justice that relatives of the AMIA (Jewish center) victims are making is the same as what we want for the 30,000 people who disappeared" during the dictatorship, said Nora Cortinas, who co-founded the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo human rights group. **AP**

## UKRAINE

# Kerry travels to Kiev as US weighs sending arms

Matthew Lee  
Diplomatic Writer, Kiev

**U.S.** Secretary of State John Kerry is in Ukraine to show support for the embattled government as the Obama administration weighs sending arms to Kiev to help it fight Russian-backed separatists.

Amid a fast-moving flurry of international diplomacy, Kerry arrived in Kiev yesterday bringing with him a modest amount of USD16.4 million in new U.S. humanitarian aid, but also the potential for lethal weaponry that the country's leaders say they desperately need to defend themselves and turn back renewed rebel pushes in the east.

Officials with Kerry said he would discuss those needs with Ukrainian officials as well as new initiatives to resurrect a moribund ceasefire and resume a political dialogue to end the conflict.

Kerry is one of three top administration officials in Europe this week with a primary focus on Ukraine. Outgoing Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel is already in Belgium attending NATO meetings in Brussels, where Vice President Joe Biden is expected today. Biden and Kerry will join forces in Germany at an international security conference in Munich, expected to be dominated by Ukraine and western tensions with Russia.

On Wednesday, President Barack Obama's pick to run the Pentagon told Congress he is very inclined to support lethal weapons transfers to Ukraine.

The comments were the latest signal the White House

may reverse its opposition to arming Ukraine to help its struggling military repel Moscow-backed insurgents — despite concerns that might escalate the conflict, turn it into an overt proxy war with Russia and set Washington at odds with its European partners.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, a key ally in pressuring Russia to end its support for the rebels, has said there is no military solution to the crisis and that Germany will not supply weapons to Ukraine.

In Ukraine, President Petro Poroshenko said his government badly needs lethal aid to help repel the separatist attacks in the conflict that has left 5,300 people dead. And, he said he was convinced it would be coming.

Poroshenko was to meet with Kerry yesterday, and then later in the week with Biden and Merkel when all four will be at an international security conference in Munich. In what is likely to be a tense meeting, Kerry also plans to see Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov at the Munich conference.

Despite the presence on the continent of the trio of top Obama national security aides, the White House and State Department both said any announcement of a change in policy would not likely happen this week.

While in Europe, Biden and Kerry will also discuss with Poroshenko and others increased financial assistance to Ukraine as well as significantly increasing sanctions on Russia if it does not change course. **AP**

AP PHOTO



US Secretary of State John Kerry walks off the plane at Kiev Boryspil International Airport in Kiev



TV canal macau



FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:10	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
19:00	TDM Talk Show (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:20	Revenge S1
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Movie
01:00	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:50	RTPi Live

SATURDAY

10:30	Documentary Serie
10:45	Young Adult
11:40	Conch Bay
12:30	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
19:00	Contest
19:50	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:10	Drama
22:10	Situation Comedy
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:00	RTPi Live

SUNDAY

11:00	Sunday Mass
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Animation
15:25	Miscellaneous
16:20	Miscellaneous
16:50	Miscellaneous
17:05	Miscellaneous
18:40	Miscellaneous
19:35	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Welcome to our World
23:00	TDM News
23:30	News
23:45	Miscellaneous
00:40	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:15	RTPi Live

offbeat

AUSTRALIAN V8 CHAMP JAMIE WHINCUP BITTEN BY SNAKE

Australian motor racing champion Jamie Whincup has been bitten by a snake at Sydney’s Taronga Zoo during a pre-season photo shoot for the domestic V8 Supercars series.

Whincup, a six-time V8 champion, was being photographed with the series trophy and a non-venomous, one-meter black-headed python when the snake latched onto his hand. It took handlers about two minutes to force the snake to let go.

Whincup said “It was pretty painful. We pushed the friendship a little bit. We decided to have the snake round the championship trophy and we moved around a few times and it wanted to get out of there.”

Whincup said water had to be poured over the snake to encourage it to relax its grip. He wasn’t injured, saying “I live to fight another day.”

cinema



CINETEATRO

5 FEB - 11 FEB



JUPITER ASCENDING\_

ROOM 1  
(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.45 pm  
(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Andy Wachowski, Lana Wachowski  
Starring: Channing Tatum, Mila Kunis, Eddie Redmayne  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 127min



GANGNAM BLUES\_

ROOM 2  
2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Yoo Ha  
Starring: Lee Min-ho, Kim Rae-won  
Language: Korean (Chinese/English)  
Duration: 135min



THE CON ARTIST\_

ROOM 3  
2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Kim Hong-sun  
Starring: Kim Woo-bin, Lee Hyun-woo, Ko Chang-seok  
Language: Korean (Chinese/English)  
Duration: 116min

MACAU TOWER

5 FEB - 18 FEB

JUPITER ASCENDING\_

2.30, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Andy Wachowski, Lana Wachowski  
Starring: Channing Tatum, Mila Kunis, Eddie Redmayne  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 127min



this day in history



1971 MAN PLAYS GOLF ON THE MOON

The first manned mission to the Moon since the near-disastrous Apollo 13 is on its way home after two successful moon walks.

There was just one moment of serious concern: as Apollo 14 left its orbit around the Earth for the Moon, a docking probe failed to work, putting the mission’s ability to return in jeopardy.

In the event, a manual docking went perfectly.

There were also light-hearted moments. At the end of today’s moonwalk, Alan Shepard became the first man to hit a golfball on the Moon, using a ball and golf club head he had smuggled on board inside his space suit.

He hit two balls just before lift-off, and drove them, as he put it, “miles and miles and miles”.

Overall, the mission was pronounced a major success.

The lunar module, known as Antares, landed within 87 feet (26 metres) of its target point just north of the rim of the Fra Mauro crater - the site originally planned for the aborted Apollo 13 mission.

It was chosen for its exposed rock formations, part of a geological feature covering much of the near side of the Moon.

Shepard and his colleague, Edgar Mitchell, were able to go further from the lunar module than before with their “modularised equipment transporter” - a cart which allowed them to carry equipment and store lunar samples.

The cart also meant they could bring back more moon rock than ever before - about 100 lbs (45 kg) compared to the 75lbs (34 kg) brought back by Apollo 12.

They included samples of very old, crystalline “continental” rocks, almost white, which may be up to 4,500 million years old.

In all the pair spent more than nine hours exploring the Moon - longer than in any other mission.

One of their main scientific aims - a climb to the rim of the 400-foot (120 meters) high Cone Crater - had to be called off after Shepard registered a heartbeat of 150.

Mitchell also found the climb difficult, saying it was “a darn hard climb to try rapidly. The soil is a bit thin and mushy and these suits are bulky”.

The next mission, Apollo 15, is scheduled for launch in July. Nasa plans to send a lunar rover car with the astronauts to send them even further away from base in exploring the Moon

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

**Apollo 14** was the first of the so-called scientific missions to the Moon.

Having conquered the technical difficulties of landing a man on the Moon and returning him to Earth, Nasa scientists could now concentrate on collecting data about the origins of the Moon itself.

The next mission, Apollo 15, brought back more of the ancient white crystallised rock, including the Genesis Rock, thought to date back to the formation of the Moon thousands of millions of years ago.

The last three of the original 20 Apollo missions were cancelled, and the last lunar module, Apollo 17, landed in December 1972.

In January 2004 however, US President George Bush announced American astronauts would return to the Moon by 2020 as the launching point for journeys further into space. Edgar Mitchell retired from Nasa in 1972 and founded the Institute of Noetic Sciences, an organisation dedicated to the study of parapsychology, in California.

Alan Shepard, who was also the first American in space in 1961, retired from Nasa in 1974 and died in July 1998 at the age of 74.



YOUR STARS

**Aries**

**Mar. 21-Apr. 19**

You are likely to lose yourself in the details today — but don't panic! It just means that you've got a lot going on. Try to delegate and see what comes up next. You can handle this!

**Taurus**

**April 20-May 20**

Your gentle good energy is just right for today's adventures — in fact, you may finally be able to show the right level of affection for that one friend or new love interest. Go for it!

**Gemini**

**May 21-Jun. 21**

You need to deal with a friend or colleague who is absolutely full of good advice today. You should try to just be polite and ignore what doesn't sound right, but expect a barrage!

**Leo**

**Jul. 23-Aug. 22**

You just can't seem to get yourself motivated today — but that just means that you need to play it cool. Lie low and take care of the small stuff until your vibrant personal energy comes flooding back in a few days.

**Virgo**

**Aug. 23-Sept. 22**

You're even more organized than usual today — and that's saying quite a lot! You may find that you're better able to deal with work projects or to take care of a vexing problem at home.

**Libra**

**Sep.23-Oct. 22**

Your listening skills are pumped up today — and you may pick up a clue as a result. Don't act too hastily, though, because you've got to piece this together bit by bit. Take your time!

**Scorpio**

**Oct. 23 - Nov. 21**

A good friend drops by or surprises you with an email — though you've either been feuding or just out of touch for some time. Pick up where you left off and you're sure to prosper.

**Sagittarius**

**Nov. 22-Dec. 21**

A little detail is sticking out and making problems for you and your people — so you need to deal with it quickly! It's a great time to step up and make sure that your friends are on board.

**Capricorn**

**Dec. 22-Jan. 19**

You accidentally uncover a new fact that throws you for a loop — in a good way! You may be pleasantly surprised over someone's positive opinion of you, or you may learn of a new job opportunity.

**Aquarius**

**Jan. 20-Feb. 18**

People aren't showing all their cards — maybe you should do the same. It's a hard day for social interactions, and you may be left guessing time and time again. Things should pick up pretty soon.

**Pisces**

**Feb.19-Mar. 20**

Don't come down too hard on that new person — their ideas may not be quite fully formed. Let go of your innate skepticism for a bit and see where this path could lead you. Expect a surprise!



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

7								9
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			3	2				1
	3	1				4		9
			5	1	3			
6		7				5	3	
	4			3	6			
				5	1	9		3
	6							2

**Easy+**

				9	8			5
5	7	9						
				5		1		2
	6	5			2	3		
	4		1		9		5	
		1	3			6	4	
7		2		1				
						5	6	1
1			9	8				

**Medium**

8				3	6	4		
6		9	1					
			4			1		2
9							7	
	7		6	8	2		3	
	5							6
4		5			9			
				3	6		1	
		2	7	1				8

**Hard**

3			1					6
	8		2					
	2			5	4			
		7				1		
						3		
1				6	5		4	
							2	
		6						

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	-4	8	clear/cloudy
Harbin	-14	-3	clear
Tianjin	-2	8	clear/smoggy
Urumqi	-12	-5	clear/cloudy
Xi'an	-3	7	cloudy
Lhasa	-7	10	clear
Chengdu	2	11	cloudy
Chongqing	5	13	overcast/cloudy
Kunming	3	16	cloudy
Nanjing	-2	9	cloudy
Shanghai	1	8	clear/cloudy
Wuhan	-3	11	clear
Hangzhou	-1	9	clear/cloudy
Taipei	9	15	overcast
Guangzhou	7	17	cloudy
Hong Kong	12	16	cloudy

WORLD			
Moscow	-8	-6	light snow
Frankfurt	-4	-1	light snow
Paris	-1	1	sleet
London	1	4	drizzle
New York	-6	2	sleet/light snow

CROSSWORDS

**ACROSS:** 1- Roseanne, once; 5- Chits; 9- Half a fly; 12- Sheltered, nautically; 13- Rub vigorously; 15- Gola of Israel; 16- Horse of mixed color; 17- Gaze fixedly; 18- Director Preminger; 19- Chest of drawers; 21- Tardiness; 23- Enclose; 25- Towel word; 26- Rocker Ocasek; 29- About, in memos; 31- Taoism founder; 35- \_\_\_ standstill; 36- Sharp; 38- \_\_\_ boom; 39- Obstructs; 41- Accustom; 43- Taboo; 44- For all to hear; 46- Prepares for publication or release; 48- Bus. card info; 49- Copper-zinc alloy; 51- Reverberate; 52- End for Siam; 53- Asian cuisine; 55- Assistant, particularly to heads of state; 57- Wing or flipper, maybe; 61- Westerns; 65- Comics canine; 66- Chart anew; 68- Inter \_\_\_; 69- First place?; 70- Mother-in-law of Ruth; 71- Horn sound; 72- Nine-digit ID; 73- Final Four org.; 74- Web locale;

**DOWN:** 1- Cutting remark; 2- Baseball family name; 3- The back end of something; 4- Continue a subscription; 5- The act of issuing; 6- Fall mo.; 7- Russian range; 8- Twilled fabric of silk; 9- Head of France; 10- Poses; 11- Archer of myth; 14- East Indian pepper plant; 15- Rainy season; 20- "Tosca" tune; 22- Historical chapters; 24- Dried plum; 26- Capital on the Atlantic; 27- Author Calvino; 28- Billiards shot; 30- Chopin composition; 32- Govt. security; 33- Trig functions; 34- French school; 37- "All My Children" vixen; 40- 11- or 12-year-old, e.g.; 42- Republic in E Africa; 45- "James and the Giant Peach" author; 47- Fizzy drink; 50- Monument; 54- That is to say...; 56- Les \_\_\_-Unis; 57- Adversaries; 58- Probability; 59- Nothing, in Nantes; 60- Univ. hotspot; 62- "The Time Machine" people; 63- Public disturbance; 64- Fill to surfeit; 67- Doctors' org.

**Yesterday's solution**

W	E	S	H	B	A	L	E	V	S	U	A	L			
A	L	L	A	O	R	A	L	N	I	T	R	O			
N	O	O	T	L	E	I	S	R	E	N	A	L			
K	I	T	C	H	E	N	C	A	B	I	N	E	T		
T	A	S	E	R	O	E	P	A	R						
T	A	S	E	R	O	E	P	A	R						
E	R	R	O	R	E	L	L	O	K	R	A				
N	O	T	W	I	T	H	S	T	A	N	D	I	N	G	
S	N	E	E	R	O	O	S	E	R	I	E				
E	I	S	T	E	N	P	H	S	A	E	S				
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L	O	C	U	S	C	L	A	S	S	I	C	U	S		
R	A	N	A	T	L	A	S	T	N	O	S	E			
E	M	I	L	E	A	L	E	E	G	R	E	W			
O	A	T	E	N	P	A	C	I	A	P	E	A	R	I	N

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# British Touring invited to join Macau GP



The Grand Prix organizers are looking for a replacement to the WTCC race

A report by AUTOSPORT has revealed that the British Touring Car Cham-

pionship (BTCC) was contacted by the Macau Grand Prix organizers regarding the possibility of having BTCC

teams and cars contesting on Macau's Guia circuit as part of the annual Macau GP races.

Macau had hosted the World Touring Car Championship (WTCC) finale since 2005. However, it was announced at the end of last year that the WTCC would not be returning to Macau in 2015 after the decision was made by the FIA World Motorsport Council meeting in Doha, Qatar. Instead, the final race of the championship will take place in Qatar.

Alan Gow, the BTCC series director, confirmed that Macau has been in touch with TOCA, which is one of the major motorsport event organizers in the United Kingdom. "They are looking at various options and the BTCC cars are one of those options," he said.

Gow said that he was asked whether BTCC teams would be interested in racing in Macau. After he contacted the teams, Gow said that most of them gave him an affirmative reply.

"The reaction has been positive but I think they will only bring a handful of cars. The organizers haven't had direct contact with the teams, so they are just fishing around to see what is available," he said.

The report also mentioned that while the teams have to attract the required running budget, the Macau organizers have offered to provide financial support for the expenses on freight and travel.

David Bartrum, from one of the English motor racing teams, Motorbase Perfor-

mance, commented that the Macau GP would be popular if their expenses were to be covered.

"It is a lovely idea," he said. "It would be a good way of generating extra budget during the closed season. They have given us some idea about what they would help with in terms of costs and it looks very appealing."

Some weeks after the last Macau GP was held, WTCC's general manager, François Ribeiro, commented on the reason why Macau was dropped from the WTCC calendar: "As much as the Macau Grand Prix has helped the WTCC to get a first taste of racing in Asia, we now have a solid broadcast base in the region and a presence in China, Japan and now Thailand," he said. "We take this opportunity to thank the Macau Grand Prix organizers for having hosted us since 2005. The WTCC has matured over its 10 years of existence, and we have therefore decided to look for new alternatives in a new region that can open up new markets, better TV schedules, and be closer to our home base, allowing the material to return quicker to Europe."

João Costa Antunes, coordinator of the Macau Grand Prix Committee, said later that it was "normal," and that the GP Committee would look for another race to replace the WTCC. **MDT**

## AP GLOBAL FOOTBALL 10

# Wolfsburg team of the week after thrashing Bayern

Jack Bezants, London

WOLFSBURG has taken team of the week honors in the Associated Press Global Football 10 after thrashing Bundesliga leader Bayern Munich 4-1.

It was the first league match of 2015 in Germany, with teams returning to action after a winter break. Wolfsburg's emphatic victory reduces Munich's lead to eight points at the top of the German league.

"Wolfsburg re-opened the Bundesliga season in electric fashion, inflicting Bayern Munich's first defeat of the campaign and scoring as many goals against them in one night (four) as they'd conceded in the entire first half of the season," Sam Tighe of Bleacher Report in England said.

Arsenal takes the runner-up spot after a 5-0



rout of Aston Villa maintained its pursuit of a place in the top four of the Premier League.

Mesut Ozil inspired Arsene Wenger's side with an assist for Olivier Giroud's opener with a sublime back-heeled flick into the striker's path from the halfway line before adding the second goal himself.

"With a goal and a magical assist, Ozil regained his highest level of

football to guide Arsenal to win 5-0 against Aston Villa," Tito Puccetti of ESPN in Argentina said.

Real Madrid is third after coming from behind to beat Real Sociedad 4-1 and ranks a place above its fierce rival and last week's winner Barcelona, which also fought back to beat Villarreal 3-2.

Torino takes fifth after demolishing Sampdoria 5-1 in Serie A and the top 10 is completed by

Atletico Madrid, Chelsea, Tottenham, Manchester United and Liverpool.

Madrid striker Karim Benzema is player of the week for scoring a spectacular double to propel his side to victory over Sociedad. Kevin De Bruyne, who also notched two in the second half of Wolfsburg's win, is second.

"To pull off a win like Wolfsburg's over Bayern Munich, it takes a special performance," voter Tom Timmermann of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in the United States explained. "There were some hat tricks out there that normally would have fought for top honors, but Wolfsburg's win was so stunning, and overwhelming, it called for special attention."

Lionel Messi takes third for netting Barcelona's winner in the 3-2 victory over Villarreal as it remained a point behind

Madrid.

"I keep having some doubts about Luis Enrique's ability to manage a top club and Barcelona's dressing room problems are proof of his limits to deal with big players," Aurelio Capaldi of RAI Sport in Italy said. "But it's a fact he has got eight wins in a row. Not so easy, even if you can count on Messi and Neymar."

Fabio Quagliarella en-

ters the poll in fourth for his hat trick in Torino's victory while Bas Dost, who scored Wolfsburg's other two goals against Bayern, is fifth.

Mario Mandzukic is sixth for scoring twice in Spanish league champion Atletico's 3-1 win against Eibar.

Ozil is seventh while Harry Kane, Jonathan Walters and last week's winner Neymar occupy the remaining places. **AP**

## AP GLOBAL FOOTBALL 10

### PLAYERS:

1. Karim Benzema, 105 points.
2. Kevin De Bruyne, 104.
3. Lionel Messi, 75.
4. Fabio Quagliarella, 62.
5. Bas Dost, 55.
6. Mario Mandzukic, 54.
7. Mesut Ozil, 51.
8. Harry Kane, 43.
9. Jonathan Walters, 40.
10. Neymar, 37.

### TEAMS:

1. Wolfsburg, 132.
2. Arsenal, 103.
3. Real Madrid, 85.
4. Barcelona, 76.
5. Torino, 50.
6. Atletico Madrid, 48.
7. Chelsea, 37.
8. Tottenham, 36.
9. Manchester United, 32.
10. Liverpool, 30.



opinion

Bizcuits

Leanda Lee



Now a Resident, Now You're Not

One of the issues close to the hearts of many of us is our Macau residency status. On the flippan side, there is that secretly held little elitist pleasure of lining up in the much shorter Macau residents' queue at immigration. But the extraordinarily time-consuming process of obtaining and maintaining that status has become more difficult over recent years.

The media reports this week of the commencement of an appeal by an Australian family to have the cancellation of their temporary residency overturned (MDT 3 & 4 February) has elicited a reminder from the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute. As is the norm in responses from administration, the institute justifies its actions by telling us 'what' the law is, not 'why' it exists. They remind temporary residents to communicate changes in 'legal status' to the institute.

In effect, that one regulatory clause grants the institute almost total discretionary power to rescind its original decision to grant temporary residency. IPIM advised MDT this week that the regulation demands "the applicant pledge that s/he will maintain the legal status after the application and/or during possessing of temporary residency status. In cases of the termination or changes in the legal status as mentioned above, the temporary residency approval should be cancelled". The institute continues making reference to the regulation saying there are (and fortunately) exceptions if a) the applicant notifies IPIM within 30 days and if b) "any new legal status established by the applicant [is] accepted by the concerned authorities" – more administrative discretion.

So, if the applicant doesn't advise a change in 'legal status' (this also applies to the accompanying family) within 30 days, the family should be prepared to pack their bags, or ready themselves for an expensive and drawn-out process through the courts. Even if one gets past the fear of the uncertain and ever-shifting outcomes of dealing with Macau's bureaucracy and actually communicates a change, the issue here is knowing what should be communicated. Many people follow the old adage that one should tell governments only as much as they need to know, but here we aren't told what they need to know, and thus explains the existing tension between applicant fear and reluctance, and institutional control.

The definition of 'status' has never been made clear. Applicants are not informed of the specific criteria used in the ultimate decision to grant their temporary residency. IPIM however has now offered examples of changes in status such as "alteration of job, position, salary or breach of employment contract". But these are just examples and it is still left open to interpretation and administrative discretion. According to these examples, any upwardly mobile self-respecting professional will have a number of changes in status during the 7 years of temporary residency required before permanency; raises and promotions, at least. How many temporary residents haven't report their most recent salary increase? Does the institute have the power and authority to cancel temporary residency approval because of this?

Applicants could reasonably expect that if still employed with the same company/industry and earning enough to sustain a family regardless of changes to salary or job description, the change would be immaterial. If the new status would have resulted in the same initial decision to grant temporary residency, then why would a lack of communication constitute such a great misdemeanour? That a failure by an applicant to inform regardless of the content of the communication can negate the institute's well considered initial decision to determine the worthiness of an applicant is a nonsense.

The question is not in the application of the regulation but the applicability of the regulation. Regulations must fit a purpose and have an intent – what's the purpose behind cancelling the temporary residency of such families? Punishment for immaterial non-compliance with a logically inconsistent regulation? (Sorry, but Management and/or Technical Personnel applicants are paid to think.)

There are bad policies, outdated laws and arbitrary red-tape regulations, and for an administration to attempt to explain its actions through affirming its own compliance with a regulation is no evidence that it is fulfilling its greater purpose.

THE BUZZ CALIFORNIA APPEALS RULING THAT ALLOWED FOIE GRAS AGAIN

California filed an appeal of a federal judge's ruling that blocked the state's ban on the sale of foie gras – a delicacy that gourmets consider heaven and animal rights groups call hell. Attorney General Kamala D. Harris gave notice that she will appeal last month's ruling, which barred California from enforcing its ban on selling fatty goose or duck liver produced out of state. The ban took effect in 2012. A Hermosa Beach restaurant called Hot's Kitchen, and foie gras producers in New York and Canada challenged the ban. The judge ruled state law

doesn't trump federal poultry regulations. It remains illegal for California farmers to force-feed birds, which is how the delicacy is made. The restaurant and foie gras producers said they are confident the ruling will be upheld. "The decision was based on the simple fact that, in the field of meat and poultry, federal law is supreme. California does not have the right to ban wholesome, USDA-approved poultry products, whether it's foie gras or fried chicken," said a statement released by attorney Michael Tenenbaum.



Thomas Gainsborough's "Portrait of Grace Dalrymple Elliott" is seen at left during the exhibition titled The Frick Collection - Art Treasures from New York

Masterpieces from New York's Frick on show at Mauritshuis

How do you say "thank you" to a museum that loaned you Johannes Vermeer's "Girl With a Pearl Earring" and Carel Fabritius' "The Goldfinch" for a blockbuster exhibition?

New York's Frick Collection is displaying its gratitude to the Mauritshuis by sending over a trove of masterpieces of its own for the first art show in a new wing for temporary exhibitions that was added to the intimate Hague museum during its recent renovation.

Among 36 works that crossed the Atlantic to the Mauritshuis are Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres' striking portrait of the doe-eyed Comtesse d'Hausson-

ville, gazing out of the canvas, her chin resting on her left index finger.

Other highlights include John Constable's "The White Horse" and Jacob van Ruisdael's "Landscape With a Footbridge," a 1652 masterpiece that was restored especially for the exhibition titled The Frick Collection-Art Treasures from New York that opened yesterday and runs until May 10.

It is not only paintings that have made their way to the Mauritshuis, a historic mansion in the center of The Hague that reopened last year after major reconstruction and extension work.

Eight drawings, including by Goya and Rubens,

also are part of the exhibit, as are some of the Frick's finest pieces of sculpture such as Francesco Laurana's 15th-century bust of Beatrice van Aragon. The show also includes applied arts including a Sevres vase and an ornately decorated clock.

Landmark works from the Mauritshuis, including Vermeer's "Girl With a Pearl Earring" and paintings by Rembrandt, traveled around the world during the renovation, landing at the Frick from October 2013 to early 2014 in an exhibition that had visitors queuing for hours in freezing weather to catch a rare glimpse outside the Netherlands of the Dutch museum's masterpieces. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Lionel Cironneau



A woman puts the final touches on a giant figure showing French President Francois Hollande, left, and his former companion Valerie Trierweiler, during preparations for the 131st Nice carnival parade, yesterday, in Nice, southeastern France

Station	Air quality
Roadside	55-75 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	50-70 Moderate
Ambient	40-60 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

**N KOREA** A little-known but influential body that fights money laundering and terror financing has an unlikely new suitor: North Korea, a country long accused by the U.S. and others of using illegal activities to prop up its anemic economy. More on p12

**JORDAN** calls for a decisive battle against the Islamic State group, declaring that "this evil can be defeated," after the militants burn a Jordanian pilot in a cage and gleefully broadcast the horrific images on outdoor screens in their stronghold. Waves of revulsion wash across the Mideast, offering an opening to Jordan's king to rally support from an up-to-now skeptical public that bombing IS targets is a national and not just a Western interest.



**CAMEROON** Three militaries, using ground troops and warplanes, fight Boko Haram on at least two fronts with hundreds of the Islamic fighters reported dead as the conflict takes on a growing international perspective. Boko Haram fighters have shot or burned to death about 90 civilians and wounded 500 in ongoing fighting in a Cameroonian border town near Nigeria, officials in Cameroon said yesterday.

**USA** A San Francisco man has been convicted of creating and operating the underground website Silk Road as a drug-selling haven. The decision after little more than three hours of deliberation was a swift repudiation of 30-year-old Ross William Ulbricht lawyer's claims that Ulbricht abandoned the site soon after he created it.

**UKRAINE** In a new push for peace, the leaders of France and Germany headed yesterday to Kiev and Moscow with a proposal to end the fighting in eastern Ukraine. The surprise move appeared aimed at heading off U.S. considerations of giving Ukraine lethal weapons, something Europeans fear could spark even wider hostilities. More on p15