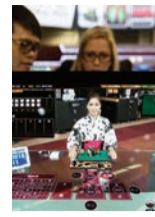


MACAU DAILY TIMES FEATURES IN DOW JONES' FACTIVA



BRAWL INSIDE NEWLY OPENED RESTAURANT

A brawl occurred on Friday at the recently opened Portugalia restaurant. The police labeled the case an "ordinary labor dispute" **P2**



CLAMP DOWN ON ILLEGAL ONLINE GAMBLING

An unusually severe assault on China's illegal online gambling industry could damage global gambling operations **P11 CHINA**

TUE.07
Apr 2015

T. 21°/ 25° C
H. 70/ 98%

Blackberry email service powered by CTM

N.º 2285 **MOP 5.00**
HKD 7.50

2305 4271

Times

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

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



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA Seven members of a family on a holiday outing in southern China drowned when a 17-year-old girl fell into a reservoir and several relatives dove in after her in a deadly attempt to rescue her, officials said yesterday. An official from the Guangdong province city of Shantou said the girl and six of her relatives died, including her parents and two other children, aged 13 and 15.



MALAYSIA's police chief said that 17 suspected militants have been detained yesterday for allegedly plotting to carry out terrorist acts in Kuala Lumpur. Two of them had just returned from Syria. This brought the number of people, believed to be supporters of the Islamic State militant group, who were arrested since last year to 92.



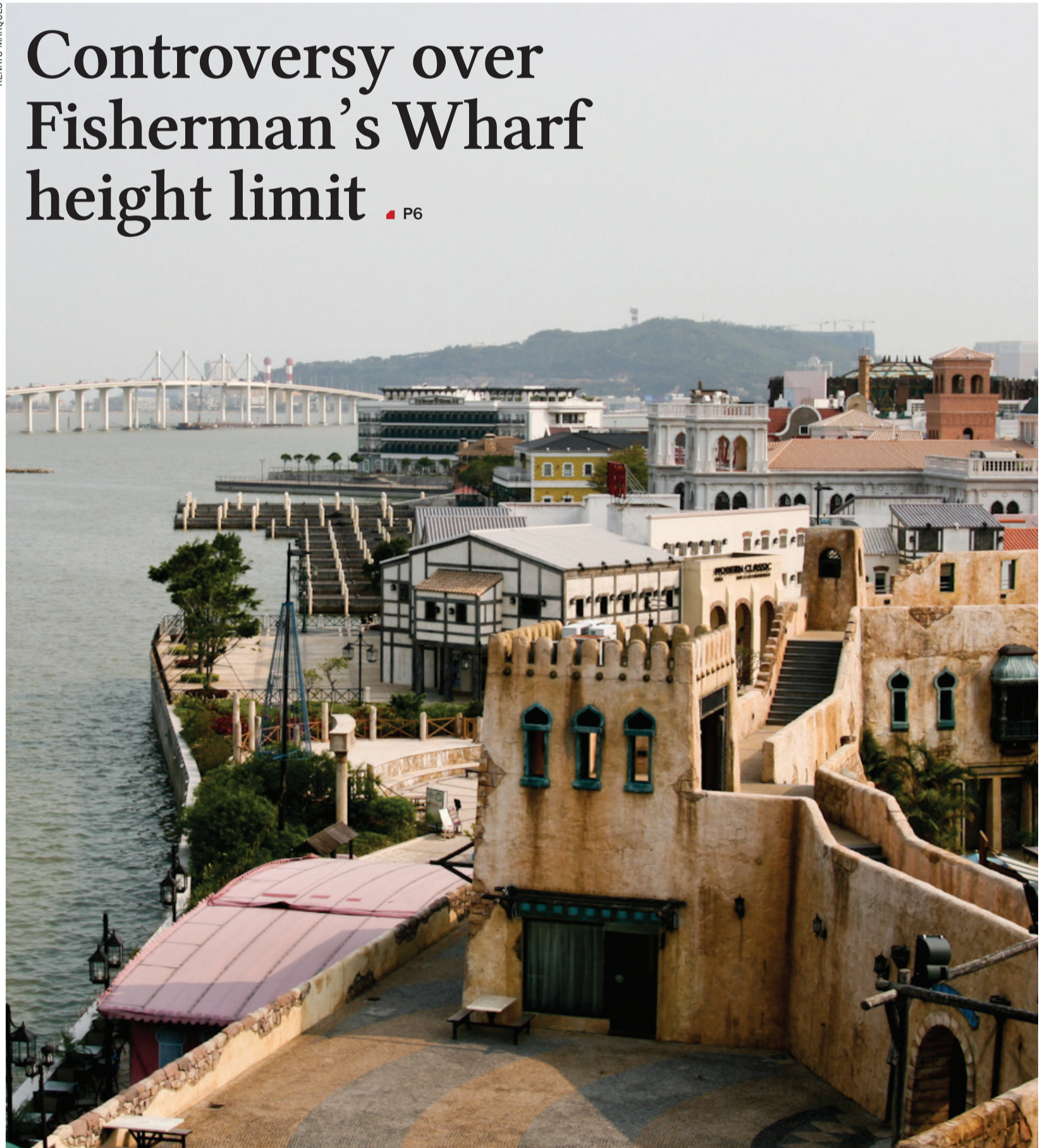
VIETNAM Russia's Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev says Vietnam is close to agreeing a free trade deal with the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union. He predicted yesterday that Russia's annual trade with Vietnam could increase by fourfold to USD10 billion over the next five years. Medvedev is on a 2-day official visit to Vietnam and held talks with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Tan Dung.

KENYA One of the gunmen who slaughtered 148 people at a college in Kenya was identified as the law-school-educated son of a Kenyan government official, underscoring the inroads Islamic extremists have made in recruiting young people to carry out attacks against their own country. **More on p15**

More on backpage

Businessman killed in hot tub accident at local hotel **P5**

Controversy over Fisherman's Wharf height limit **P6**



RENATO MARQUES



Police called after brawl inside newly opened restaurant

A brawl occurred on Friday at the recently opened Portugalia restaurant. The incident happened at dinner time, while the restaurant was reportedly full, when a fight between staff members occurred. When police were called to the site some witnesses said that they had seen staff running away from the restaurant.

Contacted by the Times, the police confirmed having been called to the restaurant and labeled the case an "ordinary labor dispute." No arrests were made or illegal workers found at the restaurant. According to police, the case is "settled." The Times sought comment from the local management of the restaurant and from Portugalia's headquarters in

Lisbon.

Bruno Castro, Portugalia's executive manager for international operations confirmed the occurrence. "The incident was solved

■ The Macau location is the chain's first beerhouse outside of Portugal

promptly and in the most appropriate way, given the circumstances. Portugalia Macau is operating normally since Saturday (within the established schedule) and receives all the customers

with the same friendliness and professionalism as usual," he said.

Portugalía, one of Portugal's best-known restaurant chains, opened its first location in Macau last month. The new restaurant is located in Taipa Village (Mercadoes Street No.5). A press release issued when the restaurant opened its doors mentions that the Macau venture "is the result of an international expansion plan developed over several years, and marks the first of several direct investments in Asia."

The opening matched the 90th anniversary celebration of the brand, which was originally a brewery before becoming known for the quality of its steak. It is the chain's first beerhouse outside of Portugal. **PB**

TOURISM

Package tours (still) on the rise



THE number of visitors on package tours increased 13.2 pct year-on-year to 983,000 in February, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). Package tour visitors from Mainland China increased 21.5% year-on-year, to 804,000, with 418,000 coming from Guangdong Province.

Visitors from the Republic of Korea (41,000) and Hong Kong (39,000) increased 7.7 pct and 8.1 pct respectively year-on-year, whereas those from Taiwan (53,000) decreased 12 pct. In the first two months of 2015, visitors on package tours reached 1,940,000, up by 16.8 pct year-on-year.

There were 97 hotels and guesthouses operating at the end of February 2015, providing 28,000 guest rooms, up 1 pct year-on-year; 5-star hotels accounted for 65.2 pct of the total supply, with 18,000 rooms.

A total of 756,000 guests checked into hotels and guesthouses in February 2015, down by 9.9 pct year-on-year. Guests from mainland China (512,000) and Hong

Kong (87,000) decreased 6.4 pct and 16.2 pct. The average length of stay of guests held stable as February 2014, at 1.4 nights.

The average occupancy rate of hotels and guesthouses tumbled

■ The average occupancy rate of hotels and guesthouses tumbled 11.3 percent

11.3 percentage points year-on-year, to 80.2 pct, with 5-star hotels leading at 83.3 pct. In the first two months of 2015, hotel guests totaled 1,559,000, down by 8.9 pct year-on-year; the average occupancy rate stood at 79.8 pct, a decrease of 6.1 percentage points. Visitor-guests accounted for 66.5 pct of the total overnight visitors, down by 1.9 percentage points year-on-year.

TRAVEL AGENCIES WITH MORE LOCAL CLIENTS

OUTBOUND RESIDENTS using the services of travel agencies numbered 135,000 in February 2015, up 10.2 pct year-on-year; those travelling on package tours surged 29.1 pct to 56,000, with the main destinations being Mainland China

(80.7 pct of total), the Republic of Korea (5.2 pct), Taiwan (3.9 pct) and Hong Kong (3.4 pct). In the first two months of 2015, outbound residents using travel agencies totaled 247,000, up 3.6 pct year-on-year.

MACAU DAILY TIMES IS NOW AVAILABLE IN DOW JONES' FACTIVA

Macau Daily Times is now available as a source in Factiva, a leading global collection of licensed news, web content and company data. Factiva has 32,000 sources from nearly every country worldwide in 28 languages, and is owned by Dow Jones, publisher of The Wall Street Journal.

MDT is the first Macau newspaper to be added to Factiva's database, one of the top source aggregators in the world. The Times also features in Wisers, which focuses on sources from the greater China region.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

MDT's Website has logged over **88 million** page views since January 1st, 2012 up to today.

Thank You!

Like us? [facebook.com/mdtimes](https://www.facebook.com/mdtimes)

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

Times

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

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

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

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

HEALTH

Alexis Tam insists on nurses' exam and internship

THE Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, expressed his disagreement after the medical affairs committee decided to vote down the controversial suggestion of making qualification examination and internship mandatory to local nursing graduates before they become professional nurses practicing at local hospitals and clinics.

As part of a law bill governing the city's medical practitioners, the proposal has drawn immediate outcry from the nursing sector, in the wake of its first consultation held earlier this year at the public hospital. Nevertheless, a majority of committee members later budged on the draft bill, vetoing the introduction of qualification exams and internships for fresh graduates to seek work as nurses at local hospitals.

However, the committee's abrupt backtracking on the deliberation has raised the secretary's eyebrows. On a TDM program aired last week, Alexis Tam said that the initial



Alexis Tam

draft of the registration regime for local medical professionals was concluded after lengthy conversations with representative organizations from the nursing sector, which were all in favor of the proposal at the beginning. All of these discussions have also been recorded. He then stressed that regular examinations could enhance medical professionals' "know-

ledge and level," saying there were similar routine exams in other "advanced countries." Besides, the secretary also reckons that such exams could assess if medical professionals' levels were up-to-date and he saw the necessity of introducing similar examinations for other professional sectors in the city.

According to the report from TDM English News, the head of the city's Nurses Association said on Sunday's TDM Forum that the clinical exams required for junior students majoring in nursing from the two local tertiary education institutions were already internationally recognized, and the hours they devoted to their internship far exceeded the number of hours the draft bill suggested.

Yet Leong Pui San, secretary-general of the Medical Affairs Committee, retorted that the recognition system was made in the interest of patients. "Our committee members have different perspectives, and have no united stance. Because of that, we also consider the ma-

tter of fairness. We believe all people need to take exams and internships. In establishing such a system, we consider the interest of citizens the most important issue," said the committee member, adding that the next round of consultation would hear more detailed discussion that could eventually lead to a consensus favorable to the sector.

The head of the Nurses Association also stressed in the forum that the sector actually welcomed a professional, open and rigorous exam to be led by the government with the committee's involvement, yet they strongly oppose its having been introduced without scrutinizing the schools' curricula, internship hours and clinical qualification of those teaching there.

On the heels of the first consultation held early last month, it was reported that some frontline nurses staged a demonstration on International Nurses Day on May 12 to protest against the qualification and recognition system. The medical affairs committee later held an urgent meeting to explore the most controversial content of the bill on March 31, during which 17 members voted in favor of exempting the fresh graduates from taking threshold exams, with 15 votes against. **Staff reporter**

Temporary traffic arrangement near the airport



Starting tomorrow, local road users will have to use a temporary lane improvised near the Macau International Airport when driving in the direction of Macau University of Science and Technology from the airport side. The traffic arrangement is due to ongoing lift work for the nearby construction of the light rail transit, according to a joint statement released by the Transport Bureau and the Transportation Infrastructure Office. It is expected that this particular phase of the project will last around 30 days, with part of the road from the nearby roundabout to Av. do Aeroporto temporarily closed down for construction work, the statement also reported. The authorities urge the public to pay heed to the provisional traffic arrangement and instructions in the bustling district for the sake of safety.

AD



Dermatology 皮膚科 / Aesthetic Medicine 美容医学



FEAR NO MIRROR.

Now offering a non-surgical and natural way to eliminate stubborn fat.



Avenida Xian Xing Hai, 105, Golden Dragon Centre 11/D Macau - 澳門新口岸洗星海大馬路金龍中心11D樓

Phone 電話: (+853) 28228320 - info@daliclinic.com - www.daliclinic.com



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Sixty taxi licenses to expire this year

THE first 60 taxi licenses issued by the government in 2005 are set to expire between this month and December. Next year, 170 more taxi licenses will expire.

The Transport Bureau (DSAT) says it plans to add 300 taxi licenses by public tendering in the first half of this year, in order to ease the public's demand on public transportation.

Expiring licenses will not be allowed an extension, and re-

lated vehicles used as taxis will require cancellation or a change of use. The DSAT will send notification letters in succession to those license holders for returning their licenses. It warns that if a taxi with an expired license continues to operate, it will be regarded as an illegal conduct of transportation, and punishable by a fine of MOP25,000.

"Responding to citizens' and tourists' demands on taxi ser-

VICES, the SAR government has additionally issued taxi licenses with age limits through five times' public tendering. (...) The DSAT will continue assessing the public's demand on taxi services and supplement the amount of taxis through timely issuance of new taxi licenses," stated the bureau.

DSAT has also revealed that the government is currently drafting a review of the legal regime of taxi's passenger transport, aimed "at enabling the future taxi services to the greatest extent for the MSAR's overall interest and the citizens and tourists' travel needs." "[The review] will also thoroughly consider the future taxi licensing policy," the bureau pledged.

MUSIC

Gothenburg Symphony debut Chinese tour in town

THE Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra have debuted their Chinese tour at the Macau Cultural Centre (CCM). According to a press release issued by CCM, a packed auditorium received the national orchestra of Sweden with enthusiasm as they played two orchestral masterpieces by legendary composers Mendelssohn and Sibelius, complemented by a new work from eminent Swedish composer Anders Hillborg.

Led by principal guest conductor Kent Nagano, the orchestra started with Anders Hillborg's *Beast Sampler*, a contemporary piece performed for the first time in China. This was followed by Felix Mendelssohn's most popular and romantic composition, *Violin Concerto in E minor*, performed by violin virtuoso Ray Chen. Chen was the winner of the Yehudi Menuhin and Queen Elisabeth competitions in 2008 and 2009 respectively. In the second half, the orchestra played Jean Sibe-



lius' *Second Symphony*.

Founded in 1905, the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra has long held a reputation of superiority both at home and abroad, as a major force in Europe. In 2013, American-Japanese conductor Kent Nagano started his tenure as the orchestra's principal guest conductor as well as artistic advisor.

Complementing the concert, CCM invited Chow Fan Fu to host a pre-performance talk where the music critic unveiled in-depth stories both on the program and on the band. This activity offered attendees a chance to better understand the repertoire before the concert.

AD

30m pageviews per year

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo



Times App

New look more features



Times App on App Store & Google Play



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

IN a fatal accident last Friday a man from the mainland drowned, after his lower back was sucked into the outlet of a small massage pool at the Four Seasons Hotel Macao, while he was staying there with his family on vacation.

According to Hong Kong's Apple Daily, the massage pool was 3 meters in diameter and 0.9 meters in depth, with a water outlet of 0.1 square meters at the bottom.

Allegedly, the strong suction of the water outlet kept the man from being rescued when his wife and another swimmer tried to pull him out of the water. According to reports, it was twenty minutes before the man was able to be pulled out, when the hotel staff turned off the pumping system.

Wu Jisheng, aged 37, was reportedly a wealthy businessman running a company in Shenzhen that develops biometric security and other electronic systems. The source says the man had visited Macau many times for business and vacation alike. At the time of the accident, he had been on holiday since March 31 with his wife and two young children.

The Judiciary Police has taken over the case and say

Vacationer dies in pool accident at Four Seasons hotel



Wu Jisheng

the actual cause of death still needs to be determined by forensic examination. The hotel also responded to the Times' inquiry yesterday

with a reactive statement. It said "the Four Seasons Hotel Macao would like to extend our deep condolences to all those concerned in the recent

incident. We are cooperating fully with the investigation being carried out by the relevant authorities. We do not have any further information

to disclose at this stage."

The incident has aroused voices from the lifeguard sector, criticizing Macau's safety guidelines on swimming

■ The strong suction of the water outlet kept the man from being rescued

pools for being disorganized and lacking a compulsory rule to employ lifeguards in private pools since MGTO's guideline on hotels employing lifeguards is only "suggestive." Lawmaker Si Ka Lon further criticized the authorities' "zero regulation" on pools inside residential buildings, and has urged for a body to formulate guidelines and supervise their operations. **BY**

Dengue mosquito index at its highest in years



THE dengue fever mosquito index was recorded as at its highest in years this February, with the Areia Preta, Fai Chi Kei and Tap Seac areas being most affected. The Macau Association for Ecological Study says that the reason might be related to a lack of sanitary conditions in old buildings. "Prevalence of mosquitoes is especially high in disrepair build-

ings due to sewage accumulation after recent rainfall. It's the perfect place for mosquitoes to breed. Tap Seac, Areia Preta, and Io Hon are crowded areas with many old buildings, increasing the risk of mosquito's proliferation," said the association's president Kou Lot Fu. February's monthly average ovitrap index, which reflects the prevalence of a mosquito

vector for dengue fever transmission, was at the highest in years. Nevertheless, Kou said the situation is manageable since only one case of dengue fever has been registered so far. In addition, he stressed that Taiwanese visitors with fever should notify the Health Bureau as the island is registering a high number of dengue fever cases.

AD



優悅 牙科護理中心
ICQ Oral Health Center

I Care for Quality

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

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

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

Website: www.icqoral.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/icqoral

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

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

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.



Residence Cleaning

Glass Cleaning

Carpet Cleaning

Pest Control



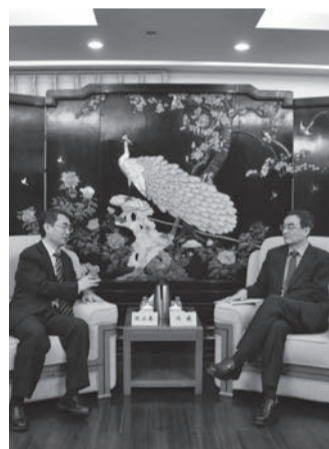
Call : 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry

Macau Post victim of phishing

Macau Post has reiterated a warning to the public to pay attention to an email, written in English with an indication of the EMS Logo, soliciting recipients to disclose their address. The email continues to circulate and the postal service have clarified they didn't send it to their customers. Given the attached file "ems.zip" contains a computer virus, the public is advised not to download it. A resident complained about a fraudulent (phishing) email received by a citizen on March 27.

CCAC to reinforce cooperation with Beijing



Macau's Commissioner Against Corruption, Cheong Weng Chon, led a delegation to Beijing between March 30 and 31, exchanging views with relevant national authorities concerning anti-corruption and clear governance. The Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) delegation visited the deputy director of the State Council's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, Feng Wei, the Prosecutor General of the country's Supreme People's Procuratorate, Cao Jianming, as well as the Minister of Supervision, Huang Shuxian. In the meeting, Feng Wei said that Macau and the mainland have good cooperation in the field of anti-corruption; he hopes the CCAC can strengthen links with related bodies and deepen their cooperation. The Prosecutor General and the Minister both stressed in meetings that they hope the CCAC and mainland authorities might cooperate in combating duty crimes [abuse-of-power crimes], tracking fugitives and recovering illicit money. Cheong Weng Chon responded by pledging the CCAC's cooperation to "prevent Macau from becoming a transit point or a destination for corrupt officials and illicit money."

DSSOPT considers increasing height limit at Fisherman's Wharf

THE Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) is considering increasing the upper limit of building height at the Fisherman's Wharf in its second draft plan, lifting restrictions that might lead to a higher density of buildings.

The new draft relaxed the area's planning conditions, with the height limit lifted from 60 meters to 90 meters, and the maximum plot ratio increased from 1.7 to 2.6; whilst the maximum building coverage has been increased from 42% to 55%.

Over the last two weeks, the bureau have held a period for public notice and consultation on the new planning conditions, scheduled to end today. Some critics have publicly opposed the plan, claiming that the relaxation is unjustified, detrimental to public interest, and that it will affect the city's environment and coastal landscape.

The plot is seen as a buffer zone surrounding the heritage Guia Light House, where currently the tallest building is 48 meters high. Last August, in its initial draft plan, the bureau raised the height limit



The Fisherman's Wharf

to 60 meters. Public opinion argues that there's no reason to raise the limit again.

David Chow, who owns Fisherman's Wharf as a subsidiary of his Macau Legend Development, explained that the high tower project is to develop non-gaming elements in accordance with the governmental policy; moreover, the lifted height limit is backed by the chief executive's instruction issued in 2008.

That instruction was enforced in an attempt to quell public outcry while allowing the construction of a high tower that would block the view of Guia Lighthouse, as indicated by scholar and civil activist Agnes Lam. "That was an act of expediency, and after that there were

no more [heritage] conservation plans. The government shouldn't approve another [90-meter high tower] based on such a remedial

document that was issued to remedy a previous wrong decision," she responded.

The scholar further argued that social protests might occur if the government forces the passing of the plan. Lawmaker Ng Kwok Cheong also warned of a tendency for developers to seek the breaking of restrictions and to simplify procedures, since no more low-premium land plots can be approved. "It's positive that the officials are under a lot of pressure from developers, and the pressure will increase more and more," he said. **BY**

BUREAU RESPONDS TO CONTROVERSY

THE DSSOPT has responded to the controversy aroused by the increase in building height limits at Fisherman's Wharf yesterday, stating that all the buildings in the plot must strictly abide by the height limits stipulated in the No. 83/2008 CE instruction, and meet the requirement on the street shallow rule in Urban Architecture General Rules. The bureau stressed that the CE's instruction was issued with the purpose of balancing the

area's development and heritage conservation; and it has restricted the heights of new buildings in an area of 2.8 square kilometers surrounding the Guia Light House. "During the public notice period of the planning condition draft, different opinions and suggestions were drawn in society, that precisely reflects the Urban Planning Law's principles of transparency, facilitating public participation and openness," it added.

Animal rights advocates demand Canidrome closure

ANIMAL rights advocates have urged the government to shut down Macau's dog racing stadium after the current concession contract expires this year. The Macau Society for the Protection of Animals (Anima) stressed that the "low profitable" operations at the Canidrome cause pain and injury to the greyhounds and around thirty are euthanized every month.

The Canidrome is managed by greyhound racing company Macau (Yat Yuen) Canidrome Co Ltd, and controlled by Stanley Ho's Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau SA (STDM). Last Saturday, Anima began a petition calling on the Chief Executive to terminate the contract for Yat Yuen Canidrome and finally call off the gambling-related sport.

"A quick glance at the Canidrome's website will give you regular updates on the type of injuries suffered by their dogs because of racing - crucial information for gamblers to decide

which dog to bet on or not. They are sadly euthanized at an average rate of 30 per month, even at the young age of two or three years old after they are found to be not 'profitable,'" Anima reports.

Besides criticizing the exploitation of those greyhounds imported from Australia, the group also stressed that the program constitutes only an insignificant portion of Macau's gaming revenue, and perpetuates gambling in a densely populated peninsula area. Instead, the group suggests freeing up the land for public housing or a "well-needed" public central park.

The dog-racing track at the Yat Yuen Canidrome was first opened in 1931 and, after 25 years of closure, reopened in 1963. Last week, the Canidrome's deputy president, Angela Leong, called on the government to keep the stadium, since "it is a collective memory of Macau residents and has important historic and tourism value" to the city.



"We cannot forget the history that in those days the Canidrome fostered the entire development of Macau's economy. In its promotional videos, the Macau Government Tourist Office mentions dog racing (...). This activity has actually history," she told the media.

In response, Anima's president Albano Martins refuted that, "only if it is historical value for her, because it's not for the community that lives there and it's not for sure for the animals. We are living in the 21st century, we are not in the middle ages."

EDUCATION

IPM music program accredited by Taiwanese council

THE Bachelor of Arts program in Music offered by the Macao Polytechnic Institute (IPM) has been accredited by the Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), IPM announced in a press release.

According to IPM, the validation of the program serves to confirm its quality and provides significant recognition for its achievements

in areas such as provision of education resources, support for teaching and learning, international exchange and cooperation, and quality assurance and enhancement.

IPM began preparing to have the program validated in 2006 and invited HEEACT to conduct a validation exercise in 2014. In addition to reviewing the program's self-evaluation report, the valida-

tion panel also traveled to Macau last November for a three-day visit, during which time it evaluated the teaching and learning facilities, and met with management, faculty, staff and students of the program.

"The validation panel noted that the program reflects the merits of multicultural integration, [and] conscientiously safeguards its educational quality (...)," IPM said.

IPM said that it has also been subject to a successful institutional review in 2013 by the UK Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. Since 2011, several of IPM's degree programs have been validated or recognized by academic accreditation agencies or other professional bodies, such as the Computing, Accounting, E-Commerce and Public Administration programs.

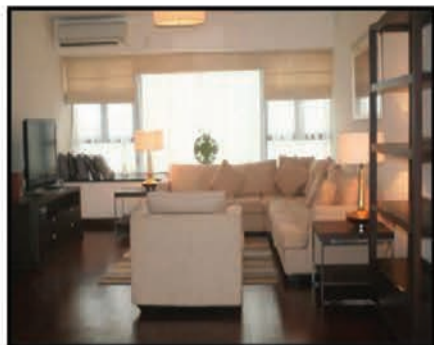


www.JMLproperty.com

PROPERTY WANTED FOR SALE OR RENT

Email us your property details and asking price or call us at: +853 2835 2699

For Rent



The Manhattan, Unit D Taipa

(Ref: 15015429)
2,488sq. ft. HKD 33,000

Fully Furnished 4 bedroom, mid floor apartment, luxury residence in central Taipa.

Concierge services, spacious living areas and bedrooms.

High quality finishes. Full use of Clubhouse facilities. Viewings by appointment only.

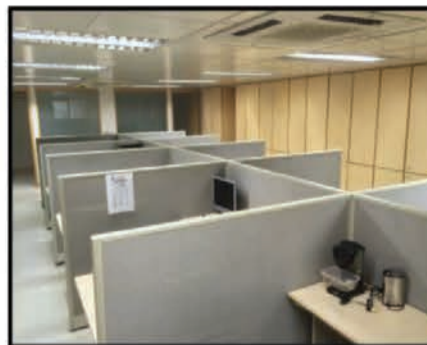


Carnation Court, Hellene Gardens

(Ref: 15030486)
1,663sq. ft. HKD 20,000

Large open plan living / dining area. Built in balcony 3 Double Bedrooms (one with en suite).

Stylish updated bathrooms (1 x shower & 1 x bath). Modern fitted kitchen inc dishwasher. Stunning mountain views. Car park included

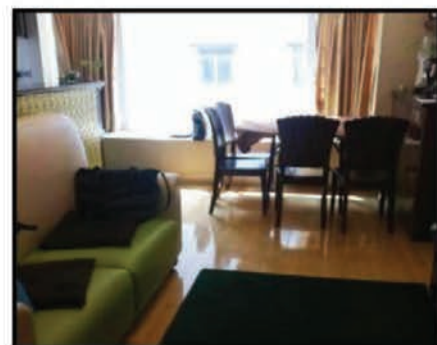


Office Space in Central Macau

(Ref: 15020471)
6,293sq. ft. HKD 120,000

Located around the corner of Av. de Horta e Costa, this office space is on the mezzanine floor in the move in status or renovation at own choice.

Perfect usage as office, clinics, studio and tutoring centre, etc....



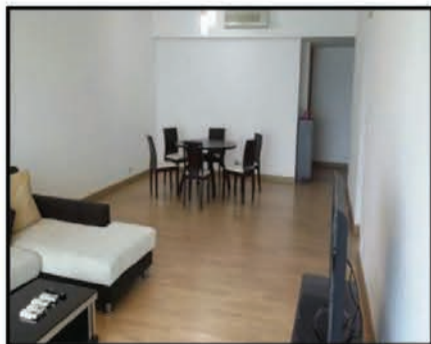
Sheung Va Hin Macau

(Ref: 15030474)
880sq. ft. HKD 12,800

Fully furnished 2 bedroom walk up apartment. Open kitchen.

Newly renovated. Close to Keang Wu Hospital, School, Bus stop, Cinema, restaurants, banks.

Viewing by appointment.



One central T5 Macau

(Ref: 15030478)
1,850sq. ft. HKD 44,000

Luxury Lakefront 3 bedroom apartment. Uninterrupted views of Nam Van Lake, Macau Tower and city skyline. Quality finishes. Exclusive Clubhouse with 5 levels of indoor/outdoor leisure and recreational space. Best address in Macau. Directly linked to the shopping center. Walking distance to MGM, Wynn, Mandarin Oriental etc.

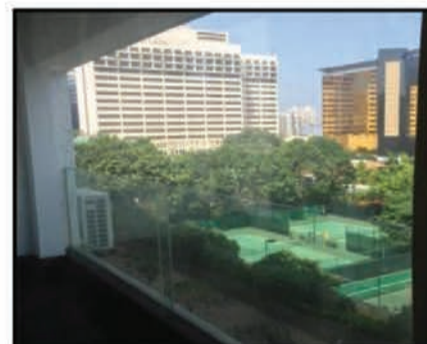


Designer Penthouse Nova City Taipa

(Ref: 15030481)
1,984sq. ft. HKD 33,000

Stunning apartment, redesigned and renovated 5 years ago. High quality finished and fixtures. Beautifully designed. Open plan kitchen, dining and living area. One Double Bedroom with walk in wardrobes. 2 bathrooms. One car park included. Excellent views above all other buildings. Available from Mid May 2015. Furnished HKD36,000

Unfurnished HKD33,000



Macau Nape Area Macau

(Ref: 15030482)
1,288sq. ft. HKD 19,500

Fabulous apartment renovated 5 years ago. Originally 3 bedrooms converted to 2 double bedrooms. En suite bathroom off master bedroom with another separate shower room. Modern open plan kitchen, with island feature and separate utility room. Large living room with dining area which could be converted to a 3rd single bedroom. Great size balcony overlooking the Grand Lapa resort. Available from mid April



Manhattan Taipa

(Ref: 15030488)
1,626sq. ft. HKD 28,000

Luxury residence in Central Taipa. Spacious open plan living / dining room. 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms (one en suite). 5 star facilities including gym, golf simulator, swimming pool, sauna, BBQ facilities, private kitchen & entertainment rooms and private cinema.

Close to supermarkets, restaurants, cafes, shops and walking distance to Cotai Strip this is the perfect family or executive home.

For Sale



Chun Fok Village, Wai Heng Kok, High Floor Unit Taipa

(Ref: 15015431)
993sq. ft. HKD 7.3M
Rate: HKD 7,351sq ft

This 3 bedroom, with en-suite master bedroom, is located right in the heart of the World Heritage Site – Taipa Houses Museum and the famous OLD TAIPA VILLAGE. Banks, restaurants, shops, schools and parks in the neighbourhood. Furthermore, casinos and resorts along the Cotai Strip and future Macau Light Rail Transit (LRT) are within walking distance.



Designer Apartment Central Macau - Perfect weekend home Macau

(Ref: 14105421)
849sq. ft. HKD 5.943M
Rate: HKD 7,000sq ft

Overlooking Macau's Icon St Pauls Cathedral. One of the few views not to be built out. Second Floor walk up. Renovated 5 years ago HKD480,000 spent. All new water pipes / electrics / air con's / double glaze windows. Only two apartments per floor. Balcony overlooking St Pauls. Open



Roof Top Investment Apartment Macau

(Ref: 14095414)
799sq. ft. HKD 5.6232M
Rate: HKD 8,800ft

Renovated 5 years ago. Modern open plan kitchen. Good size double bedroom on main floor. Separate bathroom on main floor. Wooden staircase to upper floor (open area: good for bedroom, office, studio or entertainment area).

Great size private terrace. Viewings over looking Government Offices. Rare chance to buy a view. Viewings by appointment only.



Excellent Investment Property - Nova City Tower 14 Taipa

(Ref: 14105419)
1,340sq. ft. HKD 9.3M Rate: HKD 7,000sq ft
Low Floor, Tower 14. Views of the lush interior gardens. 2 Double Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms. Excellent condition. All furniture included with the sale. Well equipped kitchen. Small store room & toilet off kitchen. Available to view.

Contact the property Consultants today.

Juliet
(English Speaker)
T: (853) 6680 9804
Juliet@JMLProperty.com

Lorraine
(English Speaker)
T: (853) 6610 2371
Lorraine@JMLProperty.com

Oil rises as Saudis boost pricing to Asia amid Iran uncertainty

Jake Rudnitsky and Heesu Lee

OIL rose as Iran's nuclear accord with world powers left the timing uncertain for a possible increase in crude supplies from the OPEC member and as Saudi Arabia raised prices for shipments to Asia, its biggest regional market.

Futures climbed as much as 3.7 percent in New York and 3.6 percent in London, where trading volumes were low because of the Easter Monday holiday in much of Europe. Iran won't affect physical oil markets before 2016 because obstacles remain to the potential lifting of sanctions and a revival in the Persian Gulf nation's output, according to Morgan Stanley. Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest crude exporter, narrowed the discount on its main Arab Light grade for next month's sales to Asia.

Oil has advanced in the past three weeks amid speculation that Iran won't be able to increase crude exports immediately and add to a global supply glut that drove oil almost 50 percent lower in 2014. Global demand is improving, Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi said on March 23.

"The jury is still out on Iran, but even assuming crude comes back, we don't think it will be too dramatic, with no more than 300,000 barrels a day within the next half year," Eugene Lindell, a senior analyst at JBC Energy GmbH in Vienna, said Monday by phone. "The bottom line is

AP PHOTO



Iranians celebrate a framework agreement on Iran's nuclear program between their country and six world powers, in a street in Tehran, Iran, Friday, April 3

there is still a lot of crude out there, with or without an Iran deal."

West Texas Intermediate for May delivery gained as much as \$1.83 a barrel to USD50.97 in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange and was at \$50.41 a barrel at 7:37 a.m. local time. The contract fell 95 cents to \$49.14 on Thursday. Total volume was about 31 percent below the 100-day average. The exchange was closed April 3 for the Good Friday holiday.

Brent for May settlement climbed as much as \$1.95 a

barrel to \$56.90, before pairing gains to trade at \$56.38 on the London-based ICE Futures Europe exchange. It dropped \$2.15 to \$54.95 a barrel on Thursday. The European benchmark crude traded at a premium of \$5.88 to WTI.

A preliminary accord last Thursday with world powers signals Iran may be able to accelerate crude exports within months of a final agreement that negotiators aim to reach in June. The U.S. and European Union would lift economic sanctions if the International Atomic Energy Agency verifies Iran's com-

pliance with curbs on its nuclear program.

If Iran expands output by 1 million barrels a day and clears supplies held in floating storage, any "cyclical recovery" in global oil prices could be delayed by as long as one year, according to Morgan Stanley. Verification by the IAEA could take more than six months, analysts including Adam Longson said in a report on Sunday.

Iran's oil exports have fallen by about half to about 1 million barrels a day since sanctions intensified in mid-2012. It tied Kuwait last mon-

th as the third-largest producer in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, a Bloomberg survey showed.

Saudi Arabian Oil Co. will ship Arab Light in May at 60 cents a barrel below a regional benchmark, the state-owned company known as Saudi Aramco said in an e-mailed statement on Sunday. The grade's official selling price is up from a discount of 90 cents for April. Tehran-based National Iranian Oil Co. will probably also increase prices for May, according to a quar-

Iran's oil exports have fallen by about half to about 1 million barrels a day since sanctions intensified in mid-2012

terly formula NIOC has used previously.

"The Saudis are raising OSPs because there seems to be some support from the demand side," Hong Sung Ki, a commodities analyst at Samsung Futures Inc. in Seoul, said by phone.

Saudi Aramco and NIOC both offered steeper discounts to customers in Asia earlier this year to compete with supplies from Latin America, Africa and Russia.

Hedge funds and other money managers boosted their net-long position on WTI by 21 percent in the seven days ended March 31, data from the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission showed. That's the biggest percentage gain since March 2011. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT AND MEDIA COMPANY SETS UP BRANCH IN HK



Media and entertainment group Chessman Entertainment & Production Co. Limited launched a new branch in the neighboring city on March 31. The company is under the control of well-known Hong Kong toastmaster Bob Lam, who now serves as head of the new establishment. The day of its opening ceremony also saw Stephanie Cheng and Ryan Lau, both famous singers in Hong Kong, sign their

contracts with the company. The entertainment company also sealed partnership with Hong Kong's Unleash Entertainment. Founded in 2001, the local media and entertainment company has gradually garnered attention in the city over 14 years. Through their contracts with Chessman, several local singers have successfully made their way into the entertainment industry in Hong Kong.

GUANGDONG, HK AND MACAU POWER INDUSTRY SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN MACAU

In view of an increasing demand on power supply, caused by the rapid growth of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau, China Southern Power Grid Corporation Limited (CSG) proposed in 2011 that three major power companies, namely CSG, CLP Power and CEM, take turns to hold the Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Power Industry Summit each year, in an effort to coordinate and plan for the long-term development of power supply in the three regions.

China Guangdong Nuclear Power Group (CGN) was first invited to join the summit in 2012. The summit provides a platform for top executives from the four companies to enhance communications and cooperation within the different regions through re-

gular meetings and exchanging of views.

To prepare for the upcoming Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Power Industry Summit, the tripartite representatives gathered at Guangzhou to hold a preparatory meeting. Attendees included advisor to CEM Executive Committee Iun Lok Meng, CEM Communications and Public Affairs Office senior manager Cecilia Nip, and assistant manager Sarah Chan. Representatives from the three regions agreed that the fifth summit will be held in Macau in June. Leaders from the four companies will discuss and exchange experiences based on the theme "Safe New Energy, Promote the Development of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau."

GRAND LISBOA ANNOUNCES ITS PREMIUM SERVICE AWARDS 2015

The Grand Lisboa Premium Service Awards (PSA) 2015 were held in the Peach Blossom Room of the Grand Lisboa yesterday. Thirty staff members from different departments were officially recognized for their outstanding performance at work.

Mr Andrew Billany, senior vice president of Operations at SJM Cotai, and Mr Francis Law, director of Human Resources of SJM, attended the event and presented a certificate to each of the winners, along with a specially designed souvenir and a New Yaohan coupon valued at MOP1,000.

Representing Ms. Angela Leong (managing director and CEO of SJM), Law gave a speech: "We are delighted to congratulate these winners



personally for their outstanding performances. With the contribution of all the employees, SJM has established a good corporate image and maintained stable development. On behalf of the company, I would like to sincerely thank all of our staff for their unwavering contribution and supports," he said.

PSA winners were nominated according to five sets of criteria: "Best Team Player," "Excellent Customer Service," "Enthusiasm for Company Activities," "Innovation and Leadership."

Dollar in longest losing streak in 9 months

THE dollar fell a fourth day, the longest streak in nine months, as traders speculated the Federal Reserve will hold borrowing costs lower for longer amid signs of weakness in the jobs market.

The greenback declined versus most of its major counterparts as a gauge of labor-market conditions slid and Fed Bank of New York President William C. Dudley said the pace of interest-rate increases is likely to be "shallow" once the central bank starts tightening. The euro advanced after Greece's Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis reiterated that the country will make a payment to the International Monetary Fund this week.

Weaker jobs data will "set the tone for the coming month, particularly for the dollar, which is likely to see some consolidation," said Sireen Harajli, a strategist at Mizuho Bank Ltd. in New York. "In terms of monetary policy, it's a stronger reason to be more cautious and not rush into anything."

The dollar slipped as a Fed measure of conditions in the labor market slumped. That follows a payrolls report last week showing companies added the fewest workers since December 2013 in March.

The U.S. is moving toward raising borrowing costs for the first time since 2006. The timing of increases is still uncertain and will depend on economic developments, New York Fed President Dudley said in a speech in Newark, New Jersey yesterday.

GAMING

Wynn Resorts, Elaine Wynn both criticized by ISS on governance

Scott Moritz

WYNN Resorts Ltd. and Elaine Wynn, who has been battling the casino company to keep her board seat, were both handed a setback after a proxy-advisory report criticized corporate governance.

Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. advised shareholders on Sunday to withhold support for Wynn Resorts' two nominees and also reject Elaine Wynn's bid to seek re-election to the board.

"There appears to be no daylight between Elaine Wynn and the rest of the board on tolerating weak governance practices, poor pay practices, or an overall corporate governance profile that ranks among the worst, not the best, of U.S. companies," ISS said.

The board of Las Vegas-based Wynn Resorts decided in February against renominating Elaine

AP PHOTO



Elaine Wynn

Wynn, 72, who is in a legal fight with her ex-husband, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Steve Wynn. She drew scrutiny after a \$9.5 million stock sale in January came during an in-

sider-sale prohibition before the company's earnings report.

Elaine Wynn, a co-founder of the company and its third-largest shareholder, has been a director since

October 2002. She nominated herself as dissident shareholder.

Citing the "manifest failures of governance," the ISS report recommended that shareholders reject all of the candidates.

"Given that this proxy contest is the one moment when every board is perhaps most keenly attentive to the voice of its shareholders, Wynn shareholders may wish, instead, to demand a more compelling alternative than the status quo," the report said.

Wynn Resorts, in a statement Sunday, reiterated its support for its two nominees, John J. Hagenbuch and J. Edward Virtue, and its opposition to Elaine Wynn's re-election.

Elaine Wynn opposed the ISS recommendations and said in a statement that she could bring "meaningful value creation" for shareholders if re-elected her.

Bloomberg

AD

KTRANZ TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE
TRANSLATIONS

Languages

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

Services

TRANSLATIONS, PROOFREADING,
COPYWRITING, DATA INPUT,
NEWS MONITORING

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms Juliana Cheang

Email: juliana@ktranz.com.mo

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

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

ALBERGUE SCM

SANTA CASA DA MISERICORDIA DE MACAU
澳門仁慈堂婆仔屋

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE

56th INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION OF THE VENICE BIENNALE

SELECTION RESULT BY ALBERGUE SCM

Organized by Albergue SCM and sponsored by Macau Foundation, the selection result for the Sponsorship Program for the "56th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale" is as follow:

1. JOSÉ LÁZARO DAS DORES
2. HONG WAI
3. LO CHONG HONG
4. JOÃO PALLA E CARMO REINAS MARTINS
5. TANG KUOK HOU
6. LEONG SIN U
7. HO SI MAN
8. LAO SIN HANG
9. LAI SUT WENG
10. SUN IN KUAN
11. ZHANG KE

Waiting List

1. AO NGAN WA

ALBERGUE SCM

ADDRESS: CALÇADA DA IGREJA DE SÃO LÁZARO Nº 8, MACAU
TEL: 853 - 28522550 / 853 - 28523205 FAX: 853 - 28522719

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

Organizers :



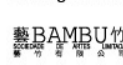
Co-organizer :



Sponsor:



Management :



Strikes proliferate as working class awakens

Didi Tang, Nanlang Township

TIMID by nature, Shi Jieying took a risk last month and joined fellow workers in a strike at her handbag factory, one of a surging number of such labor protests across China.

Riot police flooded into the factory compound, broke up the strike and hauled away dozens of workers. Terrified by the violence, Shi was hospitalized with heart trouble, but with a feeble voice from her sickbed expressed a newfound boldness.

"We deserve fair compensation," said Shi, 41, who makes USD4,700 a year at Cuiheng Handbag Factory in Nanlang, in southern China. Only recently, she had learned she had the right to social security funding and a housing allowance — two of the issues at stake in the strike.

"I didn't think of it as protesting, just defending our rights," she said.

More than three decades after Beijing began allowing market reforms, China's 168 million migrant workers are discovering their labor rights through the spread of social media. They are on the forefront of a labor protest movement that is posing a growing and awkward problem for the ruling Communist Party, wary of any grassroots activism that can threaten its grip on power.

"The party has to think twice before it suppresses the labor movement because it still claims to be a party for the working class," said Wang Jiansong, a Beijing-based labor scholar.

Feeling exploited by businesses and abandoned by the government, workers are organizing strikes and labor protests at a rate that has doubled each of the past four years to more than 1,300 last year, up from just 185 in 2011, said Hong Kong-based China Labor Bulletin, which gathers information from China's social media.

"What we are seeing is the forming of China's labor movement in a real sense," said Duan Yi, the country's leading labor rights lawyer.

That's prompted crackdowns by authorities, and factory bosses have fired strike organizers. Although authorities have long ignored labor law violations by companies, activists say authorities now dispatch police — and dogs, in at least one case — to factories to restore order or even restart production. They have also detained leading activists and harassed organizations that help workers.

China's labor law, which went into effect in 1995, stipulates the right to a decent wage, rest periods, no excessive overtime and the right of group negotiation.

Workers are allowed to strike, but only under the government-controlled All China Federation of Trade Unions — which critics say is essentially an arm of the government that has failed to stand up for workers.

Workers who organize on their own can be arrested, not for striking but on charges such as disrupting traffic, business or social order. In Shenzhen, worker representative Wu Guijun was charged with gathering crowds to disrupt traffic, but was released with no conviction after a year in detention.

Migrant factory workers are perhaps the vanguard of this movement, but labor activism is slowly spreading among a working class that, all told, forms more than half of China's 1.4 billion.

"The working class has not yet fully woken up," said Qi Jianguang, 27, who was sacked from his job at a golfing equipment company in Shenzhen for leading a strike last summer. Lack of effective organization is another challenge. But he said that a common appeal for equitable and dignified treatment is ser-

I didn't think of it as protesting, just defending our rights

FACTORY WORKER

ving to unite the laboring classes.

Deep suspicion of labor activism among authorities is rising. In February, the ACFTU's party chief, Li Yufu, warned that hostile foreign forces were using illegal rights groups and activists to compete for the hearts of the workers, sabotaging the unity of the working class and of the state-sanctioned union.

Zhang Zhiru, who runs a small labor group helping workers defend their rights, has been repeatedly harassed by police. He said the government will continue thwarting efforts at labor organizations because it considers them "making trouble."

But he remained optimistic.

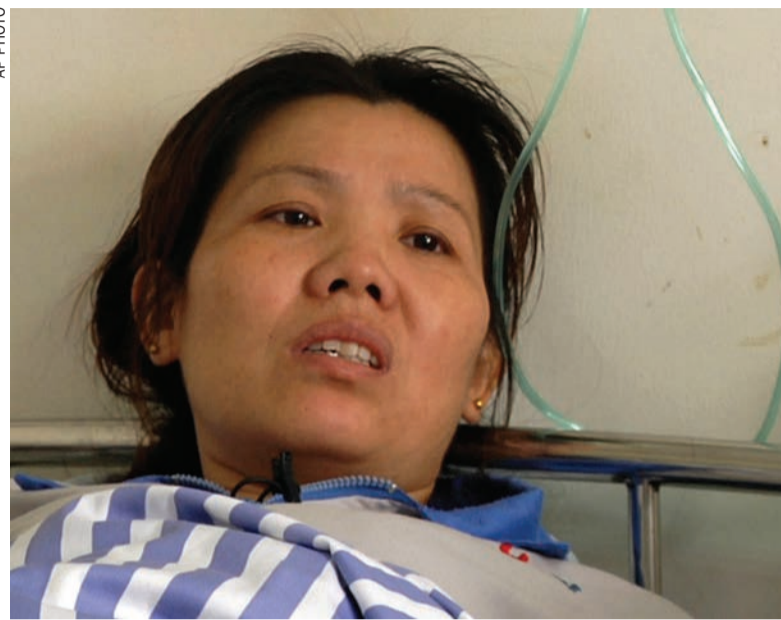
"The social development and the increasing awareness of workers about their need to protect their rights will push the society forward," he said.

In March, workers returning from the Chinese New Year break to the thousands of factories in the Pearl River delta region near Hong Kong staged three dozen strikes at companies such as Stella Footwear, Meidi Electronics and Hisense Electronics.

Some fight for mandated severance pay, some for back social security payments and some for equal pay for out-of-town workers who typically earn less than local city residents. All of these actions have been on factory grounds because workers have grown impatient with government mediation rooms or courts.

"In many cases, lawsuits cannot ensure that workers' rights are protected, so the workers now are turning to collective negotiations or even organizing into a group to gain more, and to save time," Duan said.

While many labor activists have been harassed and detained, few have been convicted. In the only known case of workers involved in organized actions being criminally punished in recent years, Meng Han and 11 other security guards at a state hospital in Guangzhou were convicted in April 2014 of gathering crowds to disrupt social order after they staged a strike to demand equal



Shi Jieying talks from her sickbed after she was hospitalized with heart trouble at Nanlang hospital in Zhongshan city

pay and equal social security for local and out-of-town workers.

In the Pearl River Delta town of Nanlang, the handbag factory where Shi worked is one of many lining the main drag that leads to a group of parks honoring the town's most famous son, Sun Yat-sen, and the 1911 revolution he led to build a republic in China.

China's 168 million migrant workers are discovering their labor rights through the spread of social media

Earlier this year, the 280 or so workers, mostly women, went on strike to demand a still-unpaid but promised bonus of about \$150 for last year. They ended the strike when factory management shelled out the money.

But in early March, the bosses announced fewer overtime hours and fewer workdays due to the global economic slump, and yanked a \$5 bonus given to every female worker on March 8, International Women's Day.

The workers went on strike again, demanding back payments into social security funds, housing allowances and — believing the factory was on its last legs — the right to a severance package if they quit.

This time, the management did not budge.

Inside the town's government building, a Japanese man who identified himself as the factory's former general manager but declined to give his name said through an interpreter that the company had no choice but to cut hours when it failed to receive enough orders. He said workers kept making new demands, and that the factory had to call in police after surveillance cameras showed workers engaged in sabotage.

A Nanlang government statement said it dispatched a team March 24 to persuade the workers to return to work, but that some of them were flattening tires, destroying a surveillance camera, displaying banners and preventing other workers from returning to the workplace. Four workers were detained.

Workers said they were holding a peaceful rally when police attacked them.

"They were pulling our hair, smashing cell phones so we could not take photos," said a worker who gave only her family name, Cao. She was later taken to a police station, where she said she was handcuffed, deprived of sleep and food, and was lectured on her wrong behavior before being freed the next morning.

"I told them we are defending our own rights," Cao said. She and 10 other workers were fired.

Shi, who had been hospitalized after the police raid, said the incident eroded her trust in authorities.

"We were hoping the government would be on our side," she said, "but how could we have ever imagined that we would see the police pour in instead." AP

Taxi drivers protest in Beijing shopping district

MORE than 30 taxi drivers staged a rare demonstration in Beijing's famed Wangfujing shopping district over the weekend to protest working conditions, police in the Chinese ca-

pital said.

The drivers were found lying on the ground in front of an office building at around 11 a.m. Saturday and were transported to local hospitals, Beijing police said in a

statement on their official microblog.

It said that bottles of liquid pesticide were found scattered nearby, but that none of the protesters' lives were in jeopardy and it wasn't clear if any had

ingested the poison.

The statement said the drivers had come to Beijing from the city of Suifen in the northeastern province of Heilongjiang and were upset over the price of licensing fees and

rules on exchanging vehicles. It said Beijing police were working with their out of town colleagues on settling the matter.

The protest mirrored similar ones in Beijing staged by laid-off workers

complaining about grievances. Taxi drivers have also staged protests in a number of cities recently to demand a reduction in the monthly licensing fees that consume most of their incomes. AP

THE TIMES REPORT

Clamp down on online gambling, state lottery corruption next

CHINA has launched an unusually severe assault on the country's illegal online gambling industry — a prelude, sources say, to a more sustained attack on high-level corruption within the state lottery system.

The crackdown, which has been threatened for weeks, "could damage the profits of online gambling operations based in Britain and around the world," The Times revealed yesterday. Chinese gamblers are thought to account for about 50 per cent of the revenues of many offshore sports and numbers-based online gaming sites.

Industry insiders said "there were signs that the anticorruption campaign being masterminded by President Xi was preparing to target layers of officialdom that have embezzled and profited illegally from the state lottery." As preparation for that, the sources said to The Times, "police were going after illegal betting to identify where it overlapped with more ingrained corruption."

Over the weekend, a new directive from the finance ministry said that companies selling online tickets for China's various sports and welfare lotteries must have the approval of three ministries. The move came after what the government said were "rampant irregularities" and fraudulence in online lottery sales.

According to The Times, the latest reported onslaught on the illegal betting industry involved the detention of more than 1,000 people associated with a racket based in the Guangdong province. State media reporting on the raids, which began in late December, said that most



Lottery outlet in Shaoyang, Hunan Province, China

suspects were bankers, runners and software technicians.

Media reports quoted public security officials saying that the gang had established more than 200 gambling websites and had managed to entice more than 400,000 Chinese to place illicit side-bets on the outcome of local and overseas lottery draws. The police swoop — The Times said — was presented as the biggest of its sort in the country since 1949.

A series of other raids — yet to be acknowledged officially — are known to have taken place elsewhere in Guangdong and in at least three other provinces since then, according to gaming website operators based outside China.

The rising tally of detentions throughout February and March, sources in Hong Kong and London said, appear to involve various levels of the "super master agent" system, a pyramid-shaped network that enables a multibillion-dollar gambling industry to thrive.

The structure, which manages and disguises the flow of financial transactions involved in the industry, states The Times, "requires corruption at most levels, from runners buying off police to bankers arranging cuts for more senior officials."

Mr Xi's campaign, which has reverberated throughout the economy, "has wrought chaos on the casinos in Macau," observes the London newspaper. **PC**

US geologist freed after serving 8 years Chinese prison

A Chinese-born American geologist was released from prison in China after serving more than eight years on charges of procuring state secrets, a human rights group said over the weekend.

Xue Feng returned to his family in Houston, Texas, last week after being deported immediately following his release, the San Francisco-based Dui Hua foundation said.

The foundation has long advocated on Xue's behalf, and Executive Director John Kamm said in a statement that he was relieved Xue was home after what he called a "terrible ordeal."

A staffer at Beijing's No. 2 Prison, where Duihua said Xue was held, said he wasn't authorized to release information to the media.

The U.S. State Department said it was aware of reports that Xue had returned to the United States, but did not comment further. "Due to privacy concerns, we cannot divulge information on these cases," it said in a statement.

The 50-year-old Xue was detained in November 2007, and sentenced in 2010 on charges of illegally gathering information on China's oil industry.

His case raised questions about whether normal business activities elsewhere might conflict with China's vague state security laws. Supporters also said Xue was physically abused in detention and denied proper legal rights.

Xue was born in China and earned a doctorate at the University of Chicago, where he was praised by his advisers for his thoroughness and hard work. After becoming a U.S. citizen, he returned to his native country to work for the U.S. consultancy firm IHS Energy, now known as IHS Inc.

American diplomats had lobbied hard for Xue's release, saying his alleged crimes didn't warrant the harshness of his sentence.

In pronouncing him guilty, the Beijing No. 1 Intermediate People's Court said his actions "endangered our country's national security." The verdict said Xue received documents on geological conditions of onshore oil wells and a database that gave the coordinates of more than 30,000 oil and gas wells belonging to China National Petroleum Corp. and listed subsidiary PetroChina Ltd. **AP**

ZHOU YONGKANG

Ex-security chief indicted on corruption charges

CHINA'S former security boss Zhou Yongkang has been formally charged with corruption and leaking of state secrets, setting the stage for him to become the highest-level politician to stand trial in China in more than three decades.

The long-expected indictment, announced by the Supreme People's Procuratorate on its website, followed a lengthy investigation that also had scrutinized Zhou's former allies in government and the oil industry.

Zhou, a former member of the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee, had been under investigation since late 2013.

Zhou is the highest-level official charged as part of President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign that began in late 2012. He would be the



Zhou Yongkang

highest politician to stand trial since the 1981 treason trial of Mao Zedong's wife and other members of the "Gang of Four" who persecuted political opponents during the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

Although the case against Zhou has been touted by state media as an example of the party's determination to fight corruption regardless of one's rank, it also has been widely

perceived as part of factional politics in the ruling party's uppermost echelon and the removal of a potential rival for Xi.

"Corruption commonly exists among the party's senior officialdom, and so it looks like Zhou is another example of being the loser of a power struggle," said Zhang Lifan, a Beijing-based commentator and historian.

The procuratorate said Zhou was being charged with bribetaking, abuse of power and intentionally leaking state secrets. It characterized the allegations against him as especially severe, and said he took "huge amounts" of bribes, but gave no details of the accusations.

It is unclear how open Zhou's trial will be, or when it will take place. However, the trial of another high-profile politician targeted in the crackdown, Bo

Xilai, came about a month after his indictment in July 2013.

The charge against Zhou of leaking state secrets could provide a reason for authorities to close the trial, or at least part of it, and avoid the possible disclosure of political infighting at the party's highest levels.

Zhou was once perceived as untouchable with a vast patronage network covering the southwestern province of Sichuan where he was once party boss to the state oil sector, police and courts.

As China's security chief, he oversaw the country's domestic spy agencies, a position that afforded him access to information on other high-ranking politicians who might pose a threat to him.

Zhou spent the early part of his career in the oil industry, rising through the ranks over several decades to become the general manager of China National Petroleum Corp., one of the world's biggest energy companies, in 1996.

A series of senior figures from the state-owned oil industry have been detained in the anti-corruption crackdown. **AP**

AVIATION CRISIS

Fast-growing Asian air travel confronts safety challenges

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

FOR Asia's aviation industry, the growing pains have just begun.

A year of disasters, the disappearance of Flight 370 and financial turbulence highlight the challenges confronting the world's biggest air travel market, where governments, regulators and airlines are struggling to keep up after a decade of astonishing growth.

A U.N. agency's warning about airline safety in Thailand, one of the world's top tourist destinations, is just the latest sign of ferment in the industry.

The boom has been driven by the region's explosive economic growth as well as market liberalizations that have allowed dozens of new discount carriers to flourish, turning the airline business on its head.

The strains are also showing in recurring pilot shortages and shortcomings in air traffic control systems and airport infrastructure that countries are scrambling to upgrade, especially in big Southeast Asian nations such as Indonesia.

"We're in uncharted waters," said Desmond Ross, principal at DRA International aviation consultants and former head of the Pacific Aviation Safety Office, which oversees airline safety for South Pacific islands. "I don't think the world has seen this sort of growth before."

A third of airplane accidents in the Asia-Pacific region from 2008 to 2012 "involved deficiencies in regulatory oversight," the International Civil Aviation Organization said in a report this year. Another 27 percent involved "deficiencies in safety management."

Meanwhile, the agency's recent audit of Thailand has produced disquieting revelations about what lies below the surface of a country that has marketed itself



Ground staff work on a fleet of Nok Air planes, a domestic budget airline, after the official reopen of Don Mueang airport in Bangkok, Thailand

to the world as a safe and welcoming destination.

The agency informed governments in March of "significant safety concerns," prompting several Asian nations to step up inspections of Thai airlines or block them from launching new flights and modifying schedules.

The leader of Thailand's military government, which ousted its civilian predecessor in a coup last year, blamed years of neglect for allowing problems to accumulate to a critical mass. He said the civil aviation department has only 12 inspectors, a figure unchanged for years despite huge growth in tourism.

The dictator has vowed to use his authoritarian powers to overhaul aviation, but it's unclear whether sweeping changes can be implemented fast enough to avoid a damaging downgrade of Thailand's safety rating.

Ross said Thailand's problems are not unique and stem from the "superfast expansion that's been taking place over the last 10 years." Aside from hurting tourism, the ICAO warning could also prompt insurance companies to raise their rates for airlines operating in Thailand.

Passenger numbers in Asia-Pacific have risen by a third over the past five years to 1.1 billion,

and the region now accounts for 33 percent of global air passenger traffic, according to the International Air Transport Association. That proportion is forecast to grow to 42 percent within the next two decades as an extra 1.8 billion passengers take to the skies.

Another big source of concern is Indonesia, where in December an AirAsia jet carrying 162 people plummeted into the sea as it ran into stormy weather on its way from Surabaya to Singapore.

The disaster, which was the first ever fatal plane crash for the popular budget operator, was one of five suffered by Asian carriers in a 12-month span. The flight itself was unauthorized by Indonesian authorities, showing up laxness in its aviation oversight.

Flying is often the easiest travel option in Indonesia, a sprawling archipelago of 17,000 islands that's home to 250 million people.

IATA is worried that regulations and infrastructure aren't being updated fast enough to keep pace with Indonesia's expansion. The Southeast Asian country's air travel market is forecast to triple over the next 20 years to 270 million passengers, making it the world's

sixth biggest.

"I am very concerned about safety in Indonesia," IATA director general and former Cathay Pacific Airways CEO Tony Tyler said in a speech to Indonesian aviation officials in Jakarta last month. He noted the country has had at least one crash in which a plane has been written off every year since 2010.

"There is a safety problem here," he said. "It's not going to solve itself."

Tyler pointed out that the country needs to upgrade its air traffic management system to cope with the rising number of aircraft in the skies and future increases. Airlines have more than 800 new aircraft on order.

Despite the high profile of airline disasters in 2014, stemming in part from the double Malaysia Airlines tragedies, the airline industry asserts it was a relatively safe year for flying.

The total of 12 fatal accidents was below the five-year average of 19 and so called "hull losses," the write-off of airplanes from accidents fatal or nonfatal, was its lowest ever. From another perspective, however, it was a particularly tragic year. Including Flight 17 shot down over Ukraine which isn't included in the industry's accident tally, 939 people were killed in planes last year compared with 210 the previous year.

But what experts say is most relevant is whether safety will be compromised as air travel expands relentlessly in a region where countries range from advanced to among the world's poorest with huge differences in capacity to manage the safety of their air space.

"I think we're at a turning point where we either maintain this relatively good level of safety" in Asia "or it declines," said Ross.

Discount carriers account for about 60 percent of Asia's passenger capacity, up from nearly

nothing a decade ago, according to CAPA-Center For Aviation. Asian airlines have about 1,600 aircraft on order, more than are in operation, according to the group, including more than 500 ordered by Indonesia's Lion Air, which is barred from flying into European Union airspace.

The surge in jet numbers is also choking major air corridors and taxing air traffic controllers. The recent disasters have led to renewed calls for reforms to unify fragmented safety regulations in Southeast Asia.

Passengers in Asia-Pacific have risen by a third over five years to 1.1b, and the region accounts for 33pct of global air passenger traffic

The official report on the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 released in March illustrated the need to bring standards in line, said Shukor Yusof, founder of Malaysia-based aviation research firm Endau Analytics.

The transcript of the chatter reveals confusion between air traffic controllers in two countries as they struggle over several hours to deal with the plane's unexpected disappearance. At one point five hours after the last transmission from the Boeing 777, Malaysian and Vietnamese air traffic controllers misunderstood each other as they try to establish if search and rescue operations have been launched.

The transcript shows how the miscommunications "contributed to the chaos," said Shukor. There's now "more urgency" to have a single Southeast Asian safety framework given that so many more airplanes are crossing between national air control zones.

"The airspace is getting congested," he said. **AP**

SEVEN members of an Asia-based organized crime syndicate have been arrested for exploiting more than 500 women mostly from China and Korea in a prostitution ring that spanned Canada, authorities said last week.

The ring operated in Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver, authorities said after a year-long investigation.

Two suspects — Daegun

ORGANIZED CRIME

Canada police: 7 arrested in massive Asian prostitution ring

Chun, 46, and Yong Li, 31 — appeared in court to face charges related to the alleged smuggling of women into Canada for the purposes of trafficking them in prostitution.

So far, those arrested

have been charged with procuring minors, advertising sexual services and gaining a material benefit from sexual services. More serious charges such as gangsterism and human trafficking could be

coming, authorities said.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police said the alleged victims received assistance from a criminal organization to enter the country under false pretenses before being exploited

and made to work under appalling conditions. After several weeks or months, they were returned home.

Charged earlier this week were Le Yu, 38, and Anyang Cui, 26, both of

Montreal, and Kai Chen, 37, and Nan Wu, 33, from suburban Notre-Dame-de-L'Ile-Perrot.

Jeonghwan Seo, 34, of Toronto, was arrested late Wednesday.

Police say that leaves Melanie Williams-Johnson, 20, of Montreal, as the last suspect still on the run.

Police Constable Eriq Gasse said 500 is a conservative estimate for the number of alleged victims and that the police probe began in January 2014. **AP**

INDONESIA

Court rejects appeal by Australian drug smugglers

AN Indonesian court yesterday rejected appeals by two Australian drug traffickers who challenged President Joko Widodo's decision to refuse them clemency and spare their lives.

The complaints by Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan were tried separately with the same three-judge panel at the Jakarta High Administrative Court, which agreed with a lower court that the case is out of their jurisdiction since clemency is the prerogative of the president.

"The object of the dispute is not part of the jurisdiction of the Administrative court," said presiding judge Ujang Abdullah.

Sukumaran and Chan are among 10 drug smugglers whose planned executions last month were adjourned due to last-minute appeals from six inmates.

The other foreigners among the 10 include three Nigerians and four men from Brazil, France, Ghana and a Filipino woman.

Two of the foreigners — Serge Areski Atlaoui from France and Martin Anderson of Ghana, are still waiting for the outcome of their request for judicial reviews by the Supreme Court.

Last month, the country's highest court rejected judicial reviews by Filipino Mary Jane Fiesta Veloso.

The planned executions have soured relations between Indonesia and other countries, especially Australia and Brazil, but Widodo has vowed



Leonard Arphan, a lawyer of two Australians on death row Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan, is mobbed by the media after a hearing at the High Administrative Court in Jakarta, Indonesia

not to grant mercy to drug offenders because he says Indonesia is suffering a "drug emergency."

Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop said in a statement that the government was disappointed the petitions by Sukumaran and Chan

failed and that Australia "respectfully requests the President to review their pleas for clemency."

Jakarta executed six drug convicts including five foreigners in January, brushing aside last-minute appeals from Brazil and the Netherlands. **AP**

Bangladesh court upholds death penalty for war collaborator

ABangladeshi court yesterday turned down the last legal appeal by an Islamist party official convicted of collaborating in 1971 war crimes and upheld his death sentence.

The decision by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court was the last legal roadblock to execution for 62-year-old Mohammad Qamaruzzaman, an assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami party.

If he seeks presidential clemency and is rejected, he will be executed soon after. He would be the second person put to death since tribunals were set up more than four years ago to try suspected war criminals.

Bangladesh blames Pakistani soldiers and local collaborators for the deaths of 3 million people during the nine-month war seeking independence from Pakistan. An estimated 200,000 women were raped and about 10 million people were forced to take shelter in refugee camps in neighboring India.

In November last year, the Supreme Court upheld a verdict of death sentence by a special tribunal for his crimes against humanity during the country's 1971 independence war against Pakistan. Later he appealed for a review.

Qamaruzzaman's lawyer, Khandaker Mahbub Hossain, argued that the death sentence should be reviewed for ensuring justice for the leader, but the state side said he must be hanged considering the level of crimes he was involved during the mass killings by collaborators and Pakistani soldiers.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam welcomed the decision by the court and said it was just a matter of execution now as it is highly unlikely that Qamaruzzaman would be pardoned.

In reaction to the court's decision, the Jamaat-e-Islami party called a 48-hour general strike from Tuesday morning.

TV stations reported that clashes broke out after the ruling. One young activist was killed Monday during clashes between police and Jamaat-e-Islami supporters in the southern district of Noakhali, the stations said.

Since 2010, two tribunals have convicted more than a dozen people, mostly senior leaders of the opposition Jamaat-e-Islami party, which had openly campaigned against independence. The party says the trials are politically motivated.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina set up the tribunals in 2010, reviving a stalled process and making good on a pledge she made before 2008 elections.

There was a process of trying suspected war criminals after Bangladesh gained independence, but it was halted following the assassination of then-President and independence leader Sheikh Mujibur Rahman — Hasina's father — and most of his family members in a military coup in 1975. **AP**

INDIA

Modi blames changing lifestyles for rising pollution

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi yesterday blamed the changing lifestyles that have come with India's economic development for rising pollution levels that have given the country some of the world's dirtiest air.

With his government rolling out a new Air Quality Index to 10 of the nation's cities, Modi urged Indians to curtail waste and conserve resources even as they become wealthier, in order to prevent an environmental catastrophe.

"Until we focus on our lifestyle and get the world to focus on it, we will not succeed despite all other measures being taken," Modi told state environment ministers in New Delhi.

"It is difficult to convince



the developed nations about this," he added, saying that India should set an example.

Air pollution kills millions of people every year, including more than 627,000 in India, according to the World Health Organization.

India last year announced

its plans for the Air Quality Index, releasing a draft proposal in October based on New Delhi's small network of air quality monitors. Experts have criticized New Delhi's readings as erratic and unreliable, calling for more transparency and ri-

gor in the data.

They also said using an Air Quality Index in 10 cities was a welcome step, but still far below what is needed. The WHO puts 13 Indian cities in the world's 20 most polluted — with New Delhi deemed the filthiest — while pollution levels even in the countryside are often several times above what's deemed safe.

Much of India's air pollution comes from coal-fired power plants, crop burning, domestic cooking with firewood or cow dung, and vehicles burning diesel fuel.

Black carbon, which constitutes most of the tiny particulate matter known as PM2.5 that can lodge and fester in human lungs, is also blamed for up to 20 percent of global warming. **AP**



A NIGHT AT THE MUSIC AWARDS
- SONGS THRU THE AGES -

Join us for the ILCM Ball
"A Night at the Music Awards"

Saturday, April 18, 2015
Oasis @ Galaxy Macau

6:30 - 7:45pm Cocktails
7:45 - 11:45pm Dinner & Dancing
Midnight til ??? After Party @ China Rouge

Dress Code
Come as a Guest of the Music Awards in Black Tie
OR
Come in Costume as Your Favorite Recording Artist (1950's til today)

Tickets
Tables for 12 Persons Available Now
MOP19,200 per Table (MOP1,600/ticket)

For tickets & questions, please email to tickets@ilcm.org.mo

Times principal media sponsor

ILCM INTERNATIONAL LADIES CLUB OF MACAU



C&C CLUB

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

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

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



C&C LAWYERS
公正律師事務所



合伙人 PARTNERS:
官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha • 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues • 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata • 趙魯 Zhao Lu ••

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:
馬傑安 João N. Marques
高文軒 Adelino Correia •
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues
馬德龍 Nuno L. Martins
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha
杜慧盈 Rita Andorinho
馬潔冰 Maria J. Marques
陶義德 António I. Azeredo

白穎怡 Iclia Berenguel
冼玲鳳 Mariana A. Esteves
薛明恩 Maria A. Giestas
飛嘉華 Carlos S. Ferreira
黃保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen
安東尼 António Manuel Santos
馮梓然 Fong Chi In
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção
羅桃 Luo Tao, Elina

巴慧雅 Vera Bastos

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:
曹樂萌 Cao Lemeng, Rui
楊越華 leong Ut Wa
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
王洋玲 Ema Wong
陳祖恩 Joana Chan

• 私人公證員 Notary Public • 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer



WWW.CCADVOG.COM
TEL: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623




PLAYMATE'S CLUB

WILD WARS

Deluxe
Nightclub
Packages
\$1480

Business hours:
8:00PM-04:00AM

No admission under age 18

Address: Basement, Hotel Guia, Macau Tel: **28532081** www.macauplaymatesclub.com

Tom Odula & Christopher Torchia, Garissa

KENYA | 148 KILLED

Gunman in university massacre was gov't official's son

ONE of the gunmen who slaughtered 148 people at a college in Kenya was identified yesterday as the law-school-educated son of a Kenyan government official, underscoring the inroads Islamic extremists have made in recruiting young people to carry out attacks against their own country.

Abdirahim Mohammed Abdullahi, who was killed by security forces Thursday along with the three other militants who stormed Garissa University College, was the son of a government chief in Mandera County, which borders Somalia, Interior Ministry spokesman Mwenda Njoka told The Associated Press.

The chief had reported his son missing last year and feared he had gone to Somalia, Njoka said.

Somalia's al-Shabab militant group claimed responsibility for the bloodbath, saying it was retribution for Kenya's sending of troops to Somalia to fight the extremists. The attackers separated Christian students from Muslim ones and massacred the Christians.

The news that one of the gunmen was Kenyan highlights the challenges faced by the government in preventing terrorist attacks. The danger comes not only from neighboring Somalia but also from within Kenya.

Kenyans make up the largest number of foreign fighters in al-Shabab, according to experts. Hundreds of Kenyan youths have trained with al-Shabab and then returned to Kenya, posing a major security threat, according to former police chief Mathew Iteere.

Kenya's government has said another source of instability is the country's refugee camps, with more than 423,000 Somali refugees.

Abdullahi graduated from the University of Nairobi with a law



A young Christian boy is frisked with a metal detector and has his bag searched to prevent against possible attacks, as he enters the compound of the Our Lady of Consolation Church in Garissa, Kenya

degree in 2013 and was seen as a "brilliant upcoming lawyer," according to Njoka.

Njoka said it is important for parents to inform authorities if their children disappear or seem to be embracing extremism.

Meanwhile, questions have been raised about the security response to the Garissa attack.

Police waited seven hours before sending a special tactical unit into the college to fight the gunmen, Kenya's Daily Nation news-

paper reported Sunday.

When the specially trained police finally went in, it took them only 30 minutes to kill the four attackers and stop the siege, the paper said.

Army barracks are just 500 meters from the college, and military officers said they could handle the attack, said a police officer who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media. Only after three soldiers were killed did the army call in the police tactical unit, he said.

Before the massacre, northeastern Kenya had seen other deadly attacks by al-Shabab against Christians.

Several hundred grieving Christians marked Easter Sunday at a Catholic church in Garissa, where Bishop Joseph Alessandro drew a parallel between the

ordeal of Jesus Christ and that of the stricken town.

"We join the sufferings of the relatives and the victims with the sufferings of Jesus," he told the congregation at Our Lady of Consolation Church. "The victims will rise again with Christ."

As for al-Shabab's followers, Alessandro said, "You don't know who they are. They could be your neighbors."

Security forces patrolled the perimeter of the church, the site of a grenade attack by militants three years ago that wounded worshippers.

"We just keep on praying that God can help us, to comfort us in this difficult time," said Dominick Odhiambo, a worshipper who said he planned to abandon his job as a plumber in Garissa and leave for his hometown because he was afraid. AP

Pope prays for killed Kenyan students, decries persecution

CHRISTIANS in the Holy Land and across the world are celebrating Easter, commemorating the day followers believe Jesus was resurrected in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago.

The cavernous Holy Sepulcher church in Jerusalem was packed with worshippers Sunday. The site is where Christians believe Jesus was crucified, buried and resurrected. Later, a Mass was celebrated in Bethlehem's Nativity Church, built atop the site where Christians believe Jesus was born.

Catholics and others are celebrating Easter, whereas Orthodox Christians, who follow a different calendar, are marking Palm Sunday with processions.

At the Vatican, Pope Francis delivered the



traditional Urbi et Orbi (to the city and to the world) blessing at the end of Easter Sunday Mass in St. Peter's Square — a sort of papal commentary on the state of world affairs.

He praised the framework nuclear agreement with Iran as an opportunity to make the world safer, while expressing deep concern about the bloodshed in Libya, Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Nigeria and elsewhere.

"I think in particular of the young people

who were killed last Thursday at Garissa University College in Kenya, for all who have been kidnapped, and for those forced to abandon their homes and their dear ones," the pope said.

In Kenya, worshippers celebrated at the Our Lady of Consolation Church in Garissa. According to witnesses and survivors, the gunmen singled out Christians to be killed.

At churches throughout the United States, people celebrated. And while Easter Sunday Mass was said at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, crowds strutted along Fifth Avenue for the annual Easter Parade. The tradition began in the 1880s as a strolling display of what prosperous New Yorkers wore to church.

USA

High political stakes for Clinton on Iran nuclear agreement

HILLARY Rodham Clinton can claim a piece of the victory if the U.S. and other world powers ultimately complete a final nuclear deal with Iran.

And she will own a piece of the failure if the negotiations collapse or produce a weak deal.

Her statement after a tentative agreement reached last week suggests the soon-to-be Democratic candidate for president knows those are her stakes.

She called the framework

"an important step," while cautioning that "the devil is always in the details."

"The onus is on Iran and the bar must be set high," said Clinton, who helped lay the groundwork for the diplomacy with Iran as President Barack Obama's first secretary of state. "There is much to do and much more to say in the months ahead, but for now diplomacy deserves a chance to succeed."

The issue will figure prominently in the foreign policy debate of the 2016

presidential campaign. Nearly all the expected Republican candidates said the outline agreement was dangerous to U.S. interests.



Hillary Rodham Clinton

presidential campaign. Nearly all the expected Republican candidates said the outline agreement was dangerous to U.S. interests.

"This attempt to spin diplomatic failure as a success is just the latest example of this administration's farcical approach to Iran," said Florida Sen. Marco Rubio. He is likely to make foreign policy a centerpiece of his candidacy.

But Clinton occupies a unique space on the nuclear issue because of her role in Obama's Cabinet. She sent a close adviser, Jake Sullivan, to participate in the secret talks with Iran that led to the start of the international nego-

tiations over the country's nuclear ambitions.

Clinton is also navigating delicate ties with Israel and the American Jewish community, an influential group of voters and donors. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a fierce critic of the Obama administration's outreach to Iran, described the framework deal as a threat to "the very survival" of his nation.

"I don't know how you can maneuver all aspects of this politically," said Ray Takeyh, a senior fellow for Middle Eastern studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. "You can be supportive and skeptical. I suspect that's the direction."

The tentative agreement announced Thursday by

the U.S. and its negotiating partners — Britain, France, Germany, China and Russia — is aimed at keeping Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. Negotiators have until June 30 to settle the technical details.

The deal would remove economic penalties against Iran once the U.N. nuclear agency verifies Tehran's compliance.

At times, Clinton has tried to play up her connection to the historic diplomacy. The U.S. and Iran severed diplomatic relations in 1979 after the Islamic revolution and the storming of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, where 52 Americans were held hostage for more than a year.

Hillary Clinton is said to announce her presidential campaign this month. AP

what's ON



MACAU BAND FESTIVAL 2015 "LOVELY JAZZ"

TIME: 8pm

VENUE: Macau Cultural Centre Small Auditorium

ADMISSION: MOP50

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0782

'CLASSIC RECURRENCE – CENTENNIAL EVOLUTION' – EXHIBITION OF WOMEN'S FASHION

TIME: 10am-8pm (Closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: May 10, 2015

ADDRESS: Macau Fashion Gallery / No. 47, Rua de S. Roque, Macau|

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853)2835 3341

MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-8pm (Closed on Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement (Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

19TH AND 20TH CENTURY PORTRAIT OIL PAINTINGS – MAM COLLECTION

TIME: 10am-7pm

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

UNTIL: December 31, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,

Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

'LANDFALL – WORKS BY ERIC FOK'

TIME: 12pm-7pm

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays)

UNTIL: April 25, 2015

VENUE: Estrada da Areia Preta No. 52, Edificio da

Fabrica de Baterias N.E. National, 3/FI., Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6064

NEW YEAR TRADITIONS OF TIANJIN AND CHONGQING MUNICIPALITIES

TIME: 9am-9pm

UNTIL: April 12, 2015

VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau / Avenida de Almeida

Ribeiro No.163

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100

Offbeat

A BURGLAR IN SIBERIA LEAVES HIS PHOTO, NOTE OF APOLOGY

A burglar in a small town in Siberia has broken into a house and left his photograph with a note of apology.

The burglar in Prokopyevsk, about 3,100 kilometers east of Moscow, picked the lock on the front door and stole a chain saw as well as several blocks of cigarette packs, the Interior Ministry's department in the Kemerovo region said last week.

The owner of the house found a photo of the burglar lying on the desk with a handwritten note on the back which said: "I'm going to give myself up today. Please forgive me. I hate myself for this."

Police eventually found the man who turned out to be a 26-year-old local resident with multiple convictions for burglaries.

The police did not say when the burglary happened.

TV canal macau

| | |
|-------|--|
| 13:00 | TDM News (Repeated) |
| 13:30 | News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast |
| 14:30 | RTPi Live |
| 17:40 | Brazil Avenue (Repeated) |
| 18:30 | TDM Sports (Repeated) |
| 19:30 | Soap Opera |
| 20:30 | Main News, Financial & Weather Report |
| 21:00 | TDM Interview |
| 21:45 | Happy Endings S2 |
| 22:10 | Brazil Avenue |
| 23:00 | TDM News |
| 23:30 | Miscellaneous |
| 00:30 | Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated) |

cinema

CINETEATRO

02 APR - 08 APR

FAST AND FURIOUS 7_

ROOM 1

(2D) 2:15, 4:45, 9:45 pm

(3D) 7:15 pm

Director: James Wan

Starring: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 137min



TWO THUMBS UP_

ROOM 2

2:15, 5:45, 7:30, 9:30 pm

Director: Lau Ho-leung

Starring: Francis Ng, Simon Yam, Leo Ku, Patrick Tam,

Cheng Ho-nam

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 103min



HOME_

ROOM 2

4:05 pm

Director: Tim Johnson

Language: Chinese (English)

Duration: 94min

SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER_

ROOM 3

(2D) 4:00, 5:45 pm

(3D) 9:30 pm

Director: Paul Tibbitt

Language: Chinese (English)

Duration: 92min

MACAU TOWER

02 APR - 22 APR

FURIOUS 7_

2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 pm

Director: James Wan

Starring: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 137min

this day in history



1999 US CLAIMS 'BANANA WAR' VICTORY

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has ruled in favour of the United States in its long-running trade dispute with Europe over bananas.

The WTO says the European Union (EU) has broken international rules on trade but Brussels says it may appeal.

The banana row centres on the preferential treatment allegedly given by the EU to banana producers from former African, Caribbean and Pacific colonies at the expense of Latin American growers and their US backers.

The WTO was asked last month to rule on whether the EU had done enough to amend its import regime and whether retaliatory American sanctions were legitimate.

Washington had sought \$520m (£330m) in retaliatory sanctions as compensation for lost business in Europe

However, the WTO awarded only \$191m (£120m).

America's top negotiator on agriculture matters, Peter Scher, said the list of European goods targeted for sanctions last month would now be revised as a result of the reduced compensation.

Items on the list include Scottish cashmere sweaters, Italian cheese, French handbags and German coffee makers.

Products selected for sanctions will be subject to import taxes of up to 100% - doubling their price to American shoppers.

Senior EU officials have meanwhile confirmed that the union will comply with the ruling, but said they would reserve the right to appeal against it.

They insist that the WTO panel has approved the principle of its policy, which is to protect African and Caribbean banana producers.

An EU spokesman said: "There is no ruling here that says under WTO rules it is illegal to offer protection to those (Caribbean) producers."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The EU adopted a new banana import system under which import rights would be granted as ships arrived at port, in a "first come, first served" system.

But the US argued this would still favour imports from former colonies and threatened to step up its sanctions by rotating import tariffs over a wider range of goods.

In April 2001 the long-running dispute was finally settled. The new agreement involved a complicated system of licences and quotas which gave Central American producers greater access to European markets.

The banana war was the most serious disagreement over trade between the EU and the US in recent years, although other industries including beef and steel were also at the centre of disputes.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You used to be able to charm to get what you want. Ah, those were the days. Today a loan takes a lot more than charisma. If you don't have the collateral, don't waste your time.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
It may not be a good day to make money, but that doesn't mean the day has no value. Spend it on yourself for a change. Start something new, like a fitness routine, or take in some culture.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
When you find yourself in a hole, start digging. Good advice, to a point. You're starting to feel so far under you'll never shovel yourself out. You will, though, and sooner than you imagine.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Be careful starting new projects. Drumming up business might seem like the solution to your problems, but that's time taken away from more important issues, like dousing domestic fires.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
There is action worth noting. You'll either be making a boat load or bailing furiously. But either way, there will be a reason to mark the date. Keep your eyes open for new opportunities.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Something simple makes a bigger splash than you ever imagined. Whether you're wrangling over prices or mud wrestling over a return, the squabbling makes an impulse buy simply not worth it.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You'll have a super day. What makes it so? Beauty? Romance? Flirtation? No, balancing the books. Don't let anyone tell you that the aesthetics of money aren't artistically and emotionally rewarding.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Sometimes cutting your losses is the hardest thing to do, and the most sensible. Make sure your subconscious desire to win isn't getting in the way of common sense.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Your business plan doesn't have to be appreciated by everyone, but you shouldn't feel ashamed of what you do for money, either. Some decisions are hard, but weigh things that have value other than monetary.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
You can throw all of your energy at work and still not earn a penny. But even though you're not connecting with the big bucks, you're still making connections that will earn you cash in the future.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Connect with a side of yourself you normally ignore. Whether it's the part that doesn't need money to feel valuable or the side that respects those without, you'll find it comes in handy today.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Lending money is fine, as long as you have it, and you've done more than your share. But harsh times demand a change in tactics. It's time to call in all debts, so start tallying up what others owe.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

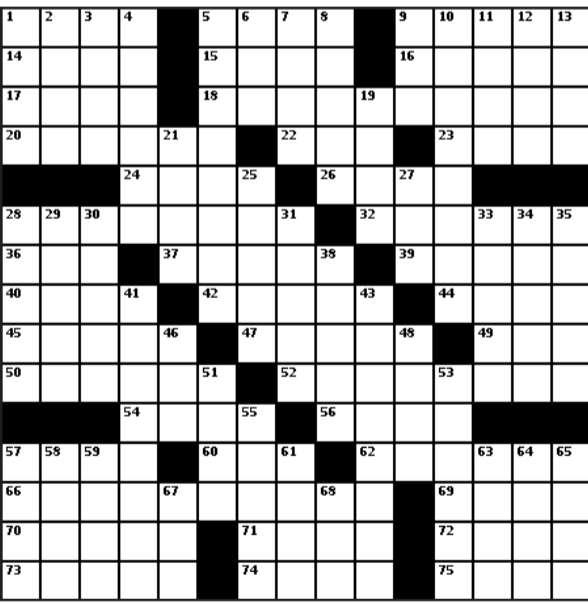
WEATHER

| | MIN | MAX | CONDITION |
|--------------|-----|-----|----------------------|
| CHINA | | | |
| Beijing | 2 | 14 | clear |
| Harbin | -7 | 5 | clear |
| Tianjin | 3 | 14 | clear |
| Urumqi | 0 | 8 | clear |
| Xi'an | 5 | 14 | drizzle/overcast |
| Lhasa | 2 | 15 | overcast/cloudy |
| Chengdu | 11 | 17 | drizzle |
| Chongqing | 12 | 15 | moderate rain/shower |
| Kunming | 12 | 25 | clear |
| Nanjing | 4 | 7 | shower |
| Shanghai | 7 | 10 | drizzle |
| Wuhan | 6 | 9 | drizzle |
| Hangzhou | 6 | 10 | moderate rain |
| Taipei | 22 | 24 | drizzle |
| Guangzhou | 21 | 27 | overcast |
| Hong Kong | 20 | 26 | cloudy |
| WORLD | | | |
| Moscow | -1 | 7 | sleet/drizzle |
| Frankfurt | -1 | 10 | sleet/clear |
| Paris | 2 | 14 | cloudy/clear |
| London | 3 | 15 | clear |
| New York | 9 | 17 | clear/moderate rain |

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Concert gear; 5- Teen spots?; 9- Addis ___; 14- Vaporize; 15- Blessing; 16- Boston airport; 17- Novel ending; 18- Enchanted; 20- Go ballistic; 22- Tree syrup; 23- Frat party purchases; 24- Graph prefix; 26- Aviation pioneer Sikorsky; 28- Polyhistor; 32- Humbles; 36- Harem room; 37- Land measures; 39- Poker declaration; 40- Bits of thread; 42- Camp sights; 44- Thousand; prefix; 45- Glacial ridge; 47- Muse of love poetry; 49- Condensed moisture; 50- Less fresh; 52- Sicilians, e.g.; 54- Earth Day subj.; 56- French summers; 57- Smelting waste; 60- Feedbag bit; 62- Make ugly; 66- Dry land; 69- "What I Am" singer Brickell; 70- Take ___ at (try); 71- The back end of something; 72- Narrate; 73- Stalks; 74- Alluring; 75- Exchange for money;

DOWN: 1- Explorer Tasman; 2- Marquand sleuth; 3- Mines; 4- Drowsy; 5- Theoretical; 6- One with a beat; 7- Denials; 8- China's Zhou ___; 9- Liturgical vestment; 10- Where you display your tomes; 11- A shivering fit - often a precursor to malaria; 12- Sudden explosive noise; 13- No ifs, ___; 19- Annika Sorenstam's org.; 21- ___ Camera; 25- Up ___ (trapped); 27- Kimono accessory; 28- Warsaw residents; 29- Writer of lyric poetry; 30- Sri ___; 31- Artist Matisse; 33- You ___ mouthful; 34- Actress Barkin; 35- Reduces speed; 38- Declare; 41- Message with frequent stops; 43- Sculptor's output; 46- VCR button; 48- Designer Cassini; 51- It's over your head; 53- Keys; 55- Dens; 57- RR stops; 58- For fear that; 59- Commedia dell'___; 61- Corner; 63- Nice notion; 64- Satiate; 65- Shout; 67- Bodybuilder's pride; 68- Nth degree



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



FOR SALE
www.JMLProperty.com

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

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Nam Ngon Garden Tower 3 Macau 1,840 sq ft / HKD 11.8M HKD 6,413sq ft Conveniently Located Ref: 14045398</p> | <p>Pou Kei Unit A Macau 870sq ft / HKD 5.3M HKD 5,747sq ft Apartment with Rooftop Ref: 14075408</p> | <p>Excellent Investment Property Nova City Tower 14 Taipa 1,340 sq ft / HKD 9.3M HKD 6,940sq ft Excellent Condition Ref: 14105419</p> | <p>Bauhinia Court, HG Coloane 1,660 sq ft. / HKD 9.3M HKD 5,602sq ft Quite Location with Balcony Ref: 11120250</p> |
| <p>Macau Nape Area Macau 2 Bedrooms Apartment Overlooking Grand Lapa Resort HKD 19,500 / 1,545 sq ft Ref: 15030482</p> | <p>The Manhattan, Unit D Taipa Taipa 4 Bedrooms Apartment Luxury Residence HKD 33,000 / 2,488 sq ft Ref: 15015429</p> | <p>Sheung Va Hin Macau 2 Bedrooms Apartment Newly Renovated HKD 12,800 / 880 sq ft Ref: 15030474</p> | <p>Ieng Kok C Macau 1 Bedroom Apartment Convention Location HKD 8,800 / 559 sq ft Ref: 15020466</p> |

JML property 卓雅物業
Since 1994



ELGRAND

360° Perfect parking View, without blind angle

AROUND VIEW MONITOR

The World's First 360° AROUND VIEW MONITOR offers the driver a comprehensive bird's eye view of the vehicle and its surroundings in real-time on the front display, generated from the surrounding four 180° ultra wide-angle high-resolution cameras mounted on the ELGRAND's front, both side mirrors and rear of the vehicle.



Luxury & Intellectual Equipment:

- ✦ Boomerang-shape iconic LED headlamp
- ✦ One touch power sliding door
- ✦ Luggage area under-floor box
- ✦ Superior independent 2nd row captain seats with adjustable shoulder support & ottoman.

Photo shown here may be different from Macau specifications.



新康恆集團有限公司屬下日產澳門總代理
新康誠汽車有限公司
 XIN KANG CHENG MOTORS LTD

澳門勞動節大馬路御景灣第 4 座地下 D 舖
 Avenida 1 de Maio, R/C D, Bloco 4, The Bayview, Macau

Nissan Macau
Tel: 2871 9838

Jerome Pugmire
Sports Writer

FOOTBALL | EUROPEAN ROUNDUP

Ronaldo scores 5 in Madrid's 9-1 rout, PSG beats Marseille

CRISTIANO Ronaldo took his scoring prowess to new levels Sunday, netting five goals for the first time in Real Madrid's 9-1 rout of Granada.

Ronaldo took his league tally to 36 for the season, four more than Lionel Messi, who had a quiet game in Barcelona's 1-0 win at Celta Vigo.

In France, Paris Saint-Germain won 3-2 at bitter rival Marseille to move one point ahead of Lyon at the top.

In England, veteran striker Jermain Defoe netted a stunning long-range volley to give Sunderland vital 1-0 win against Newcastle in the derby between northeast rivals. Italy's Serie A played all its matches on Saturday because of Easter.

SPAIN. Ronaldo's five-goal performances took his career tally to 300 goals for Real Madrid and his season total to 47 in all competitions.

Barcelona had to work much harder at Celta Vigo, but Jeremy Mathieu scored in the 73rd minute — his second goal in as many games — to maintained the club's four-point lead over Madrid.

After Gareth Bale opened the scoring, Ronaldo netted his first three goals in an eight-minute span before halftime.

The Ballon d'Or holder added two more goals after the break and Karim Benzema also netted two in one of the club's most lopsided wins. Madrid hadn't scored nine goals in a league match in 47 years.

"Cristiano is a phenomenon," Benzema said. "He is always on the lookout for goals."

Barcelona went ahead after veteran midfielder Xavi Hernandez came on in the second half.

The veteran playmaker made



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo, left, celebrates with team mate Marcelo after scoring a goal during a La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and Granada at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain

the most of a free kick earned by Luis Suarez by picking out Mathieu at the far post. Mathieu scored a similar header for the opening goal in the previous match, a 2-1 win over Madrid.

Elsewhere, Valencia remained in fourth place and Villarreal in sixth after they finished 0-0 at Mestalla Stadium.

Getafe also beat Deportivo La Coruna 2-1 to edge away from the relegation zone.

FRANCE. Paris Saint-Germain moved back above Lyon to the top of the French league after twice coming back from a goal down at bitter rival Marseille in a frenzied match.

Marseille's top scorer Andre-Pierre Gignac struck twice in the first half, either side of France midfielder Blaise Matuidi's equalizer, to put Marseille in charge.

But PSG profited from poor defending to score twice in quick succession at the start of the second half.

Brazilian defender Marquinhos equalized and Marseille defender Jeremy Morel scored an own goal.

Tensions mounted when some Marseille fans threw projectiles at the PSG bus as it pulled into the Stade Velodrome stadium, with one window slightly cracked.

PSG is one point above Lyon and five ahead of third-place Marseille with seven games remaining.

Elsewhere, winger Nicolas Maurice-Belay's first goal since August proved a timely one as it helped sixth-place Bordeaux beat Lens 2-1 and keep alive its hopes of qualifying for the Europa League.

Meanwhile, teenage midfielder Thomas Lemar scored his first career goal deep into injury time as Caen won 2-1 at Nantes.

ENGLAND. On a weekend of spectacular strikes in the Premier League, Sunderland forward Jermain Defoe entered his own contender for goal of the season to settle one of England's most passionate derby matches.

Defoe met a ball that dropped over his shoulder with a first-time, left-footed volley that dipped into the top corner from 22 meters.

Sunderland moved three points clear of third-to-last Burnley, which occupies the final relegation spot after drawing 0-0 with Tottenham.

Striker Harry Kane captained Spurs for the first time but was subdued as the team's slim ho-

pes of Champions League qualification took a hit.

Sixth-place Tottenham moved level on points with Liverpool and is provisionally seven points behind fourth-place Manchester City, whose game in hand is against Crystal Palace on Monday.

The Premier League saw a number of wonder goals on Saturday, arguably the most eye-catching coming when Stoke midfielder Charlie Adam scored with a shot from about 65 meters away to Chelsea.

But for pure technique and importance, Defoe's matched them all.

"Words can't describe how I felt," Defoe said. "But in a game like this, any goal is amazing."

GERMANY. Augsburg and Schalke drew 0-0 in the Bundesliga, with neither side taking a decisive step toward Europa League qualification.

Schalke's Klaas Jan Huntelaar shot straight at goalkeeper Marwin Hitz in the 54th minute. Since grabbing a hat trick against Mainz, the Netherlands striker hasn't scored in 10 league games.

With seven games remaining, Schalke is in fifth place, a point ahead of Augsburg in sixth, the last European qualification position. Hoffenheim is two points behind.

Meanwhile, Valentin Stocker's first Bundesliga goal and Nico Schulz's volley were enough to lift Hertha seven points clear of the relegation zone to 11th.

Newcomer Paderborn remained in the relegation zone. **AP**

RUGBY

England beats series leader South Africa at Tokyo Sevens

ENGLAND beat world series leader South Africa 21-14 in the Tokyo Sevens final over the weekend for its first tournament victory in more than two years.

Moreover, England rose above Australia in the standings into the top four, all of whom at the end of the series will automatically qualify for rugby's return to the Olympics next year. There are two legs left, in Glasgow and London, next month.

"It wasn't pretty rugby this weekend from a lot of

teams but we carried on grafting," England coach Simon Amor said after his team's first tournament win since February 2013 in Wellington, New Zealand.

It rained at Prince Chichibu Stadium throughout a final in which South Africa made twice as many errors as England. South Africa would have scored first but Seabelo Senatla lost control of the ball when he dived short of the line.

Charlie Hayter put England on the board first, straightening the attack

after Dan Norton broke on the outside.

South Africa's reply was immediate and the finish brilliant, as Justin Geduld ran on to a pinpoint chip from Cecil Afrika. But it remained 7-7 at halftime only after England captain Tom Mitchell, the star of the show, out-printed Senatla to the ball in the English in-goal.

Mitchell then scored 37 seconds into the new half. England forced a turnover from the kickoff, Mitchell spotted no South Africans covering behind,

chipped, regathered, and crashed over between the posts.

Four minutes later, Mitchell forced a relieving penalty in front of his posts, forward Phil Burgess quick-tapped to himself and ran his fastest 80 meters ever for the decisive try and 21-7.

"I saw there was no one at home, and thought if I could make at least 10, 15 (meters), and someone else could be outside me ... but no one was there," Burgess said. "Fortunately, I had enough in the



England's Charlie Hayter, center, is tackled by South Africa's Werner Kok during the final match of Tokyo Sevens rugby tournament

tank left."

Fresh reinforcements helped South Africa cut the gap to seven through Afrika, but England had time and the title in hand. South Africa still leads the series by four points from Fiji, which was held out by the Africans 7-5 in the semifinals and finished third.

New Zealand remained

third overall, nine points behind South Africa. After featuring in four straight finals, the Kiwis won the plate. They were undone in the quarterfinals, overhauled by Canada 19-15 for the first time in 29 matches.

Canada couldn't pull off another comeback against England in the semifinals, falling 14-5. **AP**

opinion

World Views

Robert Burns, AP National Security Writer

PENTAGON CHIEF HEADS EAST AS US TRIES TO MAINTAIN ASIA FOCUS

Islamic extremists grab parts of Iraq and Syria. Yemen slides into civil war. Iran's nuclear program strains U.S. relations with Israel. Ukraine fights Russian-backed separatists.

At a time of crisis across the Middle East and beyond, the Obama administration is trying to keep its focus on a widely advertised shift to Asia.

The administration has pursued the strategy since 2011, arguing that no region is more important to the United States' long-term interests, particularly as the rise of China brings concern in other Asian capitals.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter will visit Japan and South Korea this week, part of a series of planned trips to the region during his first year as Pentagon chief. He will visit India and attend an international security conference in Singapore in May, and he may visit China later in the year.

Before he became defense secretary in February, Carter was a supporter of what the Obama administration calls its "rebalance" to Asia. That term meant to rebut the implication that by giving more attention to Asia, Washington is pivoting away from its traditional allies in Europe and its extensive commitments in the Mideast.

While serving as the deputy secretary of defense, Carter said in May 2013 that international terrorism, persistent Mideast turmoil, nuclear proliferation and cyberthreats would continue to require Pentagon attention.

"We also see great opportunities: Among them, to shift the great weight of the Department of Defense, both intellectual and physical, that has been devoted to Iraq and Afghanistan, to the Asia-Pacific region, where America will continue to play its seven-decade-old pivotal stabilizing role into the future," Carter said then.

His Tokyo visit beginning today is meant in part to smooth the way for Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to Washington in late April. That trip will coincide with a historic reworking of the guidelines that govern U.S.-Japan defense cooperation in a way intended to give Japan's self-defense forces a more active role in Asian security.

Japan's post-World War II constitution limits the country's use of force, but Abe last year approved a reinterpretation of the constitution, and his government has proposed legislation to enable defense changes.

A strategic goal shared by Tokyo and Washington is for Japan to participate in what is known as collective self-defense, meaning that it could come to the aid of an ally under attack even if that did not entail a direct attack on Japan or its own military.

Carter plans to cap his week in Asia with meetings with South Korean government officials in Seoul and visit U.S. troops.

Among the hottest defense topics in South Korea is the prospect of deploying an advanced U.S. missile defense system, called the Theater High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD. The U.S. is thought to want to place the weapon system in South Korea as a defense against North Korean ballistic missiles, but Seoul has balked, in part out of concern that China opposes the move.

U.S. relations with Japan and South Korea are strong, but the alliances are sometimes tested by differing views on how to handle North Korea's periodic provocations and China's rapid military modernization.

A new assessment of the outlook for Asian security, released Thursday by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, argues that although Asian "hot wars" cannot be ruled out, a continuation of the status quo is a more likely scenario over the next five to 25 years. This would likely mean a mix of economic cooperation and intensifying military competition and rivalry.

The assessment was requested by the Pentagon and is part of a larger study sponsored by the U.S. Pacific Command.

"Allies remain concerned about the sustainability of U.S. predominance in the region," the study said. "Many assume the United States will not retain its predominance — or that it already is lost — and expect increased U.S. demands on allies for important security functions."

THE BUZZ UKRAINIAN LEADER LIFTS OBJECTIONS TO VOTE ON REGIONAL POWER

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko says that he does not object to a referendum that could give more powers to the restive regions engulfed in more than a year of warfare.

The conflict between Russia-backed rebels and government troops in eastern Ukraine has claimed more than 6,000 lives. When it began, protesters in the east demanded a vote on giving

their regions more autonomy. Such calls were rejected by the Ukrainian government at the time.

But Poroshenko yesterday met a parliamentary commission that is drafting amendments to the country's main law and said in a televised meeting that if the commission decides that such a vote is necessary he would not stand in the way of a referendum.

Prince Harry meets Australian public at start of army trip



Britain's Prince Harry, right, meets a young member of the public during a visit to the Australian War Memorial in Canberra

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

BRITAIN'S Prince Harry joked and chatted with an enthusiastic crowd yesterday at his only scheduled public appearance during a month-long embedment with Australia's army, declaring pride in his ginger hair and telling a self-obsessed younger generation that "selfies are bad."

The British army captain reported for duty in Australia's capital, Canberra, to begin a four-week attachment to the Australian army that will take him to the east, west and north coasts of the vast nation.

But before he got down to military business, Harry ignored light rain and cool weather to shake hands and chat with hundreds of cheering well-wishers who gathered

at cordons to welcome him outside the Australian War Memorial.

Perhaps because of his own history of embarrassing candid photos, he was less generous with teenagers who wanted to photograph themselves with him. He drew laughs when he urged one teen admirer to break the habit of taking "selfies."

"No, I hate selfies. Seriously, you need to get out of it," Ten Network television recorded him telling the admirer.

"I know you're young, but selfies are bad," Nine Network television recorded the prince saying.

Harry, fourth in line to the British throne — he'll move to fifth when brother Prince William's second child is born — also shook hands and gave

a high-five to ginger-haired 12-year-old Ethan Toscan, who brought a banner that read "Redheads RULE!"

Like in Britain, redheads are often teased in Australia, where they are known as "rangas" — short for orangutans.

"He said that I was fabulous in making the sign and it's awesome to be a redhead," Ethan said later.

Young and old members of the public gathered at the memorial, with Harry laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier before strolling to the museum's World War I and Afghanistan galleries.

Harry arrived at Sydney International Airport early yesterday dressed in army fatigues, and changed into a dress uniform for the official functions at the memorial.

The 30-year-old veteran of two tours in Afghanistan later reported for duty to Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin, Australia's Defense Force chief, at the nearby Australian military officers' college.

Harry saluted his new boss, then delivered a letter from him his grandmother Queen Elizabeth II. She wrote that it was appropriate that her second grandson visited as the two countries commemorated sacrifices made a century ago during World War I. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Keystone, Laurent Gillieron



The full moon sets behind the Swiss Alps' mountains, in Charrat, Canton of Valais, Switzerland, at dawn yesterday.

| Station | Air quality |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Roadside | 30-50 Good |
| High Density Residential Area | 30-50 Good |
| Ambient | 30-50 Good |

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



AP PHOTO

PAKISTAN-YEMEN A Saudi-led coalition targeting Shiite rebels in Yemen has asked Pakistan to contribute soldiers, Pakistan's defense minister said yesterday, raising the possibility of a ground offensive in the country. Defense Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif made the comments as Pakistan's parliament debates whether to contribute militarily to the campaign against the rebels, known as Houthis.



XINHUA

SYRIA Shelling and sporadic clashes struck a Palestinian refugee camp under attack by Islamic extremists in Damascus, a situation that a U.N. official described as "beyond inhumane." Syrian government's air force has dropped several barrel bombs on the camp since Sunday.

FRANCE French special forces yesterday freed a Dutchman held hostage since being kidnapped in 2011 by extremists in Mali, the military said. There was no immediate word on the fate of two men abducted at the same time. The military said the rescue of Sjaak Rijke took place in far northern Mali, and that several militants were captured.



AP PHOTO

USA The high-octane "Furious 7" peeled out of the gates in its opening weekend, picking up a stunning USD143.6 million from 4,004 locations to easily top the domestic box office. The expectation-shattering sum is a studio and franchise best for the homegrown car-obsessed series, which has continued to grow over the past few films. "Furious 7" is now the ninth-biggest opening of all time.