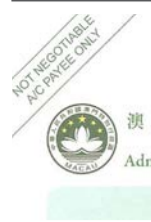




### SECRETARY: 'NO CHANGES' FOR MONTHLY PUBLIC PARKING PASSES

Secretary Raimundo do Rosário's office told the Times that they foresee no changes to the monthly passes at public car parks

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### POSSIBLE CASH HANDOUT CUTBACK WORRIES WORKERS

24K employees' monthly income is below MOP8,000. Unionist Kong loi Fai stressed the subsidy's importance to most grassroots laborers

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### REPORT: MACAU BETS BIG ON INDIA, EYES GROWTH IN TOURIST ARRIVALS

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## WORLD BRIEFS

**SOUTH KOREA** U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is in South Korea where he will be discussing security issues amid fresh fears of North Korean belligerence and delivering a speech on cyber policy. Kerry arrived in Seoul yesterday from Beijing and will see top South Korean officials today.

**NEW ZEALAND** Prince Harry shoots the winning goal in a friendly soccer match, ending his visit to New Zealand.



**AFGHANISTAN** A Taliban suicide car bomber attacked a convoy from the European Union police training mission yesterday near the Afghan capital's international airport, killing at least three people, including a Briton, authorities said. The car bomb exploded early yesterday morning near the office of the Afghan Civil Aviation Authority, a few hundred meters from the airport's main terminal, said Najib Danish, a deputy Interior Ministry spokesman.

More on backpage

With articles republished from



FINANCIAL TIMES

Middle East: Walled in

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## 30-PLUS YEARS LATER

# Deng Xiaoping KKK plot exposed in China



"Mr Deng Goes to Washington" including interviews with then-President Jimmy Carter opened this weekend in Beijing. The documentary depicts for the first time in China an attack on Mr Deng by a Ku Klux Klan member, which went unreported at the time P10

## Australian property flagged for money laundering from Macau, HK, China P3

NETO VALENTE AT LAWYERS DAY

# Public administration staff should be promoted based on merit

Catarina Pinto

**T**HE president of Macau Lawyers Association (AAM), Jorge Neto Valente, has called on the government to improve the management of human resources within public administration services, stressing that employees "should be promoted based on merit."

"There's an issue concerning our public administration, as people are sometimes promoted based on their seniority and based on the fact that the whole structure wishes to offer them a higher salary. It's based on seniority rather than on merit," he told reporters on the sidelines of the Lawyers' Day opening ceremony held on Friday.

Mr Neto Valente stressed that it leads to situations in which professionals are promoted to senior positions despite lacking leadership abilities. "They might be qualified but they might not have a leadership profile. They are not prepared to serve in a leading position."

Furthermore, there comes a point in which these professionals find themselves afraid to make important decisions. "When we want to promote someone just to offer them a more competitive wage, they will then be in a leading position but are not prepared to lead. They do not make mistakes either, because they're afraid of taking decisions," Mr Neto Valente reiterated.

"Rather than offering them a higher salary, it is more important to assess their suitability



to be promoted to senior positions," he added.

While delivering his speech at Friday's event at Senado Square, Mr Neto Valente also raised criticism over the suitability of some legal advisers working within the public administration. He recalled that not all of them have the right background and qualifications.

"There are people being recruited who do not have a legal background focusing on Macau's legal system, which is the only one that matters here. Mainland China's legal system has no application here," he said.

Mr Neto Valente stressed that

it is crucial for the public administration to have a reasonable number of competent legal advisers, who have a comprehensive understanding of Macau's legal system.

The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, who attended the opening ceremony of the Lawyers' Day activities on Friday, told reporters that the government "pays attention to the recruitment process of civil servants."

"We will pay great attention to the criteria used to hire civil servants and through that criteria, we hope to improve civil servants' excellence," she

assured.

Currently, AAM is comprised of 317 lawyers and 134 trainees. Mr Neto Valente said that the further training of local young

lawyers is one of the association's main priorities. However, he acknowledged that the association is likewise concerned about lawyers' training and strives to make sure that their background meets society's needs and expectations.

Regarding Macau's legal system, Mr Neto Valente said he does not consider the revision of legal codes a priority. When asked which laws should be prioritized in the government's revision plans, Mr Neto Valente responded saying, "surely it is not a priority to revise general codes."

"These are the backbone of our legal system, so I don't think it's a priority to revise them as they were drafted to be up to date for quite a long time," he stated. "Of course our society has evolved and there are things that should be included – for instance, cybercrime – which was not very common before."

But as for including other pieces of legislation, Mr Neto Valente is more skeptical: "For instance, they want to legislate on indecent assault. I agree that indecent assault should be punished. But is it a big problem in Macau now? From my experience, it's not a recurrent crime here."

Lawyers' Day was celebrated between Friday and Sunday. A series of activities were held to provide Macau citizens with further information about the legal profession.

## MORE PEOPLE INTERESTED IN AAM PRESIDENCY

**THE PRESIDENT** of the Macau Lawyers Association (AAM), Jorge Neto Valente, hinted that other lawyers might be interested in taking over in the AAM's next elections. The current term runs from 2015 to 2017.

"The role requires a great deal of work and it reduces the amount

of hours one can work at their own law firm. I can only serve as president because I am fortunate enough to have great colleagues working at my office and that can take up some of my work," he said, adding that "only people who have that kind of availability could serve as president."

**T**HE Macau Polytechnic Institute (MPI) has received a Quality Award from the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) for 2015 in the category of Best/Model Internal Quality Assurance.

According to a press release issued by the local higher education institution, "MPI is the first in Macau to receive this international

EDUCATION

## MPI receives APQN quality award

award. With winners of the APQN Awards determined by an international jury, this award represents international recognition of the quality and standards of MPI's educational pro-

vision."

The presentation ceremony was held during the 2015 APQN Conference and Annual General Meeting organized in Kunming in late April 2015. Recipients

of other APQN Quality Awards included, amongst others, Dr Judith Eaton, President of the US's Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher

Education, UK.

Established in 2003, APQN is an important international organization devoted to safeguarding the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region

and to promoting global standards and commendable international practices in higher education. At present it has 156 members from over 30 countries or regions, including the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (Australia) and the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications.

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REPORT

# Aussie estate targeted by criminals from Macau, HK, China for money laundering



**A**USTRALIA has been urged to tighten oversight of the booming property sector to prevent it from being used by criminals, including from Macau, for global money laundering, stated a report last month by the Financial Action Task Force. The Paris-based anti-laundering agency assessed Australia's property sector as high-risk, and urged the authorities to increase the surveillance of real estate agents, accountants and lawyers.

The report, quoted yesterday by The Straits Times, warned that Australian property is at risk of being targeted by local and foreign-organized crime syndicates making money from illicit drugs, fraud and tax evasion. It noted that Singapore is

believed to be one of the main hubs for criminal funds being laundered in Australia.

"Australia is seen as an attractive destination for foreign proceeds, particularly corruption-related proceeds, flowing into real estate from the Asia-Pacific region," the report said.

"Hong Kong, Macau, China; Singapore and the United Arab Emirates were seen as major sources, destinations, and/or transit jurisdictions for proceeds of crime laundered in and out of Australia. Large amounts are suspected to be laundered out of China into the Australian real estate market."

A boom in recent years saw house prices rising 7 per cent nationally in 2014 and more than 12 per cent in Sydney. Foreign investors have poured

in money, with the authorities approving A\$74.6 billion (USD60 billion) worth of residential and commercial purchases last year, up from A\$51.9 billion in 2013. According to Australia's Foreign Investment Review Board, the biggest sources of real estate investment were China (A\$12.4 billion), the United States (A\$6.1 billion), Singapore (A\$4.3 billion) and Canada (A\$2.9 billion).

But the thriving sector has led to growing calls to ensure it is not used to funnel dirty money. There are about 35,000 real estate agents in Australia, but they are not subjected to anti-laundering procedures, unlike sectors such as banking and gaming. These have tough obligations to check and verify the identities of customers and to

instruct employees on the risk of money laundering.

"Australian authorities are committed to ensuring that Australia is not a safe haven for the proceeds of corruption," a spokesman told The Straits Times. "The extension of anti-money-laundering/ countering-terrorism finance regulation to non-financial businesses, including the real estate sector, will be considered as part of the statutory review of Australia's regime, which is currently underway."

The attention on the Australian real estate sector has so far largely focused on corrupt Chinese officials investing in luxury houses, but the task force made it clear that the risk of laundering extends to a wide range of domestic and foreign criminals.

An expert on international corruption and money laundering, Professor Jason Sharman of Griffith University, said the country's enforcement and regulatory system relating to the property sector was "very, very weak."

"Australian real estate is a great way of laundering money - a lot of criminals are doing it," he told The Straits Times.

"There is a lot of money going into the sector, so it is easy for transactions to get lost. Criminals can use lawyers and real estate trust accounts and can put layers between them and the asset," he said.

## Alexis in Venice: We have much in common



Last week, Secretary Alexis Tam visited the 56th Venice Biennale exhibition, the oldest art event in the world. This year, Macau is represented by a retrospective of renowned painter Mio Pang Fei. Mr Tam, who travelled with IC's president Ung Vai Meng, took the opportunity to visit heritage sites in the Italian historic city, and drew parallels between Macau and Venice. "Like Venice, Macau is also a tourism city, with a rich cultural history and very peculiar characteristics," he expressed, as quoted by a government press release. On the night of May 16, Mr Tam went to Geneva to participate in the 68th General Assembly of the WHO.

## Registration for MIF 2015 starts today

The "20th Macao International Trade and Investment Fair" (20th MIF) will be held at the Venetian Macao from October 22 to 25, 2015. The event is organized by the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM). The World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA) has been invited as a Special Supporting Organization while 15 local, mainland Chinese and Hong Kong economic and authorities or trade associations have been invited as event co-organizers. The Macao Convention & Exhibition Association, Macau Fair & Trade Association, and Association of Advertising Agents of Macau are jointly coordinating the event. This year, the Macao SME Pavilion will be jointly organized by the Macao Chamber of Commerce and IPIM, with the Macau Small and Medium Enterprises Association and Macau Business Women's Association as co-organizers.

## Foreign reserves still robust

The Monetary Authority announced last week that the preliminary estimate of the MSAR's foreign exchange reserves amounted to MOP137.3 billion (USD17.20 billion) at the end of April 2015. The reserves increased by 0.3% from the revised value of MOP136.9 billion (USD17.14 billion) from the previous month. The MSAR's foreign exchange reserves at the end of April represented 12 times the currency in circulation. The trade-weighted effective exchange rate index for the pataca, a gauge of the domestic currency's exchange rates against the currencies of Macau's major trading partners, fell by 0.34 points month-to-month but rose by 7.74 points year-on-year to 104.85 in April 2015.

# Secretary: 'No changes' foreseen for monthly public parking passes

Catarina Pinto

**T**HE office for the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, has said that they foresee no changes to the monthly passes available at Macau's public car parks.

In a written reply to the Times, the Secretary's cabinet said, "currently, no change has been foreseen regarding the monthly passes for [public] car parks."

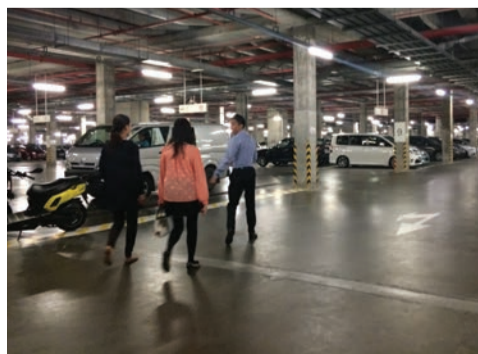
Last month, the government told the Traffic Affairs Consultative Committee that it would be proposing the cancellation of the monthly passes scheme, which allows some residents to pay for a monthly pass guaranteeing them a parking space in one of Macau's public

car parks.

The Secretary's cabinet said that data from the Transport Bureau (DSAT) shows that from a total of 38 public car parks, 16 are part of the monthly passes scheme. Within these 16 car parks, the bureau recorded 800 monthly passes for motorcycles (non-permanent spaces). There are 1,000 monthly passes for permanent parking spaces, and about 3,500 monthly passes for temporary parking spaces.

Recently, a group of more than 200 residents who hold monthly passes for public car parks decided to establish an association, in hopes of further discussions with the government on this issue.

Lawmaker José Pereira Coutinho, who



met with the 200 monthly car park pass holders, told the Times that the government had hinted that the new policy for monthly passes would not affect those who had already acquired a monthly pass for public car parks.

# Gov't to revise laws on consumer rights and private renting

Catarina Pinto

**T**HE Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, pledged to prioritize the revision of legislation concerning consumer rights, private renting, and budget framework. Ms Chan added that the government will also launch a public consultation on the gradual revision of Macau's Criminal Code.

Speaking on the sidelines of the 11th Cross-Strait Academic Conference on Public Administration, held at the University of Macau on Friday, Ms Chan told reporters that a public consultation on the revision of the civil servants' central recruitment scheme will be launched in July.

The Secretary acknowledged that multiple laws need to be revised, but the government will put forward a plan to outline all its legislative priorities.

Regarding the restructuring of public administration departments, namely the Civic



Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan speaks at the conference opening ceremony

and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM), Ms Chan stated that, "the restructuring of the IACM is going according to schedule as is the establishment of the new municipal body."

She added that the government will be assessing the two entities' duties and restructuring IACM accordingly.

"We will draft a plan this year for that municipal body," she

reiterated.

The establishment of a municipal body holding no political powers was announced by Chief Executive Chui Sai On when he delivered his 2015 Policy Address. According to Ms Chan, the "municipal body will be set up in accordance with Macau's Basic Law and will offer services in the municipal, cultural and sports areas."

The administration is also putting forward a plan for the restructuring and merging of the Legal Affairs Bureau (DSAL) and the Law Reform and International Law Bureau in June, said Ms Chan on the sidelines of the Lawyers' Day opening ceremony held on Friday.

This year's Cross-Strait Academic Conference on Public Administration, which took

place between Friday and Saturday, focused on "the modernization of public governance."

Organized by the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP) and the University of Macau's Faculty of Social Sciences, the conference "allowed for the discussion of public administration matters as experts and scholars gathered here to exchange their ideas and experiences, and it improves public services performance," said Ms Chan.

Ms Chan recalled that since its launch in 2005, the conference has had a great impact on the public administration area both in Macau and Hong Kong.

Regardless of constant changes across the globe, the Secretary stated, "the Macau government has been flexible in its approach and has continuously implemented public administration reforms, striving to improve the government's performance and meet the population's demands, namely regarding public services."

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24,000 EARN LESS THAN MOP8,000

# Possible cash handout cutback worries grassroots workers

**U**P to 24,000 local employees' monthly income does not reach MOP8,000, said the Secretary-general of the Macao Federation of Trade Unions Kong Ioi Fai at TDM's weekly forum yesterday morning, in which a majority of participants voiced their concerns over the possible reduction of the government's cash handout next year.

During the one-hour forum, Kong stressed the importance of the annual subsidy to most grassroots laborers in the city, most of whom struggle to make a decent living.

The latest data from the Statistics and Census Ser-



vice shows that the overall median monthly employment earnings in the first quarter of the year stood at MOP15,000. One female citizen sugges-

ted in the sharing session that the government could possibly lay out a "concrete mechanism" so that "local citizens would not have to make wild guesses" over how much would be distributed every year.

The president of Macao Civic Power Agnes Lam reckoned the scheme could be revamped to serve a particular group of people in need.

"The name of the cash sharing [scheme] is like a spell that prevents us from thinking of how to better use the money. It's not necessary to do away with the scheme. Instead, [let's] think of who should be given the limited money. We could consider [the form of] dependence allowance that entitles university students to the grants for their study," advised Lam.

As most citizens on the forum expressed their disapproval about the possibly shrinking amount, Sulu Sou, head of the New Macau Association, criticized the SAR government for lavishing huge sums of public funds on festive functions, as well as its tendency to grant more to local large-scale groups. **Staff reporter**

## New health center opens in Taipa

A new health center will open in Taipa on May 27 to serve patients living in the Avenida de Kwong Tung area, the Health Bureau announced last week. Residents who usually resort to Taipa's Health Center services can register with the new health center, but should be aware that registration is based on each resident's location. The new health center provides services for children, adults, pre-natal care, and gynecology, among other medical specialties.

## World Vision Macau branch hosts 10 hour starvation camp

More than 200 participants yesterday joined a camp hosted by the Macau branch of World Vision to experience starvation for ten hours. An eight-year-old attendee said he wished to feel the dilemma of the impoverished through the event. Another participant, also a parent, hoped to teach her kids the principle of "enough is fine" in the camp. The organizer required the participants to walk barefoot during the entire course and sought to make them realize that most poverty-stricken nations in the world are not able to get themselves out of the poverty trap unless through medical and educational development in neighborhoods.

## CTM fined MOP 78,000 for network accident

The Bureau of Telecommunications Regulation released the results of its investigation into four accidents in CTM's telecommunication network last year. Regarding a network accident in late February, 2014 that affected mobile phone users, the bureau decided to fine the local telecom service operator MOP78,000. As for the remaining of incidents that occurred in January, March and May, CTM avoided any penalty, as either the incident had been caused by unexpected circumstances such as fires, or no obvious breaches were discovered in the investigation.



**T**HE Macau Polytechnic Institute's (IPM) new campus will be located at the former site of the University of Macau's Taipa campus. According to IPM president Li Xiangyu, the new site will house a new teaching and research center for subjects such as cultural creativity, Portuguese language

## IPM to relocate to Taipa with cultural creativity academic center

and gaming history.

Li told the media yesterday that the university doesn't expect to make relocation plans until next year, as a number of budget and administrative procedures have yet to be solved.

"When we were allocated this campus, we didn't have the budget for it. Only when we have the budget next year, could we actually [relocate]. Right now we are speeding up the design process, because designing doesn't cost much money, but the actual relocation depends on money," he explained.

Speaking at a graduation works exhibition held yesterday for IPM's design

and visual arts students, the president stressed that, with the MSAR government being committed to developing the cultural and creative industries, the prospects for graduates in cultural and creative industries would grow better and better.

"I think the current employment prospects and conditions are quite good for these students, and there's no doubt that they will be even better in the future. (...) Seeing their exhibition works, I think there is full of hope," said Li, adding that currently about 90 percent of those fresh graduates have been able to find a job in related areas. **BY**

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REPORT

## Macau bets big on India, eyes growth in tourist arrivals

MACAU is expecting over 4.8 per cent growth in tourist arrivals from India this year, betting big on its unique blend of museums, cuisines, shopping malls and casinos to lure a record number of Indians to the 'Las Vegas of the East', the Press Trust Of India (PTI) reported yesterday.

"In 2014, the visitor arrivals from India to Macau were 1,67,000. Macau has been witnessing a 4.8 per cent growth year-on-year. We expect it to do much better this year," Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) Head of India Representative Arzan Khambatta told PTI in Macau.

"This is because Macau is a perfect destination for leisure as well as Meetings, Incentives, Conference and Exhibitions (MICE) activities," Khambatta said.

Macau, recently selected by the Lonely Planet travel guide, as one of the top 10 best travel regions of 2015, has all the ingredients that anybody would want for a good holiday, he added.

One of the biggest advantages, the PTI envoy states, is that there is no hassle getting a visa, as it's a 'visa on arrival' destination.

Macau is focusing on both youth and families, along with senior citizens and women travellers.

"Segments like groups of friends, honeymooners, groups of families are our focused audience. We are placing Macau as a premium and luxury destination mainly from the metro cities," Khambatta said.

The Indian agency goes on describing what they see as "various family oriented activities that an Indian traveller can indulge in like the famous show of 'The House of Dancing Water', the walking tours around Senado Square, the skyline of Macau from the 60th floor of the Macau Tower, the calm and serene Coloane island and the buzzing old Portuguese Taipa island, bungee jumping for the adventure seeker or skywalk for the thrill seeker."

Macau also has a lot to offer foodies with its different cuisines like Portuguese, Chinese as well as the unique local Macanese cuisine at restaurants, "or you can go safe with the Indian cuisine," the Press Trust of India added.

## Thousands of flats and hotel rooms under construction

A total of 92 residential buildings and 18 hotel projects were under construction in the past quarter, expected to deliver more than 13,100 new flats and 9,800 hotel rooms. 221 residential projects and 25 hotel projects were planned in the same period, which aim to provide over 23,500 housing units and 15,700 guest rooms.

According to the latest statistics released by the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT), the number of hotel rooms under construction in the first quarter surged by 65 percent

year-on-year, whilst their total construction area rose by 42 percent to stand at 9.41 million square meters.

Over a thousand hotel rooms under construction belong to ten hotel projects being built in the Macau peninsula, whereas another thousand belong to two projects in Taipa; over 7,500 rooms belong to five projects in Cotai, while some 200 rooms are in a hotel in Coloane. In addition, these hotel projects are building 9,800 parking spaces.

Besides those under construction, 25 new hotel projects were planned in the first quarter, with an approx-

imately equivalent construction area. Eighteen of these projects in the peninsula were intended to build 3,100 rooms, while five projects in Cotai were planned with nearly 12,000 rooms; one project was designed with 120 rooms in Taipa and another was planned with some 450 rooms in Coloane. These new plans also intend to provide a total of over 8,500 parking spaces.

As for the 92 residential building projects underway, 78 of them are located in the Macau peninsula with over 10,300 housing units, whereas 6 are in Taipa and 8 in Coloane, totaling 1,500

and 13,000 units respectively. These projects will also provide some 14,000 parking spaces.

Moreover, 16 residential projects completed construction in the past quarter and entered acceptance procedures, whilst another 9 projects were issued occupancy permits. The newly constructed buildings will deliver a total of 1,670 housing units and 1,240 parking spaces.

The first quarter also recorded 221 new plans for residential projects, intended to house over 23,500 new flats and 27,800 parking spaces. **BY**

## New elderly homes to be built in next 3 years

THE Social Welfare Bureau president, Iong Kong Io, revealed that several new elderly homes will be built in the next three years inside public housing complexes, which will add 700 residential quotas.

Iong said these homes will be located at the Rua da Praia do Manduco, Sai Pai Van and Ká Hó areas, and that they address the demand of some 400 elderly citizens that are currently on the

waiting list.

Regarding Hengqin's plan to build high-end residential care homes for elderly people, Iong said the bureau still isn't able to assess local residents' needs and wishes to spend their remaining years on the neighboring island. However, "if the environment and conditions there are attractive to the local elderly, we [the government] will consider if there's more space for cooperation." **BY**



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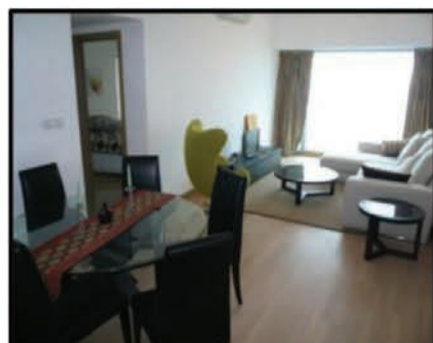
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#### Kinglight - One Bedroom Apartment Taipa

(Ref: 15040497)

700sq. ft. HKD 16,500  
Penthouse apartment. Large king size bedroom with breathtaking views. Ample storage in bedroom with ensuite shower room. Modern open plan kitchen with breakfast bar. Spacious living area with views across the Macau Jockey Club & Galaxy to China. Available from end of May 2015. Viewings can be scheduled daytime during the month of May.

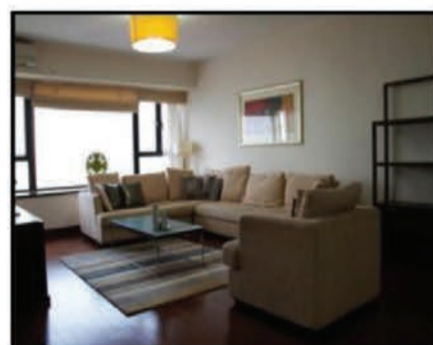


#### Manhattan Taipa

(Ref: 15030488)

1,626sq. ft. HKD 26,800  
Luxury residence in Central Taipa. Spacious open plan living / dining room. 5 star facilities including gym, golf simulator, swimming pool, sauna, BBQ facilities and private cinema.

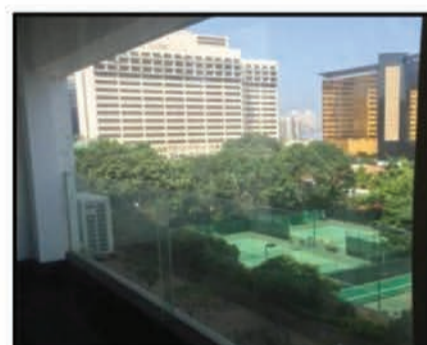
Close to supermarkets, restaurants, cafes, shops and walking distance to Cotai Strip this is the perfect family or executive home.



#### The Manhattan, Unit D Taipa

(Ref: 15015429)

2,985sq. ft. HKD 29,800  
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

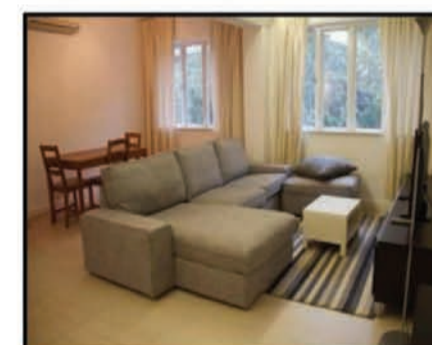


#### Macau Nape Area Macau

(Ref: 15030482)

1,288sq. ft. HKD 16,500  
Fabulous apartment renovated 5 years ago. Originally 3 bedrooms converted to 2 double bedrooms.

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



#### Old Taipa Village, Vai Fat Taipa

(Ref: 15040499)

650sq. ft. HKD 13,500

Fantastic One Bedroom Furnished Apartment. Spacious open plan living / dining area. Simply furnished. Good size double bedroom with free standing storage. Modern shower room. Open plan kitchen. Recently upgraded (air con's gased, new curtains, painted throughout).

### For Sale



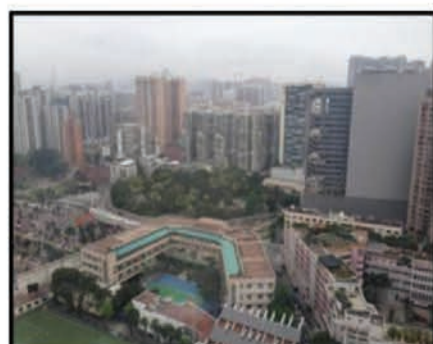
#### Designer Apartment Central Macau - Perfect weekend home Macau

(Ref: 14105421)

849sq. ft. HKD 5.04M  
Rate: HKD 5,936sq 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.

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#### Hoi Fu Penthouse, Macau

(Ref: 15045435)

3,000sq. ft. HKD 28M  
Rate: HKD 9,333sq ft

Stunning duplex in the centre of Macau Grand living dining area approx 1,500 sq ft Open views across the skyline of Macau Modern fitted kitchen Two large double guest rooms with en suite Master bedroom with large en suite bathroom & private lounge room All bedrooms with built in wardrobes Beautiful hard wood floors throughout Interior designed features.

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#### Manhattan Penthouse Unit, Central Taipa

(Ref: 15045436)

2,305sq. ft. HKD 25.8M  
Rate: HKD11,193sq ft

Luxury residence with high quality finishes. Spacious dining/living room, 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms (one en suite). Car Park For Sale Asking HKD1.9 Million



#### Roof Top Investment Apartment Macau

(Ref: 14095414)

799sq. ft. HKD 5.35M  
Rate: HKD 6,695ft

Modern open plan kitchen. Good size double bedroom on main floor. Great size private terrace.

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GAMING

# Genting drops most since 2010 as China crackdown hurts earnings

Jonathan Burgos

**G**ENTING Singapore Plc slid the most in five years after reporting a 73 plunge in first-quarter profit as China's anti-graft campaign kept mainland high rollers away from casino gaming floors.

Net income dropped to S\$62.7 million (USD47.4 million) in the three months ended March 31 as gaming revenue slid 26 percent, the casino operator said in a statement after the close on Thursday. The stock Friday slumped as much as 7.9 percent, the most since January 2010, before paring losses to 5.9 percent as of 11:36 a.m. in Singapore.

"We expect continued weakness in the VIP seg-

**■ Gambling revenue in Singapore and Macau has slumped as Chinese high rollers curb spending**



ment due to the anti-corruption drive in China," CIMB Group Holdings Bhd analysts Jessalyn Chen and Kenneth Ng wrote in a report. The brokerage downgraded its rating on Genting to hold from add and cut its price target to S\$1.02 from S\$1.20.

Gambling revenue in Singapore and Macau has slumped as Chinese high rollers curb spending to avoid scrutiny from their government amid President Xi Jinping's crackdown on corruption. Rules restricting Macau-

style junkets in Singapore make it more difficult for casinos to collect debts from mainland VIPs, who accounted for about half of the city-state's gaming revenue, Union Gaming Advisors said in March.

"Our premium gaming business continues to come under stress due to regional environmental factors," Genting said in its statement. "We do not expect any respite in the medium term."

Genting said Thursday it has adopted a cautious approach in granting credit to VIP customers. The

casino operator posted a S\$76.3 million impairment loss on trade receivables, up 30 percent from the same quarter a year earlier.

The company "could also see a similar provision in the coming quarter as collections are more difficult and could remain challenging," Carey Wong, an analyst at OCBC Investment Research, wrote in a note. The brokerage downgraded Genting to sell, while lowering its share-price forecast to S\$0.95 from S\$1.03. **Bloomberg**

## Beijing calls on banks to support state projects as economy slows

**C**HINA urged banks to continue funding local government projects under construction and refrain from calling in loans as the country works through an economic downturn.

Banks shouldn't refuse funds to projects approved before the end of 2014 even if borrowing agencies are unable to meet payments, the State Council said Friday in joint announcement with Finance Ministry, central bank and regulator. The council, China's Cabinet, also urged local governments to use fiscal support as short-term working capital for ongoing projects to prevent or reduce risk.

The message raises contradictory signals from a government that's sought to trim local debt to more manageable levels by recapitalizing banks, overhauling local finances and removing implicit guarantees for corporate borrowing that once helped struggling companies.

"The government is easing its reform on local debt as the leaders found this could affect not only economic recovery but also regional social stability," said Hu Xingdou, an economics professor at the Beijing Institute of Technology. "It also shows the economic slowdown is a serious problem, and that the government wants to spare no effort."

China should continue streamlining administrative approvals and improve government services despite declining investment, Premier Li Keqiang said on a Friday teleconference, according to a transcript on the government website.

In a bid to wean regional governments from borrowing off their balance sheets, policy makers in March announced a program that will convert as much as 1 trillion yuan (USD161 billion) of such debt into municipal notes this year. **Bloomberg**



Premier Li Keqiang

### corporate bits

#### SAMMI CHENG PERFORMS AT THE VENETIAN MACAO



Sammi Cheng, one of the most prominent female singers in Hong Kong, made a

return to The Venetian Macao Friday and Saturday night, taking to the Cotai Arena sta-

ge again after three years for a two-night run of her show Touch Mi Sammi Cheng World Tour Live in Macau.

Dubbed the "Cantopop Queen," according to a press release from the organizers, "Cheng is known for her incredibly entertaining performances, which makes it easy to see why this two-night run sold out very quickly". She kicked her Friday night concert off with "Bang Bang Bang," which is one of her signature tunes. This was followed by "Love is..." and "Do Re Mi."

The show's stage design and lighting effects "complemented Cheng's dynamic stage presence and created a thoroughly fantastic and memorable show for all of her fans in attendance", the organizers said.

#### MGM MACAU PROVIDES RESPONSIBLE GAMING VISIT



On May 10, a group of delegates of academics, professionals and students from the "4Th Asian Pacific Problem Gambling and Addiction Conference 2015" joined a visit and presentation on MGM Macau's responsible gaming program.

Over 10 delegates comprising academics, professionals and students representing the medical, educational and community sectors of different

countries and cities from the "4Th Asian Pacific Problem Gambling and Addiction Conference 2015" attended, which was organized by Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Even Centre. During the visit, Ms. Eileen Ho, Director of Casino Talent Development and Responsible Gaming introduced MGM Macau's program of responsible gaming, including different measures to raise public awa-

reness and prevent problem gaming issues.

Also, Ms. Michelle Chiu, Vice President of Human Resources introduced the "Employee Assistance Program", for which MGM has appointed the Sheng Kung Hui Service Coordination Office to provide different counseling services to all team members and their families to help them cope with any personal concerns and attain a positive work life balance.

"To promote responsible gaming, we need the support and cooperation from different industries in Macau. We commit to continue to provide further responsible gaming related internal and external measures for building a better Macau in the future," said Mr. Grant Bowie, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of MGM China Holdings Limited.

# FT: Deng Xiaoping and the KKK plot exposed... 30-plus years later

A Chinese documentary about reformist leader Deng Xiaoping's 1979 visit to the US has triggered a wave of excitement over a scene depicting an attack at a hotel in Texas, the Financial Times reported yesterday.

According to an article by Lucy Hornby, "Mr Deng Goes to Washington" including interviews with then-President Jimmy Carter opened this weekend in Beijing. The documentary depicts for the first time in China an attack on Mr Deng by a Ku Klux Klan member, which was not then reported by China's heavily controlled official press, but stops short of calling it an assassination attempt.

Reactions to the incident show the growing sense of the US as a menace combined with a public hunger for previously suppressed incidents in Chinese history.

The documentary promotes a positive vision of engagement with the US, at a time of increasing friction between the two countries over the South China Sea and international institutions like the Chinese-backed multilateral bank. China's propaganda apparatus is increasingly consumed with an ideological campaign against "hostile" foreign forces.

The trip to the US was a momentous one for Mr Deng, who had recently consolidated



power in China in the wake of the tumultuous decade of political power struggles known as the Cultural Revolution.

He was pushing experiments with market pricing and family farms, against deep resistance from conservatives in the ruling Communist party. The documentary 'Nine Days in the Whirlwind' is unusually frank about the tensions over Taiwan that accompanied the visit.

"What exactly happened in those nine days? In particular, what dangers did Deng Xiaoping encounter? My job is to bring that to the screen so that people can know these nine heart-stopping days and know that reform and opening up doesn't come easy," director Fu Hongxing told Chinese state television.

But it is the KKK attack, previously reported in the US, that

has consumed local media. "A KKK member rushed to the podium where Deng Xiaoping was speaking and pulled a knife out of his sleeve," according to one such report, while another newspaper claimed "a bag with a gun in it" was thrown at Mr Deng.

Going a step further, the Beijing News described the movie showing "details of Deng Xiaoping nearly being assassi-

nated during his visit to the US".

Yet this was also the view of the Chinese delegation accompanying Mr Deng, who were concerned it might have had the blessing of someone "higher up", said Victor Gao, who joined the Foreign Ministry a few years later and worked for people who had been on the 1979 trip.

In fact, Mr Deng was approached in a hotel lobby by a white supremacist who planned to spray him with red spray paint. The would-be assailant was punched by a member of Mr Deng's secret service detail.

Mr Deng's attacker in Texas was Louis Beam, a Vietnam veteran and violent member of the Texas chapter of the KKK, who also organized attacks on Vietnamese immigrants. Charged with assault, he later became a leading figure among violent neo-Nazi groups.

China's one-time paramount leader had survived several armed attacks during the Cultural Revolution while he was in custody of a rival faction of the Communist party, according to Chinese official histories. After consolidating power, he was twice attacked by radical Maoists in the 1980s.

The inclusion in the documentary makes the incident a part of "official history", said Mr Gao. "Real history in China is something the government officially reports," he said.

## Prosecutors indict rights lawyer just before Kerry visit

Ting Shi and Nicole Gouette

HUMAN rights lawyer Pu Zhiqiang, whose clients ranged from poor farmers to activist-artist Ai Weiwei, was accused of inciting ethnic hatred, as well as picking quarrels and causing troubles, Beijing prosecutors said Friday in a Weibo posting.

China announced the indictment of human rights lawyer Pu Zhiqiang on charges of provoking trouble, days after the U.S. called for an end to his year-long detention and hours before U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry arrived in Beijing for meetings with top officials.

Pu, whose clients ranged from poor farmers to acti-

vist-artist Ai Weiwei, was accused of inciting ethnic hatred, as well as picking quarrels and causing troubles, Beijing prosecutors said Friday in a Weibo posting. The case is based on social-media postings Pu wrote critical of the Communist Party and its policies regarding the indigenous Uighur minority group in the far western region of Xinjiang.

Pu was detained more than a year ago after he attended a meeting to plan a commemoration for the 25th anniversary of Tiananmen Square protests in Beijing.

His detention "appears to be part of a systematic pattern of arrests and detentions of public-interest

lawyers, Internet activists, journalists, religious leaders and others who challenge official Chinese policies and actions," State Department spokesman Jeff Rathke said Friday in Washington.

Rathke said the U.S. is "deeply concerned" and called on Chinese authorities to release Pu immediately, saying Kerry would raise human-rights issues during his visit.

Pu's indictment clears the way for a trial before the Beijing No. 2 People's Intermediate Court. Pu faces as much as 10 years in prison if he's convicted of the charges, according to one of his lawyers, Mo Shaoping.

"We're going to argue in

court that none of the accusations stand," Mo said. "This case is essentially about freedom of speech and about a citizen's basic rights. It's a very important case in this sense."

Pu initially faced four charges, including inciting separatism and illegally obtaining personal information, Mo said. Prosecutors referred the case back to the police twice, requesting more evidence, he said.

The case is one of the most high-profile brought by Chinese authorities since President Xi Jinping took power in November 2012. Pu, who participated in the 1989 pro-democracy protests, was among several people detained



In this June 30, 2010 photo, Chinese attorney Pu Zhiqiang speaks during an interview at his office in Beijing

in the run-up to the anniversary of the Tiananmen crackdown.

Last year, several dissidents associated with the New Citizens Movement, a loose grouping of activists that sought to promote rule of law and democracy, were sentenced to prison. Legal scholar Xu Zhiyong, who helped to start the movement, was given a four-year term.

Asked last week about U.S. criticism of Pu's detention, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying warned against interfering in other countries' internal matters.

"Some people in the United States have hearts which are too big and hands which are too long," Hua said. "They always want to be the world's policeman or judge." **Bloomberg**

# Neither Beijing nor Washington giving ground over projects dispute

Matthew Lee  
Diplomatic Writer, Beijing

**C**HINA and the United States are budging not a bit over Beijing's assertive development in disputed parts of the South China Sea, with Chinese officials politely but pointedly dismissing Washington's push for U.S.-proposed ways to ease tensions.

As U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry wrapped up a visit to China yesterday, both sides stressed the importance of dialogue to resolve competing claims in the waterway. But neither showed any sign of giving ground over Chinese land reclamation projects that have alarmed the United States and China's smaller neighbors.

Kerry met yesterday with Chinese President Xi Jinping, who will be making an official visit to the United States this fall and sought to highlight U.S.-China cooperation.

"In my view, U.S.-China relations have remained stable overall," Xi told Kerry at Beijing's Great Hall of the People, adding that he "look(ed) forward to continue to grow this relationship" on his upcoming visit.

Despite those words, which came shortly before Kerry left Beijing and arrived in Seoul, South Korea, friction over China's construction in the South China Sea was evident and clouded the start of Kerry's brief trip to Asia.

The U.S. and most members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations want a halt to the projects, which they suspect are aimed at building islands and other land features over which China can claim sovereignty.

"We are concerned about the pace and scope of China's land reclamation in the South China Sea," Kerry said on Saturday. He urged China to speed up talks with ASEAN on guidelines for handling maritime activity in disputed areas.

The goal is to help "reduce tensions and increase the prospect of diplomatic solutions," Kerry said.

"I think we agree that the region needs smart diplomacy in order to conclude the ASEAN-China code of conduct and not outposts and military strips," Kerry told reporters at a news conference with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

AP PHOTO



Chinese President Xi Jinping, right, and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry shake hands prior to a meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing

Wang indicated that while China was prepared to talk, it would not back down on the construction that, he said, "is something that falls fully within the scope of China's sovereignty."

"The determination of the Chinese side to safeguard our own sovereignty and territorial integrity is as firm as a rock, and it is unshakable," he said.

## Construction in the S China Sea was evident and clouded the start of Kerry's brief trip

"It has always been our view that we need to find appropriate solutions to the issues we have through communications and negotiations that we have among the parties directly concerned with peaceful and diplomatic means on the basis of respecting historical facts and international norms. This position will remain unchanged in

the future."

Wang added that the differences between China and the U.S. could be managed "as long as we can avoid misunderstanding and, even more importantly, avoid miscalculation."

The Chinese claims and land reclamation projects have rattled the region where South China Sea islands and reefs are contested by China and five other Asian governments. These activities have led to maritime clashes, accompanied by nationalistic protests and serious diplomatic rows.

The U.S. says it takes no position on the sovereignty claims but insists they must be negotiated. Washington also says ensuring maritime safety and access to some of the world's busiest commercial shipping routes is a U.S. national security priority.

China has bristled at what it sees as U.S. interference in the region and wants to negotiate with the ASEAN countries individually, something those much smaller nations fear will not be fair.

In one disputed area, the Spratly Islands, U.S. officials say China has reclaimed about 2,000 acres of dry land since 2014 that could be used as

airstrips or for military purposes. The U.S. argues that man-made constructions cannot be used to claim sovereignty.

Obama administration officials have declined to comment on reports that it may deploy military assets, or that it is considering a demonstration of freedom of navigation within 12 nautical miles of the islands' notional territorial zone. But they have said many of the features claimed by China in the disputed Spratlys are submerged and do not carry territorial rights, and maintained that China cannot "manufacture sovereignty" with its reclamation projects.

Despite the clear disagreements over the South China Sea, Kerry and Wang said they were on track to make progress in other areas, notably on climate change, the fight against violent extremism, and preparations for the next round of the U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue in June and Xi's visit to Washington in September.

They expressed pleasure with their cooperation in the Iran nuclear talks, their solidarity in trying to denuclearize North Korea and combat diseases such as the deadly Ebola virus. **AP**

## Bus falls off cliff killing 35 people

A bus fell from a cliff in north-central China on Friday, killing 35 people on board, authorities said. Twenty-five people were killed instantly in Shaanxi province and 10 died in a hospital, the propaganda office of Chunhua county said in a statement. There was no word on the cause of the accident, and authorities said they were investigating. The official Xinhua News Agency reported that the bus was carrying 46 passengers and that it fell into a ravine more than 30 meters deep near a forest park on Friday afternoon. Another 11 passengers were being treated, with five in critical condition. Bus accidents are common on China's windy mountain roads, where drivers often ignore safety rules by speeding or carrying too many passengers.

## Chemical leak in Shanxi kills 8, injures 2

Authorities say a chemical leak in northern China has killed eight people and injured two others. A statement from Yangcheng County in Shanxi province said the carbon disulfide leak occurred Saturday morning at a plant belonging to the Ruixing chemical company. It says three rescue workers are also under health observation. The cause of the leak is still under investigation.

## Myanmar says 24 rebels killed in clashes near border

Clashes between Myanmar forces and ethnic rebels in the northeast left at least 24 rebels killed, Myanmar officials said Friday, after Chinese officials said artillery shells injured five people on its side of the border. Myanmar government soldiers and ethnic Kokang rebels have been fighting for several months in the country's northeast, and Chinese officials have complained of several instances in which shells and airstrikes hit across the border. The statement Myanmar's Defense Ministry issued late Friday did not mention any shells falling into China. It said government troops occupied major rebel outposts Thursday and Friday, using artillery attacks and airstrikes, and that at least 24 rebels had been killed. Chinese officials said earlier that shelling fired from Myanmar on Thursday injured five people and damaged four houses near the Yunnan province city of Lincang.

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

MALAYSIA

# Gov't launches talks amid Asia's growing migrant crisis

**M**ALAYSIA launched a series of high-level talks with its neighbors yesterday, seeking a solution to a deepening crisis in which boatloads of refugees are stranded off Southeast Asia's shores, with no country willing to take them in.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Anifah Aman met with his counterpart from Bangladesh, Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, ahead of meetings scheduled with the Indonesian and Thai foreign ministers in the coming days, said an official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Boatloads of more than 2,000 members of Myanmar's ethnic Rohingya Muslim community fleeing persecution and migrants from Bangladesh trying to escape poverty have landed in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand in recent weeks. But thousands more are stranded at sea after a crackdown on human traffickers prompted captains and smugglers to abandon their human cargo.

Malaysia is the current chair of the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which has been criticized for long ignoring the plight of the Rohingya.

On Friday, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak vowed to take action as urgent calls to address the growing humanitarian crisis poured in from the United Nations, the United States and others.

"This is an issue of international and regional importance," Najib said. "We are in contact with all relevant parties, with whom we share the desire to



Migrants sleep at a temporary shelter in Langsa, Aceh province, Indonesia

find a solution to this crisis."

ASEAN adheres to a strict policy of non-interference, which in the past has blocked public criticism of Myanmar and critics say enables member states to commit abuses without consequences.

The U.N. has called the Rohingya one of the world's most persecuted groups. For decades, they have faced state-sanctioned discrimination in predominantly Buddhist Myanmar. In

the past three years, Rohingya have been targeted by violent mobs of Buddhist extremists that left hundreds dead and sparked an exodus of boat people fleeing on rickety, overcrowded vessels operated by human trafficking syndicates.

Most are trying to reach Malaysia, a Muslim-majority country that has hosted more than 45,000 Rohingya over the years but now says it can't accept any more. Indonesia and Thailand

have voiced similar stances — fearing that accepting a few would result in an unstoppable flow of poor, uneducated migrants.

The Malaysian and Bangladeshi foreign ministers met in Sabah state on Borneo island yesterday as part of a pre-planned annual consultation between the two countries, the official said.

Malaysia's Anifah is also expected to meet with Indonesian

Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi today and hold talks with his Thai counterpart, Gen. Tanasak Patimapragorn, in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday, the official said.

Efforts were being made to meet with representatives from Myanmar, he said, without elaborating.

Myanmar's cooperation is seen as vital to solving the crisis, but its government has already cast doubt on whether it will attend a conference to be hosted by Thailand on May 29 that is to include 15 Asian nations affected by the emergency.

"We are not ignoring the migrant problem, but our leaders will decide whether to attend the meeting based on what is going to be discussed," Maj. Zaw Htay, director of the office of Myanmar's president, said Saturday. "We will not accept the allegations by some that Myanmar is the source of the problem."

He put some of the blame on Myanmar's neighbors, saying that from a humanitarian point of view, "it's sad that these people are being pushed out to sea by some countries."

An increasingly alarmed United Nations warned Friday against "floating coffins" and called on regional leaders to put human lives first. The United States urged governments not to push back new boat arrivals. **AP**

NEPAL

# Bodies of Marines, Nepalese recovered from crashed chopper

Binaj Gurubacharya, Kathmandu

**T**HE bodies of six Marines and two Nepalese soldiers who were aboard a U.S. Marine helicopter that crashed during a relief mission in earthquake-hit Nepal have been recovered, Nepal's army said.

The wreckage of the UH-1 "Huey" was found Friday following days of intense searching in the mountains northeast of capital Kathmandu. The first three charred bodies were retrieved the same day by Nepalese and U.S. military teams, and the rest on Saturday, the Nepalese army said in a statement.

The aircraft went missing while delivering aid on Tuesday.

Lt. Gen. John Wissler, commander of the Marine-led joint task force, said in Kathmandu on Friday that his team could not immediately determine the cause of the crash or identify the bodies found.

He described the crash as "severe," and said the recovery team at the site encountered extreme weather and difficult terrain.

The wreckage was located about 24 kilometers from the town of Charikot, near where the aircraft went missing while delivering humanitarian aid to villages hit by two deadly

earthquakes.

The area is near Gothali village in the district of Dolakha, about 80 kilometers northeast of Kathmandu.

The U.S. relief mission was deployed soon after a magnitude-7.8 quake hit April 25, killing more than 8,200 people. It was followed by a magnitude-7.3 quake on Tuesday that killed at least 117 people and injured around 2,800.

The helicopter had been delivering rice and tarps in Charikot, the area worst hit by Tuesday's quake. It had dropped off supplies in one location and was en route to a second site when contact was lost.

U.S. military officials said earlier in the week that an Indian helicopter in the air nearby had heard radio chatter from the Huey aircraft about a possible fuel problem.

In Wichita, Kansas, Marine officials on Saturday notified the parents of the helicopter's 31-year-old pilot, Capt. Chris Norgren, that he was among those killed in the crash, a local high school president, Leticia Nielsen, told The Wichita Eagle newspaper.

A total of 300 U.S. military personnel have been supporting the aid mission in Nepal.

On Saturday, Elhadj As Sy, secretary-general of



A Nepalese army chopper, that spotted the suspected wreckage of a U.S. Marine helicopter, lands at the airport in Kathmandu

the International Federation of Red Cross, said an appeal had been made for USD93 million to help some 700,000 earthquake survivors over the next two years.

The U.N. General Assembly also called for urgent assistance to help Nepal's earthquake survivors and to rebuild the improve-

rished Himalayan nation, urging the international community to support the U.N.'s appeal for \$415 million for essential needs over the next three months.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the assembly that it is urgent to get aid to all those in need before the monsoon season starts in June. **AP**

Hamza Hendawi, Cairo

EGYPT

# Ousted President Mohammed Morsi sentenced to death

**A**N Egyptian court on Saturday sentenced the country's first freely elected leader, ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, to death over a mass prison break during the 2011 uprising that eventually brought him to power.

The ruling applies to another 120 people, and is the latest in a series of mass death sentences handed down since the military overthrew Morsi nearly two years ago. The sentence will likely further polarize Egypt, a longtime U.S. ally grappling with an Islamist insurgency that has intensified since Morsi's overthrow.

In what appears to be the first violent response to the ruling, suspected Islamic militants gunned down three judges and their driver in the northern Sinai Peninsula city of al-Arish, according to security officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Egypt's judiciary has come under mounting international criticism since Morsi's ouster as it has handed down harsh mass sentences to Islamists and jailed secular activists for protesting. At the same time, the courts have acquitted or handed light sentences to top officials who served under President Hosni Mubarak, whose nearly 30-year reign was ended by the 2011



Ousted Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi raises his hands as he sits behind glass in a courtroom in an eastern Cairo suburb

Arab Spring-inspired uprising.

"These sentences are yet another manifestation of the deeply troubling way the Egyptian judiciary has been used as a tool to settle political disagreements," Emad Shahin, a professor at the American University in Cairo who was sentenced to death in absentia wrote in a Facebook post.

"Due process, regard for evidence, and minimum standards of justice have been tossed aside in favor of draconian injustice," wrote Shahin, now a visiting professor at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

As is customary in capital punishment cases, Judge Shaaban el-Shami referred his death sentences on Morsi and the others to the nation's top Muslim cleric for his non-binding opinion. El-Shami set June 2 for the next hearing, and the sentences can be appealed.

Morsi already is serving a 20-year sentence for his part in the killing in 2012 of protesters outside a Cairo presidential palace.

The military overthrew Morsi in July 2013 following days of mass protests by Egyptians angered by his divisive policies. Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who had been appointed military chief by Morsi, led his ouster, and was elected nearly a year ago in a vote boycotted by the Islamist opposition. **AP**

VATICAN CITY

# Pope canonizes 2 saints from 19th century Palestine

Nicole Winfield, Vatican City

**POPE** Francis canonized two nuns from what was 19th century Palestine yesterday in hopes of encouraging Christians across the Middle East who are facing a wave of persecution from Islamic extremists.

Sisters Mariam Bawardy and Marie Alphonsine Ghattas were among four sisters who were made saints yesterday at a Mass in a sun-soaked St. Peter's Square. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and an estimated 2,000 pilgrims from the region, some waving Palestinian flags, were on hand for the canonization of the first saints from the Holy Land since the early years of Christianity.

Church officials are holding up the new saints as a sign of hope and encouragement for Christians across the Mideast at a time when violent persecution and discrimination have driven many Christians from the region of Christ's birth.

They were canonized alongside two other nuns, Saints



Pope Francis arrives to celebrate a canonization ceremony of four new saints in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican

Jeanne Emilie de Villeneuve from France and Maria Cristina of the Immaculate Conception from Italy.

"Inspired by their example of mercy, charity and reconciliation, may the Christians of these lands look with hope to the future, following the path of solidarity and fraternal coexistence," Francis said of the women at the end of the Mass.

Bawardy was a mystic born in 1843 in the village of Ibilin in what is now the Galilee region of northern Israel. She is said to have received the "stigmata" —

bleeding wounds like those that Jesus Christ suffered on the cross — and died at the age of 33 in the West Bank town of Bethlehem, where she founded a Carmelite order monastery that still exists.

Ghattas, born in Jerusalem in 1847, opened girls' schools, fought female illiteracy, and co-founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Rosary. The order today boasts dozens of centers all over the Middle East, from Egypt to Syria, that operate kindergartens, homes for the elderly, medical clinics and guest houses. **AP**

BURUNDI

# President makes first appearance since failed coup

Tom Odula, Bujumbura

**BURUNDI** President Pierre Nkurunziza has made his first appearance in the capital since the attempted coup against his government last week.

Nkurunziza appeared before journalists at his presidential palace in Bujumbura yesterday morning. He made a brief statement saying that he is battling a threat from Somalia's Islamic extremists, al-Shabab.

Burundi is one of the African countries contributing troops to the African Union force in Somalia that is battling al-Shabab. The extremist rebels have carried out violent attacks in Kenya and Uganda in retaliation for sending troops to Somalia.

"You know that Burundi is among the countries that is contributing troops in Somalia and that's why I came here to contact my friends and my fellow presidents in Kenya and Uganda and these countries are being targeted by al-Shabab," Nkurunziza said French.

He said his aim in contacting fellow presidents was to look at strategies to stop threats to the security of Burundians.

Nkurunziza was in neighboring



President Pierre Nkurunziza waves as he walks to his car after making a brief statement to the media at the presidential palace in Bujumbura

Tanzania on Wednesday when a general announced a coup. Loyal forces put down the rebellion and Nkurunziza returned to the country, but he had not been seen in the capital.

The coup attempt came after weeks of street protests against Nkurunziza's efforts to stay in power by standing in elections for a third term in office.

Seventeen security officials, including five generals, accused in the attempted coup appeared Saturday before a prosecutor who charged them with an attempt at destabilizing public institutions, lawyers of some of the suspects said. The general who announced the coup, however, remains at large. **AP**



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Robert Burns and Sarah El Deeb, Beirut

SYRIA

# ISIS head of oil operations killed in secret US raid

**I**N a rare ground attack deep into Syria, U.S. Army commandos killed a man described as the Islamic State's head of oil operations, captured his wife and rescued a woman whom American officials said was enslaved.

A team of Delta Force commandos slipped across the border from Iraq under cover of darkness Saturday aboard Black Hawk helicopters and V-22 Osprey aircraft, according to a U.S. defense official knowledgeable about details of the raid. The official was not authorized to discuss the operation publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Americans intended to capture a militant identified by U.S. officials as Abu Sayyaf. When they arrived at his location, a multi-story building, they met stiff resistance, the U.S. official said, and a firefight ensued, resulting in bullet-hole damage to the U.S. aircraft.

Abu Sayyaf was killed, along with an estimated dozen IS fighters, U.S. officials said. No American was killed or wounded.

Before the sun had risen, the commandos flew back to Iraq where Abu Sayyaf's wife, Umm Sayyaf, was being questioned in U.S. custody, officials said. The goal was to gain intelligence about IS operations and any information about hostages, including American citizens, who were held by the group, according to Bernadette Meehan, spokeswoman for the U.S. National Security Council.



Abu Sayyaf

## Abu Sayyaf was killed along with an estimated dozen IS fighters

Abu Sayyaf was described by one official as the IS "emir of oil and gas," although he also was targeted for his known association with the group's leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

U.S. officials said it was likely, given Abu Sayyaf's position, that he knew about more than just the financial side of the group's operations.

Despite the U.S. claims, much about the IS figure was in question. The name Abu Sayyaf has rarely been mentioned in Western reports about the extremist group and he is not known to be among terrorists for whom the U.S. has offered a bounty. The name was not known to counterterrorism officials who study IS and does not appear

in reports compiled by think tanks and others examining the group's hierarchy.

The U.S. official said Abu Sayyaf's death probably has temporarily halted IS oil-revenue operations, critical to the group's ability to carry out military operations in Syria and Iraq and to govern the population centers it controls.

But U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, cautioned against exaggerating the long-term gain from killing Abu Sayyaf.

He said IS, like al-Qaida, "has proven adept at replacing its commanders and we will need to keep up the pressure on its leadership and financing."

A U.S. Treasury official told Congress in October that IS militants were earning about USD1 million a day from black market oil sales alone, and getting several million dollars a month from wealthy donors, extortion rackets and other criminal activities, such as robbing banks. Kidnappings were another large source of cash.

U.S. airstrikes in Syria since September have frequently targeted IS oil-collection facilities in an effort to undermine the group's finances. **AP**

USA

# Jury orders death for the Boston Marathon bomber

Denise Lavoie  
Legal Affairs Writer, Boston

**A** jury sentenced Dzhokhar Tsarnaev to death Friday for the Boston Marathon bombing, sweeping aside pleas that he was just a "kid" who fell under the influence of his fanatical older brother.

The decision in America's most closely watched terrorism trial in decades — which came just over two years after the April 15, 2013, bombing that killed three people and wounded more than 260 — brought relief and grim satisfaction to many in Boston.

"We can breathe again," said Karen Brassard, who suffered shrapnel wounds on her legs.

The death sentence sets

the stage for what could be America's first execution of a terrorist in the post-Sept. 11, 2001 era, though the case is likely to go through years of appeals.

In the meantime, Tsarnaev will probably be sent to death row at the federal prison in Terre Haute, Indiana, where Oklahoma bomber Timothy McVeigh was put to death in 2001.

A somber-looking Tsarnaev stood with his hands folded, his head slightly bowed, as he learned his fate, sealed after 14 hours of deliberations over three days. His lawyers left court without comment.

His father, Anzor Tsarnaev, reached by phone in the Russian region of Dagestan, let out a deep moan upon hearing the

news and hung up.

The Tsarnaevs — ethnic Chechens — lived in the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan and the volatile Dagestan region, near Chechnya, before moving to the U.S. about a decade before the bombings. They settled in Cambridge, just outside Boston.

The 12-member federal jury had to be unanimous for Tsarnaev to get the death penalty. Otherwise, the former college student would have automatically received life in prison with no chance of parole.

In weighing the arguments for and against death, the jurors decided among other things that Tsarnaev showed a lack of remorse. And they emphatically rejected the defense's central argument

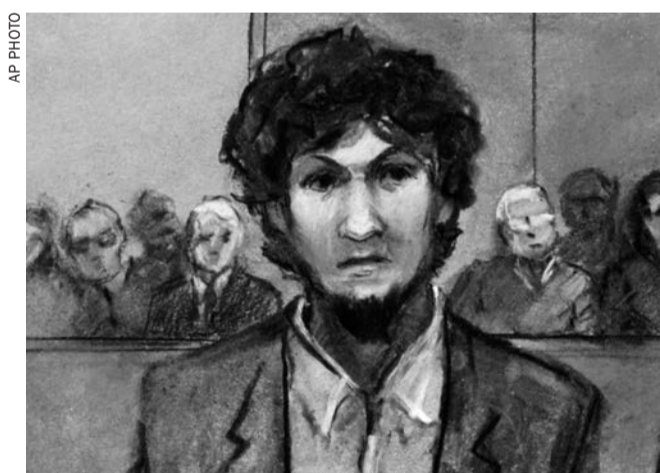
— that he was led down the path to terrorism by his big brother.

"Today the jury has spoken. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev will pay for his crimes with his life," said U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz.

The attack and the ensuing manhunt paralyzed the city for days and cast a pall over the marathon — normally one of Boston's proudest, most exciting moments — that has yet to be lifted. With Friday's decision, community leaders and others talked of closure, of resilience, of the city's Boston Strong spirit.

"Today, more than ever, we know that Boston is a city of hope, strength and resilience that can overcome any challenge," said Mayor Marty Walsh.

Tsarnaev was convicted last month of all 30 charges against him, including use of a weapon of mass destruction, for joining his now-dead brother, Tamerlan, in setting off two shrapnel-packed pressure-cooker bombs



In this courtroom sketch, Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev stands as a death by lethal injection sentence is read at the Moakley Federal courthouse in the penalty phase of his trial in Boston

near the finish line of the race. Tsarnaev was also found guilty in the killing of an MIT police officer during the getaway.

Seventeen of the charges carried the possibility of a death sentence; ultimately, the jury gave him the death penalty on six of those counts.

The jurors also heard grisly and heartbreaking testimony from numerous bombing survivors who described seeing their legs blown off or watching someone next to

them die.

Killed in the bombing were Lingzi Lu, a 23-year-old Boston University graduate student from China; Krystle Campbell, a 29-year-old restaurant manager; and 8-year-old Martin Richard, who had gone to watch the marathon with his family. Massachusetts Institute of Technology police Officer Sean Collier was gunned down in his cruiser days later. Seventeen people lost legs in the bombings. **AP**

## what's ON

**LI CHENG HSUN X HUANG PO HSUN GROUP EXHIBITION**  
 TIME: 10am-7pm  
 UNTIL: June 30 (Closed on May 25)  
 VENUE: Flugent ART Gallery, Rua S. Paulo 54-58B  
 ADMISSION: free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 3429

**GALLERY COLLECTION**  
 TIME: 9am-6pm (Mondays to Fridays)  
 UNTIL: June 30, 2015 (Closed on May 25)  
 VENUE: Macpro Gallery, Avenida da Praia Grande, no.417-425, Centro Comercial Praia Grande, 2° andar, Macau (nearby the Old Court)  
 ADMISSION: free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2833 7828

**MACAU POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE DESIGN STUDENTS EXHIBITION**  
 TIME: 2pm-7pm (Closed on Sundays)  
 UNTIL: May 20, 2015  
 VENUE: Creative Macau, G/F Macau Cultural Centre Building, Xian Xing Hai Avenue  
 ADMISSION: Free  
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

**MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE**  
 TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Thursdays)  
 ADDRESS: Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen  
 ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre: MOP25  
 Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50  
 Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65  
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## Offbeat

## SOUTH AFRICAN CYCLIST HITS DEAD BUFFALO IN CITY SUBURB

Cyclists in South Africa's biggest city usually worry about getting hit by vehicles. But one cyclist rode into an unexpected obstacle in Johannesburg's suburbs: a dead buffalo.

Andrew McLean said last week that he damaged a ligament on his collarbone and broke his hand when he hit the buffalo carcass while riding downhill at up to 60 kilometers an hour in Fourways, a suburban area in northern Johannesburg. McLean said he didn't have time to brake before the pre-dawn accident on May 6. Two cycling companions also crashed but were not seriously injured.

"It just looked like a huge shadow," said McLean, a veteran cyclist who runs a chain of cycling stores. "At the last minute, I suddenly realized that this was more than a shadow."

He recalled lying injured on the road and seeing steam rising off the buffalo's body.

"I think the buffalo had been running and had died within a couple of minutes of us getting there," McLean said.

Authorities were unsure how the buffalo died and how it ended up in the city suburbs.

A farmer or wildlife owner had reported weeks ago that a buffalo was missing from a property, but it was unclear whether it was the same buffalo, said Roleta Lebelo, spokeswoman for the provincial department of agriculture and rural development. She said her department checked for the threat of disease from the buffalo carcass, concluding there was no need for worry.

McLean said he had sometimes trained in rural areas where warthogs are common, and had expected he might collide with one at some point. But not a buffalo.

On Twitter, McLean described the episode as his 'only in Africa' accident. **AP**

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:35	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
18:30	Non Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Champions League Magazine
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

14 MAY - 20 MAY



## WOMAN IN BLACK 2: ANGEL OF DEATH

ROOM 1

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Tom Harper

Starring: Helen McCrory, Jeremy Irvine, Phoebe Fox

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 98min



## MAD MAX: FURY ROAD

ROOM 2

(3D) 7.15 pm

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: George Miller

Starring: Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 120min

## THE TENOR-LIRICO SPINTO

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.45, 7.15 pm

Director: Kim Sang-man

Starring: Ji-tae Yu, Yūsuke Iseya, Ye-ryeon Cha

Language: English (Chinese/English)

Duration: 121min

## THE AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON

ROOM 3

9.30 pm

Director: Joss Whedon

Starring: Robert Downey Jr., Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

## MACAU TOWER

23 APR - 20 MAY

## THE AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON

2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Joss Whedon

Starring: Robert Downey Jr., Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

## this day in history



## 1964 MODS AND ROCKERS JAILED AFTER SEASIDE RIOTS

Scores of youths have been given prison sentences following a Whitsun weekend of violent clashes between gangs of Mods and Rockers at a number of resorts on the south coast of England.

Yesterday two youths were taken to hospital with knife wounds and 51 were arrested in Margate after hundreds of teenagers converged on the town for the holiday weekend.

Dr George Simpson, chairman of Margate magistrates, jailed four young men and imposed fines totalling £1,900 on 36 people.

Three offenders were jailed for three months each and five more sent to detention centres for up to six months.

In Brighton, two youths were jailed for three months and others were fined.

More than 1,000 teenagers were involved in skirmishes on the beach and the promenade last night.

They threw deckchairs around, broke them up to make bonfires, shouted obscenities at each other and at passers-by, jostled holidaymakers and terrified elderly residents.

At about 1300 BST Mods and Rockers gathered at the Palace Pier chanting and jeering at each other and threw stones when police tried to disperse them.

The teenagers staged a mass sit-down on the promenade when police, using horses and dogs, tried to move them on.

In Margate, there were running battles between police and up to 400 youths on the beach early yesterday morning. Bottles were thrown and two officers were slightly hurt.

Later, on the high street, around 40 young men smashed council flat windows and vandalised a pub and a hardware shop.

Last night, hundreds of young men and girls were still wandering around the resort long after the last train had left.

Police stepped in to prevent further violence and dispersed about 30 youths in leather jackets who marched up the promenade shouting "Up the Rockers!"

There were further clashes at Bournemouth and Clacton.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

**From** the early to mid-1960s young, mainly working class, Britons with cash to spend joined one of two youth movements.

The Mods wore designer suits protected by Parka jackets and were often armed with coshes and flick-knives. They rode Vespa or Lambretta scooters bedecked with mirrors and mas-cots and listened to Ska music and The Who.

Rockers rode motorbikes - often at 100mph with no crash helmets - wore leathers and listened to the likes of Elvis and Gene Vincent.

Inevitably the two gangs clashed. The 1964 Whitsun weekend violence in Brighton was famously dramatised in the film *Quadrophenia* (1979).

In August that year police had to be flown into the Sussex resort of Hastings to break up fights between the two gangs. But two years later, most Mods had turned their attentions to the burgeoning, more laid-back, hippie culture.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You have plenty of time on your hands to be spontaneous...

Taurus April 20-May 20 The time to rush out and shop willy-nilly is not only over...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Don't just wish for a change in your finances, try to go about making it yourself...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Feeling somewhat suspicious, blurring things out before thinking -- classic symptoms of stress...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You could have a good time out of anything, even being broke. Luckily for you things won't go that far...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Take time analyzing financial issues. You might be tempted to start hording...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Your bottom line is either way up or way down, and so is your emotional state...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 The 'all's fair' phrase covers only love and war. Life requires balance...

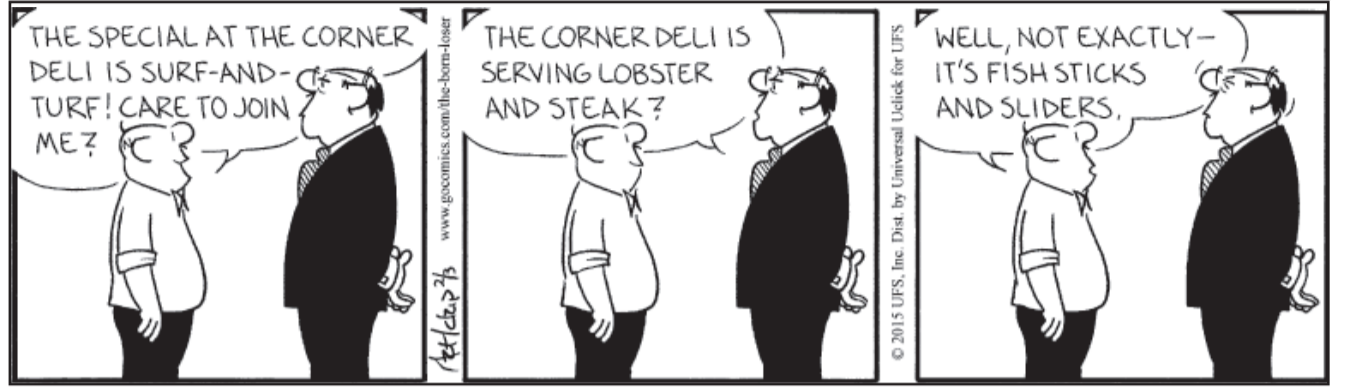
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 What could be more fun than making a profit? How about romance, games, even children for starters...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Where would you be if your ancestors had thrown in the towel? Not here, for one...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You may feel too pinched for such advanced ideas as altruism and charity, but that is false thinking...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You'd love to come up with a cash sponge, then leave it somewhere unobtrusive...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



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Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

MIN MAX CONDITION

CHINA

Beijing 16 29 thundershower/clear
Harbin 10 16 drizzle/moderate rain
Tianjin 18 27 thundershower/clear
Urumqi 11 21 heavy rain
Xi'an 19 32 cloudy/clear
Lhasa 7 21 shower/cloudy
Chengdu 20 31 overcast/cloudy
Chongqing 20 28 overcast/cloudy
Kunming 16 29 cloudy
Nanjing 20 27 thundershower/overcast
Shanghai 20 23 shower
Wuhan 21 28 drizzle/overcast
Hangzhou 21 25 shower/moderate rain
Taipei 23 33 drizzle
Guangzhou 23 28 moderate rain/heavy rain
Hong Kong 26 30 cloudy

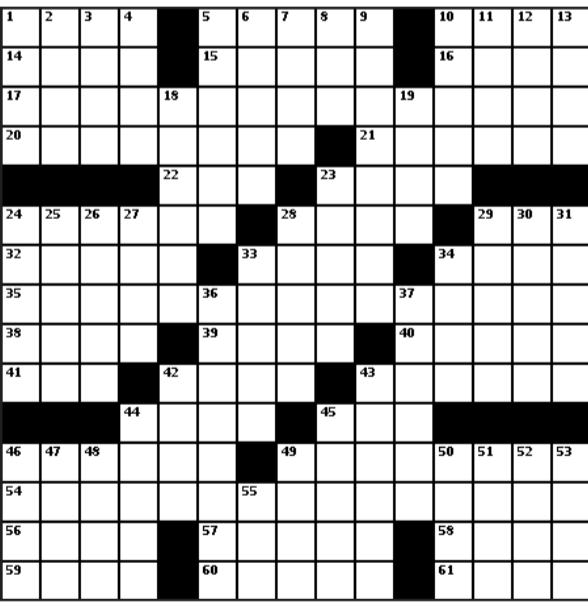
WORLD

Moscow 6 12 drizzle
Frankfurt 9 20 overcast/cloudy
Paris 7 20 clear
London 3 14 overcast/drizzle
New York 17 28 cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Architect Mies van der ...; 5- Chilled soup; 10- What there oughta be; 14- Like a line, briefly; 15- Ring-tailed tropical carnivore; 16- Rocket launcher; 17- Long-distance shooting?; 20- Leap; 21- Nile waders; 22- Long-leaved lettuce; 23- Yale students; 24- Warm-blooded vertebrate; 28- Oceans; 29- Scratch (out); 32- Bellowing; 33- Capital of Switzerland; 34- Lendl of tennis; 35- Make urban; 38- Borscht ingredient; 39- Metallic fabric; 40- Furnishings; 41- PC key; 42- Tabula ...; 43- "Am not!" rejoinder; 44- Mediator's skill; 45- Hit letters; 46- Coop up; 49- Abu Dhabi, e.g.; 54- Describe fully; 56- Dedicated to the ... Love; 57- Now, in Nogales; 58- Struck, old-style; 59- Internet writing system that popularized "pwn3d" and "n00b"; 60- Ribbons; 61- Manuscript enc.;

DOWN: 1- Campus mil. group; 2- Fit to serve; 3- Assist; 4- German river; 5- Institution for teaching; 6- Loses heat; 7- Loathe; 8- From ... Z; 9- Wary; 10- Diarist Nin; 11- Swimmer's regimen; 12- Tennis great Arthur; 13- Methods; 18- Rogue; 19- Baseball stats; 23- Strange and mysterious; 24- Deadly black snake; 25- Whirling; 26- Sacred song; 27- Trading center; 28- 1965 march site; 29- Eject; 30- Musical toy; 31- Dicembre follower; 33- Brag; 34- Arrow poison; 36- Table protector; 37- Deft; 42- Prego rival; 43- Punta ... south Chile city; 44- Unspoken; 45- Stock unit; 46- Biol. branch; 47- Mudville complement; 48- Algonquian language; 49- Red sign; 50- Join lips; 51- Lady of Spain; 52- Mayberry sot; 53- Allot; 55- ... Na Na



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
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PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
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TENNIS

# McIlroy sets course record with 61, leads at Wells Fargo

**W**HEN Rory McIlroy rolled in an 8-foot birdie putt on the 13th hole, he started thinking about shooting 59.

He didn't quite get there Saturday, settling for an 11-under 61 to break the Quail Hollow record and take a four-shot lead in the Wells Fargo Championship.

After making nine birdies in a 10-hole stretch, the top-ranked McIlroy pushed his 7-iron on the par-3 17th hole to the right side of the green 40 feet from the cup. He settled for par and the dream was dashed.

"I was little disappointed with not finishing it off the way I wanted to, but still it was a great run," McIlroy said.

It was McIlroy's best round on the PGA Tour, but not his best ever.

He said he had a putt for 59 on the 18th hole at The Bear's Club in Jupiter, Florida, leading up to the Masters, but missed it.

"I left it short," McIlroy said with a laugh.

He didn't leave much short Saturday.

He started the balmy afternoon three shots behind Webb Simpson and Robert Streb.



Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland

shoot a 65 and a few others go low in the morning.

"I knew that there were scores out there to be had — and I got a little more aggressive," McIlroy said.

That included driving the green on the 345-yard, par-4 14th hole for the fourth time in his career — more than any player in tournament history.

"I feel like it's one of these courses I can get on a roll with," McIlroy said.

McIlroy is looking to become the first two-time winner of the event. At 18-under 198, he's on pace to shatter the tournament record of 16 under set by Anthony Kim in 2008.

McIlroy said the Quail Hollow course sets up perfectly for him, which is why he decided to play the event after some debate.

He set the previous course record of 62 in the final round of his 2010 Wells Fargo victory, and Brendon de Jonge

matched it last year.

"It's funny that it has happened here again," McIlroy said.

Simpson was second after three rounds, four strokes back after a 68. Streb shot a 71 and was seven shots behind heading into the final round on Sunday (today, Macau time).

Phil Mickelson was playing well before a triple bogey on the 18th hole, which has become his nemesis. That dropped Mickelson to 71 on the day and left him 10 shots behind McIlroy and out of contention for a tournament he has never won. Mickelson double bogeyed the 18th hole Thursday.

When asked what he took away from McIlroy's round, playing partner Will MacKenzie said: "That he's way better than me at golf."

"It's going to be tough to beat him," MacKenzie said. "I'm glad that he doesn't play every week. I mean that guy, he's just — he's head and shoulders

above me."

McIlroy's run proved to be a bit demoralizing for the competition.

Simpson looked up at the scoreboard after his own birdie at 13 figuring he was tied for the lead, only to learn he was three shots back.

"I gave that look like, 'Oh, really — on this golf course?'" Simpson said.

Six players have shot 59 in official PGA Tour events. Al Geiberger did it in the 1977 Memphis Classic, Chip Beck in the 1991 Las Vegas Invitational, David Duval in the final round of his 1999 victory in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, Paul Goydos in the 2010 John Deere Classic, Stuart Appleby in the 2010 Greenbrier Classic and Jim Furyk in the 2013 BMW Championship.

Japan's Ryo Ishikawa shot the lowest round on a major tour, a 12-under 58 to win the 2010 Crowns on the Japan Tour. **AP**

AD



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opinion

Insight  
Paulo Barbosa



**SLOW RESPONSE TO FOREIGN HUMANITARIAN CRISES**

Macau has a longstanding tradition of helping those in need. During the Second World War, when under the threat of a Japanese attack, the local authorities reportedly distributed bread and water to a population that rose from 200,000 to about 700,000 people within two or three years.

The journalist and researcher João Botas, who wrote a historical essay on this very topic, described how, "Macau became a haven for thousands of refugees, mostly from China" including the large Macanese community that resided in Shanghai.

During the post-war period, the region also assisted refugees, including those fleeing Communist China after 1949, and the Vietnamese "boat people" in the 1970s.

It therefore feels strange to see a certain slowness in response to international aid requests following the massive earthquake that struck Nepal on April 25, killing almost 8,000 people and leaving massive destruction in its wake. One week after the earthquake, the president of the Non-Resident Nepali Association of Macau, Sudarshan Thapa Magar, was alleging that authorities were unresponsive to the Nepalese migrant community's repeated pleas for help. When asked about the issue, a representative from the Spokesperson Office gave the Times a quite bureaucratic answer, saying that no "formal written request" for financial support from the Nepalese association had been received at that time. But, was a "formal request" needed? Shouldn't the government be more proactive in a situation where every minute counts in saving lives?

To give some good examples, shortly after the natural disaster, China pledged two rounds of humanitarian aid worth 60 million yuan to Nepal in addition to over 350 Chinese engineers, doctors and rescue workers who were sent to work on the ground.

Three days after the earthquake, the Hong Kong government applied for a supplementary provision of HKD50 million from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. On April 30, it was announced that the provision had been passed by circulation, without going through the normal procedure of an open meeting.

In Macau, the response to humanitarian crises in the region (excluding China) clearly takes more time. And it is not the first time this has happened. After the huge destruction to regions in the Philippines caused by typhoon Haiyan in early November 2013, a relief package and a message of sympathy was sent by the local government three weeks after the disaster and only following public outcry. Some wondered if this apparent indifference was related to the Spratly Islands territorial disputes that involved China and the Philippines. If so, it's a shame, especially because there's a large Filipino community in Macau.

I wonder if this sometimes slow response to disasters that generally occurs in the region can be attributed to the fact that the MSAR lacks the competence to deal with foreign affairs and thus it eventually needs to wait for China's approval before sending help. The Times questioned the government about this and received no reply.

On Thursday, May 7, with the Nepal disaster hitting TV screens for days on end, the government finally did the right thing and announced that it would donate MOP20 million to Nepal after a meeting between the Chief Executive and Mahesh Prasad Dahal, the Nepalese consul to Hong Kong and Macau. Better late than never.

To conclude on a good note, the local community displayed remarkable solidarity towards Nepal. Besides the help swiftly provided by the local Red Cross and other NGOs, several gaming operators organized fundraisers spurred on by their Nepalese workers in order to gather large amounts of money.

Now the question is how this aid will be used on the ground and if it will be able to reach those most in need. According to media reports, this is not always possible. The donors should establish mechanisms in order to ensure this can occur. But the first step is to provide help. Macau helped, continuing an old humanitarian tradition. It should always be like this, whenever and wherever the tragedy hits.

THE AUSTRALIA: MELBOURNE VICTORY WIN  
BUZZ A-LEAGUE TITLE

Albanian striker Besart Berisha added to his team-leading goal total in the biggest match of the season, helping the Melbourne Victory to a 3-0 win over Sydney FC in the A-League grand final yesterday.

Berisha came into yesterday's match with 14 goals. He notched his 15th in the 33rd minute when he gained possession in

the box and fired home the opening goal. Kosta Barbarouses and Leigh Broxham added clinching goals in the final seven minutes.

It was an eventful first half for Berisha, who was given a yellow card for contact with Sydney's Matthew Jurman. It was the third A-League title for the Victory.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	30-50 Good
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good
Ambient	35-55 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

**MYANMAR** A Myanmar court imposed new sentences with hard labor for six prominent activists who are already serving prison terms for political activities. All six were charged in connection with a protest they attended last year outside the Chinese Embassy to demand an investigation into the shooting death of an opponent of a Chinese-backed copper mine. The court on Friday sentenced them to four years and four months imprisonment with hard labor. Their previous sentences were for violating the peaceful assembly law with their political activities.

**BURUNDI's** president Pierre Nkurunziza makes his first appearance in the capital since last week's attempted coup, urging an immediate halt to protests. [More on p13](#)

**MACEDONIA** Tens of thousands of people gathered in the center of the Macedonian capital Skopje to demand the resignation of conservative Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski. Yesterday's protest follows the release of a massive cache of wiretapped conversations by the head of the opposition Social Democrats, Zoran Zaev. He claims that Gruevski was behind the mass wiretapping of more than 20,000 Macedonians.



**USA** Passenger train operator Amtrak will expand its use of a speed restriction system on Philadelphia's northbound rails and abide by other federal directives issued after one of its trains crashed in the city last week, killing eight people. The automatic train control system already is being used for southbound trains approaching the curve where Tuesday's derailment occurred. The system notifies an engineer when a train is above the speed limit and automatically applies the brakes if the engineer doesn't slow down the train.

**USA** B.B. King, whose scorching guitar licks and heartfelt vocals made him the idol of generations of musicians and fans while earning him the nickname King of the Blues, died Friday at home in Las Vegas. He was 89.

'Yesterday Once More' nabs Jury's Award at Macao Indies 2015

THE long feature "Yesterday Once More" has beaten 24 other homemade productions in the ninth edition of the Macao International Film and Video Festival to take the top accolade, the Jury's Award. The competition's long-awaited results were released yesterday at the Macao Indies 2015 Award Presentation where Alex Law, a veteran film director and screenwriter from Hong Kong (HK) on the jury, told media that the city's indie film industry has already reached an admirable standard despite being in its infancy.

Despite being impressed by the young local filmmakers' efforts and their excellent products, Law reckoned that the local animation and feature films still needed to work harder to keep themselves abreast of their counterparts in documentary production, which the three judges regarded as exceptionally "outstanding" among the entries this year. According to him, editing and storytelling were the weaknesses of the above two categories, which have to be further strengthened.

Even so, the 44-minute feature production, depicting one's retrospect of puppy love based on the topic



Director Emily Chan receives the Jury's Award

of the city's handover in 1999, still won the hearts of the jury with its commercial-level cinematography. Emily Chan, the film's writer-director, told the media after the award presentation that she came to realize the balance between creativity and reality through her work, which took two months to finish.

"There are struggles in my heart. As a screenwriter, I would be as free as possible in writing, unaware of the actual restraints; yet as a director, you'd know the budget and something unattainable. Both these two mentalities have contained me when I was creating the story," said the awardee.

Another challenge was the additional attention to the

film's actors, almost all of who were new actors, besides the female protagonist. Chan needed to teach the newbies how to better portray their roles.

Besides the top award, the competition also features four other awards. Chao Koi Wang's "A Boy's Prayer" received the Commendation Award for Short Film, while Cobi Lou took the Commendation for Animation for her six-minute "C-La in Macao."

The Commendation for Feature Film went to "Iec Long" by João Pedro Rodrigues and João Rui Guerra da Mata whereas Pedro Cardiera's "Mio Pang Fei" obtained the prize for "Best Story."

Pedro Lencastre, Programming and Marketing Manager at the Macao Cultural Centre, said the film festival has seen an "astonishing revolution" over the past eight years as the films and videos have been substantially improving in many regards.

Feng Yu, mainland director in charge of the Art De Vivre in Shenzhen, reckoned Macau has reached a "critical line," meaning the filmmakers were capable of dealing with longer films, given the cinematographic experience accumulated over the previous years. **Staff reporter**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Rick Bowmer



Take it to the ring. Former Rep candidate Mitt Romney, right, throws punches with five-time heavyweight boxing champion Evander Holyfield at a charity fight night event Friday. Romney, 68, and Holyfield, 52, sparred...for just two short rounds before Romney ran away.