



SIZA TO WORK ON HOTEL ESTORIL REVAMP

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POLICE NAB ILLEGAL WORKERS

PSP has detained 11 illegal workers following a raid at a construction site near Macau Airport

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HU JINTAO'S TOP AIDE TO FACE TRIAL

The ruling by the Politburo came seven months after Ling Jihua was placed under internal investigation

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

AD

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Cumulative total number of individuals prosecuted
28174

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Special Administrative Region of Macau Health Administration Services

Chan Meng Kam's group claims 'political persecution'

P3 MDT REPORT

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA-USA President Barack Obama is thanking Chinese President Xi Jinping for China's role in securing the nuclear deal with Iran. The White House says Obama and Xi spoke Monday, the same day the U.N. Security Council unanimously endorsed the deal.

INDIA Opposition parties disrupted Parliament to demand the resignation of two key ruling party leaders for allegedly helping a former cricket official facing investigation for financial irregularities.

PHILIPPINES A Philippine military officer says communist guerrillas have attacked a dozen mostly rural army outposts, including in two provinces where officials have declared that the insurgents have been considerably weakened.

UK British prosecutors have charged two men with trying to join the Islamic State extremist group in Syria. The Crown Prosecution Service said yesterday that 24-year-old Junead Ahmed Khan and his 22-year-old uncle Shazib Ahmed Khan have been charged with trying to join the extremist group. They were arrested last week in Luton, north of London.

More on backpage



Local students conclude military summer camp in Zhuhai P4

Siza Vieira to assist with Hotel Estoril revamp

THE Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, revealed yesterday that the renowned Portuguese architect Siza Vieira will visit Macau to offer insights into the renovation of Hotel Estoril. A final plan for the hotel and swimming pool revitalization will also emerge as a result this upcoming September.

Speaking on the sidelines of a ceremony in Zhuhai (see page 3), Alexis Tam mentioned that he had just returned from a visit to Portugal, where he met with Siza Vieira in his Porto studio. He revealed that the Portuguese Pritzker Prize

-winner was against the notion of retaining the façade of the long-idle hotel. However, several local urban planners and architectures are in favor of preserving the exterior façade.

"As he was responsible for a project in the NAPE district before, basically he knows Macau pretty well. I have also asked him for suggestions over the Hotel Estoril revamp, and he was willing to come to Macau to study more about it," said Tam. "Yet in his eyes as an architect, it's not significant heritage."

The seasoned architect, as the secretary recalled, sugges-

ted that a complete revamp would likely be more suitable for the hotel if it were intended to be redeveloped into a center for leisure and education, especially as the windows covering the front posed challenges to the facelift.

When Siza Vieira arrives in Macau, which could happen in the next two months, a seminar will be organized with local architects before a final blueprint of the revamp is produced.

Meanwhile, the government will launch a public consultation on the revitalization of the former hotel and adjacent swimming pool. The 30-day



Siza Vieira

Educational partnership goes ahead

DURING his week-long visit to Portugal, Tam also met with officials from the Portuguese education ministry over strengthening bilateral efforts in nurturing talented bilingual locals. As the Times reported earlier, there was an agreement to send in special education and Portuguese language teachers to Macau, in order to address the needs of local Portuguese-speaking students.

"We have many Portuguese students with reading disorders or learning difficulties,

especially autistic children, and we haven't been able to find appropriate professionals here in Macau who know how to help them," he explained, adding that the government's request for assistance has met with "an active response."

During his stay in Porto, the government delegates and local officials also discussed the introduction of Chinese traditional dragon-boat racing to Portugal's second largest city, or even across the entire country.

period in which opinions will be accepted will run from 22 July until 20 August. During this period, two public sessions will be held at the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion - Pavilion A. The first session will be held on 2 August at 4pm, and the second on 8 August at 11am.

According to representatives

from Alexis Tam's office, until now, 13 explanatory sessions for the revitalization plan have been held, comprising 1,800 participants. The office claims to have "garnered valuable opinions from these various groups, and that these opinions provide important parameters in formulating the revitalization plan."

Andrew Roberts

HERMES International SCA reported a 22 percent increase in second-quarter sales as growth in Japan offset a slowdown in Hong Kong and Macau. Revenue rose to 1.17 billion euros (USD1.27 billion), Paris-based Hermes said in a statement yesterday. Analysts predicted 1.16 billion euros, according to the median of 14 estimates compiled by Bloomberg. Excluding currency swings, sales climbed 10 percent, beating analysts' expectations for an 8.9 percent advance.

Hermes, like other luxury goods makers, is feeling the effects of slowing demand in China after years of double-digit

RETAIL

Hermes second-quarter sales accelerate, despite Macau, HK rut



growth. Still, the Birkin -bag maker's high prices and limited supply have

helped cushion the blow, and the 178-year-old company is the least ex-

posed of peers to slumping demand in Hong Kong, where it has seven stores, Sanford C. Bernstein has said.

While the company retained its mid-term goal for revenue growth of about 8 percent at constant exchange, the first-half operating margin should be down "slightly" on the year-earlier period because of the weaker euro, Hermes said.

Hermes said in March currency volatility will continue to drag on profitability. Year-ahead

hedging rates mean currency shifts will narrow the operating margin by 0.5 percentage points in 2015, the company said at the time.

Fewer wealthy Chinese are purchasing expensive bags and coats in Hong Kong, preferring instead to shop in Japan and Europe where it's cheaper. U.K. luxury-goods maker Burberry Group Plc said last week it may try to lower its rent bill in the island city to offset a worsening slump there that drove sales growth to a

two-year low. Exports of Swiss watches to Hong Kong dropped 21 percent in June, the Federation of the Swiss Watch Industry said yesterday.

Hermes's second-quarter sales surged 27 percent in Japan at constant exchange rates, accelerating from the 15 percent gain in the first three months of 2015 and smashing analysts' estimates by about 10 percentage points. Sales in the rest of Asia Pacific gained 6 percent, just shy of expectations.

Leather goods and saddlery was the best performing product category with sales rising 15 percent on the same basis, ahead of estimates. Watches returned to growth after five quarters of declines. **Bloomberg**

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THE Macau Institution of People's Alliance director Chan Tak Seng denounced the ruling by the Court of First Instance over the graft case involving Chan Meng Kam's list as "political persecution," while also slamming the Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan for her alleged impromptu announcement on Monday that the electoral law would be revised in the wake of the sentencing.

During a press conference held yesterday, Chan Tak Seng was zealous in the defense of the two association members being found guilty of electoral bribery. According to Mr Chan, the secretary Sonia Chan hinted her approval of Friday's verdict, which indirectly tarnished the Alliance's reputation before an appeal was made.

"The verdict comes before a trial! Today Sonia Chan, the government even told everyone, during the period of appealing, that they were going to legislate based on this case. [Sonia Chan said that a draft review of the electoral law would be conducted before the end of the year, but refused to comment on the bribery conviction] How awkward!" said Chan, who also implied that the authorities intended to make an example of the case.

The seemingly infuriated director also accused the government of having been arbitrary in executing its power as it "opted" to file a lawsuit against the association he heads, given that "several other campaign teams also conducted the same practices in order to remind their members to cast their ballots" ahead of the 2013 Legislative Assembly.

Chan claimed that the two agents from the Commission

ELECTORAL BRIBERY CASE

Chan Meng Kam's association claims 'political persecution'



Chan Tak Seng (center)

Against Corruption (CCAC) who testified in court had infiltrated his association as members by using false identities. Furthermore, during a phone conversation, of which the audio was unavailable for the trial, the CCAC inspectors allegedly kept manipulating the accused 67-year-old senior citizen, in order to convince her to make statements which were favorable to them.

"Are they deployed by the government, or the CCAC itself? (...) Why are they using fake identities and documents? Why? Tell me why!" asked Chan, who then declined to reveal the details of their contrived membership information.

Contrarily, Chan insisted that their personnel had been previously ordered to "remind their members of the upcoming election via phone in line with the guidance of integrity" and dismissed the accusation that they offered catering to their would-be voters. Yet, he also conceded that it could be easy for miscommunications to occur.

In response to allegations that their group members were spotted standing in the lobbies of two local restaurants in large groups before being

collected by shuttle buses in order to vote, Chan explained that they were there simply "chilling out under the air-

Several other campaign teams also conducted the same practices in order to remind their members to cast their ballots

CHAN TAK SENG

conditioning inside."

After that, the alliance head also rebuked the judge who led the trial as biased towards the CCAC agents' testimonies, asserting that he might have been evaluating evidence arbitrarily and neglecting their other members' testimonies.

"[The judge] assessed the evidence arbitrarily and made the decision without enough evidence," said Chan. "Such a verdict, I don't dare to pick at the jurisdiction, but what I want is an equitable one."

None of the three lawmakers embroiled in the scandal, all of whom are members from the association, were in attendance. "They have their works, yet over this matter, you guys go to find the lawmakers on your own after our clarification. But we basically hold the same stance towards this matter," said the head of the Alliance, also stressing that his remarks were not made on behalf of the trio.

Throughout the almost one-hour press conference, Mr Chan complained many times that his group did not "deserve to be treated so badly, as they have devoted themselves wholeheartedly to the government and citizens."

Contacted by TDM, Song Pek Kei confirmed that Chan Tak Seng represents the three lawmakers. She also said that the group will not issue further comments on the case.
Staff reporter

CHAN MENG KAM NOT IN ATTENDANCE

ONE OF the elected lawmakers featured in Chan Meng Kam's list, Song Pek Kei, said on Monday that she would not comment on the case and that a joint press conference would be requested yesterday. However, lawmakers Si Ka

Lon, Song Pek Kei and Chan Meng Kam did not attend the press conference. The Chief Executive's Office stated earlier that Chui Sai On is paying attention to the bribery case and awaiting the lawmakers' versions of the facts.

Lawmaker calls for tougher penalties for electoral corruption

COMMENTING on the punishments imposed on members of Chan Meng Kam's electoral campaign, lawmaker Leonel Alves told Radio Macau that the revisions to electoral laws recently announced by the government should be seen as an opportunity to reflect on the elections held in Macau over the past 20 years.

The lawmaker and Executive Council member noted that it is pernicious for the local political system if the elections are marked by corruption.

"It's a very difficult question, since it



Leonel Alves

has to do with people's mentalities, habits, and also with the characteristics of Macau: it's a small place, the voters are a fragile group, many are migrants or have other cultural backgrounds, and are

often linked to associations from certain provinces or cities. If we forbid certain events, like luncheons, they will instead be held in Zhuhai or in their cities, so it's very difficult to solve that question," he said.

Mr Alves proposed that some "draconian measures" should be considered, like tougher penalties for those who commit corruption and for those who accept bribes. He also said that trials should be faster in order to avoid sentences years after the elections, when the mandate is close to ending.

Over hundred local students join military summer camp



OVER a hundred local secondary school students have spent the last ten days at the Military Summer Camp for Macau Young Students held in Zhuhai at the military base of the PLA Macau Garrison.

The annual training camp, which has been organized for the past 11 years, concluded yesterday in Zhuhai, in

a closing ceremony attended by the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, and the region's former CE, Edmund Ho.

During his opening address, the secretary noted that the government has been encouraging more local young people to take part in "love the country and love Macau" activities to learn

more about the achievements China has made since its reform and "the internal relationship between the region's development and the nation's prosperity."

All of the 105 youths, hailing from different senior high schools, received their course completion certificates from the officials before they posed for a group photo

to to mark the end of the camp.

Christine Lei and Karen Ho, both 17-year-old female trainees, told the Times that the summer camp has deepened their understanding of the nation's security forces, who the pair perceived as "good-humored," in contrast to their solemn persona. They also admired the army's professionalism.

"What we were exposed to in our training was something simple and basic, yet the exercises are actually energy-consuming and involve much strength-training. We already feel so exhausted from the camp's activities, it probably would take us a long time to reach their level," said Lei.

The two teenagers also said that they learnt how to be more encouraging and to persevere as they recalled the most memorable training session where the group was asked to finish a strenuous 10km mountain hike.

Another trainee Kyrie Kwok, a fresh graduate aged 19, said that he became "more resolute after the camp." He also plans to join the region's security forces in the future. **Staff reporter**

Police nab illegal workers at construction site

THE Public Security Police (PSP) has detained 11 illegal workers following a raid at a construction site near Macau Airport. Among those arrested, aged between 25 and 60, two were from Hong Kong, four were from mainland China, three were two-way permit holders while another was believed to be in possession of a Macau identity card that was not their own.

One man was also found to have been using a forged local identity card and another was arrested for working outside the permissible area. According to the PSP, a total of 94 workers have been intercepted through similar operations.

They were reported to be working in the field of refurbishment and the police have contacted their employers for a follow-up investigation.



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Jonathan Burgos

GAMING

Casino stocks boom again, Macquarie says it's fleeting

MACAU casino operators are leading gains on Hong Kong's stock market for the first time in nine months, a winning streak Macquarie Investment Management Ltd. and Pictet Asset Management Ltd. say is temporary.

MGM China Holdings Ltd., Wynn Macau Ltd. and Sands China Ltd. rose at least 20 percent in July, defying China's stock rout and a report showing gamblers are spending a third less at the tables than a year ago. Macquarie says the stocks slumped so much in the first half - with Wynn Macau falling 41 percent - that a rebound was inevitable and it's only a matter of time before the decline resumes.

"They've been sold off quite significantly from their highs," said Sam Le Cornu, who oversees about USD3 billion in Asian equities at Macquarie in Hong Kong. "In the short term, there's probably more downside. In the long term, there's an opportunity but investors need to be very selective."

Casinos rallied this month after Macau eased travel rules for Chinese visitors and signaled it may relax a proposed ban on gaming-floor smoking rooms. Gaming shares plunged in the past year as China's growth slowed, President Xi Jinping's anti-graft campaign deterred high rollers and the mainland stock market



A pedestrian walks past an electronic board displaying the Hang Seng Index, left, the Shanghai Composite Index, center, and the Kospi index outside a securities firm in Tokyo, Japan

each fell 1 percent, while MGM China retreated 0.4 percent.

Gross gaming revenue in the former Portuguese enclave slumped 36 percent from a year earlier in June, to its lowest level in more than four years. Analysts surveyed by Bloomberg expect a 30 percent drop for the year ending December, before revenues climb 4.5 percent in 2016.

"We're beginning to see some green shoots," said Tony Chu, a Hong Kong-based money manager at RS Investment Management Co., which oversees more than \$20 billion. "We'll potentially see some sequential improvement in Macau's gaming revenue in the coming months, reflecting the lower base effect from last year. The comparables are going to get easier."

While valuations look reasonable, said Pauline Dan at Pictet Asset Management Ltd. in Hong Kong, casino stocks probably won't gain significantly from current levels.

"We may have seen the worst," Dan, head of Greater China equities at Pictet, said by phone. "But there's no rush to buy them. China's economy is still slowing and ongoing restrictions on their operations will continue to curb growth in casino revenues." **Bloomberg**

We'll potentially see some sequential improvement in Macau's gaming revenue in the coming months

TONY CHU

soared. Even with this month's advance, casinos are the worst 12-month performers on the MSCI Hong Kong Index.

The slump in the past year dragged the average valuation on Macau's five biggest casino operators by market value to 18 times estimated earnings, about half of the peak reached in December 2013. At that point, Sands and Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. had surged more than

500 percent in the previous four years as an influx of mainland tourists helped Macau become the world's largest gambling hub.

While shares may not fall much further, investors remain reluctant to buy as the outlook for the industry remains weak, Nomura Holdings Inc. said in a July 14 note. Galaxy and Sands China dropped at least 1.1 percent in Hong Kong yesterday. Wynn Macau and SJM Holdings Ltd.

CITI KEEPS JULY GAMING REVENUE FORECAST AT MOP19B

CITI RESEARCH cited its industry sources indicating that Macau table gross gaming revenue (GGR) for the first 19 days in July reached MOP10.8 billion (or MOP11.4b, including an estimated MOP550m in slot-related revenue). The daily run rate in the past week equals to MOP581 million, 3% lower than that of the prior week (MOP602m). Citi maintained its full July GGR forecast for now at MOP19bn, a decline of 33% year-on-year but 9% better than last month.

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Consulta Pública sobre a Revisão do Regime Jurídico de Habitação Social

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25 de Julho (Sábado)	Sessão da Consulta Pública	15:30	Cantonês (com tradução na língua portuguesa)	Instituto de Habitação
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22 de Agosto (Sábado)	Sessão da Consulta Pública	15:30	Cantonês (com tradução na língua portuguesa)	Instituto de Habitação

Yuri Kageyama
Business Writer, Tokyo

CEO of Japan's Toshiba resigns over doctored books

TOSHIBA'S CEO and eight other executives resigned yesterday to take responsibility for doctored books that inflated profits at the Japanese technology manufacturer by 152 billion yen (USD1.2 billion) over several years.

Toshiba Corp. acknowledged a systematic cover-up, which began in 2008. Various parts of the Japanese company's sprawling business including computer chips and personal computers were struggling financially, but top managers set unrealistic earnings targets under the banner of "challenge," and subordinates faked results.

On top of its struggles in electronics, Tokyo-based Toshiba's prospects in nuclear power, one of its core businesses, were shaken after the 2011 Fukushima disaster set off public fears about reactor safety, making new nuclear plants unlikely in Japan. All 48 of the nation's working reactors are now offline.

Bowing deeply before flashing cameras at a news conference, CEO Hisao Tanaka kept his head lowered for nearly half a minute in a gesture meant to convey deep shame and contrition. Tanaka's predecessors, Norio Sasaki, now a vice chairman, and Atsutoshi Nishida, an adviser, also gave up their posts along with six other executives.

"We have a serious responsibility," Tanaka told reporters. The company will need to "build a new structure" to reform itself, he said.

The company said that the fraud continued through the fiscal year that ended in March, and work on revising the accounts to show the complete and true financial picture is not yet finished. It promised an emergency stockholder meeting for September, where it plans to deliver a genuine fi-



Toshiba Corp. CEO Hisao Tanaka grimaces during a press conference to announce his resignation at the company's headquarters in Tokyo

ancial report.

The scandal highlights how Japan is still struggling to improve corporate governance despite recent steps to increase independent oversight of companies.

In 2011, Olympus Corp., which makes medical equipment and cameras, was embroiled in a scandal after its president Michael Woodford, a Briton, blew the whistle on a long-running cover-up of losses at the company.

Loizos Heracleous, Professor of Strategy at Warwick Business School in Britain, said corporate Japan is still lacking in areas such as transparency and board independence compared

with the global standard.

"The Toshiba scandal will be seen in the context of the Olympus event, with investors won-

■ Toshiba Corp. acknowledged a systematic cover-up, which began in 2008

dering whether there is a pattern of account manipulation in corporate behavior," he said in a commentary. "Japanese regulatory authorities will need to

reassure the markets that they are casting a watchful eye over Japanese corporations."

Toshiba has repeatedly apologized to shareholders and customers. It has set up an outside investigation group to analyze why the scandal happened and propose what needs to be done to prevent a recurrence.

The inflation of profits to meet targets was carried out not only on one or two projects, but across the board, sometimes because the projects weren't even breaking even, according to the report of an investigation.

"There was intense pressure to produce results under the challenge initiative," the report

said. "So employees felt cornered into resorting to inappropriate measures."

Tanaka will be replaced by Masashi Muromachi, chairman of the board.

In the Olympus case, the company eventually acknowledged it hid 117.7 billion yen (\$1.5 billion) in investment losses dating back to the 1990s. Woodford, the CEO, won some praise in Japan for his courage in bringing dubious old-guard company practices to light.

Japanese society is conformist and prizes teamwork so much it tends to frown upon whistleblowers, and their legal protection lags compared to those in the West.

Long-established companies such as Toshiba tend to have a highly hierarchical structure, making it difficult for employees to challenge top-down decrees.

Other systematic cover-ups at big-name companies have surfaced in Japan over the years. Unlike some Western accounting scandals, those in Japan, including Toshiba's, did not result in any enrichment of individual employees.

Instead, workers collaborated to "save face" for the company, such as hiding defect reports at automaker Mitsubishi Motors Corp., which surfaced in 2000 but had been going on for decades. Another example of questionable accounting was at electronics maker Sanyo Electric Co., which surfaced in 2007.

Toshiba shares were up 6 percent, recovering recent losses, as investors took the resignations as a sign the company might right itself. **AP**

corporate bits

MASTERCARD LAUNCHES MASTERPASS IN HONG KONG AND BRAZIL



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Seeing the enthusiasm Hong Kong consumers have towards the emerging digital lifestyle and enhancing their online shopping experience,

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Bank, Dah Sing Bank and DBS Bank to launch branded MasterPass digital wallets.

"According to the latest MasterCard Online Shopping Survey in Hong Kong, nearly 90 per cent of

local consumers love to shop online using their mobile devices. We have also found that security and reputation of the website are both top considerations for local consumers when shopping online," said Anna Yip, Head of Hong Kong and Macau, MasterCard.

"MasterPass addresses the concerns of online shoppers, as well as their needs of speed, ease and convenience by offering a one-stop secure payment platform for our digitally-savvy consumers, who are looking to shop and pay safer, faster and simpler. MasterCard is leading the transition to digital payments with the convergence of innovation and digital lifestyle."

SANDS CHINA CARE AMBASSADORS LEARN ABOUT THE HEARING IMPAIRED

Volunteers from the Sands China Care Ambassador (SCCA) program participated in two sign language workshops with the Macau Deaf Association (MDA) – Friday at The Venetian Macao's Adelson Advanced Education Centre and Saturday at MDA's Service Centre for the Deaf.

The 60 Care Ambassadors participating in the two workshops learned some sign language, watched educational clips from the MDA, and were led by the MDA staff in activities aimed at giving them insight into the realities of the deaf experience.

Besides promoting social inclusion, the workshops also served to deepen the Care Ambassadors' understanding of the community and com-



munity service.

"I had joined another MDA activity with the Care Ambassadors last year in March, and both of these experiences have left really big impressions on me," said one of the SCCA volunteers who participated in the workshops.

"Being able to experience what someone else's life is like – even if just a little bit – really helps me understand what others might be going through. I think this helps us strive to be better people, and it helps us serve each other better."

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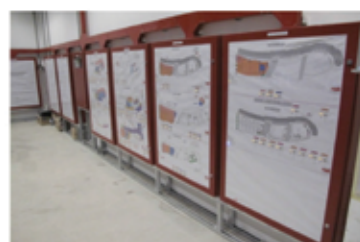
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Angolan airline gives up flights to Dubai

REDUCED passenger numbers have led the board of directors of Angolan airline TAAG to bring flights to Dubai (United Arab Emirates) to a halt and to reduce links to São Paulo (Brazil) until October, said the company's spokesman.

Carlos Vicente, cited by Angolan TV, said "the fall recorded in the aircraft load factor is the basis for the board's decision" and mentioned some flights out of Dubai to Luanda were nearly empty, at less than half capacity.

Vicente said the aircraft used on the Luanda/Dubai route were Boeing 777-300s with over 200 seats and on the connection between Luanda and Dubai were carrying fewer than 50 passengers.

According to Vicente the last flight to Dubai was carried out on 18 July and he added that those who want to travel to the United Arab Emirates would have to resort to other airlines, and that passengers who had



A TAAG plane parked close to a hangar at the Quatro de Fevereiro International Airport, Luanda, Angola

already bought tickets would have their rights safeguarded.

The inaugural flight of the Angolan airline from Luanda to Dubai took place in May 2008 with a technical stopover in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and it carried 122 people of a total capacity of 420 passengers.

TAAG offers international flights,

among other destinations, to Harare (Zimbabwe), Johannesburg (South Africa), Lusaka (Zambia), Brazzaville (Congo Brazzaville), Kinshasa (DR Congo), Lisbon (Portugal), Sal (Cape Verde), São Tomé and Príncipe, Windhoek (Namibia) and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).

MDT/Macauhub

ANGOLA

Germany and Italy showcased at largest trade fair

THE 32nd edition of the Luanda International Fair (Filda) started yesterday in Luanda with the participation of 40 countries and territories and 930 national and international exhibitors, occupying a covered area of 28,000 square meters.

Organized by the Luanda International Fair (FIL), which spent about 250 million kwanzas on it, the 32nd Filda runs until the 26 July under the theme of "dynamism, creativity and competence in domestic production."

With the participation of countries and territories such as Brazil, Japan, Spain, France, India, Turkey, Zambia, Egypt, Senegal, Nigeria, China, Indonesia and Macau, the highlights of the event will be the Germany/Angola and Angola/Italy economic forums in the sectors of Agriculture and Food Industry, and the

2015 Luanda Investment Forum.

"Germany is this year's special guest country and has strengthened its participation, with 28 companies of international renown, some of which already operate in the country," said Salvador Cardoso, director of institutional relations for the fair.

Portugal again has the largest national contingent, with 95 companies and institutions (67 in its own national pavilion), followed by Italy, "which debuts at Filda at the highest level," with 70 companies and institutions linked to the agriculture, industry, trade and services sectors occupying an area of 900 square meters.

The event, which will occupy seven halls and create 2,000 direct and indirect jobs, is intended to promote and enhance private investment in various areas of Angola's economy. MDT/Macauhub

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Shanghai heralds boost for emerging nations with BRICS Bank opening

THE biggest emerging economies opened their New Development Bank in Shanghai, strengthening China's ability to offer developing nations the support traditionally given by the U.S. and Japan through organizations like the World Bank.

The NDB - or BRICS Bank as it is known after sponsors Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - will help with the recovery and development of emerging economies, China's Finance Minister Lou Jiwei said at the lender's opening ceremony in Shanghai yesterday. It can promote cooperation among developing nations without undermining the roles of existing institutions like the World Bank, he said.

"NDB's support for infrastructure construction will effectively ease the bottleneck that has constrained emerging and developing nations for long and will offer support for their economies' upgrade and growth," the minister said. "NDB is a new member and partner to the global development system."

While the BRICS nations account for about a quarter of global economic output, they



and their neighbors have long depended on loans from the U.S.-led World Bank and the Japan-steered Asian Development Bank. China has sought to build its own influence, with its role in the NDB as well as leading the creation of the USD100 billion Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

The NDB will collaborate with the AIIB, including setting up a hot line with the other lender, NDB President Kundapur Vaman Kamath said in Shanghai yesterday. It is looking at local funding solutions, such as tapping financial and capital markets in BRICS nations, he said.

"We will have an open mind in

terms of the instruments we will use for funding projects," Kamath said. "Should we approach the financial markets, the capital markets in five BRICS countries to raise local-currency funds so that in a way we break the challenge and the cost of dealing in hard currencies where the exchange rate continues to impact

you for a long, long time? Could we start by making substantially large bond issuance in the domestic market?"

The NDB will have initial capital of \$50 billion with plans to raise that to \$100 billion over time. In the AIIB, China will hold a veto power and is the biggest shareholder. **Bloomberg**

Beijing slams Mitsubishi's 'selective' wartime slave labor apology

Greg Ahlstrand

MITSUBISHI Materials Corp. should expand its apology for using U.S. prisoners of war as forced laborers during World War II to include captured Chinese soldiers, state-run Xinhua News Agency said in a commentary.

By addressing only U.S. prisoners, just two of whom are still alive, the company "made a selective and hypocritical apology," according to the article published Monday. A spokesman for the company wasn't immediately available to comment yesterday.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is set to issue a statement in August to commemorate 70 years since Japan's surrender. Abe has said he will uphold the statements of previous prime ministers, but won't reiterate wording that detailed Japan's past aggression and colonial rule in Asia. Failure to satisfy China risks undermining a nascent recovery in ties between Asia's two biggest economies.

"As the saying goes, 'If a leader sets a bad example, it will be followed by his subordinates,'" the commentary



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

says. Mitsubishi's apology "stopped short of directly offering a sincere apology to Asian countries, especially China and South Korea, which suffered the most from Japan's wartime atrocities."

Mitsubishi Materials forced 3,765 Chinese nationals to work at 12 sites belonging to the company during the war, 720 of whom were tortured to death or died from extremely heavy labor, according the Xinhua com-

mentary citing "official Japanese data."

"To mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, Japan should make a wise choice to bravely face up to its dark wartime past, offer a sincere apology to those who most want it instead of U.S. POWs only, and take concrete action to prove to the world that Japan will firmly follow a path of pacifism," Xinhua said. **Bloomberg**

Man blows himself up killing 3, injuring 24 others

AN unemployed man suffering from a liver ailment blew himself up in an explosion that also killed two other people and injured 24 outside a park in eastern China, Chinese state media and police said yesterday.

Three of the injured were in critical condition following the blast Monday night in Huxi Park in Shanxian county in Shandong province's Heze city, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Initial investigations indicated that the suspect committed suicide but it was not yet clear what material he used to spark the blast, press officer Li Meng of the county public security bureau told The Associated Press.

Xinhua named the dead suspect as Xie Xingtang, 33. Li said the suspect was unemployed and had been suffering from liver cirrhosis. He had been admitted to hospital many times, but medical treatment had failed.

The blast happened outside the park entrance in a small square, where senior citizens had likely gathered to watch Chinese opera and participate in other activities, Li said.

The county government has sent more than 100 medical workers to treat the injured.

There have been a series of cases in China where people with grievances or who were involved in feuds have used homemade bombs to blow up themselves and others. Bombs are often the weapon of choice because firearms are tightly controlled and difficult to obtain. **AP**

Didi Tang, Beijing

FORMER President Hu Jintao's top aide has been arrested on corruption charges, stripped of his party membership and removed from all government positions, China's state media said.

The ruling by the Communist Party's Politburo came seven months after Ling Jihua was placed under internal investigation for disciplinary violations.

■ Ling became well known when his son crashed a Ferrari in Beijing with two nude or half-dressed women

The fall of Ling, whose former position is comparable to the U.S. president's chief of staff, has come amid a stern anti-corruption campaign by Hu's successor Xi Jinping. The campaign is seen by many as a means to not only restore public confidence in the ruling party, but also to root out threats to Xi's political dominance.

Jeffrey Bader, a senior fellow at the Washington-based think tank Brookings Institution, said the expulsion of Ling from the party and the arrest was long expected.

"It's the sign of the determination of Xi Jinping and the leadership to go after high-level actors in the anti-corruption campaign," Bader said.

The political motivation to purge Ling is unclear, said Steve Tsang, senior fellow at the University of Nottingham's China Policy Institute. "We have not heard of any



In this Sunday, March 11, 2012 file photo, Ling Jihua, top left, a loyal aide and confidante to President Hu Jintao, bottom right, sits behind Premier Wen Jiabao, bottom left, as they attend an NPC plenary session in Beijing

Hu Jintao's top aide to face corruption trial

real personal grudge that Xi Jinping would have against Ling Jihua," Tsang said.

Ling held a sensitive position but never made it into the party's top echelon.

His disgrace followed the fall of two more prominent Chinese political figures — former Politburo member Bo Xilai and Zhou Yongkang, who served on the Politburo's standing committee until his 2012 retirement. But unlike Bo and Zhou, Ling had no

clear evidence of opposing Xi, and the Youth League faction to which Ling belonged has not been politically targeted at the high level, Tsang said.

Ling, formerly head of the party's general office under Hu, became well known in China in 2012 when his son crashed a Ferrari in Beijing with two nude or half-dressed women, according to various reports. Ling was accused of covering up the scandal.

Ling had appeared destined

for a seat in the party's Politburo in late 2012, but instead was removed from the top leadership and named head of the United Front Work Department.

The Xinhua News Agency said the internal investigation found Ling took huge amounts of money through bribery and used his position to seek benefits for others. It said Ling had allowed his family to benefit financially from his political influence. The report

specifically said Ling's wife, Gu Liping, received bribes and that her business activities benefited from Ling's status. Gu was involved with non-governmental organizations on youth issues.

Ling obtained many core secrets of the party and the country in violation of party discipline and the law, Xinhua said.

He was also accused of having multiple illicit affairs in violation of party rules.

China Central Television said China's top prosecuting office had arrested Ling, who would be prosecuted on corruption charges. Because Chinese courts are controlled by the party, it is a foregone conclusion that Ling will be found guilty, although it is unclear if his trial would be open. **AP**

College librarian admits he replaced art with fakes

Louise Watt, Beijing

A former chief librarian at a Chinese university admitted in court yesterday to stealing more than 140 paintings by grandmasters in a gallery under his watch and replacing them with fakes he painted himself.

For two years up until 2006, Xiao Yuan substituted famous works including landscapes and calligraphies in a gallery within the library of the

Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts.

He told the court in his defense that the practice appeared to be rampant and the handling of such paintings was not secure. He said he noticed fakes already hanging in the gallery on his first day on the job. Later, after he replaced some of the remaining masters with his own fakes, he was surprised when he noticed his fake paintings were being substituted with even more fakes.

"I realized someone else had replaced my paintings with their own because I could clearly discern that their works were terribly bad," Xiao, 57, told Guangzhou People's Intermediate Court, which posted a video of the two-hour hearing on its website.

Xiao said that he didn't know who had replaced his fakes, but that students and professors could

take out paintings in the same way as they could borrow library books.

Xiao sold 125 of the paintings at auction between 2004 and 2011 for more than 34 million yuan (USD6 million), and used the money to buy apartments and other paintings. The 18 others he stole are estimated to be worth more than 70 million yuan (\$11 million), according to prosecutors.

Xiao pleaded guilty to a corruption charge for

substituting the 143 paintings, and said that he deeply regretted his crime.

The stolen works mentioned in the court transcript included paintings by influential 20th century artists Qi Baishi, and Zhang Daqian, who depicted landscapes and lotuses. Zhang himself was considered a master forger.

Also removed was "Rock and Birds" by Zhu Da, a

painter and calligrapher who lived during the 17th century and used ink monochrome.

Xiao said he stopped his stealing when the paintings were moved to another gallery. He was the university's chief librarian until 2010, and his crimes came to light when an employee discovered what had happened and went to the police.

Calls seeking comment from the university were not answered. **AP**

CAMBODIA

11 opposition activists jailed for insurrection charges

Cambodia's Phnom Penh Municipal Court yesterday convicted eleven opposition activists of leading or participating in an insurrection and sentenced them to between 7 and 20 years in prison. They were found guilty of either leading or joining an insurrection during a violent protest near the Freedom Park in Phnom Penh on July 15 last year that left more than 40 people injured, mostly security personnel. "The court decides to sentence Meach Sovannara (head of the Information Department of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party), Oeur Narith and Khin Chamroeun (both are opposition party officials) to 20 years in prison for leading an insurrection," said a verdict announced by Presiding Judge Lim Makaron. The verdict added that the other eight activists were sentenced to seven years in prison for participating in the insurrection. The court also fined each of them between USD2,000 and 5,000. In April, the 11 party officials and activists were freed on bail, but were re-arrested and sent back into jail yesterday while they appeared in court to hear the verdict.

THAILAND

Rights commission adds wife of lawyer who disappeared

Thailand's human rights body has named as a commissioner the wife of a lawyer who disappeared 11 years ago after criticizing police conduct. The selection committee announced yesterday that Angkhana Neelaphajit is among seven candidates who will sit on the new commission for a six-year term. Angkhana became active in defending human rights after her husband, Somchai, disappeared in March 2004. Rights groups feared he was killed because of his criticism of police conduct toward the clients he represented in a case related to Thailand's deadly insurgency. Angkhana continued to investigate allegations of police abuse in Thailand's south despite anonymous threats. Besides continuing to press for justice in her husband's case, Angkhana has become a high-profile advocate for the missing throughout Asia in cases where the abductors are believed to be agents of the state. The outgoing National Human Rights Commission has been criticized for its leniency toward rights violations in recent political protests. It's unclear if the successors will be more influential. Thailand's military government has been criticized by overseas rights group for restricting speech and assembly freedoms and prosecuting dissent and other sensitive cases in military rather than civilian courts.

MYANMAR

2 newspaper editors fined for insulting president



Arnt Khaung Min, deputy chief editor of the weekly Myanmar Herald, speaks to journalists as he leaves a township court in Naypyitaw

Aye Aye Win, Yangon

A Myanmar court yesterday fined two editors of a weekly newspaper 1 million kyat (USD809) each after finding them guilty of violating the country's media law by insulting the president.

The case was one of several seen by press freedom advocates as an effort to intimidate the media ahead of a general election scheduled for November.

Nine other staff members of the weekly Myanmar Herald were acquitted in the case, which was filed by the Information Ministry last November after publication of an interview with a political analyst who described President Thein Sein as a fool.

The paper's chief editor, Kyaw Swa Win, and the deputy chief editor, Arnt Khaung Min, were fined by a court in the capital, Naypyitaw, for violating the media law by printing ar-

ticles affecting an individual's reputation.

"The judge said we are guilty of tarnishing the image of the president and we were charged under the media law for not being ethical," Arnt Khaung Min said by phone.

"We have to be cautious because the harassment on media freedom has increased, but we don't feel threatened by such repression," he said, describing the pre-election climate for the media as very

bleak. "We will continue to do our job."

The London-based human rights group Amnesty International said last month that the government's efforts to restrict freedom of expression had intensified over the past year.

Myanmar started moving in 2011 from a half-century of military rule to democracy, but many of its political reforms, including media freedom, have stalled. About 10 journalists are serving jail terms ranging from two to seven years, a journalist was killed in military custody and more than a dozen others are facing trial, including a group of 17 editorial staffers from the influential Daily Eleven newspaper on contempt of court charges.

The Daily Eleven, taking advantage of new press freedoms after the military regime made way for a civilian elected government in 2011, has published a series of stories on alleged corruption, abuse of power and inefficiency in the judicial system. The outspoken CEO of the Eleven Media Group, Dr. Than Htut Aung, was attacked last week by assailants who used slingshots to shoot steel bolts at his car, damaging the vehicle but leaving the publishing executive unhurt. The motive of the attackers remains unclear, though the attack has contributed to a chilling atmosphere for journalists.

The press freedom group Reporters Without Borders last week named Thein Sein as one of the world "leaders who publicly threaten journalists." AP

THAILAND

Coal plant proposed for pristine coast sparks outcry

Ted Andersen, Bangkok

PLANS to build an 800-megawatt coal power plant near some of Thailand's most popular beaches have sparked protests and a hunger strike by activists who say officials aren't considering its impact on the pristine environment that makes the area an international tourist destination.

More than 100 members of the Save Andaman from Coal Network this week staged a march and sit-in outside the prime minister's office in the nation's capital against plans to build the plant near southern Thailand's Andaman coast about 650 kilometers south of Bangkok.

The tranquil Krabi province and its islands are famed for picturesque limestone cliffs and white sand beaches, one of which was the centerpiece of the Leonardo DiCaprio film "The Beach."

"If this power plant happens, southern Thailand will lose a lot," said Krabi resident Akraej Chakjinda, who has fasted since July 10 in protest.

Protesters say the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, or EGAT, is pushing ahead with a bidding process for the plant and a seaport that would receive overseas shipments of coal before an environmental impact assessment has been completed. Plans to launch the bidding process were delayed until next month,



A protester holds a placard outside the Prime Minister's office in Bangkok during a demonstration opposing a proposed coal power plant in southern Thailand

which EGAT says is unrelated to the ongoing protests.

The coal plant is part of a critical energy infrastructure that will provide Thailand with energy security as natural gas reserves in the Gulf of Thailand dry up within 10 years, EGAT says.

The state power authority has said it envisions building nine coal power plants in the south over the next two decades. AP

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

JAPAN emphasized China as a threat in escalating regional tensions in this year's annual defense report as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government tries to convince the public of the need to pass legislation to give Japan's military a greater role.

The report, approved yesterday by the Cabinet, was delayed for more than a week as Abe's ruling party panel demanded mention of additional examples of China's "one-sided" maritime activities, such as undersea gas and oil development in the East China Sea.

Abe's ruling coalition has been pushing to pass highly contentious legislation allowing Japan's Self-Defense Force to fight for foreign militaries even when it is not under attack, while expanding its role in international peacekeeping.

Many Japanese are wary of expanding the military because of bitter memories of Japan's World War II defeat. Opposition lawmakers have said Abe's party might be exaggerating the threats to drum up support for unpopular legislation that many experts have also called unconstitutional.

The 429-page white paper underscored that Japan's security risk had worsened overall and cited continuing missile and nuclear threats from North Korea and terrorist threats from the Islamic State group as examples.

China by far topped Japan's list of security concerns, taking up one-third of a chapter on global security trends covering eight countries and regions.

"China, particularly over conflicting maritime issues, continues to act in an assertive manner, including coercive attempts to change the status quo, and is poised to fulfill its unilateral demands high-handedly without



In this Oct. 26, 2014 file photo, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, right, walks by a mock-up of the F-35 fighter jet during the annual Self-Defense Forces Commencement of Air Review at Hyakuri Air Base, north of Tokyo

JAPAN

Annual defense paper shows heightened worry over China

compromise," the report said. "Japan is strongly concerned about China's actions, which we need to keep watching closely."

The report also raised concerns over China's recent reclamation work in the South China Sea, saying it had escalated regional tensions. The Defense Ministry report also added a new section that also refers to maritime activities elsewhere.

China has been building artificial islands in the vast, re-

source-rich area, alarming neighboring nations. Japan has increased defense cooperation with the Philippines and has conducted joint exercises in the area. Defense Minister Gen Nakatani has suggested that Japan could send reconnaissance aircraft to the region if the legislation is approved, though he denied any specific plans.

The report called secure maritime transport crucial to the nation's survival.

China's repeated incursions into territorial waters around the disputed East China Sea islands have become routine, with larger vessels now being mobilized, the report said. The uninhabited islands are controlled by Japan and also claimed by Beijing, the report said.

Responding to demands by the national security panel of Abe's party, the report takes special note to China's undersea oil and gas drilling and

surveying in the regional seas. In disputed waters of the East China Sea, China has been building new offshore platforms and other facilities on the Chinese side of the median line since June 2013, causing repeated protests from Japan over China's "unilateral" development, the report said.

The segment was printed on a separate slip as an insertion, a process that held up the report's release for about 10 days **AP**

NORTH KOREA

Pyongyang not interested in something like Iranian nuclear deal

NORTH Korea said yesterday that it's not interested in an Iran-type nuclear disarmament deal, saying it won't abandon its atomic weapons as long as the United States maintains hostile policies toward the country.

The North's nuclear deterrent is "not a plaything to be put on the negotiating table," an unidentified Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency. It was the country's first official res-



In recent years, North Korea has conducted nuclear tests and rocket launches and taken other provocative steps, while the U.S. has ramped up measures to try to rein it in. | AP Photo

ponse to the Iran nuclear accord reached earlier this month.

North Korea's nuclear program is a major regional concern, with the country having conducted atomic weapons tests in 2006, 2009 and 2013.

International nuclear disarmament talks have been stalled since early 2009, and outside analysts believe the North has built a small but growing nuclear bomb arsenal.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said North Korea is different from Iran because it already has nuclear weapons. He said the North faces constant military and nuclear threats from the U.S., citing its regular military exercises with South Korea.

North Korea "is not interested at all in the dialogue to discuss the issue of making it freeze or dismantle its nukes unilaterally first," he said, adding that the North "remains unchanged in the mission of its nuclear force as long as the U.S.

continues pursuing its hostile policy toward" the country.

The U.S. stations about 28,500 troops in South Korea as deterrence against potential aggression from North Korea, a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

Under the Iranian nuclear deal reached by Tehran, Washington and others, Iran's nuclear program will be curbed for a decade in exchange for potentially hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of relief from international sanctions. Many key penalties on the Iranian economy, such as those related to the energy and financial sectors, could be lifted by the end of the year. **AP**

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Tom Odula, Bujumbura

BURUNDI

Nation votes amid unrest as president seeks 3rd term

BURUNDI began voting in its presidential election yesterday following a night of gunfire in which three people were killed, including two police officers, in unrest over President Pierre Nkurunziza's bid for a third term.

The two policemen were shot dead in the capital Monday night, said Willy Nyamitwe, the presidential adviser for information and media. The body of an opposition official was earlier found on a road. The opposition and the government blame each other for the overnight violence.

The gunshots and explosions kept away voters, though most polling stations opened at around 6 a.m. or 7 a.m.

Burundi has been rocked by unrest since April when Nkurunziza announced he would run for a third term. More than 100 people have died in street protests against the president's bid to extend his time in power. The strife triggered an attempted military coup in mid-May that was quickly put down by pro-Nkurunziza forces.

With some of the opposition boycotting the election and others saying that they were not allowed to campaign, Nkurunziza, 51, is not facing a strong electoral challenge.

Among the few people who voted in opposition areas of the capital, Bujumbura, many tried to wipe off the indelible ink on their fingers fearing reprisals from opposition supporters.

Unlike the capital city, a



President Pierre Nkurunziza walks to a polling station to cast his vote for the presidential election, in his hometown of Ngozi

high turn-out was reported in Nkurunziza's hometown of Ngozi in northern Burundi where the president voted at Buye Fondamental School polling center.

"These elections prove that democracy is improving in Burundi," Nkurunziza said after casting his ballot.

Many fear that the presidential polls may provoke widespread violence. Since independence from Belgium in 1961, Burundi has had four coups and a civil war that an estimated 250,000 dead.

The U.N. refugee agency says at least 170,000 refugees have fled the country fearing electoral violence. Nkurunziza's critics including his second vice-president, the deputy president of the Constitutional Court and the vice-chairwoman of the electoral commission are among dozens who have gone to exile alleging death threats.

Opponents say Nkurunziza must go because the constitution limits the president to two terms. But the president's supporters say he is eligible for a third term because he was chosen by lawmakers — and not popularly elected — for his first term in 2005. AP

GREECE

Tsipras stays popular despite bailout hardship

Menelaos Hadjicostis and Derek Gatopoulos, Athens

UNDER Alexis Tsipras, Greece slid back into recession, sank deeper into debt and found itself pushed to the brink of bankruptcy. Then after rejecting one painful bailout deal, the radical left leader agreed to a new one with possibly just as harsh terms.

It wouldn't be surprising to find Greeks calling for his head by now. But the telegenic prime minister is more popular than ever — testament to how his defiance of Europe has struck a chord with a nation fed up with sacrifices imposed from outside.

The 40-year-old has an approval rating of nearly 60 percent, more than 10 points clear of his closest rival — leading to speculation about a possible snap election in the fall. A weekend opinion poll suggested his hard-left Syriza party would win a landslide victory if elections were held today.

Many Greeks like Tsipras' message of hope — even if his actions may be leading to a harder life.

"People are under tremendous pressure," said Aleka Tani, who sells robes to Greek Orthodox priests, "and they need



Greece's Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras laughs during a parliament meeting in Athens

to hear something positive."

Tsipras' Syriza party was elected in January on a promise to end austerity, forming a coalition with the right-wing, anti-bailout Independent Greeks party — a move that broadened his political influence. As Greece's economy tanked

under his leadership, Tsipras' own popularity only grew. And that appeal has not faded despite caving into demands for more austerity last week in exchange for a bailout that kept Greece within the eurozone.

The U-turn at the eurozone summit in Brussels was in many ways baffling. For it came after Tsipras pleaded with Greeks to reject European creditors' original bailout proposal, in a referendum called by the prime minister himself. Days after a resounding "No" vote on more austerity, Tsipras agreed to a pact that will bring more brutal austerity for years to come.

That might have been political suicide for any other leader.

But Tsipras appears to have won Greek hearts with his tough talk against Europe — and a frank admission in parliament that he had accepted tough terms after making mistakes.

Defending the deal, Tsipras also argued that he had not walked away from the eurozone summit empty-handed. His long-standing demand for some way to ease Greece's whopping 320 billion euro (USD347 billion) national debt is now being discussed by Europe's policymakers.

Elias Nikolakopoulos, a leading Greek pollster, said that although it is still early to accurately gauge the depth of Tsipras' popularity, his resilience may be partly due to Greeks seeing him fighting in their corner, doing what he can whether good or bad.

"People say that at least he fought," Nikolakopoulos said. He added that Tsipras' portrayal of Greece rejecting the meddling of "foreigners" resonates among many Greeks.

Yet the government's popularity, analysts argue, will be crucially tested in the fall when taxpayers begin to feel the full force of new austerity measures.

"As soon as that impact is felt and the measures begin to bite, Tsipras' popularity will begin to drop precipitously," said Panayiotis Ioakimidis, a European policy scholar at the University of Athens.

Still, Tsipras has another important trump card: There are currently few alternatives to his charismatic leadership, as opposition parties remain in transition after losing popular support over the austerity measures they imposed.

"There's no credible political alternative for the Greek public to turn to," said Ioakimidis, "for now at least." AP

what's ON

THE ART EXHIBITION OF SHI JINSONG AND HUANG LI YAU

TIME: 11am-7pm

UNTIL: July 25, 2015

VENUE: Clube Militar de Macau / Avenida da Praia

Grande nº 975, Macau

ADMISSION: free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 7066

THE CALLING OF SPIRITUALITY

- XIAO YAWEN ARTWORK EXHIBITION

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (Closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: August 31, 2015

VENUE: 10 Fantasia - A Creative Industries Incubator,

10, Calçada da Igreja de S.Lázaro, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

PATH AND ADVENTURE - WORKS BY MIO PANG FEI

TIME: 10am-7pm

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

UNTIL: November 22, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,

Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

TEA CULTURE HOUSE

TIME: 9am-7pm daily

(Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Tea Culture House, Lou Lim Ioc Garden,

Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 7103 / 2858 6250

Offbeat

TEAMS ON THE THAMES COUNT THE MONARCH'S SWANS



Teams of census-takers took to the River Thames on Monday for the colorful annual count of Queen Elizabeth II's swans — a blend of science and ceremony that dates to the 12th century.

By tradition, the monarch owns all the swans found in Britain's open waters, and the event assesses their overall well-being.

The queen, who counts Seigneur of the Swans among her many titles, only exercises her ownership rights on certain stretches of the Thames.

When a brood of young swans is spotted, a boatman cries "all up" and others round up the family of birds and take them out of the muddy river.

Wardens, zoologists and boatmen then count, measure, weigh and ring the swans in order to safeguard the population and determine its health.

The queen deploys her envoys down the river for five days to see how her swans have fared from potential threats like minks, fish hooks and hooligans using air guns.

So far, things aren't looking good. The Queen's Swan Marker, David Barber says the six broods they found Monday morning were "thin on the ground."

Barber, who has led the swan upping expedition for 22 years, said the increase of vandalism is to blame.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Interview (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Dying for a Bargain
21:40	Miscellaneous
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

16 Jul - 22 Jul

MINIONS

ROOM 1

(2D) 2.15, 4.00, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.45 pm

Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 91min



ANT-MAN

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

POLTERGEIST

ROOM 3

(2D) 2.15, 6.00, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.45 pm

Director: Gil Kenan

Starring: Sam Rockwell, Rosemarie DeWitt,

Kennedi Clements

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 93min

TED 2

ROOM 3

4.00 pm

Director: Seth MacFarlane

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Amanda Seyfried,

Morgan Freeman

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 115min



(18-19 JUL) INSIDE OUT

ROOM 3

4.00 pm

Director: Pete Docter

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 94min

MACAU TOWER

16 Jul - 29 Jul

ANT-MAN

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

this day in history



1977 DENG XIAOPING BACK IN POWER

The disgraced deputy Prime Minister of China, Deng Xiaoping, is to return to Chinese Government.

The Chinese Communist Party conference has restored him to the offices of Vice Premier of the State Council, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission and Chief of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army.

He was dismissed from his posts after the leftist Gang of Four blamed him for the popular uprising in Tiananmen Square in April last year after Premier Zhou Enlai's death.

Since the death of Chairman Mao last September the Gang of Four has sidelined Mr Deng and attempted a programme of radical reform.

But Mao Tse Tung's named successor as CCP chair, Hua Guofeng, has been purging the Party of extremist influences such as the Gang of Four.

The Gang of Four was formally expelled from the CCP at a meeting of the Central Committee's Third Plenum last weekend.

The Gang includes Mao's fourth wife, Jiang Qing, former vice premier and politburo member Zhang Chunqiao, former factory worker Wang Hongwen and Shanghai intellectual Yao Wenyuan.

The official CCP newspaper, The People's Daily, last week accused the group of trying to "rebuild" the Communist Party, excluding senior officials and creating a "mass organisation".

Chinese authorities now regard "pleading the Gang's innocence" as a "counter-revolutionary act".

A party official in Kiangsi who defended the group recently was "denounced for his crime" at a meeting of 4,000 people.

Premier Hua has also identified far-left tendencies in party leaders of 13 of China's 29 administrative regions and removed them from power.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

By the end of 1978 Deng Xiaoping had effectively wrested power from Hua Guofeng.

The Gang of Four members had been arrested in October 1976 and were put on trial in 1980 for their part in an attempted coup.

In 1978 Deng oversaw the historic change of direction for China, the stressing of the so-called "Four Modernisations" of agriculture, industry, national defence, and science and technology. During Deng's long hold on power, he instituted a variety of reforms aimed at decentralising the economy and opening the country to international trade.

He resigned from his last official Party post in 1989, after he and other Party elders ordered the use of military force to clear Tiananmen Square.

He remained extremely influential until his death in 1997, and it was Deng who agreed to Jiang Zemin's elevation to Party chief and Deng who nominated Hu Jintao as Mr Jiang's successor.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You need to release some pent-up emotions today...

Taurus April 20-May 20 Speak from the heart today — or don't speak at all!

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Start something new — or at least restart something that needs some new energy.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 This is not a good time for passivity. Make sure that you are asserting yourself in all ways.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 It's a great time for deep thinking — on almost any topic.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You may find yourself flagging today — until you start hanging out with your people.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 The little things are more important than the big picture today.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Pay close attention to your dreams today — at least one of them holds an important clue for you.

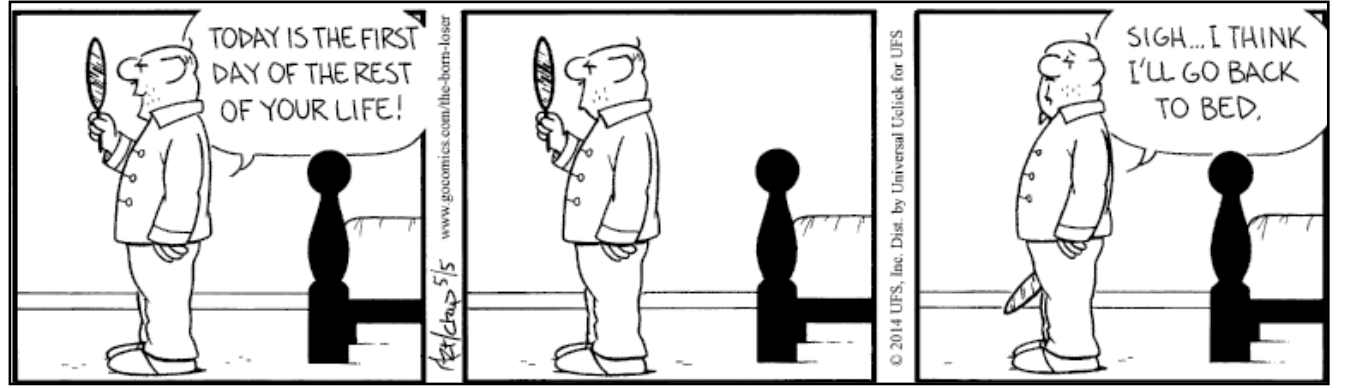
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Your philosophical understanding deepens today — though that might not be of any practical value.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your social side is energized today, so make the most of it and mix with new people.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 It's time for home repairs — or at least cleaning.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You need to perform today — and your energy is perfect for the task.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each puzzle is a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

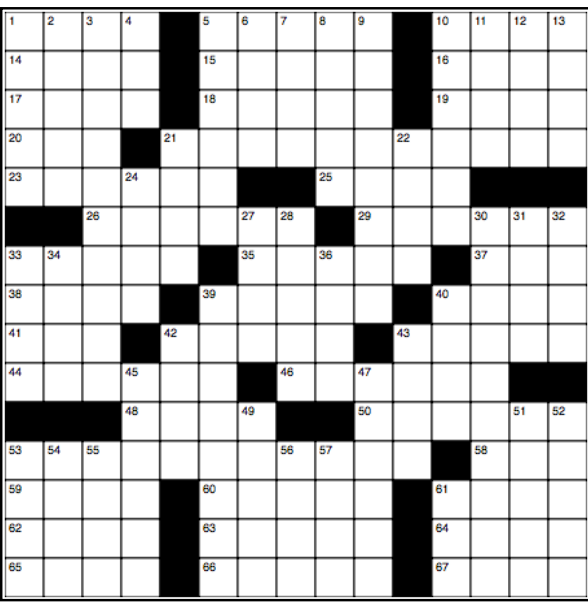
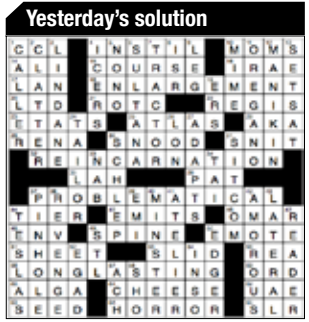
WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Son of Isaac and Rebekah; 5- Garr and Hatcher; 10- Ball belles; 14- Staffs; 15- Vinegary prefix; 16- Gillette product; 17- Pan's opposite; 18- Sharpened; 19- Takes to court; 20- Eggs; 21- Person who likes cats; 23- Fame; 25- Hook's helper; 26- Belonging to them; 29- Not true; 33- Sedate; 35- Astonish; 37- Canonized Mlle.; 38- Jason's ship; 39- Rock; 40- Ollie's partner; 41- Shad delicacy; 42- Watch over; 43- Tour of duty; 44- Makes sense; 46- Regard; 48- Concert gear; 50- Sell directly to the consumer; 53- French songwriter; 58- Capote, to friends; 59- Own; 60- City in Tuscany; 61- One telling tales; 62- Pub pints; 63- Decree; 64- Vanished; 65- Harbor; 66- Postpone; 67- Oklahoma city;

DOWN: 1- Diamond flaw?; 2- Italian white wine; 3- Privileged; 4- Employ; 5- Falafel sauce; 6- Earth Day subj.; 7- Bausch & Lomb brand; 8- Anatomical passages; 9- Engage in sodomy with; 10- Plunger for churning butter; 11- Decorative case; 12- Songwriter Jacques; 13- Manuscript enc.; 21- Impressed; 22- Dijon dad; 24- Presidential battleground state; 27- Pro ___; 28- Campfire treat; 30- Esteem; 31- ___ all-time high; 32- Gave temporarily, holy period of 40 days; 33- Gilbert of "Roseanne"; 34- Walked; 36- No ifs, ___; 39- Assumed; 40- Keep it, to an editor; 42- Wrigley varieties; 43- Visionary; 45- Most reasonable; 47- Agreement; 49- Sarcastic; 51- Teheran native; 52- Enticed; 53- Bloke; 54- Light ring; 55- Affirm; 56- Singer Sedaka; 57- Ancient Andean; 61- Bigger than med.;



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Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
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Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
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John Leicester, Gap

CYCLING | TOUR DE FRANCE

Thrills, spills and telephone pole on Stage 16 won by Plaza

TWO bright-yellow Tour de France arrows attached to a telephone pole were telling Geraint Thomas to veer sharp right.

He rode straight into them. Roadside spectators on the hairpin bend both froze and scattered as the burly Welshman barreled toward them. Braking frantically, one shoe unclipped from his pedals, the right-hand man for race leader Chris Froome tried to shave off speed.

A spectator's folded plastic chair flew as the racer for Team Sky careened into the pole, shoulder and helmeted-head first. Thomas bounced off it like a tossed rag doll and disappeared over a drop-off into a dark thicket of woods.

"I was all tangled up in the bushes," he said. "A nice Frenchman pulled me out."

At least he finished Stage 16 with his sense of humor intact. Asked if he still remembered his name, Thomas jokingly replied: "Chris Froome."

Had it really been race leader Froome, not Thomas, who crashed on the stage's hair-raising final descent in the foothills of the Alps, their Team Sky bosses wouldn't have seen the funny side.



Britain's Geraint Thomas

Surviving the tortuous downhill bends raced at speeds of 70 kph or more with his body and race lead still in one piece means that Froome now only has four days of climbing to get through before the British rider sips a flute of champagne Sunday on the Champs-Élysées.

Outwitting Peter Sagan, who

took heart-in-the-mouth risks on the descent, Spanish rider Ruben Plaza Molina rode triumphantly into the finish at Gap as the solo winner. Crossing the line, Plaza sucked his right thumb as a wink to his young son.

The Lampre-Merida rider reached the top of the stage's

last climb with about a minute's lead on Sagan, who rides for Tinkoff-Saxo. As they both sped down, with Sagan gaining, Plaza's team kept him updated on the time-gap via his earpiece radio.

"That allowed me to go down quickly, but still carefully," Plaza said. "The descent is very, very dangerous."

Plaza and Sagan are not challengers for the podium in Paris, which is why Froome let them get away. They were part of a group of two dozen riders who rode off from the main pack, hunting for the stage win before Froome and his challengers do battle in the Alps after a rest yesterday.

Sagan beat his heart several times as he crossed the line 30 seconds behind Plaza. Sagan said he copied the chest-thump from the Leonardo DiCaprio movie "The Wolf of Wall Street." The Slovak has been a wolf on the road, constantly hunting for wins — so far without success. This was his fifth

second place at this Tour.

Thomas's crash wasn't his fault. French rider Warren Barguil tried cutting the bend and collided with the Welshman, sending him on to his close encounter with the telephone pole.

"Barguil just went straight on, pushed me straight off into the lamppost and down a ditch," said Thomas. "I lost my glasses as well. They don't even make them anymore!"

The Giant-Alpecin rider was apologetic. He said he had wanted to brake but his finger slipped.

"I was very frightened," Barguil said. "I didn't do it on purpose."

Having clambered out of the bushes, Thomas remounted his bike.

"Then the mechanic came with the other one, so I jumped on that," he said. "Probably wasted a few seconds."

To be exact, 38 seconds. That's how much time he lost on the stage to Froome and other podium contenders. Froome understandably didn't hang around to see if his teammate was OK. Froome, after all, has a Tour to win, while Thomas is just his support rider.

Still, the crash is a setback to Thomas' chances of joining Froome on the podium in Paris. **AP**

AD

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GOLF | BRITISH OPEN

Slam gone, Spieth gears up for the next major

Tim Dahlberg, St. Andrews

JORDAN Spieth headed home from a grueling week at the British Open with history on his mind and another major in his future.

Next up is the PGA Championship at Whistling Straits. And if the Grand Slam is no longer in play, there's still plenty out there.

"I don't know how many guys have done three majors in a year," Spieth said. "I'm sure there's only been a few."

Very few, actually.

Ben Hogan did it in 1953, winning the Masters, U.S. Open and British Open. Tiger Woods missed in the Masters but won the last three majors of the year in 2000 on his way to what became known as the Tiger Slam.

After his chances at winning his third straight major evaporated with a couple of missed opportunities on the last two holes yesterday (Macau time), Spieth was already looking ahead.

It was hard not to after coming up one shot short of a three-man playoff that Zach Johnson won over Louis Oosthuizen and Marc Leishman in what otherwise might have been a British Open for the ages at the home of golf.

Besides, the 21-year-old golfing sensation was not going to get too down after failing to add the claret jug to his Masters green jacket and U.S. Open trophy.

"I made a lot of the right decisions down the stretch and certainly closed plenty of tournaments out, and this just wasn't one of those," Spieth said. "It's

■ In the most significant shot of the tournament, [winner] Zach Johnson holed a 30-foot birdie putt on No. 18

hard to do that every single time. I won't beat myself up too bad because I do understand that."

A missed 8-footer on the treacherous 17th hole helped seal Spieth's fate on the Old Course. A misplaced drive on the final hole did the rest.

He could also point to four putts from 120 feet on the eighth green where he tried to get greedy on his first putt. But Spieth followed that with back-to-back birdies, something he tends to do when things go bad.

Something he also tends to do is pay respect to the game and its fans. He's been described as a young man with an old man's wisdom, and it showed in the way he took what had to be a most bitter defeat.

When Spieth walked off the green, he applauded the fans who cheered him on. Later, he came out and watched Johnson win a playoff, then gave him a congratulatory hug.

Johnson earned it.

Starting the final round three

shots behind, he shot 31 on the back nine and took the lead with his seventh birdie of the round on No. 12. It looked as though his hopes were slipping away when his right foot spun out on his second shot at the 17th that led to bogey. But with the most significant shot of the tournament, Johnson holed a 30-foot birdie putt on No. 18 for a 6-under 66 and was the first to post at 15-under 273.

Leishman, who lost the lead with a bogey on the 16th hole, had a birdie putt on the 18th to win that stayed left. He shot 66. Oosthuizen saved par on the 17th with a 10-foot putt and made a 5-foot birdie on the final hole for a 69 to join the playoff.

Johnson opened with two quick birdies, kept a one-shot lead in the playoff when Oosthuizen missed a 5-foot par putt on the 17th hole and won the Open when the South African — the last player to lift the jug at St. Andrews in 2010 — narrowly missed a 12-foot birdie attempt.

"I'm grateful. I'm humbled. I'm honored," Johnson said. "This is the birthplace of the game, and that jug means so much in sports."

He knew Oosthuizen or Leishman easily could have won. And he felt the same about Spieth.

"I can't describe the magnitude as to what he was going through because I've never been in that position," Johnson said. "We haven't really seen that with the exception of Tiger. Truthfully, he could be hitting here."

"He's a phenomenal talent," Johnson said. "And I'm telling you right now, he's a better per-



Jordan Spieth

son than a golfer."

Golf hasn't seen such a player since the days of Tigermania. And there's no reason to believe that Spieth can't continue to contend — and win — major titles for a long time to come.

"I'm very pleased with the way I played," Spieth said. "I think the way that I played this week and especially today would have won the U.S. Open by more than just a shot. I didn't play as well there. It's just that's the kind of golf that was played by the field this week, it just took some special golf. Whoever comes out the champion, that's a hell of a major."

In other words, Spieth didn't lose the tournament. Someone

else simply came along to beat him.

Spieth will take that attitude to Whistling Straits, the third straight links-style course among the year's majors. He'll be favored there again, with a chance to join some elite company as a winner of three majors in one year.

No sense thinking too much about what might have happened. No need to think about how close he came to be playing in Wisconsin for golf immortality.

"It's a tough feeling to be that close in a major," Spieth said. "I believe I'll have plenty of opportunities like I did today but, still, when it doesn't work out it's tough to swallow a little bit." **AP**

WORLD SUPERBIKE

2 Spanish riders killed in California motorcycle race

TWO Spanish racers were killed in a chain-reaction crash on the first lap of a World Superbike race.

The deaths occurred Sunday at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, Monterey County sheriff's spokesman Cmdr. John Thornburg said.

MotoAmerica spokesman Paul Carruthers said there were 28 riders in the race and thousands of spectators in the stands when five competitors collided on the first lap. Riders were tossed into the dirt to the side of the track.

The sheriff's office is not



investigating the crash at the MotoAmerica Superbike/Superstock 1000 race, which appeared to be an accident, he said.

The track was dry during the race, Carruthers said. "If there's ever an issue with the track, we don't hold the race," he said.

Carruthers declined to comment on whether MotoAmerica, which organizes the race, will investigate.

MotoAmerica identified the riders killed as 35-year-old Bernat Martinez, 35, of Alberic, Valencia, Spain; and Daniel Rivas Fernandez, 27, of Moana Galicia, Spain.

Both were taken to hospitals, where they died.

Track spokesman David Hart said four other riders were treated at the track and released. Their names were not released.

It was not immediately clear what led to the crash, Hart said, adding that Laguna Seca will conduct an investigation.

MotoAmerica president Wayne Rainey sent condolences to the families.

"I really don't have any words to describe what we all feel," Rainey said in a statement. "First and foremost, is the loss to the families and loved ones." **AP**

opinion

World Views

William Pesek, Bloomberg

WHAT EUROPE SHOULD LEARN FROM ASIA'S CRISIS

Asian leaders could be excused a degree of exasperation over the ongoing Greek mess. China's slow-down and stock-market chaos are worry enough; the last thing the export-dependent region needs is a Europe in chaos. Worse, European leaders seem intent on misreading or ignoring lessons from Asia's own brush with collapse.

Of course, the circumstances in 1997 were quite different. Where Greece is insolvent, Asia then was illiquid. As capital fled, Thailand, Indonesia and South Korea suddenly couldn't pay foreign-currency debts, much of it short-term. Still, there are at least three lessons officials in Athens and Brussels can learn from Asia's post-crisis repairs.

One: The debate over austerity is a distraction. Pundits quarreling over Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras's motivations, or whether German Chancellor Angela Merkel has a heart, are missing the real issue: structural reform.

Asian countries are "watching the Greek crisis unfold with a mixture of envy and schadenfreude," Korea University economist Lee Jong-Wha wrote in a recent op-ed. "When they experienced their own financial crisis, they received far less aid, with far harsher conditions. But they also recovered much more strongly."

They did so not because of the harsh conditions imposed by the International Monetary Fund, which caused great pain among ordinary citizens, but despite them. For all the differences between their economies, Greece shares many similarities with 1997 Korea: endemic corruption, widespread tax avoidance, rigid labor movements, huge underground economies and oligarchs hoarding national wealth. Korea recovered by openly admitting the magnitude of its public and private debts and the amount of available cash in government coffers. Weak corporate links and politically connected banks were allowed to fail. Efforts were made to introduce greater transparency to the family-owned industrial groups known as chaebol, whose profligate ways had helped topple the economy. Tax collection became a national obsession, as did sacrifice: Millions of Koreans donated heirlooms, wedding rings, gold bars and artworks to help replenish the treasury. In April, Deutsche Welle ran a piece headlined "Koreans' Gold Donations - a Model for Greeks?"

Two: Smaller economies are collateral damage. As Ian Bremmer predicted correctly in 2012 with "Every Nation for Itself: Winners and Losers in a G-Zero World," the biggest players get their way. The U.S. borrows, spends and exports its profligacy around the globe. Tokyo's 35 percent devaluation has turned Japan's yen into Asia's answer to the peso, neighbors be damned. Predatory trade practices mean China will long export infinitely more than it imports. Germany calls all the shots in Europe. That's why, like Thailand, Indonesia and Korea, Greece's only choice is to modernize its economy.

Here, Malaysia presents a cautionary tale. The country managed to avoid an IMF bailout by imposing Greece-like capital controls. But 18 years later, the perceptions of cronyism, dysfunction and opacity that prompted capital to flee persist in many quarters. The mushrooming scandal surrounding state investment company 1Malaysia Development seems to underscore the lack of reform in a resource-rich nation with as much potential as any in Asia.

Even if Prime Minister Najib Razak is innocent - as he insists - of charges that nearly USD700 million in 1MDB funds flowed into his personal accounts, the government's handling of the crisis suggests Malaysia is stuck in the 1990s. Greece can leave the euro, or stick it out. What it can't do is defend the status quo and hope to remain competitive or relevant.

Three: Bite the bullet now, not later. In 1998, Korea's real gross domestic product plunged 6.7 percent. In 1999, it surged 9.5 percent. Money returned because investors saw Seoul acting boldly to build a more open and sustainable economy. The reforms didn't go far enough; the chaebol are still too dominant and stymie innovation. Yet by 2003, as Korea University's Lee points out, the government had shuttered some 776 financial institutions. Five years into its crisis, how much has Athens done to purge its excesses?

The rest of Europe can go ahead and write more checks to Greece, demand that Athens cut this and slash that. But things will end badly for the euro zone if Greece doesn't address its underlying problems. Asia's experience is proof that denial and ill-timed austerity fix nothing.

THE BUZZ LUFTHANSA PLANE NEARLY COLLIDES WITH DRONE NEAR WARSAW

Polish officials say a Lufthansa plane that was approaching Warsaw's international airport nearly collided with a drone.

The spokesman for Warsaw's airport, Przemyslaw Przybylski, said yesterday that the incident happened Monday afternoon around 4 p.m., and the drone was within 100 meters of the plane arriving from Munich.

He said the near-collision occurred about 5 kilo-

meters from the airport. He added that police are investigating the incident to determine who operated the drone, which should not have been where it was.

Mikolaj Karpinski, with the Polish Air Navigation Services Agency, told the TVN24 broadcaster that the pilots immediately reported the drone to air traffic controllers, who redirected the plane's path. Karpinski said he considered the incident serious.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	25-45 Good
High Density Residential Area	40-60 Good
Ambient	40-60 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

Surfer and bare-handed shark wrestler returns to Australia



Australian surfer Mick Fanning is pursued by a shark

John Pye

MICK Fanning sat up on a high stool, straight backed and good humored, recounting the story he will be telling for the rest of his days, about how he fought off a shark with his bare hands during a surfing competition in South Africa.

It sounds like the plot of a movie, but this three-time world champion is no fictional Crocodile Dundee-style Aussie. He's the real thing: his shark-wrestling exploits were broadcast live.

The 34-year-old Fanning arrived back in Australia yesterday and appeared at a news conference in Sydney before heading home to the Gold Coast, the burgeoning city surrounding Surfers Paradise beach.

"It was so close. I'm doing OK, though," he said. "I haven't got a scratch on me. Just more of an emotional, mental sort of trauma right now."

"To walk away from a shark attack with not a scratch on you - it is a miracle really."

Fanning was competing against fellow Aussie Julian Wilson in the final of the JBay Open, the World Surf League event at Jeffreys Bay on South Africa's east coast,

when he was bumped off his board by a shark.

In video of the event posted on the World Surf League website, Fanning could be seen scanning the water before a big fin emerged behind him. He turned to deal with the shark, and then lost his board as a wave rolled in and he disappeared from view.

Wilson was paddling toward Fanning and later said that he believed if he could get there with his board, he'd at least have a weapon to distract the shark, which he estimated was at least twice the size of his mate and childhood hero.

Fanning said at first he tried to swim away but then decided to defend himself, and turned to punch the shark in the back. He was next seen furiously swimming toward a jetski, where he was helped out of the water and back to shore.

He recounted the events to fans gathered around him on the beach, and only later, when the adrenalin subsided, did the tears kick in as he realized how close he had come to serious injury or death.

On a flight from Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg, a woman sitting beside him

pointed to the report in a newspaper and asked if the story was about him. Then he got emotional again.

He said he felt so "insignificant" compared with the size and speed of the shark, but didn't hold any grudges against the apex predator because he knew "we are in their domain."

"Thanks for not eating me," he said, joking about his interaction with the shark.

Fanning said he could sense the shark looming behind him, and turned to see it just as contact was made.

"I thought, 'Let's see what happens.' Like anything, you want to go down fighting," he said. "I don't know why it didn't bite. I was on top of it, trying to put my board between us. It was just flight or fight, I just ran on instinct. Once my board was gone, I thought that was it. I was just waiting for it to come and take a leg or two. I guess I'm lucky it wasn't my time."

Fanning said he didn't know when, but he definitely planned to return to surfing, and to JBay, an area he considers among the three most beautiful places in the world.

Wilson, who lives on the Sunshine Coast, further up the Queensland state coastline from where Fanning lives, has been nominated for a bravery award by the state premier Anastacia Palaszczuk.

Fanning agreed Wilson's support, and the quick reaction of the rescue boats and jet skis, helped him out of danger.

"He just gave all regard up for himself, and came for me," Fanning said. "He was so brave... like a warrior. Thanks bud." **AP**



Australian surfing champion Mick Fanning smiles during a press conference in Sydney, yesterday

WORLD BRIEFS



TURKEY'S prime minister says authorities have identified a suspect in an apparent suicide bombing that killed 32 people and wounded nearly 100 in southeastern Turkey. Ahmet Davutoglu says that authorities are probing the international and domestic connections of a specific person they believe was a suicide bomber tied to the Islamic State group. Neither the IS group nor any other group has claimed responsibility for the attack in Suruc, near Turkey's border with Syria. Turkish officials have said that they believe it was retaliation for Turkey's recent steps against IS militants.

VATICAN CITY Dozens of mayors from around the world demanded yesterday that their national leaders take bold steps at the Paris climate talks later this year, saying that may be the last chance to keep the warming of the Earth at levels safe for humanity. Some 60 mayors selected because they support Pope Francis' environmental message gathered at the Vatican for a two-day conference to keep the pressure on world leaders ahead of the Paris negotiations in December.

USA Authorities are investigating the death of a black woman who was found hanged in a jail cell in what her family and supporters allege was a murder. Authorities say Sandra Bland, 28 hanged herself with a plastic garbage bag July 13, three days after her arrest during a confrontational traffic stop. Her death at a Texas jail comes amid increased national scrutiny of police after a series of high-profile cases in which blacks have been killed by officers.

USA Earth dialed the heat up in June, smashing warm temperature records for both the month and the first half of the year. The world's average temperature in June hit 16.33 Celsius, breaking the old record set last year by .12 degrees Celsius. The first six months of 2015 were one-sixth of a degree warmer than the old record, set in 2010, averaging 14.35 Celsius.