



PETITION AGAINST STING OPERATION
A group linked to Chan Meng Kam claims that CCAC orchestrated an illegal sting operation

P3

TOURIST ARRIVALS DECLINE



P4



CHINA FEARED CIA USED CASINOS TO SNARE OFFICIALS
A report suggests the CIA was using Sands China's casinos to entrap Chinese officials gambling with public money

P5

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

WORLD BRIEFS

HONG KONG The Hong Kong Tourism Board, in conjunction with cycling's world governing body, the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), is launching a major cycling event later this year, according to a report by the Radio Television Hong Kong. The first-ever Hong Kong Cyclothon, set for Oct. 10 and 11, invites professional cyclists from around the world to take part in races covering different parts of Hong Kong, the report said. The highlight of the event is the 35-km Challenge, which will see the Tsing Ma Bridge opened for the first time for competitive road racing.

ISRAEL A Palestinian man was killed yesterday morning during a clash between Palestinians and Israeli troops in the West Bank, a Palestinian hospital official and the Israeli army said. Falah Abu Maria, 53, was killed by three live bullets shot at his chest at close range, said Yousef Takroui, deputy director of Al-Ahli Hospital in the West Bank city of Hebron. He said Abu Maria's 22-year-old son was shot in the legs, and another one of his sons was brought to the hospital with light injuries to his face.

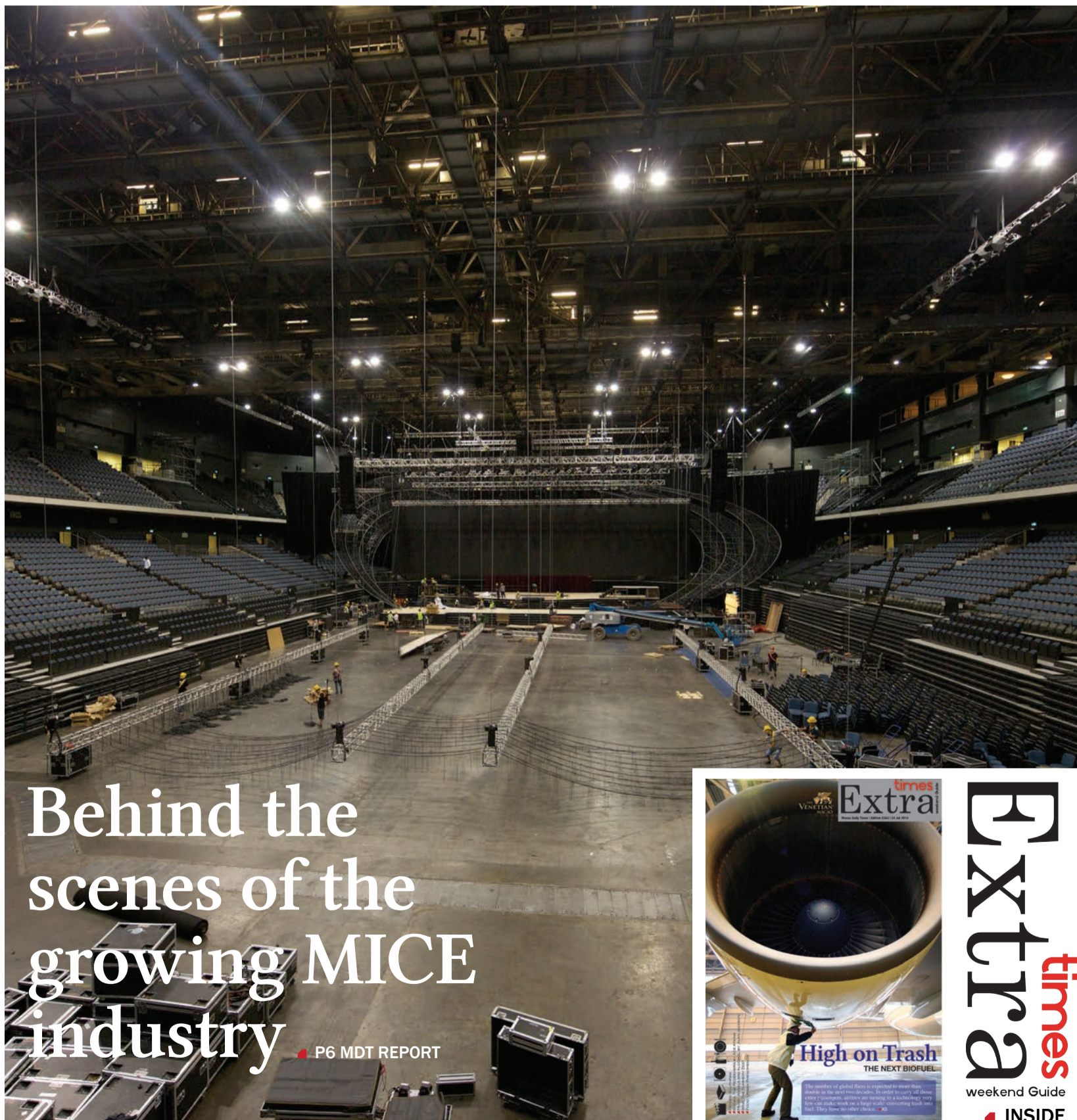
BURUNDI Witnesses say an opposition supporter was shot dead Wednesday night, a victim of electoral violence as Burundi awaits results of the country's presidential election amid unrest due to President Pierre Nkurunziza's bid for a third term in office. Nkurunziza is expected to win the vote because some opposition groups boycotted. Critics charge that Nkurunziza's effort to extend his time in power is unconstitutional.

More on [backpage](#)

LAWRENCE HO

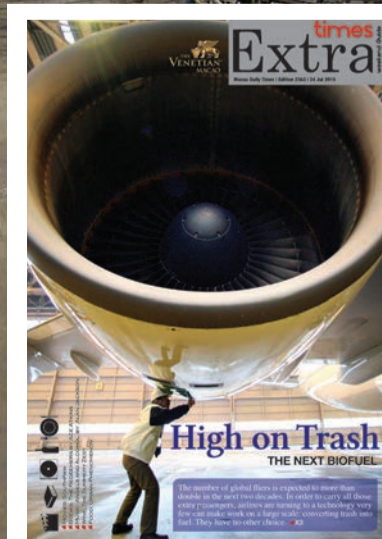
Casinos might ponder austerity measures

P2



Behind the scenes of the growing MICE industry

P6 MDT REPORT



Extra
times
weekend Guide
INSIDE

CASINO operator Melco Crown Entertainment is betting on life-long learning programs to help staff members develop their careers, as a second batch of graduates from the “Back to School” program yesterday received their high school diplomas from Lawrence Ho, the company’s co-chairman and CEO.

The company hosted a graduation ceremony for the recent graduates. The six staff members are currently serving in positions ranging from dealers to pit supervisors.

They had enrolled in the “Back to School” program, which was first launched by Melco in 2010. The in-house high school diploma program was conducted in partnership with the Luso-Chinese school Luis Gonzaga Gomes, and the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ).

The program’s classes are taught at the company’s properties to ensure greater sche-

EDUCATION | GAMING

Melco supports life-long learning programs



dule flexibility, as many employees work on shifts. The six graduates attended three-

hour classes five days a week over a three-year period.

Ng Nga Leng, a dealer at City

of Dreams and one of the graduates, said, “After leaving school for over 20 years, I never imagined I would have another chance to finish my high school diploma. I also wanted to be a role model for my two sons studying at secondary school.”

She added that the company’s management gave the participating staff members all the support they needed, making special shift arrangements so that she could attend classes.

“I have been offered a scholarship to further my studies at the Macau Polytechnic Institute. Being able to get a bachelor’s degree was something I could only dream of, but thanks to this program I com-

pleted the first step—the high school diploma,” she recalled.

Akiko Takahashi, the company’s executive vice president and chief human resources-corporate social responsibility officer, recalled that CSR has been part of Melco’s strategy and vision from day one.

She stressed that the “Back to School” program offers employees an opportunity not only to complete high school, but also to allow them to further their studies at a university if they so wish.

Ms Takahashi also stressed that Melco employees are encouraged to try out different areas within the company.

Yesterday, Melco Crown Entertainment also announced the winner of its “Dare to Dream” program. Having partnered with the Tertiary Education Services Office, the casino operator challenged local students to design a villa set in a landscape for an opportunity to undertake an internship at the Zaha Hadid Architects headquarters in London.

Five students were named finalists. Choi Cheng I, a fourth-year student at the Glasgow School of Art, won the Zaha Hadid Design Competition and will start her internship later this year.

Melco Crown’s co-chairman and CEO, Lawrence Ho, said: “We have always put emphasis on developing our colleagues and helping them reach their full potential. At the same time, we are also committed to inculcating interests in arts and culture in Macau.” **CP**

Operators might ponder austerity measures

THE co-chairman and CEO of Melco Crown Entertainment, Lawrence Ho, has acknowledged that if the local government is considering austerity measures in case the gaming industry does not recover soon, then local businesses and gaming operators might have to do the same.

Speaking on the sidelines of a ceremony held yesterday by Melco Crown, Mr Ho said, “If the government is looking at austerity measures, maybe a lot of businesses or gaming operators will have to look at it as well.”

He recalled that “even if it starts stabilizing at this level and based on what the Secretary for

Economy and Finance has said...this is kind of right at the level where the government might need to look at austerity measures, which would be less than ideal.”

Nevertheless, Mr Ho recalled that City of Dreams opened in June 2009 in the middle of a global financial crisis. “I think we’ve come to get used to the fact that we opened our properties during downturns,” he said, stressing that there are attractions that his company is bringing into the market that are something completely new.

Melco Crown Entertainment will be opening Studio City, their new property on the Cotai Strip, later this year.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Taxis: Fishing is starting to creep back

Dear Editor

I read with great interest your article entitled “Raimundo do Rosário praises new Transport Bureau head’s ‘courage’” in yesterday’s Macau Daily Times. Over the past 12 months the Macau Taxi Passenger Association, through its official Facebook group Macau Taxi Driver Shame, has at various times been critical of the former Transport Bureau (DSAT) Director Mr Wong Wan. Of course the criticisms were never personal and we wish Mr Wong well in his future endeavors.

It is also very heartwarming to hear the new DSAT Director Mr Lam pled-

ge to “do his job well” and “listen to citizens’ voices more” as well as acknowledge that it is “important ... to listen to more opinions from different parts of society”. The Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Mr Raimundo do Rosário, is absolutely correct when he admits the DSAT top job is a challenging, stressful and difficult one. I’m glad to hear Mr Lam has already steered himself for criticism, for surely he will be receiving it given the shambolic nature of Macau’s transport system. I can assure both Mr Rosário and Mr Lam that the MTPA will only be criticizing their decisions if we genuinely feel they are poor. We will be

very quick to praise them when they make positive decisions that in our opinion are for the good of Macau society. It is great to hear Mr Lam say, “I think that when one is serving citizens as a civil servant, it’s legitimate to receive their criticisms.” Let’s see how that plays out in practice.

Make no bones about it they both have tough but incredibly important jobs. It was very encouraging to hear Mr Rosário acknowledge that Macau has a taxi service “that needs to improve its service quality in order to have a positive impact on Macau’s image”. He is absolutely correct. Since Mr Rosário took office Macau’s taxi problems

have been massively ameliorated, but the job is not yet done. Fishing is starting to creep back, with our estimate of Macau’s fishing prevalence rising from around 10% to around 15% in the last month or two. But that is still a massive improvement on the abysmal 85% fishing prevalence we estimated at the height of the problem in 2014.

Lets hope with new leadership at the helm, Macau’s transportation woes can improve. We wish Mr Lam the best of luck in his new position.

Andrew W Scott
President

Macau Taxi Passengers Association

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ELECTORAL BRIBERY CASE

Chan Tak Seng petitions against CCAC's sting operation



Chan Tak Seng

THE Macau Institution of People's Alliance director Chan Tak Seng burst into tears yesterday after submitting a petition to the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC). He was demanding for the anti-graft agency to come clean on its allegedly "orchestrated sting operation", which was claimed to have been directed at his association.

On the heels of CCAC's response to the group's furious condemnation two days ago, Chan approached the commission's headquarters and urged the authorities to disclose investigation outcomes of the 213 complaints received during the last Legislative Assembly election. The disgruntled alliance head stressed that the two watchdog agents, whom he suspected of infiltrating their group in early 2009, committed an illegal act.

According to him, the region did not allow authorities to carry out sting operations. In addition, Chan Tak Seng questioned whether the CCAC officers had adopted similar measures with regards to other campaign teams.

According to the director, the two CCAC investigators, Io Fu Chun and Lam Kin Seng, joined Chan Meng Kam's organization as members and volunteers separately within three days using pseudo personal information. They were said to have been serving CCAC before their membership was approved, which could be a key factor to sway the court's sentencing.

Chan has also sought out the CCAC Discipline Committee to intervene in the saga, as he has handed in another petition to the committee's head, Kwan Tsui Hang, urging for an inquiry into the two investigators' conduct during that period.

Chan said that the pair were convicted in the case and he had suffered enormous pressure since the court's ruling, pledging to appeal the verdict at any cost until the truth came to light. The alliance head abruptly wept while he was answering journalists' questions. He once again denied the claims that the group offered catering to the three lawmakers' would-be voters.

Overseas associations mobilized to call for Canidrome closure

LOCAL animal rights group Anima mobilized 164 other overseas associations in a concerted effort to call on the government to pull the plug on greyhound-racing activities in the territory.

With the Canidrome's concession set to expire within three months and after multiple petitions against the races, Anima earlier teamed up with another lobbying organization based in the United States, GREY2K USA Worldwide, to launch an online signature-collecting campaign on Change.org to pressure the authorities to shut down the only racetrack for dogs in Asia.

The campaign has garnered close to 300,000 signatures so far and will be presented to the head of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Alex Vong today. Moreover, during the past two months in a separate campaign, the group also gathered roughly another 3,000 signatures in



the streets, said Albano Martins, president of the group.

"We did it a few times, around four or five, and we collected that number," he said.

The group also enlisted global support for its resolution to close down the facility that has euthanized 30 greyhounds each month, with 10 of the 164 supporting organizations turning up to last night's media briefing to spell out their collaborative efforts.

"We asked them to support our petition to spread the message to all communities. After we set up the petition, we have almost 300,000

people supporting us," said Martins, adding that 65 groups were from the mainland.

Aside from the Canidrome's closure, Mr Martins also urged the government to redevelop the dog track into a facility benefiting the surrounding densely populated neighborhood.

"Now we have a letter signed by these 10 organizations plus Anima recommending the chief executive let the Canidrome's concession expire and not continue and transform that area for the communities," added the group's head. **Staff reporter**

AD

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Prawns injected with jelly allegedly sold

Prawns injected with jelly are allegedly being sold at the Iao Hon market. According to several media reports, a customer has stated that she discovered jelly-like substances injected into the prawns and subsequently filed a complaint to the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM). The woman says that IACM mishandled the case, but a bureau representative told TDM that a series of inspections are being held at different markets. "We are carrying out a thorough investigation to see if we find similar prawns," said Ung Sau Hong, a member of IACM's Administrative Committee. IACM's president, Alex Vong, also commented on the case, promising to pay attention to it: "After we receive the relevant information, we will carry out an inspection, and we will study whether the food products were legally imported to Macau and check if they hold official receipts. We will also review how our frontline staff is handling the case." Alex Vong also reminded consumers not to buy any food products that seem odd.

Gov't told to pay MOP200 million compensation to Cable TV

THE litigation between Macau Cable TV and the local government regarding the latter's failure to prevent the broadcasting of copyright-protected programs by public antenna companies seems to have reached a conclusion.

The administration was trying to void a decision made by a Court of Arbitration in 2012, which had ordered the government to pay MOP200 million compensation to Macau Cable TV. According to newspaper Ponto Final, the Court of Second Instance (TSI) judged the case on July 9 dismissing the government's appeal.



The ruling was not yet made public, but the Times confirmed yesterday with a legal source that this should put an end to a case that pitted Macau Cable TV, which has held an exclusive concession for cable television services since 1999, against the so-called public

antenna companies, which had never obtained legal permission to air TV programs that are copyright-protected.

Besides seeking compensation from the government in a Court of Arbitration, Macau Cable TV filed a separate lawsuit to seek compensation from 12 public antenna companies for acts of unfair competition. In July 2012, the Court of First Instance ruled out the company's compensation claims. The collective of judges considered that "not all the requirements" to ask for compensation had been fulfilled by Macau Cable

TV, since the broadcaster hadn't proved that it suffered losses because of the public antenna companies' activity.

The litigation with the public antenna companies ended with an agreement sponsored by the Bureau of Telecommunication Regulations (DSRT), according to which the TV signals would be provided by Macau Cable TV and transmitted through the existing networks of the antenna companies. With that agreement, which led to the creation of a publicly owned company to ensure the transmission of a package of 49 basic TV channels, Cable TV declared its waiver of seeking compensation from the antenna companies. However, the claims to compensation from the government continued to be analyzed by a Court of Arbitration. **PB**

STATISTICS

Tourist arrivals in June lowest in 32 months

VISITOR arrivals in June recorded 7.6-percent year-on-year and 11.8-percent month-to-month declines, amounting to 2.24 million, which is the worst number recorded since September 2012, the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) revealed yesterday. Same-day visitors decreased by 9.7 percent year-on-year to 1.15 million (52 percent of the total).

Visitors from the mainland, who accounted for over 60 percent of the total, decrea-

sed by 10 percent to 1.43 million, while those traveling under the Individual Visit Scheme dropped by 4.2 percent as well.

According to DSEC's data, visitor arrivals from most Asian countries or regions recorded year-on-year falls in June. Visitors from Taiwan, South Korea and India decreased by 5.9 percent, 24.8 percent and 3.3 percent respectively year-on-year, while those from Hong Kong and the Philippines

increased by 2.0 percent and 6.5 percent, DSEC figures indicated.

DSEC data showed that numbers of long-haul visitors from Canada and Britain registered year-on-year increases, whereas those from the United States and Australia decreased.

In the first half of 2015, visitor arrivals totaled 14.75 million, down by 3.5 percent year-on-year. Overnight visitors decreased by 6.6 percent to 6.61 million.

AD



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Sands China jumps after profit tops estimates on mass market



A gondolier gestures to visitors, unseen, while rowing on San Luca canal in the Grand Canal Shoppes inside the Venetian Macao resort

Annie Lee

SANDS China Ltd. surged in Hong Kong trading after second-quarter profit beat estimates as the Macau casino operator gained share among mass market gamblers, which helped offset declines in high rollers.

Sands China jumped 7.9 percent to HKD33.35 at close of trading, the highest level since April 21. Other Macau casino companies also climbed, with MGM China Holdings Ltd. rising 6.3 percent and Wynn Macau Ltd. up 5.6 percent. The city's benchmark Hang Seng

Index gained 0.5 percent.

Adjusted property earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization at the Hong Kong-listed unit of Las Vegas Sands Corp. fell 30 percent to USD564.5 million, beating the \$508.5 million median estimates of six analysts surveyed by Bloomberg.

"The strength of our premium direct business has offset a lot of the weakness in the junket segment and enabled us to outperform the Macau VIP market," Sands' billionaire chairman Sheldon Adelson said in a conference call after the results. He expects a full opening

of the \$2.7 billion Parisian Macao, Sand's newest resort in the city, in about 12 months.

Macau's casino industry has fallen for more than a year hit by China's economic slowdown and campaigns against corruption that prompted Chinese high-stakes bettors, or VIPs, to avoid the city. The downturn has eased since February, and a surprise move by the Chinese government to relax traveling rules to Macau gave hope that casinos are due for a recovery.

Sands China's earnings "handsomely beat consensus," Karen Tang, analyst at Deutsche Bank AG, wrote in a note yesterday.

"We see Sands' second-quarter margin resilience as truly remarkable, but company-specific. We still expect margin decline for the other operators which have less room for cost rationalization."

Sands China reported adjusted property EBITDA margin improved 150 basis points to 31.7 percent quarter on quarter. The company has improved margins by cutting marketing and labor costs, Las Vegas Sands President Robert Goldstein said on the conference call.

"What you see in Macau very clearly, it's a mass market, it's premium mass," Goldstein

said. "I hope the junkets resurrect but right now it doesn't look promising."

Second-quarter net income at Sands China dropped 37 percent to \$388.7 million, while revenue fell 26 percent to \$1.77 billion, according to the parent company.

Sands China lifted its share of mass market gambling revenue in the second quarter to 31.8 percent from 31 percent in the first quarter, Barclays Plc analysts led by Phoebe Tse wro-

“What you see in Macau very clearly, it's a mass market, it's premium mass

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN

te in a note. "We expect its mass revenues to grow again as we believe further restrictive policies are ending," she said.

Mainland Chinese passport holders were told they could visit Macau more frequently and stay longer while transiting the city, reversing a policy that was imposed a year ago.

Still, visitors to Macau in June fell 7.6 percent to 2.25 million, the lowest level since September in 2012, according to data from the Macau government.

The new casinos offer hope for the companies, which are focusing more on the mass market gamblers, a segment that is generally more stable and profitable, Bloomberg Intelligence analysts Margaret Huang and Tim Craighead wrote on July 16. **Bloomberg**

REPORT

China feared CIA used casinos to snare officials

China feared that US intelligence may have used Macau casinos owned by Sheldon Adelson to entrap and blackmail Chinese officials, according to a highly confidential report for the gambling industry, British newspaper The Guardian reported yesterday.

The report prepared and drafted by a private investigator in 2010 revealed that Beijing suspected that US-owned establishments in Macau were working with the CIA.

"Many of the (Chinese) officials we contacted were of the view that US intelligence agencies are very active in Macau, and that

they have penetrated and utilized the US casinos to support their operations," the document said, as cited by The Guardian.

The report, uncovered by the Investigative Reporting Program at the University of California, Berkeley, was found among a collection of Sands China documents filed with a Las Vegas court as part of an ongoing lawsuit filed by former Sands China CEO Steven Jacobs.

Jacobs is suing the company for wrongful dismissal. He argues that he was fired in 2010 because he opposed to what he thought were excessi-

ve payments to a Macau lawyer and lawmaker on the grounds that they may breach US bribery laws. He also claims that he was fired because he refused to do business with groups tied with organized crime.

The report, which is available via The Guardian's website, is marked with the words "Steve Jacobs Copy." The Guardian stated that the investigation had been commissioned by Sands China amid concerns that "the enclave's government was increasingly hostile to the gambling industry in general and Sands in particular."

Citing well-placed sources in Beijing, the report speci-

fied that Sands Macau "is the primary subject" of claims by Chinese officials of collusion with US intelligence.

According to the document, "a reliable source has reported that central Chinese government officials firmly believe that Sands has permitted CIA/FBI agents to operate from within its facilities. These agents apparently 'monitor mainland government officials' who gamble in the casinos."

The report, however, does not state that Sands was complicit with CIA/FBI activities. It only states that Chinese officials believed it.

Sands called the article

"a collection of meaningless speculation."

The company's senior vice-president for global communications and corporate affairs Ron Reese said that, "as for the document's narrative that Sands is a front for US intelligence efforts, well that sounds like an idea for a movie script."

He stated that the report "is a document that Steve Jacobs actually ordered for his own personal purposes and is simply a collection of meaningless speculation. In essence, it is much ado about nothing."

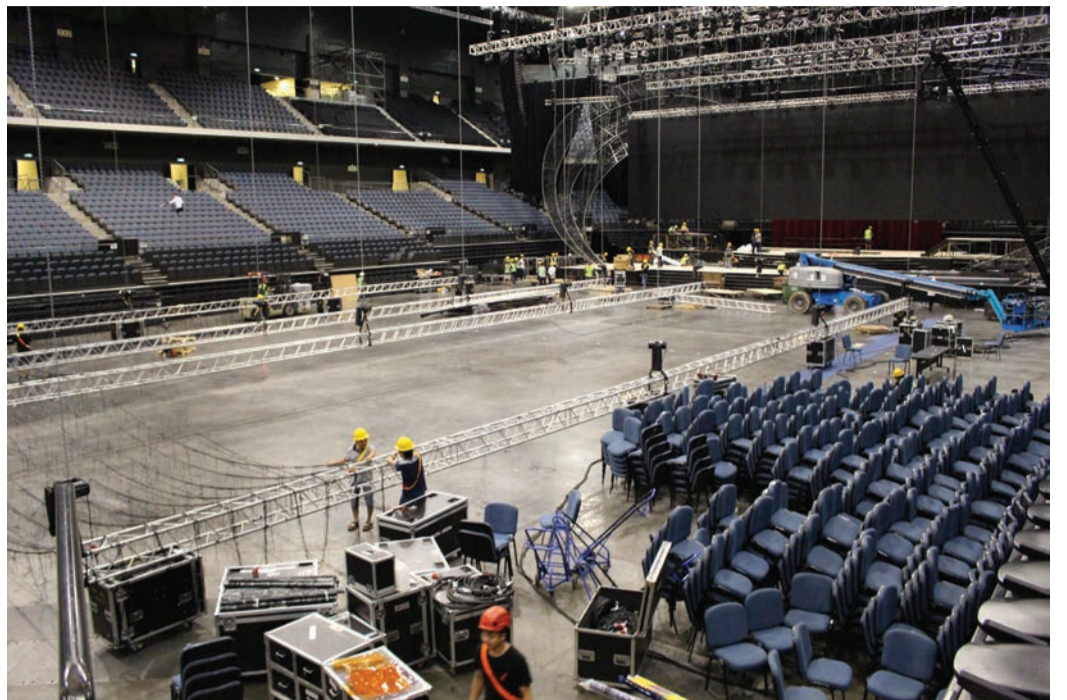
The Guardian also recounted that Sands wanted the investigator to

gather information on Macau's Chief Executive Chui Sai On, including details on his reputation, and attitude toward the company and the casino industry. Furthermore, it wanted "to identify any weakness which might compromise his ability to function or his loyalty to the [Communist] Party."

The report concluded that Mr Chui is a widely respected man raised among one of Macau's richest and most politically connected families. "It is most unlikely that any form of scandal or allegation made against him would stick," the document added. **CP**



Fion Lai and Gene Capuano



The Cotai Arena being prepared for this week's event

BEHIND THE SCENES

Developing staff to foster local MICE industry

Catarina Pinto

AS the MICE sector evolves, organizing an 8,000-person conference is becoming the new normal for casino resort employees.

From turning a 15,000 seated arena into a large conference venue, to preparing thousands of meal boxes, or setting up special venues for breakfasts, a casino resort like the Venetian Macao has to call on at least 15 different departments to put on large events.

The Times took a tour to learn more about all the 'behind the scenes' operations prior to an event.

The casino resort this week hosted a conference for a Chinese healthy products company accommodating a total of 8,000 participants.

The Venetian Macao's executive director of convention & exhibition, Fion Lai, said that 15 departments had worked together to prepare and host the event this time around. As larger groups eye Macau to organize conventions, exhibitions and conferences here, casino resorts look for solutions to ensure that their properties are

all geared up to receive larger groups of participants.

"This is the first event where we had to partner with five hotels, including the Venetian, Holiday Inn, Sheraton, JW Marriott and Ritz-Carlton [the last two located within Galaxy properties]," she said.

Ms Lai acknowledged that the casino operator is expecting more large groups looking to organize events in Macau.

Looking back, she recalled how the industry has evolved since she joined the Venetian in 2007.

"Group sizes are getting bigger and bigger. We are hosting larger events now. When Venetian

opened, 1,000 to 2,000 people were considered big groups. But since Sands Cotai Central opened we started getting 4,000 to 5,000 people. When we reached 6,000-person events, we needed to start thinking about logistics," she said.

Challenges inevitably arise when trying to put on ever-larger conferences.

According to Ms Lai, from the operations side, preparing venues for different kinds of events while meeting tight deadlines is one of the challenges often encountered.

"With very limited time we sometimes need to change the setup of a room completely;

to first prepare the room for a meeting and then turn it into a dinner venue. It involves a large number of teams. We have to take care of all logistics, because there's a lot at the back that we need to handle," she stressed.

Succeeding in passing on crucial information internally is another key aspect. "Because there will be changes; it never stops. So I think that to communicate the latest information, and how to communicate the changes to internal departments is a challenge the team has to face. We always need to find a very effective way to communicate with all departments," she acknowledged. The vice president of convention & exhibition operations, Gene Capuano, recalled at one point a group coming over for an event that had 500 name changes. "You can imagine a group in the process of being checked for 500 name changes under reservations as they're coming in. It's a big adjustment for a hotel, especially if

it's Chinese names, because of the similarities. We figured it out, but that's one challenge I remember," he conceded.

Hosting larger events has added a few more challenges in terms of human resources, with the resort having to hire part-time workers in addition to its in-house staff too, in order to get the job done. "We need to give them a very clear briefing and monitor their work step by step," said Ms Lai.

Although human resources are a challenge the industry has had to deal with in recent years, Mr Capuano stressed the need to develop professionals already working within the industry. "The next couple of years will be interesting but it's really going to be based on the experience, growth, and development of the people here to be able to execute bigger and bigger events," he said.

Mr Capuano described how many working for his department have started at entry-level but managed to progress in their careers. "When I started I was a banquet server, and I learned the most about the industry when I was serving food to people. It's taken me 24 years to go from banquet server to Vice President," he recalled, adding that the path of growth in Macau is fast-paced.

He recalled how, for instance, Ms Lai started working for the company as a manager and after seven years made it to executive director. Mr Capuano indicated that it is crucial for fresh graduates to understand the operation as a whole.

MICE to grow gradually

GENE Capuano believes that Macau's MICE sector will grow gradually in the coming years. He recalled that the local government has been pushing for economic diversification, and that MICE is often highlighted as a key sector.

"We understand that more buildings are going to open; the labor force will have to expand [so that Macau] becomes an international MICE destination for 20,000 or 25,000 groups coming in. That's going to gradually

grow in the coming years—it's not something that will happen suddenly," the executive acknowledged.

Looking back, he said that, so far, the industry has grown steadily in recent years. "The first couple of years after the opening, 1,000-to-2,000-person events were a lot, then we've seen a gradual increase. It hasn't been something that has really hit us to the point where we haven't been able to handle it," Mr Capuano assured.



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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The rental process for tenants part 2

- Securing your apartment

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

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JULIET RISDON

Welcome to Part 2 of the 'Rental process for tenants series'. Last week we discussed how to find a property. This week we look at what you have to do to make it yours; The process is broken into 3 sections:

- Fees
- Deposits
- Documentation

Fees:

If you have used an agent to find the property and accompany you on viewings, you will have an agency fee to pay prior moving in to the apartment.

In most cases the agency fee is the equivalent of 1 month's rent. Some agencies charge more, and you may find 'discount' agents eager to close a deal that will consider a lower fee. Most credible full service agents will charge the 1 month fee.

In some cases you may need to contribute to a small building management fee to get the communal areas cleaned and maintained. In the larger buildings with a dedicated building management team, this is usually covered in the rent and paid by

the owner. However in older buildings, it may simply be a case of sharing the payment for someone to sweep the stairs.

Deposits:

2 months' security deposit is normal when renting an apartment. To secure and hold the apartment for a short period of time, you would usually pay 1 month's deposit immediately. The second half of the deposit can be paid later to make up the 2 months security deposit.

You will also be required to pay the current months rent in advance. For some owners this means a whole month, and for others the remaining part of the month (from the move in date to the end of the month).

Combined with the fee outlined above, securing an apartment will require the equivalent of 4 months' rent. You will not be handed the keys of the apartment or allowed access until all of these fees are paid and the correct documentation process is completed.

A point to note is that if you return the apartment in the same condition in which you entered,

the 2-month Security Deposit should be returned to you.

Documentation:

There are two types of documentation in these transactions. Firstly the documentation you need to provide as a tenant and secondly the documentation you need to sign.

Documentation to provide:

- Copy of your passport or Macau ID
- A copy of your employment contract or letter confirming employment
- A copy of your Blue Card or Blue Card Receipt
- Sometimes references are requested

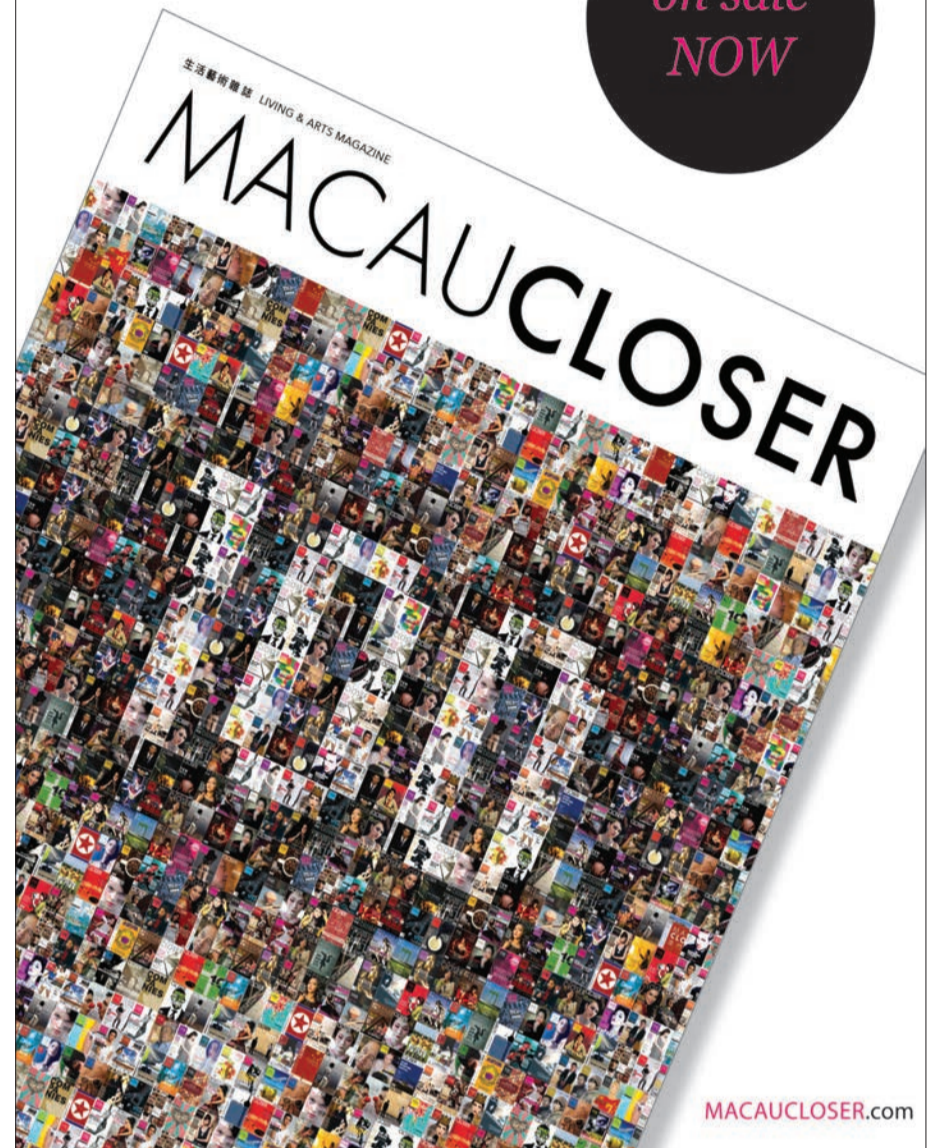
Documentation to sign:

- 3 copies of the tenancy agreement

There is also a third category. This is Documentation to receive, such as copies of invoices, and of course do make sure you are given a receipt for any monies handed over to an agent or Landlord directly.

Next week join us to take a look at Part 3 "The process of moving in".

(Based on a similar article originally published March 2014)

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Nicholas Paphitis and Menelaos Hadjicostis, Athens

Greece clears final reform hurdle before new bailout talks

GREECE'S radical left-led government saw off another revolt by rebels in the early hours of yesterday that should pave the way for the imminent start of bailout discussions with European creditors.

The reforms to the judiciary and banking systems were the final hurdle the country had to clear before talks can start over a third bailout worth around 85 billion euros (USD93 billion).

Without the money Greece would be unable to pay the debts due over the coming three years and would likely be forced to leave the euro.

Discussions over the details of the bailout program, which will involve economic targets as well as potential debt relief for Greece, should begin "as swiftly as possible," according to the European Union's executive Commission.

The hope on both sides is that the discussions will conclude by Aug. 20 when Greece has a payment of a little more than 3 billion euros (\$3.2 billion) due to the European Central Bank.

The European Commission welcomed the Greek Parliament's vote in favor of further reforms, saying it had taken "another important step toward implementing its commitments" made during the summit of European leaders last week.

Lawmakers voted 230-63 in favor of the measures, following a whirlwind debate that ended at 4 a.m. local time. Another 5 members of the 300-seat house voted present, a kind of abstention.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras was unable to forestall a second revolt in a



A street vendor pushes his trolley as he passes a banner, depicting a wrecking ball that reads: "NO" and destroying a wall with anti-austerity measures, in Athens

week among his Syriza party lawmakers, but had no trouble passing the draft legislation with the backing of pro-European opposition parties.

Government spokeswoman Olga Gerovasili conceded there is a clear rift within Syriza, but would not say whether rebels would be expelled. Tsipras has accused party critics of acting irresponsibly.

"From this point on, party procedures will be followed in order to deal with the problem," she said after the vote.

The number of disaffected Syriza lawmakers, who see

the reforms as a betrayal of the anti-austerity platform that brought their party to power in January, shrunk slightly compared to last week's similar vote — from 38 to 36. Former finance minister Yanis Varoufakis voted in favor this time following his vote against last week's austerity measures that included big increases in sales taxes.

Though the number of rebels diminished, it's still roughly a quarter of all party lawmakers.

Addressing parliament before the vote, Tsipras said the reforms were a necessary price to keep Greece in the

euro.

"We have chosen a compromise that forces us to implement a program in which we do not believe, and we will implement it because the alternatives are tough," he told lawmakers. "We are summoned today to legislate under a state of emergency."

Tsipras also ruled out resigning.

"The presence of the left in this government isn't about the pursuit of office, it's a bastion from which to fight for our people's interests," he said. "And as far as I'm concerned, I won't abandon this bastion, at least of my own free will." AP

South Korea's growth slowest in more than 2 years

South Korea's quarterly growth slowed to the lowest in more than two years as a severe drought hit agriculture and an outbreak of Middle East respiratory syndrome sapped consumption. The economy expanded 2.2 percent in the second quarter over a year earlier, the Bank of Korea said yesterday. That's the lowest since the first quarter of 2013. Asia's fourth-largest economy eked out 0.3 percent growth from the previous quarter. The bank said private consumption turned negative as spending on services dropped while agricultural output plunged due to a drought. South Korea's economy was expected to ebb last quarter as foreign tourists cancelled visits and people stayed home because of the MERS outbreak which began in May and has killed 36 people. No new confirmed cases of MERS have been reported in South Korea since July 4 and tourist numbers have begun to recover.

Singapore's Tigerair makes turnaround in Q1

Singapore's budget carrier Tigerair reported an operating profit of 600,000 Singapore dollars (USD440,040) in the first quarter of its 2016 financial year, reversing a loss of 16.4 million Singapore dollars (about \$12 million) in the previous quarter, the airline has said. Tigerair's total expenses for the first quarter ending in June fell 10.8 percent from the previous one to 167.7 million Singapore dollars (\$123 million). Total revenue was 168.3 million Singapore dollars (\$123.4 million), a 2 percent decline compared with the previous year. The airline said Wednesday that lower expenses, partly due to a decline in fuel costs, contributed to the turnaround, although Tigerair believed this was partially offset by an increase in expenses arising from accounting changes and a stronger U.S. dollar.

corporate bits

BNU CREDIT CARD GRAND LUCKY DRAW



BNU launched the "BNU Credit Card Grand Lucky Draw" promotion, including trips for two to the USA, New Zealand, France, Australia, Japan, South Korea and Thailand. For every MOP5,000 spent with their BNU credit card before 15 March 2015, cardholders were entitled to one entry in the lucky draw. The prize presentation ceremony was held on 21 July, at

BNU's Main Branch. Ronald Kan, Executive Director of BNU, hosted the ceremony presented the prizes to the winners, along with other BNU representatives: Avril Lee, Head of the Retail Banking Division, Fatima Chan, Deputy Head of the Retail Banking Division and Fiona Sou, the Retail Banking Division's Head of Business Development.

INSTALLATION OF TACTILE WARNING STRIP AT MACAU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

To improve the standard of service quality, Macau International Airport (MIA) has constantly upgraded various facilities in the Passenger Terminal Building to satisfy different visitors. Up to this month, MIA has installed tactile warning strips through the use of tactile

hazard warning tiles or blocks in front of the doors, lifts, elevators and staircases in the public areas of the Passenger Terminal Building. Visitors with visual impairments can now be warned of certain construction features by walking stick or underfoot.



VENETIAN MACAO OPEN RAISES THE STAKES FOR ASIAN TOUR

The 17th edition of the Venetian Macao Open returns to the Macau Golf & Country Club one week earlier than usual, from 15 to 18 October.

With the continued commitment of title sponsor – The Venetian Macao, the tournament's prize purse sees a third consecutive increase, taking it to the USD1 million mark – a rise of US\$100,000 on 2014, making it one of the most lucrative tournaments on the Asian Tour.

Speaking ahead of the official announcement of the 2015 edition of the tournament, José Tavares, President of the Macao Sport Development Board said, "Once again we're delighted to see the return of the Venetian Macao Open. Already one of the



players' favorites, the tournament continues to go from strength to strength with a further increase in prize purse and growing popularity among the general public. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners: Golf Association of Macao, The Venetian Macao, who I'm sure, together with IMG, will create another top quality sporting spectacle for Macau."

Netizen population hits 668 million

The number of China's online population, the world's largest, hit 668 million in June, with 594 million of those using mobile devices to go online. Figures from China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC) showed that China's total Internet population rose by 18.9 million in H1. Mobile Internet users grew by 36.8 million and mobile phones are now the main vehicle for accessing the Internet in China, with 88.9 percent of the total online population doing so via their phones. Online payments, shopping and travel booking services via mobile phones rose 26.9 percent, 14.5 percent and 25 percent, respectively. According to the report, there is still room for growth as more people in rural areas have come online. Some 186 million Internet users are rural residents, 27.9 percent of the total online population.

Xinjiang sweats in record heat wave

A record heat wave continued yesterday to scorch northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, forcing people to stay indoors and leaving air conditioners out of stock in shopping centers. The 10 hottest cities in China were all in Xinjiang on Wednesday. The maximum temperature in most cities was above 37 degrees Celsius, according to the Central Meteorological Station. Turpan Prefecture, also known as "Fire State," topped the chart with temperatures reaching 46 degrees Celsius yesterday. The maximum temperature there has remained above 45 degrees Celsius since July 15. The surface temperature at a highway toll station was as high as 69 degrees Celsius, according to Hua Feng, a Turpan traffic police officer. "The soles of my shoes cracked due to the heat after being on duty for six hours, even though I stood under a shade," said Hua. The heat is expected to last until Sunday, according to the regional meteorological station.

HONG KONG

In quirky voting system, fishermen play key role

Kelvin Chan
Business Writer, Hong Kong

SINCE China took control of Hong Kong from Britain in 1997, the city's billionaires have played a leading role in hewing the Asian financial center to Beijing's priorities. So too have a dwindling band of fishermen and farmers.

The desire of China's communist leaders to enlist the tycoons' cooperation is understandable given the influence they have through their control of large swathes of the semi-autonomous Chinese city's economy. Chinese President Xi Jinping last year summoned a group of them for an emergency meeting as political tensions in Hong Kong mounted.

Less known outside Hong Kong, however, is the political role of fishermen and farmers, remnant industries in Hong Kong that form a large slice of the 1,200-member committee that selects the southern Chinese city's pro-Beijing leader. They also have their own representative in the territory's legislature.

Fishing and farming make up less than 1 percent of Hong Kong's USD274 billion economy but command 60 votes in the leadership committee, far more than groups or industries with much greater economic or social significance.

Their outsized role is a source of discontent in a city that was rocked by pro-democracy protests over the past year as many Hong Kongers chafed against a rising tide of mainland Chinese influence.

"The system is totally unfair," said Drake Leung, one of an estimated 48,000 people who turned out for an annual pro-democracy march on July 1. Leung said fishermen and farmers served only as "rubber stamps" for Hong Kong's pro-Beijing leadership.

"Maybe 30 or 40 years ago there were actually more fishermen or farmers in Hong Kong. Now society has changed so much but they still retain this system, this framework to oppress the views of the people," he said.

Pro-democracy activists, who blocked streets for more than two months last year to demand a free election for Hong Kong's leader, want to modify or eliminate the system, saying it's opaque and heavily skewed toward pro-Beijing business interests and trade groups.

They opposed a government proposal that would have



Hong Kong fisherman Lai Kam-shing catches a fish in his farm in Ma Wan

allowed all adults to vote for a leader, but only for candidates that met with Beijing's approval. In the end, Hong Kong's feisty legislature vetoed that idea. Pro-democracy lawmakers regarded it as no improvement on a status quo already rigged in China's favor.

Crouching on the wooden decking of a fish farm floating off one of Hong Kong's small islands, Lai Tak-chuen, whose father was also a fish farmer, poured pellets from a 20 kilogram bag into one of his pens as saba, or mackerel, snapped furiously at the water's surface.

■ Fishing and farming make up less than 1 pct of HK's economy but command 60 votes in the leadership committee

Lai, who has served on three election committees since 2000, reflected on how his business has recovered after the so-called Umbrella Movement protests, which gripped Hong Kong from late September to mid-December.

"During those 70-80 odd days, many hotels came to a complete stop. Our brothers and sisters from the mainland didn't travel down here," he said. "Business completely stopped, no one was eating fish. If you have fish you

can't sell then it's a loss. This is the biggest reality. We know what bitterness is like."

Now, he said, "it's better, people have started coming back to Hong Kong, they're eating fish, the environment is better."

Lai said he supported the idea of a territory-wide election race among Beijing-approved candidates. But "it was vetoed so there's nothing you can do," he said.

Sentiments like Lai's add weight to the pro-democracy camps complaints that the system is stacked heavily in favor of pro-Beijing groups. Fishing and farming are among 38 groups represented on the election committee, but seats are distributed unevenly and arbitrarily, experts say. The 60 seats allocated to fishing and farming are, for example, more than triple the 18 seats allotted to finance, the mainstay of Hong Kong's freewheeling economy.

Hong Kong's fishing industry relies on access to Chinese fishing grounds and assistance from mainland authorities in case a ship gets into trouble, making it unwise to go against Beijing.

Lai, 68, acknowledges that nowadays few young people want to go into fishing, instead opting for more stable jobs.

Government figures show Hong Kong had 8,800 fishermen in 2013, down from about 50,000 in 1970 before the city began its transformation into a wealthy Asian financial powerhouse.

The prospects for fish farming are also just "so-so," said Lai, who earns about HK\$15,000 (\$1,900) a month on average.

The quirky election system is

a legacy of the British, who in the 1980s introduced legislative elections that gave seats to the business and interest groups, known as functional constituencies.

The Chinese liked the system so much they kept it after realizing they could use it to exert influence and keep loyalists in power, said Simon Young, a Hong Kong University law school professor who wrote a book about the city's elections.

Over the past year, it's become apparent that China's leaders don't want to tinker too much. Beijing has "indicated great concerns with adopting too open, too democratic a system that allows the people to choose representatives," he said.

Another complaint is the system's lack of transparency.

In 2011, some 159 registered electors from Lai's Ma Wan Fisheries Rights Association and 75 other obscure leagues chose their group's 60 representatives, who all ran uncontested. But little is known about these groups and what they do. Only six people named to the committee left contact information with the election commission.

Committee members mostly vote according to Beijing's wishes, although Lai said he didn't receive instructions in the 2012 selection of current leader Leung Chun-ying. He said he made up his mind after watching two televised debates in which Leung's rival performed poorly.

He wasn't sure if he would be asked to serve on the committee that will choose Leung's successor in 2017.

"We'll see if it's convenient for the fishermen," he said. **AP**

Beijing warns Tokyo against shirking responsibility for WWII



Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

A Chinese envoy yesterday warned Prime Minister Shinzo Abe not to shirk responsibility for Japan's wartime aggression in his statement marking the 70th anniversary of the end of the hostilities.

Cheng Yonghua, China's ambassador to Japan, told a news conference that Beijing is closely watching if Abe's statement would stick to Tokyo's past expressions of remorse and show "sincerity" to the victims of Japanese wartime brutality. He said it will be a sign determining Japan's future direction and relations with Asian neighbors.

Abe is expected to make a statement before the Aug. 15 anniversary.

Relations between Japan and China have been strained over historical and territorial disputes,

“We will be watching how Japan sums up its past and shows sincerity to the victimized countries”

CHENG YONGHUA
CHINESE AMBASSADOR
TO JAPAN

though some improvement has emerged since Abe and Chinese President Xi Jinping met last November.

“We will be watching how Japan sums up its past and shows sincerity to the victimized countries, especially the people who suffered from Japan's wartime actions,” Cheng said. “Any downplaying or shirking Japan's responsibility would be tantamount to opening up the victims' wounds and rubbing salt on them.”

In a landmark 1995 statement issued by then-Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama for the 50th anniversary of the war's end, Japan offered its clearest and most extensive apology to the victims of its wartime aggression.

Abe has repeatedly upset its neighbors over his historical view defending Japan's wartime actions. He has said there is no clear definition of aggression, and that he was not necessarily standing by the 1995 statement, although he later promised to keep the statement following protests from China and South Korea.

Abe is still seen as reluctant to repeat the same apology and wants to stress Japan's postwar achievements.

In March, Abe appointed a panel of experts to discuss his upcoming statement, asking its 16 members to review a study of Japan's wartime history, its economic progress and future contributions. Its final report is pending. **AP**

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PHILIPPINES

Chris Brown confused about why he's stuck in Manila

Teresa Cerojano, Manila

GRAMMY award-winning singer Chris Brown says he's confused about why he's stuck in Manila, where his departure has been delayed by a fraud complaint over a canceled concert last New Year's Eve.

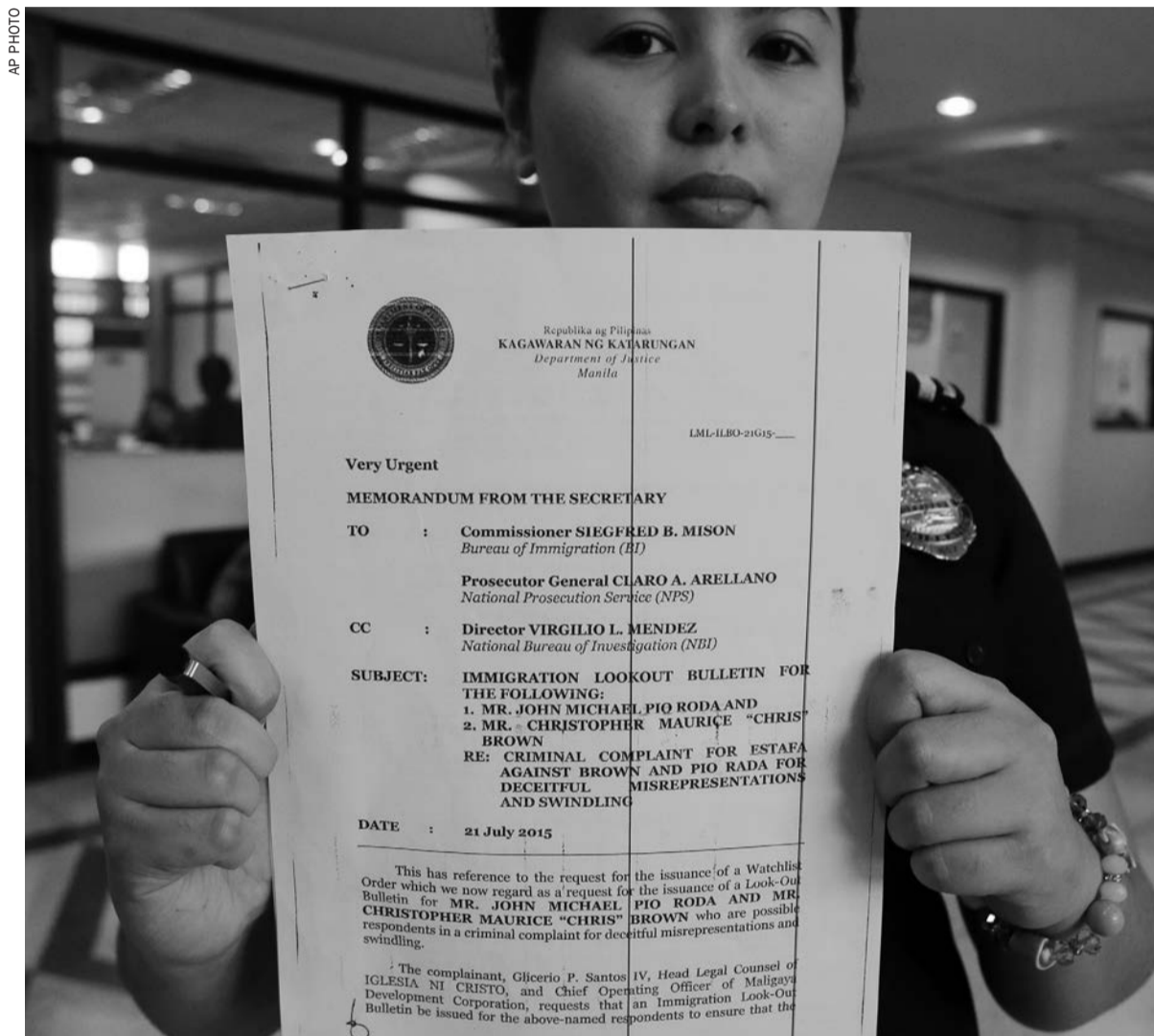
Immigration bureau spokeswoman Elaine Tan said yesterday that the R&B singer remained in the Philippines after he was prevented from leaving on Wednesday following a concert the day before.

"He is still in the country," Tan said in a text message. Brown has not applied for the emigration clearance he needs to be allowed to leave the country, she added.

In videos posted on Instagram, Brown clowns around, asking, "Can somebody please tell me what the (expletive) is going on?"

"I don't know, I'm reading headlines after headlines, what the (expletive)!" he added, smiling as his companions lying on sofas in the background laughed.

In another video, he says when he gets to customs, he will say he did nothing wrong. He then slumped on the carpeted floor and broke into a dance amid laughter in the



Philippine Bureau of Immigration, Deputy spokesperson Dana Mengote holds a copy of the Immigration Lookout Bulletin for Grammy award-winning singer Chris Brown in Manila

background.

The singer canceled a New Year's Eve concert at the

55,000-seat Philippine Arena at the last minute, reportedly because he lost his passport the

day before the scheduled event. The politically influential Iglesia ni Cristo religious

group, through its Maligaya Development Corp. that operates the Philippine Arena, filed the fraud complaint before the Department of Justice on Tuesday.

The 101-year-old religious group, believed to have more than a million members in the Philippines and overseas, is known to vote as a block. Politicians often seek endorsements by church leaders during elections. News of infighting within the church hierarchy has, however, emerged Thursday.

A copy of the complaint alleged Brown and his Canadian promoter, John Michael Pio Roda, swindled MDC through their fraudulent acts, including false promises that Brown would perform at the concert. The complaint said the contract was worth a total of USD1,006,250 and that Brown and his promoter were paid in full. It said MDC promoted the concert and sold tickets based on the guarantee that Brown would perform.

"It was a misunderstanding that has since been cleared up," said a spokeswoman for Brown, Nicole Perna said Wednesday. "Chris leaves tomorrow for Hong Kong to continue his planned performances."

Tan said a lookout bulletin is not on its own a bar to departure, unlike a hold departure order.

She said the Justice Department order directs the bureau to "take prudent steps to verify on the status of the criminal case against the subjects."

"If the concerned agency raises no objection to the departure, then we will allow the subject to leave," Tan said. **AP**

Jason Gale and Suttinee Yuvejwattana

THAILAND will ban alcohol sales near universities and technical colleges, putting the nation at the forefront of efforts in Asia to curb consumption.

Under amendments to the Alcohol Control Act endorsed by the government yesterday and to be implemented nationwide late next month, bars, clubs and retailers will be prohibited from selling alcoholic beverages within a 300-meter radius of colleges. The measures are aimed at promoting a healthy lifestyle and tackling alcohol-related problems, including underage sex, the Ministry of Public Health said.

Thailand is moving further than other governments in countering growing demand for alcohol in Asia and the Pa-

DRINKING CULTURE

Beer sales outpace economic growth in Asia



The 23rd Qingdao International Beer Festival in Qingdao, in east China's Shandong Province

cific, the fastest-growing beer market for brewer Heineken NV. The World Health Organization has called for a 10 percent reduction in the harmful use of alcohol by 2025 from 2010 levels, implicating it in more than

200 diseases and injury conditions that the UN agency says kill about 3.3 million people a year.

"Thailand has the strongest tradition of trying to curb alcohol consumption and reduce alcohol-related harms," said Juer-

gen Rehm, professor and chair of addiction policy at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health.

Thailand's government has a taxation mechanism that "enables them to tax the hell out of any beverage which is attractive to youth," said Rehm, who has worked with Thai authorities on alcohol programs for the past decade.

Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia, China and some states of India have also introduced policies over the past few years to sap alcohol demand. Beer sales in Vietnam have been climbing at least double the pace of gross domestic product growth the past five years

and have averaged 6.2 percent annually across the region since 2009, according to Euromonitor International.

Anheuser-Busch InBev NV, the world's largest brewer, opened a brewery near Ho Chi Minh City in May, bolstering its supplies of Budweiser and Beck's beer.

"Asia Pacific is now the third largest zone of AB InBev in terms of volume, and Vietnam is considered the next turning point for us in Southeast Asia," said Michel Doukeris, the Belgian brewer's Asia-Pacific president, at an opening ceremony. The plant will eventually produce as much as 1 million hectoliters a year of the amber liquid.

Asia-Pacific will contribute more than 70 percent of global beer growth in the next five years, Heineken's regional president, Roland Pirmez, told a conference in March 2014, citing Canadian projections.

Per-capital alcohol consumption averaged 29 liters in the region in 2013, compared with 59 liters in Europe and 48 liters in the rest of the world, presenting "untapped growth potential," Pirmez said. The Amsterdam-based company increased its stake in United Breweries Ltd., India's biggest beer maker, to 42.1 percent on July 7, less than a week before opening a USD60 million brewery near Yangon. **Bloomberg**



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SPACE

Rocket with crew from US, Russia, Japan docks at international station

Lauren Thomas

A Russian spacecraft carrying three astronauts docked with the International Space Station after a successful launch that contrasted with fiery failures by two for-profit U.S. operators.

The Soyuz TMA 17M craft connected yesterday, about 400 kilometers above Earth, according to a live feed on NASA TV.

The crew from the U.S., Russia and Japan docked at the orbiting lab after a flight of five hours and 43 minutes. The spacecraft had from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, the home for Russian manned missions.

The U.S. hasn't had its own manned launches since the National Aeronautics and Space Administration retired the space shuttle in 2011. While NASA plans to reduce its reliance on the Soyuz program with commercial providers, the effort has been complicated by accidents with cargo-carrying rockets at Orbital ATK Inc. and Elon Musk's SpaceX.

"The continued success of the Russian Soyuz is benefiting everyone flying to the ISS because of its reliability," said Lance Erickson, program coordinator for commercial space operations at Embry-Riddle



Japanese astronaut Kimiya Yui, top, U.S. astronaut Kjell Lindgren, center, and Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko, wave before boarding their Soyuz TMA-17M rocket, in Kazakhstan

Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida.

NASA has awarded contracts to SpaceX and Boeing Co. to start ferrying astronauts into orbit by 2017. Those would be the first crew-hauling missions for the U.S. space program, following the use of commercial providers to loft satellites and freight.

The U.S. search for alternatives to Russian lift vehicles for manned flights is based on "lessons learned from single-sourcing anything important" and on a desire to end a reliance on Vladimir Putin's government, rather than any concern over the Soyuz program, Erickson said.

The three astronauts - Kjell Lindgren from the U.S., Oleg Kononenko of the Russian Federal Space Agency and Kimiya Yui of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency - will remain in space for five months.

NASA's television feed of the launch showed the trio waving to the video camera while, from the ground, the bright-orange glow of the Soyuz engines dimmed and then disappeared as the spacecraft climbed through the skies of central Asia.

The astronauts will work with Commander Gennady Padalka of Roscosmos and flight engineers Scott Kelly of NASA and Mikhail Kornienko of Roscos-

mos on hundreds of experiments in biology, biotechnology, physical science and Earth science.

Another crew is scheduled to travel to the station on Sept. 1. They will stay for only 10 days after delivering a new Soyuz rocket to the station so Kelly and Kornienko will be able to return in 2016. The Soyuz spacecraft can remain docked at the station only for about 180 days, so new vessels must be rotated in and out, NASA said.

The two failed U.S. missions to the station both involved resupply missions.

On June 28, a SpaceX Falcon 9 blew up after takeoff, possibly stalling NASA's timetable for awarding the next round of space-cargo delivery contracts.

NASA previously postponed the awards in October, when an Orbital rocket exploded on a resupply mission. Orbital's unmanned Antares supply rocket crashed shortly after launching from Virginia.

Adding to the setbacks, an unmanned Russian Progress 59 craft spun out of control in April and failed to make its way to the station. The spacecraft, carrying more than three tons of supplies, exploded abruptly in Earth's atmosphere. Another Russian craft delivered goods to the station earlier this month. **Bloomberg**

USA

Iran deal brings thousands to Times Square protest

Verena Dobnik, New York

THOUSANDS of protesters packed into Times Square on Wednesday evening (early yesterday, Macau time) to demand that Congress vote down the proposed U.S. deal with Iran.

As the crowd loomed behind police barricades, chants of "Kill the deal!" could be heard for blocks. The event, billed as the "Stop Iran Rally" consisted mainly of pro-Israel supporters, though organizers said it represents Americans of all faiths and political convictions.

The group is asking Congress to reject the deal under which the U.S. would agree to lift economic sanctions against Iran in

return for measures to prevent the country from building nuclear weapons.

President Barack Obama has said the U.S. considers Iran an adversary whose activities will be closely monitored.

At the rally, Alan Dershowitz, a prominent Jewish attorney, said he was "opposing the deal as a liberal Democrat." He said he believed democracy was "ignored" because the Obama administration negotiated the deal without congressional input.

"That is not the way democracy should operate," he told the crowd.

In a statement Wednesday, Rep. Peter King, a former chairman of the

House Committee on Homeland Security, said he attended a classified briefing with Secretary of State John Kerry and "is still convinced that this is a bad deal for America."

"It was entirely wrong and arrogant for the Obama administration to submit the deal to the U.N. before Congress voted on it," he said. "It is definitely my intention to vote no on this deal with Iran."

Desiree Soper of Long Island said she was drawn to the protest because she wanted to voice her opposition.

"I don't trust Iran," she said. "They'll find loopholes."

Demonstrators also took note that U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer did not at-



Supporters react to a speech by Republican presidential candidate former New York Gov. George Pataki at the 'Stop Iran' protest near Times Square in New York

tend the protest, prompting chants of "Where is Chuck?" from the crowd.

Schumer has said he

has not yet decided how he will vote. His spokesman did not immediately respond to a request for

comment.

Organizers estimated about 10,000 people attended the event. **AP**

TV canal macau



FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talkshow (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:20	Revenge S2 - Final
22:00	Publicity
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Film
01:00	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

SATURDAY

10:45	Boonie Bears
11:35	Documentary Serie
12:00	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:10	Non-Daily Portuguese News
19:00	Contest
20:00	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:10	Drama
22:45	Documentary Series
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

SUNDAY

10:45	Young Children
11:10	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Animation
16:20	Miscellaneous
17:15	Documentary Series
17:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
18:10	Miscellaneous
19:40	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Cougar Town S.3
22:00	Ireland Lost babies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Documentary Series
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

offbeat

OBESSE MAN BIKING ACROSS US TO LOSE WEIGHT



A 254-kilogram man biking across the United States to lose weight hit a snag in Rhode Island.

The Newport Daily News reports (bit.ly/1JfwEFz) a bent rim on Eric Hites' bicycle has kept him in Tiverton since late last week, 145 kilometers from where his ride began in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Newport Bicycle is outfitting Hites with a new bike that can withstand his weight. In two weeks on the road, the 40-year-old says he's lost 27 kilograms.

Hites says he's always been a big person. He hopes to lose hundreds of pounds and gather material for a second book.

He previously authored a humorous cookbook entitled "Everybody Loves Ramen," which includes 50 recipes he developed in college.

cinema



CINETEATRO

23 JUL - 29 JUL



INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 3

ROOM 1

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 7.30 pm

Director: Leigh Whannell

Starring: Dermot Mulroney, Stefanie Scott, Angus Sampson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min



MINIONS

ROOM 1

4.00 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

INSIDE OUT

ROOM 3

(2D) 2.00, 3.55, 5.50 pm

(3D) 7.45 pm

Director: Pete Docter

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 94min

MINIONS

ROOM 3

9.45 pm

Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 91min

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



1959 KHRUSHCHEV AND NIXON HAVE WAR OF WORDS

Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev and US Vice-President Richard Nixon have had a tense exchange of words about the merits of communism versus capitalism.

This is the latest and most public of a series of impromptu debates between the two leaders which started yesterday on Mr Nixon's arrival in the USSR at the start of his 11-day visit.

This time, the two men were touring the American trade exhibition in Moscow's Sokolniki Park ahead of its opening this evening. They stopped in front of a mock-up American kitchen displaying the latest gadgets - washing machines, toasters and juicers.

Mr Khrushchev dismissed the exhibits and said: "You Americans expect that the Soviet people will be amazed. It is not so. We have all these things in our new flats."

Mr Nixon replied: "We do not claim to astonish the Soviet people. We hope to show our right to choose. We do not wish to have decisions made at the top by government officials who say that all homes should be built in the same way."

Reporters, government officials and workmen putting the finishing touches to the stands looked on amazed and then began to applaud their respective leaders.

Mr Khrushchev went on to demand both sides remove "foreign bases". "The one who is for putting an end to foreign bases is for peace. The one who is not, is for war," he said.

Mr Nixon retorted: "The moment we place either one of these powerful nations, through an ultimatum, in a position where they have no choice but to accept dictation or fight, then you are playing with the most destructive power in the world."

Pointing his finger just inches from Mr Nixon's face, Mr Khrushchev replied sternly, "Who is giving the ultimatum?"

He said Russia would answer threat with threat and had the means to do so. "Ours are better than yours," he said, referring to Russia's rockets.

"We are well aware of that. We have some too," said Mr Nixon.

In the end, Mr Nixon apologised for being a poor host and the two men agreed to thank the exhibit hostess for letting them argue in her kitchen.

The exhibition was formally opened this evening, with Mr Nixon passing on a message of goodwill from President Eisenhower and Mr Khrushchev inviting the president to visit the USSR.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The so-called "kitchen debate" took place during a time of increasing tension in the Cold War, starting with the Russians' launch of Sputnik in 1957 and ending with the U-2 spy plane affair in 1960. The American company Ampex filmed the exchanges on the first videotape recorder.

On 1 August, Mr Khrushchev allowed Mr Nixon to speak on Soviet national television. In an event unprecedented in the USSR, Nixon criticised communism and warned against any attempt to spread the ideology beyond the borders of the Soviet Union. In September, Mr Khrushchev went to the US and met with President Eisenhower.

The debate added to Vice-President Nixon's prestige at home. He returned to the USSR in May 1972 - this time as president.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
It's a good time to initiate new projects, if you can pay for them in charm instead of cash. Otherwise, you're better off keeping your wallet closed and deferring your selfish impulses.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
It's typically a good day to spend on yourself, but you'll get plenty of that next week. Resign yourself to dealing with coworkers one more day. Imagine the extra money you'll make if you need some incentive.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Having a high energy level seems like a waste without a way to earn money with it. That attitude is keeping you from the things in life with true value. Keep yourself from bouncing off the walls by focusing on romance.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Issues around the home demand your attention, and the absolutely, positively can't wait another week. Put all thoughts of finances out of your head and focus on domestic bliss.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
If you're used to being the one who puts food on the table, if only metaphorically, it's time to let someone else take care of your needs for a change, literally. Practice being doted on.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Consider your wallet. If you're used to putting on a big spread this time of year, it's time to have a heart to heart with your partner. True value is not something that you can buy in the store anyway.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
Ignoring your balance is flirting with disaster. You can do plenty of flirting of the romantic variety absolutely free, or close to it, so choose your activities wisely.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
You could spend all day tossing ideas back and forth. If you did that in the financial arena, you'd never earn a dime. Sooner or later you have to decide, so you might as well give in to the other.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
The coming week requires a lot of preparation time. If you'll be spending it focusing on finances instead, then do yourself and your loved ones a favor by chopping and dicing today.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
You have lots of energy focused on work but others may not be quite as committed to the almighty dollar as you are. Read into that what you want, but extract from it the most valuable lesson.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
You've been burning the candle at both ends, and you deserve to see things in a different kind of light. Put all thoughts of money aside and experience something new.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Without time and attention from you, problems could arise in a partnership. No, not of the financial variety, either. Finding a balance between making money and making friendships work is critical.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
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CHINA

Beijing	21	31	thundershower
Harbin	22	27	cloudy/thundershower
Tianjin	24	31	thundershower
Urumqi	25	34	clear
Xi'an	23	35	clear
Lhasa	12	27	cloudy
Chengdu	23	35	cloudy/clear
Chongqing	24	35	cloudy/clear
Kunming	17	23	shower
Nanjing	25	28	heavy rain
Shanghai	26	33	shower
Wuhan	23	27	heavy rain/moderate rain
Hangzhou	26	33	thundershower
Taipei	25	31	drizzle
Guangzhou	25	29	heavy rain
Hong Kong	26	30	moderate rain/heavy rain

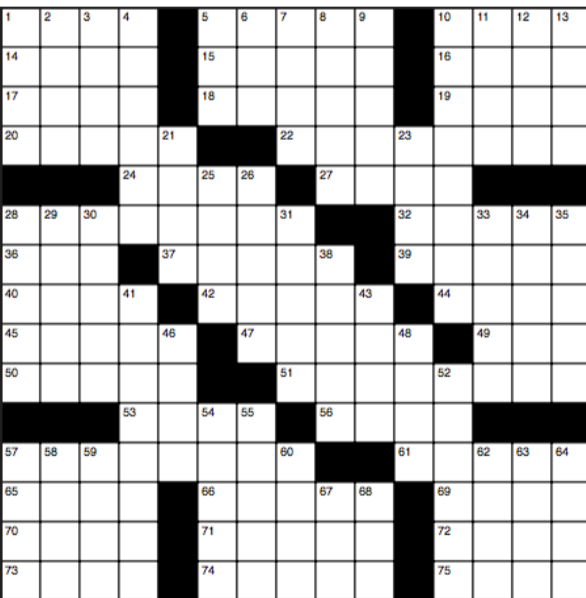
WORLD

Moscow	12	22	overcast/moderate rain
Frankfurt	18	26	cloudy
Paris	14	24	cloudy/drizzle
London	12	18	overcast/drizzle
New York	18	28	clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Linebacker Junior; 5- Every 24 hours; 10- Hill toy; 14- Fishing reel; 15- Baffled; 16- Bring on board; 17- Shrinking Asian sea; 18- Discourage; 19- Pianist Gileis; 20- Where Hercules slew the lion; 22- Artillery; 24- Beat it; 27- River of Flanders; 28- Shish Kebab; 32- Strange and mysterious; 36- X; 37- French beans?; 39- Salivate; 40- Chow; 42- Inexpensive; 44- Completely without madness; 45- Birdlike; 47- St. ___ fire; 49- Excavate; 50- Disinfectant brand; 51- Predict; 53- Get ready; 56- Calculus calculation; 57- Handicapped; 61- Windows predecessor; 65- Biblical twin; 66- Severe; 69- VCR alternative; 70- Remove water from a boat; 71- "Who's there?" reply; 72- Big birds; 73- Han ___ was a "Star Wars" character; 74- Giving the once-over; 75- Captain of the Nautilus;

DOWN: 1- Bridge; 2- Joyce's land; 3- Composer Khachaturian; 4- Except if; 5- Pop; 6- Consumed, usually food; 7- Ratio words; 8- Distrustful; 9- Fenced areas; 10- Wool-clippers; 11- Describe; 12- Slang expert Partridge; 13- Strike out; 21- Zwei cubed; 23- Requirement; 25- A Baldwin brother; 26- One tenth, usually; 28- Pfler; 29- Lead-in; 30- The opposition; 31- Boat spines; 33- Highways, e.g.; 34- Ancient Greek colony; 35- Reflection on death; 38- Navigators Islands, today; 41- Brazil's largest city; 43- Needy; 46- Workers' rights org.; 48- Wineglass part; 52- Hurry; 54- Borden bovine; 55- Small-minded; 57- Ball belles; 58- Golfer Ack; 59- Travel on water; 60- Ricky's portrayer; 62- Thin change; 63- Egg cell; 64- Indifferent; 67- LBJ's successor; 68- Not pos.



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



AD

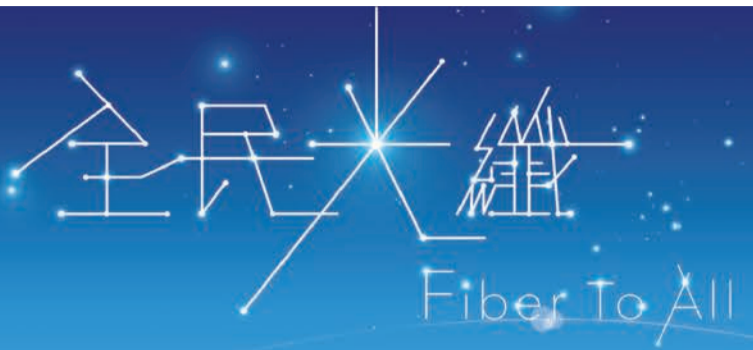
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<p>CHUN LEONG Taipa Car Park Space Car Park for Rent HKD 1,700 / 00 sq ft Ref: 1505051</p>	<p>Va Fu, Old Taipa Village Taipa 1 Bedroom Apartment Very Centrally Located HKD 12,500 / 800 sq ft Ref: 15050511</p>	<p>Iau Lei Garden Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment Open Views across Taipa HKD 13,900 / 1,100 sq ft Ref: 1505503</p>	<p>Bauhinia Court, Hellene Gardens Coloane 3 Bedrooms Apartment Roof Terrace & Double Parking HKD 20,000 / 1,663 sq ft Ref: 1505501</p>

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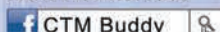
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Charles Odum, Atlanta

FOOTBALL

Guardado lifts Mexico past angry Panama, 2-1, in Gold Cup

A night of conflict and controversy ended with referees surrounded by security and another win by Mexico surrounded by suspicion.

Andres Guardado scored two goals on penalty kicks, including the tiebreaker in extra time, and six-time champion Mexico beat short-handed and angered Panama 2-1 in the Gold Cup semifinals yesterday (Macau time).

Turmoil on the field incited fans — among the 70,511 at the Georgia Dome — to hurl drinks and other debris onto the field on two occasions.

Tensions rose after a foul was called on Panama's Roman Torres for touching the ball with his hand in the penalty area late in the second half when Panama was protecting a 1-0 lead. There was a delay as cups were thrown from the stands. Players from both teams argued on the sideline and appeared to be on the verge of an all-out melee before being separated.

The call set up Guardado's first penalty kick in stoppage time.

Panama coach Hernan Gomez called it a "stolen goal" and said he was left with "im-



Mexico midfielder Andres Guardado

mense sadness." "I ask myself why did this happen?" Gomez said through a translator. "We were doing everything well. It is very sad. "We are people of football and I still can't believe this happened

and I wonder if this really happened." Mexico will play Jamaica in the final Sunday in Philadelphia. Jamaica upset defending champion United States 2-1 in the first semifinal and will be

Jamaica upset defending champion United States 2-1 and will be appearing in its first final

appearing in its first final. "This is not the ideal situation," Mexico coach Miguel Herrera said. "It wasn't the ideal way to win."

Panama's Roman Torres scored on a header early in the second half, and the 1-0 lead held until Guardado's penalty kick in stoppage time. The penalty kick, which followed a 10-minute delay as tempers flared, set up the extra time.

Panama played at a disadvantage


after forward Luis Tejada drew a red card and was ejected for his contact with Mexico's Francisco Rodriguez about 25 minutes into the match.

Similar controversy surrounded Mexico's 1-0 win over Costa Rica in the quarterfinals Sunday night. The win came on Guardado's penalty kick in the final minute of extra time after Roy Miller was called for a questionable foul on Oribe Peralta.


"We didn't produce football," Herrera said. "We had nothing to do with that."

Panama was denied its second straight final. It lost to the U.S. in the 2013 final after beating Mexico in the semifinals.

A win by Panama's win would have been an upset, but not on the level of Jamaica's shocker over the U.S. Mexico is No. 40 in the world rankings and has appeared in seven of 12 finals in the CONCACAF tournament. Panama is 62nd. AP



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VENETIA

Travel Notes-Venice - Collective Exhibition on the Subject of Macau's Participation in the Venice Art Biennale 2015


Duration of the Exhibition
15 July 2015 until 31 July 2015


Opening Hours
Everyday from 12:00 to 20:00
Except Monday from 15:00 to 20:00


Exhibition Venue
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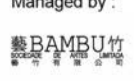
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opinion

Kapok
 Eric Sautedé



TOO MANY WAYS TO BE No. 1

Being in the news for allegations of vote-buying during election time is never a great thing in terms of image, to say the least. This is even worse when it concerns the leading contender—being a tainted number one will always make you look like a loser—and then it can turn into a disaster when what is alleged eventually becomes proven and established beyond reasonable doubt. This is partly the situation of the not-for-profit group Aliança do Povo de Instituição de Macau (API), or 民眾建澳聯盟 in Chinese, which I would translate into English as the Alliance of the People for the Strengthening of Macau—the flagship organization of legislator and executive council member Chan Meng Kam. However, the condemnation of two members of the association for vote-buying during the 2013 elections has unraveled almost two years after the casting of the vote. The association today, in effect, is distinct from the list that was then led by the strongman of the Fujianese community, the Association of the United Citizens of Macao, although the logos are pretty similar—the people 民 is made of people 人人!

Beyond the debate about the nature of the allegations (buying meals and transporting supporters to voting booths), the way the proof was obtained (a CCAC agent going undercover and interviews being conducted in a suggestive manner) and the condemnation proper (targeting two elderly supporters and being supposedly politically motivated on the part of the government), one can easily understand why the secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, would promise to amend the electoral law before the end of the next legislative session, in the wake of the tumult: irresponsibility and lack of accountability appear to prevail because of the time lapse and confusing identities, and actually weaken the one and only institution in the whole institutional design of our SAR that demonstrates a slight democratic component.

While Song Pek Kei, the third member of Chan Meng Kam's winning list in 2013 and vice president of the API, has started to voice her discontent at the judgment made public on Friday—that the API is appealing—along with the very vocal Chan Tak Seng, the API director who organized a very combative press conference on Tuesday, several media outlets have highlighted the contrasting fact that Mr Chan Meng Kam and his number two, Si Ka Lon, are nowhere to be seen. Coming in as the fourth-best funded association in the first quarter of 2015 by the Macau Foundation after the Federation of Trade Unions, the General Union of Neighborhood and the General Association of Women, there is no doubt that the API has all the characteristics of a quasi-political party at the service of Mr Chan Meng Kam, who is the honorary president, whereas Si Ka Lon serves as its current president.

Looking at the statutes of the association, which was only established in March 2008, one can read that the raison d'être of the whole group is not only to foster the love of the motherland and Macau, to serve the "one country two systems" principle as well as to ensure that the "people of Macao govern Macao" according to "a high degree of autonomy", but also to provide social and welfare services. The statutes further indicate that beyond the full support it ensures to the Macau SAR government when it comes to law, economic development, people's livelihood, the promotion of democracy (sic!) and the advancement of unity, long-term prosperity and stability, API should also explore and initiate new perspectives!

The good news is that people care. Despite the delay, the citizenry is paying attention by eagerly following the twists and turns of the affair via the press. The judicial system, the government at large and even the perpetrators—contesting is being attentive—are in full battle mode. In a banana republic, nobody cares, but even a very truncated democracy, an increasingly vibrant civil society, supported by more sophisticated citizens, is remarkably looking for greater meaning and ultimately vaster purpose. The government cannot fail to respond to that call.

THE BUZZ EU OPENS ANTITRUST CASE AGAINST 6 MAJOR US MOVIE STUDIOS

The European Union has opened an anti-trust case against six major U.S. movie studios for preventing British satellite broadcaster Sky from showing their products outside the U.K. and Ireland. The EU Commission, which assesses anti-trust matters for the 28-country EU, said yesterday it has sent a statement of objections to Disney, NBCUniversal, Paramount

Pictures, Sony, Twentieth Century Fox and Warner Bros regarding "contractual restrictions" that prevent Sky offering their full services to consumers in other EU nations. EU Commissioner Margrethe Vestager said that "European consumers want to watch the pay-TV channels of their choice regardless of where they live or travel in the EU."

Station	Air quality
Roadside	10-30 Good
High Density Residential Area	15-35 Good
Ambient	15-35 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

NIGERIA Bomb blasts at two bustling bus stations killed 29 people and wounded 105, officials said Thursday after Nigeria's new president warned that the U.S. refusal to sell his country strategic weapons is "aiding and abetting" Boko Haram.



IRAQ-USA U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter arrived unannounced in Baghdad on Thursday to assess the government's progress in healing the country's sectarian divisions and hear the latest on support for the Iraqi army's coming attempt to recapture the key city of Ramadi from the Islamic State. It is Carter's first visit to Iraq since he took office in February.



USA A woman whose death in a Texas jail has raised suspicions about the official conclusion that she hanged herself told a guard during the booking process that she had tried to kill herself in the past, according to the county sheriff. Waller County Sheriff Glenn Smith said Wednesday that two jailers interviewed Sandra Bland after her arrest. He said the 28-year-old black woman from Illinois told the second interviewer that she was not depressed but was upset about her arrest, which occurred following a confrontation with a white officer who stopped her for a minor traffic violation.

UK Pearson PLC, the owner of the Financial Times, says it has agreed to sell FT Group to Nikkei Inc. for 844 million pounds (USD1.3 billion). It says the amount is payable in cash. Nikkei Inc. is the largest independent business media group in Asia, with flagship newspaper Nikkei as its core.



CHINA

Half-naked 'Spartans' attract attention of Beijing police

A salad store paraded dozens of half-naked Western men dressed as Spartans through China's capital as a publicity stunt, causing a stir and drawing a crackdown by police who were photographed restraining some of them on the ground. About 40 mostly blond and brown-haired men wearing bronze shorts, arm and leg guards and capes styled after the attire of people in the ancient Greek city of Sparta marched in Beijing's central business district and an upscale shopping area Wednesday. Bearing plastic tubs of salads, the bare-chested

men attracted crowds of onlookers and posed for photos with women that circulated widely on social media. Police were less amused. They dispersed the parade at the Sanlitun shopping area, and photos in state media showed police on top of two of the Spartans who apparently had been wrestled to the ground. Police said in a statement yesterday that they had to control some "foreigners in short pants" to restore public order. It said the matter was still under investigation. The store, Sweetie Salad, said the stunt to celebra-

te their 1-year anniversary generated far more interest than expected. It said in a statement posted online that store representatives spoke with police to clear up any "misunderstanding." "We chose Spartans and invited foreign models who are physically fit simply because we wanted to encourage our customers to pursue the beauty of being healthy," the store said. The incident follows on the heels of another that drew attention from social media users and police — a home-made sex video purportedly taken in a Uniqlo fitting room, also in Sanlitun. AP

times square by rodrigo

