



DEMAND FOR BUSINESS JETS STILL STRONG IN ASIA

China's economic slowdown and the downturn in Macau's gaming revenue don't seem to have made a big impact on the private jet industry

P2 MDT REPORT



CULTURAL INDUSTRIES EXPERTS CALL FOR PRESERVATION OF ESTORIL FAÇADE

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CHUI PROMISES EXPLANATION ON GOV'T ALLEGED LAND DEBT

The Chief Executive said yesterday that the gov't "will definitely explain [the issue] to the public" after thoroughly investigating the matter

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WORLD BRIEFS

AFGHANISTAN A suicide bomber in Afghanistan's northern Kunduz province has killed 29 people, mainly members of illegal armed groups that have clashed with security forces and the insurgents in the past, an Afghan official said yesterday. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack.

MYANMAR says the number of people affected by flooding nationwide is approaching 1 million, with waters in the low-lying southwestern region inundating homes and forcing villagers into temporary shelters. The death toll is about to top 100.



YEMEN Yemeni security officials and pro-government fighters say a Saudi-led coalition airstrike hit allied fighters in a friendly fire incident, killing at least 20. The officials said the strike late Saturday hit the fighters on a coastal road as they headed toward the embattled city of Zinjibar in southern Yemen.

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FINANCIAL TIMES

China migration:
Dying for land

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RENATO MARQUES

SUNDAY HEAT

Hottest August day since 1957

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Killer typhoon hits the mainland, Taiwan

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TYPHOON Soude-
lor not only brought
Taiwan and Fujian
province torrential
and destructive rain over the
weekend, yesterday it also
broke Macau's record for the
highest temperature of the year.

According to the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau, the highest temperature recorded by the meteorological station on the Taipa Grande over the past two days was 36.6 degrees Celsius and 36.4 degrees Celsius respectively, with the former topping the highest in a single day for August since 1957.

The scorching heat came to Macau under the influence of the tropical cyclone's outer subsiding airflow, which even pushed the temperatures in the peninsula and Coloane to 38.2 degrees Celsius and 37.3 degrees Celsius respectively.

Likewise, the neighboring SAR region also suffered from similar warm weather, with people perspiring in temperatures of up to 37.8 degrees Celsius yesterday – the highest temperature recorded in 130 years.

However, the Health Bureau said that public hospital authorities have received no cases of heatstroke requiring medical treatment, while at least three seniors in Hong Kong are reported to have been admitted to hospital, allegedly due to the

WEATHER

Yesterday recorded as the hottest August day in 58 years



extreme heat.

The observatory said that the air quality index is to improve this week after having been recorded as 'bad' over the past few days, when the entire city was shrouded in heavy smog.

Local meteorologists have predicted that it will be rainy throughout the week with temperatures ranging from 26 to 32 degrees Celsius and occasional rainstorms. The weather authorities issued a storm warning at seven o'clock last night.

The strongest tropical storm so far this year, which reached the Chinese southeastern province on Saturday night, delayed more than 30 flights on Friday and Saturday.

Since Friday the government has also opened the Ilha Verde cooling center to the public to help residents cope with the searing weather. Furthermore, the health authorities warned people to avoid venturing outdoors during the heat. **Staff reporter**

Demand for business jets still strong in Asia

THE demand for business jets in Asia has grown over recent years, and signs of slowdown in China's economy or downturn in Macau's gaming revenue don't seem to have made a big impact on the industry, according to Thomas Flohr, CEO of the Swiss private business jet company, VistaJet.

"To date, we have not seen a negative impact on VistaJet flights to Macau. Declining revenues could perhaps have an adverse effect on people considering whole aircraft purchase, as this requires intensive capital investment," he told the Times in an email interview.

Mr Flohr said that the company's jet program scheme remains popular



among Asia-Pacific customers. "They discover the benefits of having access to a fleet of large-cabin, branded aircraft positioned all over the world, instead of owning just

one plane," he explained. According to Mr Flohr, the company's Flight Solution Program is regarded as a good option for clients who want to enjoy the benefits of aircraft

ownership without investing huge sums of money and bearing asset risk.

VistaJet announced last month that it will be offering point-to-point services in mainland

China this month, using a Bombardier Challenger 850 business jet. The VIP charter company has partnered with Apex Air, headquartered in Jiangsu province, to provide services on its behalf.

VistaJet has been flying passengers in and out of mainland China, including flights to and from Macau and Hong Kong.

Mr Flohr said that VistaJet has experienced a steady increase in the number of flights to the Asia-Pacific region since 2008. Last year, the airline recorded a 23-percent increase in passengers traveling within Asia, and a 17-percent increase in flights traveling within the continent.

"We've seen an increase

in demand for VistaJet flights in [the] Asia-Pacific [region] with 2014 year-on-year growth of 17 percent. We expect the growth trend to continue," he added.

The company has a fleet of over 50 aircraft and additional new Challenger 350 and Global 6000 aircraft will be added throughout this year.

Last February, The Times was invited to inspect one of the company's aircraft, which had just flown customers to Macau.

The Financial Times reported in April that president Xi Jinping's campaign against corruption has grounded the private jet sector. Aviation data provider Jetnet reported that purchases of business jets by Chinese companies peaked at 55 in 2011, but have declined steadily ever since. **CP**

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Lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong is requesting an answer from the government regarding progress into its research on the establishment of a municipal body. He is appealing for the authorities to cause no more delays through consultations with the public regarding what should be a directly elected institution.

Ng cited the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau's response in May to his previous written inquiry, stating that "the SAR government is conducting studies regarding the establishment of a municipal body, and will consult the public duly, so as to determine the municipal body's functions, powers and composition in the form of law, based on a consensus to be reached."

However, the lawmaker raised criticisms that "until August when the Legislative Assembly was discussing the government's bill on amending the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM)'s constitution, the Secretariat for Administration and Justice couldn't give any answers regarding its research progress into establishing the municipal body; it couldn't provide any information, and even stated that it was unable to consider the junction of functions between the future municipal body and the IACM."

Legal scholars have long pointed out the absence of a

Lawmaker hammers gov't's progress in establishing non-governmental municipal body



Ng Kuok Cheong

non-governmental municipal body in Macau's administration since the city's handover, despite the fact that it is mentioned in the Basic Law. The municipal body is expected to effectively supervise the administration's governance of issues regarding the livelihood of residents and to be able to take part in the Chief Executive Election Committee.

In a new written inquiry issued about the matter on Saturday, Ng Kuok Cheong stressed that, "preparing to set up the municipal body should not be delayed any more." He further questioned which governmental department is responsible for the research into establishing the currently non-existent system, and whether the government would be able to present its research findings and launch a public consultation within the year. Furthermore, the lawmaker urged the government to ensure that the municipal body is directly

Special Olympics calls for policies to encourage employment of the disabled

SUPPORTING policies are needed to encourage employers to hire people with intellectual disabilities, in order to counteract the impact of the implementation of

a minimum wage on the special community, suggested the Macau Special Olympics' executive director, Siu Yu Hong.

Mr Siu told reporters yesterday that the cur-

rent employment conditions for mentally challenged workers are relatively ideal, but he fears that once the minimum wage policy is fully implemented, em-

ployers may become less willing to hire them based on a fear that they will not prove cost-effective.

As the minimum wage bill for cleaning person-

nel and security guards is set to come into force next year, Mr Siu indicated that discussions about it have not mentioned any specific measures which will support disabled and mentally challenged workers.

He therefore urged the government to simultaneously introduce su-

pportive policies that would encourage employers to hire from the vulnerable group during the implementation of the minimum wage, such as providing minimum wage subsidies to employers who employ a worker with disabilities, following the example set by the Australian government. **BY**

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Cultural industries experts call for preservation of Hotel Estoril façade

Catarina Pinto

MEMBERS of the Committee of Cultural Industries and the Cultural Industries Fund's Administrative Committee have called on the government to preserve some of the former Hotel Estoril's features, namely its façade.

The Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, attended another briefing session on the renovation of the Hotel Estoril last Friday, this time to gather opinions from experts from the cultural industries.

On the sidelines of the meeting, Mr Tam reiterated that the renowned Portuguese architect Álvaro Siza Vieira, who will be responsible for designing the project, is due to travel to Macau in October in order to share his views on the plans for the Hotel Estoril's redevelopment.

Mr Tam told the Times he is hoping that the government will reach a final decision on whether to rebuild the structure or to build an entirely new building before the end of this year.

Mr Tam and Siza Vieira met recently in Portugal to discuss the Hotel Estoril project. The Portuguese architect is in favor of creating a new building from scratch instead of preserving the existing façade.

However, members of the two committees have called on the government to preserve Macau's historical legacy by maintaining the building's façade and mural.

Member Angela Leong, who also serves as a lawmaker and as a managing director of casino operator SJM, said that it would be unfair to destroy the building and to create a new one. Hotel Estoril was built in the 1960s and was the first hotel in which Ms Leong's husband, tycoon Stanley Ho, began exploring his options as a gaming concessionaire by establishing his first casino.

"I feel emotionally attached to this building (...) our generation knows of the building's history but if the building is torn down, younger generations won't know about its past," she stressed at the meeting.

She added that, "it would be a shame to tear down the building. It's unfair for future ge-



Alexis Tam attends a briefing session on the Hotel Estoril's revamp with cultural industries representatives

nerations who will not know all the work behind the construction of this hotel."

Ms Leong asked the government whether they would consider preserving the structure's façade at a minimum.

Local artist and curator James Chu acknowledged that the building's façade is not particularly special, but stressed that it has its "own style and features, which are regarded as part of the Macau people's memories." To take full advantage of the space, he suggested that the swimming pool could be set into the top of the edifice.

José Luis de Sales Marques, president of the Institute of European Studies, said that the Hotel Estoril's revamp will require the government making a difficult decision. He acknowledged there are many factors that should be taken into account. However, he recalled that, "we need to understand how we could preserve some of Macau's memories, in a way which is also good for the city's [development]."

Local architect Carlos Marreiros stressed that the government will have to closely consider the question of how to solve traffic and parking issues. He also said that he has a lot of memories of Tap Seac's

Square and Hotel Estoril.

The architect also stressed that the building's interior is very worn down, and it might therefore be worth reconstructing it. Regarding the building's mural, created by Italian architect and sculptor Oseo Acconci, Mr Marreiros said that it would be possible to repair the damaged mosaic.

Another committee member, Kong Mei Fan, also called on the government to keep the mural for its "historic value."

Alexis Tam pledged to take all views into account when making the final decision. He recalled that there have been at least 15 briefing sessions on the Hotel Estoril project.

"We will hear architect Siza Vieira's opinions in October and we will then ponder his opinions and those of other sectors of society," he told reporters, adding that the government will need to listen to opinions on technical matters, including from experts within the Civil Engineering Laboratory.

The abandoned Hotel Estoril will be revamped and turned into a youth recreation and art center. The new facilities will include various performance venues for the conservatory and for drama and dance theatre schools, as well as rehearsal spaces, an indoor swimming pool, a youth information service station, and a parking lot.

TAM HIGHLIGHTS NEW OPTION FOR SWIMMING POOL

THE SECRETARY for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, has hinted that Hotel Estoril's adjacent swimming pool may be too badly damaged to warrant reparation. He suggested that the best option would be to instead build an entirely new pool. "We have gathered different opinions on the subject and we know that people have a lot of memories of this swimming pool, but I think it would be better to build a new one so that Macau people could

take full advantage of it (...) This one can no longer host competitions," he explained. The government's plans for the abandoned Hotel Estoril include turning the adjacent swimming pool into an indoor heated pool. On Friday, Mr Tam added that the government is considering building a ceiling that could be removed during the summer months. "It's more expensive, but I think it's worth it," he concluded.

St Paul's Ruins closed for renovation work

The Ruins of St Paul and the Museum of Sacred Art and Crypt will be closed between August 16 and September 15 while renovation works are underway, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has said in a statement. IC added that the façade of the Ruins of St Paul will remain open to the public.

Social worker registration system looms at year-end

The head of the Social Welfare Bureau, Iong Kong Io, has disclosed that the authorities are aiming to pass legislation in order to launch a registration regime for local social workers through the legislative assembly, hopefully at the end of the year. After the Act is passed, a specialized committee responsible for the system will be assembled over the course of the following year, at the earliest. Instead of the previously announced nine members, the commission will consist of a president, five representatives from the government, and five representatives from the related sector, bringing the number to 11 in total. Accredited social workers will be authorized to elect five representatives into the commission during its next tenure in 2019.

GT300: Couto strengthens leadership with sixth place in Fuji

André Couto, driving a Nissan in the Gainer Tanax team, reinforced his leading position in the Japanese GT300 Championship, by finishing sixth yesterday in the Fuji circuit race. Couto started the race in the 11th position of the grid. "It was a very good race and now I am only thinking about the next round at the end of August, in what will be the most difficult race of the year, because unlike regular championship races of 300 kilometers, this will be a one thousand kilometer (race)," explained Couto to the Lusa News Agency. The Macanese driver added that, "with a six-point lead, we must fight to win more points and try whenever possible to strengthen our leadership."

IACM intends to replace live poultry supply with frozen

The Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) will consult experts and the public on whether to replace the live poultry supply with frozen birds. A member of the IACM's administrative committee, Ung Sau Hong, told media on Saturday that from a retail perspective, replacing live poultry supplies with frozen is an inevitable trend, which has gained approval from the related departments. Ms Ung said that the public consultation would start with experts, scholars, the business sector and related governmental departments. Meanwhile, a consultation document for the general public is being drafted, which will include a discussion of the practices of neighboring regions. It is expected to be presented to the general public within the year.

CE promises explanation on gov't alleged land debt

THE Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On responded yesterday to a recent news report about the government's alleged land-plot-related debt resulting from a land exchange deal for the Iec Long Firecracker Factory heritage site. He said that the government "will definitely explain [the issue] to the public" after thoroughly investigating the matter.

Although he was serving as the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture at the time when the land exchange between the government and the firecracker factory's original landholder took place in 2001, Chui said that he neither had knowledge of nor had participated in the deal.

According to the report published by local Chinese monthly All About Macau, the government still owes six land-plot debts, covering a total of 30 hectares. The land exchange deal for the Iec Long Firecracker Factory alone involved an area



comprising 15.2 hectares that has been left unresolved to date, with 133,710 square meters still being owed to the landholders.

Chui informed the media that the government has received inquiries and taken notice of the new reports. He said that the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo Rosario, and the related department are just now learning about and investigating the mat-

ter; as for right now, he does not have any information.

The Secretary, Rosario, also responded to the media's inquiry last Thursday, stating that he is willing to brief the Legislative Assembly (AL) on the government's land debt situation and to discuss any issues. Rosario said that he learned the details of the case from media reports, but would shortly speak on the topic. **BY**

ExCo gives green light to Architecture, Engineering and Urban Planning committee

THE Executive Council (ExCo) has concluded discussions regarding the establishment of a committee for Architecture, Engineering and Urban Planning.

The committee will be in charge of the certification and registration of professionals in those sectors.

The committee will comprise 13 members, including a president, vice-president, and seven administrative representatives chosen from the public, while the remaining six will be selected from amongst private sector professionals.

The ExCo added that members of the committee will be required to possess recognized professional qualifications and have experience in architecture, engineering, or urban planning.

The committee will hold four annual plenary meetings, while special meetings can also be scheduled upon request from the committee's president.

The ExCo also gave the green light to another regulation, introducing a regime for professional qualifications in the fields of construction and urban planning.

The head of the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau's

Technical Support Division, Lei Hon Kei, informed a press conference on Friday that the number of construction and urban planning professionals registering each year will not be subject to any major changes once the new registration process comes into effect, according to a report by Radio Macau. He said that the number of professionals registering annually should remain between 100 and 200.

To register, candidates are required to hold a degree from a higher education institution, complete an internship and pass an admission exam. In addition, to register with the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT), candidates must hold a professional license issued by the Architecture, Engineering and Urban Planning Committee.

The existing 1,500 registered architects and engineers will need to update their professional certifications to ensure that they are in line with the new regulations.

The ExCo's spokesperson, Leong Heng Teng, said that the new professional certification and registration system is due to come into force by the end of this year. **CP**

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Analysis: Puerto Rico's public debt struggle

Danica Coto

PUERTO Rico is staggering under a USD72 billion public debt load that its governor has said the U.S. territory cannot pay and must restructure. The island has missed a debt payment and its worsening economic crisis has spooked investors who fear it's headed toward default, with no options for a bailout or bankruptcy declaration. Here's a brief explanation of how Puerto Rico accumulated so much debt, how its territorial status complicates matters and how it could emerge from a nearly decade-long economic slump.

A TROPICAL TERRITORY WITH SNOWBALLING DEBT

Puerto Rico became part of the U.S. in 1898 and the commonwealth gained limited political autonomy when the U.S. Congress approved its constitution in 1952. Some argue that Puerto Rico's convoluted political status has hastened to its economic decline, because it receives less federal funding than U.S. states and must get congressional approval for certain actions as it tries to manage its debt. Coffee and sugar once fueled its economy. As agriculture diminished Puerto Rico got an economic boost from federal tax incentives that lured manufacturers, especially pharmaceutical companies, from the U.S. mainland. Congress phased out those incentives by 2006. Puerto Rico's economy then fell into a tailspin that only worsened after the wider U.S. economy nearly collapsed in 2008. Government spending continued unchecked as borrowing covered increasing deficits. Puerto Ricans, as U.S. citizens, can move freely to the U.S. mainland, and about a third of all people born on the island now live there, leaving behind a withered tax base.



A homeless man stands in front of a closed down business in Puerta de Tierra in the outskirts of Old San Juan, Puerto Rico

BANKRUPTCY IS NOT AN OPTION

Puerto Rico's debt has now tripled in just 15 years. Like all U.S. states and territories, it cannot declare bankruptcy under federal law; however, mainland municipalities and their public utilities can. Puerto Rico's public utilities are heavily indebted and Alejandro Garcia Padilla's administration is pushing for their right for to file for bankruptcy. The proposal has no support from Republicans in control of Congress, which must sign off. Garcia signed a debt-restructuring law last year, but a federal judge ruled it unconstitutional after two major U.S. companies representing bondholders sued.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

The White House says a federal bailout is not under consideration. Commonwealth officials say serious negotiations with creditors could begin once a five-year fiscal

reform plan is submitted by Aug. 30. Meanwhile, Puerto Rico's government could face lawsuits if it continues missing debt payments. The island's Public Finance Corporation already missed a \$58 million bond payment this month, its first ever. The government warns that its general fund could run out of money by November. Statehood supporters say the economic crisis shows why Puerto Rico must become the 51st U.S. state; independence proponents say it supports their cause. Economists say Puerto Rico must boost its tourism sector and modernize its infrastructure. Puerto Rican leaders say if the territory could be exempted from the Jones Act of 1920 — which mandates that only ships owned, built and operated in a U.S. state can carry cargo to and from the island — it would gain maritime jobs, reduce its debt and lower its cost of goods, especially oil. **AP**

Prada sales miss estimates as China luxury slump persists

Thomas Mulier

PRAMA SpA reported first-half revenue that missed analysts' estimates as demand for its handbags and wallets in Hong Kong and Macau continued to wane.

Sales rose 4 percent to 1.82 billion euros (USD2 billion), the Milan-based luxury goods maker said Friday in a statement. Analysts predicted 1.87 billion euros, based on the median of nine estimates compiled by Bloomberg.

The Asia-Pacific region, Prada's most important market, showed a "similar negative trend" to the first quarter, when Greater China sales fell 19 percent excluding currency effects, Prada said. Revenue in its wholesale business dropped 14 percent as Prada has trimmed its network of distributors. The company is also opening fewer stores and introducing more bags priced between 1,000 euros and 1,200 euros as it attempts to reignite demand amid a clampdown on extravagance in China.

Sales were "worse than feared," said Luca Solca, an analyst at Exane BNP Paribas. The company's efforts to broaden its focus beyond high-priced products should lead to improvements in the second half, he said. "We expect to hear less and less bad news from Prada."

The stock has dropped 30 percent in the past year, compared with a 52 percent gain in LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE, the world's largest maker of luxury goods. **Bloomberg**



corporate bits

LARGEST INTERNATIONAL MAIN EVENT EVER HELD IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Asia Pacific Poker Tour had claimed that APPT Manila Season 9 (July 30 - August 9) would be one of the biggest poker festivals the country's ever seen.

On Friday evening, that claim became official as the Main Event's finally tally came in at 585 entrants - making it the largest international Main Event field held in the Philippines.

The Top 72 finishers will cash for a share of the ₱25,535,250 (USD 558,000) prize pool with the winner taking home ₱6,016,250 (USD 131,000) which includes a HKD100,000 entry to the 2015 ACOP Main Event in November.

"This is going to change the way people perceive poker in



the Philippines," said Gerardo 'Hill' Alim, the PokerStars LIVE Manila Poker Room Manager. "I'm blown away by

the turnout in the Main Event which was truly international with 41 countries represented."

THE VENETIAN HOSTS MASTERS IN PAINTING WATERCOLORS EXHIBITION

The Masters in Painting exhibition officially opened on Friday. To mark the occasion, organizers invited VIP guests, artists and government officials to an art forum, press conference and an official opening ceremony. With The Venetian hosting the exhibition series for the fourth consecutive year, the exhibition once again showcases a range of masterpieces from China and Macau's leading artists. The Masters in Painting - Contemporary Watercolors exhibition runs through Aug. 15, 2015, at The Venetian Macao's Florence Ballroom and is open to the public. Admission is free.

The exhibition this year showcases 81 watercolors by 39 renowned artists from mainland China and Macau.



The various works on display feature landscapes, personalities, flowers and animals. Participating artists from mainland China include Liu Dawei,

chairman of the China Artists Association, Wu Changjiang, Li Xiaolin, Zhao Yunlong, Tian Haipeng, Jiang Zhihan and Ding Sizhong. Macau artists whose works are also on display at the exhibition include Lai Ieng, president of Macau Artist Society, Poon Kam Ling and Ng Wai Kin.

"The Masters in Painting exhibition series provides an excellent opportunity to foster cultural exchange between mainland China and Macau," said Dave Horton, global chief marketing officer, Las Vegas Sands Corp. and Sands China Ltd. "We hope locals and tourists can make good use of this unique chance to admire this culturally enriched Masters in Painting - Contemporary Watercolors" exhibition

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Fully Furnished 3bedrooms apartment fully finished apartment in the Heart of Taipa.

Good size kitchen with oven.

Within Minutes of Cafes, shops, banks, restaurants and supermarkets.

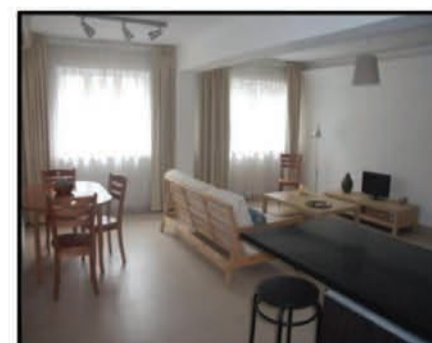


Treasure Garden Unit K Taipa

(Ref: 15070516)
1,728sq. ft. HKD 19,000

Fully furnished 4 bedrooms apartment and 3 bathrooms. Spacious and bright with balcony looking towards the Amizade Bridge.

Convenient location in the heart of Taipa Town. Viewing by appointment. Car Park available at additional rental.



Va Fu, Old Taipa Village Taipa

(Ref: 15050511)
800sq. ft. HKD 12,500

Spacious and bright furnished apartment. This apartment has one bedroom with free standing storage, one modern bathroom and one small closed balcony for laundry. Open plan living/dining area. Very centrally located, within minutes of cafes, shops, banks, restaurants and supermarkets. Bus stop across the road. Fifteen minute walk from Cotai area. children's play

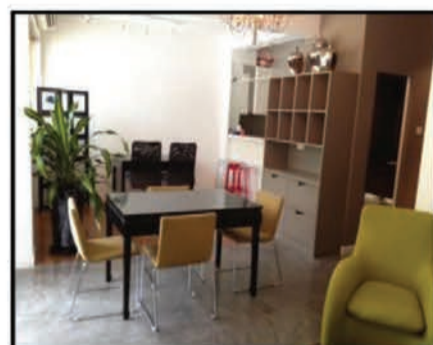
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Roof Top Investment Apartment Macau

(Ref: 15055441)
799sq. ft. HKD 4.99M
Rate: HKD 6,250ft.

Renovated 5 years ago. Modern open plan kitchen. Good size double bedroom on main floor. Separate bathroom on main floor. Wooden staircase to upper floor (open area: good for bedroom, office, studio or entertainment area). Great size private terrace. Viewings over looking Government Offices. Rare chance to buy a view. Viewings by appointment only.



Designer Apartment Central

(Ref: 14105421)
849sq. ft. HKD 5.033M
Rate: HKD 5,929ft.

Overlooking Macau's Icon St Pauls Cathedral. One of the few views not to be built out. Second Floor walk up. Renovated 5 years ago HKD480,000 spent. All new water pipes / electrics / air con's / double glaze windows. Only two apartments per floor. Balcony overlooking St Pauls. Open plan modern built in kitchen. Large dining / living area, Shower room. One bedroom with built wardrobes.

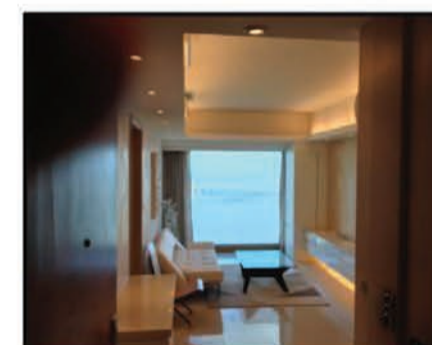


Old Taipa Village Taipa

(Ref: 15035434)
1,000sq. ft. HKD 6.5M
Rate: HKD 6,500ft.

Located near Our Lady of Carmel Church. 2nd Floor of Walk Up building. 2 Double bedrooms. 1 Shower room. 1.5 bathrooms.

Open plan living / dining area. Small balcony off living room. Fitted kitchen with small eating area adjacent.



One Central, Tower 7 Macau

(Ref: 14115427)
1,176sq. ft. HKD 15.53M
Rate: HKD 13,200ft.

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2 Bedrooms & 2 bathrooms. Built in storage space. Currently tenanted, can remain as investment or become a home.



Hellene Gardens 3 Bedroom Apartment & Car Park

(Ref: 15055437)
1,663sq. ft. HKD 8.8M
Rate: HKD 5,292sq ft

Property Features & Benefits. Lovely renovated apartment for sale in Bauhinia Court. Completely renovated in 2011, this apartment needs no further work. Bright kitchen with views over the swimming pool and further onto Hac Sa Beach. Fitted white/stainless steel cabinets, grey speckled Corian worktop and black gloss tile splashback gives the kitchen a modern high tech feel.

Office: (853) 2835 2699

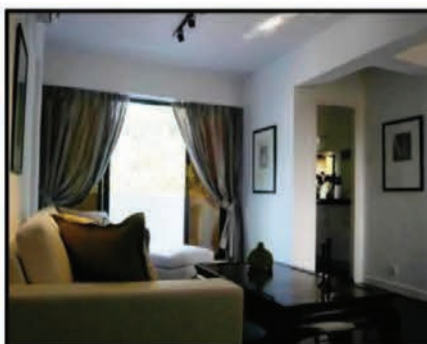


Vila Bela Macau

(Ref: 15055442)
1,978 sq. ft. HKD 16M
Rate: HKD 8,088sq ft

Situated in Macau on the quiet secluded street of Praia Grande. Stunning views across the tree lined road to the Sai Wan bridge. An exclusive property; 5 floors serviced by one lift, two apartments per floor. Renovated in 2000, with one design change making one bedroom larger by closing one bathroom and extending the bedroom. The apartment now has four double bedrooms, two bathrooms, built in cabinets in the master & another double bedroom.

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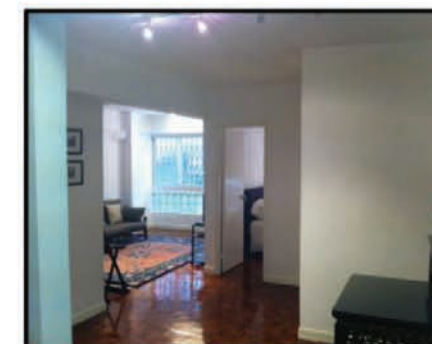


Coloane Village – Investment Property

(Ref: 14105422)
597sq. ft. HKD 5.671M
Rate: HKD 9,500ft.

Located in the quiet village of Coloane. Renovated 3 years ago this apartment needs no further investment. 2 bedrooms; a double & single size.

Shower room with built in cabinets. Fully fitted kitchen. Open views. Close to Coloane bus stop, village square, cafes and post office.



1A, Jou Fai Kuok Macau

(Ref: 15075447)
627sq. ft. HKD 4.9M
Rate: HKD7,815sq ft

One bedroom apartment in Heritage Area of Macau. A five minute from the Ruins of St Pauls. Renovated 3 years ago. Good size master bedroom with built in wardrobes. Modern shower room with built in under counter cabinet. Well equipped kitchen. S shaped living / dining area

Contact the property Consultants today.

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ANGOLA

Government extends diamond mining concession area

THE concession area awarded by the Angolan government to mining company Sociedade Mineira do Lulo to mine alluvial diamonds has been "significantly extended" to 1,500 square kilometers, the Lucapa Diamond Company said last week.

In a statement, the Australian company said the information had been provided by the Ministry of Geology and Mines, and that the previous Lulo concession area, valid for a period of 35 years, was 218 square kilometers.

The Lucapa Diamond Company also said the extended operation area is now half of the entire Lulo alluvium concession, in the Angolan province of Lunda Norte.

"Lucapa and its partners were granted [an additional concession by the Angolan government] at no additional cost," said the same statement, and the Australian company expects "positive results" from this extension.

The Lucapa Diamond Company's partners in this project are Angolan companies Endiama and private group Rosas & Pétalas.

The Lulo concession lies 150 kilometers from the Catoca diamond mine, which has the largest kimberlite in Angola and the fourth largest in the world, and both are located in the same geological area. **MDT/Macauhub**

IMF lowers growth forecast for Mozambique's economy to 7 pct

THE International Monetary Fund (IMF) projects that the Mozambican economy may grow up to 7 percent in 2015, a downward revision of half a percentage point compared with previous forecasts, according to a report published last week in Washington.

One of the main reasons for the downward review is the effect of floods earlier this year, although the negative impact of bad weather on agricultural production was less severe than anticipated.

The IMF said that despite the considerable fiscal adjustment, growth was expected to remain strong, with the expansion of the economy bolstered by dynamism in the areas of transport, communications and services.

The IMF recommended fiscal adjustment, greater



flexibility of the exchange rate and robust liquidity management to preserve macroeconomic stability and for the country to continue to attract foreign investment.

The aim is to support growth in the oil and gas sectors in which investments of up to USD100

billion are expected over the next decade.

According to the IMF, it expects a slowdown in expansion of mining production due to lower international prices of raw materials, and in the mid-term economic growth should remain between 7.5 percent and 8 percent, supported

by natural gas.

Despite the depreciation of the metical in the first quarter of this year, the IMF expects a moderate acceleration of inflation due to rapid recovery from the floods, low international prices and more rigorous financial policies throughout the year. **MDT/Macauhub**

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FT: What if Mao still ran things?

WITH the Chinese economy slowing and the stock market bubble bursting, a Financial Times article is highlighting research by a group of prominent economists that says a return to Maoist policies could yield 4-5% annual GDP growth.

According to yesterday's feature by Jamil Anderlini in Beijing, Chinese policymakers should not be too quick to rule out return to the collectivist totalitarianism of Maoist economics.

In a paper, four economists, based at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Princeton, Yale and Sciences Po in Paris, have examined productivity and growth rates in China at the height of the Maoist period and extrapolated those to predict how China would grow between now and 2050 had the country returned to those policies.

They concluded that the abolition of the private sec-



tor in China and the return to a command economy would yield an annual average GDP growth rate of 4 to 5 per cent between now and 2050, the FT piece stated.

That was only about a percentage point less than the average growth rate they predict China will achieve if it continues with market-based

reforms that began in the late 1970s and are credited with lifting hundreds of millions out of poverty in only a few decades.

"Our model is essentially an accounting exercise that allows us to uncover the key factors of growth in China during and after the Mao era," the exposé quoted Aleh Tsy-

vinski, a professor of economics at Yale and co-author of the report, as saying. "The main point of our findings is that, contrary to common misconceptions, productivity growth under Mao, particularly in the non-agricultural sector, was actually pretty good."

Assuming a continuation of current policies, the paper predicts the Chinese economy will expand by 7-8 per cent for the next 10 years or so, with growth slowing to 5.2 per cent on average between 2024 and 2036 and then a rate of just 3.6 per cent between 2036 and 2050.

That is actually slower than the growth rate of 3.9 per cent it predicts between 2036 and 2050 if China were to return to Maoist policies introduced in the aftermath of the disastrous Great Leap Forward, in which between 30m and 40m died in a famine that was largely the result of economic mismanagement.

According to the newspaper,

the authors of the paper were focused only on economic factors and did not consider the impact of individual policies or the enormous social costs of Mao's "brutal" political movements and purges, which left many millions dead, ostracized or imprisoned in gulags.

In contrast to their findings on the Maoist economy, an earlier paper by the four co-authors, who are all ethnically Russian, entitled "Was Stalin necessary for Russia's economic development?" concluded Stalin's industrialization and collectivization policies were disastrous even in purely economic terms.

Chinese President Xi Jinping's hardening of authoritarian rule and penchant for Mao quotations has led some reform-minded officials to accuse him of seeking a return to the dark days of Maoist totalitarianism. But almost no one seriously expects him or his administration to abolish or significantly roll back market reforms that have helped make China a rising superpower and the world's largest economy in purchasing power terms.

CHINESE policymakers face mounting pressure to support economic growth after an unexpectedly large drop in exports last month and the steepest decline in producer prices in almost six years.

China's producer-price index fell 5.4 percent year on year in July, according to National Bureau of Statistics data released yesterday. The decline - the biggest since October 2009 - came on the heels of trade data Saturday that showed exports last month shrank 8.3 percent from a year earlier, compared with an estimated decline of 1.5 percent.

The data indicate weak demand for Chinese factory products both at home and abroad and suggest that interest-rate cuts and efforts to stabilize local government finances have yet to spark a recovery. The People's Bank of China has lowered interest rates four times since November to support an economy expected to grow this year at the slowest pace since 1990.

"The goal this year is to sustain growth, so policies will continue to stimulate demand," said Zhou Hao, an economist at Commerzbank AG in Singapore.

Maintaining an econo-

Weak demand for products adds to case for more stimulus



Workers assemble products at the Logitech International factory in Suzhou, Jiangsu province

mic expansion of about 7 percent poses a challenge because the financial sector can't be expected to surge in the second half like it did during the recent stock market boom, Liu Ligang and Louis Lam, analysts at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd., wrote in a note yesterday. Chinese stocks have lost almost USD4 trillion

in market value since their mid-June peak.

"Monetary policy will need to become more supportive," the analysts said. They forecast another interest rate reduction this quarter, as well as a cut of 50 basis points to the portion of deposits that lenders must hold in reserve.

Also weighing on growth prospects is a yuan

that has maintained its strength against the U.S. dollar even as other major currencies depreciate. China's exports to the European Union fell 2.5 percent year on year in the first seven months of 2015, while shipments to Japan dropped 10.5 percent. One bright spot was exports to the U.S., which expanded 9.3 percent.

The slump in exports

"compounds downward pressure on China's economy and threatens to bring exchange-rate depreciation onto the table as a tool to restore competitiveness," Tom Orlik, chief Asia economist at Bloomberg Intelligence, wrote in a research note Saturday.

The PBOC has held a vice-like grip on the yuan, allowing it little

movement in the onshore market. The currency's closing levels in Shanghai last week matched the tightest range recorded since a fixed exchange rate ended a decade ago.

The central bank said in its quarterly monetary policy report Friday that it would let the market play a bigger role in setting exchange rates while keeping them "at a reasonable equilibrium level."

The government is meanwhile stepping up efforts to spur growth. China plans to issue at least 1 trillion yuan (\$161 billion) in bonds to fund construction projects, people familiar with the matter said Aug. 4. Authorities are also expanding policy banks' lending capacity.

Factory-gate prices of excavated oil and natural gas dropped 34.6 percent in July, while those of ferrous metal fell 20.1 percent, according to NBS. Non-food consumer prices rose 1.1 percent year on year, down from 1.2 percent in June.

"Monetary policies will not change with the price of individual commodities, but will observe the general price trends," the central bank said in its policy report.

Bloomberg

Louise Watt, Beijing

Typhoon Soudelor weakens after leaving 22 dead, missing

A typhoon that lashed Taiwan dumped heavy rain and winds on the Chinese mainland yesterday, leaving a total of 22 people dead or missing, collapsing homes and trees and cutting power to more than a million homes.

Typhoon Soudelor made landfall in China's Fujian province late Saturday night and was downgraded into a tropical storm as it moved across the region.

Rains from the typhoon triggered mudslides in mountainous Pingyang county in Zhejiang province, north of Fujian, killing nine people and leaving three others missing, the county government said.

The Fujian Civil Affairs Department said that the storm collapsed 36 houses and damaged 281 others. Authorities had evacuated more than 370,000 people and ordered around 32,000 boats back to port before the typhoon struck land.

State broadcaster showed people wading in knee-deep water in the provincial capital of Fuzhou and said that some streets were submerged under 80 centimeters.

In Taiwan, where the typhoon made landfall Satur-



Tourists walk in the rain on the Duanqiao bridge in the West Lake scenic spot in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province

day, the National Fire Agency said five people died, five were missing, and a further 185 were injured. The dead or missing included an 8-year-old girl, her twin sister and their mother who were swept out to sea, a firefighter who was killed while another was injured after being hit by a drunken driver as they attempted to move a fallen tree.

The storm downed trees, traffic lights and power lines on the island, causing more than 4 million households to lose electricity. More than 500 flights were canceled or delayed.

In Fujian, strong winds caused power outages to more than 1.41 million households before the storm made landfall, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Three airports were closed and more than 530 flights canceled, while more than 7,000 soldiers and police were on standby, provincial authorities said. AP

Lawyer taken away after supporting other colleagues

A Chinese lawyer who spoke up on behalf of rights lawyers persecuted by authorities was himself taken away by police in handcuffs, his wife said Friday.

Police came just before midnight Thursday and pried open locks on the door of Yu Wensheng's Beijing apartment and stormed in, his wife Xu Yan said. The officers took Yu away in handcuffs and confiscated his computer, flash drives and other digital storage units, Xu said.

Beijing police did not respond to a faxed request seeking confirmation.

Xu said her husband was summoned on suspicion of causing troubles, although he was yet to be formally detained.

Beijing has detained about two dozen rights lawyers and civil activists since early July, accusing them of being part of a criminal gang that sabotaged China's legal system. Cri-



Chinese lawyer Yu Wensheng

tics say the lawyers are being punished for their insistence that the law be followed faithfully and the government held accountable. The Hong Kong-based China Human Rights Lawyers Concern Group said Friday that 16 lawyers and legal workers remain in detention and 15 of them have been denied access to legal counsel for the past month.

On Friday, authorities informed two lawyers representing prominent rights lawyer Wang Yu that she cou-

ld not meet her legal counsel because her case involves national security or terrorism and that meetings with them could obstruct the police investigation or run the risk of leaking state secrets, said Wen Donghai, one of the lawyers.

Wang was taken away from her home on July 9. Her husband, Bao Longjun, also has been detained, although authorities have yet to say what charges he faces.

Hundreds of lawyers across the country have been told not to speak

up for those in police custody, but Yu ignored the warnings and spoke to foreign media, including The Associated Press.

The crackdown on lawyers is "to intimidate others, so that they don't stand up and they don't fight for democracy and human rights," Yu said in a late-July interview with the AP.

"Their crackdown can work temporarily, but it won't last long. Right now, there are lawyers that are fighting back, they keep litigating and making statements."

In the interview, Yu blasted China's claim to rule of law as a hollow slogan. Yu also wrote an open letter addressed to the top national offices, urging them to investigate the Public Security Ministry and saying that police were "creating an atmosphere of terror in the country, flagrantly violating the criminal law, and conducting acts against humanity."

Yu's wife said the lawyer had been told by his minders not to voice support for the detained rights lawyers. AP

Inflation edges up to 1.6 percent in July



A woman walks past pickup trucks parked outside a luxury import car dealership in Beijing

CONSUMER inflation edged up to a still-low 1.6 percent year-on-year in July, government data showed yesterday, leaving room for Beijing to cut interest rates or take other steps to stimulate slowing economic growth.

The inflation rate rose from the previous month's 1.4 percent, driven by a jump in pork prices. The National Bureau of Statistics said that costs also rose for medical care, vegetables, household services, tobacco and pre-school education.

July's consumer price index was the highest so far in 2015.

The government aims to keep consumer inflation at around 3 percent this year.

Producer prices, measured as goods leave the factory, fell 5.4 percent from a year earlier, extending a long period of declines due to excess production capacity in many industries.

Forecasters say the economy grew by 7 percent or slightly below that in the three months ending in June, in line with the previous quarter's six-year low of 7 percent.

Growth has cooled as the ruling Communist Party tries to steer the economy to a more self-sustaining expansion based on domestic consumption instead of trade and investment. AP

SINGAPORE

City state turns 50, celebrates success amid challenges

Annabelle Liang, Singapore

SINGAPORE threw a big party yesterday for the 50th anniversary of independence and unrivaled economic success in a region struggling with poverty and political instability, even as the city-state began feeling the pinch of a midlife crisis.

As fighter jets screamed through the sky, nationalist songs blaring, leaders made speeches and people took advantage of free rides on trains and buses. While marveling at the island's leap from a poor colonial port to a wealthy metropolis, Singaporeans are also grappling with a growing resentment over political restrictions, an influx of foreign labor and rising cost of living.

"This is a milestone. Coming from an older generation that has seen Singapore through the early years of independence, I know it took hard work by our leaders to get here," said William Nathan, 70.

The weekend of celebrations culminated with fireworks after a military parade yesterday. The sense of unity and pride



A couple sits in front of the number 50 which represents the number of years since Singapore gained independence, in the financial district of Singapore

in Singapore's achievements was reinforced with a tribute video dedicated to its founder and longest serving leader, Lee Kuan Yew, who died in March at age 91, after running a virtually one-party state.

To Lee and his cohort of leaders, setting Singapore on the path of economic success meant putting in place tough policies to try to harmonize a racial mix of majority Chinese and mino-

rity Malays and Indians.

Lee, who was prime minister for more than three decades, had no tolerance for political dissent. Opposition figures were either defeated in elections or taken to court on charges of defamation until they were bankrupt. The country's laws prohibit bankrupts from contesting elections.

His son, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, is now steering

Singapore with similar restrictions, and is facing a general election expected to be held Sept. 12. The ruling People's Action Party, which holds 80 out of 87 Parliament seats, suffered its worst results in 2011 elections.

Most of the mainstream media are controlled by government-linked companies, and few independent news websites are wary of strict defamation laws that government leaders have often used to silence critics.

The Reporters Without Borders' 2015 World Press Freedom Index ranked Singapore 153rd of 180 countries, below Gambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The government's recent moves to take a teenage blogger to court and require popular news sites to obtain licenses were met with outrage from the online community. But there were no street protests — demonstrations in Singapore can only be held in a designated area, the 0.97-hectare Hong Lim Park. All other gatherings require police permit.

"Robbing Singaporeans of

freedom is like killing part of the nation's soul at any time. Is there a price on stealing a soul?" said senior research associate Bridget Welsh of the National Taiwan University's Center for East Asia Democratic Studies.

"Singaporeans would have made more progress if there had been more freedom, more ideas, more voices to address the country's challenges," she said.

Today, Singapore is among the top five most expensive cities in the world.

An unpopular government policy paper in 2013 predicted that foreigners will make up nearly half of the population of 6.5-6.9 million by 2030 to offset low birth rates and support an aging population. It triggered a rare protest of more than 2,000 against foreign labor.

"We want the government to know that we are not happy, and you can't push everything down our throats. Peaceful protests are a legal platform for Singaporeans to voice out," said organizer Gilbert Goh, who has since held several smaller rallies. AP

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JAPAN

Calls to abolish nukes on Nagasaki bombing 70th anniversary

Eugene Hoshiko, Nagasaki

THE city of Nagasaki marked the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing yesterday with calls to abolish nuclear weapons and halt the Japanese government's push to loosen restrictions on what its military can do.

With Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in the audience, a representative of Nagasaki bomb survivors told an annual ceremony that security legislation introduced by Abe's government goes against the wishes of the survivors and "will lead to war."

"We cannot accept this," 86-year-old Sumiteru Taniguchi said, after describing in graphic detail his traumatic injuries and how others died in the Aug. 9, 1945, attack on Nagasaki.

Representatives from 75 countries, including U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy, were among those gathered under a tall white canopy to shade them from the sun on a 31-degree-Celsius morning at Nagasaki Peace Park.

As a bell tolled, they observed a minute of silence at 11:02 a.m., the time when the

a U.S. B-29 plane dropped the atomic bomb, killing more than 70,000 people and helping to prompt Japan's World War II surrender. The first atomic bomb in Hiroshima three days earlier killed an estimated 140,000.

Abe's security bills, which he says are needed to increase Japan's deterrence capabilities in the face of growing threats in the region, have run into stiff public opposition. The legislation would ease constitutional limits that restrict the military to self-defense, allowing Japanese forces to defend allies in limited circumstances.

Nagasaki Mayor Tomihisa Taue, addressing the same ceremony, noted the "widespread unease" about the legislation, which has passed the lower house of parliament and is now before the upper house.

"I urge the government of Japan to listen to these voices of unease and concern," Taue said.

A message from U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon echoed calls by Taue and others to abolish nuclear weapons.

"I wholeheartedly join you in sounding a global rallying cry:

No more Nagasakis. No more Hiroshimas," Ban said in a message read by Kim Won-soo, the acting U.N. high representative for disarmament affairs.

Abe, in brief remarks, said that Japan, as the only country to experience nuclear attacks, would seek to play a leading role in realizing a world without such weapons. **AP**



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe holds a wreath during a ceremony to mark the 70th anniversary of the Nagasaki atomic bombing in Nagasaki

By the numbers: The atomic bombing of Nagasaki

NAGASAKI yesterday marked the 70th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing on Aug. 9, 1945, three days after the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II. Here's a look, by the numbers, at that day 70 years ago in Nagasaki:

240,000: Population of Nagasaki before the bombing.

74,000: Estimated death toll including those who died from radiation-related injuries and illness through Dec. 31, 1945.

435,000: Population of Nagasaki today.

9,600: Height in meters from which a B-29 dropped the "Fat Man" bomb.

500: Height in meters at which it exploded above a tennis court, about 30 seconds after it was dropped.

10,000: Approximate weight in pounds (about 4.5 metric tons) of the "Fat Man" bomb.

16,000: Height in meters of the mushroom cloud in Nagasaki.

70: Percent of Nagasaki that was destroyed. 20: Minutes after the bomb exploded that a "black rain" of highly radioactive particles started falling.

4 to 5: How many times higher the incidence of leukemia is among those exposed to radiation in Hiroshima or Nagasaki than in the general population.

8,500: Still-living people diagnosed with "atomic bomb syndrome," or illnesses definitively linked to radiation exposure in Hiroshima or Nagasaki, out of 170,000 who have developed cancers, liver and blood disorders and other health problems. **AP**

NORTH KOREA

Pyongyang pushes clocks back as a snub to Japan

Hyung-jin Kim, Seoul

NORTH Korea has no time for Japan. Not anymore, at least.

The country will establish its own time zone this week by pulling back by 30 minutes its current standard time, a legacy of the Japanese colonial rule.

The new time zone will take effect Aug. 15 — the 70th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japanese rule at the end of World War II, North Korea's official Central News Agency said Friday. The establishment of "Pyongyang time" will root out that legacy, it said.

Local time in North and South Korea and Japan is the same — nine hou-



A North Korean waitress walks through a door under a clock with Chinese emblems at a restaurant in Rason city

rs ahead of GMT. It was set during Japan's rule over what was single Korea from 1910 to 1945.

"The wicked Japanese imperialists committed

such unpardonable crimes as depriving Korea of even its standard time while mercilessly trampling down its land with 5,000-year-long history

and culture and pursuing the unheard-of policy of obliterating the Korean nation," the KCNA dispatch said.

The North's move appears to be aimed at bolstering the leadership of young leader Kim Jong Un with anti-Japan, nationalistic sentiments, said Yang Moo-jin, a professor at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul. Kim took power upon the death of his dictator father, Kim Jong Il, in late 2011.

Many Koreans, especially the elderly, on both sides of the border still harbor deep resentment against Japan over its colonial occupation. Hundreds of thousands of

Koreans were forced to fight as front-line soldiers, work in slave-labor conditions or serve as prostitutes in brothels operated by the Japanese military during the war.

South Korea says it uses the same time zone as Japan because it's more practical and conforms to international practice.

Seoul's Unification Ministry said Friday that the North's action could bring minor disruption at a jointly-run industrial park at the North Korean border city of Kaesong and other inter-Korean affairs. Spokesman Jeong Joon-Hee said the North's new time zone could also hamper efforts to narrow widening differences be-

tween the Koreans.

Most time zones in the world differ in increments of an hour and only a small number of countries like India, Iran and Myanmar use zones that are offset by a half-hour. Nepal is offset by 45 minutes.

The time zone that North Korea plans to use is what a single Korea adopted in 1908, though the peninsula came under the same Japanese zone in 1912, two years after Tokyo's colonial occupation began. After the liberation, North Korea has maintained the current time zone, while South Korea had briefly used the old zone from 1954 to 1961. **AP**

USA

March, moment of silence mark anniversary in Ferguson

Jim Salter and Jim Suhr, Ferguson

ONE year after the shooting that cast greater scrutiny on how police in the United States interact with black communities, the death of 18-year-old Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, was being marked with a somber march and a moment of silence.

The march late yesterday morning was set to begin at the site where Brown, who was black and unarmed, was fatally shot by Ferguson officer Darren Wilson on Aug. 9, 2014. A grand jury and the U.S. Department of Justice declined to prosecute Wilson, who resigned in November, but the shooting touched off a national "Black Lives Matter" movement.

After the moment of silence, a service commemorating the anniversary was planned at a Ferguson church. The events are among several this weekend in Ferguson and nearby St. Louis.

Brown's father, Michael Brown Sr., led a parade involving several hundred people



Michael Brown Sr. along with family and friends stop to pray at a memorial to Brown's son before taking part in a parade in his son's honor in Ferguson

on Saturday. Brown said his family is still grieving, but he believes his son's legacy can be seen in the increased awareness of police shootings, and renewed skepticism when officers describe their side of events leading up to those shootings.

Some people who marched in the Saturday parade wore T-shirts with likenesses of Brown or messages such as "Please stop killing us" or "Hands up! Don't shoot!" which became a rallying cry during the sometimes-violent protests that followed the shooting a year ago. Some carried signs or wore shirts commemorating others who have been killed in confrontations with police.

But the focus of the weekend is largely on Brown, who graduated from high school weeks before the shooting and planned to go to trade school to study to become a heating and air conditioning technician.

Relatives and friends described Brown as a quiet, gentle giant who stood around 190 centimeters and weighed 136

kilograms. But police said Brown stole items from a convenience store and shoved the owner who tried to stop him on the morning of Aug. 9, 2014. Moments later, he and a friend were walking on Canfield Drive when Wilson, who is white, told them to move to the sidewalk.

That led to a confrontation inside Wilson's police car. It spilled outside, and Wilson claimed that Brown came at him, menacingly, leading to the fatal shooting. Some witnesses claimed Brown had his hands up in surrender.

The shooting led to protests, some violent, and the unrest escalated again in November when a St. Louis County grand jury determined that Wilson did nothing wrong. He resigned days later. The November riots included fires that burned more than a dozen businesses.

The Justice Department reached the same conclusion in March, clearing Wilson. But in a separate report, the Justice Department cited racial bias and profiling in policing as well as a profit-driven municipal court system that often targeted black residents, who make up about two-thirds of Ferguson's populace.

Ferguson's city manager, police chief and municipal judge resigned within days of that report. All three were white. The new judge, interim city manager and interim police chief are all black. AP

Daniel Estrin, Jerusalem

ISRAEL

ISRAEL intensified its crackdown on Jewish extremists yesterday, jailing two high-profile ultranationalist Israelis for six months without charge and arresting additional suspects in West Bank settlement outposts, security authorities said.

The crackdown comes after a deadly July 31 firebomb attack on a Palestinian home in the West Bank that killed an 18-month-old boy and severely wounded his parents and brother. The boy's father died of his wounds Saturday.

Authorities called the arson attack an act of "Jewish terrorism," and Israel's Security Cabinet approved the use of harsh measures to combat the trend, including administrative detention, which allows the holding of suspects for lengthy periods without charge. The measure has been mainly used against Palestinians suspected of involvement in militant groups, and rarely

Gov't cracks down on Jewish extremists with new arrests

against Israelis.

Meir Ettinger, the grandson of the late U.S.-born ultranationalist Rabbi Meir Kahane, and Eviatar Slonim, another Jewish extremist, were placed under administrative detention yesterday for their suspected involvement in an extremist Jewish organization, the office of Israel's Defense Minister said.

The two, who are in their early 20s, were arrested last week. Another suspected Jewish extremist, Mordechai Mayer, was placed under six-month administrative detention last week.

Israeli human rights activists who advocate on behalf of Palestinians, as well as lawyers for the Israeli suspects, criticized the use of administrative detention, portraying it as a draco-



Palestinians run for cover from tear gas fired by Israeli security forces during clashes that occurred after the funeral of Palestinian Saed Dawabsheh, 32, in the West Bank village of Duma near Nablus on Saturday

nian measure intended to appease an Israeli public shocked at the firebomb attack.

"It is carried out based on an administrative order only, without indictment or trial, and the detainee cannot defend himself against the allegations as the evidence is classified," a statement by human rights

group B'Tselem said.

"This measure is dangerous...for the entire legal system and for democracy," said Aharon Rozeh, a lawyer for Ettinger and Slonim, who said his clients were innocent.

Israel's Shin Bet security agency has accused Ettinger of leading an extremist Jewish mo-

vement responsible for encouraging attacks on Palestinian property and Christian holy sites, including an arson attack on a well-known church near the Sea of Galilee in northern Israel that marks the New Testament story of the miracle of the loaves and fish.

In late July, Israel arrested five young Israelis

in connection with the arson attack, including Mayer.

Israeli authorities also carried out arrest raids yesterday in two West Bank settlement outposts. Israeli police spokeswoman Luba Samri would not say whether the arrests were linked to the arson attack. The arrests, carried out by a nationalist crime unit, were connected to "a number of events that occurred recently" in the West Bank, she said.

Authorities said one of the raided outposts was Adei Ad. In January, Jewish settlers near Adei Ad threw stones at U.S. consular vehicles carrying American officials who were visiting the area.

Authorities would not name the other outpost raided, but Israeli media identified it as the Baladim outpost. Both outposts — small, isolated Jewish settlements built without government authorization — are located in an area known for its hardline settler population. AP

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Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50

Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65

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(Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

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VENUE: SIGNUM Living Store,

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ADMISSION: Free

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Offbeat

US LAWMAKER HOPED TO DISTRACT FROM AFFAIR WITH SMEAR

A state lawmaker had an email sent to his Republican supporters falsely claiming he had been caught having sex with a male prostitute, apparently believing such a smear campaign would help distract attention from an alleged extramarital affair between him and another legislator, a newspaper reported Friday.

The Detroit News obtained two recordings secretly made in May by a former aide of Todd Courser, a member of the Michigan House of Representatives. In the recordings, Courser asks the aide, Ben Graham, to email Republican activists and operatives from an anonymous account to create "a complete smear campaign" about him.

In the recordings, Courser tells Graham that he and state Rep. Cindy Gamrat, with whom he worked closely together, received identical text messages about their relationship that day from an unknown number. Courser wonders aloud whether someone had pictures, video or audio recordings of him and Gamrat.

Neither Courser, a married father of four, nor Gamrat, a married mother of three, directly confirmed or denied having a sexual relationship during the recorded conversations. But they also didn't dispute Graham's characterization of their relationship as an extramarital affair, the newspaper reported.

Courser said the email he wanted Graham to send would "inoculate the herd" — an apparent reference to his and Gamrat's supporters.

"It will make anything else that comes out after that — that isn't a video — mundane, tame by comparison," Courser told the aide.

Graham said when he refused to send the email, he was stripped of some of his duties and eventually fired in July.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:50	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Cândido de Oliveira 2015 Super Cup: Benfica - Sporting (Repeated)
1:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
1:45	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

6 Aug- 12 Aug



FANTASTIC FOUR

ROOM 1

2.00, 5.50, 7.45, 9.45 pm

Director: Josh Trank

Starring: Miles Teller, Kate Mara, Michael B. Jordan

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 100min

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:

NOBITA AND THE SPACE HEROES

ROOM 1

3.55 pm

Director: Yoshihiro Osugi

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 100min

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45 pm

Director: Christopher McQuarrie

Starring: Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg,

Rebecca Ferguson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 131min

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:

NOBITA AND THE SPACE HEROES

ROOM 3

2.30 pm

Director: Yoshihiro Osugi

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 100min

ANT-MAN

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 7.15 pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

TO THE FORE

ROOM 3

4.30, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Dante Lam

Starring: Eddie Peng, Siwon Choi

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

MACAU TOWER

30 Jul - 19 Aug

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

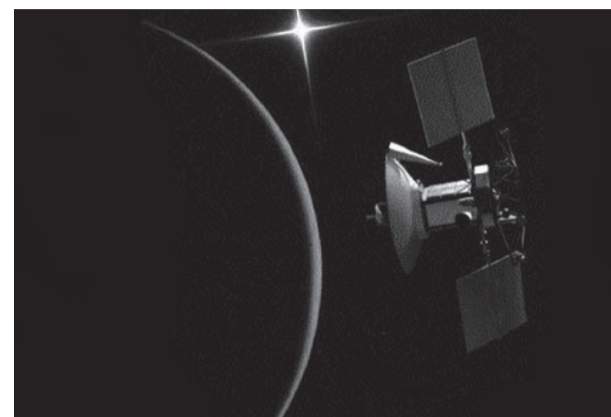
Director: Christopher McQuarrie

Starring: Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg,

Rebecca Ferguson

Language: English (Chinese)

this day in history



1990 MAGELLAN STARTS MAPPING VENUS

The Magellan spacecraft has arrived at the planet Venus after an epic 15-month journey from Earth.

The craft arrived just after 1730 BST (1630 GMT). Soon after, controllers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California instructed it to fire its solid-rocket motor for 83 seconds to slow it down into a long, looping orbit around Venus.

They then faced an agonising 30-minute wait while the craft went out of communication behind the planet.

Only when it emerged from the shadow of Venus was it clear that the manoeuvre — one of the most critical of the mission — had been successful.

The craft will spend several years making a pass over the planet every eight Earth months — just one day on Venus.

The result will be a detailed map of the planet described by Nasa as a "hell-hole". Scientists hope it will help answer the question of how our nearest neighbour, and the planet most like Earth, ended up uninhabitable.

Previous probes sent to Venus have revealed an environment as unlike that on Earth as it is possible to imagine.

The atmosphere on Venus is almost entirely made up of carbon dioxide. The yellowish clouds which shroud the planet's surface are partly sulphuric acid, and temperatures at the surface are hot enough to melt lead.

"In some ways Venus is very Earthlike, in others it is totally bizarre," said Jim Garvin, of Nasa. "We want to find out why."

Magellan can see surface details as small as 300 ft (91.5 meters) in diameter.

One of the questions scientists will be seeking to answer is whether Venus reached its surface temperatures of 480 degrees C as a result of global warming.

The findings could give an insight into how the greenhouse effect might develop on Earth.

Magellan was built on a shoestring budget and is made up of a combination of materials from other space projects. The radio dish comes from Voyager, and the central control system from the Galileo project.

The recycling of equipment from one project to the next is a growing trend in space exploration in an era of ever-tighter budgets.

Nasa has gone seriously over budget overhauling the space shuttles since the Challenger disaster in 1986. Magellan itself is Nasa's first attempt to explore deep space for 11 years.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Magellan spent four years mapping Venus, producing a detailed radar map of 99% of the planet. It found evidence of volcanic activity over about 85% of its surface.

One of the puzzles it raised for scientists was the fact that the highlands of the planet appeared abnormally bright, while lower elevations appeared dark.

Scientists now believe this is because the mountains on Venus are covered in condensed melted metal.

The metal, probably lead, is vaporised at lower levels by the incredibly high temperatures, then cools as it rises.

The metal then settles like frost on the planet's peaks to form a thin, highly reflective layer.

Magellan operated for four years before plunging to the surface of Venus in October 1994.

In a planned manoeuvre, scientists instructed the satellite to descend slowly into the atmosphere, where it eventually burnt up, sending data back to Earth as it did so.

The Magellan probe was one of Nasa's most successful interplanetary missions.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Money can bring out the best in you, and the worst. If patience is a virtue, then you'll have to be quite the honorable player to make it through this financial phase. Tap into your deepest wells.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Being practical is not as bad as you've always imagined. It's not fun or sexy but it does leave you feeling good at the end of the day. Compound interest isn't the only reason a penny saved is a penny earned.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Being short of money feels like a limitation but it's actually the opposite. You'll learn just what you're worth, and it has nothing to do with cash. Get ready to discover your hidden strengths.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Coming up with crazy ideas won't help you muddle through. For that, you want to stay in the safest, most familiar place. Keep your energy focused on the domestic front, not the financial front.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 The circles you travel in may change and your vanity may take a few dings, but living to tell the tale will eventually boost your status. Let that be your security blanket for the day.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Don't let yourself get caught in an unusual dinner spot, especially with someone you're not compatible with. Lack of funds is the perfect reason to stay in for the evening.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Don't count on your income to help you feel calm. For that, focus on your emotional attachments. Friendships and even casual companions can add harmony to your day.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You may like your steak rare but there's just too much heat in the kitchen for that, and all of it from friction. As long as what's being cooked isn't the books, settle for whatever your opponent dishes up.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 If being analytical about your finances is depressing you, then ignore it altogether. Focusing on smaller successes is just what you need to boost your morale and remind you, yes, you can do this.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Indulging isn't the only way to have fun, as you are finding out the hard way. Simple pleasures have plenty of bang for the buck, and don't forget about plain, old relaxation.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Sudden changes take some getting used to. Are you better off now than you were in the past? It's all relative, actually, and the comparisons may surprise you.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Plenty of people overeat in the face of financial stress, but do it with a twist. You can make a good dinner on a budget. In fact, it takes much more artistry and talent. Consider each bite a love letter to yourself.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

7x7 Sudoku grid for Easy level with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

7x7 Sudoku grid for Easy+ level with some numbers filled in.

Medium

7x7 Sudoku grid for Medium level with some numbers filled in.

Hard

7x7 Sudoku grid for Hard level with some numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

Weather forecast table for CHINA with cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

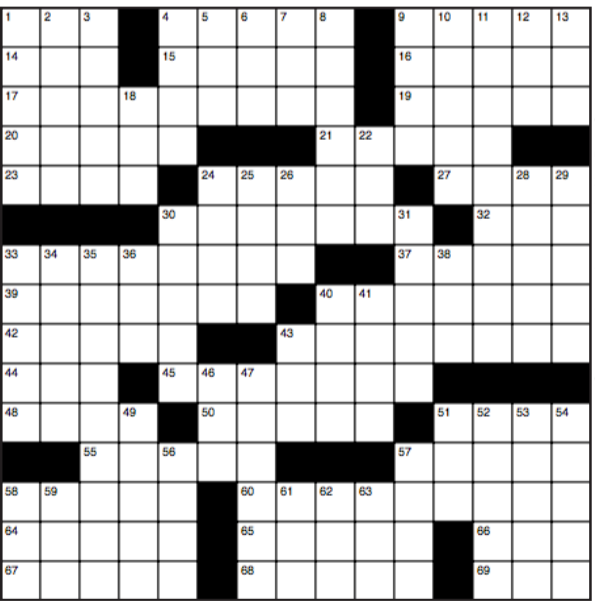
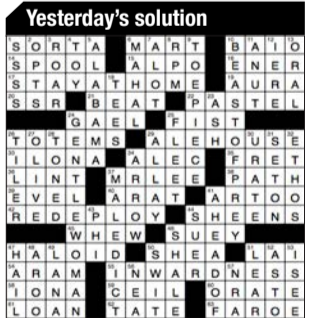
WORLD

Weather forecast table for WORLD with cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Cleaning implement; 4- Make amends; 9- Heavy stocking cap worn in Canada; 14- Televise; 15- Crazed; 16- Habituate; 17- Narrow escape; 19- Thick slices; 20- Tears; 21- Oohed and ...; 23- Mine finds; 24- Planet's path; 27- Mouse catcher; 30- Worker; 32- ... carte; 33- Impale; 37- Horse opera; 39- Exceed; 40- Stalagmite makeup; 42- Separated; 43- Tramway vehicle; 44- Yank's foe; 45- Absence of sound; 48- Go after; 50- Musical sounds; 51- Pond organism; 55- Drawing room; 57- Australia's ... Rock; 58- Close-fitting hat for women; 60- Man of good breeding; 64- Take ... for the worse; 65- Rub out or remove from memory; 66- Citrus cooler; 67- Now you ...; 68- Renaissance fiddle; 69- Fresh;

DOWN: 1- Computer shortcut; 2- Former Houston footballer; 3- Lying flat; 4- Iowa State city; 5- Tic ... Dough; 6- ... roll; 7- Latin word meaning "nothing"; 8- Cream cake; 9- New Age musician John; 10- Still for rent; 11- Of the second degree; 12- Metro area; 13- Some MIT grads; 18- '60s campus gp.; 22- Dug in; 24- Clods; 25- Baseball stats; 26- Spar; 28- Prince Valiant's wife; 29- Kitchen gadget; 30- Atty.-to-be exams; 31- Esther of "Good Times"; 33- Romanov rulers; 34- Monetary unit of India; 35- Ballet pose; 36- "Car Talk" airer; 38- Whiz; 40- Bamboo stem; 41- Basics; 43- 100 yrs.; 46- Simpson trial judge; 47- Lengthier; 49- New Zealand evergreen tree; 51- Answer to a sea captain; 52- Geneva's lake; 53- Class; 54- Good ...; 56- Gave temporarily, holy period of 40 days; 57- A Baldwin brother; 58- Univ. aides; 59- Suffix with Capri; 61- Before, once; 62- Arrest; 63- Mao ...-tung



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Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
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Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
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EPL

10-man Chelsea held 2-2 by Swansea, Man United edges Spurs

Trevor Huggins, London

CHELSEA began its English Premier League title defense with a red card for goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois and a 2-2 draw at home to Swansea on a frustrating opening yesterday (Macau time) at Stamford Bridge.

Jose Mourinho's side twice had the lead, but paid the price for Courtois' rash challenge on Swansea striker Bafetimbi Gomis as the France international raced through on the counterattack.

Referee Michael Oliver had no hesitation in producing a straight red card and pointing to the spot, allowing Gomis to beat substitute keeper Asmir Begovic from the spot and make it 2-2.

Manchester United needed an own goal to beat Tottenham 1-0 in the day's early kickoff, while Claudio Ranieri's Leicester beat Sunderland 4-2, and Crystal Palace earned a controversial 3-1 win at Norwich.

There was no fairytale start to



Chelsea's Oscar, center, kicks the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Chelsea and Swansea City at Stamford Bridge stadium in London

Bournemouth's first ever season in the topflight, as the team slumped to a 1-0 defeat to Aston Villa at its 11,700-capacity seaside stadium.

Watford, promoted along with Bournemouth, was twice in front against Everton before having to settle for 2-2 at Goodison Park.

The biggest game of the day was saved for last, though, as

Chelsea came out for what was expected to be a routine victory in west London.

In a hectic spell midway through the first half, Oscar put the hosts ahead in the 23rd minute, Andre Ayew leveled in the 29th, and Chelsea's lead was restored with an own goal by Swansea defender Federico Fernandez.

However, everything changed within 10 minutes of the res-

tart, when Courtois felled Gomis as the France striker burst into the area on the break.

Gomis easily converted the penalty in the 55th, and had the ball in the back of the Blues' net in the 68th, but the strike was ruled out for offside.

Mourinho would not be drawn on the sending off, saying only, "after that, everything is different."

"We played very well in the first half, the game was under control and the players were playing with more and more confidence," he said. "To play 35 minutes with one player less in the first match of the season where the condition and the sharpness is not at the top is even more difficult."

Swansea coach Garry Monk was clearly delighted with his side.

"We were magnificent," he said. "Everyone contributed for 90 minutes - to come to a very difficult place, to an excellent side, and play the way we played, and have the chances that we had."

Chelsea was not the only side

that had to rely on an own goal.

At Old Trafford, Spurs defender Kyle Walker handed all three points to United by steering the ball into his own net in the 22nd minute as he tried to tackle United captain Wayne Rooney.

It was one of very few chances in a scrappy match, which Louis van Gaal's new-look United started with four preseason signings.

Sergio Romero was in goal after Van Gaal decided that Real Madrid target David de Gea was not in the right frame of mind to play. Fullback Matteo Darmain, along with midfielders Morgan Schneiderlin and Memphis Depay, all made convincing debuts, and Romero improved after some early signs of nerves.

Another of new United's new signings, midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger, replaced Michael Carrick on the hour.

"It was a very difficult game because you have seen two teams that want to press, so every player at the ball had a very small (amount of) time to play," Van Gaal said. **AP**

FLOYD Mayweather Jr. began promoting his final fight by doing what he does best.

Fending off every attack with defense that looks effortless.

The pound-for-pound king of boxing insisted Andre Berto is a worthy opponent for his grand farewell when they made a joint appearance in downtown Los Angeles, just over five weeks before they'll meet at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on Sept. 12.

"I don't know why, but I'm just training a lot harder for this fight," Mayweather said. "I just want to go out with a bang, I guess."

Mayweather also repeated his declaration that this is the last bout of his career, although he grinned broadly while saying it. Mayweather previously retired in 2008, but it barely lasted a year.

"They say they'll offer me a lot of money" to keep fighting, Mayweather said. "I have a lot of money. I'm OK. ... It's the end of my (Showtime) deal. I'm an old man now.

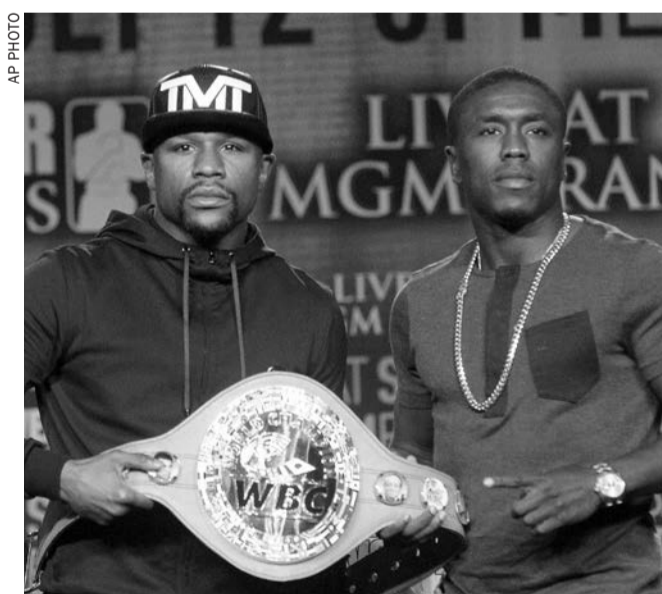
BOXING

Floyd Mayweather Jr defends choice of Berto as his final foe

I'm 38."

Three months after Mayweather (48-0, 26 KOs) dominated Manny Pacquiao in the most lucrative fight in boxing history, the welterweight champion was in a noticeably upbeat mood as he began the difficult business of promoting his next bout with Berto. The former 147-pound champion has lost three of his last six fights, including two losses to fighters who have already lost to Mayweather.

Mayweather acknowledged the backlash from his choice of Berto (30-3, 23 KOs), but cited the challenger's aggressive style and his own determination as reasons to buy the fight. Mayweather, who has knocked out one opponent in nine bouts since 2007, even promised an exciting fight to fans who still feel



Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, and Andre Berto pose at a news conference in Los Angeles

short-changed by his technical display against Pacquiao in May.

"With the way he comes, and with the way I'm going to come, if it's not a knockout, there's going to be some knockdowns," Mayweather said. "A lot.

And there's going to be blood."

Mayweather's last bout raised his profile outside boxing to new heights, but also exposed him to unprecedented widespread criticism, with his legal history of violence

against women spotlighted throughout the run-up to his win.

Contrasting sharply with the contemplative persona he employed in May, Mayweather was playful in his return to public appearances. He even commandeered a selfie stick to take a photo on the dais during the news conference.

Berto and Mayweather have been casual friends for several years, yet Berto didn't disagree with the assertion that Mayweather is a boring fighter. Berto saw the fan reaction to Mayweather's bloodless brilliance against Pacquiao, and the challenger promised to make Mayweather work harder.

"I know how people feel (after the Pacquiao fight), and it's my luck that I come right behind that," Berto said. "If I would

have paid that type of money, I probably would have felt some type of way, too."

Mayweather laughed off Berto's first verbal jabs.

"Well, he's fighting a boring fighter, but he's getting his biggest payday," Mayweather said.

Mayweather also defended his choice to put the fight on pay-per-view, asking an expected USD75 to watch in high definition. Mayweather Promotions CEO Leonard Ellerbe said that putting the fight on free CBS was "obviously something that we explored," but the promotion didn't have enough time to put together such a deal before Sept. 12.

The bout will complete Mayweather's six-fight contract with Showtime, and he has repeatedly said he will walk away afterward. Yet Mayweather will face many temptations to continue, including the chance to surpass Rocky Marciano's 49-0 record as the headliner in May at the opening of MGM Resorts' \$350 million arena on the Las Vegas Strip. **AP**

opinion

Views on China

William Pesek

CHINESE CONSUMERS PREFER CHINESE BRANDS

Akio Toyoda has China on his mind. On Tuesday, the same day he announced record earnings, the Toyota Motors president warned of a sharp slowdown in the world's biggest market, echoing concerns already aired by BMW.

But another development in China may spell even more trouble for global automakers: a USD21,700 Land Rover lookalike manufactured domestically. A sport utility vehicle bearing an uncanny resemblance to the Evoque model goes on sale this week at a third the sticker price of the original, and it's already racking up thousands of pre-orders.

Jaguar Land Rover's Ralf Speth has railed at the rise of China's "copy-and-paste" auto industry. But complaining is all the CEO and his peers can do as China continues churning out ever more clones of cars, electronics, appliances and clothes originally designed in other countries.

The prevailing opinion in boardrooms from New York to Frankfurt to Tokyo has long been that China, which is minting new millionaires at the fastest rate in history and creating a massive middle class, will be easy prey for established brands with expertise in hawking goods to higher-income consumers. The richer mainlanders get, multinational companies presumed, the more they will want Burberry in the closet, Rolex on the wrist and Lexus in the driveway.

What CEOs didn't anticipate is mainland Chinese consumers' penchant for labels saying "Made by China" (if not "Made in China"). As analyst Thomas Gatley of GaveKal Dragonomics argues in a new report, multinationals may already be losing Chinese consumers they thought were theirs for the taking. "There are now signs that local Chinese companies are capturing much of the gains from this new stage of consumer spending — a worrying development for multinationals counting on China growth," Gatley finds.

The all-important automobile market is emblematic of the trend. Many of China's nouveau riche aspire to own an SUV, which should be great news for the Toyota's, Daimler's and Ford's of the world. But in the early phases of China's SUV boom, the companies that flourished were foreign manufacturers with local joint ventures. Sales for those companies jumped more than 70 percent in 2013 alone. Shanghai Volkswagen's Tiguan, for example, remains the second-best-selling SUV on the mainland. Meanwhile, domestic companies are beginning to catch up. In the first half of 2015, sales of Chinese-branded SUVs rose roughly 30 percent versus 12 percent for foreign names. From January to June, six of China's 10 best-selling SUVs were domestic.

One can debate why mainland consumers are flocking to names like Great Wall Motors, JAC Motors, Chang'An Automobile Group and Landwind (maker of the Land Rover lookalike). Value? Familiarity? Nationalist instincts? There's probably no single answer — just as with the many Americans who only buy American-made cars.

"What's even more surprising," Gatley points out, "is that the domestic brands seem to have gained market share without cutting their margins to the bone in a ruinous zero-sum game." If corporate China has indeed cracked the code of offering the right mix of style, quality and price, multinational executives like Akio Toyoda are in for a bumpy decade.

Are there other sectors at such a tipping point? Recent sales figures from Japan's Shisedo and Anglo-Dutch Unilever bear out the findings of a July 1 Bain report that "local brands gained share over foreign competitors for the third year in a row." Last year, local brands gained share in 18 of the 26 market-access categories Bain studies, growing an average 10 percent versus 3 percent for foreign brands that gained ground in only eight categories.

The rapid inroads made in China by domestic smartphone makers like Xiaomi, for example, suggest danger ahead for international brands. There's a very real risk that the emergence of Chinese consumers will be more of a local story than a global one. Overseas companies that take them for granted do so at their own peril.

THE BUZZ BANGLADESH POLICE KILL 6 ALLEGED TIGER POACHERS IN GUNFIGHT

Police in Bangladesh have shot dead six suspected tiger poachers in the world's largest mangrove forest after a new survey found that the population of the big cats has dropped alarmingly.

Local police official Harendranath Sarker says authorities recovered the bodies of the suspects following a gunfight Sunday with a gang in the Sundarbans mangrove forest, home to critically

endangered Royal Bengal tigers.

The survey has found that the forest has only 106 tigers — down from 440 a decade ago. Sarker said they found the skins of three adult tigers and seized firearms from the suspects.

The 10,000-square-kilometer forest straddles Bangladesh and India, and is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

AUSTRALIA

Chinese dominate as high-spending Asian leisure visitors



THE Asian high-spender (HS) market has changed dramatically in recent years and is now being dominated by Chinese consumers, according to a new report released by Tourism Research Australia.

The study, quoted by Travel and World Tour, highlights that China's share of the total Asian high-spender leisure expenditure in Australia increased threefold between 2005 and 2013 and that Chinese high-spending leisure visitors have distinctive expenditure patterns.

Tourism Australia Managing Director John O'Sullivan said the report provides valuable insights into high-spending Asian leisure visitors.

"This latest research will

help inform marketing initiatives to meet this important visitor segment's needs and to grow demand from Asia, a strategic priority for Australia's Tourism 2020 strategy," he said.

The 'High-spending Asian leisure visitors' report uses data from the International Visitor Survey between 2005 and 2013 to compare ten Asian markets (China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Taiwan and Thailand) with five non-Asian markets (New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States of America, France and Germany) to reveal unique attributes of Asian high-spenders.

Chinese tourists spend more when shopping for sou-

venirs than any other country surveyed, the report states.

Another distinctive characteristic of Chinese high-spenders is that nearly half (46%) of them arrived in Australia as part of a travel package and participated in a group tour. The only other country where more than five percent of high spenders travelled to Australia in this way was South Korea (19%). Japan saw 22 percent of high spenders travel on a package, but not as part of a group tour.

Visitors from China generated a total expenditure of \$5.7 billion in 2014. The Tourism 2020 Strategy estimates that China has the potential to be worth up to \$13 billion in total expenditure by 2020.

The report has emerged following Tourism Australia's latest March 2015 Quarterly Market Update, which revealed China as the number one market for both leisure visitor expenditure (holiday and VFR- visiting friends and relatives) and holiday visitor expenditure.

The latest International Visitor Survey results for the year ending March 2015 show Eastern markets account for 42 per cent of total leisure visitor expenditure.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	40-60 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	65-95 Moderate
Ambient	65-95 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

MALI The first attack by Islamic extremists in Mali's central town of Sevare that killed nine people shows that jihadist aggressions are spreading and neither the government nor the U.N. peacekeeping force can ensure safety.



IRAQ's cabinet approved a wide-ranging reform plan yesterday that would abolish the three vice presidential posts as well as the office of deputy prime minister in order to slash spending and improve the government's performance in the face of mass protests.

USA Eight people — including five children and three adults — were found dead inside a Houston-area home following the arrest of a man who exchanged gunfire with police, Texas authorities said yesterday.



ARGENTINA President Cristina Fernandez and her late husband dominated Argentine politics for 12 years, focusing on social welfare programs for the poor at home while often employing combative rhetoric and protectionist policies with other nations. Voters are getting a chance Sunday to help decide whether those policies are likely to continue in the South American nation of 41 million as they cast ballots in open primaries for presidential candidates who have all but sealed the nominations in their respective parties.

UKRAINE says it has banned the screening of films featuring Russian actors included on a blacklist. It said this weekend the 14 Russian actors, singers and other cultural figures on the blacklist pose a threat to national security. Among those on the list is French-born actor Gerard Depardieu, who became a vocal supporter of Russia after taking citizenship in 2013 and last month was barred from entering Ukraine for five years.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein



Heat. Women dance in a plaza at a public park at dusk in Wuhan, in Hubei. Wuhan is known in China as one of the "Three Furnaces", cities notorious for their summer heat and humidity, and residents often wait until nightfall to take to the streets for outdoor activities.