

BABY IN CRITICAL CONDITION, PARENTS MOBILIZING PROTEST

Parents are using social media to call for a street protest for the regulation of migrant domestic workers after a Vietnamese helper was accused of abusing a two-month old infant

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YUAN DEVALUATION TO IMPACT RMB DEPOSITS

In Macau, banks could see deposits in Chinese yuan experience a decrease, BNU told the Times

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BBC PHILHARMONIC, ÓLAFUR ARNALDS TO TAKE THE STAGE OF MUSIC FESTIVAL

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WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA A man slashed a Chinese woman to death and injured her French companion in one of Beijing's busiest shopping districts in broad daylight yesterday, police said. The attack occurred right outside a Uniqlo store in the vibrant Sanlitun area also known for its many bars. Police detained the suspect but offered no motive, and their online statement identified him only as a 25-year-old Chinese man whose family name is Gao. Police say both victims were rushed to a hospital, where the woman died.

S KOREA's President Park Geun-hye yesterday pardoned a tycoon convicted of embezzlement who heads the country's third-largest business group. The justice ministry said in a statement that SK Group's Chey Tae-won will be among some 6,500 people to be released from prison before the 70th anniversary Saturday of Korea's liberation from Japan's colonial occupation. It said the government decided on pardons for 14 business people including Chey based on their contributions to the national economy.

THAILAND's military-installed prime minister defends a new law that places tight restrictions on public gatherings and warns it will be strictly enforced.

PAKISTAN-INDIA A top Pakistani government official says Islamabad has accepted an invitation from India for a meeting between security advisers from the two nuclear-armed rival nations later this month.

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TIANJIN EXPLOSION

50 dead, hundreds injured as huge blasts rock port city

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Packer steps down as chairman of Crown Resorts

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PROPOSED TABACCO LAW

Inmates only allowed to smoke within 3-hour weekly timeframe

INMATES at Macau's prison will only be allowed to smoke for three hours a week if amendments to the city's Tobacco Prevention and Control Law pass a second reading at the Legislative Assembly (AL), Radio Macau reported. The draft bill is still being de-

bated among Second Standing Committee lawmakers. Attending a committee meeting yesterday, the director of Macau's prison, Lee Kam Cheong, said that there were no issues with the current revision of the law. However, some legislators voiced concern over the rights of the inmates.

The Macau Prison currently features smoking and non-smoking cells. Smoking is banned within common and outdoor areas. Out of 1,256 inmates, 66 percent are smokers.

In accordance with the new draft, Macau's government is planning to introduce a full smoking ban in indoor spaces, including casinos. Nevertheless, authorities have apparently relaxed their initial stance and have said they would keep an open mind about the final decision on whether to allow casinos and the airport to retain their smoking lounges.

Under the new draft, inma-

tes would only be allowed to smoke outside. However, they are currently only permitted to use the outdoor area three hours per week. The AL's Second Standing Committee president, Chan Chak Mo, acknowledged yesterday that, "with the new draft, inmates will no longer be allowed to smoke in their cells and the outdoor area used for sports will be the only venue where they can smoke. This means they will only be able to smoke within that 3-hour per week timeframe."

Some lawmakers believe that such a restrictive timeframe may end up taking an emotional toll on inmates. "The response we've got is that there are social workers who can provide adequate support," said lawmaker Chan.

The Macau Prison head, Lee Kam Cheong, said that if inmates breach new smoking rules, he will not hesitate to call the Health Bureau inspectors. **CP**

Prison to incorporate juvenile reformatory

MACAO Prison will finalize the merging of its functions next year, incorporating the Juvenile Reformatory School as part of a plan for unified management, according to the Prison's director Lee Kam Cheong.

Lee said the authorities are now drafting a new constitution and expect to finish the draft next month.

In addition, he cited the the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) revealing that

the construction of a new prison has entered the public tender for its second phase. The director said that once the new premises has been constructed, they would consider relocating the juvenile reformatory along with the prison. Nevertheless, he stressed the two entities would not be allocated the same area, as according to the law, the Department for Execution of Punishment and the Department for Education should be treated separately. **BY**

Locally-based Burmese national starts fundraising appeal for flood-affected Myanmar

THE Macau China Myanmar Friendship Association is calling for donations in order to support relief efforts in Myanmar, which has recently been experiencing the worst flooding in 4 decades.

More than a hundred people have been killed as the government in Hakha relocated roughly



Myanmar: Villagers sit on a boat near a monastery turned into a temporary shelter for flood victims in Thabaung township, Ayeyarwaddy delta

4,000 people from 375 homes that had been destroyed by landslides triggered by the torrential rain.

The association's president Jose Wong said that the livelihoods of around 227,000 families scattered across 12 states or regions have been compromised, while those who have

been affected by the floods have totaled just over one million.

The group's earlier field trip to the affected areas has revealed that the nation was in dire need of international assistance, according to Wong, despite the association having already donated MOP70,000 to the Burmese government throu-

gh the Chinese embassy.

He urged for people in Macau and Burmese nationals abroad to extend a helping hand to the flood-plagued nation.

The nationwide flood was said to have dealt a heavy blow to residents as many returned home to nothing, with their homes and belongings buried in mud. Tropical cyclone Komen, which ravaged the country last week, compounded the nation's ordeal.

Staff reporter

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Yuan devaluation to impact RMB deposits



CHINA cut the reference rate for its currency for the third consecutive day yesterday. As the Central Bank continued to weaken the yuan by a further 1.1 percent yesterday, concerns have been raised within the global financial market.

In Macau, banks could see deposits in Chinese yuan experience a decrease, BNU told the Times in an email. The bank said that this has coincided with "a recent overall trend of decreasing Chinese yuan deposits in banks."

On the other hand, the bank said that the incentive to borrow in the Chinese currency will increase, concurrently

with a lower interest rate in RMB.

"The devaluation of RMB may have greater effects on banks that have open positions in RMB, or when they lend in RMB and receive deposit in other currencies such as Hong Kong dollars, patacas, or U.S. dollars," it said, adding that the devaluation of China's currency may also have a greater impact on banks that have larger assets valued in yuan.

BNU reiterated, however, that the bank has no open position in RMB, nor do they practice operations in which they take money from HKD/MOP/USD deposits and provide loans in RMB. **CP**

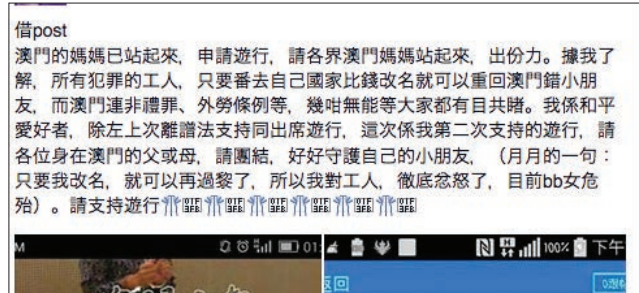
Two-month old allegedly shaken by maid in critical condition

Brook Yang

A campaign mobilizing parents in Macau to take to the streets to petition for the regulation of migrant domestic workers has appeared on social media, following the case of a Vietnamese domestic helper who was accused of abusing a two-month old infant she was hired to look after, which has left the baby girl in a life-threatening condition.

The 33-year old helper, surnamed Nguyen, denied the allegations but has been transferred to the Public Prosecution Office on suspicion of committing "grievous bodily harm."

According to the Judiciary Police (PJ), the baby's mother hired Nguyen in May to look after the infant. The incident occurred five days after the mother had resumed work after maternity leave. On Monday evening, when the mother returned



A Facebook post inciting on taking the protest to the streets

home from work, she found the baby's eyelids were red and swollen and her body weak. The infant then fell into a coma. The mother immediately questioned the maid, but she pretended as if nothing had happened and claimed to be unaware of it.

The baby was then sent to the emergency room, where the doctor diagnosed her with brain and retinal hemorrhage, and confirmed it as Shaken Baby Syndrome. Suspecting that the infant was abused, the hospital decided to call the police and informed the mother the next day. As the mother

was about to sack the helper and was taking her to the labor agency to proceed with the relevant documentation when she received the call, she informed the police as to the helper's whereabouts.

The maid was then detained by the police but denied committing the crime. The PJ said its investigation showed the maid had caused the baby severe harm by shaking and slapping her at least three times during the five days when the mother was away at work.

The baby is still hospitalized, while the police are investigating the suspect's

motivation and whether she had a criminal record. Claiming that "a migrant worker with ex-conviction could easily return to Macau for a new job once they paid to change their name back in their home country," some citizens responded to the incident by initiating and mobilizing a protest among local parents via online social networking groups.

The Macau Women's General Association representative and lawmaker, Wong Kit Cheng, also held a press conference yesterday, urging the government to explain how it handles criminal cases involving migrant workers. The lawmaker suggested the authorities reinforce clearance checks on migrant workers' border crossings, immediately mandating to take their fingerprints and prohibiting migrant workers from entering the city with tourist visas.

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Local group mulls CCAC intervention to axe monthly pass system

LOCAL group Choi In Tong Sam Association sought to increase their efforts to pressure the Transport Bureau authorities in repealing the existing monthly pass system at public parking lots after a meeting was held yesterday in which relevant officials showed no willingness to compromise on their hardline stance.

The association's vice president Lam U Tou told media that they would soon start to collect citizens' opinions. They also might undertake administrative procedures to increase the visibility of their views within the public department.

If such attempts fail to convince the government to change its mind, the group will then turn to the Commission Against Corruption to see if the system compro-



Members of the Choi In Tong Sam Association at DSAT, yesterday

mises public interests.

"So far they are yet to offer a persuasive reason to the pu-

blic involving the retention of the monthly pass scheme," said Lam, stressing that the authorities' rationale behind their decision was fragile. "They have been saying their decision was made in compliance with 'legal principles,' which I don't really agree on."

Lam pointed out that the abolition of such a scheme would free approximately one third of the total public parking space in the region to other drivers, making it more equitable and minimi-

ANOTHER GROUP SUPPORTS EXISTING MONTHLY PASS SCHEME

THE MACAU Public Car Parks Monitoring Association raised their objections to the public accusation that monthly pass holders excessively consume public resources, stressing that it was "reasonable" and "legitimate" for them to make use of the parking bays. The group's head, Lei Kouk Fai, dismissed the government's plan to construct more parking lots, saying it was "a waste of resources."

zing traffic and congestion especially in peak hours. "We hope the unnecessary cars won't occupy public parking resources during rush hours," he noted.

He argued that the monthly pass regime would "widen the conflict between pass holders and non-pass holders, thereby jeopardizing the government's long-term traffic policy as a whole."

"Besides control over the overall number, what's more important is to reduce the vehicles occupying roads during rush hours in bustling districts," he said.

Other subjects explored in the meeting, as Lam revealed, were well-received by the authorities, mainly by Lam Hin San, the bureau's director, and by his team. Lam urged the government to formulate a concrete timeframe for its already-delayed initiative

of a bus-only lane along the inner harbor, which the administration claimed was the subject of discussion with different stakeholders at the moment.

According to their estimate, roughly half of the total passenger volume of 530,000 was involved in the traffic in that particular thoroughfare.

The government officials also promised to replace the bus stop near Hotel Lisboa with more relevant facilities to be introduced later – as part of their initial efforts to address the region's chaotic scenes at bus stops later on.

Another crucial factor compounding the traffic issue in Macau, as Lam suggested, was the lack of a systemized shuttle bus network for local schoolchildren. Parents therefore had to resort to their own vehicles to drive their kids to school. **Staff reporter**

NEW MOP6 PARKING METERS TO BE SET UP SOON

THE SECRETARY for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, has said this week that a total of 100 new street parking meters charging MOP6 per hour will soon be established. Regarding monthly public car park passes, Mr Rosário reiterated that the government is not

able to cancel active monthly passes. Instead, it can only cancel passes that are no longer in use. The administration has previously announced that it will not issue any new monthly passes for public car parks, but current monthly pass holders will be able to keep their passes.

Gov't to disclose details on land debts in mid Oct

Brook Yang

THE government will provide facts and explanations on the topic of its "undisclosed" land plot exchange deals in the middle of October to the Legislative Assembly (AL)'s Follow-up Committee for Land and Public Concession Affairs. The Committee's president, lawmaker Ho Ion Sang, acknowledged after a meeting yesterday that the latest information that the AL possesses on the matter hasn't been updated in four years.

Regarding the government's alleged land debts of which the public had not been informed, Ho said that the administration had briefed the Committee back in 2011, where it introduced ten land exchange deals, which included the recent

controversial case of the Iec Long Firecracker Factory heritage site. However, the authorities neither provided sufficient information at the briefing, nor have followed up with any updates since then.

"At that time, the government said two of the ten land plot exchanges had been completed; but after all these years, the numbers and situations should have been changed. They only introduced the cases briefly, but it doesn't necessarily only involve ten land plots; it could be more. The government only mentioned what types of land the exchange deals were, such as for developing the gaming industry, building public housing, squares and parks," he explained.

The lawmaker criticized the administration for "not

having done an adequate job in terms of ensuring transparency and the citizens' right to know." "What are the changes after four years? Who are the landholders and how large are the sizes? What are the reasons to make the exchange deals? Only by giving a detailed account, could the government regain its credibility from the citizens," he stated, adding that the Committee would wait until October for the explanation due to the AL's intersession starting today.

The land deal reportedly created in 2001 to preserve the firecracker factory site and build a theme park involves an area comprising 15.2 hectares. Currently, the debt generated in the deal still remains unresolved, with 133,710 square meters owed to the landholders.

The case has been sub-

mitted to the Commission Against Corruption for investigation by the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário. Following suspicions in society that the government might cut plots off the future reclaimed zones in order to pay off its land debt, the Chief Executive Chui Sai On also assured lawmakers in a Q&A session held a day earlier that, "none of the plots of the [future] 350-hectare new reclaimed zones have been approved to be used for paying the land debt."

Chui further called for the public to "look at the repayment of land plot debts fairly, as the land exchange deals were made because of policy preferences and for public interest in the past, and were made fairly, openly and in compliance with the law."

New SME credit limit down by 28 pct

THE new credit limit of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises approved by Macau banks in the first half of this year dropped by 28.3 percent over the second half of 2014, the Monetary Authority of Macau revealed in a statement.

The collateralized ratio was 78.5 percent, down 3.5 percentage points when compared with the last survey period. The collateralized ratio was up by 3.2 percentage points year-on-year.

By the end of June this year, the outstanding value of total SME loans increased by 8.8 percent from the end of 2014, or 25.2 percent over a year earlier to MOP65.3 billion.

When compared with the end of 2014, the SME loans to businesses categorized in the "manufacturing", "restaurants, hotels and similar activities" industries and those viewed as "wholesale and retail trade", increased at the respective rates of 12.9 percent, 11.1 percent and 8.7 percent, whereas those to "non-monetary financial institutions", "electricity, gas and water" and "transport, warehouse and communications" dropped by 16.8 percent, 11.6 percent and 4.4 percent respectively.

The utilization rate dropped 2.0 percentage points from six months ago to 64.7 percent.

At the end of June, the outstanding balance of delinquent SME loans increased by 43.6 percent from six months ago to MOP195.8 million. **CP**

GAMING

Billionaire James Packer steps down as Crown Resorts chairman

JAMES Packer, Australia's third-richest man, stepped down as chairman of Crown Resorts Ltd as he seeks to focus on developing the casino group's resorts overseas.

Packer, with a net worth of USD4.6 billion according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, will remain a director of the company and continue to hold a majority stake, Melbourne-based Crown said in a statement yesterday as it reported annual earnings that met analyst estimates.

Shares slumped as much as 6.4 percent in intraday trading, the most since 2011, before paring declines.

Packer said he'd focus on resorts that Crown is developing around the world, which include a planned casino in Las Vegas and a hotel for high-rollers on Sydney Harbour due to open in 2019. He recently sold his six-level Sydney harbor side mansion, signaling he intends to spend less time in Australia's largest city.



James Packer

"His departure is a big loss and it's not like a Packer not to see something through to completion," Evan Lucas, a market strategist at IG Ltd. in Melbourne, said by phone. "The result was a little bit weaker on pretty much every metric and him leaving is a major problem. Where is Crown's growth?"

Crown shares closed down 3.2 percent at AUD13.09. Echo Entertainment Group Ltd., Crown's main domestic competitor, rose 3.4 percent to close at a record A\$5.15.

Robert Rankin, a former Deutsche Bank AG banker and the chief executive of

Packer's family company Consolidated Press Holdings Ltd., has been appointed as Crown chairman.

"Rob Rankin has my complete trust and respect as an executive and he will do an outstanding job as chairman," Packer said in a statement. "Crown has a pipeline of resorts globally and this is where the majority of my time will be spent."

Packer will continue as a director of Crown and remain co-chairman of the Alon Resort project in Las Vegas and Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd., which owns Macau's City of Dreams and Studio City resorts.

Packer is stepping down at a time when Crown faces challenges both at home and abroad.

Crown's share of normalized net profit from its 34 percent stake in Melco Crown slumped 45 percent to A\$161 million. Macau's casino revenue fell 35 percent from a year earlier in July. The city "is currently

experiencing a difficult period which has adversely affected all casino operators," Crown said in a statement Thursday.

At Crown Perth, revenues from the main gaming floor increased just 2.6 percent amid a slump in Western Australia state's mining industry.

The fall in Crown's net income compares to a 38 percent gain to A\$219 million reported by Echo in annual results Wednesday. A consortium led by Echo last month beat off competition from Crown and Greenland Investment Pty. to develop a new resort in the center of Brisbane.

Echo's Sydney and Gold Coast casinos seem better placed to benefit from growing Chinese tourism to Australia, said IG's Lucas.

"Clearly Queensland is seen as a better growth market for Asian clients," he said. "It's a hard time for Crown at the moment."

Bloomberg

Genting Singapore profit plummets amid Asia gaming downturn

Genting Singapore Plc's second-quarter profit fell to less than a 10th from a year earlier amid a slowing gaming industry in Asia and as the company suffered unrealized currency losses. Profit for the three months to June dropped to S\$12.5 million (USD8.9 million), compared with S\$131.7 million in the same period last year, the casino operator said in its earnings statement after yesterday's market close. For the first half of this year, profit declined 73 percent to S\$104.2 million. "The gaming industry remains weak," Genting said. "We maintain a cautious approach in granting credit under this market condition and continue to focus on the foreign premium mass and mass market segments in the region." Gambling revenue in Macau and Singapore, Asia's biggest casino markets, has shrunk as high rollers from China curb spending.

Bloomberry plunges 11pct on higher casino costs

Bloomberry Resorts Corp. fell 11 percent to its lowest since November 2011 after the casino operator's loss in the three months ended June widened from a quarter ago amid higher costs at its Solaire casino resort in Manila. Bloomberry, controlled by Philippine billionaire Enrique Razon, posted a net loss of 773.5 million pesos (USD16.8 million) in the second quarter, compared with a net income of 846.6 million pesos a year earlier, according to a stock exchange filing. The net loss for the quarter ended March was 533.1 million pesos. The loss comes two days after Melco Crown's Philippine unit said it suspended work for about 100 employees due to higher cost of operations and slow arrival of gamers from China. However, the local gaming regulator said in July industry revenue could rise 20 percent in 2015 even as China's graft crackdown hurt casinos in other parts of Asia.

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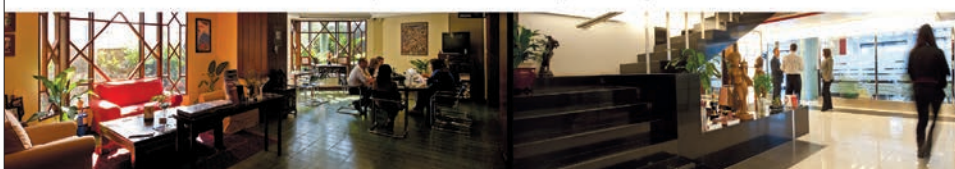
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Catarina Pinto

29TH MACAO INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

BBC Philharmonic and Icelandic musician Ólafur Arnalds to take to the stage

THE 29th Macao International Music Festival is returning to town from October 4 until November 1, featuring a variety of local, Chinese and international artists - all of whom have a particular focus on classical music. The BBC Philharmonic and Icelandic musician Ólafur Arnalds are among the expected highlights, revealed the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) president Ung Vai Meng.

With the theme of "Sound-Mazing," this year's festival features a total of 23 performances and 60 outreach program activities, Mr Ung explained at a press conference yesterday.

Heading the festival's grand opening is Swedish mezzo-soprano Charlotte Hellekant who will join the Macao Orchestra, the NCPA Orchestra and Choir, and the Macao Youth Choir on stage. Together, the musicians will be interpreting Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 3.

The IC says that such powerful symphonic masterpieces require an orchestra of over 100 musicians as well as a choir of close to 100 women's and children's voices to create an unparalleled performance. The concert is to take place on October 4 at the Macau Cultural Center.

A co-production between the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the Macao International Music Festival brings the month-long event to a close as Charles Gounod's opera in five acts, "Faust", takes to the stage on October 30 and November 1.

The opera explores the story of an aging scholar profoundly disappointed in his life achievements. He decides to sell his soul to the devil in exchange for his youth. "An insurmountable work of human nature and life's contradictions exploration, which will transport the audience to the golden ages of the French opera," said the IC.

The festival also features a one-act production by Moscow's Novaya Opera Theatre, who will be interpreting Mozart and Salieri - Opera in 1 Act by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. The performance will

take place between October 9 and 11 at the D. Pedro V Theatre.

The world-renowned BBC Philharmonic is to play two concerts in Macau, including Schubert's Symphony No. 9, titled "The Great," and "Enigma Variations" composed by Edward Elgar on October 16 and 17 respectively.

To mark the birthdays of Chinese composers Xian Xinghai - who was born 110 years ago - and Liu Tianhua - who was born 120 years ago - as well as the 70th anniversary of the Anti-Japanese Resistance War, the Macao Chinese Orchestra will present the Xian Xinghai and Liu Tianhua Commemorative Concert on October 15.

IC's president promises to bring powerful voices to this year's festival, drawing particular attention to Icelandic musician Ólafur Arnalds' per-

formance, which is scheduled for October 29. The BAFTA-winner multi-instrumentalist, composer and producer will be performing in Macau for the first time.

Swedish mezzo-soprano Charlotte Hellekant is bound to take the audience on a musical journey through Scandinavia's amazing landscapes in a concert titled "Northern Lights", taking place on October 9.

An all-male American choir "Chanticleer," also known as "Vocal Orchestra", will take to the stage to present their "Over the Moon" and "Washing of the Water" concerts on October 13 and October 14 respectively.

The "Great Ladies of Song," Patti Austin, Janis Siegel and Elisa Chan, will perform on October 18 in a tribute concert to jazz legend Billie Holiday.

From Portugal, the quartet Danças Ocultas and fado singer Pedro Moutinho join forces on stage on October 16.

The festival's budget was set at MOP38 million, the same as last year. IC's vice-president, Leung Hio Ming, said that next year's edition marks the festival's 30th anniversary and therefore will be focusing on China. "There will be more Chinese opera next year, and we will invite more local artists to perform," he insisted.

Jeong Chi Kin, the head of the IC's department of cultural events, said that they will strive to further diversify the festival, incorporating different music genres and artists.

Tickets go on sale on August 23 at 10 a.m. on the Macau Ticketing Network. Telephone and online bookings will also be made available on that day as of 12 p.m.



Ólafur Arnalds



BBC Philharmonic



Charlotte Hellekant

Two bureaus welcome new vice heads

THE Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau's acting deputy director Cheong Ion Man was named as vice head of the agency on August 1, while Cultural Affairs Bureau acting vice president Chan Peng Fai will also rise to the position of vice bureau head at the start of next month, according to dispatches issued by the region's two secretaries, Raimundo Rosário and Alexis Tam.

Cheong, a mechanics-related bachelor's and mas-

ter's degree holder, joined the public department in 1993 and rapidly made his way upwards through four different levels to his current position six months ago. Chan, who finished his anthropological undergraduate and master's degrees in Taiwan, worked as a researcher for the Macau Museum of Art in 2002 and was promoted through two levels to his current post in September 2014.

Moreover, Maria Luisa Man, Lei Ho Ian and Chan

Sau San have also been assigned by the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, to the board of directors at the Monetary Authority of Macao, effective this coming Sunday.

Man, who holds two master's degrees in business management and financial management respectively, dedicated herself to the public services in 1991 before spending eight years at an insurance company. Lei, who finished her master's

in financial economics at the University of London after receiving a bachelor's degree in business management at the University of Macau (UMAC), joined the government in 1994 and ascended to the managerial level in 2002. Chan, who held various leading roles at UMAC between 1998 to 2001, became a director at the research and statistics department of AMCM in 2001. He is also a doctorate degree holder in economics and finance.

Ung Vai Meng highlights new VP's abilities

The president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), Ung Vai Meng, has said that he has confidence in Chan Peng Fai's ability to serve as IC's vice-president. Mr Chan, who until August 2014 served as the IC department head for Cultural and Creative Industries, has been appointed vice-president. He was previously serving as deputy vice-president. "He has vast experience in the creative industries field. He's responsible for the committee [of the cultural industries established in 2011] and five years on we can see that Macau has developed in this area (...) I can say we are feeling quite reassured that he will be performing his tasks well," Mr Ung told reporters.

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The rental process for tenants part 5
- Ongoing living & termination

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



JULIET RISDON

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(Based on a similar article originally published March 2014)

Welcome to the final part of the five part series on the rental process for tenants. This final installment is called "Ongoing living and termination".

Once you have spent the first few weeks in your new apartment and are nicely settled, it is important to ensure that you take responsibility for the ongoing upkeep and condition of the apartment.

Whilst the landlord is responsible for structural issues you need to check your contract for who is responsible for minor maintenance issues.

There are really only 4 key areas for a tenant to focus on

1. Keep it clean
2. Keep it dry
3. Take care of the apartment
4. Pay your bills

Keep it clean

This will minimize the chance of having an insect infestation such as beetles or cockroaches. To help with this you should keep all food stuffs in tightly sealed containers.

Keeping the place clean will also keep it smelling as nice as possible.

Keep it Dry

Keeping an area dry will keep mould at bay.

During humid times of year your best bet is to use a dehumidifier and air conditioner to dry the air.

If you do find mould starting to appear, treat it straight away. You can do this by cleaning it with a solution of water and white vinegar and making sure the area is dry.

Take care of the apartment

Make sure that you take responsibility for anything damaged, even by accident, and repair it. Rectify any damage you or your family cause and keep the receipts. You may want to let the landlord know what has been done.

It is also a good idea to make sure that the air conditioners are serviced once a year and the filters in them cleaned regularly. Making sure that the windows get cleaned once a year on the outside is a good idea as it brightens up the apartment and lets in the light.

tens up the apartment and lets in the light.

Pay your bills

Make sure that you pay your bills on time and pay the final bills before check out. If you don't, the cost will be deducted from your deposit and you could face problems with the utility companies. This may also delay the security deposit refund process.

Giving notice

If you are intending to vacate the property ensure that you give the landlord the appropriate notice which, under Macau Law, is 90 days. Also check your contract for any requirements.

Do not be tempted to use your deposit to pay the final months rent as this is in contravention of contracts and Macau law.

Once you have given notice your agent or landlord will arrange a check out and inspection with you and return the appropriate amount of the security deposit.

If you would like to know more about Tenancy Administration, please feel free to contact us at the e mail address below.

Exhibition of
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Address: Rua Central, Shop 29A, Macau
Time: 10am – 8pm

SATURDAY JUST GOT EPIC



SATURDAY SUPER STACK

Every Saturday at 5pm, until August 22, PokerStars LIVE Macau will be hosting the HK\$3,000 Saturday Superstack with a guaranteed prize pool of HK\$100,000

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PokerStars LIVE
Macau

Tim Culpan

LENOVO Group Ltd. fell to a two-year low in Hong Kong trading after posting first-quarter sales that trailed analyst estimates, highlighting China's slowing economic growth.

The shares dropped 9.1 percent to close at HKD7.70, the lowest since September 2013. The stock is down 25 percent this year, the third-worst performance on the benchmark Hang Seng Index. Revenue for the quarter ended June was USD10.7 billion, compared with the \$11.5 billion average of analyst estimates.

Lenovo said it would cut 5 percent of its workforce and reduce its reliance on China as the world's second-biggest economy is growing at the weakest pace since 1990. The company is trying to turn around its mobile phones and server businesses after \$5 billion of acquisitions last year, while battling a shrinking market for the personal computers that generate 68 percent of its sales.

"We expect near-term share price weakness on the back of soft earnings," Kirk Yang and Ric Cheng, analysts at Barclays Plc, said in a report after the earnings. "The bottom line is that we continue to expect this quarter and next quarter to be transition quarters, as Lenovo is in the process of turning around its mobile and server businesses."

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Yang Yuanqing is cutting costs after last year's purchase of a server unit from IBM Corp. and smartphone brand Motorola.

Net income for the quarter ended June dropped 51 percent to \$105 million, Lenovo said in a statement, compared with the \$71.7 million average of analyst estimates compiled by Bloomberg.

"This was the toughest quarter



A woman talks on a mobile phone in front of an advertisement for Lenovo Group Ltd. in Beijing

Lenovo drops to two-year low as sales show China weakness

since 2008" for the PC market, Yang said in a phone interview yesterday. "We still think we should react to the market changes to reduced fixed costs."

About 3,200 non-manufacturing jobs will be cut from a total workforce of 60,000, Lenovo said in a statement. The cuts will save \$1.35 billion annually.

The majority of its cost cuts will come from a move to integrate the Motorola unit with Lenovo's legacy phone business, Yang said. The cuts will save \$850 million annually at the unit.

"The restructuring is indicative that they are lowering their overall expectations" in the smartphone business, said Alberto Moel, an analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein. "They're obviously serious about keeping their financial and operating targets, and are willing to take very aggressive actions to get there."

Lenovo will shift its smartphone focus away from China, where some new vendors are "playing irrationally," he said. "Our first strategy is that we shift focus to the rest of the

world."

The slump in China's currency to a four-year low this week may erode profit margins, wrote analysts at Jefferies Group LLC, led by Ken Hui. Lenovo sources some computer components in dollars, so a 1 percent drop in the yuan's value can cause gross margin to fall by 10 basis points to 20 basis points, they wrote.

"We operate on a global basis, and so we are very focused on currency changes. We have a strong hedging program in place which is focused on pro-

■ The slump in China's currency to a four-year low this week may erode profit margins

tecting our margin," Lenovo said in an emailed response to questions. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

MACAO GAMING SHOW PROMOTES GOV'T SUBSIDY



The Macao Gaming Show (MGS) has launched its latest marketing campaign in support of the government initiative to provide financial grants to assist local businesses reach a global audience at the gaming

exhibition taking place this November 17-19 at the Venetian Macao.

A range of subsidies have been introduced for Macau-based businesses with grants available towards the rental of exhibition booths,

stand construction fees, basic facilities and production fees for printed materials (flyers, pamphlets) and audio-visual materials (CDs/DVDs).

Whilst MGS has been a focus for international exhibitors and visitors, the show represents the only gaming industry expo organized and owned by Macau and Asia's gaming businesses. As part of its commitment to the region, MGS has stepped up its activity to promote a range of local businesses and the new government subsidy scheme will allow local exhibitors, who are registered with the Macao Financial Services Bureau (DSF) and who meet specific requirements, to benefit from the initiative.

MACAU'S BIGGEST H&M AT THE PROMENADE



Macau's biggest H&M is opening today at The Promenade, Galaxy Macau, with giveaways, gift cards and deals celebrating the arrival of the international retailer known for affordable fashion.

On the grand opening day, the first 500 H&M customers spending MOP888 or more will get a chance to win two

passes for a free day on the Galaxy Macau Grand Resort Deck; furthermore, a giant teddy bear for photo-ops for shoppers outside the store is available, featured by the shopping mall.

The first customer in the door queue will win a MOP500 H&M gift card, and the next 149 customers can

nab a MOP100 H&M gift card. Shoppers who need a little more beauty sleep can still take advantage of special deal on the day: spend MOP388 or more for a limited-edition tote bag (while stock lasts).

Alan Walker, Senior Vice President of Retail, Galaxy Macau, said: "We are delighted to welcome the H&M flagship store to The Promenade. Fashion addicts will adore the vast range of products at H&M's The Promenade outlet – the largest in Macau and an exciting addition to The Promenade's stylish mix of luxury flagships, high street favorites, designer boutiques and trendy cafés. Good luck to opening day shoppers vying for one of the spectacular deals on offer!"

Gov't tries to dampen fears of more big devaluations



An employee walks by a screen showing the foreign exchange rate between China and South Korea at a bank in Seoul

Joe McDonald
Business Writer, Beijing

CHINA tried yesterday to ease fears of more big declines for the yuan as companies from global automakers to Chinese clothing exporters faced a new era of uncertain exchange rates.

There is “no basis for persistent and substantial devaluation,” said a deputy central bank governor, Zhang Xiaohui, at a news conference. Zhang said the yuan is close to “market levels” after two days of sharp declines.

By midday yesterday, the yuan was down 2.9 percent since Tuesday’s surprise announcement of a more flexible exchange rate. The People’s Bank of China said the change was aimed at making the tightly controlled yuan more market-oriented.

Many economists said the decline was too small to help Chinese exports due to weak global demand. But the change fueled concern the yuan might fall further, giving Chinese traders a price advantage over foreign rivals and possibly igniting a “currency war” if other governments fight back by depressing their own exchange rates.

“The impact on foreign exporters is only beginning,”

said Evan Lucas, a financial market strategist for the Australian firm IG Markets, in a report.

International traders have long coped with swings by the dollar, euro and other currencies. They can hedge, or insure against unfavorable changes, by signing contracts to buy them at fixed prices on future dates. Large manufacturers also put facilities in multiple locations, allowing them to switch production to lower-cost sites as currencies fluctuate.

On a larger scale, however, more flexibility could end the yuan’s status as a stable anchor among currencies of developing countries, said Rajiv Biswas, chief Asia economist for IHS.

If it leads to more devaluations, “it could increase uncertainty and turmoil in global currency markets,” said Biswas in an email.

At the news conference, the central bank’s chief deputy governor rejected suggestions Beijing planned to depreciate the yuan by up to 10 percent to help exporters.

“This is sheer nonsense. It is totally unfounded,” said the official, Yi Gang.

Financial markets responded to the central bank comments by boosting the yuan. The cur-

rency was down 0.8 percent at midmorning yesterday but after the news conference that narrowed to a 0.2 percent decline compared with Wednesday’s closing price.

“This should pour cold water on claims that the PBOC is trying to devalue the currency in order to shore up exports,”

■ ■ ■
There is no basis for persistent and substantial devaluation
Zhang Xiaohui,
deputy central bank governor

said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics in a report. “A larger-scale weakening of the renminbi looks increasingly unlikely.”

The global implications of a more flexible yuan are magnified by China’s status as the world’s No. 2 economy and biggest exporter, the top trading partner for most of Asian neighbors and also a competitor

with Japan, Korea, Thailand and others in foreign markets for steel, shoes, toys and other goods.

Under its latest policy change, the Chinese central bank said the band within which the yuan is allowed to fluctuate by 2 percent up or down each day will be based on the previous day’s trading and data on currency supply and demand. That replaced a strategy under which the rate was based on a basket of currencies.

The bank had allowed little movement against the dollar since the 2008 global crisis. That pushed up the yuan as the dollar rose over the past year, hurting Chinese exporters as other developing country currencies fell. The central bank said it acted because the Chinese currency was rising while market forces said should fall.

The move toward more flexibility at a time when market pressures were set to push the yuan down left Washington and other trading partners that have criticized Beijing’s currency controls off balance. They have urged China for years to switch to a market-based system but assumed that would cause the yuan to rise and help their own exporters.

That leaves the U.S. gover-

ment in an “awkward and difficult” position, said Eswar Prasad, a professor of trade policy at Cornell University.

“A falling yuan and a rising bilateral U.S. trade deficit with China will sharpen congressional criticism of China’s currency policies,” he said.

“But the administration has no economic basis for criticizing China’s move,” said Prasad. “Indeed, preventing the yuan from depreciating further would run counter to U.S. and IMF calls for a more market-determined exchange rate.”

Financial analysts say the yuan could be overvalued by up to 10 percent. That would mean allowing market forces free rein might push it down even further.

For automakers and other global companies that increasingly rely on sales to China, that could erode revenues as they are brought home and converted into foreign currency. Already this year, Volkswagen and Hyundai have reported profit declines due to weaker Chinese sales. With many automakers reporting declines in July sales, such losses could be magnified by further weakening of the yuan.

Some Chinese exporters suspended signing contracts in foreign currencies, according to news reports.

The general manager for Japan sales of Anhui Garments Import & Export Co. said the company was waiting for exchange rates to stabilize, the newspaper China Business News reported.

“Right now we are not optimistic,” the manager, Meng Zhuo, was quoted as saying.

China’s Asian neighbors face a potentially wrenching transition as they cope with the two-pronged threat of more competition from its exports and weaker Chinese demand for their goods.

“The economies of Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand look exposed,” said Credit Suisse analysts Santitarn Sathirathai and Michael Wan in a report.

Manufacturers of computer disk drives have shifted some operations from Thailand to China and that outflow could accelerate if a weaker yuan reduces Chinese operating costs, according to Sathirathai and Wan.

Many economists saw Beijing’s policy change an effort to unload a glut of excess supplies in Chinese industries from steel to solar panel manufacturing that have led to price-cutting wars and threatened the financial health of manufacturers.

“What they are effectively doing is exporting deflation,” said Evans of IG Markets. “This is a concern from the perspective of foreign exporters.” AP

AP PHOTO



A man takes a photo near a burnt drum that residents said flew from a nearby explosion seen in the background in northeastern China's Tianjin municipality

Christopher Bodeen, Tianjin

HUGE explosions in a warehouse district sent up massive fireballs that turned the night sky into day, killing at least 50 people and injuring hundreds in the Chinese port city of Tianjin, officials and witnesses said yesterday.

Twelve of the dead were from among the more than 1,000 firefighters sent to fight the blaze set off by the explosions shortly before midnight, the Tianjin municipal government said. It said 701 people were being treated in hospitals, 77 of them with serious injuries. It gave no figure for the missing.

The blasts, originating at a warehouse for hazardous material, turned buildings in the immediate vicinity into charred, skeletal shells while shattering windows up to several kilometers away.

"I thought it was an earthquake, so I rushed downstairs without my shoes on," said Tianjin resident Zhang Siyu, whose home is several kilometers from the blast site. "Only once I was outside did I realize it was an explosion. There was the huge fireball in the sky with thick clouds. Everybody could see it."

Zhang said she could see wounded people weeping. She said she did not see anyone who had been killed, but "I could feel death."

There was no indication of what caused the blasts, and no immediate sign of any large release of toxic chemicals into the air. Beijing News said there was some unidentified yellow

At least 50 dead as huge warehouse blasts hits Tianjin

foam on the ground at the site, although it was not clear if this was contamination or part of the fire-fighting efforts.

The ensuing fire was mostly under control by yesterday morning, and the Tianjin lo-

■ **The blasts, originating at a warehouse for hazardous material, charred buildings and shattered windows up to several kilometers away**

cal government said further firefighting was suspended on orders of the central government so that a team of chemical experts can assess hazardous materials on site, dangers to the environment and how best to proceed with putting out the rest of the fire.

"It was like what we were told a nuclear bomb would be like," said truck driver Zhao Zhencheng, who spent the night in the cab of his truck after the blasts. "I've never even thought I'd see such a thing. It was terrifying, but also beautiful."

Police in Tianjin said an initial blast took place at shipping containers in a warehouse for hazardous materials owned by Ruihai Logistics, a company that says it is properly approved to handle such materials. State media said senior management of the company had been detained by authorities, and that President Xi Jinping has demanded severe punishment for anyone found responsible for the explosions.

The initial blast apparently triggered at least one further blast. The National Earthquake Bureau reported two major blasts before midnight, the first with an equivalent of 3 tons of TNT, and the second with the equivalent of 21 tons.

The explosions took place in a mostly industrial economic development zone, with some apartment buildings in the vicinity. Buildings of a half-dozen other logistics companies were destroyed in the blasts, and more than 1,000 new cars were left charred in a nearby parking lot, the Beijing News said.

As is customary during disasters, Chinese authorities tried to keep a tight control over information. Police kept journalists and bystanders away with a cordon about 1 or 2 kilometers from the site. On China's popular Weibo microblogging platform, some users complained that their posts about the blasts were deleted, and the number of searchable posts on the disaster fluctuated, in a sign that authorities were manipulating or placing limits on the number of posts.

The website of the logistics company became inaccessible yesterday.

The Tianjin government said that because of the blasts it had suspended online access to public corporate records. These records might be used to trace the ownership of Ruihai. It was not clear whether the blackout was due to technical damage related to the explosion. No one answered the phone at the Tianjin Market and Quality Supervision Administration or the Tianjin Administration for Industry and Commerce yesterday.

Ruihai Logistics said on its website — before it was shut down — that it was established in 2011 and is an approved company for handling hazardous materials. It said it handles 1

million tons of cargo annually.

Photos taken by bystanders and circulating on microblogs show a gigantic fireball high in the sky, with a mushroom-cloud. Other photos on state media outlets showed a sea of fire that painted the night sky bright orange, with tall plumes of smoke.

About 2 kilometers from the explosion site is the luxury Fifth Avenue apartment complex on a road strewn with broken glass and pieces of charred metal thrown from explosion. Like surrounding buildings, the Mediterranean style complex had all its windows blown out, and some of its surfaces were scorched.

"It's lucky no one had moved in," said a worker on the site, Liu Junwei, 29. "But for us it's a total loss. Two years of hard work down the drain."

"It had been all quiet, then the sky just lit up brighter than day and it looked like a fireworks show," said another worker on the site who gave just his surname, Li.

Tianjin, with a population of about 15 million, is about 120 kilometers east of Beijing on the Bohai Sea and is one of the country's major ports. It is one of China's more modern cities and is connected to the capital by a high speed rail line. **AP**

Yuri Kageyama
Business Writer, Tokyo

GENDER GAP

Sushi showdown: Women challenge one of Japan's male bastions

SOME jobs in Japan, a nation known for its poor record on gender equality, have been off limits to women for ages. The sushi counter, for one.

Sushi is emblematic of Japan's profound cultural influence globally. It has crossed borders, acquiring non-Japanese ingredients such as avocado in the process. That, however, is the limit of the cultural interchange.

Deeply rooted stereotypes such as the so-called "Edo-style" macho demeanor of sushi chefs and belief women's warmer body temperature leads to inferior taste have kept sushi preparation an almost exclusively male domain in Japan.

But some women are out to challenge tradition. They're learning the art of sushi at a time when the government is emphasizing a greater role for women to offset Japan's shrinking workforce.

"I think women are better at communicating with customers, and they're kind and gentle," said Yuki Chidui, 28, sushi chef and manager at the all-women Nadeshico sushi restaurant in Tokyo.

Unlike the usual "itamae," as sushi chefs are called, with their closely cropped hair and crisp cocky language, Chidui is soft-spoken and almost child-like, wearing a white summer kimono splashed with pink blossoms.

She has purposely avoided trying to look the part. Her store's motto is "fresh and kawaii," or "cute." Flyers depict her as a doe-eyed manga character. Chidui's assistant, who switched from working as a tour-bus guide two months ago, wears "manga" buttons on her outfit.

Chidui had been in a rut and felt confined working at a department store when she decided to gamble on starting her own business. It hasn't been easy.

She has endured insults and blatant questioning of her abilities since opening Nadeshico five years ago. She said people have



Yuki Chidui, sushi chef and manager at Nadeshico sushi restaurant, shows off a set of sushi she made at her all-women restaurant in Tokyo

ridiculed her restaurant when they walk in. Sometimes male customers taunt her and ask: "Can you really do it?"

There are no official statistics on the number of female sushi chefs in Japan but they are rare, according to the All Japan Sushi Association, which groups 5,000 sushi restaurant owners nationwide and estimates Japan has 35,000 sushi chefs in total.

Forbidding women in certain spots dates back centuries in Japan, where culture viewed menstruation as tainted, a primordial fear Western feminists have also historically had to debunk.

The sumo ring is another place billed as too sacred for women. These days women routinely take part in amateur sumo, but the number of female professional sumo wrestlers still remains

zero.

In recent years, the Japanese government has made encouraging women in the workforce its mission, seeing that an already stagnant economy would only get worse unless women are freed from their status of homemaker and child-bearer to contribute more to production and growth.

The government wants women to fill 30 percent of leadership positions by 2020, an ambitious goal given that women now make up only 8 percent of such positions in companies hiring 100 people or more.

Even within that effort, there is no crackdown on specific industries barring women, said Takaaki Kakinuma, an official at the government Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office.

The macho demeanor of sushi chefs and belief women's warmer body temperature leads to inferior taste have kept sushi a male domain

"The initiative is about getting women in leadership positions," he said.

Becoming a sushi chef is an

arduous process, requiring several years to learn how to ball up a decent "nigiri" sushi, and at least a decade to properly run a restaurant. Chefs-in-training usually aren't permitted to hold a knife for the first year, getting allocated to deliveries and dish-washing.

Masayuki Tsukada, 34, who started training to become a sushi chef at 18, shrugs off how there are so few female colleagues.

"It's just prejudice," he said, stressing that what counts is experience, such as being able to talk and keep straight all the orders and names of fish at the same time as well as preparing the sushi in front of the customer.

Establishments where Tsukada and other professionals work charge 10,000 yen (USD100) or more for dinner, about three times what Nadeshico charges. Their menus tend to be fancier, with exotic fish, such as marbled tuna or rare types of baby fish.

But the profession is gradually opening up. Tokyo Sushi Academy offers two-month crash courses in sushi-dom, with about a fifth of the Japanese students being female. A third of the students from abroad are women.

"More women are accepted as sushi chefs at casual restaurants, and more so abroad than they are in Japan. The traditional sushi places are still male-dominated," said Sachiko Goto, the academy's principal.

Yet Chidui feels she is finally getting good at making sushi, and hopes more women will follow.

"This is really fun," she said. AP

MYANMAR

Ruling party forces out influential chairman

Aung Shine Oo, Naypyitaw

IN a power play ahead of general elections, Myanmar's military-backed ruling party announced the ouster yesterday of its politically popular chairman hours after security forces seized the party headquarters, preventing some members from leaving.

Tensions have been building for months between



Myanmar's Parliament speaker Shwe Mann

President Thein Sein and Shwe Mann, who up until Wednesday's midnight reshuffle headed the Union Solidarity and Development Party.

The men, both retired army generals, each have expressed interest in leading the country.

Candidates for the upcoming polls were announced Wednesday at an internal party meeting in the capital, Naypyitaw.

Members also were told Shwe Mann — who has lost support of the military in recent months — had been dismissed as

party chair, sparking outcry by some. It was not clear if he will stay on as the influential speaker of parliament.

"I heard something is going on with the changing of party leaders or high-ranking offices," Minister of Information Ye Htut said on his Facebook page, adding there was little more he could say as it was a party matter.

The Nov. 8 general

election will be the first since a nominally civilian government was installed in 2011. Opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who enjoys huge public support, is barred from running for president but is seeking re-election to Parliament.

Shwe Mann was seen as a leading candidate for the presidency.

The party said at a brief news conference yesterday he was being replaced by the party's vice-chairman Htay Oo.

No clear explanation was given. AP

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JAPAN

Focus on Abe's words in upcoming World War II statement

Mari Yamaguchi
and Ken Moritsugu, Tokyo

WHAT'S in a word? As Japan's leader prepares to issue a statement today to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, attention is focused on the words he will use — and the ones he won't.

The phrases “aggression,” “colonial rule,” “deep remorse” and “heartfelt apology” were all part of Japan's landmark apology on the 50th anniversary of the war's end in 1995.

Depending on which words he uses, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe could either further roil his country's relations with China and South Korea or boost ongoing efforts to improve them.

Both neighbors will be watching to see if Abe waters down past Japanese apologies. He has said repeatedly that his government stands behind them, but he has also made comments that have raised doubts about how sincerely he believes them.

REMORSE VS APOLOGY

In the 1995 statement, Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama expressed “feelings of deep remorse” and “my heartfelt apology” for the damage and suffering caused by Japan's colonial rule and aggression. The country's first acknowledgement of its wartime wrongdoing was criticized by the right-wing at home as too humble.

Abe has used the phrase “deep remorse” but not “apology.” He told the U.S. Congress in April that Japan started its postwar path “bearing in mind feelings of deep remorse over the war,” and acknowledged that “our actions brought suffering to the peoples

AP PHOTO



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

in Asian countries.” He said in May, however, that his “remorse” was “regret in general” and not for specific wartime actions.

The Japanese word translated as remorse is “hansei,” and means to reflect on past actions, generally negative ones. It implies having done something wrong, but is more like “regret” than saying “I'm sorry.” Apology, or “owabi” in Japanese, often comes with fi-

nancial compensation or other action to seek forgiveness and reconciliation.

Some Japanese media, citing unnamed sources and in one case an unpublished draft of the statement, have reported this week that Abe will use the word “apology,” but not how or in what context.

AGGRESSION

Japan invaded China and several Southeast Asian coun-

tries, but Abe among others has questioned whether that qualifies as “aggression.”

In April 2013, he told parliament “there is no clear definition” of aggression either academically or internationally, and that “in country-to-country relations, it depends on from which side you look at it. From such a viewpoint, I think such problems can be pointed out re-

garding this (1995 Murayama) statement.”

Japan had long used the word “advance” instead of “aggression,” including in school textbooks. However, a recent report by an expert panel advising Abe on his statement described Japan's wartime activities as aggression. It noted though that some panel members disagreed, in part because they didn't think that Japan should be singled out when other countries took similar actions.

COLONIAL RULE

This phrase has been less contentious, though the Abe government said in March that both aggression and colonial rule are difficult to define. Abe, however, said in June that his government has never denied colonial rule. Korea was a Japanese colony from 1910 to 1945, and its people were made part of the war effort — as troops, forced factory and mine workers and sex slaves — so-called “comfort women” — in brothels for the military.

“COMFORT WOMEN”

The issue of Japan's exploitation of women from across Asia as prostitutes for troops was the subject of a separate apology in 1993, and remains a key area of difference with South Korea.

During an earlier stint as prime minister in 2007, Abe's government adopted a statement saying there is no written proof that the military forcibly recruited the women. He said last year that Japan has been wrongfully accused of systematically forcing them into sexual slavery.

Most experts agree that, based on interviews with victims and other records, many of the South Korean women were deceived by promises of other work, and not allowed to leave once they got to the brothels.

Abe has started acknowledging that the women are victims of “human trafficking,” but without acknowledging government responsibility. AP

AP PHOTO



Packets of Maggi instant noodles are displayed at a tea stall in Dharmasala

INDIA

Court rules gov't ban on Nestle's Maggi noodles untenable

manufacturing and selling noodles after six weeks if fresh tests at three designated Indian laboratories go in its favor.

Nestle India welcomed the court order setting aside the government ban. In June, India's Health Ministry ordered removal of Nestle noodles from stores across the country. It said that the popular

brand failed to pass safety tests conducted by several states with lead levels beyond permissible limits.

Nestle has contested results of the tests and says its noodles are safe.

The court ruled that the government ban was untenable because Nestle India was not given a proper hearing. It also said the laboratories whe-

re tests were carried out were not labs authorized by the federal government, the Press Trust of India said.

The tests also detected the chemical flavor enhancer monosodium glutamate, or MSG, which is not mentioned in the product's list of ingredients.

Nestle India said its Maggi noodles “are comple-

tely safe and have been trusted in India for over 30 years.”

The company had sought a “review and interpretation” of the ban in a petition filed in the Mumbai High Court.

After the ban was announced, Nestle India said it would destroy instant noodles worth 3.2 billion rupees (USD50 million). AP

FOOD and drinks giant Nestle is hopeful of selling Maggi noodles in India again after a court yesterday ordered fresh testing of the

popular snack banned across India for unsafe levels of lead.

The Mumbai High Court ruled that Nestle India will be free to resume

Vivian Salama, Baghdad

IRAQ

ISIS claims truck bombing at Baghdad market, 67 dead

A massive truck bomb ripped through a popular Baghdad food market in a predominantly Shiite neighborhood early yesterday morning, killing at least 67 people, police officials said.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the blast, saying it targeted a gathering place of Shiites and vowed more attacks.

The truck detonated in the Jameela market in the Iraqi capital's crowded Sadr City neighborhood shortly after dawn, according to two local police officers. They also said that at least 152 people were wounded in the attack. The market is the main center for produce and food sales in the Iraqi capital.

Residents of the Shiite community rushed to help the victims, carrying corpses in garbage bags and blankets, and sent the wounded to local hospitals in ambulances or personal cars. The blast incinerated much of the market, leaving charred wooden market stalls and scattering fruits and vegetables far around it.

Fire trucks and ambulances were at the scene and firemen were dousing the still-smoldering complex with water long after the explosion.

"On Thursdays the market is especially crowded because people come from the other provinces to stock up on food

AP PHOTO



Civilians gather at the scene of bomb attack in Jameela market in the Iraqi capital's crowded Sadr City neighborhood

for the weekend," one of the officers said.

He said the truck that set off the explosion was a refrigeration

truck, so it was impossible to distinguish it from other trucks delivering produce to the market.

A minibus driver, Hassan Hamid, said he was driving not far from the area when the force of the explosion threw his vehicle

about 10 meters away and onto the sidewalk.

"This is the strongest explosion I've ever seen in my life," said the 37-year old father of three, speaking from his hospital bed where he was being treated for shrapnel injuries. "I saw some cars were thrown into the sky and a fire erupted all over the place."

Four hospital officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

In a message posted on an IS-affiliated Twitter account, the Islamic State said the attack was carried out by a parked, explosives-laden truck. The claim says the Islamic State seeks to have the "rejectionists (Shiites) experience the same harm as their bombardments cause to our Muslim people."

The Sunni militant group, which roughly holds a third of Iraq and neighboring Syria in their self-declared "caliphate," views Shiite Muslims, as well as other religious minorities, as apostates. **AP**

USA

Jimmy Carter says he has cancer, revealed by recent surgery

Kathleen Foody and Marilynn Marchione, Atlanta

FORMER President Jimmy Carter, who at age 90 still travels the world supporting the humanitarian endeavors that have consumed his time in the decades since he left office, announced he has cancer that has spread to other parts of his body.

A statement released by the Carter Center on Wednesday (yesterday, Macau time) makes clear that Carter's cancer is widely spread but not where it originated, or even if that is known at this point. The liver is often a place where cancer spreads and less commonly is the primary source of it. The statement said further information

will be provided when more facts are known, "possibly next week."

"Recent liver surgery revealed that I have cancer that now is in other parts of my body," Carter said in the statement. "I will be rearranging my schedule as necessary so I can undergo treatment by physicians at Emory Healthcare."

Carter announced on Aug. 3 that he had surgery to remove a small mass from his liver.

Good wishes poured in on social media after Carter's announcement, while President Barack Obama said he and first lady Michelle Obama wish Carter a fast and full recovery.

"Jimmy, you're as resilient as they come, and along with the rest of America, we are rooting

for you," Obama said in a statement.

Carter was the nation's 39th president, defeating Gerald Ford in 1976 with a pledge to always be honest.

He spent the decades since carving out a reputation for promoting such global issues as health care and democracy, often with his wife Rosalynn by his side. He joined the staff of Emory University and in 1982 established the Carter Center to promote those issues.

His new role as global statesman took him into places often shunned by other diplomats. Carter helped defuse nuclear tensions between the Koreas and monitored the first Palestinian elections. In 2002, he won the Nobel Peace Prize. **AP**

WIKILEAKS

Sweden drops some sex cases against Assange

Matti Huuhtanen, Helsinki

SWEDISH prosecutors said yesterday they have dropped three cases of sexual misconduct against WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange because they have expired, but will continue to investigate accusations of rape against him.

The Swedish Prosecution Authority said it has been unable to charge the 44-year-old Australian, who escaped a Swedish arrest warrant by taking refuge in the Ecuadorean Embassy in London in 2012 because it had not been possible to question him.

"Since the autumn of 2010, I have tried to gain permission to interview Julian Assange, but he has consistently refused to appear," said Marianne Ny, the director of public prosecution. "I still hope, however, that I will be able to arrange for an interview, as there are ongoing negotiations between Sweden and Ecuador."

The agency says that a case of sexual molestation and one of un-

lawful coercion expired yesterday, while a third case, of sexual molestation, would have "time-barred on Aug. 18," but added that Assange was still wanted for questioning on allegations of rape that expire in 2020.

Assange, who has denied all accusations, was wanted for questioning by Swedish police on allegations of sexual misconduct and one of rape stemming from a 2010 visit to Stockholm.

He said in London that he was "extremely disappointed" at the Swedish prosecutor's decision to continue an investigation against him.

"There was no need for any of this. I am an innocent man," he said in a statement issued at the Ecuadorean Embassy.

Assange has said he has no intention of going to Sweden for fear of being extradited to the United States because of an ongoing investigation into WikiLeaks' dissemination of hundreds of thousands of classified U.S. documents. **AP**

TV canal macau



FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talkshow (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	News
21:45	Miscellaneous
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Film
01:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
02:15	RTPi Live

SATURDAY

10:30	Boonie Bears
11:30	Documentary Serie
12:00	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:05	News
18:30	Contest
19:20	Miscellaneous
19:50	Macau 360° (Repeated)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:10	Drama
22:40	Documentary Series
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:00	RTPi Live

SUNDAY

10:50	Young Children
11:20	Miscellaneous
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Animation
16:15	Animation
16:35	Miscellaneous
17:25	Documentary Series
17:50	Miscellaneous
18:50	Miscellaneous
19:40	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Cougar Town S.3
22:00	Sugar vs Fat
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:00	RTPi Live

offbeat

POLICE SAY DOGS SEEKING CUPCAKES CAUSED SMALL US FIRE

Police say dogs trying to get at a box of cupcakes left on top of a stove apparently started a small fire in a Pennsylvania home.

The landlord tells police in Logan Township that he stopped by his tenants' home to let out the dogs about 8 p.m. Sunday.

That's when the landlord saw a small stovetop fire and called firefighters.

Police say it appears the dogs were trying to get into the cupcakes and not only knocked off the stove's control knobs, they also turned on the stove, causing the fire.

The fire has been ruled accidental. Nobody was hurt.

Logan Township is east of Pittsburgh.

cinema



CINETEATRO

13 Aug- 19 Aug



FANTASTIC FOUR_

ROOM 1

2.15, 5.55, 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

4.05 pm

Director: Yoshihiro Osugi

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 100min



ATTACK ON TITAN_

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.05, 5.55, 9.45 pm

Director: shinji Higuchi

Starring: Haruma Miura, Kiko Mizuhara

Language: Japanese (English and Chinese)

Duration: 90min

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:
NOBITA AND THE SPACE HEROES_

ROOM 2

7.45 pm

Director: Yoshihiro Osugi

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 100min

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:
NOBITA AND THE SPACE HEROES_

ROOM 3

2.30 pm

Director: Yoshihiro Osugi

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 100min

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



1979 FREAK STORM HITS YACHT RACE

Dozens of yachts have been lost and at least three people killed after a freak storm blew up in the Irish Sea during the Fastnet yacht race.

Hundreds of competitors have been left stranded and there have been several reports of bodies floating in the sea.

Rescuers from both sides of the Irish sea are working around the clock to answer distress calls from many of the 303 yachts taking part in the ocean race.

Naval helicopters from Culdrose have made dozens of sorties and have so far rescued about 100 people.

A Dutch warship and trawlers from France have also joined the rescue operation, which is the biggest ever launched in peace-time. A 20,000 mile (32,000 km) square area of sea is being searched for 150 yachts which are still missing.

Damaged boats have been escorted into harbours from south-west tip of Ireland to the Isles of Scilly, some headed for Wales.

The Fastnet race is the last in a series of five races which make up the Admiral's Cup competition, the world championship of yacht racing.

This year's race began from Cowes on the Isle of Wight on Saturday 11 August on a sunny day in calm waters. The course takes the yachts westwards across the Irish Sea, around Fastnet Rock off the coast of the Republic of Ireland and back to Plymouth.

By yesterday lunch-time the weather conditions had deteriorated and some competitors talked of being hit by a "great fury" at sea.

Force seven winds whipped up mountainous waves and unpredictable tides caused chaos.

One of the few boats to reach the finish line in Plymouth was Morning Cloud and her skipper, former prime minister Edward Heath.

He said: "It's an experience that I do not think anybody would want to go through again willingly.

"It was a raging sea with enormous waves and one of them picked us up and laid us on our side."

Questions about safety will now inevitably be raised and the future of the Fastnet race, organised by the Royal Ocean Racing Club, could be in jeopardy.

Many of the smaller yachts taking part in the competition were not equipped with a radio and were therefore not able to report their positions.

There have also been reports that some of the life-rafts broke up and safety harnesses snapped.

The Conservative government minister responsible for safety at sea, John Nott said: "It is a tragedy as many people have lost their lives.

"But man is going to go on pitting himself against the elements and ocean racing will carry on.

"There are always lessons to be learnt from every tragedy but I would not like people to feel that as a result of this disaster that the Fastnet race will not continue."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The final number of dead was 15 - six lives were lost because safety harnesses broke, the others drowned or died of hypothermia. Following the disaster the Royal Ocean Racing Club, which had organised the event, was heavily criticised but an official report into the disaster in December of that year cleared it of blame. However, new special regulations were introduced which limited the number of yachts competing in the Fastnet race to 300. It became mandatory for all yachts to be equipped with a VHF radio and qualifications for competing were also brought in. In 1983 restrictions on electronic navigational aids were also lifted. The race is still considered a supreme challenge for racing yachtsmen or women in British waters. The winner of the 1979 race was Kiaola.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You've got a lot more going on than you want to admit, and that could cause some problems with your people. Try not to get too bent out of shape over misunderstandings — they are par for the course.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Your intense beliefs are possibly called into question today, so do your best to either confirm them or blow them off. You should find that things start to improve dramatically once you do.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Engage in some serious service to people or larger causes today; you've got the time and energy — you just need the motivation! Now is a really good time for you to embrace your idealism.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You are feeling indecisive today — or are you? It's hard to tell, but you do know that you're sitting on a reserve of positive energy that ought to be used. Now, if only you knew what to do with it!

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Look at things in a new light today — you are sure to spot more clues than before, and you may actually discover a brand-new solution to something that has bugged you for ages.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Your curiosity is making life weirder and more interesting — so follow it up! You are sure to learn new things that keep you engaged and happy to be right where you are. Keep it up!

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You need to deal with a work situation that isn't going away until you confront it. That could mean stepping up a job search, hiring someone new or even making a jump to a new career track.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Your intense nature is making your life better, if also weirder. Your energy is perfectly resonating with what's going on around you, and you should be able to get folks to see things your way.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Your dreams are spinning new ideas into your mind — but at a pace that isn't quite keeping up with the rest of the world. There's nothing wrong with that! Just keep on dreaming for now.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Your friends are making life simpler today — in fact, you could find that you barely have to lift a finger! Make sure to let them know how much they mean to you as you enjoy a lovely day.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Your career is taking an interesting turn — you may want to step up and take control of the steering. You should find that your connections are in flux, which can be a really good thing sometimes.

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
You are being treated like a servant today — but you've got enough intense energy to rebuff those who don't appreciate you. Make sure they know what's what as you do things your way.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	24	35	clear/overcast
Harbin	19	30	clear
Tianjin	26	35	clear
Urumqi	17	31	clear
Xi'an	23	30	thundershower/cloudy
Lhasa	13	24	shower/overcast
Chengdu	23	32	shower/cloudy
Chongqing	25	34	overcast/cloudy
Kunming	17	25	moderate rain
Nanjing	24	31	cloudy
Shanghai	25	32	cloudy
Wuhan	24	32	cloudy
Hangzhou	24	30	cloudy/thundershower
Taipei	26	32	drizzle/heavy rain
Guangzhou	26	32	cloudy/thundershower
Hong Kong	26	30	shower
WORLD			
Moscow	12	28	clear/drizzle
Frankfurt	20	30	drizzle
Paris	20	32	drizzle/overcast
London	14	22	drizzle/moderate rain
New York	20	27	cloudy/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Pursue; 6- Seed containers; 10- Consumes; 14- Cooperative race; 15- Certain; 16- ___ball (arcade game); 17- "___ by any other name"; 18- On or towards the Mediterranean, for example; 19- Narrate; 20- Epsom crystals, e.g.; 22- Eyelashes; 23- At the drop of ___; 24- Abdomen; 26- Orthodontist's org.; 29- Minerals; 31- Time to remember; 32- Hosp. readout; 33- Division of a school year; 34- Deer horn; 38- Enlist again; 40- Are we there ___?; 42- Monetary unit of Ireland; 43- Musical dramas; 46- Nobleman; 49- Three sheets to the wind; 50- Swelling reducer; 51- Corner; 52- Colorful card game; 53- Bartender; 57- Snack in a shell; 59- Mixed bags; 60- Detaching; 65- Nothing, in Nantes; 66- Actress Petty; 67- Where Hercules slew the lion; 68- Poker stake; 69- Greek letters; 70- Bring up the rear; 71- Get wind of; 72- "___ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto); 73- Plinth;

DOWN: 1- Pinchy crustacean; 2- Mother of Ares; 3- Very much; 4- Figure skater Cohen; 5- Range of vision; 6- Ancient musical instrument; 7- Evict; 8- Apparel; 9- Poseidon's realm; 10- Guess; 11- Pack leader; 12- Tending to a definite end; 13- Psalms interjection; 21- Bern's river; 22- Maize; 25- Green or black, e.g.; 26- Dynamic start?; 27- Abstruse; 28- Shivering fit; 30- Refine metal; 35- Humdinger; 36- "___ Brockovich"; 37- ___-Rooter; 39- Captive; 41- Turtle; 44- Performs; 45- This is what eyes do; 47- Actual; 48- Pours off leaving sediment; 53- Synagogue scroll; 54- Skirt style; 55- Michelangelo masterpiece; 56- Mob scenes; 58- Alamogordo's county; 61- Ladies of Sp.; 62- Apple computer; 63- Singer Sedaka; 64- Strong wind; 66- Levi's rival;

Yesterday's solution

A	N	D	S	H	U	M	O	R	A	O	N	E	
S	O	O	T	A	S	O	N	E	T	R	E	E	
E	L	I	A	B	E	S	E	T	L	A	H	R	
C	O	N	G	R	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	L	
E	A	U	R	E	S								
T	R	A	N	S	P	O	R	T	A	T	I	O	N
S	H	E	R	E	A	U	E	L	R	I	C		
A	R	T	S	H	A	T	E	D	S	A	L	A	
N	O	R	R	U	D	E	C	A	T	E	R		
A	B	O	V	E	M	E	N	T	I	O	N	E	D
P	L	E	N	T	I	T	U	D	I	O	U	S	
F	E	E	L	I	L	E	D	E	O	R	S	O	
O	G	E	E	S	E	R	G	E	L	E	E	R	
P	O	N	Y	T	R	I	E	D	A	L	D	A	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



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HKD 5,292sq ft
Car Park Included
Ref: 15055437

CHUN LEONG
Taipa
Car Park Space
Car Park for Rent
HKD 1,700 / 00 sq ft
Ref: 1505051

Old Taipa Village Taipa
Taipa
1,000 sq ft / HKD 6.5M
HKD 6,500sq ft
Near Lady of Carmel Church
Ref: 15035434

Fountainside Studio Apartment
Macau
1 Bedroom Apartment
New development
HKD 12,800 / 567 sq ft
Ref: 15070517

Jou Fai Kuok
Macau
627sq ft / HKD 4.9M
HKD 7,815sq ft
Near Ruins of St Pauls
Ref: 15075447

YEE HOI Garden
Macau
2 Bedrooms Apartment
Amazing Views
HKD 14,000 / 1,200 sq ft
Ref: 15050513

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Image is for reference only



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- 360° Parking Camera*
- Run-off Road Protection
- City Safety Collision Avoidance System

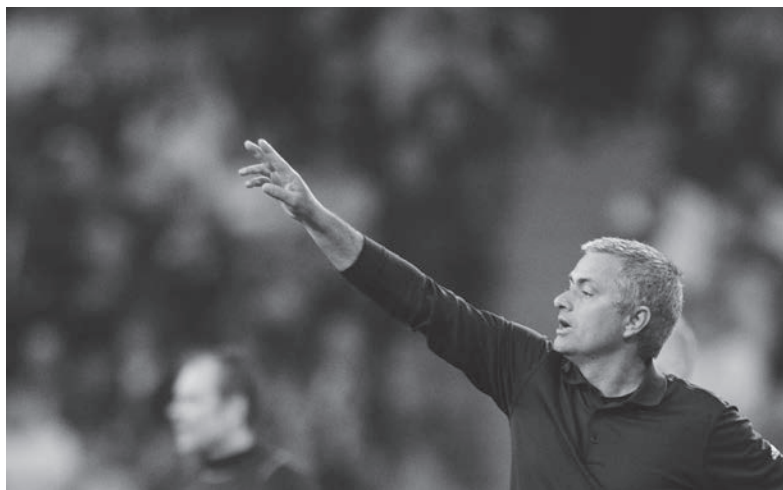
*Optional Features

EPL PREVIEW

Boring no more, Chelsea goes to City embroiled in doc row

Rob Harris
Sports Writer

Sunday, 11pm
Man City v Chelsea
H 2.15, D 3.5, A 3.8



How Jose Mourinho must long for the days last season when Chelsea was being goaded for being “boring.” The start to the new campaign has been anything but mundane at Stamford Bridge.

Tumult has replaced apparent tranquility after losing the Community Shield to Arsenal and starting the Premier League title defense with a draw to Swansea.

A victory over Manchester City on Sunday, though, would quickly transform the mood surrounding the champions.

Perhaps that is why Mourinho has shielded his players from criticism even though goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois will miss the trip to Manchester after being sent off against Swansea, with new signing Asmir Begovic taking his place.

Instead, it's the Chelsea medical staff in Mourinho's firing line. By publicly criticizing his medical staff and removing doctor Eva Carneiro from her match-day role, Mourinho has generated a new wave of damaging headlines for the club.

But Mourinho's failure to strengthen the squad is now biting, with a couple of weeks remaining in the summer transfer window.

First-choice striker Diego Costa is not fully fit and new

back-up Radamel Falcao has much to prove after a lackluster season at Manchester United. Mourinho wants to strengthen a defense that was exposed against Swansea with the addition of John Stones but Everton is rebuffing Chelsea's pursuit of the center back.

Manchester City, meanwhile, faces Chelsea on a high after starting its quest to regain the trophy from the London club with a victory at West Bromwich Albion.

Unlike Chelsea, City made

TALKING POINTS

EARLY START

There's an early opening to the second round of Premier League with Manchester United facing Aston Villa tonight (Saturday, 2:45am). Although night games will feature more regularly from next season, this is a one-off due to a march by the far-right English Defence League group in the Birmingham area on Saturday and United being unable to play the following day due to its Champions League playoff against Bruges on Tuesday.

David de Gea was dropped from United's opening-day win over Tottenham and the goalkeeper will be left out of the team again. Manager Louis van Gaal is concerned that the Spaniard is not mentally fit as he continues to be linked with a move to Real Madrid. Argentina goalkeeper Sergio Romero will instead seek another clean sheet at the start of his United career.

CECH IN SPOTLIGHT

The pre-season optimism at Arsenal was quickly deflated by losing to West Ham at the start of its search for a first league title since 2004. There's another London derby for Arsenal on Sunday against Crystal Palace and goalkeeper Petr Cech will want to avoid a repeat of the mistakes that contributed to 2-0 collapse to West Ham.

LEICESTER CONTROVERSY

Leicester striker Jamie Vardy will not be sacked over a racial slur captured on camera at a casino, manager Claudio Ranieri said yesterday. “Jamie apologized to everyone, it was a mistake,” Ranieri said. “The club has said it is OK.”

NEWCOMERS

The promoted teams failed to win on the opening weekend, with Watford the only one to avoid defeat by drawing at Everton. Watford hosts West Brom on Saturday when Norwich travels to Sunderland. Bournemouth is at Liverpool in the Monday night game.

a high-profile addition to its squad by signing Raheem Sterling from Liverpool for 49 million (USD76 million).

“It's going to be a really tough

season,” Sterling said. “With it being our first home game of the season, we want to get off on the right foot.”

AP / Odds by Oddschecker.com

AD



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opinion

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DANGERS OF ANONYMITY

I received a strange letter in my letter-box earlier this week from one of my neighbours – I have six. Strange because the letter wasn't addressed to me but to the "Dear family of number 4" and it was signed off "Your Neighbour". Stranger still because I don't live at number 4. Let me indulge myself for a bit; it gets a little convoluted.

On the back of the missive was scribbled a short message which, upon a few hours eaten up by off-and-on rumination, I realised to be a response to the original letter. The letter author had sent to and accused number 4 of running a noisy clothes-dryer at inconsiderate hours of the night, and number 4 thought me, their immediate next-door neighbour, to be the complainant author. Thus the existence of the incorrectly addressed letter in my letter-box.

Actually, the clothes-dryer perpetrator was me (not the poor wrongfully accused number 4). I readily acknowledge that I'd made a bad calculation and pre-set the thing to start at 5am rather than 8am on one Sunday morning. I stand contrite but number 4 took the flack, except that now I've have two neighbours annoyed with me; one wrongfully because I didn't write the complaint and one by proxy as she doesn't know it's me that she's annoyed with (Yes, it is a she: the detective in me has worked out her identity).

This is at least the fourth anonymous letter (that I'm aware of) to be sent by one of my six neighbours and each time I've been wrongfully accused of sending the thing. To try to maintain some semblance of neighbourly civility, face-to-face communication has cleared up the misunderstanding but the damage done by anonymous letters in our midst and misdirected accusations shall not be undone. Uncertain of the origin, the recipient becomes wary of all neighbours and has no way to adequately deal with this anonymous person's gripe.

Anonymous communication has its place in society. Police investigations are aided and cases solved thanks to the information obtained through calls to Crime Stopper-type hot-lines; companies actively encourage complaints and service feedback from customers to help improve the quality of their product; in other places there are numbers to call to report dangerous driving – often displayed on trucks and buses of companies concerned for their reputations, other numbers to report litterbugs and problems with taxis like the number to DSAT in Macau. Where the author does not need to be held accountable, anonymous communication can remove the hurdles to getting valuable information.

In most situations, though, keeping the author's identity silent is inherently dangerous, for just as hearsay, people's reputation can be called into question and suspicion of others increases in a community. Together with the sheer volume of administrative workload that anonymous reporting generates, being investigated by police based on false accusations is one argument against anonymous reporting; the system can be used by troubled people seeking some form of retribution via another authority to slander, defame or simply annoy. However, a policing system in an environment of professional confidence manages these cases and upholds reputations of those falsely accused by anonymous sources. In systems we must trust, as we do professional confidentiality of medical experts, counsellors and legal advisors, and discussions with close friends.

As an accuser, putting one's name to a complaint takes a little courage and faith in others but unlike crime reporting or customer services feedback, signing off is warranted to maintain accountability, minimise false accusations, misunderstandings and to protect the innocent. To not do so risks social cohesion, particularly in a neighbourhood or small community. In Macau we have developed ways to maintain this cohesion, through development of systems of proxy such as funnelling complaints through property management or simple restraint and forbearance. Less commonly do we find direct confrontation.

The general advice on what to do upon receipt of an anonymous letter is to ignore it. Easier said than done. In this specific instance I might just deliver to our neighbourhood's serial anonymous author a copy of today's MDT. Perhaps this time, I should have used a pseudonym.

THE BUZZ ROBBERY AT MEXICAN SILVER, GOLD MINE NETS USD165,000

A large silver and gold mine in northern Mexico said Wednesday that an organized crime gang robbed almost 4.5 kilograms of gold-silver mix from employees.

The Fresnillo mining company said the robbery occurred near its Herradura mine in the border state of Sonora. The company said armed men pulled over a company truck and stole the metals. It said none of its employees were injured.

The company said the robbery was carried out by "organized crime," a phrase usually used in Mexico to refer to drug cartels. Such groups have been known to extort money from Mexican mines and kidnap workers, but direct ore thefts have been relatively rare outside the western state of Michoacan, where the Knights Templar cartel and La Familia gang got involved in exporting shipments of iron ore between 2010 and 2014.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	10-30 Good
High Density Residential Area	10-30 Good
Ambient	20-40 Good

SOURCE: DSMG

World-renowned magician Cyril Takayama to stun Macau with new tricks



CELEBRATED American-Japanese illusionist Cyril Takayama will be spreading his charisma outside Japan and across the globe, starting this upcoming December with a world tour. Macau will be his first stop to stage his signature tricks on December 5 and 6.

Hailed as one of the leading pioneers of street magic, the 41-year-old magician has been active on television screens throughout the past decade with his jaw-dropping tricks, reaching audiences in over 26 countries.

During a media briefing yesterday afternoon, the illusionist, best known as Cyril, stunned journalists with his sophisticated and seamless magic, armed only

with a stack of poker cards, earning thundering applause from the attendees.

The two-day performance, as the magician promised, would be an engaging one inviting viewers into his "party," after which everyone would return home entertained. "The show is very interactive with its audience; it's a magical journey that I take the audience to experience for themselves. There will be fun moments, serious moments, romantic moments and lots of laughter," said Cyril.

Cyril's signature tricks feature producing real hamburgers from menus, removing his arm from his shoulders, not to mention his most dramatic act where he bungee-jumps into a swimming

pool from a hotel roof with a sword and spears his chosen card from many others floating in the water.

He disclosed that the inspiration for his tricks stemmed from every moment he was exposed to different people and cultures, understanding magic as a "universal language" connecting various people from different origins. "When I do magic, it breaks the language barrier, we don't have to speak the same language to communicate, as magic is the international language," said Cyril.

The theatrical magician conjures that there would be new elements to be viewed apart from some previous well-known magic tricks, yet he refused to disclose further details with an aim of only uncovering his elaborate surprises during the 2-hour spectacle.

Furthermore, he hoped that audiences could fully relish his tricks instead of attempting to look for errors, which is not what magic is about.

"When I'm performing magic, there's a trick to everything I do. But I don't want my viewers to come here to try to find the tricks I'm doing," said Cyril. "Because it's about the time we have together, about the relationship, about the magic we create." **Staff reporter**

WORLD BRIEFS

INDIA An explosion tears through a mosque complex in the insurgency-wracked Indian portion of Kashmir, wounding nine worshippers.

AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN The Afghan government sends a high-level delegation to Pakistan to discuss an action plan after Islamabad-hosted peace talks with the Taliban were suspended last month.

AUSTRALIA-SYRIA Australia is considering joining airstrikes against Islamic State fighters in Syria, the prime minister says.

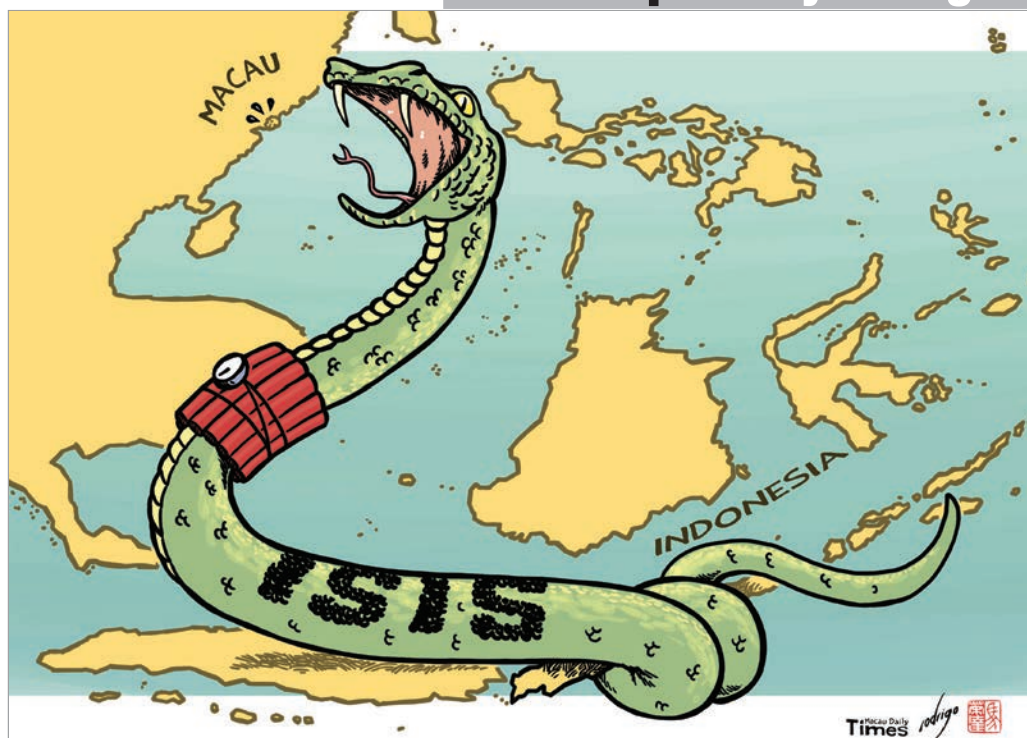
NIGERIA Rescuers pulled bodies of two crew members from the water yesterday, with an Oklahoma man among six killed when a helicopter flying from an offshore oil rig plunged into a lagoon in Nigeria's commercial capital, Lagos.



DENMARK A 36-year-old Eritrean man has confessed to the deadly stabbing of two people at an Ikea store in central Sweden, his defense lawyer said yesterday. Per-Ingvar Ekblad said the suspect accepted a court's decision to hold him in custody for two weeks over the stabbing of a woman and her adult son on Monday in Vasteras, west of Stockholm. The motive was unclear but Sweden's Migration Agency said it met with the man to discuss his case hours before the attack, adding his deportation was imminent after his application for a residency permit had been rejected.

AFGHANISTAN Al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri has purportedly pledged his group's allegiance to the new leader of the Taliban following the death of Mullah Mohammad Omar. The pledge came in a 10-minute audio recording that surfaced on social media and was later carried by the SITE Intelligence Group. The recording, which resembles previous audio clips released by the al-Qaida leader, pledges allegiance to Mullah Omar's successor, Mullah Akhtar Mansoor.

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