



PROPERTY SALES DROP 22 PERCENT

Only 443 units were sold during the month. The average price per square meter fell 16.87 percent

P2



'DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT A DIRECTION'

In an interview with the Times ahead of his departure to Rome, musician Aurelio Porfiri reflects on Macau

P4-5 INTERVIEW



EXPLOSIONS KILL 7, INJURE DOZENS IN SOUTHERN CITY

P11 CHINA

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA Police have arrested two Japanese citizens on spying allegations, officials said yesterday. Japanese Chief Cabinet Spokesman Yoshihide Suga told reporters that the two were detained in May, one in Zhejiang province and the other in Liaoning. China said the two are suspected of spying. [More on p11](#)

SINGAPORE The government said that it has been holding two of its citizens since August for attempting to make their way to Syria to join the Islamic State group. [More on p13](#)

THAILAND Three city policemen in Bangkok were fired after failing to appear for questioning about their alleged role in extorting 1 million baht (USD27,500) from a Japanese businessman. The police said three men, later determined to be police officers, confronted the man and his Thai girlfriend at their condominium in central Bangkok and threatened to arrest them on drug charges unless they were paid 3 million baht (\$82,500). The couple were held until agreeing to hand over a reduced sum of 1 million baht (\$27,500).

[More on backpage](#)

Leong expects MOP16b Sept gaming revenue

P6



Asia's largest movie festival set to kick off in Busan

P14

HOLIDAY TIMES

Macau Daily Times will not be published tomorrow. The Times will be back on the stands on Monday, October 5. However the MDT website

will be updated with breaking news during the recess period. We wish our readers, advertisers and friends the best of times.

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days to go

times Extra

MIGRANT CRISIS

CHANGING NEW ENGLAND

times Extra

weekend Guide

INSIDE

editorial

Paulo Coutinho



DORE TO DOOR GREED

My informed sources say that over 60 percent of Dore investors are Macau residents.

This is typical of the stories where you can't really distinguish victims from perpetrators because they are all in the same boat. And you can't see a clear divide because you have to dig into the complexity of our high-stakes society - the masks obscuring investors' faces just adds depth to my argument, as a metaphor. In a sense, one can say, "the city" is entangled. All it takes is one rogue to rock the boat.

The elusive Ms Chow was apparently a "trustable employee," as they say in the junket world. Apparently, she had access to "the cage." Apparently, she chose the wrong horse (whale) to privately back under the green table. When the shit hit the fan, her game collapsed.

What has intrigued me since day one is the wide-band figure of the alleged theft: 200 million to one billion. Come again? The books must be very messy to postulate such a differential. Meanwhile, the number has been updated from the low band (200m) to 300m and afterwards to 400 million. Maybe the troubling exchange rate HKD-RMB boggled the accounting; alright. Or maybe, just maybe, there was a need to pinpoint a scapegoat for all the troubles the junkets are enduring.

Dore's case raised red flags all over the properties. Junkets were quick to adapt to the muddy waters, and to keep their books in shape they were but very cautious. As a result rolling on high stakes tables had gone down steeply in the weeks following the "theft" - to the dismay of both casinos and public coffers.

According to HSBC analysts, the daily run rate (DRR) dropped in the first week after the exposé to MOP493 - a steep decline from MOP607 million per day just the week before.

The same goes for the casino and junket stocks at the HKSE which have been on a roller-coaster decline, especially from the moment Neptune Group added fear to the chaos, saying they are down almost a billion and threatening to leave Macau.

The investment scheme exposed by the Dore case is far from being unique. Residents have been putting their savings for decades in this 2 percent per month "cladded" revenue. It worked just fine for a long time but now a big lot are in trouble. In some cases, people even mortgage their pricey flats to forge liquid assets to invest in the high-stakes' game.

The Dore investments serve as a public example of the many residents "informally" investing in the big end of town. And the number goes higher if we add the "formal" ways of proxy-betting, like investing in high leveraged financial instruments such as options and futures of gaming stocks.

The cynics are having a field day: what's new?! After all, the "whole" city has been into gambling, everybody and the government know it. Everybody and the government have turned a blind eye because people were happy making a quick fortune.

It took a rogue to rock an entire city. Door-to-door.

Billionaire Ng probe yielded earlier arrest, lawyer says

Patricia Hurtado

THE U.S. secretly arrested a third person as part of an investigation of billionaire Macau developer Ng Lap Seng, a lawyer for his assistant told a federal magistrate Tuesday.

That person's name is being withheld by the government, the lawyer said during a court hearing Tuesday. The person, a woman, was described in court papers filed against Ng as having had "business dealings" with him. The charges against the woman are pending under seal in federal court in Brooklyn, the lawyer said.

Ng, 68, who has a personal net worth of about USD1.8 billion, has been held in a federal jail in Manhattan since he was arrested Sept. 19, accused of bringing 4.5 million into the country and lying about its purpose to U.S. authorities. Federal law requires people entering the U.S. to disclose to customs agents if they are carrying more than \$10,000.

His assistant, Jeff Yin, 29, who was also arrested and charged, was ordered held without bail after a federal magistrate concluded Tuesday he may try to flee the country if he's released on bond.

Yin's lawyer, Sabrina



Ng Lap Seng

Shroff, said at a bail hearing Tuesday that the government was attempting to prosecute her client and the woman, described as "Individual-1" in a criminal complaint against Ng. Shroff said the government wants them to provide information against Ng, who she called "the real person they're after." Shroff said her client had severed all ties with Ng and rejected a lawyer he'd sent to represent him.

"It's very clear they have many other fish to fry," Shroff said. "My client is just a link, as is Individual-1 in Brooklyn."

U.S. Magistrate Judge

Sarah Netburn voiced concern that Yin didn't tell U.S. officials he had a Chinese passport in addition to a U.S. passport. She also said he had the means to flee, noting that he was carrying \$15,000 in cash when he was arrested and had access to a safety deposit box containing more than \$430,000, even though he claimed his personal net worth is about \$35,000.

"The information that's been provided to me indicates that Mr. Yin does prove a risk of flight," Netburn said. "The fact that there is this passport he's carrying with him makes me wonder what his pur-

pose is," she said. "A passport he kept in his proverbial back pocket should he get into trouble."

Prosecutors say they have evidence that Ng wired at least \$19 million to U.S. bank accounts and individuals. Ng and Yin were en route to leave the U.S. from Teterboro Airport in New Jersey on a private plane when they were arrested, Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Richenthal said. Shroff declined to comment after court.

The case is U.S. v. Ng, 15-mj-03369, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York (Manhattan).

Bloomberg

Property sales drop 22 percent y-o-y

THE average price per square meter of property in Macau fell 16.87 percent in August year-on-year. Data released by the Finance Service Bureau (DSF) yesterday indicates that August property sales registered a sharp 22 percent decline when compared with those of the previous year. Only 443 units were sold during the month.

Average prices on the Macau pe-



Residential buildings stand in the Cheoc Van area, Coloane

ninsula dropped by 7.88 percent to MOP82,506 per square meter. In Taipa the decline was more extreme, with the average price per square meter at MOP81,391 (down 27.37 percent year-on-year). In Coloane the decline amounted to 28.57 percentage points, although the average price per square meter remains the highest, at MOP102,093.

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Q&A AURELIO PORFIRI
MUSICIAN

Macau has 'development without a direction'

There were many changes after Professor Cabral left, so I also left the university and continued to work with Santa Rosa de Lima English Secondary School and Our Lady of Fatima Girls' School. I developed the choir and some musical activities at both schools. Meanwhile, I did many concerts, recordings and CDs. If you consider my body of work in general, I published about nine to ten books in Italian and in English, and did many things in between. I participated in choral competitions as adjudicator, and worked on many new compositions too.

MDT – You said in a previous MDT interview that it's difficult to make children like choir music. But do you still feel you've had an impact on their lives and inspired greater appreciation of music?

AP – A few days ago, I was walking in the street in Rua do Campo and happened to see two of my choir students. They were talking in the street, so I approached them to say hello and they were surprised. They said: 'Oh, before you approached us, we were singing your songs.' Songs in Latin.

So if you just think about this for a moment: these are two Chinese students who are not even Christian but felt the need to, even outside the school, sing among themselves the songs that they'd learned with me, which I had composed for them... It feels that my work had an impact on most of my students.

Now, there's the other side of the problem: Macau is not a place where this impact and influence can flourish. All those feeling that they have some kind of talent... they eventually go abroad. Some don't even come back. I don't have high hopes for my students to develop their talent here. So I tell them to go outside Macau as that will give them better chances for development. Unfortunately this city does not allow that kind of development, mainly because of what I call a systemic problem.

MDT – Macau seems to have developed over recent years and government officials talk about diversifying the eco-

nomy. Why do you believe the city has not yet turned into a place where youngsters can develop their talent?

AP – First of all, not all development is positive. But we may ask ourselves: is Macau's development positive? For some people it probably is, but for some other people it's definitely not. Why? Because this is development without a direction. It's material development, yes, but I don't see cultural and spiritual development. The government talks about culture. But it's difficult to develop a cultural agenda when the leadership has an ethnic agenda.

MDT – What do you mean by ethnic agenda?

AP – It means to favor some groups and not others, regardless of their qualities and status.

Is Macau's development positive? For some people it is, but for some other people it's definitely not.

AURELIO PORFIRI

MDT – You're saying that the government gives clear primacy to ethnic Chinese citizens?

AP – Yes, of course. It's not a secret. And I don't mean that they shouldn't invest in their development. But when ethnicity becomes more important than quality, I think you will always have a problem, because you will assign people to a particular position because of their race, not because they're good.

I don't want to be a hypocrite. The Portuguese probably did the same. The difference is that, with the Portuguese, there were also other nationalities because of the missionaries, like Italians and Spanish people.

I always think about the example of the United States. We know that the United States used to be the superpower, and now they say China may be the new super-

power. But the difference is – and you see this in music – in the United States, when they develop their culture, they crave foreign musicians, too.

All great musicians who go to the United States are welcomed warmly. And most of them even become U.S. citizens. They become part of the United States system. When you come to China, you will never become part of the system; you will always be a foreigner. Even I am married to a Chinese woman, but I know I will always be a foreigner. The United States has been able to welcome talent from everywhere. China is not. China has closed the doors to its own ethnic development.

In a certain way, this happens in Macau too. They need foreigners, but they never really accept foreigners as part of the local community.

MDT – This is regarded as a place where West meets East...

AP – That's true historically, but it's not true in everyday life now. You may have heard about a famous Macau historian, Manuel Teixeira. He was a great historian and he returned to Portugal I think in 1999. He gave an interview to a Portuguese magazine and the journalist asked him why he was leaving. He said, 'I want to leave because I don't want to see Macau die.' I think this is very meaningful. So when we talk about East meets West, we are talking more about a metaphysical idea. It doesn't exist anymore. Now we have 'Ou Mun.' It's another thing. That Macau you mentioned is gone.

MDT – Are you also leaving because you don't want to see Macau die?

AP – That version of Macau is already dead. For me, I leave because I don't want to die myself. I did many things here. But I also need to stay among colleagues who can teach me something, and here, I'm alone. I am sorry to say this, but the current standard of music is not at a point where I can have a colleague teaching me something.

Even when I talk to Chinese people from Macau who went abroad, they say the same. Unfortunately, you don't have quality here. When I say qua-

Catarina Pinto

AURELIO Porfiri worked as a substitute organist at the Vatican City Vicariate in St. Peter's Basilica when he moved to Macau from his native Italy back in 2008, joining the University of Saint Joseph as associate professor. For the past five years, Mr Porfiri has inspired young Macau students while serving as director of choral activities at Santa Rosa de Lima English Secondary School and at Our Lady of Fatima Girls' School. But now the time has come for him to move back to Rome. In an interview with the Times ahead of his departure, Mr Porfiri acknowledged that Macau's youth are very bright, but that the educa-

tion system is killing their creativity. His students, he says, were always his source of strength when living here. However, he's not confident that Macau's future is developing in the right direction.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) – This city has been your home over the past seven years. Could you give us a review of your time here?

Aurelio Porfiri (AP) – I came to Macau in 2008 to be an associate professor at the University of Saint Joseph. I was invited by Professor Cabral, who back then served as USJ rector. I worked for four years there, where I developed some music programs, and tried to develop the choir.

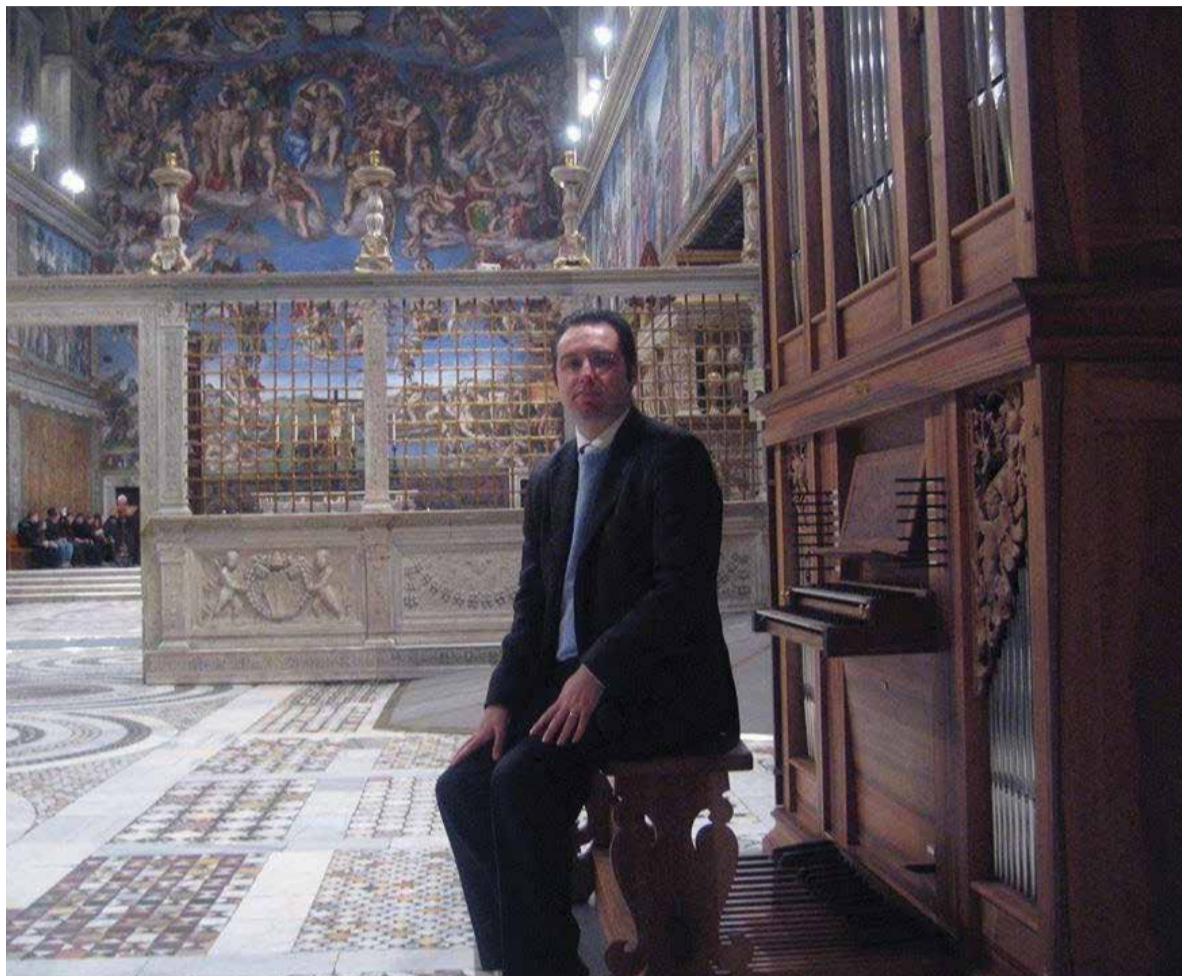
lity, it means that the standard of teaching is low, but the students are very bright.

I love my students. They're very bright. They're as bright as the ones in Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan or Italy. They were my strength throughout these years. The smiles of my students, their joy when they sing something complex and realize they can do things they didn't do before. That was my strength. But then there's a problem: when they're in secondary school, they're very brilliant, very creative – when they go on, the Macau system kills their creativity.

MDT – When they go on to university?

AP – Yes, when they go to university. People are always afraid. People here are afraid to make mistakes. Every time I'd like to do something, I have to fight to do it. So I fought a lot, because I wanted to prove that the problem in Macau is not the students, but rather the whole system itself.

The system 'eats' them and they don't even notice. Why do people from Hong Kong look down on people from Macau? Why don't the peo-



Aurelio Porfiri at the Sistine Chapel, Vatican

ple of Macau ask themselves this same question? The problem is that the answer to this question is perhaps too painful. If you want to deve-

lop, you have to open yourself up to new perspectives. And people here always look internally, which is quite similar to mainland China.

MDT – Do you hope that Macau will become more open? We've seen civil movements taking shape before.

AP – In Macau, there are bright people. The problem is we have a system that does not allow for creativity to flourish.

Hong Kong is different. The British developed Hong Kong into a very international city. This cannot be denied. They cherish Western influence. I don't know if Macau people share the same feelings about the Portuguese. I don't feel that the Portuguese were interested in developing Macau in the same way that the British developed Hong Kong.

The question is: what is the direction you want to give the city? Macau was developing, you said. But can we ask ourselves about the development of Macau? The development is mostly linked to gambling. You saw that when the gambling went down, everything collapsed. The government wants to diversify the economy. But with what? I am not the only foreigner feeling this way. You have huge difficulties working here; there's this kind of fear of the outside world. That's why I am not so optimistic about Macau's development.

“ If you want to develop, you have to open yourself to new perspectives.

AURELIO PORFIRI

MDT – You mentioned that your students were your strength here. Did any of your students go on to pursue a career in music?

AP – Indeed. Some students, especially in Santa Rosa, went on to study music abroad. Some went to study in the U.K. And I have to say that even with students who did not pursue a career in music, I remained on very good terms. When they visit the school, they always look for me, and they join the choir to sing together. I think I was really lucky to meet these students, both at Santa Rosa and at Our Lady of Fatima.

They were so kind and patient as well, although I was a cultural shock to them. I was that foreigner who brought them a lot of music that they had never heard before – not just my music, but many musical pieces in Latin. They trusted me so much, that we could put on music programs and concerts. It was very impressive.

MDT – How did students react to singing in Latin?

AP – At the beginning, of course, they were surprised but I have to tell you frankly: when I give them pieces in Latin, I don't even have to teach them the pronunciation.

You may ask, 'What's the use of having students singing in Latin?' It's really useful, because Latin is the mother of all European languages, so when you learn to pronounce Latin, you'll find it easier to learn all of the Romance languages. Most of the discipline's terminology comes from Latin. So if they learn a bit of Latin and Greek, they can understand more words.

I'm very pleased to see that when music is beautiful, it's universally beautiful.

MDT – What do you think of the role of the Macau diocese over the years you have lived here?

AP – Next year, the diocese will have a major anniversary: 440 years old. I know for sure that there are many priests and missionaries who are supportive of me and my activities. I certainly know that being a Catholic here is not easy, because you're in a city where the standard is set by the gambling industry. What I suggest is that it's very important for people who want to become Catholics to see the strong recognition of faith. I think that it would be important for the diocese to show that Macau is not only about gambling, but about being 'the heir' to 440 years of Christianity.



GAMING

Leong estimates MOP16 billion revenue in Sept

GAMING revenue for September is estimated to have been around MOP16 billion, according to the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong.

The secretary noted that gaming revenue in September is usually lower than that in August. In previous years, the average drop was between MOP2 billion and MOP3 billion.

When questioned about the Dore Entertainment theft and the claims that residents have not been able to withdraw their investments from the junket group, Lionel Leong said that authorities are investigating the situation. He refused to make any further comment on the Dore case.

Also related to the gaming industry, Mr Leong said that the task of determining the number



of gaming tables to allocate to the newly established casino-resorts is still in progress. He stressed that the government will take each project's non-gaming elements into consideration.

WEALTH PARTAKING SCHEME

81.9 percent of cheques withdrawn

THE distribution of allowances under the Wealth Partaking Scheme "basically finished on 30 September," according to the Finance Services Bureau. A total of 182,532 beneficiaries received the cash handout by bank transfer, accounting for MOP1,608,883,200, while 482,856 cheques were mailed, amounting to MOP4,160,613,600. As of yesterday, 395,223 cheques had been withdrawn, repre-



senting 81.9 percent of the total number of cheques written out.

The Finance Services Bureau also commented that their Support Centre for Wealth Parking Disbursement has handled 25,620 enquiries sin-

ce it opened on July 6. Most of the visitors to the center which is located in Avenida da Praia Grande were requesting the re-issuance of cheques (4,053 cases).

The Support Centre ceased operations yesterday, but residents can still go to the Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau Service Centre if they have any questions relating to the Wealth Partaking Scheme of present or previous years.

STATISTICS

Merchandise imports remain stable

MERCHANDISE imports from mainland China increased by 13.2 percent year-on-year in the first eight months of the year to MOP20.98 billion. According to the Statistics and Census Service, imports from the European Union (MOP12.68 billion) fell by 12.4 percent. Imports of consumer goods dropped by 7.4 percent to MOP33.75 billion, with imports of gold

jewelry (MOP4.78 billion) decreasing by 25.4 percent, while those of food & beverages (MOP7.76 billion) increased by 2.7 percent. Moreover, imports of mobile phones (MOP5.16 billion) expanded by 37.6%, while imports of fuels & lubricants (MOP4.72 billion) declined by 10.9 percent. The total value of merchandise imports fell by 0.6 percent to MOP56.65 billion

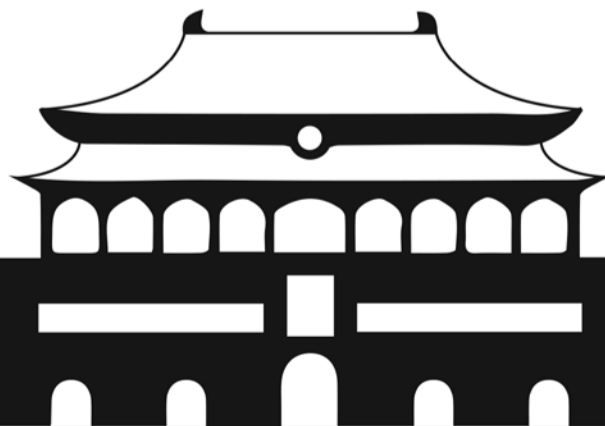
DSEC also indicated that the total merchandise exports for August 2015 amounted to MOP894 million, up by 19.4 percent year-on-year. The revenue of re-exports grew by 30.9 percent to MOP783 million, of which the revenue of clocks, diamond jewelry and motor vehicles surged. Domestic exports of tobacco decreased by 53.9 percent to MOP22 million.

AD

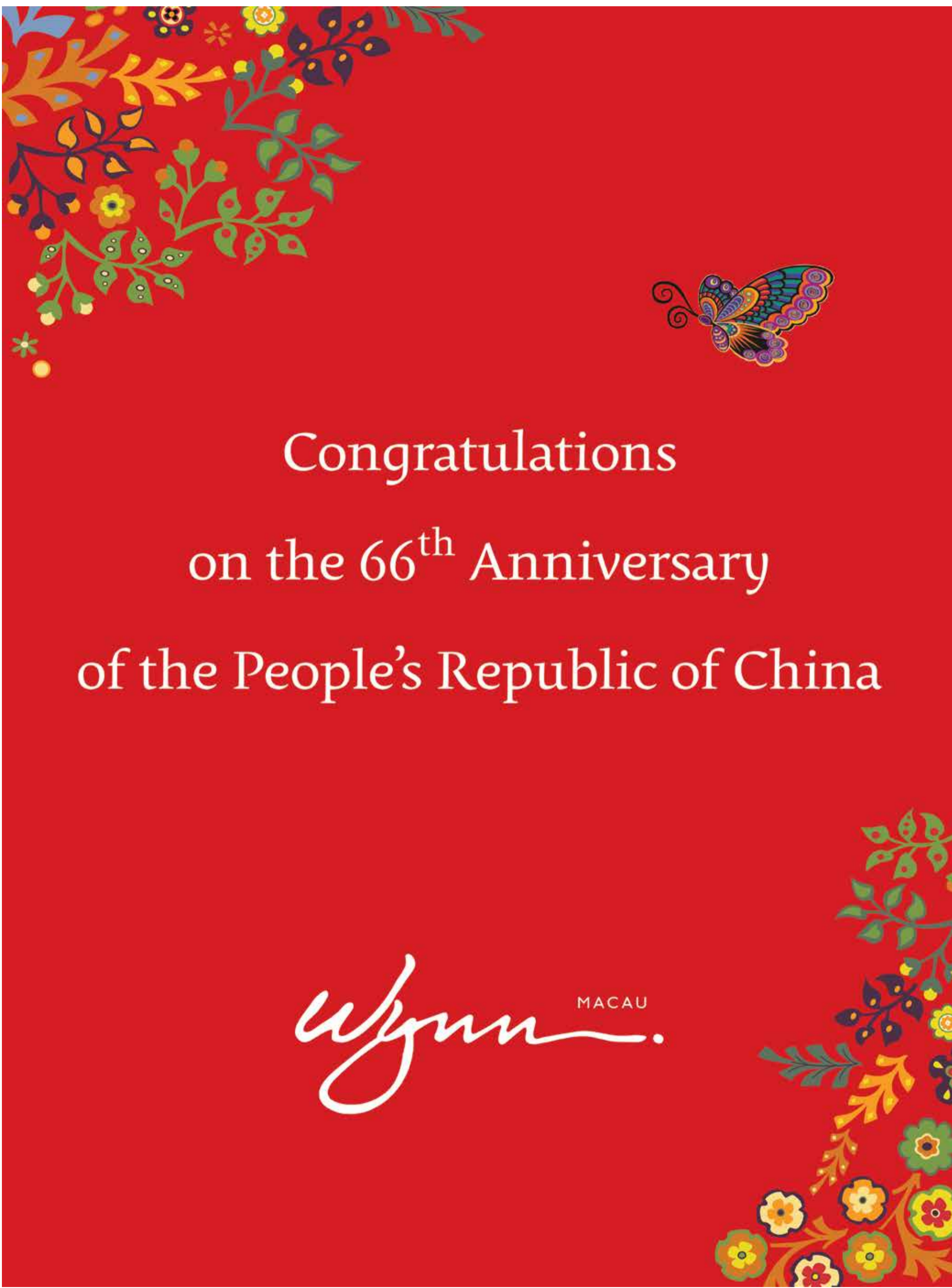


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MGM RESORTS
ANNOUNCES FUNDING
FOR PANDA VACCINE
PROGRAM

MGM Resorts International announced last week that it would fund vaccines needed in panda reserves at the China Conservation & Research Center for the Giant Panda (CCRCGP). The immunization program is run by Pandas International, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing assistance to public education, research support and habitat preservation for China's giant panda population.

Pandas International is a 15-year-old, U.S.-based organization that is currently assisting four panda centers in China by providing veterinary equipment and medical, hospital and laboratory supplies.

With MGM Resorts' support, in collaboration with U.S. drug manufacturers, Pandas International will deliver over 1,000 vaccines to protect pandas in areas most impacted by the disease.

"MGM Resorts is proud to join Pandas International's efforts to protect giant pandas, including those in China facing this most recent outbreak," said Jim Murren, Chairman and CEO of MGM Resorts International.

ENERGY

Chinese solar company blames short-sellers for stock trouble

Joe McDonald, Beijing

THE chairman of a troubled Chinese solar panel manufacturer has denied wrongdoing and blamed short-selling by hedge funds for a plunge in the price of its Hong Kong-traded shares.

Hanergy Thin Film Power Group Ltd. is cooperating with an investigation by Hong Kong regulators following the May 20 suspension in trading of its shares, chairman Li Hejun said in comments released Tuesday by its Chinese parent company. He urged investigators to finish their work as soon as possible.

Trading in Hanergy shares in Hong Kong was suspended after their price fell by nearly half, wiping USD19 billion off its market value in less than an hour.

Li denied suggestions Hanergy engaged in improper dealings with its Chinese parent. He blamed the price fall on "malicious short-selling" — or betting by traders that a share's price will



Li Hejun, chairman and CEO of Hanergy Holding Group

fall — by hedge funds he did not identify.

The share price of Hanergy, a unit of Beijing-based Hanergy Holding Group, soared over the year before its suspension, making Li one of China's richest businessmen but prompting warnings the increase was dangerously fast. Financial analysts questioned the Hong Kong company's reliance on making the bulk of its sales to its Chinese parent.

"The only big winner is short-sellers," said Li at an event marking the anniversary of the Chinese parent company's founding, according to the trans-

cript released by the company. "While I have enormous direct losses, the losses for shareholders, investors, institutions and employees make me even more sad and upset."

Li's comments add to a wave of criticism of short-selling by Chinese business leaders following the plunge in share prices of other companies that were targeted by investors who questioned their finances.

Short-selling involves selling borrowed shares in a troubled company in the expectation that an investor can later buy shares at a lower price to return to their owner, making a profit.

Some investors try to push down share prices by publicly challenging companies' financial information. That has prompted demands by Chinese corporate leaders for regulators to limit the practice.

Hanergy requested the May trading halt but Hong Kong regulators took the unusual step in

July of issuing an order blocking a resumption of trading even if the company requests it.

The Hong Kong company said in July that regulators ordered the trading halt because it refused to hand over financial statements for its Chinese parent and details of loans taken out by Li. It said that information was private.

Li's comments this week suggested Hanergy has yet to resolve that standoff. He repeated that its lawyers believe it is inappropriate for Hong Kong regulators to demand information from the Chinese parent because it is not publicly traded.

Li said the fact that dealings with its parent company made up a big share of Hanergy's business was a "historical legacy" and sales to other customers are rising. He said dealings with the parent were "open and transparent."

"Hanergy strictly abided by all relevant rules," he said. **AP**

AD

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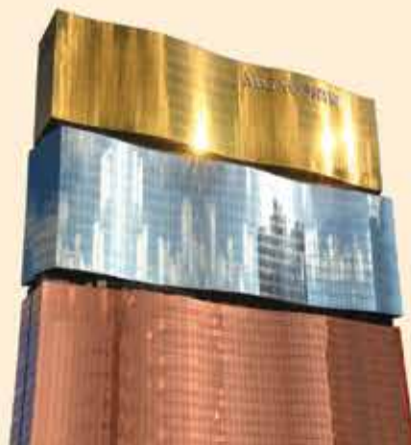
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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

All you wanted to know about property investment

Part 7 - Calculating your return on an investment property

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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This is the seventh installment of an eight part series identifying the key factors in choosing the right investment property and putting your money to work. Finding a great investment property is an exciting task. Of course a key component of the assessment criteria for an investment property is calculating the potential rental yield, meaning the return on the money invested to purchase the property.

Rental Yield:

The yield from a rental property is basically the rate of return from your investment, excluding any tax considerations. To work out the GROSS rental yield, you can divide the annual rental income from the property by the purchase price and multiple by 100 to get the percentage rate of return. For example, if you purchased a property for \$4,000,000 and were receiving \$20,000 per month / \$240,000 per year in rent, your yield would be 6%. To work out the NET rental yield, go through the same exercise, but just deduct your expenses from the rental inco-

me first. Your overall return is influenced by other factors including: Any increase in the property's value, which will give you a capital gain when you sell it in the future. Any tax relief/credits/considerations you may be eligible for here or in your home country (Note; Macau government tax on rental income is currently 10%)

What should you include as expenses?

Expenses for your rental yield calculation should include real estate property management fees, apartment complex management fees, insurance, repairs and maintenance. You can also allow for some vacant periods between tenants. A good yardstick is to estimate 15% of the rental income for expenses. Having worked out the rental yield for a particular property, you can compare it against the potential rental yields available from other investment properties to help you decide which offers the best opportunity for you and whether you should proceed.

A low return may mean that alternative investments should be reviewed, whilst a very high relative yield may mean there is an accompanying risk factor that's higher than normal (this is particularly relevant to investments with guaranteed rental returns and investments in serviced apartments).

A word of caution; Yield is not everything, and areas that produce lower yields usually do so because of rising property prices, which in turn produce a higher capital gains on the property.

When investing in property, planning to hold the property a minimum of five years is always a reasonable strategy, and will help to smooth out the economic cycles and changing conditions along the way.

In the final part of this investment series we look at Renting and Managing Your Investment Property. For further information on leasing or buying property please call me or visit our website Www.JMLProperty.com, or e-mail me on Juliet@JMLProperty.com

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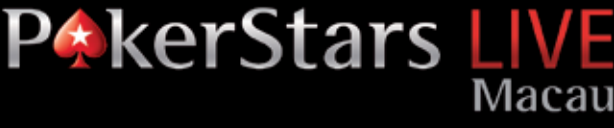
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GUANGXI

Explosions kill 7, injure dozens in southern city

A series of explosions targeting public buildings in a small city in southern China killed at least seven people and injured dozens yesterday, officials and state media said.

The official Xinhua News Agency said there were 15 blasts in Liucheng county in the southern region of Guangxi and that six people were killed.

The city government of Liuzhou, which oversees Liucheng, said the explosions also injured 13 people, although later reports by state media said dozens were injured.

The blasts, which occurred between 3:15 p.m. and 5 p.m., hit a hospital, local markets, a shopping mall, a bus station and several government buildings, including a jail and a township office building, according to a police statement posted by the local newspaper Nanguo Zaobao.

Liuzhou's police chief said the blasts were triggered by explosive devices delivered in several mail packages, state broadcaster CCTV reported.

The police chief said the case was under investigation. He did not name any suspects or offer any motive for the explosions.

Photos posted online showed smoke in local streets, strewn debris, dust clouds in the sky and the collapse of a five-story building. AP

China holding 2 Japanese citizens on spying allegations

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

CHINA has arrested two Japanese citizens on spying allegations, officials said yesterday.

Japanese Chief Cabinet Spokesman Yoshihide Suga told reporters that the two were detained in May, one in Zhejiang province and the other in Liaoning. China said the two are suspected of spying.

Suga said that the Japanese government knew about the arrests soon after the two were detained, but withheld the information due to safety reasons.

He refused to give details on the arrests, including the specific allegations the two face. Earlier, Suga said that the Japanese government "absolutely (does) no such thing," referring to sending spies to other countries.

The government has provided support for the two



Men on bicycles go past the Japanese Embassy in Beijing

through Japanese diplomatic establishments, Suga said, without elaborating. A Foreign Ministry official in charge of the safety of overseas Japanese said the two were in good health, but that any prospect for their release was not known.

China's government said authorities arrested the two on suspicion of spying.

"The legal basis of the arrests is that these two people engaged in spying in

China," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said at a regular briefing Wednesday in Beijing. "If there's anything in common for these two people, it's that both of them engaged in spying in China."

Japanese newspapers and television stations reported that the two were both men. One was apprehended near military facilities in coastal Zhejiang, and the other near the border with

North Korea at about the same time, according to the reports, which cited unnamed sources familiar with Japan-China affairs. Kyodo News agency reported that a third Japanese man was also in custody over an unknown allegation.

Satoshi Tomisaka, a China expert at Takushoku University, said that the arrests reflected China's tightening of its surveillance against growing foreign influence, a move that reflects President Xi Jinping's leadership.

"We can assume that underlings believe tightening control is what the leadership wants them to do, and acting faithfully," he told Japanese national broadcaster NHK.

In 2010, four employees of a Japanese construction company were accused of filming a Chinese military site in Hebei province but were released within a few weeks. AP

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HONG KONG

Asia tycoon Li on defensive after attacks from Chinese media

Kelvin Chan
Business Writer

HONG Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing has defended his business strategy against accusations from China's state media that he is abandoning investments in the world's No. 2 economy because of its slowing growth.

In an unusual move, Li released a statement responding to a barrage of criticism in recent weeks about him selling off China assets as he restructured his global business empire to focus more on Europe and less on China.

Commentaries in state media chastised Li this month for being immoral and ungrateful, accusing him of running out on China as its economy slows despite profiting handsomely in better times.

Li has undertaken a major reorganization this year of his sprawling business interests that range from ports to mobile phones. The shakeup inclu-



Hong Kong tycoon Li Ka-shing

ded shifting the domiciles of his two main companies from Hong Kong to the Cayman Islands, triggering speculation that he was planning to withdraw from China.

"We are vigilant not to let these unfounded allegations escalate to cause investors' concerns," said the statement released ear-

lier this week by his company CK Hutchison Holdings. It said there was "no truth in the withdrawal accusations."

The statement said Li was "confident" that Chinese President Xi Jinping will continue to improve governance and reform China's economy.

The former British colony's tycoons have long embraced China's communist leaders in order to ensure survival of their business interests on the mainland. Li was part of a business contingent that met Xi in Beijing last year to show their support as tensions rose over pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong.

The 87-year-old Li has long been Asia's richest person, although he recently fell to second place with a fortune of USD24.3 billion, according to Forbes.

Earlier this month, a think tank affiliated with the official Xinhua news agency and the People's Daily newspaper, the communist party's mouthpiece, both lambasted Li over his business decisions in China. **AP**

China in line to build Indonesia high speed rail

Niniek Karmini, Jakarta

CHINA has emerged as the likely builder of Indonesia's first high-speed rail line after Indonesian officials rejected Japan's requirement for a government guarantee of loans, officials said yesterday.

Regional rivals China and Japan were competing to construct the high-speed rail system, each offering low-interest loans and other perks as they vied to secure the estimated \$5.3 billion high-profile railway contract.

The 150-kilometer (93-mile) Jakarta to Bandung high-speed line is part of 750-kilometers (466 miles) of new rail planned for Indonesia.

Indonesia's presidential chief of staff Teten Masduki said that Japan lost out because its proposal was more about government-to-government cooperation. Indonesia required business-to-business cooperation without Indonesian fiscal spending

or debt guarantees.

"This time, Japan did not meet the requirement," Masduki said, "But there are a lot of other opportunities for Japan to invest more in Indonesia's infrastructure."


A spokesman for Japan's foreign ministry said the Japanese government had been informed of Jakarta's decision.

President Joko Widodo has ambitious plans to improve Indonesia's infrastructure, which could boost manufacturing and create hundreds of thousands of new jobs in Southeast Asia's largest economy.


The competition between China and Japan for the rail project has been accompanied by many twists and turns as Indonesia weighed proposals and counterproposals.

Last month, the government decided to downgrade the project to what it called medium-speed rail but the high-speed option now appears to be back on the table. **AP**

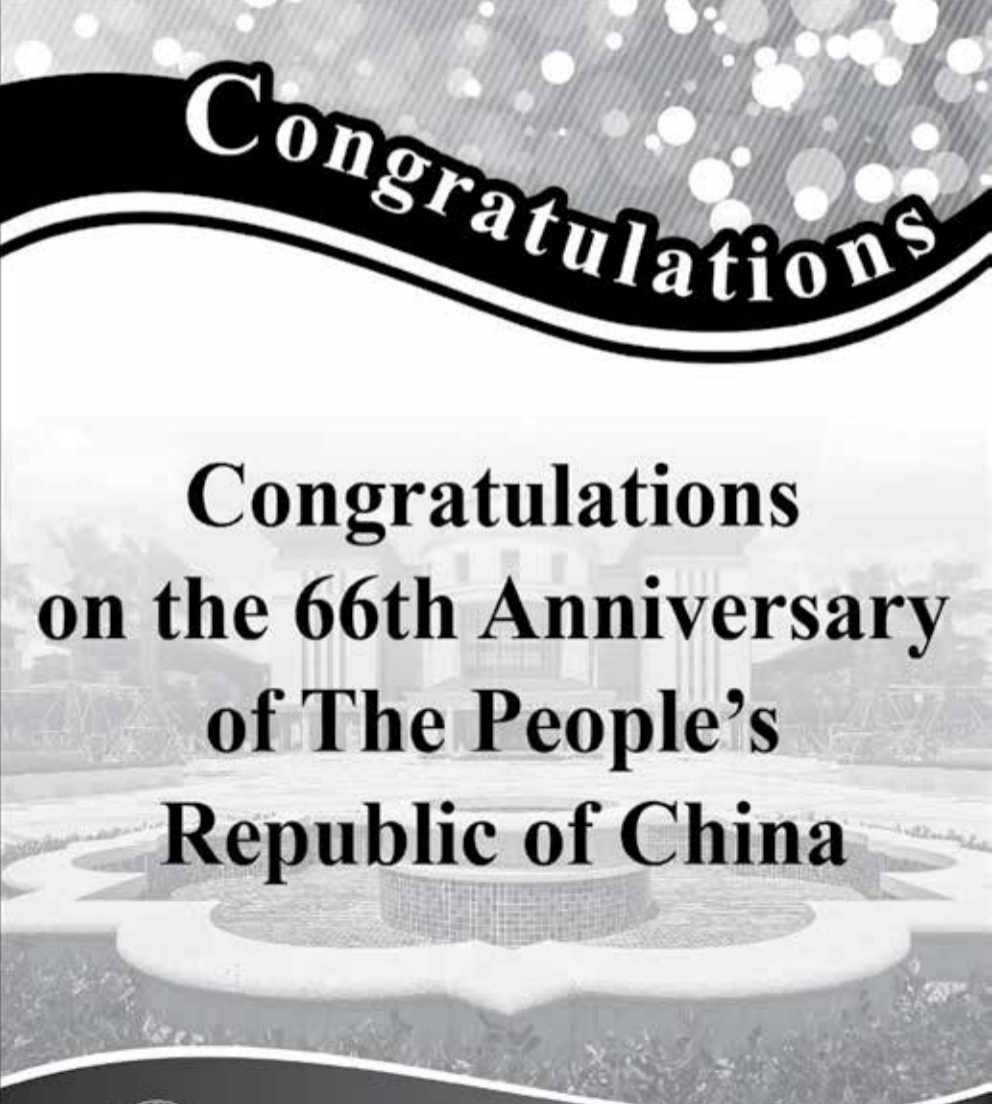
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SINGAPORE

Authorities hold 2 for allegedly trying to join Islamic State

Annabelle Liang, Singapore

SINGAPORE'S government said yesterday that it has been holding two of its citizens since August for attempting to make their way to Syria to join the Islamic State group.

Muhammad Shamin Mohamed Sidek, 29, and Muhammad Harith Jailani, 18, were detained without trial under the country's Internal Security Act in separate cases, the Ministry of Home Affairs said in a statement.

The announcement of the arrests comes amid growing concern that more youths in the region are being radicalized by the Islamic State group and volunteering as foreign fighters, with countries in the area tightening security checks.



Mohammed Hamzah Khan

Both individuals were "self-radicalized," the ministry said, using a term that indicates they were influenced by terrorism without being affiliated with a radical group. Instead, Shamin and Harith had exposed themselves to the Islamic State through the group's online propaganda.

"The detentions of Shamin and Harith underline the persistent ISIS threat and the threat posed by self-radicalized Singaporeans," the ministry's statement said. "A few of the Singaporeans who have been detained had even been prepared to carry out terrorist attacks in Singapore."

The ministry said that Shamin had been sentenced in May to three months in jail for inciting religious violence through pro-Islamic State group postings on social media. But it said that he continued to express support for the group throughout his imprisonment, and was planning to travel to Syria and join the Islamic State after his release.

Harith had collected information on how to travel to Syria, even attempting

to recruit others to join the group, the ministry said.

In May, Singapore detained two teenagers for similar reasons. One has since been released, but is not allowed to leave the country without permission.

"The idea that ISIS can turn Southeast Asia into a province of a worldwide Islamic caliphate is a grandiose, pie-in-the-sky dream," Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said in May.

"But it is not so far-fetched that ISIS could establish a base somewhere in the region, a geographical area under its physical control like in Syria and Iraq, somewhere far from the centers of power of state governments, where the governments' writ does not run. That would pose a serious threat to the whole of Southeast Asia," he said. AP

PHILIPPINES

Rights group says child miners risk lives in gold mines

THOUSANDS of Filipino children, some as young as 9 years old, risk their lives by working in illegal, small-scale gold mines under terrifying conditions and the government has not done enough to protect them, a human rights group said yesterday.

A Human Rights Watch report said the children work in unstable 25-meter deep pits or underwater along coastal shores or rivers, processing gold with mercury, a toxic metal that can cause irreversible health damage. Those who dive for gold stay underwater for several hours at a time in 10-meter-deep shafts, receiving air through a tube attached to an air compressor.

The New York-based group says it interviewed 135 people, including 65 child miners from 9 to 17 years of age, in eastern Camarines Norte and Masbate provinces during field research in 2014 and 2015.

The Philippines had nearly 5.5 million working children in 2011, according to government statistics, with 3.2 million of them considered child laborers because they worked long hours or in hazardous environments. AP

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Youkyung Lee, Seoul

SOUTH KOREA

Asia's largest movie festival set to kick off in Busan

ASIA'S largest movie festival kicks off today at a time when the region's influence on the global movie industry is on the rise.

Entering its 20th year in the South Korean port city, the Busan International Film Festival has seen its influence and size expand in stride with the growth of box office sales in the region.

Asian countries fueled growth in the global film industry last year, while box office sales in the U.S. and Canada declined. With box office sales of USD12.4 billion in 2014, the Asian region is the biggest and fastest-growing movie market in the world, according to the Motion Picture Association of America.

Despite the growing influence of Asian cinema in the world, the non-competition movie festival has kept its bar of pretense and hierarchy low, unlike the historic yet hierarchical Cannes Film Festival, which turned away some women in flat shoes from a premiere this spring.

Busan cinemagoers — in flats or heels, part of the media or not — do more than just gaze at award-winning directors, K-pop stars and Hollywood celebrities gracing the red carpet. They happily stay in queues from the



A woman walks past a banner advertising the Busan International Film Festival at Busan Cinema Center

wee hours to get tickets, ask questions to filmmakers and actors after screenings, and join public talk shows with them on the beach.

While the glamor and glitz will

not be lost in Busan, most moviegoers and industry officials will travel to South Korea's second-largest city to discover the next-generation Wong Kar Wai or Ang Lee. The festival's New Currents

section, which premieres Asian feature movies from novice directors, has broken major talents, including Venice Film Festival Golden Lion winner Jia Zhangke. Its Asian Cinema Fund program has provided financial lifelines to promising filmmakers.

"There are a lot of movies completed by support from the Asian Cinema Fund, introduced in Busan for the first time in the world and then went on to international acclaim," said Kim Ji-seok, the Busan Film Festival's executive programmer.

The festival has not been without challenges during its 20-year ride. The most recent setback was the budget cut by South Korea's government after the festival went ahead with the screening of a controversial documentary last year despite pressure not to.

The state-run Korean Film Council cut its support to the film festival this year by nearly half

to 800 million won (\$677,000) from 1.46 billion won (\$1.2 million). Many viewed the budget cut as punishment for the festival's decision to screen the documentary, which was about the 2014 sinking of a ferry that left hundreds of people dead, most of them South Korean students on a school trip, and the government's much-criticized rescue operation.

"I felt then that our society's democracy had a long way to go," Kim said.

After the standoff with the government, Kang Soo-yeon, an award-winning actress, was appointed the festival's co-director. She has since vowed to stand for the value of freedom of expression.

After its opening today with "Zubaan," an India coming-of-age drama, the festival will screen 303 movies from 75 countries, including 94 world premieres. AP

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MIDDLE EAST

Russia confirms start of airstrikes in Syria



Russian President Vladimir Putin, rear center, holds a meeting with senior government officials at the Novo-Ogaryovo residence outside Moscow

Nataliya Vasilyeva, Moscow

RUSSIAN military jets carried out airstrikes against the Islamic State group in Syria yesterday for the first time, the defense ministry said.

The airstrikes targeted IS positions, vehicles and warehouses that Russia believes belong to IS militants, ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov told Russian news agencies.

Russia's upper chamber of parliament earlier yesterday gave the green light to President Vladimir Putin's request to send Russian troops to Syria. Putin said the Russian air force will be supporting the Syrian army in its offensive operations.

Russia is "not going to plunge into this conflict head-on," Putin said, and Moscow will help Syrian President Bashar

Assad's army as long as their offensive operation lasts.

Putin also said he expects Assad to sit down and talk with the Syrian opposition about a political settlement.

Russian lawmakers voted unanimously yesterday to allow Putin to order airstrikes in Syria, where Russia has deployed fighter jets and other weapons in recent weeks.

Putin had to request parlia-

airstrikes but ruled out ground action.

Putin and other officials have said Russia was providing weapons and training to Assad's army to help it combat IS. Russian navy transport vessels have been shuttling back and forth for weeks to ferry troops, weapons and supplies to an air base near the Syrian coastal city of Latakia. IHS Jane's, a leading defense research group, said last week that satellite images of the base showed 28 jets, including Su-30 multirole fighters, Su-25 ground attack jets, Su-24 bombers and possibly Ka-52 helicopter gunships.

The Islamic State group has captured large parts of both Syria and Iraq. AP

mentary approval for any use of Russian troops abroad, according to the constitution. The last time he did so was before Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in March 2014.

The vote comes after Putin's meeting Monday with President Barack Obama on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly meeting in New York, where the two discussed Russia's recent military buildup in Syria. Speaking after his meeting with Obama, Putin kept the door open for

ASSAD WELCOMES RUSSIAN DECISION ON SENDING TROOPS

SYRIAN PRESIDENT Bashar Assad welcomed Russia's decision to send troops to his war-torn country, saying the military support from Moscow is the result of a Damascus request. The development came as Russian military jets carried out airstrikes in Syria for the first time. A U.S. defense official told The Associated Press that the

airstrikes took place near Homs — Syria's largest provinces that borders Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq. According to a statement by Assad's office, the Syrian leader had sent a letter to his Russian counterpart, asking for the support. Assad's Facebook page also reiterated that it "came upon a request from the Syrian state."

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Darlene Superville, United Nations

DIPLOMACY

US, Cuba leaders meet for 2nd time in this year

MAKING good on a pledge to change U.S. posture toward Cuba, President Barack Obama held talks yesterday (Macau time) with Cuban President Raul Castro, the second time the leaders of the once-estranged nations have met this year.

Obama and Castro smiled and shook hands before beginning their private talk on the sidelines of the annual gathering of world leaders at the United Nations.

The encounter comes as the Cold War adversaries go about the long and complex process of normalizing relations following decades of animosity. The U.S. recently eased rules for citizens who want to visit or do business in Cuba to help fostering greater economic freedom on the island.

The White House said the leaders discussed additional steps each government can take to deepen cooperation. Obama also reiterated U.S. support for human rights in Cuba, a sticking point in the relationship, the White House said.

Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez focused on the



President Barack Obama talks with Cuban President Raul Castro

pace of normalizing relations following the meeting, saying speeding up the process will require Obama using his executive authority to substantially modify the decades-old

U.S. economic embargo. Rodriguez said actions Obama has taken so far "have a very limited value, a very limited scope and do not deal with any significant aspects when it

comes to the implementation of the blockade against Cuba."

But many Republican lawmakers, and some Democrats, oppose lifting the embargo at this stage.

Obama and Castro surprised the world last December by announcing they had agreed to restore diplomatic relations.

Since then, the two countries have reopened embassies

“ [Obama’s actions] so far have a very limited value, a very limited scope.

BRUNO RODRIGUEZ
CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER

in each other’s capitals. But sharp differences remain, particularly over Cuba’s human rights record and detainment of political prisoners and the economic embargo. Cuba also insists on the return of land occupied by the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay; the U.S. says that is not in the plan.

In his address Monday at the opening of the U.N. General Assembly’s annual ministerial meeting, Obama discussed the new approach toward Cuba and said he was confident that Congress “will inevitably lift an embargo that should not be in place anymore.”

Obama and Castro first spoke in December after the secret process to restore diplomatic relations was revealed.

They met in person in April while attending a regional summit in Panama. Before then, the last time a U.S. and Cuban leader had convened a substantive meeting was in 1958.

Obama and Castro spoke by telephone again earlier this month before Pope Francis visited Cuba and the United States. Francis was a go-between for the U.S. and Cuba during their secret talks.

Obama also met with Nursultan Nazarbayev, the president of Kazakhstan. **AP**

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14:30	Portuguese Movie
16:00	News
16:45	Documentary
17:45	Miscellaneous
18:20	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
19:10	Montra do Lilau (Repeat)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:40	Comedy
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Champions League Highlights
23:45	Television Film

FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	Trail of Lies (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	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Film

SATURDAY

10:45	Boonie Bears
11:35	Young Adult
12:00	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:10	News
18:30	Contest
19:20	Miscellaneous
19:50	Macau 360° (Repeated)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Drama
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts

offbeat

ELEPHANTS, CROCODILES KILL 7 PEOPLE AT MALAWI PARK

Beware of the wildlife.

Elephants and crocodiles have killed seven people in separate incidents over a seven-week period in an around a wildlife park in Malawi, the park's managers said.

African Parks, a Johannesburg-based group, this week attributed the deaths in Liwonde National Park primarily to the fact that the reserve is unfenced and also because poachers are illegally entering the park. The park's 130-kilometer perimeter will be fenced, which will take 18 months, according to the non-profit group.

The dead include four people killed outside the park by crocodiles and crop-raiding elephants, as well as three poachers killed inside the park — one by an elephant and the other two by crocodiles, according to African Parks, which took over management of Liwonde on Aug. 1. Another poacher lost his arm in a crocodile attack.

In a statement, Peter Fearnhead, CEO of African Parks, said the level of conflict between people and wildlife at Liwonde was "almost unprecedented" and was one of the reasons that Malawi's government invited the group to take over management of the park. The group runs 10 wildlife areas in Africa.

cinema



CINETEATRO

01 Oct - 07 Oct



THE MARTIAN

ROOM 1

(3D) 2.15, 7.15 pm

(2D) 4.45, 9.45 pm

Director: Ridley Scott

Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kate Mara

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 141min



DARK PLACES

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Gilles Paquet-Brenner

Starring: Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult, Chloe Grace Moretz

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 113min

OFFICE

ROOM 2

7.15 pm

Director: Johnnie To

Starring: Chow Yun-Fat, Sylvia Chang, Eason Chan, Tang Wei

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 117min



HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2

ROOM 3

(2D) 2.30, 4.15, 7.45 pm

(3D) 6.00 pm

Director: Genndy tartakovsky

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 89min

THE INTERN

ROOM 3

9.30 pm

Director: Nancy Meyers

Starring: Robert De Niro, Anne Hathaway

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 121min

MACAU TOWER

01 Oct - 14 Oct

THE MARTIAN

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

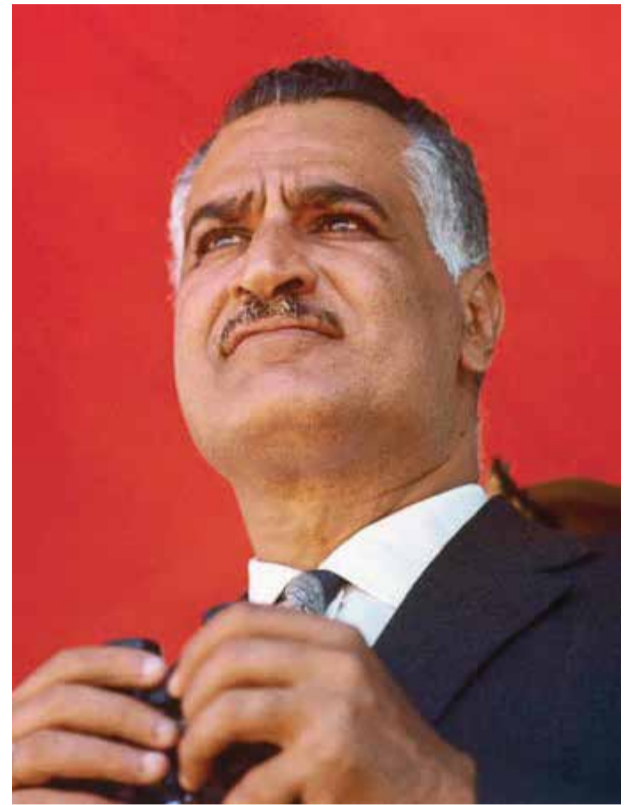
Director: Ridley Scott

Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kate Mara

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 141min

this day in history



1970 MOURNERS KILLED AS NASSER IS BURIED

Scores of people have been crushed or battered to death in Cairo as millions of people crowded onto the streets for President Abdel Nasser's funeral.

The funeral cortege should have been a sombre state ceremony attended by 40 major-generals and 5,000 troops.

But as the president's bier passed through the capital towards its final resting place, the sheer weight of numbers of grief-stricken Egyptians threatened to disrupt the procession.

As the coffin crossed Qasr El-Nil bridge soldiers were simply overwhelmed by a mass of communal sorrow as men and women, wailing their loss, swarmed around the entourage.

In a surge of spontaneity hysterical mourners attempted to bear their beloved leader's coffin themselves.

Soldiers used rifle butts and batons to repel the crowd in the ensuing pandemonium.

The march was abandoned and the coffin transferred to a military vehicle.

Authorities drove the coffin in haste to its final resting place at Manshiet-el-Bakry mosque, now to be known as Gamal Abdel Nasser mosque, and completed the burial ceremony three hours ahead of schedule.

Estimates put the number of mourners lining the funeral route at five million.

Many more congregated in major cities across Egypt and the Arab world.

While the majority of casualties in Cairo were caused by overcrowding, other cities in the Middle East witnessed more unusual fatalities.

Stray small arms fire is reported to have killed and wounded a number of people in Beirut.

The discharging of weapons into the air is a common mark of respect in the region for dead heroes and leaders.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The total number of people killed at the funeral was estimated at 48. Most deaths were the result of people being trampled underfoot. Hundreds more were injured.

President Abdel Nasser's legacy is the subject of hot debate. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s and until his death in 1970, he dominated Arab politics and the popular imagination of the Arab masses.

He embodied pan-Arabism - the dream of a united Arab nation stretching from the Atlantic to the Gulf. His message, of social justice at home and anti-colonialism abroad, restored Arab dignity.

But to his critics, Nasser led the Arabs down a cul-de-sac. He aligned Egypt with the Soviet Union, and so ended up on the losing side in the Cold War.

Relying on Soviet aid, he built up a monolithic state-run economy - which his successors have ever since been struggling to demolish.

His rule was harshly authoritarian. Opponents, ranging from communists to the Muslim Brotherhood, were jailed and sometimes tortured. Many were driven into exile.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Now is a great time to exercise restraint and patience...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You're feeling a little boost of happy energy that seems to come from nowhere...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 If you can't reach someone, keep trying different methods until you find one that works...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Meet up with someone over lunch, if possible - sharing a meal can bring people closer...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You are feeling a bit better about your place in the world - but try not to get a big head about it!

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You've got to try something new today - so make sure that you are keeping those eyes open!

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Take comfort in today's news - it may not be all positive, but it should at least lead to an improvement...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Social groups play a more important role than individuals today, so make sure that you're surrounded with those you can trust...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You may not feel optimistic, but you are sure that you are making yourself heard. Things are looking up for you and your people...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your honesty and integrity are traits that serve you well on days like today (and most of the others, of course)...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Embrace your inner weirdo! Today there's just no way for you to avoid the attention of people who are judging everyone around them...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Communication is easier than usual today, and you may actually like what you hear from someone you've been dreading...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

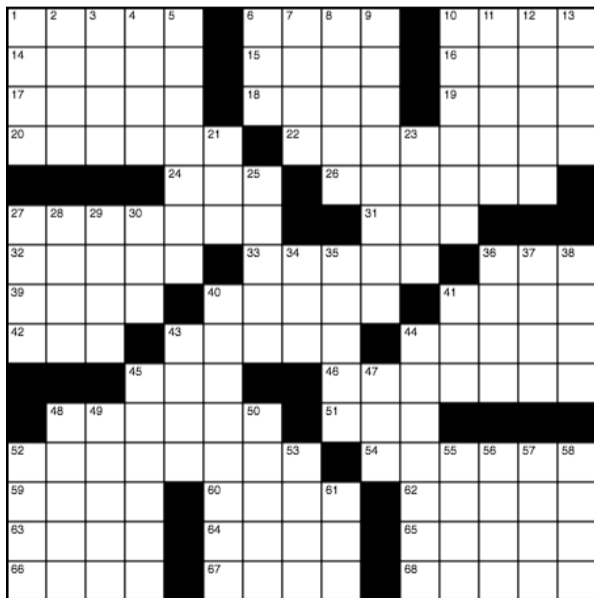
WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION for various cities in China and the World.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Truman's Missouri birthplace; 6- Clasp for a door; 10- URL starter; 14- Missouri feeder; 15- Baltic feeder; 16- Able was ...; 17- Razor sharpener; 18- Concert halls; 19- Waste allowance; 20- Six-shooter; 22- Mulberry tree; 24- Pasture used for grazing; 26- Finally!; 27- Dons clothes; 31- 007 creator Fleming; 32- Causing goose bumps; 33- Glasses, briefly; 36- Devour; 39- Frond plant; 40- Night noise; 41- WWII battle site; 42- NFL scores; 43- Noted spokedcow; 44- Folded food; 45- "Exodus" hero; 46- Apparel; 48- Slanted; 51- Bit; 52- Republic in E Africa; 54- Polish seaport; 59- Hard to find; 60- Long fish; 62- Actress Palmer; 63- Secluded spot; 64- Small stream; 65- Swashbuckler Flynn; 66- Puts in stitches; 67- Spoollike toy; 68- Insurgent;

DOWN: 1- A pitcher may take one; 2- Italian wine city; 3- German economist and socialist; 4- Highly excited; 5- Repel; 6- Boo follower; 7- Puts two and two together; 8- I'm outta here!; 9- Custom; 10- Hired killer; 11- Garr and Hatcher; 12- Lott of Mississippi; 13- Sneaky guy?; 21- Maiden name indicator; 23- Ah, me!; 25- Orgs.; 27- Adroit; 28- Oboe, e.g.; 29- Miscalculates; 30- Fall from grace; 34- Luau chow; 35- Construct; 36- a -Sketch; 37- vera; 38- Throw; 40- Lubricous; 41- Was in session; 43- Switch ending; 44- Rug rat; 45- Foreigners; 47- Fall behind; 48- Start of a Dickens title; 49- Termagant; 50- Children's refrain; 52- Energy units; 53- Comrade in arms; 55- Suffix with concession; 56- Workers' rights org.; 57- Gin flavoring; 58- Slay; 61- -mo replay;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
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



AD

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The Manhattan Unit E Taipa 1,626sq ft / HKD 13.5M HKD 8,302sq ft Luxury Residence Ref: 15025432

Va Fu, Old Taipa Village Taipa 670 sq ft / HKD 4.58M HKD 6.835sq ft Very Centrally Located Ref: 15085449

Dahlia Court, Ocean Gardens Taipa 1,054 sq ft / HKD 6.88M HKD 6,527sq ft Ocean Garden Complex Ref: 15095453

Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau 627 sq ft / HKD 4.198M HKD 6,695sq ft 5 mins from Ruins of St Pauls Ref: 15075447

Treasure Garden, Unit K Taipa 4 Bedrooms Apartment Towards Amizade Bridge HKD 19,000 / 1,728 sq ft Ref: 15070516

Chong Fok Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment Close to Macau University HKD 12,900 / 1,300 sq ft Ref: 15070520

Kinglight Taipa 2 Bedrooms Apartment Great Location HKD 13,500 / 771 sq ft Ref: 15090529

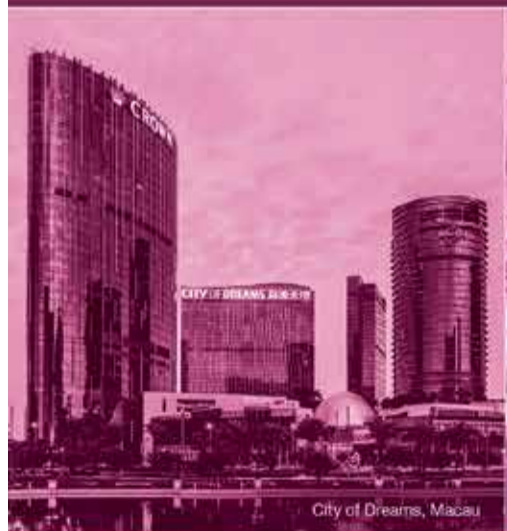
Houston Court, Coloane Village Coloane 1 Bedroom Apartment Views Across the Water HKD 13,300 / 800 sq ft Ref: 1505502

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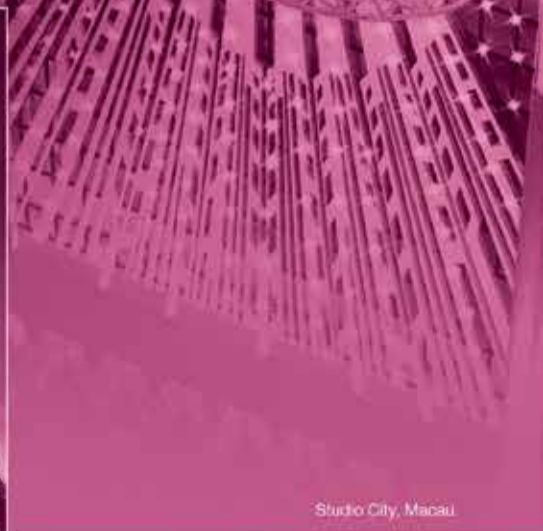
City of Dreams, Macau



City of Dreams Manila



Altira Macau



Studio City, Macau



Altira Macau
Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star Hotel and Spa 6 Years in a Row
Five-Star Restaurants Aurora and Tenmasa
Crown Towers at City of Dreams
The First Hotel in Macau to Receive Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star Awards
for Hotel, Spa, and Every Restaurant



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RUGBY

Take 2 for fit-again Naholo as New Zealand plays Georgia

Steve Douglas, Cardiff

Saturday, 3:00am
New Zealand v Georgia
H 1, D 126, A 101

THE All Blacks will have another go at unleashing their latest superstar wing against Georgia at the Rugby World Cup early Saturday (Macau time).

They'll hope it goes better than their first attempt.

As Super Rugby's top try-scorer this year, Waisake Naholo made his international debut for New Zealand amid much hype in a Rugby Championship game against Argentina on July 17. It lasted just 50 minutes, before he was helped off the pitch with a hairline fracture to his right fibula.

World Cup over, many thought. However, the break



Argentina's captain Agustin Creevy, centre, is tackled by the New Zealand defence

wasn't as bad as first imagined and Naholo sought treatment by visiting Fiji for traditional healing from his uncle. It included putting leaves on the leg.

And such was the esteem the All Blacks coaching staff had for Naholo that the Highlanders winger was selected in their World Cup squad at the end of August, even though his fitness was still in question.

Dismissing talk of a "mi-

racle cure," New Zealand coach Steve Hansen said on Wednesday that the timing of Naholo's comeback was expected.

"He's not a witch doctor, not a doctor, all he knows is his leg is right," Hansen said of a player he reckons was the best in Super Rugby.

"To have him out on the track after the disappointment of thinking we weren't going to be able to select him, to get that second chance is won-

derful. Watching him train this week is pleasurable."

Naholo was 100 percent fit last week, but said the All Blacks medics have been "holding me back a bit." He'll be nervous this week, as he always is before a game, but it didn't affect his accuracy when he went clay-pigeon shooting for the first time with teammates on Tuesday.

How was his shot? "It was pretty good," he said, laughing.

Seeking a third straight win in Pool C to secure qualification to the quarterfinals, the All Blacks selected a largely full-strength team that included recalls for flanker Richie McCaw as captain and flyhalf Dan Carter.

Georgia has already beaten Tonga 17-10 and has third place in Pool C in its sights, which would qualify the team for the 2019 Rugby World Cup. **AP / Oddschecker.com**

FOOTBALL

Guangzhou beats Gamba 2-1 in 1st leg of ACL semifinals

ZHENG Zhi scored the winning goal as Guangzhou Evergrande beat Gamba Osaka 2-1 in the first leg of the Asian Champions League semifinals yesterday.

Gamba welcomed the return of the J-League's top scorer Takashi Usami, who missed his team's 3-2 win over Jeonbuk Motors due to suspension.

The visitors took a 1-0 lead following an own goal by Guangzhou defender Feng Xiaoting in the 12th minute at Tianhe Sport Center Stadium.

Huang Bowen equalized for the hosts 10 minutes before halftime, netting with a superb left-footed volley that beat Gamba goalkeeper Masaaki Higashiguchi.

Zheng's 57th minute header ensured that Luiz Felipe Scolari's side will hold a slight advantage going into the return leg which will be played on Oct. 21. **AP**

AD

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opinion

HK Observer
Robert Carroll



VIVE LA DIFFERENCE

This month we have had a deluge of reactions and counter-reactions about Beijing's liaison office director Zhang Xiaoming's remarks about separation of powers; that Hong Kong has no separation of powers and that the chief executive is transcendent. Leaving aside the transcendent part for now, isn't everybody here going down a blind alley pursuing a red herring? Zhang said that the executive legislative and the judiciary are supposed to work together according to the Basic Law, not operate as separate independent powers. While constitutional lawyers can argue until the cows come home about the fine differences between degrees of separation of powers, there is no doubt that there is separation of powers here in practice but not by right if we look at the first ground rules of China prior to the Basic Law and take those as guiding principles. Hong Kong abides by the Common Law system and within common law jurisdictions which interpret laws in the courts, the intention of the law is a primary guiding force. It was very clearly stated by Chinese leaders prior to the writing of the Basic Law that there would be no Western style separation of powers. However is that the final word? Looking at Zhang's statements we have to wonder at the motivations when he clearly stated in a second extended statement that he expected the remarks to be controversial.

It seems clear that there was a message to Hong Kong that the Chief Executive has a supreme place and only occupies that position by the Central Government's approval and subsequently answers to Beijing. The supreme leader part was a bit of a surprise and what that exactly means is open to discussion but the rest was not; and why send this message at this time?

The chief executive being transcendent is true in the sense that he has extensive powers, unused for the most part, but on the other hand he is unable to force legislation through the legislative council at will as we saw with the defeat of the political reform bill. Furthermore the limitations on his powers by the legislature were made apparent as he has been unable to set up a pet project, an innovation bureau; nor necessarily can he ensure his favored policies are followed through, with regard to freeing up land for much needed housing.

But again why this message at this time? There had just been a rapprochement of sorts between the central authorities through a meeting with the Democrat Party leader and several of her colleagues. Why stir it up after that?

There was the upcoming visit to the US by President Xi Jinping. Was the message more for a domestic audience? On the other hand there are the upcoming HK District Council elections. With Beijing coming out with remember-who's-boss statements, a sensitive subject with many Hong Kongers, it can surely only play into the hands of the pan-democrats.

There were other controversial lectures recently to Hong Kong citizens via a former senior official overseeing Hong Kong affairs, Che Zhou'er. His arguments were that Hong Kong has yet to decolonize. There's certainly a lot of truth to that if we recognize that the legacy of colonial rule is still in place in the sense of a widespread sense of separation, of difference - us and them - among the population here and the freedoms we enjoy; but that doesn't mean that we can't come to a mutually acceptable modus vivendi. Isn't one of the great qualities of Chinese culture pragmatism? So let's give the gulf time to close as it surely will, sooner or later, as the Chinese economy matures, the country continues to open up and rising levels of education and exposure to the outside world bridge the gap between local Chinese and fellow countrymen over the border. In the meantime; "vive la difference".

THE BUZZ STUDIO CITY CELEBRATES TAIWAN'S 'MANDO-POP' SUPER IDOLS

Nine Taiwanese 'Mando-Pop' stars, including Show Lo, JJ Lin, A-Lin and Hebe Tien, are set to headline a series of concerts held this November at Studio City Event Center ("SCEC"), located in the new cinema-themed entertainment and leisure destination resort in Macau: Studio City. Tickets are now on sale at Studio City's official website. The resort's 'three-concert' program features a line-up of top Taiwanese artists and is being produced by renowned music producer Chen Cheng Chuang and his acclaimed production team.

The all-time favorite, Show Lo,

will kick-off the concert series on November 14, 2015. The versatile Taiwanese hip-hop and R&B singer, actor and TV host - affectionately known by his Chinese nickname Xiao Zhu - will star in this widely renowned Taiwan music-fest, supported by rising icon Calvin Chen and Taiwanese sweetheart Amber An.

The final concert of the series, on November 28, 2015, will star "Supernova Diva", Hebe Tien. Tien released her first solo studio album "To Hebe" in 2010 and has enjoyed success with hit singles "Insignificance," "Love," "The Most Important Thing in Life" and "Still in Happiness".



SOURCE: DSMG

Station	Air quality
Roadside	55-75 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate
Ambient	60-80 Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS



AP PHOTO

IRAN Top Iranian leader warned Saudi Arabia of "harsh" measures if the kingdom fails to promptly repatriate the bodies of more than 200 Iranian pilgrims killed in last week's hajj stampede. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's warning came as Iran summoned Riyadh's envoy for the fourth time since last Thursday's deadly crush of pilgrims to protest what it called the kingdom's "mishandling" of the incident. Saudi authorities say 769 pilgrims died in the stampede near.



AP PHOTO

USA IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde (pictured) says global growth will likely be weaker this year as the world economy confronts a host of problems, including a refugee crisis in Europe, an economic slowdown in China and a pending rise in U.S. interest rates. Lagarde predicts a moderate rebound in growth in advanced economies such as the United States, Europe and Japan.

SOUTH AFRICA Police statistics show the rate of violent crimes and organized crime have increased for the third year in a row. Announcing the annual statistics yesterday, Police Minister Nkosinathi Nhleko said the rate of contact crimes increased, with murder rising by 4.6 percent. Nhleko said the statistics show that violence has become a characteristic of South African society.

VEGAS Frank, Sammy and Dean are together again. Officials have renamed a street near the Las Vegas Strip for Sammy Davis Jr. Naturally, a dedication ceremony this week was held at the three-way intersection where Sammy Davis Jr. Drive, Frank Sinatra Drive and Dean Martin Drive meet.

Music Festival kicks off on Sunday with Mahler



Fado singer Pedro Moutinho

THE 29th Macao International Music Festival (MIMF) will be officially inaugurated on Sunday, 4 October, at the Macau Cultural Centre lobby, starting at 7:40pm.

The opening concert, 'Gustav Mahler - Symphony No. 3', led by Macau Orchestra's Principal Conductor, Lü Jia, features world-renowned mezzo-soprano Charlotte Hellekant, the Macau Orchestra, the China NCPA

Orchestra and Choir, and the Macau Youth Choir.

Organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, this year's MIMF includes several highlights, such as the highly sought-after opening concert and the closing performance 'Faust - Opera in 5 Acts' by Charles Gounod, among other sold out performances.

Other remarkable MIMF shows will feature Gidon Kremer with Kremera-

ta Baltica in the concerts 'Masks and Faces' and 'New Seasons', the video project 'Russia: Masks and Faces' and the Asian premiere of the Violin Concerto No. 2 'The American Four Seasons' by Phillip Glass.

Pedro Moutinho, one of today's most renowned fado voices, will partner with Portuguese accordion quartet Danças Ocul-tas in a concert at Mount Fortress.

times square by rodrigo

