



### MEGA DELAYS TO SUNNY ISLAND

It was messy at the airport over the weekend. A Palau-bound flight was delayed for two days, with hundreds of passengers stranded

P2

### ALLEGED CRIME COUPLE CHOSE TO PARTY IN MACAU

It seems like an updated version of Bonnie & Clyde. He's a Russian drug kingpin; his partner in crime is a former Aussie model. In their heyday Vadim & Lauren used to come to Macau

P6



INTERESTED?  
BUY A TOWN  
NEAR VEGAS  
FOR USD8  
MILLION

P9

**TUE.29**  
Mar 2016

T. 15°/ 21° C  
H. 60/ 90%

Blackberry email service powered by CTM

N. 2526 **MOP 7.50**  
**HKD 9.50**

# MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

# Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

Stay Ahead In The New Broadband Era  
50M 100M 250M 600M POWERED BY CTM 1G  
Enquiry : 6613 0002

4G home fiber broadband wi-fi CTM

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

## WORLD BRIEFS

**CHINA** A Chinese dissident writer says police in his hometown are holding three of his siblings in retaliation for an article he wrote condemning the detention of a fellow writer linked to the investigation of an anonymous letter online calling for the Chinese president's resignation.

**CHINA** has ordered its armed forces to end all paid outside work within the next three years as part of a push to make the world's largest standing military more professional. [More on page 10](#)



**SOUTH KOREA** Activists have sent tens of thousands of leaflets across the border attached to helium balloons for the second time in three days, denouncing North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. Some of the balloons carry dollar notes and even chocolate snacks.

**JAPAN's** government says it will stick to its policy of not possessing nuclear weapons after U.S. presidential hopeful Donald Trump said he would be open to the idea of Japan and South Korea having their own atomic arsenals.

**PAKISTAN** The death toll from a massive suicide bombing targeting Christians gathered on Easter in the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore rises to 70, underscoring the ability of the militants to stage large-scale attacks despite a months-long military offensive targeting their hideouts. [More on page 13](#)

More on backpage

## NEW ASSOCIATION WARNS

# Old buildings in need of regular maintenance

P3

AP PHOTO



## INVESTIGATION

# China launders cash of foreign criminals

P11



PALAU-BOUND FLIGHT DELAYED FOR TWO DAYS

# Hundreds of passengers stranded at local airport

**SIXTY-EIGHT** passengers flew to Palau on Saturday after a two-day delay due to equipment failure, leaving hundreds of mainland Chinese visitors stranded at the airport.

A Mega Maldives Airlines flight was supposed to fly more than 240 passengers to Palau from Macau International Airport last Thursday.

The remaining passengers were forced to either accept compensation of USD700, or stay at a local hotel arranged by the airline.

According to a TDM report, some passengers were not aware of the updated departure time.

"They first said that the departure time was 2 p.m., and then changed it to 5 p.m. But then no more check-ins were allowed after 3 p.m. Does it

really make sense?" complained a passenger.

"Was there a broadcast at all? [...] We left our contact number at the counter and they said they would give us a call immediately when there was an update. But I have received no phone call so far," said another.

The airline issued a statement on Saturday, stating that the delay had been significantly increased due to limited landing slots at the Palau airport, which is small and currently under construction.

Mega added that it found a replacement airline to operate the scheduled flight but that due to the Easter holiday, the new airline was unable to obtain regulatory approval to operate.

Some 170 passengers, who

eventually passed up the flight, left Macau on Saturday and Sunday.

A spokesperson from the Macau International Airport told the Times that Palau-bound flights were still experiencing delays on Sunday and yesterday, due to the late arrival of aircraft from the destination.

According to a press release from the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO), most of the affected passengers were from mainland China, while around a dozen were local residents.

MGTO described the case as a "supplier-consumer dispute," as most of the affected passengers had purchased their flight tickets outside Macau. The incident, they said, should therefore be handled by the Consumer Council.

The delay of Mega Maldives Airlines' chartered flight drew the Consumer Council's attention for its effect on customers, according to a statement. The council has been in close contact with the Macao Government Tourism Office and Civil

Aviation Authority. The council has promised to continually assist consumers through measures such as referring cases to the relevant consumer organizations for mainland clients. One inquiry has been received to date. **Staff reporter**

## MEGA TROUBLES

**MEGA MALDIVES** Airlines has previously been involved in multiple incidents caused by delays and mechanical failures, according to a report by Macau Concealers.

Last year, one Mega aircraft was forced to remain grounded at the Macau airport after its landing gear suddenly malfunctioned. The flight remain grounded for two months until Boeing Shanghai sent staff to repair the landing gear.

Mega Maldives Airlines is a low-cost carrier from the Maldives. It currently rents four Boeing aircrafts, each over 20 years old, and now only provides charter flights from Macau to Palau.

In November 2013, Mega LV199 – a flight from Shanghai to the Maldives – forced 45 passengers, who were waiting to board, to take



other flights. The airline explained at the time that due to bad weather conditions, the aircraft needed more fuel. In May 2012, another flight from the Maldives to Beijing failed to take off three times in a row, again compelling passengers to take other flights.

A staff worker from the Macau airport told Macau Concealers that the company has a very poor reputation in the industry, due to its problematic aircraft and substandard customer service.



POKER

## APPT president Danny McDonagh leaves Macau

**DANNY** McDonagh has retired from his role as President of the Asia Pacific Poker Tour (APPT) as of last week, seeking to move back to Australia.

Poker authority McDonagh is internationally regarded as one of the game's most prominent figures, and was inducted into the Australian Poker Hall of Fame in 2012.

He has made a significant

impact in the southern hemisphere, where he is primarily known for establishing the Aussie Millions tournament and for his role at APPT.

McDonagh joined PokerStars after being headhunted in 2007 to become Tournament Director for the APPT's first season of tournaments, which he did on a part-time basis. He held a number of positions during

his time with PokerStars, including a stint as President of the APPT.

Earlier this year, he told the Times that poker in Macau is still on the rise despite the gaming slump, adding that the promotion of the game "is in some ways a diversification from general gaming [...] as a way to attract people from countries where poker is popular."

## Travel alert system to switch on this year

**DIRECTOR** of the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO), Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, has advised that the Macau travel alert system will be launched within this year, the media reported.

Ms. Senna Fernandes added in her comments to the public broadcaster, TDM, that the Bureau could only issue travel alerts as a warning or reminder for the moment since there is no specific legislation for the alerts to have legal effect.

The system, originally announced last year, will be launched within this year, she said, adding that no clause regarding compensation has been added to the draft of the relevant law.

"We are talking with the insurance industry. They need time to design new products or revise existing compensation clauses in accordance with the new travel alert system to be launched," said the MGTO Director. "We're also in contact

with the Monetary Authority to determine the best timing to launch the system. It will certainly be within this year," she concluded.

In the first phase, the system will include all the frequent travel destinations of local residents as well as all the Portuguese-speaking countries, 74 countries in total.

Also to be in place within this summer will be the so-called "terror threat level" system, revealed Wong Fai, Vice president of the Travel Industry Council of Macau (TICM), to TDM.

Speaking to the public TV broadcaster, Wong said that the tourism industry had been talking with MGTO regarding the progress of the establishing the territory's "terror threat level" system, which is making progress.

"A terror threat level is a reference for the tourism industry and tourists," the Vice president of TICM added. **RM**

[www.macaudailytimes.com.mo](http://www.macaudailytimes.com.mo)

MDT's Website has logged over  
120 million page views  
since January 1st, 2012 up to today.

Thank You!

Like us? [facebook.com/mdtimes](https://www.facebook.com/mdtimes)

Times

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF\_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR\_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS\_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

DESIGN EDITOR\_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS  
Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emille Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips,  
João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong  
correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Viviana Seguí | ASSOCIATE  
CONTRIBUTORS\_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES\_Associated Press, Bloomberg,  
Lusa News Agency, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY\_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C,  
MACAU SAR Telephone: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd



**T**HE Macao Association of Concrete Inspection, Maintenance and Waterproofing announced its inception last week, holding an inaugural ceremony yesterday to welcome its leaders. The association aims to develop durable concrete repair techniques and the best practices for building waterproof concrete.

Association president Lawrence Wong acknowledged that the local government had addressed the issues of building maintenance and repair in 2005. However, he said no relevant solutions were proposed.

“We hope that non-governmental associations take the initiative to promote legislation in this sector,” said Wong, adding that the association can assist the city before the legislative work commences.

Current regulations require local buildings to be inspected once every five years.

According to Joe Eddie Wu, president of the association, condominium communities are both insufficient and inept, given the number of buildings in existence.

“Homeowners will only arrange a meeting to solve certain problems after accidents occur,” stated Wu, adding that “there are between 5,000 to 6,000 existing buildings, but only 200 condominium associations.”

The association says the lack of civil engineers exacerbates these problems, and expects to

# Old buildings in need of regular inspection and maintenance



The members of the board. President Lawrence Wong in the center, front row

## Lack of civil engineers exacerbates problems

improve specialized inspection routines by training local civil engineers. Following Hong Kong's example, this will give the engineers experience in practical work.

The local government launched a series of programs offering funds and subsidies to homeowners for building management, inspection, and maintenance functions. However, due to the lack of mandatory legislation, these programs have thus far yielded only partial results. The association hopes that this will lead to Macau's adoption of a legal framework similar to that of Hong Kong and Taiwan, so as to prevent future accidents from happening.

According to the Statistics and Census Services (DSEC), there are currently more than 4,200 buildings over 30 years old. The number is expected to increase. **Staff reporter**

## MGTO: Light Festival contract unannounced due to lack of regulation

**T**HE contracts for both the Light Festival and the Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Monkey were outsourced to Creation Advertising Co., Ltd. with no notice published in the government Official Gazette.

When asked about the process, the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) replied that there are no regulations requiring it to give notice for outsourced contracts, Cheng Pou reported.

According to the initial report, the government last year outsourced 19 services to the same company, but only the aforementioned two were outsourced through public tenders. The remaining 17 contracts were assigned to the companies by direct consultation between the two parties. The 19 services were worth MOP50.4 million in total.

The Business and Vehicles Registry information states that one of the three shareholders of Creation Advertising is Tony Lam, the president of Macau Fair and Trade Association. He received a Merit Award in 2007, when Edmund Ho was the Chief Executive of Macau.

Since 2001, Lam has been a member of the Committee for the Development of Conventions and Exhibitions. He was also a member of the Chief Executive Election Committee in 2014. Fernando Chui Sai-on was elected to the post in 2009 and was re-elected as chief executive in 2014.

## Students launch feel-good demonstration

**A** group of high school students took to Rua do Campo yesterday brandishing large boards decorated in the unique style of Macau's blue-and-white road signs, which resemble traditional ceramics.

The signs, which are written in Chinese, say: “Today I'm going to give my best” and “Today is

full of expectations.” An accompanying Portuguese message reads: “We call ourselves the YoLo Crew”.

Sporting badges and t-shirts with their own branding, the students told the Times that they are seeking “to make a difference” by sharing a positive message to brighten people's days.

The crew has named themselves after the popular YOLO Internet acronym sensation, “You Only Live Once,” which is similar to the Latin expression, “carpe diem” (seize the day).

One member of the group was on hand with a Polaroid camera to take photos with passers-by and sign-bearers. The

photos were given to participating members of the public as mementos of the experience and reminders of the message.

The student representatives currently do not have a website or Facebook page. They have held a similar demonstration before, but do not plan to hold another until next year. **DB**





# Pacquiao draws closer to 'final' bout

**M**ANNY Pacquiao is set to play what is expected to be his final boxing match against Tim Bradley next month at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, marking his 26th fight in the U.S., shortly before he turns his attention to the 2016 Philippine's election where he is running for Senator.

Pacquiao currently holds a strong record in the U.S. with a 20-3-2 win-loss-draw (12 knockouts) of the 25 matches he has undertaken. Separately, the Philippine national icon has fought twice in Macau (both held at the Venetian Macao Arena) and four times in the Philippines, all within 15 years.

Overall, Pacquiao holds a 57-6-2 card with 38 knockouts and will be looking to finish his boxing career on a high note.



The last time Pacquiao and Bradley came face-to-face in 2012 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena, the latter won a highly controversial split decision to take the WBO welterweight title. Pacquiao won a rematch held in 2014, meaning

that April 9 will be the third time the duo are set to meet.

American boxing trainer, Freddie Roach, is optimistic that Pacquiao will get the upper hand in next month's bout.

"Sure, we will make some adjustments for the

changes his [Bradley's] new trainer implemented in the last fight, but as soon as Manny lands some meaningful punches, Bradley will revert back to his old style and that's what we have to be prepared for," said Roach. **DB**

## FOOTBALL

# Macau faces Malaysia today in Malacca

**T**HE Macau Football Team will face the Malaysian National Team in a friendly international match tonight in the historical city of Malacca.

The match is expected to be open, with both teams making the most of this "training game" opportunity.

The odds currently favor the Malaysians playing against the second-worst ranked nation in Asia. The Macau team is ranked 195th in the world, just ahead of Mongolia (number 202). They have not played any international matches for over a year, and last March lost 3-0 to Cambodia in the first round of the World Cup qualifiers.

Neither do things look good for Malaysia's coach, Datuk Ong Kim Swee, with his team trying to get back on their feet after a disastrous campaign in the World Cup qualifiers.

The Tigers have not won at home since the 2014 AFF Suzuki Cup Final when they beat Thailand 3-2 (lost on aggregate 4-3).

Fan behavior is another element of concern. The last time the Malaysian National Team played at home, a supporters' group disrupted the match to protest the Football Association of Malaysia's failure to improve its standards. The match was abandoned, granting Saudi Arabia a 3-0 win by default.

The organizers and security personnel at today's match will be on high alert to avoid similar incidents, which could lead to greater sanctions by the Asian Football Confederation. **RM**

AD

30m pageviews per year

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo



# Times App

## New look more features



Times App on App Store & Google Play



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 Times

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

advertising@macaudailytimes.com



## Recruitment Day Mines Gold Over 2,000 Local Talents Hired

With the aspiration of being a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure now firmly in its sights, Macao recognises that economic diversification is the bedrock that sustainable development must be built on. Over the last decade, Macao has grown its tourism and leisure offering in a manner and to such a size that once would have been unimaginable, and in the process has seen its service standards rise exponentially. In the last couple of years, in particular, several lavish new resorts have been completed in the territory, joining their peers and competitors in offering the people of Macao and visitors more choices, more dynamism, and infinitely more surprises. Consequently, competition for the best talent has become keen, with companies' human resources departments finding themselves at the sharp end of identifying, wooing and keeping qualified personnel.

So, how does one attract and find talent and leave a good impression in the mind of a job applicant? Maurine Yeung, Senior Vice-President, Human Resources of Wynn Palace, put it this way: "Wynn Macau is known for providing competitive remuneration and benefits, as well as excellent training and career opportunities. For instance, prior to the opening of Wynn Palace, many team members will find their careers advanced, with some 50 local personnel from the security department being promoted internally in May 2016. This further drives the professional development of local talent – and, importantly, sends the message that our company offers not just a job but a career path."

Having racked up close to two decades of experience in human resources, Ms Yeung is the first to acknowledge that it is not an easy job, but seeing the relentless growth of the company and the team coalesce gives her an incredible sense of achievement. On the subject of finding talent, hosting and participating in large recruitment events on a regular basis has proved both effective and informative.

### LAYING A STRONG LOCAL FOUNDATION

Since last year, Wynn Palace has organised major recruitment events in collaboration firstly with the General Union of Neighbourhood Associations of Macau in the city, and then the Macau Federation of Trade Unions, which attracted more than 1,500 local residents. So far, through three such events alone, operation teams at Wynn Palace have already hired approximately 300 locals. Some of the new hires have already reported for duty, while others will receive confirmation of employment shortly and begin their new careers in due course.

Yeung said the company will continue its ongoing dialogue with the government, local organisations and schools - "We always try to identify and attract top talent in new and innovative ways" - in order to fulfil its mission of recruiting more of the best and brightest to its team.



Wynn Palace has been working with several local associations in order to organise job fairs. There has been an overwhelming response by the public.



Maurine Yeung stated that one of Wynn Palace's priorities is to promote professional training and development for local talents.

In addition to hiring through its recruitment centre and large recruitment events, the company has expanded the search via the Labour Affairs Bureau, various colleges, schools and study programmes, as well as referrals by friends and relatives, and mobile applications. As a result of these efforts, Wynn Palace has so far recruited over 2,000 locals, laying the foundations for its new resort that promises the cutting edge pizzazz the brand is famous for. The new resort expects to increase the number of local hires by multiples in the near future.

Born in the 1990s, Miss Wong was interviewed last month at the FAOM recruitment day and was hired for the position of supervisor of the Public Area at Wynn Palace. A university graduate of hotel and resort management, it is a thrill to be able to join a new resort famed for the highest quality services, she says when she decided to go to the recruitment event, and it never occurred to her that she would land a job on the spot. Miss Wong, who is currently not working, says she will start her new job in early April, promising to do her best and valuing "every opportunity that comes my way". With that attitude she is armed to take on even bigger challenges with a company that puts its people first.

### HIRING LOCALS A PRIORITY; FULL COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY

Commenting upon earlier reports on companies recruiting workers from the Mainland - thus violating government protocol in the process - the veteran recruitment specialist stressed, "We adhere strictly to the employment policy of the government, which is to first hire locals, and that has long remained our priority. We will not hire from other regions before the government gives approval on labour quota. We will take immediate action and cease working with any service contractors who violate the rules or try to hide illegal acts. Hiring local talents is always our priority and our local employees are not merely hired to do their jobs - they will also be provided with on-the-job training to ensure they are fully integrated into our promotion and development schemes. Our hope is to give local residents more opportunities to choose different careers and move up the ladder." With the current 2,000 locals already hired for Wynn Palace, Yeung stressed that the company will continue to prioritise local talent in the recruitment stakes of Macao residents.



## CRIME

# Drug kingpin and partner used to party in Macau

**I**N the latest round of investigations into the former partner of suspected drug kingpin Vadim Volkov, the 27-year-old Australian life coach has told Australia's anti-corruption bureau that she had no knowledge of the thousands of dollars of allegedly illicit funds that were deposited into her bank account.

Former model Lauren Bryant told Australia's Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) that she did not know how the AUD1.1 million in alleged drug proceeds were transferred through her bank account before being sent to Hong Kong and Switzerland.

She admits that Volkov regularly gave her "inch-thick" wads of cash to deposit into accounts that she opened during their four-year relationship, but denied knowing the source of the funds.

Investigators believe it has some connection to Volkov, a Russian, who is currently fighting the Australian government's bid to seize his multi-million dollar fortune after being charged with trafficking

narcotics, including cocaine, ecstasy and steroids.

Bryant told the CCC that she had started two businesses with Volkov. The first involved sending models to Hong Kong to work "as hostesses or whatever you want to call them" and another selling "herbal weight loss pills."

According to Australian tabloid *The Courier Mail*, the former lovers spent lavish holidays in Macau, Hong Kong and Thailand.

When police raided Volkov's home in August last year, they found AUD1 million in cash, as well as at least seven weapons – including two semi-automatic rifles – and ammunition.

But the suspect argued that their three Queensland homes, AUD1.5 million in cash and bank accounts were legally acquired via a combination of various methods: gambling, an inheritance from a convicted drug dealer acquaintance, and AUD350,000 in cash that another friend had smuggled into the country, according to *The Courier Mail*. **DB**



Former model Lauren Bryant (instagram pic)

## 'Macau scam' claims new victims in Malaysia

**T**HE so-called "Macau scam" has continued to ensnare victims this year, particularly in the Southeast Asian countries of Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

Recent incidents in Malaysia's Klang Valley and in Penang led to the police arresting one Malaysian and almost 100 Chinese nationals – hailing mainly from China and Taiwan – for their involvement in an online credit card fraud branded as the "Macau scam".

According to Malaysian authorities, the syndicate preyed on Chinese and Taiwanese nationals by pretending to be figures of authority and asking victims to settle bank loans or outstanding credit card payments.

They added that the raid had been executed following information from China on the whereabouts of the computer used in the scam. China had made investigations after receiving complaints from Chinese citizens that had fallen for the scam.

"Macau scam" fraudsters are usually foreigners with multi-national links to several ASEAN countries such as Indonesia, Laos, Cambodia and the Philippines.

They pose as police or bank officials and tell prospective victims that they are wanted for criminal offences such as money laundering. Victims are then told that the criminal records will be erased after a transfer of funds.

To gain a better insight

into common online scams, researchers polled 400 users aged between 18 and 65 in Malaysia, India, Singapore and Thailand.

The study found that nearly half those surveyed in Malaysia (46 percent) said that they had been victims of Internet scams, followed by Thailand at 43 percent. A further 46 percent of Malaysian respondents said that they knew a friend or family member who had been scammed online.

Aside from the "Macau scam", in which fraudsters impersonated figures of authority, other hoaxers in Southeast Asia also conduct Internet-based "love scams," "parcel scams" and "investment scams," sometimes conning thousands of individuals. **DB**

## EDUCATION

## Teacher using corporal punishment stopped working

**T**HE Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) announced on Sunday that a tutor accused of inflicting corporal punishment on a student stopped working at the tutorial center.

Earlier this month, parents reported to the media that their son, who is in the first grade of primary school, came home after tuition one day with a bruised face and black eye.

The DSEJ immediately launched an administrative investigation, and further legal procedures are now underway.

The parents also reported the incident to the police, and the case is now under judiciary action.

In response to another case of corporal punishment at a

different tuition center that was published online on March 25, the DSEJ has urged all parents aware of the case to contact them.

According to Law No. 38/98/M, the DSEJ has the authority to license and to inspect tuition centers. For the 2015/2016 academic year, the DSEJ made 359 inspections and issued 122 verbal warnings, in addition to delivering 23 warning letters.

Fourteen investigations were conducted at 14 tuition centers, out of which 9 were found under suspicion of running unlicensed educational activities. Four companies had accepted more students than the number specified in their license. The DSEJ has issued penalties to six centers.



# PROPERTY WANTED FOR SALE OR RENT

Email us your property details and asking price or call us at: +853 2835 2699



www.JMLProperty.com

## For Rent



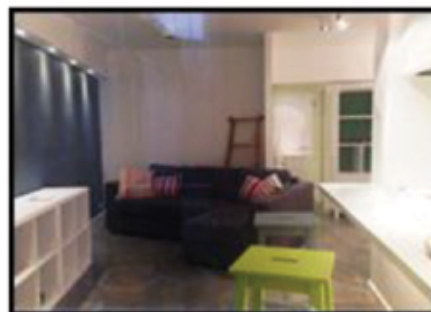
### Bauhinia Court, Ocean Gardens, Taipa

(Ref: 16020562)  
1,262sq. ft. HKD 10,500  
Fully furnished 2 Bedroom apartment in Ocean Gardens, Taipa. 2 Bathrooms and sizeable balcony. Convenient location with quick access to Macau and Cotai. Club Facility available, pool and gym. Great value for money apartment in a quality development. Available immediately. Can also be rented 'unfurnished' with white goods included.



### Kingsville Tower 3

(Ref: 16020566)  
1,250q. ft. HKD 15,000  
Great three bedroom furnished apartment. Good size master bedroom with en suite bathroom.  
Galley style kitchen with small balance overlooking podium. Open plan living/dining area.  
Stunning views over Cotai.



### Modern Apartment Old Taipa - Nam Long

(Ref: 16020564)  
820sq. ft. HKD 14,000  
Newly renovated 2 bedroom apartment. 1 x Double bedroom. 1 x Box guest room with large wardrobe. Modern shower room. Open plan kitchen / living area. Renovated throughout; electric, plumbing, kitchen cabinets, bathroom, double glaze windows & A/C all new. New white goods in kitchen.



### Rent Houston Court

(Ref: 15110549)  
740sq. ft. HKD12,500  
Situated in the heart of the village.  
The apartment has a modern open plan kitchen, dining & living area, good size master bedroom with built in storage, separate walk in shower room, second bedroom has built in cabinets could be a large office or small double bedroom.



### The Buckingham, Mid Floor

(Ref: 16020558)  
1,350q. ft. HKD 18,000  
Newly furnished apartment in Taipa's latest complex. Fully furnished inc. linens & kitchen ware. Open kitchen inc. built in Siemens appliances. Spacious living area with 3 metre L shape sofa bed. Good size balcony for two. Two bedrooms & one Bathroom.



### Studio in Soi Cheong

(Ref: 16020568)  
600sq. ft. HKD 8,250  
Modern furnished studio apartment located in Old Taipa Village. Balcony with street views of the village. Lovely décor and furnishings.  
Open style kitchen fully equipped with appliances.  
Convenient location close to banks, restaurants and shops, walking distance to Cotai Strip. Available from end of April 2016



### One Central, Tower 7, Unit E Macau

(Ref: 15090533)  
1,300q. ft. HKD 26,000  
Premier Apartment Building. Central Location. Bright & Airy. Newly furnished / Colour Palette Grey Blues, White & Yellow. Modern Fitted Kitchen galley style. Available from December 2015. Newly furnished. Excellent club facilities.



### One Oasis, Tower 3, Unit B - Coloane

(Ref: 15070515)  
1,286sq. ft. HKD 13,800  
Furnished 2 bed apartment, 2 bathrooms with one being en suite. One Oasis offers amazing club house facilities including a indoor and outdoor swimming pool, cinema, restaurant, kids playroom and a fantastic gym. Hourly shuttle bus and main route for public transportation. Great location with Cotai Strip and ferry terminal only 10 minutes away. Located south of the Cotai Strip, One Oasis is in an area surrounded by both entertainment and Nature.

## For Sale



### Kam Long, Lilau Square, Macau

(Ref: 15085452)  
1,100sq. ft. HKD 4.9M  
Rate: HKD4,454sq ft  
Originally two apartments renovated in 2004, this owner redesign the properties into a lovely 3 bedroom apartment with one spacious bathroom.  
The open plan living / dining area is a great space with a large western style kitchen adjacent to the dining area. Most of the furniture items and kitchen white goods will be sold with the property if required.

Office: (853) 2835 2699



### Tou Un, Tower 2 - Taipa

(Ref: 16025469)  
690sq. ft. HKD 4.58M  
Rate: HKD6,636sq ft  
Fully furnished 2 bedroom apartment with a lovely green view.  
Bright and spacious living areas. Open kitchen in a quiet location. Walking distance to Cotai strip and Central Taipa.  
Easy access to the Airport and both jetfoil terminals.

Email: Info@JMLProperty.com



### Nam Ngon

(Ref: 16025468)  
1545sq. ft. HKD 10.5M  
Rate: HKD 6,796sq ft  
Fabulous apartment renovated 5 years ago. Originally 3 bedrooms converted to 2 double bedrooms. En suite bathroom off master bedroom with another separate shower room. Modern open plan kitchen, with island feature and separate utility room.  
Large living room with dining area which could be converted to a 3rd single bedroom. Great size balcony overlooking the Grand Lapa resort.



### Car Park Space in Chun Leong - Taipa

(Ref: 15050514)  
Osq. ft. HKD 1.8M  
Car park for Sale.  
Asking price : HKD1,800,000

### Contact Property Consultants Today.

Juliet (English Speaker) T: (853) 6680 9804 Juliet@JMLProperty.com	Lorraine (English Speaker) T: (853) 6610 2371 Lorraine@JMLProperty.com
---	---





We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

- General Surgery** : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong, Dr. Kwong Man
- Breast Surgery** : Dr. Leong Iat Lun
- Urology** : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao
- Paediatric Surgery** : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong
- Paediatrics** : Dr. Leung Ping Maurice, Dr. Zhang Zhiqin
- Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery** : Dr. Lam U Lin
- Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine** : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan
- Cardiology** : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin
- Gastroentero-Hepatology** : Dr. Zhan De Juan
- General Medicine** : Dr. Ng Kam Hong
- Anaesthesiology** : Dr. Ning Siu Kei Eric, Dr. Chan Wai Han
- Dietitian** : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed



聖若瑟大學  
UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

開放日  
OPEN DAY 2016  
4月9日 - 星期六 | 9 April - Sat  
2:30PM - 6 PM

聖若瑟修院  
St. Joseph's Seminary

- // Learn about USJ
- // Meet faculty members, students and alumni
- // Enquire about programmes & financial aid
- // Visit of heritage campus
- // Showrooms
- // Student Clubs
- // Mock Interview
- // English Corner
- // Admission Procedures
- // Experience different cultures
- // Other activities and much more...

- // 了解聖若瑟大學
- // 與教職人員、學長姐、校友會及分學學習經驗
- // 諮詢大學課程及獎助學金
- // 參觀世界文化遺產校園
- // 學生作品展覽
- // 學生社團
- // 模擬面試及職業生涯規劃
- // 英語角
- // 招生簡章
- // 體驗不同地區文化
- // 以及更多精彩活動...



With a peek at our new campus 優先預覽新校舍環境

TARGET AUDIENCE 對象 Students, parents, school teachers and interested parties 高中主、家長、教師及有興趣之人士

\* 2016/2017 application fee waived to all Open Day attendees (奉送開放日門票可免 2016/2017 學年之報名費)

\* Get a souvenir & free refreshments 奉送紀念品及精美茶點一份，另設有茶點招待

To apply for or more information visit our website 如欲報名或查詢詳情資料，請瀏覽本大學網頁

# KTRANZ TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

## ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

**Languages**  
ENGLISH, CHINESE,  
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,  
KOREAN, SPANISH,  
FRENCH, ARABIC,  
RUSSIAN

Services  
TRANSLATIONS,  
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,  
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

**We translate +10,000 words a day**

Contact: Ms Juliana Cheang  
Email: juliana@ktranz.com.mo  
Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR



優悅牙科護理中心  
ICQ Oral Health Center

ICQ dental team is a group of dental specialists with internationally recognized qualifications. We provide all range of dental services:

- Oral examination and radiology investigation
- Restorative and Cosmetic Dentistry
- Children Dentistry
- Orthodontic Treatment
- Oral and Dental implant Surgery
- Endodontic Treatment
- Periodontal Treatment
- Emergency Treatment

We are committed to deliver high quality dental services with personalized care. We ensure the highest level of infection control.

Website: [www.icqoral.com](http://www.icqoral.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/icqoral](http://www.facebook.com/icqoral)

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT: OFFICE HOUR: 10:00AM-19:00PM  
CLOSE ON SUN, TUE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Rm1907, 19/F, AIA Tower, Nos. 251A-301, AVENIDA COMMERCIAL DE MACAU, MACAU SAR  
TEL: (853)28373266 FAX: (853)28356483 EMAIL: [info@icqoral.com](mailto:info@icqoral.com) [www.icqoral.com](http://www.icqoral.com)

## New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.

- Septic Tank Pump Outs
- Sewer Transfer
- Grease Trap Pump Outs



**Call: 2883 3008**

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



MARKETS

## Asian stock markets mostly trading lower

**A**SIAN stocks were mostly lower yesterday after Chinese industrial profits rebounded and U.S. economic growth was stronger than expected. European markets were closed for the Easter holiday.

**KEEPING SCORE:** The Shanghai Composite Index fell 0.7 percent to 2,957.82 points and India's Sensex shed 0.7 percent to 25,167.97. Seoul's Kospi edged down 0.1 percent to 1,982.54, and Singapore, Bangkok and Jakarta also declined. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 gained 0.8 percent to 17,134.37. Hong Kong, Sydney and New Zealand were closed for a holiday. Markets in Britain, France and Germany were closed for Easter. Wall Street looked set for gains, with futures for the Dow Jones industrial average and Standard & Poor's 500 index up 0.5 percent. U.S. markets were closed Friday; on Thursday, the Dow and Nasdaq Composite Index both rose 0.1 percent while the S&P slipped 0.04 percent in light trading.

**CHINESE PROFITS:** Profit at major Chinese industrial companies rose 4.8 percent from a year earlier in the first two months of 2016 — the first gain since September 2014. In December, profits fell 4.7 percent. The National Bureau of Statistics cited stronger sales and a slower decline in producer prices that have fallen steadily for three years. The private sector outperformed government-owned companies, with total profit at private enterprises rising

7.5 percent while those at state industries contracted by 14.5 percent.

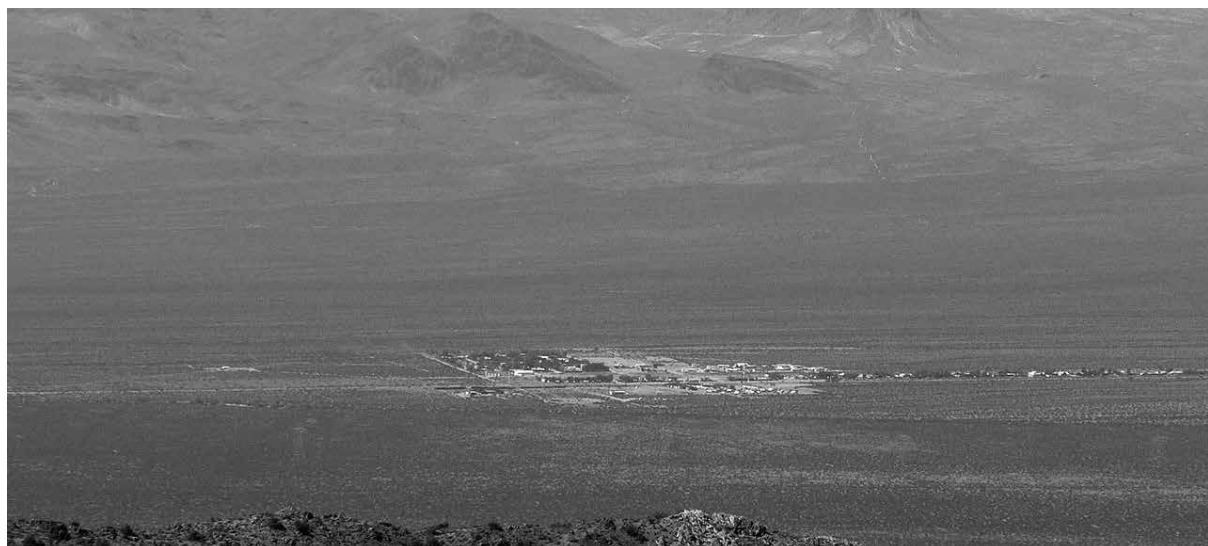
**ANALYST'S QUOTE:** Chinese profits improved because of "the release of pent-up demand" following uncertainty about central bank policy in the second half of last year, Tim Condon of ING said in a report. He noted that sales revenue rose 50 percent. "We believe steadier PBOC policy since the second week of January released the pent-up demand," Condon said.

**U.S. GROWTH:** The government reported the U.S. economy grew at an annual rate of 1.4 percent in the final quarter of last year, above the 1 percent it estimated a month ago. Much of the unexpected strength came from consumer spending on services such as recreation, which helped offset a manufacturing slump. Analysts were encouraged by the revised estimate, saying it provided momentum for the rest of the year, when they expect growth to reach a stronger if still-modest 2 percent annual rate.

**CURRENCIES:** The dollar strengthened to 113.52 yen from Friday's 113.08 yen. The euro edged up to USD1.1170 from \$1.1165.

**ENERGY:** Benchmark U.S. crude gained 30 cents to \$39.76 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract shed 33 cents on Friday to close at \$39.46. Brent crude, used to price international oils, added 34 cents to \$41.37 per barrel in London. It shed 6 cents on Friday. **AP**

WIKIPEDIA.ORG



PROPERTY

## Town in rural southern Nevada up for sale for USD8 million

**B**UYING your own town is as easy as buying 500 acres of vacant land located just 70 miles south of Las Vegas from the founder of a place called Cal-Nev-Ari.

Nancy Kidwell is offering the entirety of her town for just USD8 million. She tried to sell the property in 2010 for \$17 million but couldn't find any buyers. Now the 78-year-old has dropped the price and is including Cal-Nev-Ari's casino, diner, convenience store, 10-room motel, RV park and mile-long dirt airstrip in the deal.

The only things not for sale are the residents themselves, some privately owned homes, the small community center and a volunteer fire station built by Clark County.

Kidwell and her husband, Slim, founded the town in 1965 when it was just an empty swath

of land along U.S. 95. Now it is home to about 350 people, but Kidwell said she can't sustain it. Slim died in 1983 and her second husband died in 2011, leaving the bulk of maintaining the town to her.

"It's time for someone else to do something with it," the 78-year-old said. "Fifty-one years is long enough."

Listing broker Fred Marik said the main value of the property is land and that the businesses are "just breaking even." He said he is advertising the town as a blank canvas. It doesn't have paved roads, but it does have deep-water wells, a sewer system and a utility company.

When real estate was a hot commodity, investors bought land in rural towns outside Las Vegas — Kidwell said she once had two people get into a bidding war for the town — but

when the economy crashed interest died down.

Marik said he has received a few inquiries so far, with prospective buyers considering the land for a retirement community, a renewable energy project, a motorsports park, a dude ranch, a survival school, a shooting range or a "marijuana resort," if that were to become legal.

"You're basically buying the land and the opportunity to grow something on it," Marik said.

Resident Kate Colton, who has lived in Cal-Nev-Ari for about 20 years, said she's happy that Kidwell is trying to move forward with her life. She said a marijuana business would be "a little scary," but that new investors are probably a good thing for the community.

"The economy here could use a boost," she said. **AP**

### corporate bits

#### WORLD MAHJONG LTD ANNOUNCES SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT WITH MACRO MAHJONG

World Mahjong Limited, the owners and operators of the World Series of Mahjong, have signed an agreement with Macro Mahjong Platform Ltd, who own and operate premier web-based, real money, multiplayer mahjong game Mahjong Club.

According to a press release, a key feature of the sponsorship will be Mahjong Club's daily tournaments. The top five tournament winners will participate in the World Series of Mahjong, which will be held in Macau in early December.

In addition, Mahjong Club will also send the seven highest-ranking players to compete in the World Series



of Mahjong.

"Our agreement with Macro Mahjong is an important step to bringing the World Series of Mahjong even closer to players from key areas around the world," said Jim

Mehren, President of World Mahjong Limited.

The COO of Macro Mahjong Platform, Ltd., Marc Dannenberg, added that the partnership will be a major growth driver for both parties.

#### UBER MACAU LAUNCHES SEVEN-SEATER SERVICE

Uber, the on-demand platform and mobile app that connects riders and drivers, announced yesterday the launch of its new seven-seater service. The service offers larger cars such as Toyota Alphards, which can accommodate up to six passengers, as well as baggage and other bulky items.

"We've received a ton of feedback from riders, particularly those with families, [...] we're launching this new seven-seater service in response to that rider feedback," says Tracy Lou Walsh, general manager of Uber Macau.

The new seven-seater service will join the platform's two other services: uberX, the platform's lower-cost op-



tion, and the premium UberBLACK, which offers luxury vehicles.

Tourists and visitors from over 52 countries have al-

ready taken Uber rides in the city, with the average wait time for rides now under five minutes, according to a statement.



## LABOR

# Public sentencing of protesting workers backfires

Didi Tang, Beijing

**A**UTHORITIES in southwestern China had apparently thought their Cultural Revolution-style public sentencing of eight workers who took to the streets demanding back wages would stand as a warning to others at a time of a slowing economy and rising worker unrest.

Instead, the parading of the three women and five men through streets with their heads bowed and a guard on each arm has drawn fire and sympathy with the defendants, and calls for the deadbeat bosses to be publicly humiliated.

The incident in the Sichuan province city of Langzhong underscores concerns over the system's inability to protect worker rights against politically connected employers and a government obsessed with social stability and terrified of rippling unrest — even at the expense of justice.

"Where is the dignity of the law? Where is the moral conscience on the earth?" said Sima Nan, an outspoken scholar and social critic better known for his unapologetic defense of China's Marxist political system.

The trial punished workers seeking their rights "but pardoned those who maliciously failed to pay up without even a word of moral condemnation," Sima wrote on his public microblog.

Wage arrears are a major problem for Chinese laborers, especially migrants working on casual terms in the construction industry. Wages are supposed to be paid before workers travel home the month before the Lunar New Year holiday, but many

contractors still fail to do so.

Despite Beijing's routine demands that workers be paid in full and on time, the problem persists, largely because local officials either don't care or are in cahoots with employers. Their first response after defusing the initial confrontation is almost always to suppress, rather than get to the root of the conflict, often employing vague laws against obstructing traffic or disturbing public order.

"It's not an insolvable issue, but when government officials are not elected, it's not in their interest to find a solution," said Wang Jiansong, a Beijing-based scholar of labor issues.

In some cases, workers have turned to extreme measures to draw attention to the plight, including blocking roads and railways, staging sit-ins atop billboards and bridges and even attacking authorities or fellow

**The court has gone after the most vulnerable group of people and with a clear intention to deter other workers from collecting their wages.**

WANG JIANGSONG  
SCHOLAR OF LABOR ISSUES



In this May 19, 2011, file photo, a lawyer (front) hands over legal documents to a migrant worker (center, back) whose delayed wages were claimed through lawsuits with free legal aid at Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers' Legal Aid and Research Center in Beijing

citizens.

In one particularly gruesome case, construction worker Ma Yongping set fire to two plastic barrels of gasoline on a bus in northwestern China in January, killing 17 people. According to local media, a futile two-year effort to collect unpaid wages had destroyed Ma's marriage. An earlier attempt to draw attention to his situation by scaling a telecommunications tower and dousing himself with gasoline resulted in a 10-day jail sentence on a charge of acting maliciously.

The workers in Langzhong had congregated in front of the office of the debtor, a real estate developer, and later blocked the entrance to a local tourist attraction in August in hopes of putting enough pressure on the government to goad it into helping them.

When police came to clear the scene, the two sides clashed and arrests were made, according to

official narratives.

Photos of the March 16 sentencing rally in Langzhong showed villagers were summoned to the spectacle to be warned not to repeat the same crime. They were lined in a public square behind placards identifying their individual villages, facing the defendants on the stage, each flanked by police guards, while rifle-toting sentries stood nearby. No defense lawyers were in sight.

All eight were declared guilty and sentenced to six to eight months in prison. The judge said they were "remorseful" and that the case served as a lesson that rights-defending acts should be rational.

"We hope the masses can take a lesson from this and must use rational and legal means in defending rights," the judge was quoted as saying. "Any extreme acts will be punished by law."

Initially posted to the website of the Langzhong City People's

Court, the pictures were then removed after the public uproar, although news of the trial had also been broadcast on state television. Repeated calls to the court were unanswered.

China, which has recast itself as a nation ruled by laws, has in recent years strongly discouraged such public rallies as unwelcome reminders of the lawless mob violence of the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution when the legal system was largely supplanted by fanatical loyalty to revolutionary leader Mao Zedong.

Yet the authorities seem to have no unified plan with how to deal with worker protests over unpaid wages or mass layoffs, which, along with pollution and official corruption, are the major sources of public discontent. That problem will only get more acute with growing unemployment in the traditional manufacturing sector, an economy growing at its slowest pace in 25 years and 1.8 million upcoming layoffs in the coal and steel sectors — a tip of the iceberg of the cost of reforming the bloated state sector.

Thousands of mining workers in the northeastern province of Heilongjiang took to the streets earlier this month after the governor claimed none of them were owed back pay. The governor later admitted he was wrong.

Public condemnation came fast and fierce after major Internet portals picked up news of the Langzhong verdict show, with many calling it humiliating and unlawful. However, there is no report that any local officials have been disciplined.

"The court has gone after the most vulnerable group of people and with a clear intention to deter other workers from collecting their wages," said Wang, the labor scholar.

He said that failing to pay wages is one of the worst deeds. "When the government chooses to side with the worst behavior, it is not only illegal but also immoral and, inevitably, it angers everyone." AP

## Beijing orders military to end all paid outside work

**C**HINA has ordered its armed forces to end all paid outside work within the next three years as part of a push to make the world's largest standing military more professional and battle ready.

A Defense Ministry notice viewed yesterday said both the regular army and the paramilitary People's Armed Police would be covered under the ban. It identified no specific fields but is thought to mainly target military art troupes, publishing houses and hospitals that



A Chinese People's Liberation Army soldier checks a line of an honor guard as they prepare for a welcome ceremony for visiting German President Joachim Gauck outside the Great Hall of the People in Beijing

accept paying civilian patients.

The ban is a "major political task concerning the overall scope of military construction and development," the notice said, emphasizing the need for officers and troops to adhere to the guidance of the ruling Communist Party headed by President Xi Jinping, who also leads the party and government commissions that control the armed forces.

The 2.3 million-member People's Liberation Army was ordered more than a decade ago to divest it-

self from its vast business empire that included factories and transport firms and was viewed as fueling corruption and slack discipline.

The latest round of reforms has reorganized parts of the command structure and will reduce troop numbers by 300,000, mainly by culling non-combat units and those using outdated equipment.

The reforms are also seeing a shift away from the land forces, which now account for about 73 percent of total troop

strength, and more toward the navy and air force that are seen as responsible for dealing with the main perceived threats to China's interests — a conflict over control of the South China Sea and a move by self-governing Taiwan toward formal independence that China has threatened to respond to with force.

After decades of large annual increases, the defense budget is also growing at a smaller pace in line with lower growth in the overall Chinese economy. MDT/AP



AP INVESTIGATION

# China launders cash of foreign criminals

Erika Kinetz, Tia Goldenberg,  
Daniel Estrin, Raphael Satter

**S**CAM artists, drug cartels and gangs from around the world have found a new haven for laundering money: China. The country's well-developed underground financial networks have caught the attention of foreign criminals who are using China to clean their dirty money and pump it back into the global financial system — largely beyond the reach of Western law enforcement, an Associated Press investigation has found.

As China globalized, sending people and money abroad, so too did its criminal economy. Gangs from Israel and Spain, cannabis dealers from North Africa and cartels from Mexico and Colombia have laundered billions in China and Hong Kong, slipping their ill-gotten gains into the great tides of legitimate trade and finance that wash through the region, according to police officials, European and U.S. court records and intelligence documents reviewed by the AP.

Gilbert Chikli, a convicted French-Israeli con man, understands China's allure. He is widely credited with devising a scam so successful that it has inspired a generation of copycats. Called the fake CEO, fake president or business email compromise scam, the fraud has cost thousands of companies, many of them American, USD1.8 billion in just over two years, according to the FBI.

**■ Gilbert Chikli is widely credited with devising a scam so successful that it has inspired a generation of copycats**

"China has become a universal passageway for all these scams," said Chikli. "Because China today is a world power, because it doesn't care about neighboring countries, and because, overall, China is flipping off other countries in a big way."

China's central bank and police refused repeated requests for comment. In a regular briefing with reporters yester-



Gilbert Chikli poses for a photo at his home in Ashdod, Israel. Chikli, a visionary fraudster, ripped off some of the world's biggest corporations and then laundered millions in China

day, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said "is not, has not been, nor will be in the future a center of global money laundering."

Chikli made millions by impersonating top executives and intelligence agents and convincing employees at some of the world's largest companies to transfer money to his bank accounts, according to French legal documents. He told the AP he laundered 90 percent of that stolen money through China and Hong Kong.

"It's immense," he said in an interview at his sleek, three-story home in Ashdod, a port town on the Mediterranean.

A French court convicted Chikli last year of defrauding five companies of 6.1 million euros — La Banque Postale, LCL bank, HSBC, Accenture and Thomson, a French technology company. He was also convicted of attempting to extract over 70 million euros from at least 33 others, including Barclays, American Express and the company that runs Disneyland Paris. He was sentenced in absentia to seven years in prison and fined 1 million euros.

Today he remains a wanted man, but lives openly in Israel, where authorities refused

to comment on his case. Israel and France share no bilateral extradition treaty, but Israel has surrendered French citizens in some cases.

Chikli told the AP his preferred method for laundering money was import-export schemes. He would bounce stolen funds to front companies in Hong Kong, then have the cash withdrawn and used to buy merchandise in China. He'd purchase, say, 20 tons of steel, but bribe the vendor to give him a receipt for 100 tons. Then he'd sell the goods and send the money to Israel, where the false invoices made the entire sum look like legitimate trading profit.

"Give me the documents and everything is fine," he said.

Such trade-based money laundering is a growing concern to U.S. authorities. Three Colombians based in Guangzhou, China, led a global money-laundering network that moved over \$5 billion for Spanish and Mexican drug cartels, according to a U.S. Justice Department indictment unsealed in September. The network allegedly spanned the United States, Colombia, Spain, Ecuador and Venezuela.

Like Chikli, they processed illegal profits through bank

accounts in Hong Kong and China and cleaned the money by buying merchandise, often counterfeit, which they shipped and sold in Colombia and elsewhere, according to the indictment.

Chikli insists he no longer runs fake CEO scams, but a new generation of fraudsters is copying his technique. Like Chikli, they direct stolen funds to China and Hong Kong. The FBI traced fake CEO scam

transfers to more than 70 different countries. "At the very top of that list is Hong Kong and China," Jay Bienkowski, a supervisory special agent with the FBI in Washington, said in an interview with the AP prior to his retirement.

Police believe some of the networks now running fake CEO scams are collaborating with Chinese migrants in Europe to launder money, using a version of the ancient Chinese value transfer system called "fei qian", or flying money. In June, French police busted a similar operation in a Chinese wholesale district just north of Paris, where merchants are accused of laundering money for North African drug dealers.

"Non-Chinese criminal groups committing CEO frauds are sending money to China because Chinese criminal groups in Europe are giving them cash," said Igor Angelini, head of financial intelligence at Europol, the European Union law enforcement agency. "The scale of this phenomenon is quite substantial." Chinese authorities generally have done little to help Western companies targeted in fake CEO scams, according to European intelligence documents reviewed by the AP.

The U.S. State Department, in a report this month, reproached China for lackluster performance on money-laundering investigations. "U.S. law enforcement agencies note China has not cooperated sufficiently," the report said.

Europol also has no cooperation agreement with China. Once funds land there, they vanish.

"For us it's a blind spot," said Angelini. "What happens after that is a black hole." **AP**



In this March 2 file photo, people walk beneath a sign for foreign currency exchange in Hong Kong. China and Hong Kong are emerging as a global hub for money laundering, with criminals from around the world slipping their dirty money into the region's great tides of legitimate trade and finance





The remains of trunks and stumps from old forests that were cut down to make way for a rubber plantation operated by Socfin-KCD, a European-Cambodian joint venture, near Bousra commune, Monduliri province

## CAMBODIA

## Zeal for rubber drives ethnic group from land

FOR generations, the indigenous Bunong were famous as the elephant keepers and masters of the forests in eastern Cambodia. They called the fertile, rolling hills of their ancestral homeland "meh ne," or mother. From its rich red soil, they harvested rice, pumpkins and bananas. From the forests, they gathered honey, resin and medicinal plants. Under the leafy canopies, they buried their dead and worshipped spirits.

That changed in 2008, when without warning, bulldozers made way for rubber plantations the government granted to a European-Cambodian joint venture in poor, rural Monduliri province. Such economic land concessions were meant to promote development, but for 800 Bunong families, the long-term leases have brought mostly hardship and loss.

The Cambodian human rights

group LICADHO estimates more than 200 state-linked land deals have harmed 500,000 people, and the U.N. has called land-rights-related conflicts Cambodia's top human-rights problem.

Josie Cohen, land campaigner at Global Witness, which investigates economic networks behind environmental destruction, said land leases are "altering the very fabric of rural societies" in Cambodia and nearby Laos and Myanmar.

The Bunong of Bousra commune now must earn money to buy rice they once grew, and outsiders hold most of the plantation jobs. Despite promised development, many roads are still dirt.

Kop Let, wife of a village chief, says her family has struggled since the plantation swallowed most of their 12 hectares (30 acres). She grows cassava on their remaining land, sells homemade rice wine and has taken out a

USD3,000 loan.

"I have now become a poor woman," she says. "Our identity as a people is disappearing little by little."

The Bunong say they never were warned their land would be taken and were not offered compensation before the land started to be cleared — two steps required under Cambodian law. Many say they felt forced to accept what they considered to be inadequate compensation.

Socfin, the Luxembourg-based agro-industrial company whose unit owns most of all three Bousra plantations, said it was invited by the government and that villagers were informed and compensated beforehand, but declined to provide evidence. Its joint venture with Cambodian developer Khaou Chuly Development Co., or KCD, operates two of the plantations.

"We brought wealth to a place

where there was nothing," Socfin CEO Luc Boedt told The Associated Press in an interview in Brussels.

A 2009 legal analysis obtained by the AP and written by Maia Diokno, a human-rights lawyer hired by Socfin-KCD as a consultant, said the plantation work began without warning, and produced the "unfortunate result of dispossessing indigenous persons of their land."

"They didn't comply with Cambodian law," Diokno told the AP.

Even so, Sok Sam Ouen, a human-rights lawyer in Phnom Penh, noted that Cambodian authorities approved the lease-holder's actions.

Cambodia's environment minister, Say Sam Al, said the overall aim of the concessions program was to improve people's livelihoods throughout the country, but acknowledged problems in carrying it out. "We are changing that now," he said.

The government put a moratorium on new leases in 2012 and has reviewed each one. It revoked 40, but many disputes remain. Today, Bousra's hills are covered in rows of rubber trees, many nearly ready to be tapped.

Most villagers are trying to negotiate with Socfin and key shareholder Bollore Group to seek better roads, services and jobs. They've joined forces with communities in four African countries — Cameroon, Liberia, Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone — that also have complaints about Socfin operations.

A smaller group of 83 villagers trying to get their land returned has filed suit against Bollore, which holds 39 percent of Socfin. Bollore declined to comment on the dispute.

Cambodia began granting land concessions in the late 1990s. No published official data measures their economic impact, but University of Copenhagen researchers estimate incomes of families living near concessions were 15 to 19 percent lower than they would have been had the leases never been granted.

The Bunong lost rice fields and grazing land, and were cut off

from forest resources that once earned some families more than \$2,000 a year, said Esther Leemann, a Swiss social anthropologist who has worked in Monduliri.

"There has been an impoverishment of the majority of the families," Leemann said.

Concessions require the approval of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, which operates with little oversight. The government has not revealed the leases' full extent; LICADHO said it has identified 272 covering 21,000 square kilometers (8,100 square miles), over a tenth of the country.

Violence and evictions have accompanied concessions. In 2012, security forces fatally shot a 15-year-old girl during a clash with residents. One case still before the courts stems from the 2006 eviction of some 4,000 villagers by armed military police to make way for a sugar concession.

"It has failed as a tool of development. It's a scheme for quick bucks," said Ou Virak, an economist in Phnom Penh.

Last month, Prime Minister Hun Sen declared the review process complete and pledged to return nearly 10,000 square kilometers (3,860 square miles) to poor families. But human-rights groups doubt the figures and that land would actually be returned.

Socfin says it invested \$80 million to create the plantations, pay workers and construct roads, a school and employee housing. The company says families cultivating rubber could earn more than \$10,000 a year.

"I invite you to spend only one night in Bousra village, and you will know how poor it is," Boedt said. "And this gives the occasion for the people to get out of that misery."

Yet villager Yin Rouey considers the day the bulldozers rumbled in to be the most devastating moment of his life — worse than losing half his family to U.S. bombs in the Vietnam War.

"In war, people die, but that's not as bad as losing our land," he said. "For us, if there's no land, it will kill us." **MDT/AP**

## US museum returns 10th century Khmer statue

CAMBODIA yesterday welcomed home a 10th-century Khmer statue that was looted during the country's civil war before spending the past three decades at an American museum.

The sandstone Torso of Rama statue, which stands 62 inches high and is missing its head, arms and feet, was formally handed over at

a ceremony in Phnom Penh attended by government officials, the US ambassador and the director of the Denver Museum of Art.

The museum said it acquired the statue in 1986 from the Doris Weiner Gallery in New York City but only recently learned new facts about its provenance.

"We were recently pro-

vided with verifiable evidence that was not available to us at the time of acquisition, and immediately began taking all appropriate steps [...] for its return home," Christoph Heinrich, the museum's director, said in a joint statement with the Cambodian government.

Cambodia's Secretary of State Chan Thani

thanked the museum for voluntarily returning the piece, which he said shows its sensitivity to Cambodian culture.

The statue will be returned to its home at the Prasat Chen temple on the Koh Ker temple complex in Siem Reap province, which is also home to the famed Angkor Wat complex. **MDT/AP**





**T**HE death toll from a massive suicide bombing targeting Christians gathered on Easter in the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore rose to 70 yesterday, underscoring the ability of the militants to stage large-scale attacks despite a months-long military offensive targeting their hideouts.

Meanwhile, in the capital of Islamabad, extremists protested for a second day outside Pakistan's Parliament and other key buildings in the city center. The demonstrators set cars on fire, demanding that the authorities impose Islamic law or Sharia. The army, which was deployed Sunday to contain the rioters, remained out on the streets around the Parliament and key buildings yesterday.

The Lahore bombing, which was claimed by a breakaway Taliban faction that has publicly supported the Islamic State group, took place in a park that was crowded with families, with many women and children among the victims. At least 300 people were wounded in the bombing.

Also yesterday, Pakistan started observing a three-day mourning period that was declared after the Lahore attack.

Even though a breakaway Taliban group, known as Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, said it specifically targeted Pakistan's Christian community, most of those killed in Lahore were Muslims, who were also gathered in the park for the Sunday weekend holiday. The park is a popular spot in the heart of Lahore.

Of the dead, 14 have been identified as Christians, according to Lahore Police Superintendent Mohammed Iqbal. Another 12 bodies have not yet been identified, he said.

The attack underscored both the precarious position of Pakistan's minorities and the fact that the militants are still capable of staging wide-scale assaults despite a months-long military offensive targeting their hideouts and safe havens

PAKISTAN

# Death toll from Easter bombing reaches 70



Pakistani women mourn during the funeral service of Sahil Pervez yesterday who was killed in a suicide bombing attack in Lahore

in remote tribal areas.

Ahsanullah Ahsan, a spokesman for the breakaway Taliban faction, told The Associated Press late Sunday that along with deliberately targeting Christians celebrating Easter, the attack also meant to protest Pakistan's military operation in the tribal regions. The same militant group also took responsibility for the twin bombings of a Christian Church in Lahore last year.

In Turkey, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan condemned the Lahore bombing, saying that in targeting a park filled with children, the attack "revealed the face of terror, which knows no limits and values."

France expressed its "solidarity in these difficult moments" to

the authorities and the people of Pakistan and underlined "the inflexible will of our country to continue to battle terrorism everywhere."

In Islamabad, extremists had marched into the city on Sunday in protest of the hanging of policeman Mumtaz Qadri in February. Qadri was convicted for the 2011 murder of governor Salman Taseer, who was defending a Christian woman jailed on blasphemy charges. Taseer had also criticized Pakistan's harsh blasphemy laws and campaigned against them.

As the protesters reached an avenue leading to the Parliament, the march turned violent, with Qadri's supporters smashing windows and dama-

ging bus stations. Police fired tear gas but could not subdue the crowds, which remained in the capital.

Yesterday they rallied anew, demanding that the Christian woman also be hanged and that authorities impose Islamic law or Sharia. The woman, Aasia Bibi, is still in jail facing blasphemy charges.

The army deployed Pakistan paramilitary Rangers as well as about 800 additional soldiers from neighboring Rawalpindi to Islamabad, to protect the center, which houses main government buildings and diplomatic missions.

In recent weeks, Pakistan's Islamist parties have been threatening widespread demonstra-

tion to protest what they say is Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's pro-Western stance. They have also denounced provincial draft legislation in Punjab outlawing violence against women.

Sharif had also this month recognized holidays celebrated by the country's minority religions, the Hindu festival of Holi and the Christian holiday of Easter.

In Lahore, dozens of families were bidding final farewell to their slain kin yesterday. Shama Pervez, widowed mother of 11-year-old Sahil Pervez who died in the blast, was inconsolable during funeral prayers. Her son, a fifth grader at a local Catholic school, had pleaded with her to go to the park rather than stay home on Sunday, and she said she finally gave in.

Forensic experts sifted through the debris in the park yesterday. The suicide bomb had been a crude device loaded with ball bearings, designed to rip through the bodies of its victims to cause maximum damage, said counter-terrorism official Rana Tufail. He identified the suicide bomber as Mohammed Yusuf, saying he was known as a militant recruiter.

Analyst and prominent author of books on militants in Pakistan, Zahid Hussain, said Sunday's violence was a coordinated show of strength by the country's religious extremists, angered over what they see as efforts to undermine their influence.

Hussain said the government has been sending mixed signals to Islamic extremists — on the one hand allowing banned radical groups to operate unhindered under new names and radical leaders to openly give inciting speeches, while on the other hanging convicts like Qadri and promising to tackle honor killings and attacks against women.

"It is one step forward and two steps backward," he adds. "The political leadership has to assert itself and say 'no' to extremism once and for all." **MDT/AP**

JAPAN

# Trouble reaching innovative new space satellite

**JAPAN'S** space agency says communication has failed with a newly launched, innovative satellite with X-ray telescopes meant to study black holes and other space mysteries.

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency spokeswoman Izumi Yoshizaki said yesterday that efforts to restore communication links since the problem began Saturday afternoon have been unsuccessful, and it was investigating what might have happened to the sa-

tellite, which is called Hitomi and was launched February 17.

"We are really doing our best," she said by telephone in Tokyo.

She said the agency was looking into a statement from the Joint Space Operations Center, or JSpOC, the U.S. military organization that tracks and identifies objects in space, that Hitomi may have splintered into several pieces.

Whether that had happened or not is unclear, Yoshizaki said.

Jonathan McDowell, an astronomer at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, said he suspected the satellite had suffered an "energetic event," possibly a gas leak or a battery explosion, that sent it tumbling end-over-end. That would mean its antenna isn't pointing where it needs to, which is why the satellite can't communicate with the space agency, he said.

The danger is that in that state, the satellite may not be able to draw

the solar energy it needs to its panels and its battery will run down before the space agency can reconnect with the satellite and try to fix it, he said.

"Everyone's just gutted," said McDowell, who works with another high-tech space X-ray telescope, Chandra. "To hear that they've run into this piece of bad luck, it's so very sad. I know enough about how the sausage was made to know that this could have easily have happened to us. Space is very unforgiving." **AP**



An H-2A rocket carrying an X-ray astronomy satellite called "Hitomi", is launched from the Tanegashima Space Center in Kagoshima Prefecture last month





C&C LAWYERS  
C&C 律師事務所



合伙人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata 趙魯 Zhao Lu

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:

馬傑安 João N. Marques  
高文軒 Adelino Correia  
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues  
馬德龍 Nuno L. Martins  
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha  
杜翠盈 Rita Andorinho  
馬潔冰 Maria J. Marques  
陶義德 António J. Azevedo

白穎怡 Iclia Berenguel  
沈玲鳳 Mariana A. Esteves  
蘇胡嘉 Maria A. Giestas  
魏嘉華 Carlos S. Ferreira  
黃保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen  
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo  
宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção  
羅捷 Luo Tao, Elna  
巴慕雅 Vera Bastos  
曹樂萌 Cao Lemeng, Rui

莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

楊越華 Jeong Lit Wa  
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues  
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo  
王洋玲 Emma Wong  
陳祖恩 Joana Chan  
蘇曉蓉 Teresa, Xiaorong Yan

• 私人公證員 Notary Public • 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer



WWW.CC2VVOG.COM  
TEL: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623



new business opportunities are just a handshake away



MACAU AFTER WORK



deltabridges.com



sales@deltabridges.com (+853) 66965212 (+86) 13326647710

SPECIAL OFFER

GOLD LABEL

\$3600



VSOP

\$3700



Buy 2 Get 1 Free  
買2送1



D2CLUB  
www.d2club-macau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edf. New Orleans III  
澳門友誼大馬路澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良館 III  
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

WELCOME TO Playmate's club  
花心公子俱樂部

WILD NIGHT OUT



Come and buy a Standard drink Mop45 only  
You can see a European Striptease Show

Business Hours: 8:00pm-4:00am

Attention  
No admission under 18

Address: Basement, Hotel Guia, Macau Tel: 28532081 www-macauplaymatesclub.com



EUROZONE

# States challenge austerity but lack cash to spend

Barry Hatton, Lisbon

**T**HE construction cranes poking up from the jumble of terracotta roofs on Lisbon's skyline can be counted on one hand — a dismal reminder for Ricardo Gomes of how little work there is for his construction company.

The Portuguese Socialist government has promised to change that, advocating an end to Europe's years of budget austerity by increasing spending and cutting taxes. Even respected independent policymakers, like the president of the European Central Bank, have said governments should do more to support growth.

But there's a catch: despite an easing in Europe's focus on austerity, countries like Portugal or Italy that need to increase spending to boost economic growth can't afford to do so without breaking the bloc's rules. And those that can, mainly Germany, are still penny-pinching.

"There are obvious limitations" in Portugal's ability to finance its economy, says Gomes, CEO of construction company SETH.

The country's construction sector collapsed amid the financial crisis, which saw the state take a 78 billion-euro (USD87 billion) bailout in 2011. The number of construction workers has more than halved from 612,000 in 2005 to roughly 277,000.

Portuguese officials hope tax cuts coming into force this month will put more cash in people's pockets, generating a spurt of domestic demand and firing up the wider economy.

That might have a modest impact, concedes Gomes, but he's not expecting a big payoff for firms like his. Capital is still too scarce for big, job-creating investments, he says.

The average price tag of a pu-



In this Feb. 28, 2014 file photo, construction workers repair the roof of a building in Lisbon. The country's construction sector collapsed amid the financial crisis, which saw the state take a 78 billion-euro bailout in 2011

blic works project in austerity-minded Portugal last year was a measly 89,000 euros (currently \$99,000), according to sector association AECOPS. Public investment is being cut by a further 5.6 percent this year as the government strives to meet the eurozone's demand for a budget deficit below 3 percent, from an expected 4.3 percent last year.

Private investment is faring no better, as caution reigns: After years of handing out poorly judged loans, Portuguese banks are sitting on close to 18 billion euros of bad debt. That's roughly equivalent to 10 percent of the country's gross domestic product.

With the national economy stalled, Gomes's company, which specializes in coastal and port engineering, has survived by going abroad — 80 percent of its business last year was in Africa.

The situation is similar in

many of the economically weaker parts of the 19-country eurozone.

Italy is challenging Germany's focus on debt reduction head on, arguing that spending more would help the economy.

"Europe has taken the wrong road, austerity alone is not enough," Premier Matteo Renzi wrote in an open letter last month. Italy's economy slowed in the fourth quarter of last year and government debt is the highest in the eurozone after Greece at 135 percent of GDP.

Renzi pointed to the example of the United States, whose economy is profiting from a focus on growth and innovation and where President Barack Obama said last year he wanted to "replace mindless austerity with smart investments."

But unless Italy wants to break the EU rule to keep the

deficit under 3 percent of GDP — a rule his country signed up to — there is little he can do to increase spending.

The eurozone economy needs growth any way it can get it. It expanded a meager 0.3 percent in the final three months of last year, for the second quarter running. The average unemployment rate is 10.3 percent.

The European Central Bank has for more than a year been trying to stoke growth by shoveling huge amounts of money — more than 1 trillion euros — into the eurozone economy through the purchase of bonds. But as demand for credit remains weak, this monetary approach isn't paying the anticipated dividends.

National governments, ECB officials keep saying, need to do their bit, too. ECB chief Mario Draghi said last month: "It is becoming clearer and clearer that (governments')

fiscal policies should support the economic recovery, through public investment and lower taxation."

Increases in government spending and tax cuts are commonly viewed as tonics for listless economies. But Oxford Economics, a consultancy company, noted last month that eurozone governments are juggling political and financial considerations: "Germany has [fiscal] space but lack of inclination; the opposite is true in France [and] Italy."

The Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a respected policy group that represents the world's most developed economies, has also thrown its weight behind a move away from austerity as soon as the opportunity arises.

"What has changed is that over the past year, eurozone governments have started to openly question" the wisdom of Brussels and Berlin's policy strictures, said Simon Tilford of the Centre for European Reform, a think tank in London.

In Portugal, Finance Minister Mario Centeno, who has a PhD in Economics from Harvard University, is introducing income tax and sales tax cuts, tax rebates, new subsidies for household energy bills and restoring government workers' pay that was cut. Those steps, he says, will stimulate consumption.

Eurozone officials initially reacted with alarm at the moves, considering Portugal's debt is high at 130 percent of GDP, but after some tinkering allowed the spending plan to go through.

Nevertheless, "Portugal alone can't really do that much" to hasten a recovery, Tilford of the Centre for European Reform says. "It really needs Italy, France and Spain to put up a united front and demand fundamental change in the way the eurozone is run." **AP**

**T**HE European Union is considering easing bank-failure rules introduced to end the era of expensive taxpayer-funded bailouts.

A discussion paper prepared by the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, envisions setting EU loss-absorbency requirements for its biggest banks, led by HSBC

## EU mulls easing bank-failure rules

Holdings Plc and Deutsche Bank AG, in line with those issued in November by the Financial Stability Board for the world's 30 most systemically important lenders. The paper, dated this month and seen

by Bloomberg, "explores possible options" for implementing the FSB rule in the EU and isn't binding on the Brussels-based commission.

Yet Elke Koenig, head of the euro area's bank reso-

lution authority, has repeatedly said that the currency bloc would exceed global standards to ensure its biggest banks can be restructured and recapitalized without threatening financial stability. "On nine out of 10

occasions," requirements in the banking union would be stiffer than the FSB's rules on total loss-absorbing capacity (TLAC), she said in December.

As the EU prepares to implement global banking

standards including TLAC, the leverage ratio and the net stable funding ratio, it's struggling to boost lending and kick-start the economy.

As a result, Jonathan Hill, the EU's financial-services commissioner, has said he'll take into account the impact these rules could have on European business. **MDT/Bloomberg**



## what's ON



## ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS (U.K.)

TIME: 8pm

VENUE: Macau Cultural Centre,  
Avenida Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP180, MOP280, MOP380, MOP480

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2870 0699

THE MASTERY OF SHIPBUILDING  
- FISHING JUNK MODELS BY WAN CHUN

TIME: 10am-6pm

(Closed on Sundays and public holidays)

UNTIL: April 9, 2016

VENUE: Gallery of the Historical Archives of Macau,  
Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida

N° 91 - 93, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2859 2919

## SOU PUI KUN'S WORK "MUSIC BOX"

IN EXHIBIT OF CONTEMPORARY SCULPTURE

TIME: 10am-7pm

(no admittance after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: June 19, 2016

VENUE: The Handover Gifts Museum of Macau,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

PAINTINGS AND CALLIGRAPHY DONATED  
BY JAO TSUNG-ITIME: 10am-6pm Daily (No admission after 5:30  
pm; Except on Mondays, open on public holidays)VENUE: Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de  
Almeida, No. 95 C-D, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523

## ARTS IN THE MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (No admission after 5:30 pm,  
closed on Wednesdays, opens on public holidays)

ADMISSION: free

VENUE: Travessa de António da Silva, No. 10  
(near Lilau Square)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

## 2ND MACAU PRINTMAKING TRIENNIAL

TIME: 10am-7pm

(No admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: April 10, 2016

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 7588

## Offbeat

SPECIAL DELIVERY: CAT SENT BY  
MAIL BY BRITISH OWNERS SURVIVES  
EIGHT DAYS IN BOX

A tough Siamese cat named Cupcake has survived eight days cooped up in a box after accidentally being sent through the mail by her British owners.

Cupcake was in a box with an order of DVDs that was sent from Cornwall in southwestern England to West Sussex in south-central England.

The recipient found a badly dehydrated Cupcake in the box along with the DVDs and contacted the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for help. The RSPCA traced the owners through the cat's microchip.

"We looked everywhere for her," owner Julie Baggott said over the weekend, adding that she felt terrible about Cupcake's ordeal.

Vets said Cupcake needed treatment but should recover fully.

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	RTPi Live
17:50	Trail of Lies (Repeated)
18:40	TDM Sport (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:05	TDM Interview
21:45	Happy Endings S3
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Drama
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

24 MAR - 30 MAR



## BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE\_

ROOM 1

2.30, 6.30, 9.15 pm

Director: Zack Snyder

Starring: Amy Adams, Jesse Eisenberg, Diane Lane

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 153min

## KUNG FU PANDA 3\_

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 7.30 pm

Director: Alessandro Carloni, Jennifer Yuh

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 95min

## LONDON HAS FALLING\_

ROOM 2

9.30 pm

Director: Babak Najafi

Starring: Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart,

Morgan Freeman

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 99min



## ZOOTOPIA\_

ROOM 3

(2D) 2.15, 4.05, 7.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 5.45 pm

Director: Byron Howard, Rich Moore

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 108min

## MACAU TOWER

24 MAR - 27 APR

## BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE\_

1.15, 4.00, 6.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Zack Snyder

Starring: Amy Adams, Jesse Eisenberg, Diane Lane

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 153min

## this day in history

1971 MANSON SENT  
TO GAS CHAMBER

Charles Manson and three members of his hippy cult have been sentenced to death in Los Angeles.

They were found guilty of the August 1969 murders of seven people and one unborn child at the beginning of the year.

Their victims included eight-months pregnant actress Sharon Tate - wife of film director Roman Polanski.

None of the defendants heard their verdicts as they were ejected from the courtroom for disrupting proceedings - as they had done several times during the nine month trial.

Manson, 36, was led out after telling the judge and jury: "you don't have any authority over me. You're not nearly as good as me."

His accomplices - Susan Atkins, 22, Patricia Krenwinkel, 23 and Leslie Van Houten, 21 - were dragged screaming from court.

Ms Atkins shouted: "It's gonna come down hard. Lock your doors. Protect your kids."

The prosecution - led by Vincent Bugliosi - depicted Manson as a satanic monster who controlled the women whom he described as "mindless robots".

Jury member Marie Mesmer said: "He was the leader, the worst...I think he's a dangerous influence on society, highly dangerous."

The women - who, like Manson, had shaved their heads - admitted carrying out the killings under the influence of the hallucinogenic drug LSD but denied Manson's involvement.

It took the jury 10 hours to give their verdict in a case that has cost the state of California over £400,000 (over \$1m).

As well as the Tate murder Atkins, Krenwinkel and Manson were condemned for killing Polish writer Voytek Frykowski, coffee heiress Abigail Folger, Hollywood hairdresser Jay Sebring and a friend of Sharon Tate's caretaker, Steven Parent.

Ms Van Houten was sentenced for murdering supermarket owner Leno la Blanca and his wife.

Judge Charles Older said he would pass formal sentence on 16 April, when he may reduce the punishments to life imprisonment, but it is considered unlikely he will do so.

Manson is expected to be confined to the notorious 'death row' in San Quentin to wait for the final outcome of his - automatic - appeal.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

**Judge Older** confirmed the death penalty in his judgement on 19 April 1971.

It had been one of the longest-running murder trials in US history, with a jury sequestered for longer than ever before - 225 days.

The California Supreme Court abolished the death penalty in 1972 and the four were given life sentences.

Manson and four other (male) accomplices were subsequently convicted for the murders of Gary Hinman and Donald (Shorty) Shea.

Charles Manson has endured as a cult figure for various extremist groups and has been the subject of various films and documentaries.

In April 2002 Manson was refused parole for the 10th time and Van Houten had her fourteenth request turned down in June of that year. Atkins and Krenwinkel have also had numerous parole applications refused.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
You're suddenly hyper-aware of the needs of others. You could use this to your advantage, but you won't. Kudos to you, as you earn karmic cachet instead of cash.

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
Your whole routine might not be so dull and boring if you put yourself into the equation. Serving others is all well and good, but spend some time spoiling yourself, instead of your coworkers.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
Too much of a good thing can ruin your day. If you're intellectual, cut back on the deep thoughts. If you're a romantic, spend some time balancing the books. And for all other personality types, finish the sentence yourself.

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
Dormant issues are becoming active again. Whether problems at home are ruining your workday or work issues are hitchhiking home, you'll have to ride out a blip in domestic bliss.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
You and a credit card - not such a good combination. If you're tempted to buy the latest computer or the sleekest office furniture, cough up the card and stay in your cubicle.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
Tired of idle banter? Get ready for an exchange that leaves you yearning for chit-chat. Yep, it's time for that 'deep and meaningful' conversation, so prepare yourself.

**Libra**  
Sep.23-Oct. 22  
Some people will go to any lengths to get attention from you. Why make them work that hard? You'll be flirting with success if you throw just a crumb of interest their way.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
Some decisions are hard, but this one is knocking you unconscious. Is it really as bad as all that? Just choose and be done with it. The right answer is not as elusive as you think.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
It's hard to imagine this being a snap, but it will be. Decisions are hard but not impossible. Once you have all aspects thought out, the right choice will be obvious.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
As soon as you initiate something new, you lose interest. It's just one of those days. But that doesn't mean you should stop trying. Even an exercise in futility is worth the effort.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
Something about a colleague has you questioning them, to say the least. Don't let a personal issue get in the way of working together, no matter how different your cultural perspectives.

**Pisces**  
Feb.19-Mar. 20  
It's hard to imagine anyone having an 'out with the old, in with the new' attitude towards you. Don't let insecurities rule your day. On the other hand, use them to make improvements in your performance.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

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

**Easy+**

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

**Medium**

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

**Hard**

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	5	22	clear/cloudy
Harbin	2	16	clear/cloudy
Tianjin	10	20	cloudy/overcast
Urumqi	5	17	clear
Xi'an	5	22	cloudy
Lhasa	5	16	cloudy/sleet
Chengdu	11	18	overcast
Chongqing	12	19	cloudy/overcast
Kunming	8	21	cloudy
Nanjing	6	21	clear
Shanghai	9	19	cloudy/clear
Wuhan	6	22	clear/cloudy
Hangzhou	5	20	clear/cloudy
Taipei	9	19	drizzle/cloudy
Guangzhou	9	23	clear
Hong Kong	14	19	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	-5	4	clear
Frankfurt	5	9	drizzle
Paris	8	13	drizzle
London	5	7	moderate rain/drizzle
New York	8	12	drizzle/moderate rain

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Globose; 10- Like ziti; 15- A second pleading; 16- Me too; 17- Diminution; 18- Billiards shot; 19- Comrade; 20- Greeted the villain; 22- Econ. indicator; 23- Prissy; 25- Glacial period; 28- Greenish brown fruit of China; 31- Editorial writer; 33- "Oedipe" composer Georges; 34- Downpours; 35- Pad; 37- Sororal; 41- Dude who springs you from the car; 46- Attached to land; 47- Author Leonard; 48- Large quantity; 49- Simple rhyme scheme; 50- Not Rep. or Dem.; 51- Every sixty minutes; 56- Ike's WWII command; 57- Lerner's partner; 60- Events worthy of note; 63- Sea eagles; 64- A calling forth; 65- Reposes; 66- Penitent;

**DOWN:** 1- Grapnel; 2- Bygone Chrysler; 3- Like a milky gem; 4- Diner order; 5- Shoebox letters; 6- Gyro meat; 7- Prefix with logical; 8- Lotto-like game; 9- Harper's Bazaar illustrator; 10- Tic-\_\_\_-toe; 11- G-8 nation; 12- Negotiate; 13- Surrounded by; 14- Clinging shellfish; 21- Undress; 24- Classic two-seaters; 26- Worldly; 27- Organ of sight; 29- Assent; 30- Sustain with food; 31- Kind of alcohol; 32- \_\_\_-disant (self-styled); 36- Hearst kidnap grp.; 37- Upsetting team; 38- Blast furnace input; 39- Makes sorrowful; 40- Bus. card info; 42- "\_\_\_ Believer" (Monkees hit); 43- Genus of herbaceous plants; 44- Speech; 45- Reverberating loudly; 52- Lulu; 53- Wander about; 54- At the apex of; 55- Chantilly product; 58- Rainy, say; 59- Double curve; 61- Prohibit; 62- Addams Family cousin

**Friday's solution**

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

**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



**FOR SALE**  
www.JMLProperty.com

**FOR RENT**  
More info, please contact us  
Info@JMLproperty.com  
(853) 2835 2699 Office

**H Unit Gladiolus Court**  
Coloane  
2,530 sq ft / HKD 11.8M  
HKD 4,664sq ft  
**Roof Top Terrace**  
Ref: 11115275

**Tai Nin**  
Macau  
**1 Bedroom Apartment**  
Near Senado Square  
HKD 8,500 / 850 sq ft  
Ref: 15090536

**Chun Leong**  
Car Park, Taipa  
0sq ft / HKD 1.8M  
HKD 0sq ft  
**Car park for Sale**  
Ref: 15050514

**Houston Court**  
Coloane Village  
**2 Bedroom Apartment**  
Lovely Roof Terrace  
HKD 12,500 / 740 sq ft  
Ref: 15110549

**Kam Long, Lilau Square**  
Macau  
1,100 sq ft / HKD 4.9M  
HKD 4,454sq ft  
**Renovated in 2004**  
Ref: 15085452

**Modern Apartment**  
Old Taipa  
**2 Bedroom Apartment**  
Newly Renovated  
HKD 14,000 / 820 sq ft  
Ref: 16020564

**Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's**  
Macau  
627 sq ft / HKD 3.88M  
HKD 6,188sq ft  
**Near Ruins of St Pauls**  
Ref: 15075447

**The Buckingham**  
Taipa  
**2 Bedrooms Apartment**  
Fully Furnished  
HKD 18,000 / 1,350 sq ft  
Ref: 16020558

**JML property** since 1994

卓雅物業





Innovation that excites



F

IRCLE

CIRCLE OF ADVANTAGE | QASHQAI

新康恆集團有限公司屬於下日產澳門總代理  
新康誠汽車有限公司  
XIN KANG CHENG MOTORS LTD.

Showroom:  
Avenida 1 de maio,  
The Bayview Bloco 4, R/C,C-D, Macau



Enquiry: 2871 9838



C. Rajshekhar Rao, Mohali

CRICKET | WORLD TWENTY20

# Australia out as Kohli's 82 puts India in semifinals

**V**IRAT Kohli produced a sublime 82 not out off 51 balls on the weekend to help India defeat Australia by six wickets in their World Twenty20 match and advance to the semifinals.

Kohli took charge at a crucial time in what was a virtual quarterfinal, smashing nine fours and two sixes as India reached 161-4 off 19.1 overs in reply to Australia's 160-6.

The No. 3 batsman added 67 off only 31 deliveries with captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni (18 not out) after a useful 45-run stand for the fourth wicket with Yuvraj Singh (21) as India scored 59 runs in the last 4.1 overs of the Group 2 game.

Kohli, who had also guided India to a six-wicket win over Pakistan with 55 not out, remained calm during his 15th T20 half-century after Shikhar Dhawan (13), Rohit Sharma (12) and Suresh Raina (10) failed to get going with India struggling at 49-3 in the eighth over.

Kohli batted himself in with Yuvraj and then took the initiative, smashing 19 off the 18th over bowled by James Faulkner and 16 off the 19th from Nathan Coulter-Nile,



India's Virat Kohli (left) celebrates as he walks with Australia's James Faulkner after winning by six wickets during their ICG World Twenty20 2016 cricket match in Mohali on Sunday

to the delight of more than 25,000 fans.

Dhoni hit Faulkner for a four down the ground to complete a memorable win that sets the 2007 champion against 2012 champion West Indies in the semifinals in Mumbai on Thursday.

"That was a pretty serious innings there, under pressure," Australia captain Steven Smith said. "He hit it right out of the middle and he's done it for a long time. Virat played an unbelievable knock [...] I think 160 was around par, it just took an unbelievable innings to get India over the line."

Earlier, Australia got off to a quick start as left-handed opener Usman Khawaja began the innings with a pulled four off Ashish Nehra and then took four fours off the following over from Jasprit Bumrah to finish with a 16-ball 26 comprising six fours.

Australia raced to the 50-run

mark in only 3.4 overs as Aaron Finch (43 off 34) smashed two consecutive sixes over long on off spinner Ravichandran Ashwin but the scoring rate was checked as wickets fell at regular intervals.

"It was a tough score, they got 60 runs in the first six overs," Dhoni said.

Australia reached the 100-run mark in 12.5 overs and 150 in 19.4.

The opening stand was worth 54 and ended in the fifth over when Nehra induced an edge to dismiss danger man Khawaja.

David Warner (6) and Smith (2) fell to spinners Ashwin and Yuvraj Singh respectively with Dhoni having a hand in both dismissals.

Ashwin's single wicket Sunday made him the first Indian to take 50 wickets in T20 internationals while wicketkeeper Dhoni's three victims brought him level on 60 with Pakistan's Kamran Akmal for dismissals in T20 internationals.

Glenn Maxwell chipped in with a useful 31 that included a reverse-sweep six off Yuvraj Singh.

Shane Watson made an impressive exit from international cricket as he followed up his unbeaten 18 with 2-23 in four overs and a brilliant diving catch at cover to dismiss Yuvraj off Faulkner. **AP**

## W. Indies cap'n says defeat against Afghanistan is a 'blip'

**W**EST Indies captain Darren Sammy wants his team to quickly forget Sunday's six-run defeat against Afghanistan and concentrate on the upcoming World Twenty20 semifinals.

"We leave this game here and see it as the blip in the tournament," said Sammy after West Indies lost against a team it

had never played before in a Twenty20 international.

"Now we have two knockouts to play, two more steps, semifinals in Mumbai, take that step, then Kolkata here we come."

West Indies was troubled by Afghanistan's spin quartet of Mohammad Nabi, Rashid Khan, Samiullah Shenwari and

Amir Hamza, who claimed five wickets between them on a turning wicket.

"We are quite disappointed that we lost the game, but we won't let that define our tournament. At the end of the day we were really happy chasing 124, we should have gotten it. We lost the game, they didn't win." **MDT/AP**

CYCLING

## Death of rider overshadows Sagan victory in Gent-Wevelgem

**T**HE death of a local rider as a result of an accident during the Gent-Wevelgem classic overshadowed the victory by world champion Peter Sagan.

The Wanty-Gobert team confirmed the death of Belgian rider Antoine Demoitie after a fall during the race. Local media reported he was hit by a motorbike after coming down.

He was taken to the intensive care unit of a hospital in the northern French city of Lille. Yesterday the team posted a photograph of him on its official Twitter and Facebook pages, accompanied by the text "Antoine Demoitie 1990-2016". It said it would issue a statement later.

Sagan, who claimed the



Belgium's Greg Van Avermaet of the BMC Racing Team jubilates as he wins the Belgian cycling classic Omloop Het Nieuwsblad in Gent

world title last September in Richmond, Virginia, posted his first victory in the rainbow jersey.

Viacheslav Kuznetsov made the first move, about 200 meters from the finish line, but Sagan then easily outprinted his rivals.

Sagan, who finished runner-up at the E3 Harelbeke

race earlier this week, won ahead of Sep Vanmarcke and Kuznetsov, with one-day classic specialist Fabian Cancellara in fourth place.

It was the Slovak's second victory in Gent-Wevelgem, following his maiden success in the 234-kilometer cobblestone classic back in

2013.

Sagan and Vanmarcke jumped away from the main pack with 34 kilometers left to follow Cancellara when the Swiss rider accelerated in the final climb of the day up the cobbled Kemmelberg.

After catching Kuznetsov, the four breakaway riders collaborated well and resisted the peloton's chase.

"[It] was very hard because we were in a breakaway," Sagan said. "Today I felt very, very good and the victory is here."

Cancellara said he was hampered by cramps in the final five kilometers and was unable to fight for victory.

"In the end, I did not have the legs, or power, that I am used to," Cancellara said.

Sagan will be among the favorites at the upcoming Tour of Flanders before competing in Paris-Roubaix. **AP**

## Quintana wins Tour of Catalonia ahead of Contador

**N**AIRO Quintana of Colombia held on to his lead over Alberto Contador to win the Tour of Catalonia for the first time on Sunday.

Quintana successfully defended his seven-second advantage over the Spaniard in Sunday's final stage, an eight-lap ride over 136.4 kilometers (84.7 miles) up and down the Montjuic hill overlooking Barcelona.

"It's exciting and a point of great pride to beat such great rivals," Quintana said. "It gives me confidence and shows that I'm on the right track going into the Tour of France. It doesn't show that I'm ahead of anybody, but it shows that I've been doing a good job."

The weeklong event in northeastern Spain attracted some of cycling's top riders, including Tour de France champion Chris Froome, who finished eighth overall, 46 seconds behind Quintana.

Quintana's task was made a bit more difficult because three of his Movistar teammates were ill and could not finish the race to help him. **MDT/AP**



opinion

**Our Desk**  
 Renato Marques



**HOW TO GO BACK TO THE FUTURE?**

Looking at the latest news and developments in Macau society, I have started thinking about what Macau is nowadays, and undertaking the mental exercise of comparing it to the "old days."

Well, when I say "old days" I do not certainly mean back in the 1960s or 1970s (times when I was not even alive). My "old days" are a little closer to the current time period, as I am speaking only of the last 10 years or so.

When I first encountered Macau my first impressions were: 1) the humidity, 2) the smell, and 3) the oddness. And by "oddness" I mean its "uniqueness," which was the fascinating part (I guess it still is) that made and still makes me walk kilometers around what many find to be "a tiny territory lost somewhere in the South of China."

For me, Macau is much more than that. It is a special place with its advantages and disadvantages, its beauties and its flaws.

Unfortunately I was not acquainted with Macau long enough to live through a longer part of its history – what people nowadays describe as HERITAGE, as if Macau's past is just something to keep locked in a museum. Fortunately, I had the chance during these past years to talk with many of those that lived through those times, and are full of stories to tell.

Browsing all those stories in my head, I find that something immediately stands out: Macau's Internationality, or how people in Macau lived for 500 years (or more) facing the world, seeing people from across the globe coming and departing...

I guess during those times, Macau was not a "platform." Instead, it was (just) a safe harbor where commerce was thriving and the sea was the "path to success."

Apparently, somewhere in time (I cannot say precisely when) Macau seems to have turned its back on the sea that made it "big" (important) and faced China instead.

By turning our backs to the sea, we turned our backs on the world too, concentrating all our efforts in...right, Mainland China, the "big gold mine," the "solution to all our problems," the one that would eventually make us "rich and famous."

With that, we lost basically all of the rest. We lost our internationality, we lost our roots, we basically lost our cultural references and who we were in a kind of trade-in, like Nickelback said in the lyrics to "Rockstar": "I'm gonna trade this life for fortune and fame, I'd even cut my hair and change my name."

And then, suddenly, we want to be international (again). Do we? I guess someone told us to and that was a well-learned lesson from long ago: if there is something that we have mastered, it is certainly the art of submission.

But the problem is, how do we go to the future by going back to the past? Do we still have anyone who can remember how to do that? How do we open those museum display cabinets and make history come alive? And more importantly, is that really what we want?

From recent developments, I have learned that the answer is negative. The "Macau Love Locals" campaign is a great example of that. Right at the press conference to launch the program, one of those (supposed to be) responsible for its creation clearly stated: "Go! Enjoy it! And tell all your friends...especially the ones from mainland China."

Frustration! I am frustrated as I was when, just a couple of days ago, I was approached in the street by a couple of "very picky" tourists. Can you imagine, they were looking for a coffee shop (?!), and not just any coffee shop, they wanted a Portuguese-style one, with coffee and cakes and things like that, right in the city center. So demanding, these "international" tourists are. We had better stick with the usual suspects.

**THE GONGBEI CUSTOMS AUCTIONS OFF SMUGGLED GOLD**

Gongbei Customs will hold an auction for 30 kg of smuggled gold today. There will be 30 gold items up for bidding.

Two years ago, Gongbei Customs seized the gold from two men who had been paid RMB300 to carry luggage, as well as a box con-

taining the gold, across two Zhuhai islands.

The gold has gone unclaimed since Customs posted a notice calling for the owners, leading to the aforementioned public auction. All proceeds from the bidding process will be returned to the state treasury.

**Xi welcomed with defaced flags**



Daniel Beitler

**C**HINESE President Xi Jinping has arrived in the Czech Republic for a visit designed to boost economic and political ties. His arrival in the central European country reflects the more pragmatic and business-orientated approach taken by the Czech government of late, in contrast to that under former President, Vaclav Havel, when the country was a champion of human rights.

The visit was warmly welcomed by the current Czech President, Milos Zeman, who has signified an increased willingness to entertain China and Chinese business interests since he was elected in 2013.

However not everyone was equally warm in their welcome for the leader of the world's second largest economy.

Protestors gathered in the former communist nation with critics comparing it to the welcomes extended to leaders of the Soviet Union in the 20th century.

Dozens of Chinese flags near the airport and near Prague's Castle were spoiled with black paint slapped across them ahead of the visit. Protestors further plan to hang a giant photo of exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, alongside one of Vaclav Havel.

Rights groups in the Czech Republic have repeatedly accused China of suppressing Tibetan culture, while China maintains that the semi-autonomous region's economy has prospered under CCP rule.

Xinhua, in its coverage, made no mention of the defaced Chinese flags, saying only that "officials and ex-

perts from both countries believe that China-Czech relations have been ushered into 'the best time in history'."

Meanwhile Hong Kong newscasts broadcasted on Guangdong television had their coverage of the story cut short and replaced by adverts, according to a witness.

Previous visits to European capitals by Xi Jinping have drawn similar condemnation from the masses in contrast to their governments who have eagerly embraced them.

Large protests gathered in opposition to Xi's visit to London last year, which saw a convergence of Free Tibet activists, members of China's Uighur minority, Hong Kong protest leaders and Falun Gong practitioners.

Similar protests took place in France in 2014 in Paris and Lyon where demonstrators denounced Beijing's stance on Tibet, Taiwan and its human rights record.

Xi's three-day visit to the Czech Republic this week will see the Chinese President meet with leaders of the central European country, sign business deals and according to the Associated Press, potentially sign an agreement on a strategic partnership.

Prague will be the only visit in Europe for Xi, who is on his way to the United States for a nuclear security summit.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	60-80 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	70-100 Moderate
Ambient	65-95 Moderate

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**BANGLADESH's** top court rejects a 28-year-old petition to remove Islam as the official religion of the Muslim-majority South Asian nation.



**AFGHANISTAN** Taliban fighters have fired explosives at Afghanistan's parliament compound in Kabul as the country's top intelligence official and caretaker minister of interior were due to speak. Three rockets were fired at the building but did not hit their target and no one was wounded.



**SYRIA** The Syrian army, backed by Russian warplanes, is reported to be continuing its offensive against the Islamic State after recapturing the ancient city of Palmyra on the weekend.



**CUBA** Fidel Castro has broken his silence over U.S. President Obama's visit this month in a damning letter published in the state-run newspaper Granma. He said that Cuba didn't need any gifts from the "empire" and that Obama's words of reconciliation could give Cubans a heart attack.

**MEXICO** Authorities say that they have arrested the top money launderer for Mexican drug lord Joaquin Guzman, known as "El Chapo", who is currently awaiting extradition to the United States.

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**

AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin



Whitehouse Easter. President Barack Obama turns to embrace first lady Michelle Obama, after thanking her during his remarks, as the Easter Bunny reacts, during their final White House Easter Egg Roll at the White House in Washington, yesterday.