

'CHAPAS SÍNICAS' PART OF 'WORLD MEMORY'
The records of Macau during the Qing Dynasty were listed by the UNESCO Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA Mothers of some of those killed in the bloody crackdown on China's 1989 Tiananmen pro-democracy movement say they have lived through 27 years of state-led "terror and suffocation" and vow to continue pushing for the truth ahead of this weekend's anniversary of the events. **More on p11**

CHINA Beijing prosecutors say they are investigating the death in police custody of a young college graduate and new father who had been picked up on suspicion of visiting prostitutes, the latest development in a case that has highlighted public complaints about police abuses. **More on p11**



MALAYSIA gov't has fired 15 immigration officers it says helped international syndicates sabotage online passport checks for years in a way that allowed some travelers to move freely in and out of the country. Suspicions were raised by frequent collapses of the online system at the country's main international airport that is linked to Interpol's lost and stolen passport database. The sabotage likely started in 2010 and was headed by foreign agents.

More on backpage

Adelson settles six-year feud with Jacobs P3

AP PHOTO
Steven Jacobs

TOURISM
Macau in need of capacity management P5 MDT REPORT

XINHUA

'Piano poet' to play at Cultural Center



The Macau Orchestra, under the baton of conductor Jean-Philippe Tremblay, will join forces with French pianist Alexandre Tharaud for a concert on Sunday night at the Cultural Centre's Grand Auditorium. Acclaimed as a modern "poet of the piano," Tharaud was once a student of the great French pianist Marguerite Long. Renowned for his unique music style and remarkable performance skills, Tharaud will perform Edvard Grieg's "Piano Concerto in A minor", a piece that fuses German and Austrian musical influences from the Romantic era with elements of Norwegian folk music.

IFT co-organizes training course

In order to provide diversified training opportunities for industry professionals, and enhance the management quality within the local service industry, the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) and Cornell University School of Hotel Administration co-organized an Executive Development Programme on "Leadership and Motivation," last week. The course, which attracted 21 professionals from local hotels and resort complexes, addressed the real-world complexities faced by front-line leaders and their teams. IFT invited Professor J. Bruce Tracey from the Faculty of the School of Hotel Administration to give a lecture during the course. Focusing on human resources, strategy and management, Professor Tracey's research has examined a wide range of strategic and operational-level human resources topics, including the impact of training initiatives on individual and company performance, employee turnover, employment law and leadership.

Ink painting exhibition opens



The "Roaming Vision + Digital: Exhibition of Ink Paintings by Leung Kui Ting" opened yesterday at the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau of Macau Temporary Exhibitions Gallery. The exhibition features 28 ink works by Hong Kong artist Leung Kui Ting. According to a statement from the Bureau, Leung Kui Ting founded the Hong Kong Chingying Institute of Visual Arts in 1980 and worked as a part-time lecturer at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University for over ten years. He is currently an expert art adviser of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of the Hong Kong government. Leung invented a digital landscape painting technique, which superimposes digital lines and dots on the outlines of mountains and rocks drawn in a traditional way.

HERITAGE

'Chapas Sínicas' on the AP Register of the Memory of the World

CHAPAS Sínicas" (official records of Macau during the Qing Dynasty) has been listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP) register following a unanimous vote during a the General Meeting of the committee held in Hue, Vietnam.

Jointly nominated by the Archives of Macau and the National Archive of Torre do Tombo of Portugal, the collection of "Chapas Sínicas" was recommended by the expert MOWCAP Register Subcommittee and unanimously approved by the participating member states to be listed on the MOWCAP register.

The "Chapas Sínicas" comprises a total of 3,600 documents, including over 1,500 official letters written in Chinese, five books of Portuguese-translated copies of letters kept by the Loyal Senate of Macau and four packets of miscellaneous documents.

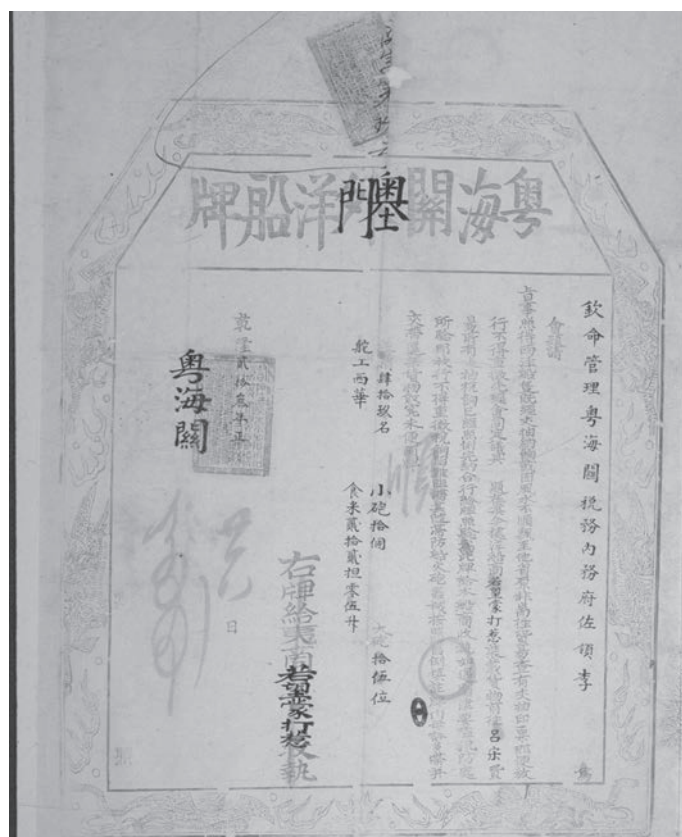
The collection of "Chapas Sínicas" is composed of official and non-official documents created mainly from the mid-eighteenth to the mid-nineteenth centuries. The largest part of the collection consists of official correspondence exchanged between the sub-prefects of Macau, magistrates of Xian-

gshan and other Chinese officials and the Procurators of the Loyal Senate of Macau.

The records contain the terms and limitations that were established for the Portuguese administration in Macau, reports and petitions submitted by the Portuguese authorities based in Macau and replies received from the Chinese authorities in Guangdong. According to a statement issued yesterday by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, those documents "are a manifestation of the territorial and jurisdictional sovereignty of China over Macau."

"Chapas Sínicas" also includes accounts, letters, deeds, contracts and other documents that reflect social conditions, everyday lives, urban development, industrial and agricultural production and trade and commerce. Also featured in the collection is the official correspondence between the Chinese and Portuguese authorities under the special circumstances when Macau was leased to Portugal.

The collection contains first-hand information that is considered valuable for the study of the city's history, as well as the history of East-West relations. The "Chapas Sínicas" was brought to Portugal in the 19th century and later transferred to the cus-



tody of the National Archive of Torre do Tombo.

In 2015, a memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the archival domain was signed between the local authorities and Lisbon. The memorandum facilitated the cooperation between the Archives of Macau and the National Archive of Torre do Tombo of Portugal in the joint nomination of the collection of the "Chapas Sínicas" to be listed on the MOWCAP register, and in

a bilateral collaboration for the conservation and digitization of the collection. Recently, the two archives have completed the submission procedures for the inscription of the "Chapas Sínicas" on the Memory of the World Register, the result which will be announced in 2017.

During MOWCAP's 7th General Meeting, 14 nominations from 10 countries were inscribed on the Asia-Pacific Register of the Memory of the World.

UM sports facilities now open to the public

As of yesterday, selected sporting facilities at the University of Macau (UM) are now available to the public, the Sports Bureau (ID) announced yesterday.

The facilities include a football field, an athletics track, an outdoor volleyball court, three tennis courts, two squash courts, four badminton courts, a swimming pool, a sports hall and a training hall.

The facilities will be open to the public out of school hours and out of specific hours reserved for Macau sports associations. A few courts, for instance the badminton courts, will be available only on Friday nights, Saturday afternoons, and the whole



day on Sundays. In turn, the squash courts and the swimming pool will be open at nights, and during the whole weekend. Fees range from MOP5 to MOP30, depending on the facilities accessed.

According to ID, the facilities are

now included within a public sports facilities network which was launched in 2006. Currently, there are 40 sports centers open to the public, including 19 located in the Macau peninsula, 11 in Taipa, and 10 in Coloane.

ID has also claimed to continue to seek more opportunities to cooperate with local schools and associations that meet the necessary conditions to be included into the network. By promoting cooperation, ID expects that the increasing number of eligible facilities may encourage more of the public to participate in sporting activities, and expects to promote a healthier lifestyle, as well as the concept of sports for all.

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Adelson settles six-year feud with Jacobs

Edvard Pettersson

SHELDON Adelson ended his six-year legal fight with the former head of his Macau casinos whose allegations of "outrageous and illegal" demands by the billionaire Las Vegas Sands Corp. chairman prompted a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission investigation.

A confidential settlement was reached between Steven Jacobs and the company, according to a June 1 statement by Sands China Ltd. to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. The case had been scheduled for trial this year in Las Vegas after Sands lost its latest petition to the Nevada Supreme Court to have the judge removed.

Jacobs sued in 2010 after he was ousted in a falling out with



Steven Jacobs

Adelson. He accused Adelson of directing him to collect evidence on Macau government officials that could be used to "exert leverage" on them to thwart regulation unfavorable to Sands casinos. Adelson has repeatedly

denied Jacobs's allegations and accused him of commissioning the investigation on his own accord.

The lawsuit led the SEC and Justice Department to probe whether Sands violated U.S.

laws against bribing foreign officials. In April, Sands agreed to pay USD9 million to settle the SEC's claims it failed to properly document payments to a consultant facilitating business activities in China and Macau. The company didn't admit wrongdoing as part of the accord.

The company was frequently unable to account for more than \$62 million in payments through a series of transactions from 2006 through at least 2011, according to the SEC.

Jacobs's 2010 suit had been tied up for five years during a fight over whether a Las Vegas court was the proper venue for his claims against Sands China.

Nevada District Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez ruled last year that the case could proceed in Nevada, following numerous conflicts over what evidence Sands had to

provide to Jacobs, sanctions on the company for not providing the evidence, and repeat trips by Sands to the Nevada Supreme Court to challenge Gonzalez's rulings.

Todd Bice, a lawyer for Jacobs, didn't immediately respond to an e-mail after regular business hours seeking comment on the settlement. **Bloomberg**

OVER USD75 MILLION

FINANCIAL NEWS outlet Seeking Alpha reported yesterday that Las Vegas Sands (LVS) has agreed to pay over USD75 million to end the lawsuit. AP reported that Sands China Ltd. said it has "reached a comprehensive and confidential settlement" with Steven Jacobs.

AD

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ERIC JACKSON • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 4 Days Ago

I am pleased to hear that the government of Macau is listening to the world in regards to the Canidrome. The people of Macau should not be judged by what goes on at the Canidrome, but as long as they are racing and killing dogs, the world will look with favor upon Macau. Please, stop the racing, close the Canidrome, and work with international groups to place all of the greyhounds in homes.

REPLY



JANICE FRELICH • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

The Canidrome is Macau's shame and it is time to bring an end to this cycle of appalling trade which makes the name 'Macau' synonymous with animal cruelty in the eyes of the world.

Abandon Martinis and Abolish are the face that Macau should present to the world - leaders in care and compassion.

CLOSE THE CANIDROME AND FREE THE HOUNDS!

REPLY



GAI • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

This cruelty has to stop. The World is watching and waiting for the Chinese people to do the right thing and close this hell hole down.

REPLY



GAI • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

This cruelty has to stop. The World is watching and waiting for the Chinese people to do the right thing and close this hell hole down.

REPLY



MARY ANNE CHRISTMAN • Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 5 Days Ago

The world no longer tolerates the massive amounts of animal abuse and cruelty that China and other Asian countries, in particular, have shown from centuries ago to this very point in time. This is the Age of Enlightenment, animals are no longer seen as objects of art, ritual, potions, medicine, and 'entertainment' at the hands of those groups and individuals whose sensitivity goes no further than themselves. It only took a dark shadow on these societies and proved that they have not advanced in humane behavior, in spite of their grasp in technology.

REPLY

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

Daniela Wei

MACAU'S gaming revenue dropped more than analysts' estimates in May, as tighter rules affecting gamblers increased the challenges for the city's casinos. Gaming stocks extended losses in Hong Kong.

Gross gaming receipts fell 9.6 percent to MOP18.4 billion (USD2.3 billion), completing a two-year decline, according to data from Macau's Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau. That followed a 9.5 percent decrease in April and compares with the median estimate of an 8 percent drop by analysts surveyed by Bloomberg.

Macau has been struggling for two years as China's economy slowed and President Xi Jinping's corruption crackdown caused high-stakes gamblers to avoid the world's largest gaming hub. Operators in the city, the only place in China where casinos are legal, have responded by shifting focus to tourists and recreational gamblers, with Wynn Macau Ltd. and Sands China Ltd. due to open new resorts later this year.

The steeper decline in May was "partly due to the tightening policies on the industry, especially the recent ban on phone betting," Daiwa Capital Markets Hong Kong analyst

Casino revenue decline deepens in May on tighter rules



Jamie Soo said via telephone, adding the limited revenue improvement of about 1 billion patacas from April, despite last month's Labor Day public holiday, supported his cautious view of Macau casino stocks.

The city's government is planning stricter rules on the industry, including raising the

entry threshold for gaming promoters, the middlemen who bring in VIP players and loan them money to gamble with. Macau also banned phone betting in early May, a form of proxy betting favored by some high-stakes gamblers from China.

Hong Kong-listed casino operators extended losses after

the data was announced, with Bloomberg Intelligence's index of Macau gaming stocks plunging 2.4 percent, compared with the 1.2 percent drop at the mid-day break in trading. Sands China fell 3.3 percent while Galaxy lost 2.5 percent. The benchmark Hang Seng Index was little changed.

Macau is trying to diversify and reduce its reliance on gambling, a \$30 billion industry that is the source of about 80 percent of the former Portuguese colony's tax revenue. The government wants to limit growth in the number of new gaming tables at the city's casinos, and raise the revenue contribution from their non-gambling features.

Gambling generates about 90 percent of Macau casino operators' total revenue, with SJM Holdings Ltd. and MGM China Ltd. the most reliant on gaming while Sands China is the most diversified, according to Bloomberg Intelligence analyst Tim Craighead. The next wave of casinos will focus on increa-

sing their hotel rooms as well as retail and convention space, he said.

Wynn Palace, with 1,700 hotel rooms and a lake with gondolas and fountains, is expected to open in late July or early August while Sands China's 3,000-room Parisian, featuring a half-size replica of the Eiffel Tower, is targeting to start operations in September.

Convincing mainland Chinese tourists to spend more remains a challenge. Visitors to Macau shelled out \$220 per person in the first quarter on non-gambling purchases, down almost a third from 2014. Mainland Chinese still make up about two-thirds of Macau's visitors, even as the number last year fell for the first time since 2009.

Macau's economy shrank 13.3 percent in the first quarter, the seventh straight contraction as gambling revenue remained weak. Moody's Investors Service last week downgraded the city's debt rating, reflecting concerns it will continue to suffer volatile growth. **Bloomberg**

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CAN MACAU TAKE 40 MILLION TOURISTS?

City in need of capacity management, some heritage sites remain 'unvisited'

THE forecast number of visitor arrivals in Macau in 2025 is predicted to reach 38 to 40 million, based on the average annual rate of three to five percent increases, according to the "Tourism Development Master Plan" that is under public consultation between May 23 and July 22.

Commenting on the possibility of Macau reaching 40 million tourists per year, experts contacted by the Times say local authorities should learn how to give tourists a quality experience while managing a vast number of visitors in a small city.

Macau may suffer from the Venice Syndrome: 'making life impossible for citizens as historical centers are becoming a big shopping center'

As the draft plan suggests, tourism should grow in a sustainable way; tourism products should be diverse; a high-value visitor market should be developed; and the quality of tourism services should be improved. Indeed, local scholars stressed the importance of utilizing vacant but historical places in the city.

Eve Ren, an assistant professor at the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT), told the Times that the visiting experience tourists get during peak seasons is "terrible," adding that it's extremely difficult to get through tourist attractions.

"But a lot of places like near the bay, like the Science Museum, are not so fully occupied [...] I think the capacity management could be better done to accommodate this much of increase," she told the Times yesterday.

The scholar stressed that the main problem in managing the tourists in the city is that travel agencies are "too concentrated" on a similar

XINHUA



number of places, mentioning the Ruins of St. Paul, the surrounding central area and the A-Ma Temple.

According to Eve Ren, local heritage sites could be "better" in terms of attracting visitors. She also suggested that the city should have an easier transportation access for tourists, as they are reluctant to take public buses due to their limited knowledge on bus routes.

As several of the attractions

in Macau are small in scale, Ren said that the heritage in the region are "too scattered," so guidance is needed. "How can we integrate them together?" she asked. "If we solely rely on travel agencies, it's a bit problematic because a lot of people come here without the arrangement of travel agencies."

The scholar also added that the region is in need of "clean, low budget and convenient" hotels for tourists as most

tourists are not willing to pay "that much" for a night's stay. "We're targeting mass tourist. They're not willing to pay high cost [...] So do we have this type of accommodation? We have a few but the quality is a lot of question," she said.

A visiting assistant professor at IFT Penny Wan, also emphasized the importance of setting up new attractions, entertainment and activities if the city is aiming for an increase in its visitor arrivals.

"Macau needs capacity management," Wan said, mentioning that most of the tourists visit during the public holidays in China and measures are needed to avoid that an influx of visitors at the same time.

Similarly to Ren, Wan believes there are several heritage sites in Macau that are "untouched and unvisited" mainly due to the lack of "facilitation network."

While tourists are flocking to the same heritage places, Francisco Vizeu Pinheiro, a local architect and a professor at IFT, stressed that there are different spaces that can accommodate the increase of visitors.

"There are many unused sites like the old Iec Long fireworks factory. (...) Other places and facilities could be adapted for citizens and tourist use. For example some government facilities that have historical and heritage value could be open to the public, like the Nam Van Lake shores, now without coffee shops or bars," he pointed out. "A seaside board walk could connect the jetfoil terminal, Fisherman Wharf, Science Center, Kun Ian statue, Nam Van Lakes. These areas are now walled and isolated. Many Portuguese houses at Coronel Mesquita Avenue can be adapted and open to the public," Vizeu Pinheiro adds.

Moreover he added that the city may have a "Venice Syndrome," i.e., "making life impossible for citizens as historical centers are becoming a big shopping center;" if the government fails to conduct a "proper planning" on how to cater an enormous number of tourists coming to the region.

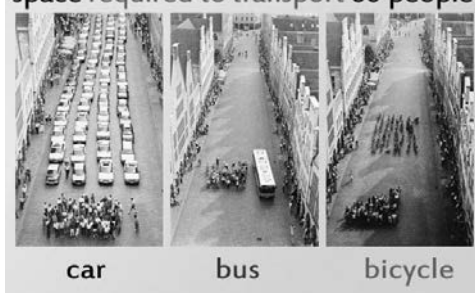
Staff reporter

Architect: Priority should be given to pedestrians

FRANCISCO Vizeu Pinheiro, a local architect and scholar, has pointed out that to have the capacity to attract more tourists to Macau, local authorities must make a choice between cars and people.

"Macau should have more pedestrian-friendly streets – which is also better for shopping – and more greenery, free from road-side pollution, making it easy and pleasant to walk around. These are the choices faced by most cities with historical centers like Macau. More pedestrian areas equals better quality of spaces and more capacity," Vizeu Pinheiro commented.

space required to transport 60 people



"Introducing traffic to narrow streets creates traffic jams and pollution due to the lack of ventilation and trees along the narrow roads. The sidewalk areas

also need to be better designed 'all weather' areas, offering protection from rain and solar radiation. Hong Kong Island has a good, pedestrian-friendly system, making it comfortable to walk long distances. Uphill travel is also easier, thanks to escalators and lifts," he explained.

The architect pointed to academic research, which shows that tall buildings "create a screen for ventilation, contributing to the island's heat effect, and road-site pollution produced by traffic at least doubles the area's pollution levels, posing great health risks and contributing to respiratory and heart diseases."



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Sands China trade show hits Tokyo



Aspect of yesterday's meeting in Tokyo

Daniel Beitler, Japan

SANDS China will kick off its Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) roadshow in Tokyo, Japan later today, just one of numerous international trade fairs which seek to promote the company's MICE and tourism offerings in key markets.

According to Sands representatives, the roadshow, which is being held at the Conrad Tokyo hotel, will attract more than 120 Japanese travel agent invitees and other interested parties in an effort to motivate more business clients to host their meetings and conferences in Macau.

A meeting was held yesterday between Carolina Cheung, Sands China's senior manager for Destination Marketing, representatives of brand experience and event marketing company, Jack Morton, and staff at the Conrad Tokyo ahead of the main event today. The parties discussed some of the operational arrangements for today's events.

Organizers say that the roadshows event will include a banquet, a presentation and a variety of performances, some of which will be delivered by entertainers from The Venetian Macao.

Tokyo is the fourth show out of a planned 11 that will comprise Sands China's set of international trade fairs. It follows similar shows in Beijing, Shanghai and Osaka, the latter of which was held on Tuesday. Organizers say that further trade fairs are planned for Seoul, Hangzhou, Xiamen, Taipei and Guangzhou, with two Indian dates in Mumbai and New Delhi provisionally penned for July.

Aside from visitors from mainland China, South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong are major sources of tourism in Macau, followed by visitors from Japan and Malaysia. Organizers say they are hoping to drive visitors from those regions they believe have the potential for growth. They are not planning a similar event in Hong Kong as they believe the market is already informed of Macau's offerings.

ENVIRONMENT

Gov't slammed for failing to issue contingency plans for nuclear plant

THE New Macau Association (ANM) criticized the local government yesterday, for allegedly failing to address Macau's safety regarding the Taishan nuclear power plant that is under construction in Guangdong province.

During a press conference held yesterday, ANM's leaders claimed that the power plant is located some 64 kilometers from Macau.

Since the region is located downwind from Taishan, due to the southwestern monsoon in summertime, Macau would be exposed to the fallout in the case of a catastrophe at the power plant.

"Even if the impact is not that much, considering that the city is a tourist city, that will be a tremendous blow to the economy," said ANM's president, Scott Chiang, emphasizing that

tourists may lose "confidence" in traveling to the region.

The association is concerned with MSAR's lack of "necessary awareness" for the situation of a nuclear incident. Chiang claimed that no evacuation or decontamination plans of the government have yet been released to the public.

According to ANM, in considering Macau's interest and safety, the location of Taishan Nuclear Plant is "unwarranted and unacceptable." ANM has claimed that the building of the plant and its piles are substandard.

"FactWire interviews engineers in the project. [It is] a reliable information on the structure and quality in the containers," said Jason Chao ANM's vice president. Chao claimed that the steel of one of the pres-

sure containers contains "too much" carbon, making it overly brittle in a high-temperature and high-pressure situation.

"The level of defect exceeded European standard[s] and can contribute to potential damage," Scott Chiang claimed.

Although Chiang admitted that there is no reason to stop the construction as the work is almost completed, safety measures should be met before the power plant goes into operation.

The association also noted that Taiwan has refused to operate a number of its nuclear plants due to public pressure and concerns regarding safety measures. Chiang demanded the government to convince the public that Taishan plant is "safe," however he claimed that authorities have refused to

answer the press' questions in regards to safety measures.

"What are the [contingency] plans? They have a website that states stay calm, listen to radio, listen to instructions, but we need a concrete and clear contingency plan," he said.

Chiang also criticized authorities for cancelling school days during "normal" weather, suggesting that such decisions speak of foul play, and that the public would not be able to trust MSAR's conclusions regarding incidents such as the Taishan Nuclear Power Plant's safety measures in the case of a catastrophe.

The government issued a statement this week indicating that it has requested more information regarding the Taishan nuclear power plant from the Guangdong Provincial Government. **Staff reporter**

HEALTH

Pediatric assessment center established

A joint pediatric assessment center is now open to the public, providing medical assessments of children who display symptoms of development disorders as well as offering consultations to their parents.

With yesterday's International Children's Day as a pretext, Alexis Tam, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, inaugurated the center.

Located in the Conde de São Januário Central Hospital, the center consists of a doctor's office as well as offices for mental activity evaluation, speech therapy, occupational therapy, hearing testing, educational placement, social work assistance and breastfeeding. Each division will assess a child's abilities, such as their muscle development and coordination ability.

The center intends to help children



Alexis Tam visited the in-patient children at the central hospital

aged six and under. "At this early stage of growing, we can notice problems more easily and can cure them," explained Tam, according to whom the establishment of the Center will assist to meet an emerging demand for assessment and treatment services of children with developmental disorders.

Tam stated that the planning of the crea-

tion of the center had begun last year and was discussed in several coordination meetings with the Health Bureau (SSM), the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS), as well as the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ).

IAS will provide consultation work to families; SSM will evaluate the physical abilities of children and DSEJ will arrange available positions in school for the children.

Tam believes that "the center can manage all resources of SSM, IAS, and DSEJ, as well as improve the service efficiency."

Leong Lai, director of DSEJ, believes that the Center will improve the educational placement of children. He further disclosed that each child will be evaluated two to three times before a final assessment is made. **Staff reporter**

corporate bits

BENE TO CELEBRATE ITALIAN NATIONAL DAY THROUGHOUT JUNE



In honor of the upcoming Italian National Day, the Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel is "Celebrating Italy at Bene" throughout the month of June with entertaining pizza performances, an exclusive wine dinner and festive menus.

According to Sheraton's statement, the two-time World Champion of Pizza Acrobatics, Chef Pasqualino Bar-

bossa, will be entertaining diners with his pizza dough antics and will encourage guests to participate in the act as well. The chef, who entertains diners by throwing, twirling, spinning and juggling multiple pizza bases into the air, will be on stage in the evening from June 21-27 at Bene.

The Culinary team at Bene have also crafted festive "Celebrating Italy" menus, with the restaurant hosting a wine dinner featuring Colle Massari wines from Tuscany. The restaurant's chefs have designed a five-course menu to pair Colle Massari wines with the trattoria's traditional Italian dishes.

FORD RECALLING 1.9 MILLION VEHICLES TO REPLACE AIR BAGS

Ford Motor Co. is recalling nearly 1.9 million vehicles in North America to replace faulty passenger-side front air bags made by Japanese supplier Takata Corp.

The recall is part of a nationwide expansion of an ongoing Takata air bag recall, which was already the largest U.S. recall in history.

Certain Takata air bags can inflate with too much force and spread shrapnel into the vehicles. At least 11 deaths worldwide have been linked to this the defect.

The vehicles affected in the expanded Ford recall include the 2007-2010 Ford Edge, 2006-2011 Ford Fusion, 2005-2011 Ford Mustang,



2007-2011 Ford Ranger, 2007-2010 Lincoln MKX and 2006-2011 Lincoln MKZ, Zephyr and Mercury Milan.

Ford has stated that it is not aware of any injuries resulting from these vehicles. It will notify customers and replace the air bags for free.

AIRBUS SAYS MUCH-DELAYED A400M MILITARY PLANE 'WORTH WAITING FOR'

Airbus Group SE sought to ease mounting tensions over the A400M military-transport plane, vowing to find fixes for the latest issues as Germany considers leasing or even buying aircraft from competitors to meet the country's needs.

The plane is "worth waiting for," Airbus Chief Executive Officer Tom Enders said Wednesday at a press conference at the Berlin Air Show. Together with its suppliers, Airbus is working "intensely" on resolving production issues and is seeking solutions for the foreseeable future.

Germany, the largest customer for the A400M, has grown increasingly frustrated



with delays, which threaten to hamper plans to expand its military role globally. The country has thus far received just three planes, and a schedule that called for nine deliveries in 2016 is in question amid technical problems including fuselage cracks and faulty engine gearboxes.

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Dealer Sydney Vasaturo conducts a game of roulette at the Borgata casino in Atlantic City, N.J.

GAMING ALERT

Boyd Gaming sells its 50 percent stake in Borgata to MGM

Wayne Parry, Atlantic City (N.J.)

BOYD Gaming said it's selling its 50 percent stake in Atlantic City's top casino to MGM Resorts International, which owns the other half.

It will get USD900 million plus half of any future tax settlement MGM reaches with Atlantic City.

After the deal closes in the third quarter of this year, MGM will own all of the Borgata, which has been Atlantic City's top-performing casino since shortly after it opened in 2003. MGM Resorts International CEO Jim Murren said the company has faith in the Borgata despite Atlantic City's recent financial struggles.

"We believe Borgata's best days are yet to come," he said. "When you've got a great property that's carefully cared for in a market as large as Atlantic City, you can and should do well."

Boyd said it will use the proceeds to reduce debt and strengthen its balance sheet.

"While we are pleased with

the performance of this property, this transaction is an attractive opportunity to immediately unlock significant value for our shareholders," Boyd CEO Keith Smith said.

Boyd expects to receive \$600 million in cash after deducting its share of the Borgata's outstanding debt.

The transaction includes the Borgata casino and hotel and its non-gambling Water Club hotel next door in the city's Marina District.

Murren said he was encouraged by a financial rescue package approved by state lawmakers and signed into law last week by Republican Gov. Chris Christie, but he said the company would have made the deal even without it.

"I just never believed Borgata and Atlantic City would be ignored by the state of New Jersey," he said.

Following the acquisition of Boyd's interest, MGM Growth Properties LLC will acquire Borgata's real property from MGM Resorts and lease back the real property to a subsidiary of MGM Resorts, after which a

subsidiary of MGM Resorts will operate Borgata.

The Las Vegas companies Boyd and MGM have been partners in the Borgata, which reported first-quarter net revenue of \$812 million and \$212 million in adjusted earnings. Boyd had been the hands-on operator of Borgata.

MGM decided in 2010 to sell its stake and leave New Jersey rather than cut ties to an Asian business partner in Macau, but a buyer was never found. In 2014, declaring that conditions with its Macau business partnership had sufficiently changed, New Jersey casino regulators allowed MGM back into the Atlantic City market to reclaim its 50 percent share, which had been held in a trust while a buyer was sought.

The Borgata is owed about \$180 million in back tax appeals and interest from the cash-strapped city government in a case that has yet to be resolved. A judge has let the Borgata stop paying its property taxes as long as the city is unable to pay the casino what it owes in successful tax appeals. **AP**

Chinese manufacturing surveys show lingering weakness

CHINA'S factory activity was feeble last month, according to two surveys released yesterday, indicating that official efforts to reverse a downturn in the world's second-biggest economy are struggling.

The country's massive manufacturing sector, which employs many millions of workers, eked out a tiny expansion in May, according to an official index by the Chinese Federation of Logistics & Purchasing, which came in at 50.1, level with April's reading.

The index is based on a survey of factory purchasing managers and uses a 100-point scale on which numbers above 50 indicate expansion and below 50 indicate contraction.

It's the third straight month the index has shown marginal growth.

Beijing has unleashed stimuli to battle a prolonged slowdown but has little to show for its efforts, with growth falling to a seven-year low of 6.7 percent in the first quarter of the year.

Its efforts are being hobbled by weak demand from consumers in China and in wealthy export markets, with exports shrinking by 1.8 percent in April, according to figures released last month.

The official data, released by China's national statistics agency, also showed production expanded while new orders grew at a slower rate. But in a sign of weak global demand, new export orders showed no change.

Separately, the private Caixin/Markit survey was more pessimistic, with activity falling to 49.2 in May from 49.4 the previous month.

Total new business fell for the first time in three months while new export orders declined for the sixth straight month, Caixin said.

Growth in China's service industry, meanwhile, held up more firmly, with the federation's index of non-manufacturing companies slipping to 53.1 last month from 53.5 in April. **AP**

World economy risks getting caught in 'low-growth trap'

THE world economy risks getting caught in a "low-growth trap" if governments don't spend more on investments, open up to trade, and make reforms, a top economic forum warned yesterday.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said in a wide-ranging report that it is increasingly pessimistic about the global outlook and cut its growth forecasts.

Among the risks identified by the Paris-based economic agency, which represents the world's most developed economies, was a potential British exit from the European Union, volatility in financial markets, and Europe's inability to find a common response to its refugee flows.

Above all, the OECD said in its Global Economic Outlook that weak growth risks becoming chronic.

"This low growth trap involves a cycle in which diminished expectations become self-fulfilling," said Angel Gurría, the OECD's secretary-general.

According to the OECD, firms are too cautious to invest, are holding back innovation and productivity. As a result, households are getting more pessimistic about jobs and the future. The ensuing weaker consumer spending then feeds back into pessimism among companies, creating a vicious cycle.

Though the U.S. economy has

improved in recent years, the next biggest economy, China, is slowing. Because it's a major consumer of raw materials and energy, as well as being a huge exporter and increasingly important consumer, concerns have grown over the state of the world economy.

Elsewhere, the European economic recovery has failed to gain much traction while Japan remains sluggish. And emerging markets are struggling to deal with volatile currencies, high debt and the crash in prices for goods they export — Brazil and Russia, for example, are in deep recessions.

The OECD said countries have relied too much on central banks to stimulate demand and should instead look to strengthen public investment and make their economies more competitive through structural reforms.

It is forecasting global growth of 3 percent this year and 3.3 percent next. Both are down 0.3 percentage point from its last set of forecasts in November.

The OECD reiterated its view that a vote for a British exit from the EU later this month "would depress growth in Europe and elsewhere substantially."

It estimated that in the case of an EU exit, Britain's economy could be 5 percent smaller by 2030 than if the country remained in the bloc (see p14). **AP**

Mitsubishi Materials, Chinese WWII slave workers reach deal

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

MITSUBISHI Materials Corp., one of dozens of Japanese companies that used Chinese forced laborers during World War II, reached a settlement covering thousands of victims yesterday that includes compensation and an apology.

The deal was signed in Beijing with three former workers representing the company's more than 3,000 Chinese victims of forced labor, Mitsubishi Materials said in a statement.

The victims were among about 40,000 Chinese brought to Japan in the early 1940s as forced laborers to make up for a domestic labor shortage. Many died due to violence and malnutrition amid harsh treatment by the Japanese.

Under the settlement, Mitsubishi Materials will pay 100,000 yuan (USD15,000) to each of the Chinese victims

and their families. The victims were forced to work at 10 coal mines operated by Mitsubishi Mining Corp., what Mitsubishi Materials was known as at the time.

Mitsubishi Materials said it would try to locate all of the victims. The company's payments would total 370 million yuan (\$56 million) if all of them come forward.

At the signing ceremony in Beijing, the company "expressed its sincere apologies regarding its historical responsibility to the former laborers and the apologies were accepted by the three former laborers," the company's statement said.

Mitsubishi Materials also said it would construct memorials at the sites where the company's mines were located and organize memorial ceremonies.

The settlement comes two years after several groups representing the victims and their families filed a compen-



Ma Wenyi (left) holding a photo of his father who was forced to work during World War II at a mine for Mitsubishi Mining Corp., shouts as he demands to join a press conference in Beijing

sation lawsuit against Mitsubishi Materials. The sides negotiated a deal, though one

of the groups, representing 37 plaintiffs, rejected the settlement that was finally reached,

according to Japan's Kyodo News agency.

Japan's government has long insisted that all wartime compensation issues were settled under the postwar peace treaties, and that China waived its right to pursue compensation under the 1972 treaty with Japan that established diplomatic relations between Beijing and Tokyo. Lawsuits filed in Japan by Chinese and Korean victims of Japanese wartime aggression, including former forced laborers and sex slaves, had previously been rejected.

Japan's Foreign Ministry acknowledged the country's wartime use of Chinese forced laborers after wartime documents were found in the early 1990s.

The settlement announced Wednesday is the first ever that Mitsubishi Materials has reached with former forced laborers. At least two other Japanese construction companies — Kajima Corp. and Nishimatsu Co. — have taken similar steps to compensate smaller groups of victims.

Last year, Mitsubishi Materials apologized for its harsh treatment of former U.S. prisoners of war, who were also used by the company as forced laborers. **AP**

Wanted Taiwanese fugitive dies in car accident in California

A former tycoon who was one of Taiwan's most wanted fugitives was in the middle of a decade-long fight to stay in the United States when he was killed in a California car accident, federal court records show.

Wang You-theng was ordered removed from the U.S. last year after spending nearly a decade in Southern California. The 89-year-old Wang filed an appeal of that order in December and was waiting to argue his case before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

Wang was killed in a Friday morning crash on a highway in West Covina, California, about an hour outside Los Angeles, according to Taiwan's Foreign Ministry. His wife had burns to her left shoulder and arm but was stable, according to California Highway Patrol.

Wang was a passenger in one of five cars involved in the crash on the busy freeway. The car Wang was in, driven by his wife, was one of three to catch fire in the wreck, believed to be caused by a pickup that sideswiped one car before rear-ending another and



In this photo taken from Loudlabs News video, firemen stand over the wreckage of a vehicle accident on Friday, May 27, 2016, in West Covina, Los Angeles, California, that officials say killed Taiwanese businessman Wang You-theng, former chairman of the China Rebar Group

causing a chain reaction, according to California Highway Patrol.

Wang founded Rebar in 1959 to build steel beams and made a fortune from the business. But when Rebar sank into financial difficulties in 2006, Wang fled Taiwan and eventually arrived in the United States.

Wang had been indicted on a long list of charges, including fraud, money laundering and insider trading. Wang and his family were accused of siphoning off more than USD9 billion in Rebar assets.

The documents associated with Wang's removal order from last year are sealed, and it's unclear what Wang's arguments to

stay were.

Wang left Taiwan in December 2006 with his wife, after which officials in Taipei issued a warrant for his arrest.

At the time, Taiwanese media reported that Wang fled to San Francisco after staying several days in the Chinese city of Shanghai.

The U.S. and Taiwan do not have formal diplomatic ties or an extradition treaty and the Foreign Ministry did not immediately respond to questions about efforts made to have Wang returned to the island.

However, a statement issued by the ministry in January 2007 said it had provided U.S. law enforcement with evidence of Wang's

alleged crimes under a 2002 agreement on mutual assistance in criminal matters. The U.S. could use to the information to "decide whether the illegal actions of the party involved posed a threat to U.S. interests," the statement said, specifically citing allegations of money laundering.

Three months after his arrival in the U.S., Wang flew from Los Angeles to Singapore in what Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said was an attempt by Wang to reach Myanmar and go into hiding there. Singapore authorities returned Wang to Los Angeles, where he was held in an immigration detention center for six months before he was released in August 2007.

Wang was released after an immigration judge ruled that federal authorities wrongly arrested him, according to media accounts and the time and Wayne McMillan, an attorney who said he represented Wang between 2007 and last year.

The judge found that Wang had never left the U.S. since he hadn't been admitted to another country. **AP**

Chinese UN peacekeeper killed, 4 injured in Mali attack

ATTACKERS in Mali killed one Chinese U.N. peacekeeper and injured four in an early morning attack on their base yesterday, China's Foreign Ministry said.

Spokeswoman Hua Chunying described the attack as "an act of terrorism and a serious crime that cannot be tolerated."

China has called on Mali's government and the United Nations to conduct an immediate investigation and bring the perpetrators to justice, Hua said.

More than 2,400 Chinese peacekeepers are currently assigned to U.N. missions in Mali, Liberia and five other African nations.

The attack was the second on U.N. peacekeepers in recent days, with at least five Togolese killed in an attack Sunday by extremists in central Mali.

Islamic extremists have been attacking international peacekeepers and Malian soldiers working to stabilize the north three years after a French-led military campaign ousted jihadists from power.

The U.N. Security Council expressed concern over the security situation in Mali and urged full implementation of an agreement for peace and reconciliation in the West African country.

China in recent years has become a major contributor of troops, police and military experts to U.N. peacekeeping missions, with more than 3,000 currently in the field, according to the United Nations Peacekeeping website. At least 15 have been killed on different missions. **AP**



In this file photo taken June 5, 1989, people on Chang'an Boulevard hold up a photo that they described as dead victims of the violence against pro-democracy protesters on Tiananmen Square, Beijing

27 YEARS ON

Moms of Tiananmen victims vow to fight

Didi Tang, Beijing

MOTHERS of some of those killed in the bloody crackdown on China's 1989 Tiananmen pro-democracy movement say they have lived through 27 years of state-led "terror and suffocation" and vow to continue pushing for the truth ahead of this weekend's anniversary of the events.

An open letter signed by 131 mothers and published by the overseas advocacy group Human Rights in China said the victims' families have endured constant harassment and intimidation by Chinese security services for pursuing justice for their loved ones.

"For us, family members of the victims' families, it has been 27 years of (state) terror and suffocation," the letter said.

"For 27 years, the police have been the ones who have dealt with us," it said, listing a string of measures including electronic snooping and surveillance of family members, fabricated accusations and intimidation.

"All these actions undoubtedly desecrate the souls of those who perished in (the crackdown) and insult the honor of the living," the letter said.

The letter condemns the Chinese government for apathy, accusing it of ignoring pleas by family members and wiping out public memory of the pro-democracy movement and the bloody crackdown on the night of June 3-4, 1989, in which hundreds, possibly thousands, were killed.

The government insists it was necessary to send in troops and tanks to quell what it has labeled a violent uprising against Communist Party rule, and has rejected all calls for an investigation or even discussion

■ ■
We are all at ages where death can happen any day, and we'd like to see the truth revealed and justice upheld while we are still alive.

YIN MIN
TIANANMEN MOTHER

of the events. Most of the student leaders who fled abroad after the crackdown are still forbidden from returning home.

Yet, the women, who — along with their families and supporters — have become known collectively over the years as the Tiananmen Mothers, said they were convinced their campaign will eventually produce a full and objective reckoning of the events.

The letter was partially prompted by tightening security following the death of Jiang Peikun, husband of Ding Zilin, one of the most prominent Tiananmen mothers, said Yin Min, a fellow Tiananmen mother and signee of the letter.

Fellow mothers have been forbidden to visit Ding since April 22, Yin said.

Ding, whose 17-year-old son Jiang Jieliang died in the crackdown, declined to be interviewed when reached by phone yesterday. As the face of the group, she has been subject to the most severe restrictions.

"It feels that there's no end in sight. We are all at ages where death can happen any day, and we'd like to see the truth revealed and justice upheld while we are still alive," said Yin, whose 19-year-old son, Ye Weihang, was

killed in the crackdown.

"We believe we have the obligation and the right to tell the public how we have lived those 27 years and to urge the government to take action," Yin said by phone.

Another Tiananmen mother, Zhang Xianling, said she remains optimistic.

"Isn't there a report that someone has lived to 105? I think I will live to the day when justice comes," said Zhang, who lost her 19-year-old son Wang Nan in the crackdown.

Each year's anniversary brings a tightening of restrictive measures, with family members confined to their homes or forced to leave Beijing. Ignored by China's entirely state-controlled media, they are forbidden from publicly commemorating the deaths of their loved ones.

Even private events linked to the crackdown are banned, and overseas rights groups have reported that police hauled away at least three pro-democracy activists who attended a commemorative dinner in a Beijing home ahead of the anniversary. Two other men have also been detained for making or promoting bottles of Chinese liquor with labels that referenced June 4, a Hong Kong newspaper reported.

Despite such threats, the letter expressed faith that justice will eventually come.

"We use our immense maternal love to declare publicly to future generations: Do not succumb to brute force, confront all evil forces with courage, and justice will prevail," the letter read. **AP**

COURTS

Beijing investigates death in police custody of new father

BEIJING prosecutors said yesterday they were investigating the death in police custody of a young college graduate and new father who had been picked up on suspicion of visiting prostitutes, the latest development in a case that has highlighted public complaints about police abuses.

Lei Yang's family had filed a report with the capital's prosecutors over his death last month in the capital's suburban northwestern district of Changping.

The main prosecutors' office in Beijing said in an online statement that it was investigating five police officers in relation to Lei's death.

■ According to media reports, Lei was detained on May 7 outside a massage parlor as part of crackdown on prostitution [but] his family says he was on his way to the airport when he was stopped by officers

According to media reports, Lei was detained on May 7 outside a massage parlor as part of crackdown on prostitution. His family says Lei was on his way to the airport to pick up relatives when he was stopped by the officers.

The case has been covered extensively in state-run newspapers and prompted a huge outpouring on social media sites in China, where police enjoy broad powers to detain suspects and violent treatment is common.

According to media reports, Lei, 29, had graduated with a degree in environmental science from the capital's prestigious Renmin University and had a daughter just weeks old.

Lei's wife was alerted to his disappearance after relatives waiting for him at the airport called to say he had not shown up. She made more than 40 calls attempting to find Lei, but it wasn't until after midnight that police called the family asking them to go to the police station, where they were informed of his death.

A day later, police released a short statement online saying Lei had been detained for visiting prostitutes, but died suddenly on the way to the police station. Lei's family has publicly questioned that account. **AP**

PHILIPPINES

Next VP helped beat dictator and son years apart

Jim Gomez, Manila

LENI Robredo was a college student three decades ago when she rose with multitudes of Filipinos in a largely peaceful revolt that ousted Ferdinand Marcos as the world watched in awe.

Now a neophyte 52-year-old politician, Robredo defeated Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., son and namesake of the late dictator, in a cliffhanger race for vice president last month. Congress proclaimed her vice president-elect this week, along with President-elect Rodrigo Duterte at the House of Representatives.

Pro-democracy activists had feared a Marcos win could have threatened to reverse the legacy of the 1986 "people power" revolt, part of the anti-dictatorship resistance that Robredo says sparked her "political awakening."

Robredo was a university student in 1983 when she joined thousands of mourners in a long line at a Catholic church to view the bloodied remains of anti-Marcos politician Benigno Aquino Jr., who had been assassinated by his military escorts at the Manila international airport. The brazen killing of Aquino, father of outgoing President Benigno Aquino III, sparked angry protests that climaxed in the uprising.

"I joined so many rallies which eventually led to EDSA," she said during the campaign, referring to the main metropolitan Manila highway where more than a million Filipinos massed in 1986 to topple the dictator.

Robredo's political rise has been compared to that of Corazon Aquino, the widow of Benigno Aquino Jr. who catapulted



In this May 10, 2016 file photo, then Philippine vice presidential candidate Leni Robredo gestures during a press conference in suburban Quezon city, north of Manila

to power after helping lead the revolt. Both became politicians only after the deaths of their husbands, and both were associated with the color yellow, connected to both the revolution and the ruling Liberal Party.

"For the second time, a widow in yellow has defeated a Marcos," said Julio Teehankee, a political analyst with the De La Salle University in Manila.

Robredo's late husband, Jesse Robredo, was interior secretary when he died in a plane crash in 2012.

He was popular for the reformist and clean image he had built in a country long exasperated with political patronage and corruption — social ills he had fought as a longtime mayor of Naga city, an agricultural and religious center about 260 kilometers (160 miles) southeast of Manila. He won a Ramon Magsaysay award — regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize — in 2000 for good governance.

Leni Robredo, the eldest child of a trial court judge in Naga, was a soft-spoken lawyer before her husband's death. She worked for the Public Attorney's Office, which defends the poor, and la-

ter joined a nongovernmental organization of lawyers who journeyed far to hinterland villages and island communities to provide legal services to impoverished rural people, teach them their rights and help them get access to services and opportunities they wouldn't normally be aware of.

Once, she said she and other lawyers were forced to sleep on small fishing boats overnight during an outreach in a coastal village in the middle of nowhere. In another rural trip, she needed to turn back after a companion noticed that Robredo had begun to show signs she was about to give birth.

A year after her husband's death, Robredo was persuaded to run for a seat in the House of Representatives and won overwhelmingly, defeating a member of a long-entrenched political dynasty in her home province of Camarines Sur.

In Congress, she introduced legislation to foster transparency and accountability among government officials, public involvement in budget deliberations, social equality and an end to all forms of discrimination.

Yet like her husband, she is also

known for simple day-to-day acts that shunned the trappings of power and resonated among ordinary folk.

Like the poor villagers he served, her husband often wore sandals and as mayor went about his city on a bicycle. As a congresswoman, she would travel alone by bus regularly from her province to the capital and back, often at night, using the long trip of at least seven to eight hours to sleep.

Filipinos are long used to politicians being driven around in Mercedes-Benzes or SUVs with armed bodyguards, so when a picture showing Robredo waiting like an ordinary commuter for a passenger bus one night along a Manila highway appeared online, it quickly went viral.

In another popular online image, she is seen walking to the plenary hall of Congress for the annual state of the nation address of the president after entering through a back door. She avoided the red carpet at the lobby, where lawmakers traditionally parade in designer suits and gowns before a mob of TV cameramen and photographers.

President Aquino backed Robredo's vice presidential candidacy and campaigned against Marcos Jr., whom he criticized for refusing to apologize for widespread abuses under his father's dictatorship.

Still, Marcos won more than 14 million votes, just 263,000 fewer than Robredo. His strong showing underscores his family's continued clout, as well as public disappointment over the widespread poverty, corruption, insurgencies and law-and-order issues that have persisted through five presidencies since the elder Marcos' fall.

Aquino's preferred presidential candidate, former Interior Secretary Mar Roxas, lost by a huge margin to Duterte, the tough-talking mayor of southern Davao city who made fighting crime a key platform.

Teehankee said that while Robredo rallied to the cause of the dictator-trouncing revolt, she was not weighed down by its unfulfilled promises because she also offered a refreshing life story and a humble brand of hands-on politics.

On the campaign trail, Robredo always carried the yellow color of the revolt and a small pin or drawing on her shirt of a sandal to remind Filipinos of her and her husband's aversion to political profligacy.

"What she did was to embrace the narrative of the EDSA revolution but adopted it to her own persona," Teehankee said. "She upgraded the brand." AP

DUTERTE OFFERS BOUNTIES FOR DRUG LORDS

THE PHILIPPINE president-elect said he will pay bounties to police or military officials who capture suspected drug lords "dead or alive," adding that there is enough reward money to leave "100 persons dead."

Rodrigo Duterte said he will pay up to 3 million pesos (USD64,000) for every drug lord that officials turn in, adding that the bounties would be financed by left-over campaign

contributions.

The targets, he said, will include anti-narcotic agents who are secretly involved in the drug trade and jailed crime suspects who manage to continue their drug dealing. He said only crime suspects who put up a resistance would be killed. "I'm not saying that you kill them but the order is dead or alive," Duterte said in a televised news conference.



A Philippine Marine salutes during the commissioning ceremony for the new Philippine Navy Strategic Sealift Vessel BRP Tarlac (LD601) and three other vessels to coincide with the Philippine Navy's 118th anniversary

THE Philippine navy commissioned its first amphibious landing dock and three smaller

landing craft yesterday as it continues to modernize its fleet amid a territorial row with China in

Philippine navy commissions its first landing dock vessel

the South China Sea.

President Benigno Aquino III said the landing dock BRP Tarlac, which can transport a landing force, is now the navy's biggest ship. It was acquired under a 60.1 billion peso (USD1.3 billion) military modernization program begun in 2010, he said at the navy's 118th anniversary ceremony.

Over the years, the Philippine military has dete-

riorated to become one of Asia's weakest. Aquino said his government has upgraded its capabilities through the modernization program.

The 123-meter landing dock, which can also carry transport helicopters, is the first of two such vessels for the navy. The second, also built in Indonesia, is expected to be delivered next year.

The three smaller lan-

ding craft were bought from Australia to augment two similar vessels donated earlier by the Australian government.

Aquino, whose six-year term ends on June 30, said a general purpose oceanographic research vessel that can help map the seabed is also expected to be delivered in June. Also being acquired are two frigates, two anti-submarine warfare heli-

copters, and a high endurance cutter, he added.

Navy chief Vice Admiral Ceasar Taccad vowed to defend the country's territory.

"Today, the enemy stands at our doorstep and we can no longer over-exaggerate the urgency of the threat against our maritime interests and possibly our territorial integrity," he said. AP

Biswajeet Banerjee &
Ashok Sharma, Lucknow

INDIA

Slavery persists for millions, despite improvements

EVERY day as Kamla dug through the mud and molded bricks for north Indian kiln, her two hungry children would cry out to her for food. The 200 rupees (USD3) she made for producing 1,000 bricks at a time wasn't nearly enough to feed her family, and her daughter died of malnutrition before she turned 4.

Kamla's story, told to one of the many charities fighting forced labor in India, is common enough to explain how slavery persists in the country despite rapid development that has helped make India the world's fastest-growing economy.

This week, the South Asian democracy topped a global slavery index counting some 18.35 million modern slaves — or 40 percent of a global total of 45.8 million. The report, released by The Walk Free Foundation, included children and adults forced into labor, often unpaid or to pay off a debt, as well as child brides, child soldiers and migrant workers in 167 countries.

"These poor and deprived people are forced to leave their homes because of poverty. This is clear reflection of the failure of the welfare state," said Lenin Rghuvanshi of the People's Vigilance Committee on Human Rights, the charity which put together a December report based on testimony from 450 people rescued from slavery and bonded labor in India last year, including Kamla.

"Bonded labor is a contemporary type of slavery," he said. "The government, which is supposed to provide them basic necessities, has failed them."

Officials with the Indian Labor Ministry declined to comment on the slavery index report, which showed China a distant second with some 3.39 million modern slaves counted. China's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a faxed request for comment. North



A child works outside at a local snack shop in Lucknow, India

Korea was found to have the highest per capita rate of modern slavery, with 4.37 percent of its population affected.

The problem of slavery in India — including child marriage and bonded labor — has long been a challenge and cause for shame. Just last week, the chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee lambasted India's record on human rights, asking how India could have so many slaves. "I mean, seriously, do they have just zero prosecution abilities, zero law enforcement? I mean, how could this happen? It's on that scale, it's pretty incredible," Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee said.

Many had seen the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize for children's rights activist Kailash Satyarthi, who was awarded along with Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan, as a sign that India would be forced to better protect its 1.25 billion ci-

tizens from abuse.

But child labor, the trafficking of sex workers, and bonded labor remains widespread, despite India's rapid economic growth over the past decade. Laws meant to keep children in school and out of the workplace are routinely flouted, as millions are forced into difficult and sometimes toxic jobs including rolling cigarettes, blowing glass in factories, mining in stone quarries or dyeing leather in tanneries.

Some activists blamed the government for maintaining a top-down economy where illegal labor can still flourish because of high unemployment and abject poverty in the countryside. While the official jobless rate has hovered around 10 percent since 1983, some economists say that counting only the number of people actively looking for work ignores the masses who have only part-time jobs or who have

simply given up.

"The laws are there, but there is no political will on the part of the government to implement them," peace activist Swami Agnivesh said. "The government can't afford to annoy rural rich as well as the urban rich who are exploiting the situation."

Amid the rising criticism, the Indian government on Monday published draft legislation to curb human trafficking without punishing its victims. "At present the law says the trafficked and the trafficker are both criminals and they both go to jail. Now, we are saying the victim will not go to jail," said Maneka Gandhi, the government's minister for women and child development, according to Press Trust of India.

Still, some activists said the situation was improving in India, thanks to public awareness, legal reforms and police-backed

raids on factories employing workers illegally.

"We get 20 complaints per day from family members and public in general" reporting labor abuse — a sign that awareness of the problem was growing, said Ramesh Senger from Satyarthi's Save the Childhood Movement.

He noted that India's carpet industry used to employ 300,000 trafficked children just a decade ago, but that the number has come down to an estimated 5,000-10,000. Meanwhile, the number of children forced to work making plastic bangles in parts of the northern state of Uttar Pradesh is now negligible, whereas thousands worked in the industry 10 years ago.

India's garment industry hub in the Indian capital has also eliminated child labor, Sanger noted as an example of how police-backed raids can make a difference.

"We rescued nearly 400 children in the area between 2012-2014," he said. "The garments industry in the area no longer employs child labor."

But for those still mired in forced labor, the scourge can't be ended soon enough. And with little recourse against abusive employers, they can only hope to be rescued by a charity intervening.

Radha, kidnapped from her family by a woman from her village and forced into bonded labor at a brick kiln near Varanasi, told the People's Vigilance Committee on Human Rights she was raped daily by the factory's owner when she was not cooking and cleaning for him, and then was beaten when she tried to object.

"I was so scared," she said. "I'm still in pain from the rapes." AP

North Korea sends envoy to China amid downturn in relations

NORTH Korea has sent an envoy to Beijing to brief Chinese officials on recent political developments amid a downturn in relations between the formerly close Communist neighbors.

Ri Su Yong, chief of the ruling Workers Party of Korea's International Department, held talks this week with his Chinese counterpart Song Tao, the Chinese Communist Party's International Department said on its website.

It said Ri briefed Song about last month's Workers Party congress



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un

and discussed other unspecified issues of mutual concern. The two also reaffirmed the traditional

friendship between the countries and pledged to boost inter-party exchanges in order to "shore-up

and develop China-North Korean relations and strive to advance regional peace and stability," the department said.

Beijing-Pyongyang ties have cooled significantly under North Korea's young leader Kim Jong Un, largely due to his government's aggressive pursuit of nuclear weapon and missile technology. Kim has yet to visit Beijing since taking power following the 2011 death of his father, Kim Jong Il, who made several trips to China.

Although China remains

North Korea's biggest source of diplomatic support and economic help, Beijing this year agreed to impose new sanctions, and observers say trade exchanges between the two have declined dramatically.

While the May party congress was North Korea's biggest political event in decades, experts on North Korean politics said there was less top-level personnel reshuffling at the event than expected, underscoring the stability of Kim's powerbase.

Asked about Ri's visit,

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said she had no additional information, but that China remained committed to "pushing ahead with the denuclearization, peace and stability on the (Korean) Peninsula, and to solving the relevant issues through dialogue and negotiations.

"China's position on the nuclear issues of the peninsula has not changed, nor has China's position on building China-North Korea relations," Hua told reporters at a daily briefing.



BREXIT

What UK can learn from Norway as it weighs life outside EU

Mark Lewis, Stavanger

AHEAD of a June 23 referendum on whether to quit the European Union, Britons are looking across the North Sea to Norway for clues on what life could be like outside the bloc.

The oil-rich Norwegians clearly have done OK. A free-trade deal ensures they enjoy almost the same access to the union's giant market as had they been EU members. But to keep those trade ties smooth, Norway has had to adopt most EU directives, without having a say when they were decided in Brussels.

Here's a look at the advantages and disadvantages Norway has faced from staying outside the union.

TRADE

Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein belong to a small club of non-members that enjoy access to the EU's huge single market, because they have signed up to the European Economic Area agreement. The relationship is economically fruitful: Some 84 percent of Norwegian exports go to the EU, and 62 percent of its imports are from the bloc.

For Britain to join this club, however, it would have to accept four EU-style freedoms: free movement of goods, services, people and capital. Also,

Norway implements more than three-quarters of all EU laws without having a formal way of influencing how they're drafted.

That is the opposite of what the supporters of a British exit from the EU, or Brexit, want.

"It is not just that we don't influence the rules, we don't understand why we have them. Rather than being involved in drafting new rules, we have to spend time asking what the last one was all about," says Paal Frisvold, a Norwegian who is managing director of Geelmuyden Kiese Brussels, a lobbying firm for Scandinavian companies.

IMMIGRATION

After the 2004 EU expansion into Eastern Europe, Polish plumbers came to symbolize the arrival of cheap labor into British towns. Supporters say Britain has benefited from their arrival, citing studies showing EU migrants contribute more to British coffers in tax than they take out through benefits. Critics argue their arrival puts a strain on housing and services and keeps a lid on wages, penalizing poorer Britons.

Whatever the merits, following Norway's example on this issue wouldn't satisfy the concerns of the supporters of a British EU exit, as Norway has more EU migrants than Britain relative to population

size. That's because Norway has signed on to the EEA, and unlike Britain, it's a member of Europe's passport-free Schengen zone, which makes it easier to enter Norway than Britain.

FARMING

Norway is not part of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, which subsidizes farmers and guarantees tariff-free trade across borders. The share of the EU budget earmarked for agriculture has fallen from 73 percent in 1980 to around 40 percent today but the policy remains a bugbear for many Brits who bristle at propping up the rural lifestyle of French and Polish farmers.

Oslo does not subsidize foreign agriculture. But tariffs for EU produce are high, which feeds through to pricey supermarket bills. And what Norway saves in EU subsidies is more than offset by lavish support to its own farmers. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, subsidies account for more than 60 percent of their income. British farmers fear their government would not be so generous. Supporters of a so-called Brexit argue it should be up to Britain to decide.

FISHERIES

Norway doesn't have to share its lucrative fishing waters with EU nations. The Common Fisheries Policy, which divvies

up European waters and sets limits on how many fish can be caught, was a big reason why the seafaring country voted "no" to EU membership in 1972 and 1994.

Plentiful stocks of cod and other white fish suggest it can happily manage its own waters.

Fishermen in northern Norway say the industry supports many small coastal communities that would have struggled if they had to compete with foreign trawlers in their own waters.

"Maybe nothing would be left for these small societies," said Paul Jensen, a fisherman from the village of Ersfjordbotn. "Only snow and ice and skiing."

But being outside the EU also means Norway has to pay tariffs to sell its fish to European consumers. The tariffs ratchet

up for smoked or other treated products. So Norwegian fish farmers often choose to export untreated salmon to EU member Poland and smoke it there instead.

FOREIGN POLICY

Norway felt the sting of being alone when China punished it for the Norwegian Nobel Committee's decision to award the Nobel Peace Prize to Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo in 2010.

Even though the government has no say over the independent panel's choices, work on a trade deal was suspended, visiting diplomats were humiliated, and Norwegian salmon faced sudden restrictions at Chinese docks.

Had Norway been part of the EU, Beijing could have faced retaliatory measures from the entire bloc. Being on its own meant it had to suck it up.

As a bigger country and permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, Britain has more clout on the world stage. But leaving the EU would mean losing its seat at the table when important issues are discussed in Brussels.

This has happened to Norway during the standoff between Russia and Ukraine or the free trade deal that the EU is negotiating with the U.S.

COST

Norway doesn't pay the EU's annual membership fee. But it does pay into a social fund which aims to raise the economic and social standards of poorer EU nations. It also coughs up for the EU-wide programs it uses, such as Horizon 2020 and Erasmus, which cover research and higher education.

Norway funds these programs based on the size of its economy. They will cost an average of 447 million euros per year until 2020, making Norway the EU's 10th largest contributor, according to The Confederation of British Industry.

"The negotiators have done a reasonable job of securing a deal for Norway. I would say we have not always been good enough at taking advantage," says Kristin Skogen Lund, head of the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise. **AP**



File photo of Jan Gunnar Johansen and Trond Dalgard as they fish for cod from the vessel Buaodden in the Norwegian Sea near Gryllefjord, northern Norway

BFF

North Korea media praise Trump talk about US troops

Eric Talmadge, Tokyo

DONALD Trump appears to be finding some friends in North Korea.

The presumptive U.S. Republican presidential nominee has been getting good press this week in the North's carefully controlled media, first in an opinion piece that praised him as "wise" and full of foresight and then yesterday in the official mouthpiece of the ruling Worker's Party itself.

Both articles noted how his suggestions he would be willing to meet leader Kim Jong Un and wants to rethink and possibly withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea have created a "Trump Shock" in Seoul.

The state-run DPRK Today in Pyongyang started off the Trump praise on

The state-run DPRK Today started off the Trump praise by juxtaposing the 'wise' Trump with what it called 'dull Hillary'

Tuesday by juxtaposing the "wise" Trump with what it called "dull Hillary" — describing leading Democratic Party candidate Hillary Clinton by only her first name.

"The presidential candidate who U.S. citizens should vote for is not dull Hillary, who says she would pursue an 'Iran-type model' to solve the Korean Peninsula's nuclear problems, but Trump, who said he would solve problems by directly talking with North Korea," said the column attributed to a "China-based scholar."

In the lengthy column, Trump is described as a "wise politician and presidential candidate with foresight" for his comments about the U.S. potentially withdrawing its troops from South Korea if Seoul doesn't bear the costs. It also noted his public willingness to directly talk with the North Korean leadership if he becomes president.

Trump told The New York Times in March that South

Korea and Japan should pay much more for the U.S. troops based in their countries — about 28,000 in South Korea and around 50,000 in Japan. In a more recent interview with the Reuters news agency, Trump said he was willing to meet with Kim.

"I would speak to him, I would have no problem speaking to him," he said.

The removal of U.S. troops from the Korean Peninsula and direct talks with a U.S. president dovetail nicely with objectives Pyongyang has held for years — though undoubtedly for different reasons than the American real estate magnate.

"There are many 'positive aspects' to take away from Trump's 'inflammatory campaign promises,'" the writer says in the DPRK Today column, pointing



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a news conference in New York

out Trump's indications that Seoul should pay "100 percent" of the cost for the American troops stationed in the South and, if not, Washington should pull them out.

"Yes, go away, now!" it says. "Who knew that the 'Yankee Go Home' slogan we shouted so enthusiastically could come true so easily like this? The day that the 'Yankee Go Home' slogan becomes reality would be the day of unification."

The DPRK Today website is considered to be a propaganda outlet aimed at readers outside the Nor-

th, though its position within the government is not clear.

While not as colorful or overtly supportive as the DPRK Today column, the ruling party's official Rodong Sinmun editorial said the emergence of Trump is causing anxiety in South Korea because of his comments about the potential U.S. troop withdrawal.

It said the South Korean government should stop living as a servant of foreign forces and come back to the side of the Korean nation, but didn't comment directly on Trump as a candidate. AP

AD



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what's ON



THE EXHIBITION "TRAVELOGUE
- WORKS BY PARK, SEUNG HOON"
TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: June 26, 2016
VENUE: Gallery of Taipa Houses-Museum
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

"WEINGART TYPOGRAPHY" - EXHIBITION
BY THE MUSEUM FÜR GESTALTUNG ZÜRICH
TIME: 10am-9pm
UNTIL: June 12, 2016
VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery, located at Avenida do
Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, No. 95.
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

THE CHARMS OF FLOWERS - EXHIBITION OF
TRADITIONAL CHINESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT
TIME: 10am-6pm (no admission after 5:30 pm,
closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: July 31, 2016
VENUE: Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de
Almeida, No. 95 C-D, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523

INK WASH OF THE FORBIDDEN CITY
- PAINTINGS BY CHARLES CHAUDELOT
TIME: 10am-7pm
(No admittance after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: June 19, 2016
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

MACAU GIANT PANDA PAVILION
TIME: 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm daily
(Except Mondays, closed on the following day
instead if a public holiday falls on Monday and no
admission after 4:45 pm; six viewings per day)
VENUE: Seac Pai Van Park, Coloane
ADMISSION: MOP10
ENQUIRIES: Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau
(853) 2833 7676

Offbeat

KAYAK COMPLETES SOLO VOYAGE
FROM AUSTRALIA TO NEW ZEALAND

Stuart Cleary set out in late 2014 to paddle solo from Australia to New Zealand. But in the end, it was his homemade kayak that completed the journey on its own.

Just hours into the trip, Cleary's kayak started taking on water, and he was forced to abandon the vessel before being rescued at sea. Eighteen months later, the kayak has washed up on a New Zealand beach close to where Cleary had intended to make landfall.

Nathan Marshall says he was taking his dogs for a run on Muriwai Beach yesterday when he found the barnacle-encrusted kayak. He was hesitant to look inside, worried he'd find a body.

Cleary says he'll travel to New Zealand to take a look. This time, however, he'll be taking a plane.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	RTPi Live
18:30	Helena's Shadow (Repeated)
19:20	Montra do Lilau (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:40	The Toque 12 S.1
22:10	Helena's Shadow
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Variety
23:55	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:25	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

02 JUN - 07 JUN

X-MEN: APOCALYPSE

ROOM 1
(2D) 2.00, 4.40, 9.50 pm
(3D) 7.15 pmDirector: Bryan Singer
Starring: James McAvoy, Michael Fassbender,
Jennifer Lawrence
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 144min

THE JUNGLE BOOK

ROOM 2
(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm
(3D) 7.30 pmDirector: Jon Favreau
Starring: Neel Sethi, Bill Murray, Ben Kingsley
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 106min

ANGRY BIRDS

ROOM 3
(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 7.30 pm
(3D) 9.30 pmDirector: Clay Kaytis, Fergal Reilly
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)
Duration: 97min

MACAU TOWER

02 JUN - 22 JUN

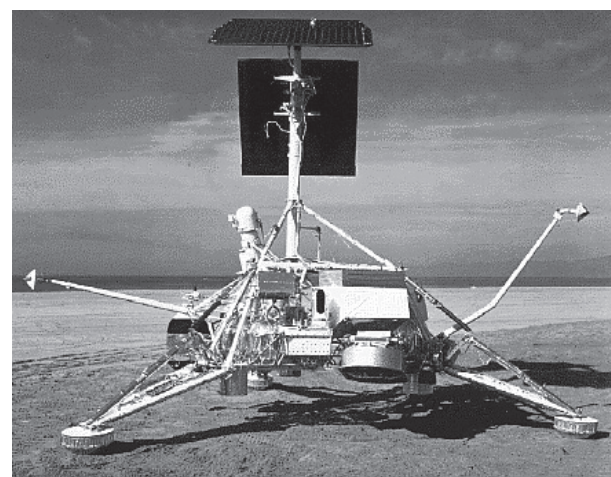
TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES:

OUT OF THE SHADOWS

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Dave Green
Starring: Megan Fox, Will Arnett, Tyler Perry
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 112min

this day in history

1966 FIRST US SPACE PROBE
LANDS ON MOON

The United States has landed its first spacecraft on the Moon.

Scientists were surprised and delighted that Surveyor 1 - America's first attempt at a "soft" landing - succeeded. They had expected it to take at least four tries.

The Soviet Union was the first to achieve the feat four months ago. It is believed to have sent four failed missions before landing the Luna 9 probe successfully.

The Surveyor 1 craft landed at 0617 GMT in the Ocean of Storms, about 590 miles (950 km) from where Luna 9 came down.

Just over half an hour later, it began transmitting a series of astonishing photographs of the Moon's surface.

The American President, Lyndon B Johnson, used the occasion to emphasise the openness of America's space programme.

In a comment directed at the Soviet Union, which earlier this year delayed the release of photographs from Luna 9, he said Surveyor's "remarkable photographs" would be made available as soon as possible.

In fact, national television networks in America broadcast the first pictures taken by the 10ft (3m) high triangular-shaped spacecraft as they came in.

Scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California began counting down the spacecraft's descent from an altitude of about 60 miles (95 km) from the Moon's surface, when Surveyor was travelling at about 6,100 mph (9,800 km/h).

The altitude marking radar started the powerful main braking rocket. This burned out in about 40 seconds, about 25 miles (40 km) above the Moon's surface. The rocket's speed had been reduced to 250 mph (400 km/h).

By the time Surveyor was 13 feet (four metres) from its target it had been slowed to about eight mph (13 km/h).

"It settled on the surface in a fairly soft fashion, just a few degrees off the horizontal," said one of the scientists.

The first pictures showed a number of objects which appeared to be rocks about an inch (2.5cm) across, and pebbles strewn about the lunar surface.

Dr Leonard Jaffe, chief Surveyor project scientist, discounted previous theories about deep layers of soft dust, pointing at photographs taken after touchdown of the Surveyor's pad on one of the spacecraft's tripod legs.

Scientists believe that the success of the Surveyor 1 mission has put the lunar landing program about a year ahead of schedule.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Surveyor 1 spent the lunar night on the Moon and was successfully reactivated the next lunar day, on 6 July. Contact was lost on 7 January 1967.

The United States sent another six Surveyor probes to the Moon over the following 18 months. Only two were failures. Later Surveyor missions were able to take samples of the rocky surface of the Moon, discovering them to consist largely of basalt.

The Apollo 12 mission was planned to land close to where Surveyor 3 had touched down to demonstrate the accuracy of its navigation.

Astronaut Pete Conrad was able to retrieve the camera and scoop from the Surveyor's landing site and return them to Earth.

The information gathered from the Surveyor missions was essential for the success of the American Apollo manned expeditions which began the following year.

Budget constraints brought the first phase of American lunar exploration to an end in 1972.

Then, in January 2004, US President George Bush announced American astronauts would return to the Moon by 2020 as the launching point for missions further into space.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Working in groups is a lot easier when you're surrounded by like minded people. You can't change the people around you, but you can change what you expect of them. See your colleagues in a whole new way.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

An issue is finally put to rest. Don't count on anyone being on your side until every last vote in cast. Until then, be your most convincing, because all opinions are changeable.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Don't hold on tightly to a certain outcome or approach. There's more than one way to succeed. Listen to your colleagues and work together to come up with solutions.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

It's not romance, exactly, but something special is in the (office) air. You're getting along well with colleagues and intellectual sparks are flying. In short, it's a good day.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

An effective office is one in which there is a healthy exchange of ideas. Don't be the bottleneck. Keep an open mind when colleagues start exploring options.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Don't be a wallflower. Your have an accurate vision of the future, but it's useless if you don't share it. Speak up. Colleagues will listen, and then act on your advice.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Don't let power struggles make you jump out of the pan and into the fire. Reacting to weirdness for the sake of weirdness is a waste of time and energy. You have more important fish to fry.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

A colleague's aloof manner throws you off. Don't be fooled into thinking they don't care. You'll know how committed they are as soon as you see them pounce on an opportunity.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

When you start being critical of others, you know you have too much time on your hands. Spend it organizing your things in a creative way instead of wasting it critiquing colleagues.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Problems in the office could get caustic if you let them. Avoid both slow, steady conflicts and unexpected outbursts by keeping to yourself. Behold: The beauty of the cubicle.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

It's time to start thinking about your future, and that could mean moving far from your usual routines. Keep your eyes open. An option being offered to you just might be more of a scheme than a plan.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Everything is the same, day after day. This certainly is getting dull, so do something about it. The first step is having a vision of your future. But don't waste your time daydreaming if you're not open to change.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
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CHINA

Beijing	18	31	cloudy
Harbin	14	28	clear/cloudy
Tianjin	20	31	clear
Urumqi	18	30	clear
Xi'an	16	19	moderate rain/drizzle
Lhasa	5	19	cloudy
Chengdu	21	28	heavy rain/drizzle
Chongqing	22	26	heavy rain/drizzle
Kunming	18	27	cloudy
Nanjing	17	25	shower/overcast
Shanghai	18	26	cloudy
Wuhan	18	21	drizzle/moderate rain
Hangzhou	19	24	overcast/shower
Taipei	29	33	overcast/moderate rain
Guangzhou	27	35	clear/cloudy
Hong Kong	28	33	cloudy

WORLD

Moscow	11	22	overcast
Frankfurt	13	21	moderate rain
Paris	15	21	moderate rain/drizzle
London	10	20	drizzle/cloudy
New York	15	28	clear/cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Kiln for drying hops; 5- Biblical birthright seller; 9- Pro follower; 13- Greek portico; 14- Not quite right; 16- Actor Guinness; 17- Immature herring; 18- Wave-related; 19- Lacking color; 20- Take ___ from me; 21- Fr. holy woman; 22- Comes up; 24- Mayberry lad; 26- Ardent; 27- Comic DeGeneres; 29- Unnecessary; 33- Actress Garson; 34- Needy; 35- Pull abruptly; 36- Summer mo.; 37- Amusing; 38- Golly!; 39- Thom of footwear; 41- Mil. addresses; 42- Acquired relative; 44- Legendary island; 46- Eight Days ___; 47- Chinese weight; 48- Rider's command; 49- Conviction; 52- Comic Margaret; 53- Windshield option; 57- Mtn. stat; 58- Doorkeeper; 60- Memorable times; 61- Latin being; 62- Dens; 63- Actress Thompson; 64- Trawler equipment; 65- Dagger; 66- Rip;

DOWN: 1- Greek peak; 2- Squabbling; 3- Arias, usually; 4- Frog baby; 5- Dines at home; 6- Strike; 7- Helper; 8- Mex. neighbor; 9- Quickly; 10- Ah, me!; 11- Prefix with conference; 12- Deck quartet; 15- Bondage; 23- Purge; 25- Apiece; 26- Ages; 27- Belch; 28- Juridical; 29- They're taboo; 30- Bird of prey, score in golf; 31- Move stealthily; 32- Distort; 33- Explorer Vasco da ___; 34- Student; 37- Portentous; 40- Indigenous inhabitants; 42- ___ Jima; 43- Most orderly; 45- Dundee denial; 46- Riding; 48- In what place; 49- "It's ___ real"; 50- Otherwise; 51- ___ we forget...; 52- Lower jaw; 54- Dies ___; 55- Nothing, in Nogales; 56- Romanov ruler; 59- Airline to Oslo



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
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- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
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Alfredo Pena, Ciudad Victoria,

THE STRANGE CASE OF ALAN PULIDO

Mexican football player beats up kidnapper to free himself

CAUGHT in a real-life win-or-lose challenge, football forward Alan Pulido overpowered a kidnapper, freed himself and then called police for help — a dramatic tale that shows how tough the professional player is, or how incompetent his abductors were.

One thing the story does show is how dangerous Pulido's home state of Tamaulipas is. Stretching south from Mexico's border with southern Texas, Tamaulipas has long been plagued by warring drug cartels and ineffectual police.

Indeed, Pulido's biggest worry was that police officers sent to his rescue might shoot him.

"He is asking that we tell the police that the caller is alone, with the kidnapper, don't confuse him with the kidnapper," according to a police report describing his 911 call obtained by The Associated Press. "They are shooting into the house, don't get him by accident."

Pulido had been abducted late Saturday by four gunmen who were demanding USD325,000 or 6 million pesos ransom, then about 24 hours later he found himself alone with one of his captors and saw his chance. Listed at 5-foot-9 and about 150 pounds, Pulido wrestled away the man's pistol, beat him into submission and used his cellphone to call Mexico's emergency number.

The 25-year-old, who is a forward for Olympiakos in the Greek league and has played for Mexico's national team, was in a locked house and didn't know where he was in the Tamaulipas capital city, Ciudad Victoria. So he threatened and beat his captor while on the phone, demanding



Mexico's Alan Pulido consoles teammate Javier Hernandez (14) after the Netherlands defeated Mexico 2-1 during the World Cup round of 16 soccer match

to be told where they were.

During his first call, Pulido peered out of a window and described the white two-story house with two cars, grey and red, parked in front.

In the next call, Pulido told the operator that state police had arrived outside. The operator told him to fire the pistol so they would know they were in the right spot, but Pulido said he had no bullets. He said police themselves were starting to shoot and described his shorts and tank top so they wouldn't confuse him with the now-unconscious captor.

Once police arrived, Pulido made a third call to confirm with the operator that they were trust-

worthy.

Tamaulipas state Attorney General Ismael Quintanilla said at a news conference that emergency services received Pulido's call for help early Monday due to "a careless act by his captors."

It all sounded a bit suspicious to security analyst Alejandro Hope in Mexico City.

"One of two things: Either Alan Pulido was the victim of the most incompetent kidnappers in the world, or there's something they don't want to reveal," Hope wrote. "Pulido's kidnappers were so stupid they didn't blindfold him, tie his hands or take his cellphone away."

The abductors grabbed Pulido

as he was returning from a party about 11:30 p.m. Saturday. His girlfriend was not taken and alerted others. Pulido's family received the first ransom call around 1:30 p.m. Sunday and a second one a short time later, Quintanilla said.

His brother, Armando Pulido, who also played professional soccer in Greece, said Tuesday on Imagen Radio that he was negotiating with kidnappers following his brother's abduction.

He said he knew they had his brother when they answered a question only Alan would know.

After 11 p.m. on Sunday, he told the kidnappers to give him until the following afternoon to gather money for ransom. He told them the 6 million pesos they demanded was impossible. They answered that his brother would be dead by then.

Minutes later, the anti-kidnapping unit informed him that Alan had escaped.

"We've always gone around very relaxed, without security, without anything, and for that reason, the truth is we could never imagine, we never imagined something of this magnitude," Armando Pulido said.

Tamaulipas has been plagued with violence in recent years as the Gulf and Zetas drug cartels battle for control. Both organizations also are involved in theft, extortion and kidnappings.

According to government statistics, 41 kidnappings were reported in the state in the first four months of this year compared to 78 during the same period last year. The actual number is believed to be much higher since most people do not report kidnappings to authorities.

Tamaulipas listed 179 homicides from January through April, compared to 211 during the same period last year. **AP**

“**One of two things: Either Pulido was the victim of the most incompetent kidnappers in the world, or there's something they don't want to reveal.**”

ALEJANDRO HOPE
SECURITY ANALYST

OLYMPICS

Boxing body votes to let top pros fight at Rio games

Graham Dunbar, Lausanne

PROFESSIONAL boxers can compete at the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, if they qualify.

An overwhelming vote by the sport's governing body, known as AIBA, yesterday allows any boxer to try to qualify next month and earn selection for their national team. But AIBA's plan has been criticized across the professional ranks as a move toward dangerous mismatches between established boxers and inexperienced amateurs.

"At the moment it is difficult to anticipate (how many), but there will be some who want to get qua-

lification," AIBA President CK Wu said after a special meeting of member federations.

Although Manny Pacquiao had been slated to be a superstar attraction in Rio, he decided last week to focus on his political career after being elected a senator in the Philippines.

Of 88 federations who came to Lausanne for the single-issue meeting, 84 approved the rule change less than 10 weeks before the first bouts in Rio. The other four members abstained, AIBA said.

A total of 26 entry places can be earned at an Olympic qualifying tournament in Venezuela next month, AIBA said.

Though few pros are likely to make the Rio lineup at such short notice, the longer term aim is letting paid fighters know they should target the Tokyo Olympics in 2020.

"These are milestones for Tokyo. This is what is happening now," Netherlands federation president Boris van der Vorst said.

Wu has consistently pushed to extend AIBA's influence over professional boxing, and already relaxed rules to allow paid fighters to compete at the Olympics.

In 2013, eligibility for Rio was given to boxers who are signed to AIBA-run professional tournaments.

AIBA spokesman Nicolas

Jomard rejected the idea that pro fighters would dominate the amateurs, saying the amateurs benefit from their quickness and the three-round format, a view espoused last week by former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson.

"AIBA boxers have gone through a stringent qualification," Jomard said. "So they're the best around. A lot of them have already sparred with some of these professionals. So the disparity of level, the boys against men tonality, is a misjudgment. All the talk of disparity of level is just not true."

It is unclear how many professional fighters would be attracted by an Olym-



Filipino boxing great and now Senator Manny Pacquiao stands while a citation is being read to him during ceremony at the Commission on Elections

pic tournament — fighting up to five times over two weeks and going unpaid.

Some would also likely not meet the demands of already being in a testing regime with their national federation approved by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

"We know some of them have been but we can't tell exactly how many," said Wu, ruling out awarding wild-card entries to high-

profile names.

Wu defended AIBA's doping record, which has been criticized for little or no out-of-competition testing since the 2012 London Olympics.

"We have tremendous change, a lot of effort," Wu said, adding that all boxers in Rio would comply with WADA testing standards ahead of the games. "These people have to be subjected to the full testing." **AP**

opinion

World Views

Albert R. Hunt, Bloomberg

LIBERTARIANS COULD HURT SOMEBODY. BUT WHO?

Gary Johnson and Bill Weld may be the Ralph Naders of 2016, though it's not clear whether the casualty would be Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton.

Johnson and Weld, former Republican Governors, were tapped last weekend as the Libertarian candidates for president and vice president. This party has never received even 1 percent of the vote in a presidential election.

But never have the two presumptive major party nominees been so unpopular. Thus the Johnson-Weld ticket hopes to get the highest third-party vote since Ross Perot captured 19 percent running as an independent in 1992.

They wouldn't necessarily need big numbers to make a big impact. Nader, running as the Green Party candidate, received less than 3 percent of the total vote in 2000. But he probably cost Democrat Al Gore the election by taking ballots Gore needed to capture decisive electoral votes in the excruciatingly tight contest in Florida.

Polls show receptivity to a third-party candidacy this year, but there is no reliable data measuring the appeal of the Johnson-Weld ticket. Ann Selzer, a top pollster based in Des Moines, Iowa, who conducts surveys for Bloomberg Politics, wonders if initially it would come from disgruntled backers of Bernie Sanders's challenge to Clinton.

"Sanders supporters averse to supporting Clinton might give the libertarians a look," Selzer said. "For now."

Most of the fire from the Libertarian nominees so far has been directed at Trump, with Weld even drawing parallels to what happened in Nazi Germany in the 1930s.

The viability of Johnson and Weld depends on several evolving factors. One is whether anti-Trump Republicans find another independent candidate. Another is whether the Libertarians could poll strongly enough to participate in this fall's presidential debates, assuming they transpire; they'd need a 15-percent showing, a tall order.

Libertarians share with Republicans a devotion to free markets and opposition to tax increases and government spending, so their ticket might be a convenient parking spot for moderate and economically conservative Republican voters who can't stomach the ideologically malleable Trump. There are a number of libertarians in the Republican coalition, including two one-time presidential hopefuls, former Texas Congressman Ron Paul and his son, Kentucky Senator Rand Paul.

But Johnson, who was governor of New Mexico from 1994 to 2003, and Weld, the Massachusetts chief executive from 1991 to 1997, will have little appeal to social conservatives because Libertarian positions on abortion and gay marriage align them with liberal Democrats. Nor are they likely to win favor from foreign policy hawks hostile to their non-interventionist views.

They might have more appeal to some Democrats and independents leery of Clinton. Clinton's negatives are unusually high among younger voters, many of whom are sympathetic to Libertarian opposition to criminal penalties for drug use.

There probably wouldn't be much support for Libertarians among Latinos and African-Americans or with labor-oriented voters.

And there are fringe positions that may alienate some potential voters. Libertarians are skeptical of social security and their opposition to most laws against recreational use of drugs extends even to hard drugs like heroin. Johnson doesn't support outlawing government-issued driver's licenses, but many libertarians do. And he ducked a question put to him on Saturday during a debate at his party's Orlando, Florida, convention on whether the U.S. was justified fighting World War I and World War II.

Still as a protest vehicle against two flawed candidates and the possibility of financial backing from anti-government fat cats, Johnson-Weld can't be dismissed.

And in a year where success has come to a Vermont socialist and a billionaire business and entertainment mogul who revels in insults and invective, all bets are off.

THE PACIFIC MILITARY EXERCISES TO INCLUDE 27 NATIONS, A RECORD

The U.S. Navy says 27 nations will participate in the world's largest maritime exercises in coming weeks.

This is an all-time high for the Rim of the Pacific exercises, which date to 1971. The drills are held every two years.

The Navy's 3rd Fleet will host the exercises in and around Hawaii and Southern California

for five weeks beginning June 30. The exercises will feature 45 ships, five submarines and more than 200 aircraft. More than 25,000 personnel will participate.

Brazil, Denmark, Germany and Italy are joining for the first time. China is sending ships to participate for the second time this year.



BLOOMBERG

Swiss inaugurate USD12 billion rail tunnel, world's longest

IT'S taken 17 years and cost 12.2 billion Swiss francs (about USD12 billion) but Switzerland is finally ready to inaugurate the world's largest railway tunnel.

The ceremony yesterday to celebrate the completion of the 57-kilometer tunnel through the Alps was greeted with great fanfare with the leaders of France, Germany and Italy on hand.

The thoroughfare aims to cut travel times, ease roadway traffic and draw cargo from pollution-spewing lorries trucking between Europe's north and south. Once it opens for commercial service in December,

the two-way tunnel will take up to 260 freight trains and 65 passenger trains per day.

The tunnel through the Gotthard massif is a source of national pride, embodying national characteristics such as precision and technical innovation. Yet the majority of those who labored on the project -17 years in the making, with work conducted around the clock in three shifts -were foreigners.

The tunnel's unveiling at a ceremony featured dignitaries including German Chancellor Angela Merkel comes just as Switzerland aims to clamp down on

immigration from the neighboring European Union.

The Gotthard Base Tunnel eclipses Japan's 53.8-kilometer Seikan Tunnel as the world's longest and burrows deeper - 2.3 kilometers - than any other rail tunnel.

Switzerland will once again lay claim to the longest railway tunnel. The last time the Alpine nation achieved this was with the initial 15-kilometer railway connection through the Gotthard massif in 1882. Still, the glory will be short-lived: Austria's 64-kilometer Brenner Base tunnel is set to open in 2026. MDT/Agencies



AP PHOTO



Station	Air quality
Roadside	15-35 Good
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good
Ambient	25-45 Good

SOURCE: D5M6

WORLD BRIEFS

PHILIPPINES Leni Robredo was a college student three decades ago when she rose with multitudes of Filipinos in a largely peaceful revolt that ousted Ferdinand Marcos as the world watched in awe. Now a neophyte 52-year-old politician, Robredo defeated Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., son and namesake of the late dictator, in a cliffhanger race for vice president last month. More on p12



AP PHOTO

THAILAND Forty dead tiger cubs are found in a freezer at a Buddhist temple that operated as an admission-charging zoo. The discovery happened while authorities were removing mostly full-grown live tigers from the temple following accusations that monks were involved in illegal breeding and trafficking of the animals.



AP PHOTO

EGYPT said that a French ship has picked up signals from deep under the Mediterranean Sea, presumed to be from black boxes of the EgyptAir plane that crashed last month, killing all 66 passengers and crew on board.



AP PHOTO

GREEKS have woken up to a new wave of price hikes that have been demanded in return for more international bailout loans, with the highest increases targeting the main ingredients of the country's cafe culture: Coffee and beer. Greece's main sales tax rate, or value added tax, went up from 23 to 24 percent. Taxes were also raised on services used heavily by Greeks forced to cut back on leisure activities due to the financial crisis. Charges increased on internet, fixed telephone and pay TV subscriptions.