



UBER WANTS TO BE LEGALIZED IN MACAU

P4



ANIMAL PROTECTION LAW APPROVED

The AL was gathered yesterday for the final discussion and anticipated approval of the Animal Protection Law

P6 AL PLENARY



AIDE TO HU JINTAO GETS LIFE IN PRISON

A former top presidential aide and consummate Chinese political insider was sentenced yesterday to life in prison for taking bribes

P10

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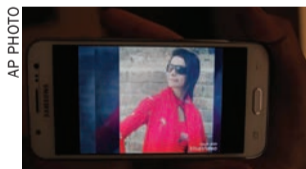
WORLD BRIEFS



JAPAN Japanese police arrest an American serviceman for alleged drunken driving on Okinawa, days after the lifting of an off-base drinking ban imposed after other alcohol offenses and the arrest of a former Marine in a high-profile murder case.

PHILIPPINES Police have seized about 180 kilograms of high-grade methamphetamine worth 900 million pesos (USD19.2 million), officials said, in a major haul for the government of new President Rodrigo Duterte, who has promised to wipe out crime and corruption within six months. [More on p11](#)

MALAYSIA Police say a grenade blast at a bar last week that injured eight people was the first attack in the country by the Islamic State militant group, and that 15 people have been detained.



PAKISTAN Parveen Rafiq closed her hands around the neck of her youngest daughter, Zeenat, and squeezed until the girl was almost dead. Then she doused the 18-year-old with kerosene and set her on fire. Zeenat's crime: She married for love. It was the latest in a series of gruesome "honor killings" in Pakistan. [More on p11](#)

SE ASIA A U.S. Navy official says the United States is concerned about a series of attacks and abductions of tugboat crewmen by Abu Sayyaf extremists in Southeast Asian waters and is willing to lend a hand if needed. [More on p13](#)

[More on backpage](#)



FOLLOWING HK BOOKSELLERS SCANDAL

Local authorities assure notification system with mainland operational

P5

Renato Marques

THE recent Land Law and its enforcement has been fueling criticism by those who think the government is acting in an “unfair” way. The actions performed by the Secretariat for Transport and Public Works to reclaim the so-called “idle lands” have been controversial.

Developers, investors, lawmakers, lawyers and real estate professionals consider the method of the current law enforcement is “harming the image of Macau” as well as the interests of those investing in the development of the territory.

Gonçalo Mendes da Maia, a lawyer and partner of MdME Lawyers firm, which represents several interests in this dispute, told the Times that there are many exemplifiers of how several government departments are to blame for the current conflicting situation between the government and the land concessionaires.

The lawyer claims that the Land Law from 2013 is “absurd, deeply unfair and that doesn’t create a difference between those who breached the rules and those who didn’t, treating everybody in the same way without distinction between the ones that are to blame and the ones that are not to [blame].”

“One of the most extreme examples may be the lands located in the Seac Pai Van area of Coloane were the majority of the land concessions in this area were granted back in 1990 for the industrial purpose of having a Quarry. The idea was then retracted in 1993 when due to the lack of success of the previous idea, the government asked all land owners if they wanted to change the purpose of the land to residential, which they accepted. However, the change was subjected to one condition: ‘you can only develop the lands after we [the government] finish the urban planning for Seac Pai Van, which we are still working on,’ this was said in 1993 and remains until today,” the lawyer said.

According to Mendes da Maia, during this period, “hundreds of meetings” were held with several government departments and officials that included the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau’s (DSSOPT) secretaries, and even consecutive chief executives. During these meetings, the promise was made that “sooner or later this [the planning] will happen,”

MDT REPORT

Critics claim Land Law being unreasonably enforced

and that the land concessionaires “shouldn’t be worried about [the problem].”

The lawyer mentioned that his clients’ hopes were once again raised when in 2013 the ‘Urban Planning Law’ was released. “But nothing happened and now, 25 years after [the initial grant], the government comes to say: ‘we know we were responsible but still you must give back the land,’ and these are the facts,” he concluded.

In juridical terms, the same source says, “both the old and the new [land] law allow the extension of the usage period for cause not imputable to the concessionaire,” what generally

means that in case the concessionaire cannot use the land by a reason that he is not the one to blame because “it’s possible to request a renewal or an extension of that time to the Chief Executive.”

Referring to the specific case of the lands in Seac Pai Van area, the lawyer added: “We didn’t even put this [request of a development time extension] as an option because there wasn’t even a possibility to develop since there was no change on the land usage purpose to residential, and no other deadline was established for the development,” he remarked.

Mendes da Maia says that

what “makes it worse” is that “in 2010 the government itself, by the hand of the Secretary Lau Si Io, decided that was necessary to investigate the case, ordering DSSOPT to study the so-called ‘case of the 113 lands’ whose development period had expired.”

“After an in-depth analysis by a committee of specialists created by the DSSOPT, it was concluded that in 48 cases there was responsibility attributed to the concessionaires and those lands were to be reclaimed promptly. But there were another 65 lands the committee considered that the concessionaires were not responsible for the non-development. This means that in 2010, the government acknowledged that there is a difference and that these people need to be treated in a different way,” he said, concluding: “This is what makes sense. [...] This is the base of our Roman legal system.”

The lawyer states that in the origin of all the conflicts is the article in the law that states

I voted for the current Land Law because I understood that common sense would prevail.

LEONEL ALVES
LAWMAKER

“temporary concessions cannot be renewed.” This does not recognize any kind of distinctions, attributing responsibility for this problem to both “the government that allows this to happen and of the Legislative Assembly (AL) which approved this law.”

The issue was last addressed on December 10, 2015 during the Policy Address debate at the AL, when two of the lawmakers who voted in favor of the appro-

LAND LAW IMPACT TO BE DISCUSSED TODAY

A “FORUM on the impacts of the Land Law to the investment, economy and society of Macau” will be held this afternoon at the World Trade Center. The event is organized by the Nam Van Development Company Ltd. and will be attended by several experts. It aims to give to the public a clear idea on the status of the lands currently in process of being claimed by the government after the expiration of the concessions and namely the ones located on the lots C and D of Nam Van Lakes.

Ng: Law ‘to protect the general interest of Macau’

LAWMAKER Ng Kuok Cheong told the Times that the Land Law can only be considered unfair “by those that feel that they cannot earn so much money, so they feel it’s unfair.”

“To protect the general interest of Macau’s population, the law is ok, because all the concessionaires got the land when Macau was still very poor and they had enough time to develop, especially after 1999,” Ng argues. “They already earn a lot of money from different lands. They already profit too much. I don’t think the Land Law needs to be amended,” he concluded, adding that “most of lands not developed are due to the lack of ability of the developers to develop it and because they were granted too many lands at the same time, choosing to develop only the ones that were most profitable.”

According to Ng, “Macau benefits more if the lands are returned to the society and more public houses can be built on them.”

Another lawmaker, Pereira Coutinho noted, “it is a government competence



Ng Kuok Cheong (center)

to present any proposal regarding the need of amendments. Otherwise we might be doing things that are contrary to the original idea from the legislator [...] that would be appropriate to listen to the government opinion on the matter as we cannot forget that this law was approved with a majority of votes.”

Coutinho says that now is not the proper time to raise this matter. “At the moment, there is a system that allows appeals to the courts and there is a jurisprudence on this matter,” he stated.

Secretary Raimundo do Rosário has

addressed this issue several times, most notably during his latest visits to the AL plenary. “We are doing everything according to the law,” he repeatedly stated, adding that he personally has no “legislative power.”

Lawyer Gonçalo Mendes da Maia tends to agree: “The secretary is a bureaucrat, not a decision maker. He is not the Chief Executive.” Mr Mendes added “he [the secretary] is correct when he says that ‘with this law I can only declare the caducity of the lands’ as secretary he doesn’t have another way to proceed.”

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Lawmaker Leonel Alves



Gregory Ku



Lawyer Gonçalo Mendes da Maia

val of the law, Gabriel Tong and Leonel Alves expressed their concerns, with Alves stating clearly: "I have been fooled, so I have to apologize to the people."

"I voted for the current Land Law because I understood that common sense would prevail in cases where projects and loans for the development of the concessions had already been approved," he said, recalling a talk with the former secretary Lau Si Io in the AL committee where he was told that solutions to previous concessions would be found. Mr Alves at that time said, "I asked what would be the solution. [Lau Si Io] said that a solution would be found at the time."

Gregory Ku, managing-director for Macau of the Real Estate consultancy company Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL), commented on the Land Law, saying: "This is the most difficult topic to address in Macau, no one has a good answer to this, not even the government."

The realtor stated that from the government side, the position is quite clear at the moment with the "Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário saying that everything will be conducted according to the new Land Law, and he can make no decision aside from claiming the [land involved in] expired concessions. In the case of any objections the case has to go to the courts."

It is necessary to have a more creative solution rather than go to the courts and drag the process for another 10 or 20 years.

GREGORY KU
JONES LANG LASALLE MANAGING-DIRECTOR

"There isn't any new idea [from government side] regarding that because 'law is law' that's what he said," Mr Ku recalled. In his opinion as a real estate expert, the current law is "too strict because there are many different cases; in some of them there is obviously a problem from the government, as there are others where the problem is from the concessionaire." Due to this disparity, it is unnecessary to simply say that "once a land concession is expired the government has to claim [the land]. I don't think this should be applicable to all cases."

Gregory Ku thinks that a reasonable and easy way to amend the current law would be to

pass a mechanism of evaluation of the responsibility on the non-development of the land. "In cases where the government is to blame, maybe they could give an extension lets say of five years or so to repair the problem," he suggested, adding that "if the government really doesn't want to change the law, then it is necessary to have a more creative solution rather than go to the courts and drag the process out another 10 or 20 years. Maybe an arbitration procedure could work also as long as its decisions would have legal effects." He concluded by saying: "Whatever is chosen, there should be a way of making it fast and fair because the current solution is really not good for the government as it is creating a bad image and scaring away international and even local investors that are hesitant and scared to invest in Macau as the Macau government is showing itself as a non-negotiable entity." Mr Ku noted that there are structural problems and bureaucracies that take a long time, and that together with the "uncertainty" regarding the government's decisions in the future, it creates unexpected problems "even in perfectly cleared lands."

Patrick Wong, a foreign investor in Macau for more than 12 years, agrees with Mr Ku's belief that the government is "scaring away investors." Mr Wong is also one of those involved in the Nam Van Development Company that held the land concession of the lots C and D of Nam Van lake area. To him, the current law is "the most idling thing to Macau's future. It is beyond comprehension by a normal person," he said to the Times.

According to the investor, analysis is needed to assess why foreigner investors decide to invest in the territory. In his opinion, the key factor is that there is a "very clear cut Basic Law that protects interests of foreigner investors."

GOV'T REPLY: SECRETARY ACTING 'BY THE BOOK'

IN A reply to the Times regarding the topic of the Land Law and the criticism arising regarding its current application, the Office of the Secretary for Transport and Public Works stated that since the law's entry into force back in 2014, the government has been dealing with related issues in accordance with

the new legal provisions. "The Secretary for Transport and Public Works has performed strictly according to that law's stipulations. In case there are opinions from society to change some of the law articles, those opinions will be dealt with according to the procedures applied."

"When we come to invest, we need to be blessed by good lawyers as we cannot complete an acquisition of a transaction without a legal opinion. This is very important because without a very clear legal opinion, we would never have completed the deal," he added.

Mr Wong said that there was a procedure list starting from the Official Gazette notice and the alignment plan that would give the developers a clear idea on what could be built and where, followed by a very strict and complicated process of submissions and approvals by the DSSOPT that go all the way to different pile testing, among others.

"You need approval for anything in Macau, even to test the piles required by DSSOPT you need a license. In my case, we tested 200 different piles on the land to give an idea of the procedures. But what matters the most is as you progress in your project there is a very clear indication from the government if they have the intention to let you continue. In our case, we stopped due to 'UNESCO,' they said. They forced us to stop because they [the government] said that they needed a master plan for this area."

Mr Wong continued: "What matters the most is not my case in particular but all the cases in a bundle, and a search on DSSOPT website under the information for land reveals clearly a separation between the 48 pieces of land that [in which the concessionaires] were considered guilty since the con-

cessionaire didn't do their job, and those 65 [lands] which are considered not guilty, and this happens for four main reasons: 1- because the general building plan hasn't been approved; 2- because you are in the process of changing the Gazette since after you are approved and you pay land premium and then you need to adjust the Gazette; 3- because of Master planning; and 4- you are in a legal dispute. And we are talking about something that was done by [former-Secretary] Lau Si Io in between 2009 and 2011. This results from a two-year study ordered by him while, at the same time, he was the one leading in the behalf of the government to construct the new land law," he recalled.

"This can only make me fully believe that his legislative intention was not to blame these people as these points were also discussed in the AL Committee afterwards," Mr Wong remarked, stressing that "these people [lawmakers] who voted in favor of the Land Law were led to believe that there were also solutions for those who were not guilty." He added that the other option is to believe that the former-Secretary Lau Si Io lied to the legislators.

"Otherwise we are forced to believe that he completely lied to the AL members and he should be trialed for treason. But lets assume that is not the case," he concluded stating that in between the two options might be a third one in which "this government is just having a misinterpretation of what former Secretary Lau did previously."

TONG DELIVERS PROPOSAL TO AMEND LAND LAW

ONE OF the least satisfied lawmakers regarding the current situation of the Land Law is Gabriel Tong, who is also deputy director of the Law School of the University of Macau. He has stated that in his opinion "the current interpretation of the Land Law is an absurd." According to newspaper Hoje Macau, Tong has already presented a proposal to the Legislative Assembly (AL) on making amendments to the current Land

Law. This proposal aims to allow concessionaires to "require" a decision from the Chief Executive for either a suspension or extension on the concession period of a land based on the non-accountability of the concessionaire for the non development on the expected and originally assigned timeframe. "I have high expectations that the proposal gets approval. It aims to solve a very serious situation in juridical terms," Tong said.

Uber Macau appeals for service legalization

Lynzy Valles

UBER Macau hand-delivered copies of around 3,000 e-mails to the Office of the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário yesterday, appealing to him to regulate the ride-sharing sector.

The general manager of the company Trasy Lou Walsh, along with representatives from the Uber driver-partner community arrived at the secretary's office in pedicabs to represent how "transportation in the city continues to evolve based on transportation innovation and growing needs, with options old and new complementing one another."

Walsh hoped the government could develop consumer-friendly and reasonable regulations to regulate the ride-sharing industry so that it would smoothly operate in the territory.

"What we want the secretary to understand is that this service is actually good for the city and what we want to do is really sit down with them and come

What we want the secretary to understand is that this service is actually good for the city.

TRASY LOU WALSH
UBER GENERAL MANAGER

up with ride-sharing regulations," she told reporters.

According to Walsh, they have already seen over 80 jurisdictions globally that now have ride-sharing-specific regulations in place, including in the U.S., Singapore, India, Philippines, Mexico and Australia.

The general manager remains positive that the MSAR will eventually legalize ride-sharing, and believes that do Rosário has been "working very hard" to solve transportation issues in the region.

"We're actually heading

towards the same goal," said Walsh. "And this is also the purpose of our event today."

Although in most countries and cities there are laws regulating both private and commercial vehicles, such regions also lack a legal framework for the ridesharing sector.

"We're not sitting anywhere in the legislative framework and what we want the government to really look at is how to put this ridesharing industry in the regulations framework, which is a different one," she added.

Walsh believes that the path to better transportation in the territory of Macau is through constructive conversation with authorities, rather than "attempts to block progress though heavy enforcement and fines based on outdated regulations that don't apply to ridesharing or internet-based car hailing."

Although Uber Macau refuses to disclose the fines they have been charged with, they admitted that they are being forced to pay a substantial amount in penalties as the police claims that



Trasy Lou Walsh (right) and associates deliver the email copies

the service is running illegally in Macau.

Uber Macau started collecting emails from Uber users last week, with several e-mail templates titled "I love Uber because..."

Several Uber users then have written to the secretary claiming that taxi drivers in the region either refused to provide them service or overcharged.

One of the respondents said that the local taxi service is "shameful," stressing that fellow residents had "terrible experiences" in which taxi drivers refused to provide service.

"Too many terrible experiences in which taxi drivers were rude, used bad language, [...] overcharged for their device [...], 'fished' for clients... basically, too many crimes," wrote

one Uber user.

"There is no point in taking the matters to the local authorities because there is a powerful absence of justice and common sense regarding this matter," the Uber supporter added.

Another wrote: "Before Uber in Macau, it was impossible to get anywhere without the long delays of public transportation or the incredibly frequent and super difficult to communicate with taxis."

"Overall getting a taxi at Turbo jet [sic] arrivals hall is brilliant, it's getting a taxi within and around Macau that's difficult," said another Uber advocate.

Uber Macau was launched in October last year. The users of the service are comprised of 70 percent local residents and 30 percent tourists.

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Paulo Barbosa

THE Macau police notification mechanism with mainland security authorities has been operational since June 2001, the Public Security Forces Affairs Bureau (FSM) confirmed to the Times. A similar mechanism has existed in Hong Kong since 2001, but it apparently didn't work in the case of the missing booksellers.

Last week, the Hong Kong Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying, revealed that he will talk with the Central Government in order to start discussions on a notification mechanism for cases of Hong Kong residents who are detained in mainland China.

"The starting point, and to me it's basic and fundamental, is that we want to know as soon as possible when a Hong Kong resident is arrested by a jurisdiction outside of Hong Kong. That applies to foreign governments and should also apply to the mainland, because we are two systems," Leung explained to the South China Morning Post.

Leung's contact with Beijing follows revelations made last month by bookseller Lam Wing-kee. Lam is one of five booksellers who went missing for several months only to turn up later in mainland China, either detained or involved in investigations. According to the Associated Press, he returned to

FOLLOWING HK BOOKSELLERS SCANDAL

Notification system with mainland operational



Hong Kong Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying

Hong Kong last month on the condition of providing information to Chinese authorities regarding buyers of the gossip tomes on China's Communist leadership in which his company specialized in. However, Lam defied the orders and instead spoke out about his ordeal of being secretly detained on the mainland. His revelations sparked international concern that Beijing is eroding the "one country two systems" policy, which also applies to Macau.

The Times contacted the Go-

vernment Spokesperson Office in order to find out if the MSAR is planning to introduce a mechanism similar to the one expected to be discussed between the Hong Kong Chief Executive and Beijing. We also inquired if there is any legal assistance provided by the MSAR government whenever a local resident is arrested in mainland China.

According to the reply sent in Chinese by FSM, the notification system was established via an agreement between the Office of the Secretary for Securi-

ty together with the Office of Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan Affairs and the mainland Ministry of Public Security.

"The agreement clarified that the mainland and Macau police authorities under the principles of mutual respect and support, as well as claiming to not interfere in each party's law enforcement operations, established the notification mechanism, under which both sides shall be responsible for giving notifications to the other party on the imposition of criminal compulsory measures, and unnatural deaths of residents of the other party," the FSM reply read, according to our translation.

The reply adds that the notification mechanism "does not affect each party's implementation of its own imposition of criminal compulsory measures, and does not affect each party's protection of the right of the residents and their families."

FSM also noted that the Macau Secretariat for Administration and Justice and the Central Government are currently discussing a criminal justice assistance agreement.

Seven companies invited to LRT depot project

The government has invited seven companies to bid on the contract of the construction of the depot project of the Light Rapid Transit (LRT), according to a report by TDM. Preliminary information regarding the bid will be published on the website of the Transportation Infrastructure Office, according to the department's announcement. Last year, the government called for an end to the construction contract of the Depot Superstructure with the then-contractor after building was delayed. The Depot project is one of the five projects comprising the Taipa section of the LRT. It is situated east of the Cotai Strip and south of the airport, with the Avenida do Aeroporto on its west side. The project will cover an area of approximately 130,000 square meters, consisting of an operation control center, a factory and maintenance building, an area for trains to be parked and cleaned, as well as a 600-meter train-testing track.

Zhuhai to build Guangdong's first wind power plant

Zhuhai is building Guangdong Province's first offshore wind power plant, according to a report by Jornal Va Kio. The plant will be located near the island of Guishan in Zhuhai, and is expected to provide electricity to Zhuhai's Wanshan district. The wind power plant is also expected to bring three nearby islands under the same electric network. This plant has been listed as part of China's national demonstration project. Upon its completion, the plant is expected to generate an annual amount of nearly 266 million kilowatt-hours of electrical energy, in addition to saving 86.6 thousand tonnes of coal.

Youth center to offer free art course during summer

The Outer Harbor Youth Activities Center of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) is calling for applicants to enroll in its summer programs, as announced in a statement released by DSEJ. The department will provide arts, cultural and sports classes during the months of August and September, including cello, K-Pop dancing, and yoga. Residents aged 13 to 29 are welcome to apply for the classes. Depending on the program, class numbers will range between 12 and 25 participants. All courses will be offered in Mandarin or Cantonese.

US DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Gov't rejects human trafficking study

A statement from the Government Information Bureau (GCS) indicated that the government is whole-heartedly rejecting the findings of a recent report from the U.S. Department of State regarding the condition of human trafficking globally.

The report, which gave Macau a serious "Tier 2" rating in addition to finding that the government was not doing enough to combat trafficking, was criticized for its "wrongful conclusions" by Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak, last week.

Yesterday, GCS said the government believes that the report's findings contain "serious misunderstandings with regard to

Findings in the report are not based on facts and involve groundless speculations.

GCS

the situation in Macau."

"Findings in the report are not based on fact and involve groundless speculation,"

the statement continued. "The government cannot and will not accept groundless comments alleging cases in Macau of human trafficking, labor exploitation, child sex tourism and unlawful activities by government officials."

According to GCS, the government maintains that it has taken numerous steps to prevent and combat the problem, including the establishment of the "Committee of Measures to Deter Human Trafficking" and the passing of a law relevant to the issue.

As the Times reported yesterday, there were no trafficking convictions in 2015, and just six sex trafficking victims. The statement accredits this low number to the "positive effects of the government's efforts," which has resulted in "either a steadily reducing number of those crimes or zero instances of such offences." **DB**

Gaming inspection chief says new junket mechanism needed

GAMING Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) director, Paulo Martins Chan made clear in an interview published in the July edition of Macau Inc., that some components of the gaming industry need to be revised while others ought to be preserved.

Chan said that the city used to be overly reliant on the VIP gaming segment.

"Once the market is hit by economic or external factors, the impact is always severe," he rationalized. "For Macau's future development, VIP and mass-market gaming should be reformed in such a way that they complement each other, both in terms of quality and quantity."

However, he is not advocating a total departure from VIP gaming. While the DICJ

chief believes that junket regulation needs to be heightened (and to this end the bureau is recruiting a further 70 inspectors), he said that a mechanism should be introduced to help the operators to recover debt owed to them by mainland Chinese gamblers.

At present, there are little means to recovering such debt, since it is not recognized on the mainland.

"It is important, therefore, to help these junkets establish an information system, one which collects and stores information related to credit and the credit rating of gamblers, to be shared by all junkets," Chan told Macau Inc. "This requires gamblers to sign a form consenting to the disclosure of their credit information. The DICJ is currently in discus-



Paulo Martins Chan

sion with junkets regarding this matter."

However the DICJ chief warned, the success of the mechanism will entirely depend on whether the junkets chose to play by the rules.

AL PLENARY

CTM concession under fire

Renato Marques

THE concession agreement between the telecommunications service provider CTM and the government was one of the major topics addressed at the Legislative Assembly (AL) on its plenary meeting held yesterday. From a total of 18 spoken enquiries to the government during the period before the agenda, five were specifically focused on the concession. According to the calculations of lawmaker Chan Meng Kam, the first to address the topic, the compensation that the executive would have to pay in case of a termination of the contract would amount to approximately MOP3.1 billion.

The legislator also highlighted the fact that when the government signed the mid-term review of the agreement back in 2009, the aim was to achieve market liberalization. "However, five years have passed and the monopoly continues. Nowadays the market share of CTM is 100 percent of the [local] Internet [service] and on the telephone landline [privates]; and about 100 percent of data services. If the intention was to liberalize the market, then CTM has 'made a hostage out of the emperor to control the



Sonia Chan (center)

'ONLY FIVE ARTICLES WERE UNBLEMISHED'

ON THE sidelines of the plenary meeting of yesterday at the AL, legislator Leonel Alves justified the criticism of the technical writing of the Animal Protection Law in its Portuguese version. "I noticed that only five articles were unblemished; all the others have writing problems, grammar issues and problems

in the usage of terms. The worst is that some contain inconsistency on legal norms," he said. According to the legislator the problem is not fully limited to the Portuguese version as he claims that other lawmakers said similar inconsistencies could be found in the Chinese version.

court," Chan Meng Kam said.

The lawmaker added that the agreement grants the company a contract cancellation fee of such size as to equate the concession to a "fools" deal, adding that, "if the government continues to act

'foolish,' CTM will be a 'maid bossing her own boss'," urging the government to adopt a "proactive" attitude not just regarding CTM but also all other public utilities.

Also chiming in was Si Ka Lon, who claimed that the

government's intention, as outlined in the five-year plan, to build a "smart city" is set to fail since the telecommunication networks do not meet a sufficient standard. He blames the networks' inadequacy on the monopoly service of CTM.

In his opinion, the CTM monopoly is to blame for the "lack of quality in services, the high rates and weak signals," adding that he urges the government to enact market liberalization for Internet services at a minimum.

Ella Lei and Kwan Tsui Hang also addressed the topic, assessing the terms of the contract to be "unfair and unreasonable" taking note of the fact that the "assets from the concession" that the company exploits, "belong to the government" and not CTM.

Kwan Tsui Hang termed the deal a "fake liberalization" since the concession continues to be solely operated by CTM. She cited several professionals from the business sector who according to Kwan have said that "renting communication circuits in Macau is several times more expensive than in neighboring regions." Kwan also accused the telecommunications company of using "[government] assets for its own benefit and enjoyment," stating that that now that the first five years of the so-called "5+5" contract are concluding, there is a great opportunity to review the terms.

Au Kam San, who slammed the "alliance" between the government and CTM, which in his opinion "prevents competition and favors CTM," called for a mechanism to supervise concession contracts by the AL as a way to "stop the collusion of interests between the government and businessmen."

ON THE LAWMAKERS' AGENDA

NAM VAN Anim'Art cultural and leisure area "contributed to an increase in the tourism and leisure [activity] offerings in Macau," according to Angela Leong. However the Nam Van space "has been lacking in attractiveness due to a lack of promotion and the fact that is [located] in a hidden place." The lawmaker suggested the government to follow the example of Taiwan "demarcating wider spaces to focus both the stakeholders and the strength of cultural and creative industries in one place" transforming these areas in platforms with a real potential to boost these industries in the territory.

HOSPITAL Song Pek Kei slammed what she called "the rhetoric" of government's high officials that have been claiming, "the next five years will be brilliant for the health sector." The lawmaker criticized the strategy followed by the government to manage the construction and improvements to health service facilities.

According to the lawmaker the fact that the "Health Bureau is responsible for the construction of the new hospital "makes no sense, since they are experienced in terms of requirements for medical equipment but non-specialist in construction matters."

LAND LAW Mak Soi Kun and Zheng Anting said "specialists and scholars from the legal sector" regard the "government practice of transferring the responsibility to correct their mistakes to the judiciary institutions as very problematic," and "could lead the MSAR to suffer in terms of time, money and political reputation."

Mak Soi Kun added: "The government continues to have a rigid interpretation of the deadlines imposed by the new Land Law highlighting that is acting in accordance with the law." He said that the idea to claim back all the expired concession lands without a care for "accountability" creates clear "non-compliance in both legal and rational terms."

Animal Protection Law finally approved

THE AL was gathered yesterday for the final discussion and anticipated approval of the Animal Protection Law. After an unexpectedly controversial debate mostly based on a technicality (the fact that some legislators considered the bill "not properly written," particularly in the Portuguese version), the draft law was approved almost unanimously, with just a few abstentions. At the same time, there were a handful of votes against specific articles, namely from lawmakers Pereira Coutinho, Leong Veng Chai and Leonel Alves, with the latter being the most active in protesting with the bill's final version, making dozens of remarks and suggestions for changes in the writing.

Pereira Coutinho was another active lawmaker who questioned the purpose of the law, which he claims is unclear from the outset. "Right from Article 1, it says that it [the law] intends to protect rights but which rights?" he asked, remarking that Macau has been discussing this law for "more than 10 years" and now "we say that we are doing this to elevate our standards to international level. But we still disregard the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare (UDAW) that was adopted in 1978 by the UN."

The use of muzzles was a controversial point that reflected a discrepancy between the bill's current form and its original. Kwan



Kwan Tsui Hang and Leonel Alves discuss the proposal

Tsui Hang, the president of the Standing Committee that had analyzed the bill, stated that the provision has been made "a non-mandatory measure for dogs that weigh over 23Kg," although in fact, what the law provides is an opportunity to require its exemption in specific cases.

The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sónia Chan, replied that the purpose was to create "a balanced regime between rights and duties," helped by the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM). The IACM explained that "the criteria originates from places like Taiwan and the American Veterinary Medical Association."

Japan's Line raises price of USD1.1b IPO

LINE Corp. hiked the price of its initial public offering to raise as much as 116 billion yen (USD1.1 billion), citing strong demand and market conditions.

The operator of Japan's most popular messaging service increased the price range for shares to 2,900 yen to 3,300 yen from an earlier target of 2,700 yen to 3,200 yen. Line is offering 35 million shares in its debut. Including a so-called green shoe option that allows it to increase the number of shares sold, the company may wind up raising as much as 132.8 billion yen.

Line is planning to go public during one of the most tumultuous times for global markets in years, after the U.K. voted to leave the European Union. Its well-recognized brand in Japan, where monthly active users represent almost half the population, is expected to attract individual investors. Line, backed by South Korean search portal Naver Corp., is aiming to list this month in New York and Tokyo in what could be the largest technology IPO of 2016.

"The stock will do well on the back of retail investor demand," said Amir Anvarzadeh, manager of Japanese equity sales at BGC Partners Inc. "I can see the price going to 4,000 yen post listing, but the chances of significant growth overseas are very remote."

Line originally filed to go public two years ago, but held off in hopes of getting a stronger reception from investors. Instead, the delay may have cost the messaging service \$3 billion in valuation as Facebook Inc. began encroaching on its turf and the market for technology company IPOs cooled. Line will be valued at about 693 billion yen if it prices its IPO at the very top of its range, compared with a target of about 1 trillion yen in 2014. **Bloomberg**

Rio Tinto commits to London head office after Brexit vote

Jesse Riseborough

Rio Tinto Group's new chief executive officer pledged to keep the head office of the world's second-biggest miner in London after Britain's vote to leave the European Union raised fears businesses will flee.

"No doubt whatsoever about it," Jean-Sebastien Jacques, a 44-year-old Frenchman who's also a British citizen, said in an interview at the offices in St. James's Square, a short walk from Buckingham Palace. "Rio Tinto doesn't do any politics."

British voters backed a decision to leave the EU in a June 23 referendum, driving the pound to a more than 30-year low and sending shudders through equity and commodity markets around the world. Banks including JP-Morgan Chase & Co. and HSBC Holdings Plc said the result may prompt



The offices of Rio Tinto Group are seen in London

them to move thousands of jobs from London.

"We recognize the decision of the British people," said Jacques, who replaced Sam Walsh on July 2. "When we did look at the level of trade we do between the U.K. and the EU, or the EU and the U.K., it is very small."

Jacques' views echo those of former Rio CEO Tom Albanese, who said June 24 that the biggest miners will likely retain U.K. headquarters. Albanese, now head of Vedanta Resources Plc, said Britain offers benefits for resource companies.

"The direct impact on

us is very small," Jacques said. "However, we will continue to monitor the situation for obvious reasons in the coming weeks, months and years."

Rio trades in London as well as Sydney, with registered shares split 80:20 between the two cities, respectively. **Bloomberg**

AD

Macau Daily Times contest



SHREK The Musical © 2016 DreamWorks Animation LLC. All Rights Reserved. Photos by Tristram Kenton

at The Venetian® Macao

Question for readers:

Who composed the book and lyrics for Shrek the Musical?

Please email the answers to: shrek@macaudailytimes.com Along with your name and contact details.

Tickets-Giveaway

Four sets of two tickets each will be awarded to the four readers who send us more correct answers the fastest. The contest will run for 3 days (Tuesday to Thursday), each day with a different question to be answered. Each ticket is valued at MOP580 for a total prize value of MOP4,640.



SHREK THE MUSICAL with book and lyrics by Pulitzer Prize® winner David Lindsay-Abaire and music by Olivier Award-winner Jeanine Tesori, is coming to Macao for the very first time as part of its first ever international tour.

SHREK THE MUSICAL, The Smash Hit Broadway Musical, brings the hilarious story of everyone's favorite ogre to the stage. In a faraway kingdom turned upside down, things get ugly when an ogre – not a handsome prince – shows up to rescue a feisty

princess. Throw in a donkey that does not keep quiet, a villain with a short temper, a cookie with an attitude and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there's one on hand and his name is Shrek.



Ticketing Details:
Show: SHREK THE MUSICAL
Date: July 22 – Aug. 7, 2016
Venue: The Venetian Theatre
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A gaming research analyst has indicated that Macau's casinos might benefit from renewed interest soon, after newly elected president Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines said in his first cabinet meeting last week that he wants to stamp out online gambling.

"Online gambling must stop. It's out of control," said Duterte just one day after he assumed office, as cited in The Philippine Star. "I would suggest that sometime soon, licenses must be cut."

Although analysts said that the news was hardly a surprise, the comments did provoke a knee-jerk reaction in Philippine markets. Analysts cautioned not to read too much into the comment unless it is introduced as a policy.

However, following recent reports suggesting that Macau's gaming downturn could linger well into 2017 or later, a Sanford C. Bernstein analyst says that Duterte's latest "suggestion" could bode well for

GAMING

Duterte wants online betting stamped out



New Philippine president Rodrigo Duterte

Macau's casinos.

"The latest scrutiny could be a net positive for Macau casinos as these websites have previously targeted gamblers in China," wrote Bernstein's Vitaly Umansky in a note to Barron's Asia.

"More importantly, it is unclear if any new government regulation or legislation could also target proxy betting in the form of online video streams occurring in junket rooms within Philippine casinos. Based on our channel check, Filipino junkets can generally receive a higher commission rate for such gaming activities, in the range of 1.3-2.1 percent of rolling chips," added Umansky.

Duterte explained that although the government is unable to collect taxes from online

betting, that was not his main motivation for seeking to stamp out the practice. "Well not exactly taxes [...] I really do not want the proliferation of gambling all over the country," he emphasized.

The new Philippines' president has been repeatedly criticized for his brash behavior and controversial statements. He has called for the death penalty to be reinstated and threatened to personally kill drug addicts, as well as encouraging his compatriots to do the same.

Duterte was also criticized last month for apparently endorsing the killings of corrupt journalists. Media groups condemned the statement believing that it could incite more murders in a nation that is already perilous for reporters. **DB**

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

Didi Tang, Beijing

A former top presidential aide and consummate Chinese political insider was sentenced yesterday to life in prison for taking bribes, illegally obtaining state secrets and abusing his power in a downfall set off by an alleged cover-up of his son's death in a speeding Ferrari.

A court in the northern port city of Tianjin delivered the verdict against Ling Jihua nearly one month after the trial, which was held behind closed doors because the case involved state secrets, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Ling told the court he would not appeal, Xinhua said.

"I accept all charges and the verdict," Ling told the court in comments broadcast on China's main evening news. "I will not appeal the judgment pronounced by the chief judge."

Ling headed the ruling Communist Party's General Office under former President Hu Jintao, a position comparable to chief of staff for the U.S. president.

His fall has been a blow to the Youth League bloc within the party, which had centered around Hu and is seen as a contending force for Hu's successor, Xi Jinping. Members of the bloc in the top leadership have seen their powers diminished since Xi took over, said Willy Lam, an expert on Chinese elite politics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

After the verdict, Ling made a "humble apology to the party and the authorities that have handled my case," according to video from the courtroom broadcast by state-run China Central Television.

Aide to Hu Jintao gets life in prison for bribes



Ling Jihua

He was shown expressing his gratitude to the court for "offering humanitarian care" of him. Chinese courts are controlled by the Communist Party.

Ling fell out of political favor in 2012, just ahead of a once-in-a-decade power transition, when he was allegedly invol-

ved in the cover-up of his son's death in a speeding Ferrari with two nude or half-dressed women as passengers.

In September of that year, shortly before Xi Jinping replaced Hu as party chief, Ling was transferred to the party's United Front Work Department in

what was widely seen as a demotion.

Soon afterward, Ling lost his remaining positions within the party's upper echelon. In 2013 he was made a vice chairman of the powerless advisory body to China's ceremonial parliament. While working at the United

Front Work Department and on the parliament's advisory body, Ling obtained a large amount of state secrets through his contacts at the General Office, violating China's rules on state secrets, Xinhua said.

The Xinhua report on the verdict made no mention of Ling's brother, Ling Wancheng, who is believed to have fled to the United States with sensitive information about China's leadership and could deliver an intelligence windfall should he defect.

The New York Times reported that the Obama administration has rebuffed Chinese requests for Ling Wancheng's repatriation and has warned China about covert agents seeking his whereabouts on U.S. soil.

Lam, the political analyst, said Ling Jihua apparently had cooperated with the authorities and might have promised not to further divulge the secrets he obtained, since he was given only five years for illegally obtaining state secrets.

"The lenient treatment is in return for his cooperation not to divulge state secrets he might have given to Ling Wancheng," Lam said.

Ling was sentenced to life imprisonment for taking USD11.57 million in bribes, either directly or through his wife and son, Xinhua said. Those who bribed Ling included provincial party chiefs and prominent businesspeople.

Ling also was given four years in prison for having used his powers to obtain favors, such as job changes, promotions, and property purchases, for his associates, Xinhua said.

He came under investigation in late 2014 and was formally arrested in July 2015. He was indicted in May. AP

CICC, China Investment Securities said to be in merger talks

INVESTMENT bank China International Capital Corp. and brokerage China Investment Securities Co., firms with 186 billion yuan (USD28 billion) of assets last year, are in talks on a possible merger, people familiar with the matter said.

A transaction is not certain, and the structure of any deal is yet to be decided, the people said, asking not to be identified because the talks are private.

CICC's shares jumped on the news, trading as much as 3.7 percent higher in Hong Kong. Investors may be betting that a merger would help

CICC's efforts to reinvent itself under Chief Executive Officer Bi Mingjian after slipping from top Chinese brokerage by revenue in 2005 to No. 23 a decade later.

Linking up could be "a good deal for CICC," said Lucas Wang, a Hong Kong-based analyst at First Shanghai Securities Ltd. "CICC's strength has been with high net worth individuals and corporate clients; the network and mass-market client base of China Investment Securities will be a good fit."

CICC's shares closed up 1.5 percent yesterday. Later, in a statement to the exchange, CICC said it

was in "very preliminary" discussions with China Investment Securities on "strategic cooperation and business opportunities" and it wasn't certain that a transaction would proceed.

Set up in 1995, Beijing-based CICC was part-owned by Morgan Stanley until that firm sold out in 2010. Run by Levin Zhu, the son of then-Premier Zhu Rongji, it brought some of the country's biggest state-owned firms to market, becoming known as China's answer to Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

As part of CICC's efforts to drive a revival, it rai-

sed \$811 million from an initial public offering in Hong Kong in November, earmarking money for expansions in equity sales and trading, wealth management and international business. During last year, surging income from brokerage commissions and asset management helped to drive up profit.

The company that CICC may combine with, Shenzhen-based China Investment Securities, sat at No. 17 in the revenue rankings for last year, where Citic Securities Co. was No. 1, according to Securities Association of China data.

China Investment Securities is 100 percent owned by Central Huijin Investment Ltd., according to the brokerage's website. Huijin, a unit of China's sovereign wealth fund, owns 28.4 percent of CICC, according to CICC's website.

A deal would follow previous revamps of brokerages controlled by Huijin. Shenyin & Wanguo Securities Co. and Hong Yuan Securities Co. were combined in a \$6.4 billion

deal struck in 2014, creating one of the nation's biggest brokers, Shenwan Hongyuan Group Co. Another broker controlled by Huijin, China Galaxy Securities Co., was listed in 2013.

There was no immediate response to an e-mail sent to the Beijing-based press office of Central Huijin's parent, China Investment Corp., and no one answered a call to China Investment Securities seeking comment. Bloomberg

HOW CICC AND CHINA INVESTMENT SECURITIES COMPARED IN 2015

ASSETS: CICC, 94.1 billion yuan; China Investment Securities, 92.2 billion yuan
FULL-YEAR PROFIT INCREASE: CICC, 75 percent; China Investment Securities, 194 percent
NET INCOME: CICC, 1.95 billion yuan; China Investment Securities, 3.6 billion yuan
BRANCHES: CICC, 20; China Investment Securities, 160

PAKISTAN

'Honor' killings grow more brutal, draw backlash

Kathy Gannon, Lahore

PARVEEN Rafiq screamed from her rooftop, "I have killed my daughter. I have saved my honor. She will never shame me again."

In the room below lay the charred body of 18-year-old Zeenat. Neighbors in the narrow alley who saw the smoke and heard screams rushed to Rafiq's home, but the door was bolted from within. Zeenat was dead. Her mother had choked her, and while the girl was still alive she doused with kerosene and set her on fire.

Zeenat's crime was to marry a childhood friend she loved, defying her widowed mother's pressure for an arranged marriage and, in the mind of her mother and many of her neighbors, tarnishing her family's honor.

Her death on June 8 was the latest in a series of increasingly gruesome "honor" killings in Pakistan, which has one of the highest rates of such killings in the world.

In one case, a mother slit the throat of her pregnant daughter who had married a man she loved. In the city of Abbottabad, a teenage girl who helped a friend elope was tortured, injected with poison and then strapped to the seat of a vehicle and set on fire. A jirga, or council of local elders, ordered her killing as a message to others.

■ Last year, 1,096 women and 88 men were killed in 'honor' crimes in Pakistan

The brutality and rapid succession of killings horrified many Pakistanis. The numbers of such killings have been climbing. Last year, 1,096 women and 88 men were killed in "honor" crimes in Pakistan, according to the independent Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. In 2014, the number was 1,005 women, including 82 children, up from 869 women a year earlier. The true numbers are believed to be higher, with many cases going unreported, activists say.

Some human rights and women's rights activists believe the rise in numbers and brutality reflects an older generation digging in against creeping change.



Hassan Khan shows a picture of her wife Zeenat, who was killed by her mother, in Lahore

Over the years, more women have been going to school and working outside the home, and social media have helped women raise their voices. More than 70 percent of Pakistan's 180 million people are under 30, and some are challenging traditions to an unprecedented degree.

"The old order of misogyny and extremism is falling apart, is really crumbling," says Marvi Sermid, a women's rights activist.

Centuries of tradition in Pakistan tie the idea of a woman as an untouched commodity to a family's honor. Traditions have been further strengthened by governments that often carried the support of religious hard-liners with legislation enshrining the old ways.

Those who kill for "honor" are almost never punished in Pakistan. A law based on Islamic Shariah allows the family of a victim to forgive a killer, and in these cases the killers are almost always family. So other relatives give their forgiveness, unwilling to see loved ones jailed.

Still, outrage over recent killings and other violence against women has fueled an outcry against the establishment. One target has been the Council of Islamic Ideology, a body of conservative Muslim clerics that advises the government to ensure laws don't stray from Shariah.

When the government proposed a law aimed at protecting women against violence, the council in May put forward an alternative allowing men to "lightly beat" their wives.

Young people replied with a Twit-

ter campaign with the mocking hashtag #TryBeatingMeLightly. On TV talk shows, guests denounced the council as misogynist and out of touch. Some lawmakers called for it to be disbanded.

The outcry appears to be having an effect. The council in June decreed that honor killings are un-Islamic.

Meanwhile, police and prosecutors have found a way around the forgiveness loophole. Rafiq and one of her sons suspected of helping in Zeenat's killing have been detained and face charges under the anti-terrorism law, which defines any act that causes general panic as terrorism.

Zeenat's death underscores the social traditions that underpin "honor" crimes.

For months, neighbors said, her mother complained about her two elder daughters, who married men of their own choice.

Zeenat was Rafiq's last chance to save her honor. She planned an arranged marriage for Zeenat with a member of their own social caste, the Rajput, which is said to be descended from kings.

But Zeenat had her heart set on a childhood friend, a 20-year-old motorcycle mechanic named Hassan Khan who lived nearby in their crowded Lahore shantytown.

"We were in love," Khan said, his voice barely a whisper.

He showed a collection of selfies on his phone that Zeenat had put together to the rhythm of their favorite song, an Urdu pop tune called "You Made Me Your Lover." As the music played, Zeenat in the

photos struck different poses, always smiling, her black hair falling past her shoulders.

She loved taking selfies, music and poetry, he said. She had memorized the Quran and taught it to local children.

Zeenat and her mother fought about Khan, and Zeenat told him her mother beat her. Khan said Zeenat pleaded with him to marry her.

In May, they finally did, marrying at a courthouse. Zeenat moved into Khan's home.

A few days later, Zeenat's mother and uncle came, begging her to come home, just for a few days. They said they would arrange a proper wedding for her and Khan, which would save their honor by showing neighbors she didn't elope. Zeenat's uncle promised she would be safe.

Khan's elders eventually agreed that Zeenat would go with her mother.

At first, it seemed Zeenat's mother had accepted their marriage, Khan said.

But on the fourth day, Zeenat called him, afraid. Her mother was yelling at her threateningly.

"I told her to not worry. It was just two more days and she would be back home with me."

The next morning, she was dead.

Neighbor women outside Rafiq's home all agreed that the mother was driven to kill Zeenat, and she should go free.

"Daughters are duty-bound to maintain the honor of the family," said Muneeba Bibi. "It's better to have no children than to have a daughter who brings you shame."

Zeenat's killing was "a good lesson for all the girls here to protect the family honor," she said.

The little girls playing in the alleys all knew Zeenat was killed by her mother. But they weren't sure why. All they knew was she had done something very bad.

"She was strangled and then they burned her," said 11-year-old Sameera. "When I think about it I get scared."

In the home he briefly shared with Zeenat, Khan showed a poem she had written on a tissue paper.

"I love you. I kiss you
I love you. I miss you
I take your name with every breath
I see you in every dream
I want to see you all the time"

Khan refolded the fragile tissue and returned it to his wallet.

"I want her hanged," he said of Zeenat's mother. "She has to be punished. This is the only way this will stop." **AP**

PHILIPPINE police have seized about 180 kilograms of high-grade methamphetamine worth 900 million pesos (USD19.2 million), officials said yesterday, in a major haul for the government of new President Rodrigo Duterte, who has promised to wipe out crime and corruption within six months.

PHILIPPINES

Police seize USD19 million worth of drugs

National Police chief Ronald dela Rosa said police and drug enforcement agents seized the methamphetamine hydrochloride, known locally as shabu, in 180 plastic bags on Sunday in an abando-

ned farm in northern Cagayan province's Claveria town following a tip from an informant.

Authorities are investigating whether it was smuggled into the Philippines by a foreign syndi-

cate or was manufactured locally, officials said.

"We know that there in the north, in the Cagayan area, which is the nearest point going to China and Taiwan, the shabu coming from abroad is

docked there," dela Rosa said.

He also said more than 100 armed drug dealers have been killed in gunbattles with police since last month and thousands of drug users have surrende-

red to authorities during the intensified anti-drug campaign. The drug users will undergo mandatory drug treatment.

Nine policemen from different regional offices who tested positive for illegal drugs in mandatory tests last Friday will face criminal and administrative charges, he added. **AP**

TERRORISM

Educated and well-off, Dhaka attackers defy usual profile

Katy Daigle, New Dehli

THE young men had been missing for months. Their families sensed something was wrong. Some had come from privileged backgrounds, had grown up loved and were educated in top schools. They had bright futures.

It wasn't until the horror of the weekend hostage crisis in Bangladesh's capital unfolded that they learned their sons had become radicalized as religious extremists and launched one of the country's deadliest attacks in recent years.

The young men, armed with knives, bombs and automatic firearms, engaged in a gun battle with police, killing two and wounding more, then seized a popular restaurant in a Dhaka neighborhood on Friday night and held some 35 people hostage. Over the next few hours, they would kill 20 of their captives — including nine Italians, seven Japanese, an Indian teenager and three students at American universities. A witness said some victims were tortured when they could not recite verses from the Quran.

"This is very painful. He killed innocent people," said the aunt of one of the attackers, Rohan Imtiaz, whose father is a leader in Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's governing Awami League party.

"We sensed that Rohan was changing and his behavior increasingly became different," she told the Associated Press in disbelief.

When Imtiaz went missing on Dec. 31, as his mother and father were in India for medical treatment, the family asked the police to help find him.

"My brother went to everybody: police, ministers and higher authorities after he went missing," said Rohan's aunt, who refused to be identified by name. "He became just crazy after his son went missing. But nobody could help us."

As details emerged of the men who laid siege to the Holey Artisan Bakery, it became clear that the attackers did not fit the typical profile for religious radicals coming from economically deprived backgrounds and latching onto extremist groups that promised a new future.

Some analysts said that's what made them attractive as recruits; their backgrounds meant they would not raise suspicions.

"They do not fit the usual stereotype of the madrasa-educated youth," said Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, a former Indian



Members of an Indian family offer flowers and light candles as they pay tribute to those killed outside the Holey Artisan Bakery in Dhaka

diplomat and policy expert on Bangladesh for the Observer Research Foundation, a New Delhi think tank. "My suspicion is that these young men were roped in by spotters or recruiters."

The shock value for the radical groups of recruiting educated, affluent people is huge. The gov't will never suspect them.

PINAK RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY
FORMER INDIAN DIPLOMAT

He said their defiance of the usual militant profile gave credibility to claims the attackers were part of a campaign waged by extremist groups abroad.

"This is a conscious decision on their part that they will get this kind of people," Chakravarty said. "The shock value for the radical groups of recruiting educated, affluent people is huge. The government will never suspect them. The intelligence agencies will never suspect them. Because these boys were never under any kind of surveillance."

Police released photographs of the bodies of five attackers killed by paramilitary forces who ended the hostage siege. They also released names — Akash, Badhon, Bikash, Don and Ripon — which did not match those given by family members. Police said only that militants often go by many names to obscure their identities. Another suspected

attacker was captured and was being interrogated.

The men, all younger than 30, belonged to the banned domestic group Jumatul Mujahideen Bangladesh, or JMB, according to police. Asked whether they might also have had Islamic State ties, police said authorities were investigating that possibility.

"It is difficult to imagine how they were radicalized. At least four come from very wealthy backgrounds," said Benazir Ahmed, head of the country's paramilitary Rapid Action Battalion, according to Indian broadcaster NDTV.

Describing them as "flamboyant young men," he said some had also been frequent visitors to the same restaurant they attacked.

The Islamic State, in claiming responsibility for the attack, had also published photos of the five smiling young men, each holding

what appear to be assault rifles and posing in front of a black IS flag. The men in those photographs released by the Amaq news agency, affiliated with IS, also appear to match the police images of the dead assailants in the restaurant after the hostage crisis ended.

Another attacker identified as Khairul Islam went missing six months ago, according to Bogra district police chief Mohammed Asaduzzman.

"The family is poor, and did not report his disappearance to police," Asaduzzman said.

But while Islam's background seemed to fit the stereotype, his upbringing suggested otherwise. Islam was educated, having studied in a madrasa before enrolling in a public university in Dhaka.

The family identified Islam as one of the attackers after seeing a photograph of his body on Facebook, he said. Authorities have detained his parents, sister and brother-in-law for questioning.

At least some of the attackers had also known each other for years.

Imtiaz had studied at the same English-language school as Meer Sameeh Mobashwer, whose family said he went missing on Feb. 29.

Mobashwer's father, a businessman, and mother, an economics teacher, had planned to send their son to join his brother studying in Canada.

"I understood that my son had changed, something was wrong with him," his father, Meer Hayat Kabir, told the AP. "I was worried and tried to make him understand. But suddenly he went missing. I felt like the whole world crumbled around me."

Police, contacted by Mobashwer's family for help, were unable to track him down.

"They told me maybe your son has gone somewhere with friends. He will come back. But he never came," Kabir said. He only found his son once police invited him to identify the body of one of the weekend attackers.

"We had lot of dreams," his father said. "I cannot believe my son was inside that restaurant, he was part of that. But that's the reality now."

"My everything is over." AP

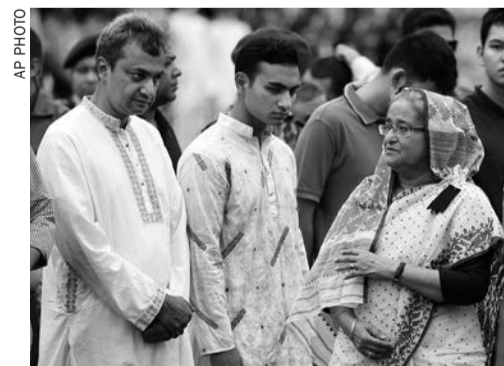
Bangladeshi Prime minister pays her respects to victims of attack

BANGLADESH'S prime minister yesterday visited a stadium where the bodies of the victims from the weekend attack in Bangladesh's capital were taken, as security officials search for evidence and the possible masterminds behind the attack.

The incident that began as a hostage-taking on an upscale restaurant left 28 dead, including six attackers and 20 of the hostages. The government has denied the Islamic State group's claim of responsibility for the attack.

Police have released photographs of the bodies of five attackers, along with their first names: Akash, Badhon, Bikash, Don and Ripon. The men belonged to the banned domestic group Jumatul Mujahideen Bangladesh, or JMB, and their families hadn't heard from them in months, according to police. Asked whether they might also have had Islamic State ties, Police Inspector General A.K.M. Shahidul Hoque said authorities were investigating that possibility.

Despite the police saying IS links were



Bangladeshi Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, talks to the relatives of Bangladeshi victims of the attack on Holey Artisan Bakery during a memorial service in Dhaka

being investigated, the home minister refuted the possibility that the Islamic State group directed the attack from abroad.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

US ready to help fight extremist sea attacks

Jim Gomez, Associated Press

THE U.S. military is concerned about a series of attacks and abductions of tugboat crewmen by Abu Sayyaf extremists in Southeast Asian waters and is willing to lend a hand if needed as part of America's aim to ensure the freedom and safety of navigation in the region, a U.S. Navy official said yesterday.

Rear Adm. Brian Hurley said the U.S. Navy has worked with Southeast Asian governments to ensure freedom of navigation and the safety of people in the economically bustling region and would continue to do so.

Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines have agreed to take possible coordinated actions, including sea and air patrols, and establish a "transit corridor" as designated sea lanes for boats and ships in the seas along their borders to stop an alarming wave of attacks by Abu Sayyaf extremists and allied militants.

More than two dozen Indonesian and Malaysian crewmen



Rear Adm. Brian Hurley

have been kidnapped by ransom-seeking Abu Sayyaf militants and allied gunmen who use powerful speedboats to stage four attacks on slow-moving

tugboats in the Sulu Sea and outlying waters since April.

All the hostages from the first three attacks have been freed reportedly in exchange for ran-

som but a fourth tugboat came under attack last month and seven Indonesian crewmen were kidnapped, officials said.

A Philippine military officer, who has monitored the offshore attacks, said the Abu Sayyaf may have been working with militants and contacts in Indonesia and Malaysia to carry out attacks on passing tugboats and commercial ships similar to the piracy assaults in Somalia few years ago.

The shift to piracy may have been prompted by stronger military actions that have made it more difficult for the militants to carry out kidnappings for ransom — a key source of funds by the Abu Sayyaf, the officer said.

"We are always concerned about safety at sea and the freedom of navigation through the waters," Hurley told The Associated Press during an interview. "From the Navy's perspective, it's freedom of navigation through all these different straits that we are doing that and working together in a multilateral engagement is very

much appreciated and we will continue to do so," he said.

In the disputed South China Sea, the U.S. Navy deploys about 700 ships each year for patrols — an average of two ships per day — to ensure freedom of navigation "and we'll continue to do that all over the world," Hurley said.

Hurley and other navy officials from Australia and New Zealand spoke on board the Navy hospital ship USNS Mercy off Legazpi city in the northeastern Philippine province of Albay while participating in an annual humanitarian mission called the Pacific Partnership, which also aims to improve disaster preparedness.

More than 600 military and civilian personnel from the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United Kingdom, Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea are involved in the civic mission that was conceived following the December 2004 massive earthquake off Indonesia that triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries. **AP**

AD

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 Owner and Operator of Claret Wines

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English Sparkling Wine has seen a huge rise in interest over the past few years, as consumers and journalists alike cotton on to the potential for growing grapes on the South of England's chalk hills, and high-profile blind tastings have shown its potential to rival the world's very best.

English vineyards now attract top winemakers from around the world, who are creating impeccably balanced wines which can rival some of Champagne's finest. Come and listen to the story and liven up your breakfast by tasting it for yourself!



Venue: Amber Room I, 5/F, The St. Regis Macao, Cotai
7.45 am: Registration
8 am: Sit-down and breakfast
8.15: Presentation and Q&A session
9 am: Close

Strict No-Show/Late Cancellation policy applies for this event
Vegetarian dish to be requested before Thursday 7th July

BBAM Members: Free of charge
Non-Members – MOP/HKD 180.00
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E. Eduardo Castillo
& Marcos Aleman, San Salvador

EL SALVADOR

Deadliest nation in 2015, sees lull in violence

AFTER becoming the world's murder capital last year and posting an equally bloody start to 2016, this violence-torn Central American nation has seen its monthly homicide rate fall by about half.

The government attributes the drop to a tough military counteroffensive against the country's powerful gangs, deploying a special security force and transferring imprisoned organized crime leaders to a maximum-security lockup to isolate them.

But the gangs also claim credit. The three main groups — the Mara Salvatrucha, Barrio 18 Revolucionarios and Barrio 18 Sureños — forged a nonaggression pact in March to try to reduce the killings. In a joint video message, they said their aim was to convince the government that the crackdown was unnecessary.

Either way, killings in El Salvador dropped from 611 in March to 353 in April and 351 in May. There were 331 homicides in June, compared with 677 in the same month in 2015.

Last year the country recorded over 100 killings per 100,000 residents. That rate was so high that even if it's halved for all of 2016, El Salvador would still be firmly in the top 10 for killings for any country not at open war, though it's a fraction of the deaths seen in a war zone such as Syria, where casualty estimates run into the hundreds of thousands since 2011.

Authorities say most of El Salvador's dead are gang members slain by rivals on the streets and inside prisons, or in encounters



Reserve soldiers and National Civil Police are presented to the media at the Central Square in San Salvador

with security forces.

"The reduction in homicides is due to the effectiveness of the plans by police and the extraordinary measures by the government, especially inside prisons," national police chief Howard Cotto said last week.

Authorities say isolating jailed gang leaders makes it harder for them to issue orders to their underlings out on the streets.

"We have gradually been bringing the penitentiary system under control and we are going to finish the job," Vice President Oscar Ortiz said recently.

The gangs see things differently. A senior member of one, the Barrio 18 Sureños, told The Associated Press that the killings have fallen because gang

leaders ordered their street soldiers to stand down.

"When we have wanted war, we have waged war on them, and right now we are not thinking that way," the gang member said, speaking on condition of anonymity to avoid being targeted by authorities. "We want things to be solved in a different way."

He said he is part of a team that coordinates among the three big criminal bands, and all are open to dialogue and have agreed to maintain a cease-fire.

Experts say the government crackdown and the gang truce have both likely played a part in reducing homicides.

Jose Miguel Cruz, a specialist

Killings in El Salvador dropped from 611 in March to 353 in April and 351 in May

on Salvadoran organized crime at Florida International University, said the fact that the gangs are behaving less aggressively may suggest only that they are trying to keep a lower profile, not that the government has won the battle. He also worries that the lull in violence could be fleeting.

"I fear that this is temporary," Cruz said. "That it is going to last until the gangs figure out another way to confront the government."

When President Salvador Sanchez Ceren took office in 2014, he established a policy of confrontation with the gangs. A former guerrilla, Ceren doubled down on that approach in March after gang members used guns and machetes to slaughter 11 people in the town of San Juan Opico, outside the capital — an attack whose brutality was shocking even for Salvadorans numbed by daily reports of death and mayhem.

Within weeks of the "Opico massacre," the Salvadoran Congress approved legislation that included isolating gang prisoners and deploying 1,000 soldiers and police to pursue and dismantle the gangs. The government has "recovered the hope that this country is now on the path to defeat crime," Sanchez Ceren said in mid-May.

The three gangs called a truce before, in 2012, that allegedly was facilitated by then-President Mauricio Funes' government.

Funes' administration has denied being the architect of that pact. However an official in his government, who says he was involved in its planning and implementation, says the truce was a matter of government policy and the former president and security Cabinet approved a strategy allowing mediators to negotiate with gang representatives inside and outside prisons. He spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid drawing the attention of investigators in an ongoing probe.

The idea of negotiating with the gangs is widely unpopular among Salvadorans. A recent poll by the newspaper Diario de Hoy found that 78 percent of respondents would oppose another truce, compared to 10 percent who would support one. **AP**

IRAQ

Death toll from IS-claimed bombing climbs to 142

Sinan Salaheddin, Baghdad

IRAQI authorities yesterday raised the death toll to 142 from Sunday's devastating truck bombing at a bustling Baghdad commercial street as Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi ordered new security measures in the country's capital.

The bombing, claimed by the Islamic State group, was the deadliest terror attack in Iraq in a year and one of the worst single bombings in more than a decade of war and insurgency. It underscored the IS group's ability to strike the Iraqi capital despite a string of battlefield losses elsewhere in the country and fueled public anger toward the

political leadership.

The suicide bomber blew up his explosives-laden vehicle in Baghdad's mostly Shiite Karada district, a favorite avenue for shoppers — especially during the holy month of Ramadan, with the streets and sidewalks filled with young people and families after they had broken their daylight fast.

Police and health officials said the toll stood at 142 but that it was likely to increase even further as rescuers are stilling looking for missing people. At least 185 people were wounded, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to talk to reporters.

Hours after the bom-

bing, al-Abadi visited the attack site in Karada, but a furious mob surrounded his convoy, yelling expletives, hurling rocks and shoes at the prime minister's cars and calling him a "thief."

In a statement issued later Sunday, al-Abadi ordered that a scandal-ridden bomb detection device be pulled from service. He also ordered the reopening of an investigation on the procurement of the British-made electronic wands, called ADE 651s.

In 2010, British authorities arrested the director of the British company ATSC Ltd. on fraud charges, prompting Iraqis to open their own investigation on alleged corrup-



People light candles at the scene of a massive car bomb attack in Karada

tion charges against some officials. Iraqi authorities made some arrests, but the investigation went nowhere and the device remained in use.

Along with taking away the electronic wand detectors, al-Abadi also ordered that X-ray systems be installed at the entrances of provinces. He demanded the upgrades of

the capital's security belt, increased aerial scanning, a step-up in intelligence efforts and the division of responsibility among various security units.

Iraqi and foreign officials have linked the recent increase in IS attacks — especially large-scale suicide bombings — with the string of losses the Islamic State group has faced on

the battlefields across Iraq over the past year.

Iraqi security forces, supported by U.S.-led coalition airstrikes, have retaken the cities of Tikrit, and Ramadi, the Anbar provincial capital. Also in Anbar, Iraqi forces liberated Fallujah from the extremist group just over a week ago.

At the height of the extremist group's power in 2014, IS had deprived the government of control of nearly one third of Iraqi territory. Now the militants are estimated to control only 14 percent, according to the prime minister's office. IS militants still control Iraq's second-largest northern city of Mosul, north of Baghdad. **AP**

what's ON



PAINTINGS AND CALLIGRAPHY DONATED BY JAO TSUNG-I
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ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523

ARTS IN THE MANDARIN'S HOUSE
TIME: 10am-6pm daily
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ARTISTIC CRAFTSMANSHIP OF OUR ANCESTORS – EXHIBITION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELICS OF TAIPA AND COLOANE
TIME: 10am-6pm daily (No admission after 5:30; Closed on Mondays; Free admission on Sundays)
VENUE: Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa
ADMISSION: MOP5
ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

THE ENCHANTING RED BOAT
TIME: 10am-6pm (no admission after 5:30 pm; closed on Mondays; open on public holidays; free to public on 15th of every month)
UNTIL: October 9, 2016
ADMISSION: MOP15
VENUE: Praceta do Museu de Macau 112
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

THEORY OF EVOLUTION: ART SPACES EXCHANGE PROGRAMME: FORUM AND EXHIBITION
TIME: 12pm-7pm
 (closed on Tuesdays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: July 10, 2016
VENUE: Ox Warehouse, at the intersection of Av. Coronel Mesquita and Av. Do Almirante Lacerda
ADMISSION: free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

Offbeat

BEHIND FAMED HOT DOG CONTEST, A WHOPPER OF A LEGEND

Nathan's Famous may be in the hot dog business, but for decades they've been peddling a whopper.

Showmen behind Nathan's annual Fourth of July hot dog eating contest have long claimed the tradition began in 1916 as a showdown between patriotic immigrants on the Coney Island boardwalk.

That would make this week's contest a centennial, except for an inconvenient truth: The contest and its backstory were invented in the 1970s by PR men trying to get more attention for Nathan's, which had just become a publicly traded company.

"Our objective was to take a photograph and get it in the New York newspaper," acknowledges Wayne Norbitz, who served as president of Nathan's for 26 years and still sits on the board of directors.

Norbitz is careful to say that the company's source for the 1916 story is "legend has it." He says the first contest actually happened in 1972, and the early chowdowns were all small, sparsely attended affairs.

"We'd honestly wait for a couple of fat guys to walk by and ask them if they wanted to be in a hot dog contest," he says.

The legend of the hot dog contest conveniently dates to 1916, the same year Polish immigrant Nathan Handwerker opened his Coney Island hot dog stand using a USD300 loan from two friends.

As the story goes, an Irish immigrant named James Mullen had been walking in Coney Island when he challenged a group of recent immigrants to prove who was the most American. Of course, they decided to settle it by eating hot dogs. It was a tale repeated over the years in stories by numerous news organizations, including The Associated Press.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:35	RTPi Live
18:40	Helena's Shadow (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:10	Sports
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:10	Documentary Serie
21:45	Happy Endings S3
22:10	Helena's Shadow
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	Sports (Repeated)
01:00	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

30 JUN - 07 JUL



THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS_

ROOM 1
 (2D) 2.15, 4.00, 7.30 pm
 (3D) 5.45 pm

Director: Chris Renaud, Yarrow Cheney
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 90min

ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS_

ROOM 1
 9.30 pm
Director: James Bobin
Starring: Mia Wasikowska, Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 113min

INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE_

ROOM 2
 (2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm
 (3D) 7.15 pm
Director: Roland Emmerich
Starring: Liam Hemsworth, Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 120min



THE LEGEND OF TARZAN_

ROOM 3
 (2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm
 (3D) 7.30 pm
Director: Roland Emmerich
Starring: Alexander Skarsgård, Rory J. Saper, Christian Stevens
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 109min

MACAU TOWER

23 JUN - 07 JUL

INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE_

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm
Director: Roland Emmerich
Starring: Liam Hemsworth, Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 120min

this day in history



1954 BBC LAUNCHES DAILY TV NEWS

The BBC has broadcast its first daily television news programme.

The 20-minute bulletin was read by Richard Baker and was introduced as an "Illustrated summary of the news... Followed by the latest film of events and happenings at home and abroad."

The present Television Newsreel programme, which is to be discontinued, is prepared in advance and contains news items which are often days old.

The new service is intended to be more up-to-date and will also eventually include studio interviews.

Tonight's edition began with news of truce talks being held near Hanoi and an item on French troop movements in Tunisia.

Richard Baker could be heard reading the news while a series of headlines, still photographs and maps were shown on the screen.

BBC Director General Sir Ian Jacob acknowledged last week there had been significant difficulties producing the new television bulletins.

"News is not at all an easy thing to do on television. A good many of the main news items are not easily made visual - therefore we have the problem of giving news with the same standards that the corporation has built up in sound."

He added that the format of the programme was likely to change, but said the BBC was committed to television news.

"This is a start on something we regard as extremely significant for the future," he said.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The first television news bulletin was not met with universal approval.

The programme was variously described as "absolute ghastly", "crazy" and "as visually impressive as the fat stock prices". BBC Radio was also very sceptical of the new service and insisted it retain editorial control over the headlines and story content.

But between 1954 and 1955 the amount of television time devoted to news was doubled and in September 1955 Independent Television News launched its first service.

BBC television news has expanded considerably since its early days and is now available round-the-clock on BBC News 24. In July 2004, the corporation celebrated 50 years since the first daily 20-minute bulletin.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 The year shouldn't be the only thing that's new...

Taurus April 20-May 20 True to your nature, you're venturing slowly into the New Year...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 It's time to widen your circle of acquaintances, if not friends...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Put aside all thoughts of friction with your boss...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You'll learn something new about yourself. Specifically, you can't wait to get back to the office...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Coworkers have been out of sight, and out of mind...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 No matter how much you love your job, it's about business, not romance...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You've put off starting the year long enough. It's time to get your resolutions rolling...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You have a lot to do to prepare for tomorrow, and you might as well have fun doing it...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 A day of rest it is not. Rearrange your plans to postpone whatever is not absolutely necessary...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 The freedom of the last couple of weeks has been heavenly. You could get used to it...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You're entering a brand new maze, and it's called the New Year. The twists and turns will be bewildering at times...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

MIN MAX CONDITION

CHINA

Table with 4 columns: City, Min, Max, Condition. Includes Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

WORLD

Table with 4 columns: City, Min, Max, Condition. Includes Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Put an upper limit on; 4- One of the Furies; 10- PC alternatives; 14- What have we here?; 15- Pheasant female; 16- Smell ...; 17- Debussy's "La ..."; 18- An arm of the Mediterranean; 20- Bit of butter; 21- ... Lama Ding Dong; 22- Staggers; 23- Decree; 25- Big name at Indy; 28- Never, to Nietzsche; 29- ... Ness monster; 30- Later; 31- Narrow inlets; 32- Something that fortifies; 35- Lever for rowing; 36- Religious sch.; 37- Warm-blooded; 44- 1972 Kentucky Derby winner ... Ridge; 45- Turkish money; 46- "... Tu": 1974 hit; 48- Peer Gynt's mother; 49- U-Haul competitor; 50- PC storage medium; 51- Wander; 53- Shrinking Asian sea; 55- Compass point opposite WSW; 56- Improve superficially; 59- Part of RSVP; 60- Region; 61- Green; 62- Blasting stuff; 63- Cautic substances; 64- "You ... worry"; 65- His, to Henri;

DOWN: 1- Force; 2- Leading; 3- Porch; 4- Separated; 5- Mother of Helen of Troy; 6- Worn over the ears in cold weather; 7- Dry red table wine of Italy; 8- Beverage commonly drunk in England; 9- Thunder Bay's prov.; 10- Clublike weapon; 11- Hall of fame; 12- Southeasternmost hill of Rome; 13- Equilibria; 19- Like some discounted mdse.; 24- Intensity of hue; 26- Jiff; 27- Rubs out; 30- In a gay manner; 31- Having a rim; 33- Chinese "way"; 34- Thrice, in prescriptions; 37- The aggregate of past events; 38- Supervise; 39- Suffix for human; 40- Molasses; 41- Hardpressed; 42- Takes into custody; 43- Kingly, in the jungle; 44- Mischievous person; 47- Separates metal from ore; 49- Dell bread; 50- Split; 52- Latin lesson word; 54- Islamic call to prayer; 57- Metal, often used as a container; 58- Serpent's tail?

Yesterday's solution crossword grid with filled-in words.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-65.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
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IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



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HKD 4,690sq ft
Includes Parking Space
Ref: 16020571

Va Nam Unit B Taipa
600 sq ft / HKD 3.5M
HKD 5,833sq ft
Great Location & Investment
Ref: 16065486

St. Paul Ruins Macau
716 sq ft / HKD 5.03M
HKD 7,030sq ft
Modern Kitchen
Ref: 14105421

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EURO 2016 | THE FINAL FOUR

Who will take Spain's crown?

PORTUGAL

Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal is a regular feature in the latter stages of the European Championship, having reached the semifinals at four of the last five tournaments.

But the team has never triumphed overall, its best coming back in 2004 when as host it lost the final to Greece.

Ronaldo, who played in that match, will become the first player to appear in three European Championship semifinals.

His form at Euro 2016 has been inconsistent to say the least and he will likely have to improve if Portugal is going to win its first major competition.

Ronaldo has only truly shone in only one match, with a memorable pair of goals in the 3-3 draw with Hungary.

In his team's penalty shootout win over Poland in the quarterfinal, Ronaldo was so out of touch that he swung and missed at two clear chances in front of goal. But he has the flair and talent to produce a touch of match-winning magic at any time and the semifinal might be the stage he has been waiting for.

Portugal defensive midfielder William Carvalho is suspended after picking up two yellow cards.

WALES

Alongside Iceland, Wales has been the surprise package of Euro 2016, reaching its first major semifinal.

Unlike Iceland, Chris Cole-

man's team does boast an undisputed superstar in the form of the world's most expensive player, Bale.

Though Bale's three goals helped his team through the group stage, the team has shown itself to be anything but a one-man show. That depth could give Wales an edge against a rock-solid Portugal defense featuring another Madrid star, Pepe.

The Welsh will be missing a key midfielder in Aaron Ramsey after the Arsenal star drew his second yellow card of the tournament in the 3-1 quarterfinal defeat of Belgium.

GERMANY

Germany is looking to add a fourth European title, and its first in 20 years, to its world crown.

But first it will have to get past a France side that's found its scoring touch in Marseille on Thursday. It will also have to overcome injuries and a suspension to reach the tournament decider next Sunday at the Stade de France in the Paris suburb of Saint-Denis.

Joachim Loew's team has been rock-solid in defense, conceding just one goal so far — Leonardo Bonucci's 78th-minute equalizer from the penalty spot for Italy in the quarterfinal.

But Germany will be weakened against France; Mats Hummels is out through suspension and Mario Gomez has been ruled out for the rest of the tournament. Midfielders

Sami Khedira and Bastian Schweinsteiger are also injury worries.

One new concern may center on Germany's penalty-taking, one of its historic strengths. Though it beat Italy on penalties in the quarterfinal, German players failed to convert three from the spot, more than they had ever done before in the history of penalty shootouts.

FRANCE

In Antoine Griezmann, France has Euro 2016's top scorer. Dimitri Payet is not far behind.

Griezmann lifted his tournament tally to four as France ruthlessly dismantled Iceland at the Stade de France yesterday; Payet netted his third goal of the tournament with another clinical finish as France gave Iceland a nightmare ending to its fairytale Euro 2016.

Suddenly, the host's confidence has shot up before it faces a German team whose ranks have been depleted in attack and defense.

France still appears vulnerable in defense, conceding twice against Iceland, although they came at a time when the result wasn't in any doubt and French players may understandably have been focusing on the upcoming semifinal in Marseille.

France has no suspensions or injury worries and, seeking its third European title, will also get a boost from the fanatical fans at the Stade Velodrome, where Didier Deschamps starred as a player and coach. **AP**



France's Olivier Giroud

Best France yet beats honorable Iceland 5-2

THE Icelandic thunderclap roar proved no match for the sheer talent of France as the hosts finally showed their title credentials at the European Championship yesterday. A crushing 5-2 victory lined up a semifinal with Germany as France displayed the attacking ruthlessness that had been missing in its previous four games at the tournament.

"We have a lot of desire to get our own back for what happened at the World Cup," France striker Olivier Giroud said of the quarterfinal loss to eventual champion Germany two years ago.

Was it only six weeks ago Giroud was being jeered by his own supporters?

When Giroud cupped his ears to the crowd after scoring his second goal on Sunday, the striker seemed to revel in silencing his critics.

And yet only national unity is

on the mind of Giroud as France prepares for its first tournament semifinal in a decade on Thursday.

"I am delighted for the players as they deserve this, and for these fans who have been behind us for months," the Arsenal striker said magnanimously through a translator. "To be able to offer them something to make them smile and feel happy."

And yet Iceland left the Stade de France far from browbeaten.

An embarrassing exit was on the cards at halftime when France led 4-0. But the Nordic newcomers recovered the resolve that has seen them charm and captivate the continent over the last month.

Two second-half goals allowed the smallest nation to ever qualify for a major tournament to leave with their heads held high. **AP**



Joseph Wilson, Lyon

EURO 2016 | THE SEMIS

Ronaldo vs. Bale: Portugal plays Wales in Euro 2016 semis

WHEN Portugal and Wales face off for a spot in the final of the European Championship, two players will be expected to rise far above the rest.

Cristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale, club teammates at Real Madrid and the most expensive players in the history of the sport, will bear the hopes of their nations on Wednesday night [Thursday, 03:00] at Stade de Lyon.

None of the previous 48 matches played at Euro 2016 has pitted two players of such unequalled star status and undisputed importance to their teams.

The stage, fittingly enough, could hardly be bigger. The winner will earn a spot in the July 10 final at Saint-Denis against either world champion Germany or tournament host France.

"Two of the best players on the planet," Wales coach Chris Coleman said. "I don't suppose there will be any love lost on the evening. We know what's at stake, any friendship will have to wait until after the game."

Less than six weeks ago, Ronaldo and Bale joined in celebrations after winning a second Champions League trophy in their three seasons together at Real Madrid.

Since moving to Spain on a record €100-million (then USD132-million) transfer that broke Madrid's own deal for Ronaldo, Bale has always played the role of deferential sidekick to the three-time world player of the year.

The match in Lyon now offers Bale the perfect stage to challenge



Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo



Wales's Gareth Bale

that hierarchy. A standout performance by one could even tip the Ballon d'Or vote in his favor.

Bale arrives in better form than Ronaldo. The Wales winger is among the competition's top scorers with three goals (only France's Antoine Griezmann has more with four), including two goals from free kicks.

Bale's unheralded team is also riding a huge high after the most

important victory in its history: a 3-1 come-from-behind win to oust Belgium in the quarterfinals.

Best of all for Coleman, his side roared back against the Belgians without needing a goal from Bale. Captain Ashley Williams started the rally that Hal Robson-Kanu and Sam Vokes completed.

It means that Wales has taken the label of underdog fan favorite from Iceland after its fairytale run

was ended by France on Sunday.

That was the latest milestone for an ascendant Wales. Ranked outside the top 100 four years ago, Bale scored seven goals in qualifying to carry Wales into its first major competition since the 1958 World Cup. Once in France, it defied expectations by finishing ahead of neighbor England to win its group. It then topped that by becoming the first debutante to

reach the semifinals since Sweden in 1992.

And Wales has made its run in style, deploying one of the best attacks at the tournament. With Bale leading the way, it is second only to France with 10 goals scored and joins the hosts as the only teams to have won four matches outright, not counting victories from penalty shootouts.

Portugal, by contrast, has clawed its way into its fourth semifinal in the last five tournaments. Having squeezed into the last 16 after three draws at the group stage, it needed a victory in extra time against Croatia and then penalties to get past Poland.

Across its five matches - and more than eight hours of football - Portugal has been in the lead for a total of only 22 minutes at Euro 2016.

A big part of Portugal's problems has been Ronaldo's performances, which have been below his incredibly high standards.

Ronaldo's two goals against Hungary are his only two strikes in five matches at the tournament. While Bale leads all players with 13 shots on target, Ronaldo has the inglorious statistic of a competition-high 14 shots off the mark.

"If Cristiano Ronaldo doesn't score, it doesn't mean he isn't playing well and doing other things," Portugal coach Fernando Santos said in defense of his forward. "Cristiano Ronaldo is an example as captain of this side. He's doing a great job. He wants to win."

If Ronaldo does score, he will match Michel Platini's record of nine goals at the European Championship.

Portugal will be without suspended holding midfielder William Carvalho. Danilo, who lost his starting job to Carvalho after Portugal drew 1-1 with Iceland in their opener, will likely be back in the lineup.

A potentially much bigger hole for Santos to fill could be at centerback. Pepe didn't train yesterday because of a thigh muscle problem. The Real Madrid defender has been Portugal's best man at the back by far at the competition.

Wales will have to cope with the important absences of midfielder Aaron Ramsey and defender Ben Davies, who both earned one-game suspensions for yellow cards against Belgium.

Andy King, a member of the Leicester squad that won the Premier League last season title against all the odds, could take Ramsey's place. **AP**

Fearless Sanches likely heir to Ronaldo

Steve Douglas, Marcoussis

HE'S being talked up as the future of Portugal's national team and the likely heir to Cristiano Ronaldo. Renato Sanches certainly has plenty to live up to.

The flamboyant, dreadlocked Sanches arrived at the European Championship with a reputation as one of the continent's most-talented young players. Bayern Munich clearly thought so, reportedly beating Manchester United to the 18-year-old winger's signature by handing him one of the richest contracts in Bundesliga history for a transfer fee that could climb to about USD90 million.

At Euro 2016, he's showing what all the fuss is about.

After starting the tournament on the bench, Sanches forced his way into the starting lineup thanks to an attention-grabbing cameo as a second-half substitute against Croatia in the round of 16.

UEFA's technical group even selected him as man of the match, and handed him the award again five days later after Sanches scored - and upstaged Ronaldo - in the quarterfinal win over Poland in a penalty shootout. Sanches, of course, had no qualms taking one of the early penalties.

Fearless, hard-working, and with a bag of tricks: Sanches looks the real deal even at this age. UEFA has already said he is in contention for Young Player of the Tournament award. And he is surely now a guaranteed starter against Wales in the semifinal in



Portugal's Renato Sanches

Lyon.

"I think he is a special, special young man," Portugal midfielder Andre Gomes said yesterday at the squad's training base southwest of Paris.

Gomes, who lost his place to Sanches for the Poland game, should know. They played alongside each other in the youth-team set-up at Portuguese club Benfica, with Gomes immediately seeing the potential.

"There's no surprise the way he has been performing," Gomes said. "We know how far we can go."

That must be a relief for Portugal, which for so long has leant heavily on Ronaldo - the country's record scorer and greatest sporting export. At 31, though, the Real Madrid star may only have one more major tournament in him and the likes of Nani and Ricardo Quaresma, though technically gifted, lack the consistency to assume Ronaldo's mantle.

Sanches, then, appears to be Ronaldo's natural heir.

"He's a nice kid, he listens to the old guys, he wants to learn, which is good," Portugal defender Jose Fonte said. "It's great to have him around and he'll be the future of the national side, for sure."

A right-sided midfielder with pace and directness, Sanches reminds Portugal coach Fernando Santos of another of the country's greats - the late Mario Coluna, who starred for Portugal and Benfica in the 1960s.

"I don't think the Renato you see today is the one we'll see in the future," Santos said. "He's still growing and he has to take all his qualities and put them all on the pitch. It's my job to help him do this."

Sanches is perking up what can be a sterile Portugal team. Early in the Poland game, he collected the ball on the right wing and drove straight at the defense. He beat the first defender before getting dispossessed, but it was a sign of things to come.

Later, from a similar position, he played a one-two with Nani and thumped a shot that deflected into the corner to become - at 18 years, 316 days - the youngest scorer in a European Championship knockout game. He was already the youngest player to start for Portugal in a major tournament.

Sanches' work rate also stands out. He just never stops.

"He's got no fear. He just doesn't care," Fonte said. **AP**

opinion

Views on China

Justin Fox, Bloomberg

FREEDOM HAS MORE THAN ONE MEANING IN TODAY'S CHINA

The bronze statue of Deng Xiaoping at the Shenzhen Museum is a little larger than life. But unlike the giant, striding Deng who towers over the city from a hill in a nearby park, there's nothing imposing about it. It depicts the former Chinese leader planting a tree, something he did at a botanical garden in Shenzhen during a famous visit in 1992. The actual shovel and pail he used are in an adjacent display case.

The statue is part of the museum's permanent exhibit on "Reform and Opening-up History in Shenzhen," to which I paid a visit during an Independence Day tour of this giant city on the border with Hong Kong. I didn't go on July 4 - the museum is closed Mondays, and the people of Shenzhen are all at work - but I figured July 3 was close enough.

While I was gazing upon Deng and his shovel, a teenage girl walked up to the statue and, ignoring the "No Touching" sign, rested her hand gently on Deng's arm. A guard started yelling at her, but the girl kept her hand there for a while. Finally she gave the guard a withering look and moved on.

After that, several others walked up to the statue and touched Deng in the same place on his upper arm. In a couple of cases they posed for photos. The guard had by this point given up and moved on to another part of the exhibit.

Maybe all I was witnessing was the Chinese proclivity for ignoring petty rules. But in my Independence Day mindset I couldn't resist reading a little more into the relationship between Deng, who died in 1997, and the inhabitants of this city that he played such a big role in creating.

Deng came to Shenzhen and planted that tree less than three years after ordering the violent crackdown on unarmed protesters in Tiananmen Square. He had retired as the Communist Party's leader a few weeks after Tiananmen and, at age 87, no longer had a formal political role. But as his successors in the Party's leadership began to proceed from silencing political dissent to squashing the country's other experiments with openness and reform - of which the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, created in 1980, was the most prominent - Deng decided he had to do something.

In January 1992 he left Beijing, without telling any top government officials what he was up to, and embarked on a tour of the economic-reform zones of southern China. By the time he got to Shenzhen, 50 to 60 news photographers were trailing him and crowds gathered to cheer him wherever he went. As Ezra P. Vogel put it in his 2013 biography of Deng:

To many officials in Beijing, Deng was viewed as a stern commander, but the crowds in Shenzhen cheerily greeted "uncle Deng" (shushu hao) (and, for younger people, "grandpa Deng," yeye hao), whom they found warm, witty, and eager to soak in all the latest developments.

The southern tour worked as Deng had hoped. Shenzhen's experimentation with market economics was allowed to continue and was steadily embraced by the rest of the country. And, to the surprise of many outside observers, Deng's uneasy balancing of political repression with ever-growing economic freedoms has now outlived him by almost 20 years.

You may find this compromise cynical. You may find it unsustainable. I have held such views from time to time, and probably will again in the future. But take a tour of Shenzhen on a summer Sunday, as I did, and it's really not hard to understand the fondness here for Uncle Deng.

What Shenzhen hasn't enjoyed are Western-style free speech or political self-determination. But the people of Shenzhen now have far more choices, and more autonomy, than their parents could ever have imagined. Thanks to Uncle Deng and their own achievements, they are freer. That may not be enough, but it does seem worth noting on this Independence Day.

THE TRUMP TAJ MAHAL WORKERS: STRIKE BUZZ FIGHTS OWNER'S 'TYRANNY'

Striking Atlantic City casino workers are using the Fourth of July holiday to highlight their struggle against billionaire Carl Icahn, who owns the Trump Taj Mahal casino.

Customers have been crossing picket lines in large numbers since Local 54 of the Unite-HERE union walked off the job Friday, but the union vows to picket around the clock until a

new contract is reached.

The main issue in the strike is the termination of union members' health insurance and pension benefits by previous owners.

Picketers say they are fighting Icahn's "tyranny" the same way the Colonies fought the King of England during the American Revolution.

First six months of 2016 hottest ever recorded in New Zealand



Tourist relax at the end of the track at the Fox Glacier in New Zealand

Nick Perry, Wellington

SKI fields are struggling to open and winter electricity consumption is down in New Zealand after the first six months of 2016 proved to be the hottest start to a year that scientists have ever recorded.

Temperatures in the South Pacific nation were 1.4 degrees Celsius (2.5 Fahrenheit) above the long-term average for the first half of the year, according to the government-funded National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research.

That's the highest since record-keeping began more than a century ago, and significantly higher than the previous record of 1.1 Celsius above average, reached in 1938 and again in 1999.

Chris Brandolino, a scientist at the research agency, said yesterday that ocean temperatures in the Tasman Sea to the west of New Zealand have been unusually warm this year and that warmer winds from the north have also predominated.

"What's happened in the background is that the Earth has continued to warm as greenhouse gas levels have risen," he said.

The agency reported that carbon dioxide levels recorded at a station near Wellington passed 400 parts per million in June for the first time. The threshold is seen as significant internationally as an indicator of climate change.

While many New Zealanders reveled in a summer that never seemed to end,

commercial ski fields including Coronet Peak, Mount Hutt and Turoa have found themselves with little snow, electing to delay opening or operating with limited runs as the Southern Hemisphere winter gets underway.

Brandolino said the rise in average temperatures doesn't necessarily mean the ski season will be bad, "although if I'm a skier or snow enthusiast, record warm temperatures aren't going to bode well for me."

Transpower, the government agency which owns the national electricity grid, provided figures to The Associated Press showing that New Zealanders consumed about 2 percent less electricity in June than they did during the same month a year earlier, likely due in part to lower heating requirements.

The Transpower figures showed a June drop of 8 percent in Wellington and 7 percent in Christchurch compared with a year earlier. Those cities are typically cooler in winter than the largest city, Auckland, where the drop was 2 percent.

The June month was the third-hottest June ever recorded in New Zealand and the hottest ever recorded in Christchurch, according to the research agency. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Anjum Naveed



Kaavan. In this file photo, Pakistani caretaker Jalal looks at elephant Kaavan at Marghazar Zoo in Islamabad. The plight of Kaavan, a mentally tormented bull elephant confined to a small pen in the Islamabad Zoo for nearly three decades, has galvanized a rare animal rights campaign in Pakistan, which has brought the issue to the floor of parliament.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
Ambient	25-45 Good	😊

SOURCE: D5M6

WORLD BRIEFS



AUSTRALIA With the government in chaos after a dramatic national election that failed to deliver an immediate winner, the country's opposition leader called for the prime minister to resign, dubbing him "the David Cameron of the southern hemisphere." The dig by opposition leader Bill Shorten comes as the country faces up to a month of uncertainty while officials scramble to count the millions of mail-in and remaining ballots to determine who, if anyone, won Saturday's knife-edge election.



MALDIVES A court in the Maldives has barred a group of journalists from working for their newly formed media organization for two years, threatening its closure in a move they criticized as an assault on media freedom in the archipelago nation.



IRAQ Iraqi authorities yesterday raised the death toll to 142 from Sunday's devastating truck bombing at a bustling Baghdad commercial street as Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi ordered new security measures in the country's capital. More on p15

NEPAL's mountaineering authorities are investigating a climbing claim by an Indian couple who are accused of altering photographs of themselves on the summit of Mount Everest.



MARKETS Asian stocks rise while European benchmarks decline amid expectations central banks might ease monetary policy following Britain's vote to leave the European Union.