



### TAIWAN: STUDENT ACCUSED OF KILLING CATS

A Macau student went on trial for torturing a stray cat to death last year. The student is also accused of killing another cat earlier this month

P2



### VEGAS FLIGHT NOT A THREAT TO MACAU

Although the advantage that Macau holds is diminishing, the new Beijing-Las Vegas route is not a threat, a scholar says

P6 MDT REPORT



### RUSSIAN JETS TAKE OFF FROM IRAN TO TARGET IS IN SYRIA

P15

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## WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



**CHINA-US** The U.S. Army chief of staff told Chinese officials during a visit yesterday that China should not feel threatened by American ally South Korea's decision to deploy a powerful U.S. missile defense system.

More on p11

**CHINA** The ousted editors of a liberal Chinese magazine are suing the government in an effort to wrest back control of one of the country's best-known political journals.

More on p10

AP PHOTO

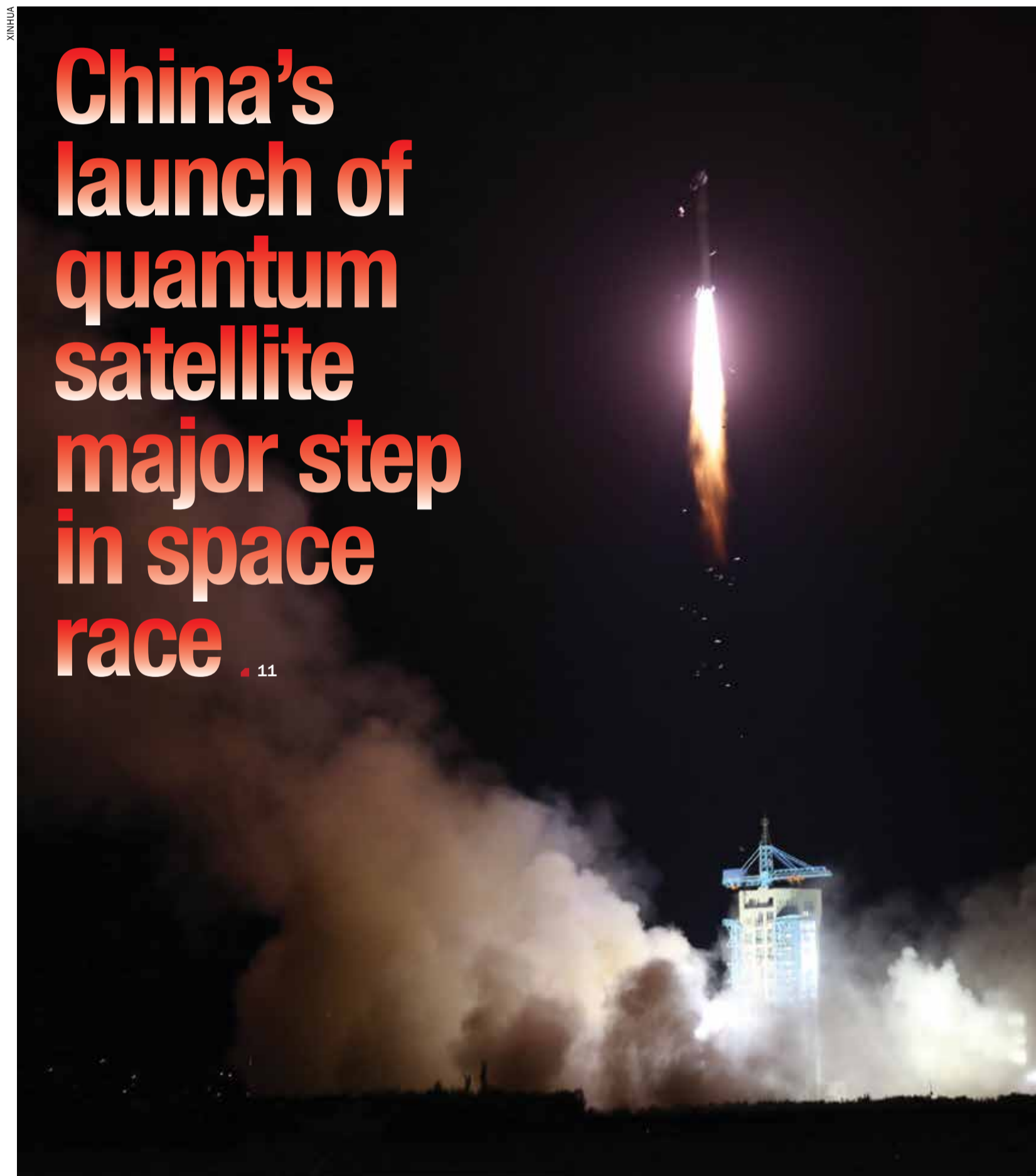


**AFGHANISTAN** A breakaway Taliban faction has appointed a new leader for the group, the nephew of the faction's leader who was killed last year.

More on p13

**PAKISTAN's** Interior Minister says a blacklisted American citizen who entered Pakistan earlier this month has been deported again after being interrogated. Ali Khan told the National Assembly that Matthew Barrett, a 33-year-old Alabama native (pictured, right), was first deported in 2011 after being detained near a sensitive military installation. He did not say when Barrett was deported this time.

More on backpage



# China's launch of quantum satellite major step in space race

11

## MGM Resorts lifts Macau stake in USD325m pact with Pansy Ho

P6 GAMING

## POLICE CLAIM

# Ride-hailing law in China cannot be applied to MSAR

Renato Marques

**T**HE recently approved regulation to legalize ride-hailing services in Mainland China cannot be applied to the MSAR, a Public Security Police Force (PSP) representative has told the Times.

Questioned about the possibility of the applicability of the law in question to the territory, the PSP responded that "as stipulated in Article 8 of the Basic Law, the laws previously in force in Macau and the laws enacted by the legislature of the MSAR shall be maintained. National laws shall not be applied in the MSAR apart from those listed in Annex III." The Police Force also cited Article 18 of the same law.

"Since the provisional measures regarding online car-hailing services are not listed in Annex III of the Basic Law, the measures shall not be applied in Macau," the PSP concluded.

The mentioned Annex III of the Basic Law lists several topics, namely: Resolution on the Capital, Calendar, National Anthem, National Flag and Emblem of the PRC, Resolution on the National Day and Nationality Law of the PRC, Regulations of the PRC Concerning Diplomatic and Consular Privileges and Immunities, and the Law of the PRC on the Territorial Sea



BLOOMBERG

and the Contiguous Zone.

The PSP also remarked that, as previously mentioned by both PSP and DSAT, "making an appointment online to use hire car services is not forbidden by existing law in Macau," adding that the "provision of such services is not inconsistent with existing law, as long as the vehicle is operating legally and that the motorist is qualified to drive the vehicle and has the relevant license as required by the law."

PSP does not exclude the possibility that authorities might choose to make "amendment of existing relevant legal requirements" in order to follow "the practices in mainland China." However, they added that this issue is said to be "beyond the purview of our force."

The topic has been addressed during last Friday's Legislative Assembly plenary session. Lawmaker Au Kam San argued that local authorities should follow China's legalization of ride-hailing apps. He stated that the MSAR government should take inspiration from the mainland's legalization of the taxi services in order to resolve issues with companies such as Uber.

## Uber driver caught drunk driving sentenced to 4 months of imprisonment

**T**HE Uber driver who was stopped last Saturday driving under the influence of alcohol, was sentenced yesterday to four months of imprisonment and an 18 month driving prohibition, according to a statement from the Public Prosecutions Office (MP).

The statement detailed that the man

was a repeat offender, and has been previously sentenced a similar misdemeanor. This is taken by the MP as proof that that the driver "didn't learn [his] lesson and continued to commit [such an] offense."

The Court of First Instance (TJB) judged the case in summary trial.

Since the defendant appealed the decision, suspending the application of sentence while the appeal is pending, the judge of the TJB ordered the application of the coercive measures of Term of Identity and Residence and mandatory periodic presentation to the authorities every 15 days.

## Macau student maltreats another cat in Taipei

**H**UNDREDS of protesters arrived yesterday at the Taipei District Court as a university student from Macau went on trial for allegedly torturing a stray cat to death last year. The student was also accused of killing another cat earlier this month.

The protesters were seeking tougher penal-

ties for animal abuse under the Animal Protection Act as the student, surnamed Chen, admitted that he abused and killed the cat, known as "Big Orange", last year.

The defendant who is set to graduate from the National Taiwan University, argued in court that he suffers from mental illness, which causes im-

pulsive behavior, Taiwanese Central News Agency reported.

Taiwan's court has raised the defendant's bail to NT200,000 (MOP51,000) from NT50,000 (MOP12,800) the terms of which restrict the troubled student from leaving the region.

His actions were caught on a surveillance

camera in December and showed authorities the exact location where he had hidden the animal's body in the campus of the National Taiwan University. The incident sparked outrage in Taiwan, attracting some 14,000 signatures in an online petition which demanded that the university

expel the student.

The Times previously reported that the student begged for forgiveness from the residents in the neighborhood and expressed the hope that the incident would raise awareness of the safety of stray animals.

However after being charged for allegedly torturing the cat in May,

he was again linked to the disappearance of another cat kept by a restaurant in the city's Wenshan district earlier this month.

He then admitted to authorities during the interrogation that he had beaten the cat to death and abandoned the body in the Xindian River.

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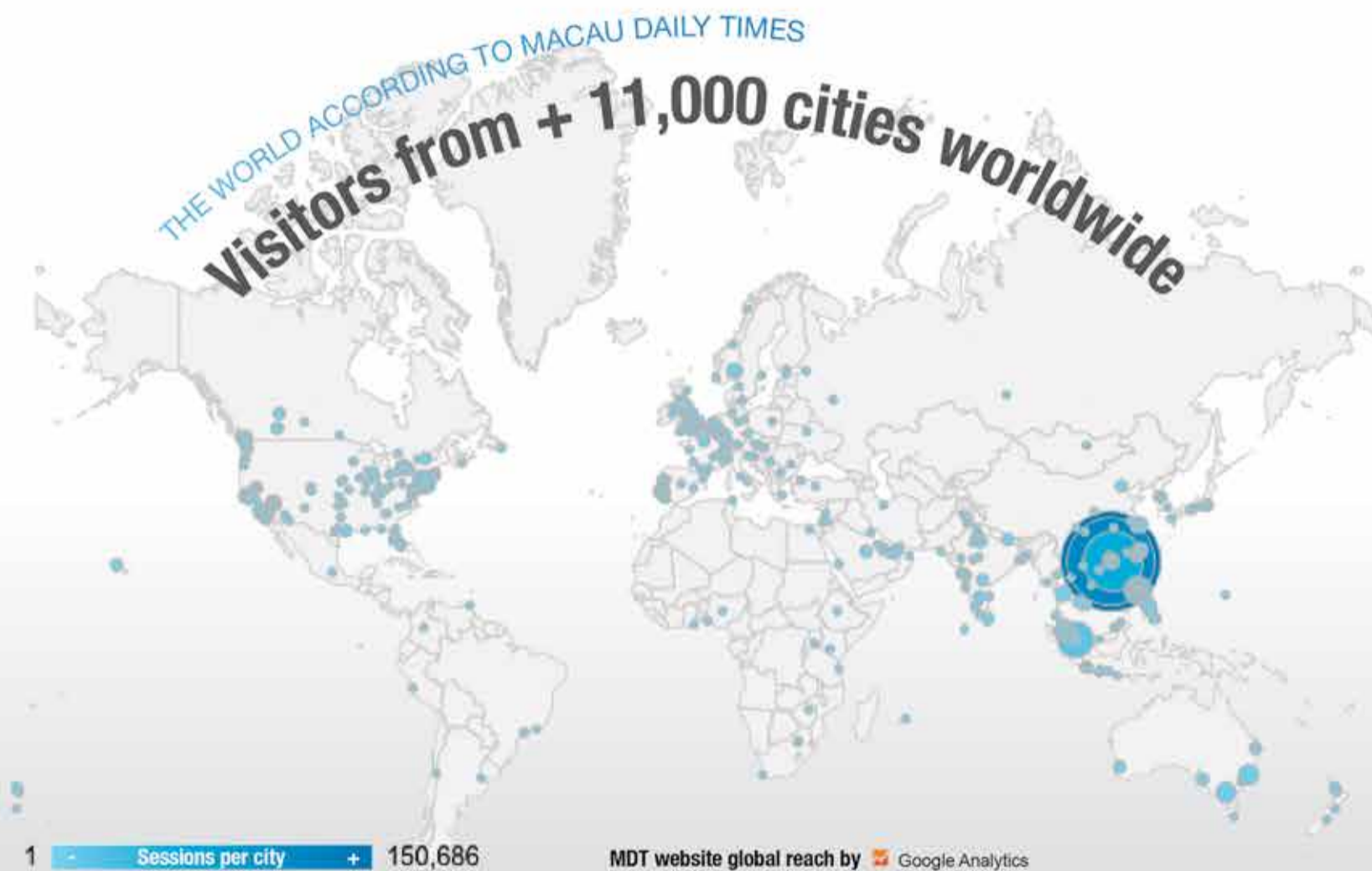
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EDUCATION

# UM welcomes 1,500 new students

**T**HE University of Macau held its orientation and convocation for the 2016/2017 academic year yesterday to welcome 1,500 new students.

The institution's rector, Wei Zhao, encouraged the students to "live a moral life, be considerate of others, give back to society, and observe the five virtues listed in the university motto."

The university's state-

ment outlined that students were challenged to take advantage of the institution's facilities and professors, and to strive to meet high standards in academic pursuits as well as personal development.

During the ceremony new students each received a brooch inscribed with the number "2020," indicating the graduation year of the new cohort.

To help students adjust to

their life on campus, UM is holding a series of orientation activities, including general briefing sessions, orientation sessions organized by the various faculties and residential colleges, and information sessions and parties.

Classes for the new academic year will begin on Monday.

During the event, UM also awarded a total of MOP970,000 in scholar-

ships to outstanding students.

In addition to the above scholarships, the university reported that it will grant another MOP2.5 million in more than 40 scholarships and academic prizes at its congregation and high table dinners at the various residential colleges to be held later this year.

In addition, 98 students with excellent academic performance and active participation in extracurricular activities and community services received scholarships or academic prizes yesterday. UM hoped the examples of the awarded students will inspire other learners to academically excel and actively participate in extracurricular activities.

## Alan Baxter returns to Macau to lead USJ's Faculty of Humanities

**A**LAN Baxter, the former director of the department of Portuguese at the University of Macau (UM), will return to the territory to lead the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Saint Joseph (USJ).

The vice-rector of the institution, Maria Antonia Espadinha, disclosed the information in comments to Radio Macau yesterday. "There was an international tender and he was the selected one," she explained. Espadinha was until now responsible for the functions to be taken by Baxter. The vice-rector justified her withdrawal from the position as she was only temporarily occupying it.

Away from the territory for about 5 years after having led the UM's Department of Portuguese between 2007 and 2011., Baxter spent these last five years teaching at Institute of Letters of the Federal University of Bahia.

The linguist and specialist in Portuguese-based creole languages will now lead a faculty that recently added to its portfolio a Bachelor in Portuguese-Chinese Studies (Language and Culture). Baxter has a Masters degree in Portuguese Literature Studies and a Pre-University Portuguese Intensive Course among his areas of his expertise.

According to USJ's official website, the Faculty of Humanities has a total of twenty staff members, inclusive of Baxter. **RM**

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# Latin American festival kicks off on Friday

Renato Marques

**E**NTERING now its fifth year, the Latin American Cultural Festival will occur between August 19 and September 15.

For approximately one month various elements of Latin American culture will be celebrated through such elements as gastronomy, the arts, and seminars.

Organized once again by the Macao Association for the Promotion of Exchange between Asia-Pacific and Latin America (MAPEAL), the festi-



Sonia Chan Prado

**This year we are bringing [in] three Chefs: a Colombian, a Cuban and a Venezuelan who have never been in Macau.**

SONIA CHAN PRADO

val runs every year as detailed to the Times by the executive director and treasurer of the association, Sonia Chan Prado.

The activities of the festival are divided into six programs and one of the highlighted ones is definitely the regarding gastronomy.

"This year we are bringing [in] three Chefs: a Colombian, a Cuban and a Venezuelan who have never been in Macau," explained Prado. Each of

these chefs will be in charge of a "gastronomic week" showcasing their country's culinary specialties. This will include cooking demonstrations to be held in both the Institute for Tourism Studies and the Macau University of Science and Technology.

Another of the highlights will be a cultural seminar series held by the consul-generals of the several Latin American countries. Those seminars aim that "letting the local

students and people to know more about the culture of the different Latin American countries like Chile, Cuba, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela. So we will hold cultural talks about these countries," Prado explained.

When asked about the degree of knowledge of Macau citizens with regard to existing connections between the territory and Latin American countries, she admitted that people know about "some of them only." That is in fact one of the reasons that leads the organization to choose one theme for a photographic exhibition to show these different connections. "This year [the chosen topic] was 'Food & Drinks' but maybe next year it will be on Architecture. Last year the photo exhibition was about the scenery of those countries," she added, saying that these activities contribute to the local knowledge of Latin American countries in addition to fostering comparisons between the two regions.

"I think our work is starting to see results and one of these examples is the new Peruvian restaurant to be open at the new MGM resort in Cotai."

With regard to arts, literature will be a central focus with an introduction to two Latin American Nobel Prize winners, as well as the writing style, more broadly, of Latin Americans. There is also space for movie screenings related to several Latin American countries. The screenings will occur in several local universities as well as at the Rui Cunha Foundation.

## Film production venture attracts 50 investors

**T**HE "2016 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair" commenced yesterday in the peninsula with 25 film projects, and the participation of over 50 investors from the three regions.

According to a statement issued by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, producers will meet with the investors during the fair and present their projects individually so as to explore pairing services, investment and development opportunities for the various projects.

To recognize projects with potential, three awards will be presented at the end of the event to the three projects with most votes.

The bureau said it conducted a meeting in early August with local film producers in preparation for the event, in which the schedule and content of the fair were examined in detail so that the producers could structure their presentations.

The trade fair has been held since 2014 in Macau, mainly to offer a quality platform for the exchange and pairing services between film producers and investors across the three regions.

The platform also creates a film investment and cooperation channel amongst the regions, focusing on supporting small and medium budget film production and on training professionals, as well as promoting the development of the film industry in the three regions.

Though the two-day fair is exclusively held for industry members, a seminar themed "Film Financing" is held concurrently with the meeting and open to the public.

The initiative is co-organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the Hong Kong Film Development Council and the Guangdong Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television.



The "2016 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair" was inaugurated

## Lawmakers hint longer delays on Islands Hospital



**T**HE government has announced that it is planning to introduce a system that would penalize contractors who fail to meet their deadlines for public works, after discussing the issue of the indefinite launching date of the Islands Hospital.

During a Legislative Assembly committee meeting on Monday, authorities said they are considering to introduce an award and penalty scheme for contractors who fulfill or neglect their due dates.

According to the government, the program could also be applied to the Light Rapid Transit, one the region's contro-

versial infrastructure projects.

Meanwhile during the meeting, lawmakers doubted whether the controversial Islands Hospital, which started in 2010, would be launched in 2019 as there would only be three years left to unveil the project.

Ho Ion San, president of the Legislative Assembly's Follow-Up Committee on Land and Public Concession Affairs hinted that there was a lack of coordination between the Health Services Bureau and the Infrastructure Development Office, implying that the deadline would not be met yet again.

"The contract clients are the Health Services Bureau, which hired a company for its design, and the Infrastructure Development Office, or GDI, in charge of tenders," he explained, cited by TDM.

"And this has meant that up to now the public tender has yet to be launched and the government doesn't know the final budget."

Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, admitted

earlier that it was not possible to estimate the final cost for the controversial hospital.

He noted that the complex, which is comprised of seven buildings, will "definitely take time," requesting the public to be "more understanding."

As previously reported, the design process of the hospital has not yet been finalized. do Rosário noted that authorities needed to consult more than ten government departments in order to approve the site's construction blueprints.

### ENGLISH COULD BE GIVEN 'OFFICIAL STATUS'

**THE COMMITTEE** suggested that English should be used more often by the administration or even given an "official status." Lawmakers included the suggestion in the report about the Islands Hospital construction works, which will be delivered to the president of the Legislative Assembly. Members of the government attending this week's meeting reportedly agreed that "English should have more preponderance in Macau." However, lawmaker Leonel Alves, who is a member of the committee, said that the proposal doesn't mean that English could become an official language in Macau.

# MGM Resorts to increase stake in MGM China

Crayton Harrison

**M**GM Resorts International acquired more shares in its China unit in a deal valued at about USD325 million with Pansy Ho, the daughter of gambling mogul Stanley Ho, who will add to her stake in the Las Vegas-based parent company.

The transaction lets MGM increase its stake in MGM China Holdings Ltd. to 56 percent from 51 percent, according to a statement issued yesterday.

The company will pay Ho's holding company \$100 million, give her about \$175 million in stock and dole out \$50 million in deferred pay-

ments in lieu of the dividends she would have received for holding the shares.

The agreement tightens the bonds between MGM and Ho, who has been the company's partner in China for more than a decade, while also letting her diversify her holdings beyond China. Ho also agreed to acquire 4 million shares from Tracinda Corp. at \$25 apiece, giving her a stake of 4.8 percent in MGM once all her transactions are complete. Tracinda was run by billionaire Kirk Kerkorian, who died last year.

Ho ceded joint control of MGM China, originally a 50-50 venture, in 2011, selling 1

percent to MGM and offering another portion in a public share sale that raised \$1.5 billion. After the new transactions, her stake will fall to about 22 percent, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

MGM and Ho are taking cautious steps toward opening a second casino in Macau, the betting enclave that has been in a slump after a government crackdown on corruption and graft that increased scrutiny on lavish spenders. The \$3.1 billion MGM Cotai's opening was pushed back this month to the second quarter of next year, at least the third time it's been postponed. **Bloomberg**



Pansy Ho

## GAMING | ANALYSIS

# Local scholar: New Vegas flight not a threat to Macau

Daniel Beitler

**C**ARLOS Siu, a gaming scholar at the Macao Polytechnic Institute, has told the Times last week that although the advantage that Macau holds in its "border-location strategy" is diminishing, the new Hainan Airlines route connecting Beijing and Las Vegas will not present a significant threat.

From December, Hainan Airlines are expected to operate three weekly flights linking Beijing with Las Vegas, and becoming the first Chinese carrier to fly passengers to the world's second largest gambling hub.

Concerns have been voiced that the new route could further divert Chinese VIP and mass-market gamblers away from Macau, adding further to the territory's gaming troubles.

Siu explained that to some extent, the new route represents the growing wealth of China's middle class, which is looking for "longer vacations in distant places."

He warned that as China's population becomes more internationally-savvy, they are likely to look abroad to other gaming cities, not just Macau, which currently exists as the only legal gambling

center in China.

"It is inevitable that mainland Chinese residents will have more opportunities to visit different gaming cities, not only in the U.S., but also in Europe and other places," he said. "Since there are no major differences in gambling in different tourism destinations, it is imperative for Macau to better develop its non-gaming [segment] to increase its appeal [to Chinese tourists]."

Back in 2014, in a study by Carlos Siu and John Crossley of the Florida State University entitled "Las Vegas versus Macau as Diversified Travel Destinations," the authors noted that Macau's

**Las Vegas has successfully created the image of being trendy, cool and sexy for adults over the years.**

CARLOS SIU

success, deriving from its "border-location strategy" next to Hong Kong and mainland China, was diminishing.

"This comparative advantage will start to erode in the future as more regional destinations such as Singapore, the Philippines and South Korea [expand] their gaming industry [...] seeing the tourism and economic benefits that such a strategy can have," the study read.

However, Siu also said that Macau's success has historically stemmed from its ability to attract tourists from neighboring, densely populated urban areas, such as in Guangdong. Other rising gaming hubs in the region, even in nearby Singapore, cannot compete with the close proximity of the MSAR, nor its comfortable Chinese-friendly culture.

"Given that visitors to Macau were primarily from Guangdong, Fujian, and nearby provinces, the impact [of the new route] would not be very significant," Siu concluded, noting that the flight will be targeting customers living in regions closer to or in Beijing.

Even among the decreased numbers of VIP gamers in Macau, many of which may hail from



Carlos Siu

the Chinese capital, Las Vegas remains a lengthy 11-hours away from Beijing, while Macau is just four.

The aforementioned 2014 study also noted that over a billion people reside within a two-hour flight of Macau and three-fifths of the world's population within five hours. Therefore, an ample supply of gamblers and tourists will remain within the city's reach.

Siu compared it to the effect on Hong Kong of

a Disneyland opening in Shanghai. He said that the Shanghai Disneyland would be attracting customers from the eastern and northern parts of China and implied that Hong Kong will remain more convenient for tourists from southern China.

Siu added that while Las Vegas holds a unique appeal internationally (and domestically within the U.S.), this appeal is somewhat embodied in its cliché of "what ha-

ppens in Vegas stays in Vegas," and is therefore limited in its targeting of 'adult' visitors as it lacks family-friendly entertainment.

"Las Vegas has successfully created the image of being trendy, cool and sexy for adults over the years," assessed Siu. "[The cliché] implies that adults can break away from their daily duties, relax and [turn] wild in Las Vegas. For this reason, Las Vegas can be particularly fun for young adults who want to try new things, but not so much for the family group."

Siu therefore stressed the importance of Macau's economic diversification with an expansion into other tourism markets, even if Las Vegas specifically does not present much of a threat. "Macau needs to develop its distinctive personality in face of challenges posed by different tourism destinations in the world," said Siu.

Hainan Airlines has announced several expansions in recent years such as the purchase of a stake in Portugal's national carrier TAP. Its announcement regarding its Las Vegas route comes at an unusual time, in the midst of Chinese president Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign.

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Rod McGuirk, Canberra

**T**HE world's biggest miner, BHP Billiton, yesterday reported a USD6.4 billion loss — the Anglo-Australian company's worst ever full-year result — resulting from weak commodity prices, a plunge in the value of its U.S. shale oil assets and a costly dam disaster in Brazil.

BHP said its revenue sank 31 percent in the fiscal year ending June 30, to \$30.1 billion. It also took \$4.9 billion in write downs of its U.S. oil and gas assets.

BHP chief executive Andrew Mackenzie said the year was a difficult one for his company and the resource industry.

"We're clearly really disappointed with this result," said Mackenzie. But he noted that another performance measure, Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization — or EBITDA — "remained healthy" at \$12.3 billion.

"We are pleased by the strong cash generation of our assets which has resulted in a free cash flow of \$3.4 billion," he said.

BHP posted a \$1.9 billion profit in the previous year, which was 14 percent of the \$13.8 billion profit for 2013-14.

The latest result is the worst

# Miner BHP Billiton suffers USD6.4 billion loss for 2015-16



Smoke billows out of a chimney stack of BHP steelwork factories at Port Kembla

since the company headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, was formed in 2001 through the merger of two corporations

founded in the 19th century — Australia's Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd. and London-listed Billiton Plc.

In 2010-11, it posted its best results ever of \$23.6 billion.

Weaker commodity prices, which have gutted profits of many global resource companies including big Japanese trading houses, cost the company \$10.7 billion last year.

A dam failure in November at an iron ore mine co-owned by BHP and Vale in Brazil killed 19 people and caused the worst environmental disaster in the country's history. Brazil's Federal Public Prosecution launched a \$43 billion civil suit in May for the disaster, against the joint venture Samarco. BHP has agreed to an initial payment of up to \$1.3 billion to clean toxic pollution from the Doce River.

The Samarco dam failure cost the company \$2.2 billion for the year.

BHP chief financial officer Peter Beavan said the Samarco mine could possibly be reopened, but not this year.

Gaurau Sodhi, a resource expert with Sydney-based share

analysis firm Intelligent Investor, said BHP really needs oil prices to rise to post a better result in the current fiscal year.

"The oil division is where a lot of money has been spent in the past. It's where the bulk of their assets lie and it's really the oil price that will determine how good or bad the next results will be from here," Sodhi told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

Oil prices fell by 47 percent in 2015, taking a huge toll.

The World Bank has raised its 2016 forecast for crude oil prices to \$41 per barrel from an earlier estimate of \$37 per barrel, anticipating a recovery in demand. On Tuesday, Brent crude, which is used to price international oils, was trading at about \$48 a barrel.

But the outlook for most other major commodities remains uncertain, given the slowdown in China, whose industrial boom over the past few decades has driven much of the growth in demand. **AP**

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## STOCK EXCHANGE

# Beijing said to drop total quota for Shenzhen-Hong Kong link

CHINESE authorities are planning not to impose an aggregate quota on trading via the Shenzhen-Hong Kong stock exchange link, according to two people familiar with the matter.

Daily trading will still be subject to a cap, the people said. Officials are also considering removing the overall limit for equity trades through Hong Kong's existing link with Shanghai, one of the people said. China's State Council yesterday

said it approved Shenzhen's long-planned connect program, without giving further details.

A decision to impose fewer restrictions on the Shenzhen link would signal that China's officials, who've pledged to open their markets to foreign investors, are comfortable that the program won't become a channel for funneling capital out of the mainland. Foreigners have used about half their 300 billion yuan (USD45 billion)

quota for buying Shanghai shares since the program began. Chinese traders have shown more appetite for investing in Hong Kong stocks, with less than 20 percent of the 250 billion yuan quota left unfilled.

The absence of an aggregate limit on investments will be "an improvement," said Michael Wu, a Hong Kong-based analyst at Morningstar Inc. "That quota was just precautionary."

The China Securities Regu-

latory Commission didn't immediately respond to a request for comment. Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd., which operates the city's bourse, said it will hold a press conference at 9 p.m. yesterday, hosted by Chief Executive Officer Charles Li and Chairman Chow Chung Kong.

The planned abolition of aggregate quotas was reported by the Hong Kong Economic Journal on Monday, citing unidenti-

fied funds briefed by exchange officials.

Individual investors on mainland China wanting to trade through the Shenzhen-Hong Kong link will need to have a minimum of 500,000 yuan in their accounts, according to the people.

Traders rarely used up their daily quota via the existing link. Net buying of Shanghai shares is capped at 13 billion yuan, while the limit for Hong Kong stock purchases is 10.5 billion yuan.

"Removal of the aggregate quota will not have a big impact on trading volume, which depends more on market conditions at the moment," said Linus Yip, a Hong Kong-based strategist with First Shanghai Securities.

Investors had expected the gateway to Shenzhen to open last year, but officials held off as they grappled with the fallout from the summer's \$5 trillion equity rout and January's botched introduction of circuit breakers. The Shenzhen Composite Index is down 12 percent in 2016.

Yesterday's announcement had been telegraphed by officials from the mainland and the city. On Aug. 11 Charles Li told CNBC in an interview that the link with Shenzhen was "imminent." Premier Li Keqiang in March said the link would start this year. A person familiar with the matter said a year ago that China's State Council had signed off on the plan.

The link's approval means "the Chinese government is really delivering on its promise to open up its markets," said Sandy Mehta, chief executive officer of Hong Kong-based advisory firm Value Investment Principals Ltd. "This continues to be a step in the right direction. Foreign investors will be looking again for stocks which they have not really been able to invest in before." **Bloomberg**



Wang Yanjun, deputy editor of the liberal magazine Yanhuang Chunqiu, holds up the latest issue that was printed under the names of Wang and other editors ousted by the Ministry of Culture

THE ousted editors of a liberal Chinese magazine are suing the government in an effort to wrest back control of one of the country's best-known political journals.

A lawyer representing seven high-level editors of Yanhuang Chunqiu, Ding

Xikui, said yesterday that the former staffers are seeking damages after the Ministry of Culture last month forcibly replaced top executives, seized the magazine's offices and published an issue under their names.

The struggle for the

## RIGHTS

## Liberal Chinese magazine sues government after takeover

journal's reins comes at a time when President Xi Jinping's administration is quashing dissent and revisionist voices.

Although the magazine's former staff and supporters do not believe the publication has an independent future, the plaintiffs are hoping to shut it down altogether to prevent authorities from releasing additional issues without their consent.

Outside the courthouse, deputy editor Wang Yanjun held a copy of what

he called the "fake" August issue put out by the Ministry of Culture and decried its new editorial direction. The magazine's new leaders convened a meeting this week that sought contributions from well-known neo-Maoist and nationalist writers that horrified the old guard, he said.

"It's diametrically opposite to the spirit of our magazine," Wang said.

Founded in 1991 by senior members of the Communist Party's liberal

wing, Yanhuang Chunqiu amassed a following by examining sensitive historical periods such as the Cultural Revolution and advocating gradual political loosening. The magazine has clashed with censors on numerous occasions but has survived until now — thanks to behind-the-scenes support from its sympathizers, including high-ranking military officials.

Its contributors have tangled with authorities on several occasions in

the past year alone as China's political climate has grown more restrictive.

One former editor was ordered by a court this year to apologize for an article questioning a historical tale about Communist heroism during World War II. Another editor was forbidden from leaving the country in March to accept an award at Harvard University for a book investigating the party's role in the 1958-1961 Great Chinese Famine. **AP**

Nomaan Merchant, Beijing

# Launch of quantum satellite major step in space race

**C**HINA'S launch of the first quantum satellite yesterday will push forward efforts to develop the ability to send communications that can't be penetrated by hackers, experts said.

The satellite launched into space from the Jiuquan launch base in northwestern China's Gobi desert will allow Chinese researchers to transmit test messages between Beijing and northwestern China as well as other locations around the world.

If the tests are successful, China will take a major step toward building a worldwide network that can send messages that can't be wiretapped or cracked through conventional methods.

"It moves the challenge for an eavesdropper to a different domain," said Alexander Ling, principal investigator at the Centre for Quantum Technologies in Singapore. "Lots of people around the world think having secure communications at a quantum level is important. The Europeans, the Americans had the lead, but now the Chinese are showing the way forward."

Quantum communications use subatomic particles to securely communicate between two points. A hacker trying to crack the message changes its form in a way that would alert the sender and cause the message to be altered or deleted.

Researchers around the world have successfully sent quantum messages by land. But a true satellite-based network would make it possible to send quickly encrypted messages in an instant around the world and open the door to other possible uses of the technology.

Cybersecurity has been a ma-



Combined photo shows China launching the world's first quantum satellite on top of a Long March-2D rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Jiuquan, Gansu Province, yesterday

major focus in recent years for China, which has pushed regulations aimed at limiting technology imported from the U.S. in the wake of Edward Snowden's revelations of widespread surveillance by the U.S. through the use of American hardware.

China has in turn been repeatedly accused by the U.S. of hacking into computer systems to steal commercial secrets and information that could harm American national security. China has rejected claims that it runs a state-sponsored hacking program and says that it

is among the leading victims of cybercrime.

Quantum messaging could become a major defense against hackers and have applications ranging from military and government communications to online shopping.

The biggest challenge, Ling said, is being able to orient the satellite with pinpoint accuracy to a location on Earth where it can send and receive data without being affected by any disturbances in Earth's atmosphere. The results of China's tests will be closely watched by other

research teams, he said.

"It's very difficult to point the satellite accurately," Ling said. "You're trying to send a beam of light from a satellite that's 500 kilometers (310 miles) above you."

Hoi Fung Chau, a professor and quantum communications researcher at Hong Kong University, said that it was too soon to say if the tests will succeed, but added he expected quantum messages by satellite to become the global standard eventually.

"The theory is already there, the technology is almost the-

**■ If the tests are successful, China will take a major step toward building a worldwide network that can send messages that can't be wiretapped or cracked**

re," he said. "It's just a matter of time."

The launch is a major triumph for China, which has spent years researching quantum technology and developing the satellite and other uses for it. China has previously announced the construction of a quantum link between Beijing and Shanghai that would be used by government agencies and banks.

Pan Jianwei, chief scientist on the satellite project, was quoted by the official Xinhua News Agency as saying the launch proved China was no longer a follower in information technology, but "one of the leaders guiding future IT achievements." **AP**

## US Army chief visits China amid missile system tensions

**T**HE U.S. Army chief of staff told Chinese officials during a visit yesterday that China should not feel threatened by American ally South Korea's decision to deploy a powerful U.S. missile defense system.

Gen. Mark A. Milley met with his Chinese counterpart, General Li Zuocheng, and other senior People's Liberation Army leaders amid strong Chinese protests over the decision to base the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system south of the South Korean capital, Seoul.

Milley reiterated the American position that the defense system is intended to destroy possib-



U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley, left, and China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) Gen. Li Zuocheng (right) salute during a welcome ceremony at the Bayi Building in Beijing

le North Korean missiles and not to track missiles inside China. Milley said THAAD is not a threat to China, the U.S. Army said

in a statement.

Chinese state media have published daily attacks against the U.S. and South Korea over the mis-

sile defense system, and China has canceled events involving South Korean entertainers. China also appears to be withholding support at the United Nations for condemnations of North Korea's missile programs.

Milley's visit also comes amid friction following an international arbitration panel's ruling last month that invalidated China's claim to virtually the entire South China Sea. China angrily rejected the verdict and has vowed to continue developing man-made islands that the U.S. says have exacerbated tensions in the strategically crucial region.

According to the U.S. Army statement, Milley

told Chinese officials the U.S. was committed to following international rules "and encouraged the Chinese to do the same as a way to reduce regional tensions."

Highlighting the issue, the interior minister of Taiwan, one of the six governments to claim territory in the South China Sea, planned to travel to Taiping Island where it maintains a garrison.

The visit is "aimed at understanding climate change issues as well as underscoring Taiwan's sovereignty," the official Central News Agency quoted Taiwanese officials as saying.

Tensions have also spiked in recent days be-

tween China and Japan over a chain of uninhabited islands controlled by Tokyo but claimed by Beijing. Japan last week called in the Chinese ambassador to protest over a large increase in the number of Chinese coast guard and fishing ships operating in waters surrounding the islands, called Senkaku by Japan and Diaoyu by China.

Following his Beijing meetings, Milley is to travel to South Korea to meet with U.S. troops and hold discussions with South Korean military leaders on the THAAD deployment and other issues. He then is to travel to another key U.S. ally and Chinese rival, Japan. **AP**

AP PHOTO



People walk along the beach in Hua Hin, Thailand

## THAILAND

# Bombings draw attention to forgotten war in south

Todd Pitman, Bangkok

**I**T happens with horrifying frequency in southern Thailand, a country much of the world associates with pristine beaches and alluring, sapphire blue seas: a bomb goes off. Victims are maimed or killed. Security forces comb through blood-spattered wreckage and debris.

Last week, 11 more bombs rattled seven Thai provinces, killing four people and wounding dozens more. But this time was different: the targets were not in the country's three southernmost provinces, where a bitter war waged by Muslim separatists has flared for more than a decade.

Instead, they shook towns filled with tourists further north, places like Hua Hin, where 11 foreigners were injured, most by a small explosive device that detonated in a narrow alley filled with bars, restaurants and massage parlors.

Ethnic Malay insurgents launched their armed bid for greater autonomy in Thailand's so-called "deep south" in 2004. But more than 6,700 dead and 12,000 wounded later, the struggle seems more forgotten than ever — a reality illustrated by a flood of weekend media coverage that dwarfed the usual trickle of reporting about the far-southern conflict.

"Sadly, people get used to violence. The media gets bored with it. The story becomes mundane," said Rungrawee Chalermripinyorat, an inde-

pendent analyst and expert on the insurgency.

If it turns out insurgents were responsible for last week's bombings, it would mark a dangerous new expansion of the low-level war that has plagued the mostly Buddhist country's southern border region with Malaysia.

It could also prove a dangerous incentive to carry out more violence.

With few exceptions, the militants have so far avoided attacking known tourist destinations because "they didn't want to be seen as a terrorist group," Rungrawee said. "But that could change if attacks like this prove effective" by attracting more attention to the war or pushing the government to make concessions at peace talks, she said.

While there has been no claim of responsibility and authorities have yet to blame any specific group, police investigators and analysts say the latest violence bears striking similarities to the methods used by the separatist militants who have traditionally limited operations to the Muslim-dominated provinces of Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat.

The attacks last week took place in seven locations south of Bangkok, including the island of Phuket. The bombs were small and appeared designed to shock rather than induce mass casualties, and left no immediate major impact on Thailand's lucrative tourist industry.

Asked Monday about the

possibility that insurgents orchestrated the latest violence, police commissioner Chakthip Chaijinda reiterated words spoken by other top officials over the weekend, saying "there are similarities in bomb-making methods and the equipment."

**■ Ethnic Malay insurgents launched their armed bid for greater autonomy in so-called 'deep south' in 2004. But more than 6,700 dead and 12,000 wounded later, the struggle seems forgotten**

Authorities say some of the homemade bombs were triggered remotely by cellphones — a tactic used by insurgents. Some of the phones, recovered by police, were reportedly purchased in Malaysia, into which Thai militants are known to cross with ease.

Malaysian police chief Khalif Abu Bakar confirmed Thai authorities have reached out, and officials on his side of the border were searching for those who purchased and sold the phones.

What had been decades of scattered acts of violence by separatists escalated sharply in January 2004, when militants raided an army depot, killed four soldiers and made off with hundreds of weapons. By April, the insurgents were launching coordinated attacks across the three southernmost provinces, and more than 100 people were killed when one group staged a showdown in a mosque to which they had retreated.

A heavy-handed response by government forces resulted in seven Thai Muslims being killed in October during an anti-government protest in Tak Bai in Narathiwat province, and 78 others died of asphyxiation when they were piled tightly into trucks after being arrested.

Muslims in the south say they don't feel like full members of Thailand's majority Buddhist society and complain of discrimination, rights abuses and arbitrary detention. The provinces in the south once belonged to a Malay sultanate which Thailand annexed in 1902.

The insurgents are split into several factions, the strongest of which is the Patani-Malay National Revolutionary Front, or BRN. The groups' leadership, organizational structure and membership are secretive, so much so that Rungrawee

said some recruits who have taken part in attacks were not even aware of which faction they belonged to.

The government of former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra began peace talks with separatists in 2013, although there was some doubt about whether the leaders attending fully represented insurgents on the ground. Yingluck's government was toppled in a coup a year later, and the junta that rules Thailand has continued the effort.

Talks, however, have gotten bogged down in such basic parameters as identifying the insurgents. Thailand's government insists on referring to them simply as "people with different opinions from the state," a position the militants reject.

John Blaxland, a senior fellow at Australian National University, said he believed militants could have launched last week's bombings to increase their bargaining power at the negotiating table.

"If my theory is correct, the message is: 'We want you to make more concessions in the south of Thailand,'" Blaxland said. "They figure that the message is better heard through actions."

Pongphisoot Busbarat, a lecturer at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, said if the militants were responsible for the bombings, they could be trying "to show that the hawkish approach adopted by the military is not acceptable."

Thailand's military junta has shown little tolerance for dissent since it overthrew a democratically elected government two years ago. Critical opinions are suppressed and critics are regularly whisked away to army bases for questioning.

On Aug. 7, the government held a successful referendum on a new constitution that will cement the military's powerful hand in politics for years to come.

In the week leading to the vote, insurgents registered their clear opposition to the charter by spray-painting the words "Referendum X" and "Constitution X" onto roads, street signs and schools across the south. Significantly, they did so in Thai, rather than the Malay script commonly used in the south.

They also carried out more than 50 bombings during the first week of August alone.

All were in the south; few made headlines.

On Monday morning, two motorcycle-riding soldiers were wounded in Narathiwat by another roadside bomb, police said. Explosive experts who arrived at the scene detonated a second bomb they believe was intended for those who rushed to the injured troops' aid. **AP**

AFGHANISTAN

# Breakaway Taliban faction names new leader

Mirwais Khan & Rahim Faiez, Kandahar

A breakaway Taliban faction in Afghanistan has appointed a new leader for the group, the nephew of the faction's long-time leader who was killed in fighting with rivals last year.

The development reflects the complex layers of the insurgency in Afghanistan, where though dominant, the Taliban are not the only militant group waging war.

At a gathering this week in southern Zabul province, Mullah Emdadullah Mansoor was named leader of the faction known as Mahaaz-e-Dadullah. The meeting was attended by tribal and religious leaders, as well as the group's local commanders.

Associated Press video of the gathering shows Mansoor accepting the leadership position among a crowd of gunmen,



mostly young guards. He is the nephew of Mullah Mansoor Dadullah who was killed in Khake-Afghan district of Zabul last year, fighting with rival Taliban.

"I accept the leadership of these men, based on the decision of the clerics," said Mansoor, promising to "fight foreign forces" and exact revenge for the group's slain leader.

Before Mullah Mansoor Da-

dullah was killed in Zabul, the founder of the group, Mullah Dadullah, was also killed in an ambush, possibly by one of his bodyguards in southern Helmand province. He was also an uncle of the newly named leader.

At the Monday gathering, several armed men in white-colored clothing with black balaclavas who call themselves suicide

At a gathering in southern Zabul province, Mullah Emdadullah Mansoor was named leader of the faction known as Mahaaz-e-Dadullah

bombers said they were ready to carry out attacks against the rival Taliban as well as foreign forces in the country.

"I announce that I will take [...] revenge from Mullah Haibatullah's group," said Mansoor. And of his rivals, he said "it is

time for them to pay the price."

Mansoor was referring to the current head of the rival Taliban, Mullah Haibatullah Akhundzada, a religious extremist who replaced Taliban leader Mullah Akhtar Mansoor who was killed in a U.S. drone strike in May.

The Mahaaz-e-Dadullah group, known for its fighting skills and suicide attacks, virtually disappeared from the Afghan killing fields after the death of Mansoor's uncles. Their re-emergence could create a headache for the Taliban as the faction is present in various parts of the Taliban heartland in the south.

"Now we are back on track with our mission" said Mullah Nematullah Samim, Mansoor's deputy.

Another would-be suicide bomber, Qari Misbah, said at Monday's gathering that he has been "waiting for my turn for a long time ago and now it's the time for me, I can give my body and soul."

Samim denied that Mahaaz-e-Dadullah has been uniting forces in Zabul with Afghanistan's branch of the Islamic State group, which emerged last year, mainly in the country's east, close the border with Pakistan.

"We don't want to be weak or depend on others," he said. AP

AD

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George Jahn, Vienna

AUSTRIA

# Knife attack on train wounds two

A knife-wielding man attacked passengers yesterday on a train in western Austria, seriously wounding two, police said. The suspect was arrested.

The assault occurred near the village of Sulz, in westernmost Vorarlberg province. A police statement said that a 19-year old man suffered wounds to the stomach and back. The other victim, a 17-year old male, had a throat injury. Both were hospitalized.

The assault came three days after a man attacked passengers on a crowded Swiss train with a knife and burning liquid Saturday, in an assault that left him and one of his victims dead. In Austria, Vorarlberg police spokeswoman Elisabeth Engelhardt said police were searching for a motive as they questioned the man but "at this point there is no knowledge" of a copycat attack.

"We assume that the perpetrator is mentally confused," she said in an email.

St. Gallen canton (state) police in Switzerland said yesterday that three victims of Saturday's attack remained in hospital, including a 17-year-old girl still in life-threatening condition.

The Austrian police state-



ment said the 19-year old was the first victim in yesterday's incident, with the perpetrator

lunging at him from a facing seat. He then attacked the 17-year old as the train slowed to

a halt at Sulz, about 10 kilometers east of the Swiss border. The attacker was apprehen-

ded at the stop by two police officers who used pepper spray to subdue him, police said. A 22-year old passenger who helped police suffered minor cut wounds to a hand.

Such attacks reflect the difficulties of policing Europe's labyrinthine transport system, particularly against individuals with unsophisticated weapons.

Last month in neighboring Germany, a 17-year-old refugee from Afghanistan with an ax and a knife wounded four tourists on a train, and stabbed a woman as he fled. The attacker was shot and killed by police. All his victims survived.

In May at a train station in the German state of Bavaria, a 27-year-old German man who had been in psychiatric care stabbed commuters, killing one and wounding three others before being apprehended by police.

Last year, a heavily armed gunman opened fire on a high-speed Amsterdam to Paris train but was overpowered by two young American servicemen and their companion. AP

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Russian warplanes take off from Iran to target IS in Syria

**R**USSIAN warplanes took off yesterday from a base in Iran to target Islamic State fighters and other militants in Syria, Russia's Defense Ministry said, widening Moscow's bombing campaign in Syria in a major development in the country's civil war.

The long-range bombers took off from near the Iranian city of Hamedan, around 280 kilometers southwest of the Iranian capital, and struck targets in three provinces in northern and eastern Syria.

Meanwhile, Syrian opposition activists said a wave of airstrikes on rebel-held parts of the northern city of Aleppo killed at least 15 civilians and wounded many others yesterday, but it was not clear whether the strikes were carried out by the Russian or Syrian government's air force.

It is virtually unheard of in Iran's recent history to allow a foreign power to use one of its bases to stage attacks from. Russia has also never used the territory of another country in the Middle East for its operations inside Syria, where it has been carrying out an aerial campaign in support of President Bashar Assad's government for nearly a year.

The announcement suggests cooperation on the highest levels between Moscow and Tehran, both key allies of the embattled president.

It comes a day after Russia's defense minister said Moscow and Washington are edging closer to an agreement on Syria that would help defuse the situation in the besieged northern city of Aleppo.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said the agreement would "allow us to find common ground and start fighting together for bringing peace to that territory," adding that Russian representatives are "in a very active stage of talks with our American colleagues."

A U.S. official said, however, that discussions with the Russians are still ongoing and no agreement is close. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media about the ongoing talks.

Russia and the United States have been discussing great

AP PHOTO



In this frame grab provided by Russian Defence Ministry press service, Russian long range bomber Tu-22M3 flies during an air strike over Aleppo region of Syria

ter coordination for striking extremists in Syria, but they have been unable to reach agreement on which militant groups could be targeted.

Russia has criticized what it describes as U.S. reluctance to persuade the Syrian opposition groups it supports to withdraw from areas controlled by al-Qaida's branch in Syria.

**■ It is virtually unheard of in Iran's recent history to allow a foreign power to use one of its bases to stage attacks**

In Tehran, the state-run IRNA news agency quoted Ali Shamkhani, the secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, as saying that

Tehran and Moscow have exchanged "capacity and possibilities" in the fight against the Islamic State group.

"With constructive and extended cooperation between Iran, Russia and Syria and the resistance front [Hezbollah], the situation has become very tough for terrorists and the trend will continue until the complete destruction of them," Shamkhani said.

Russia and Iran have been expanding their ties in the past months after most of the sanctions against Iran were lifted following the nuclear deal with world powers that put restricted Iran's nuclear program from weapons-grade capability.

A top Russian lawmaker, Adm. Vladimir Komoyedov, said Russia's decision to use a base in Iran will help to cut costs, which is "paramount right now."

The Russian ministry's statement issued said Su-34 and Tu-22M3 bombers took off earlier in the day to target Islamic State and the Nusra Front

militants in Aleppo, as well as in Deir el-Zour and Idlib, destroying five major ammunition depots, training camps and three command posts.

The Nusra Front is al-Qaida's branch in Syria. However, the group recently announced it was changing its name to Fath al-Sham and severing ties with the global terror network in an apparent attempt to evade Russian and U.S.-led airstrikes. Russia and the U.S. have dismissed the name change as window-dressing.

The Russian Defense Ministry released a video showing a Russian Tu-22M3 long-range bomber dropping bombs in strikes described as "terrorist objects in Syria."

The nearest air base to Hamedan is Shahid Nojeh Air Base, some 50 kilometers north of the city. The base has seen Russian aircraft land there before. A report in December by the American Enterprise Institute, based off satellite imagery, suggested the air base saw a Russian Su-34 "Fullback" strike fighter land there in

late November. It said a Russian Il-76 "Candid" transport plane also landed there around the same time before both took off, suggesting the Su-34 may have suffered a mechanical issue.

The report described the air base as "quite large with a 4,572-meter runway, extensive taxiways and multiple hangars and bunkers — all seemingly in good repair." It said it is "ideal for providing covert ground support to Russian combat missions."

Iran's constitution, ratified after its 1979 Islamic Revolution, bans the establishment of any foreign military base in the country. However, nothing bars Iranian officials from allowing foreign countries to use an airfield.

The announcement from Russia marks the first significant stationing of its troops there since World War II, when allied British and Soviet forces invaded Iran to secure oil fields and keep Allied supply lines open.

Russia says its bombing campaign in Syria is focused on extremist groups but it has frequently struck other, including more moderate rebels fighting Assad's forces.

Last week, Russian bombers launched a wave of airstrikes on the city of Raqqa, the Islamic State group's de facto capital in northern Syria, killing at least 20 civilians according to Syrian opposition activists. **AP**

## Separatists, Russians stage exercises again in Moldova

**M**OLDOVAN separatists say Russian troops have joined their troops in the breakaway republic of Trans-Dniester for joint military exercises for the second time this month.

The official news agency Novosti-pmr.com said that special units took part in anti-terror exercises south of

the separatist capital, Tiraspol.

The agency said local residents were warned about the simulations of real-life situations. It did not provide further details.

Moldova criticized the first exercise this month, but had no immediate reaction to the second.

Pro-Russian Trans-Dniester broke away from Moldova in 1990 fearing it would reunite with neighboring Romania. Separatists fought Moldovans in a war in 1992 leaving 1,500 dead.

There are some 1,000 Russian peacekeepers stationed in Trans-Dniester.

## what's ON



**BLUE MAN GROUP IN MACAU**  
**TIME:** 8pm (August 17-20, 23-27)  
 5pm (August 20-21, 27-28)  
 2pm (August 21 & 28)  
**VENUE:** The Venetian Theatre  
**ADMISSION:** MOP380, MOP680, MOP880  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 2882 8818

**AUGUSTE BORGET: A PAINTER-TRAVELLER ON THE SOUTH CHINA COAST**  
**TIME:** 10am-7pm  
 (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)  
**UNTIL:** December 31, 2016  
**VENUE:** Macau Museum of Art,  
 Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE  
**ADMISSION:** MOP5  
 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 8791 9814

**ABSTRACT PAINTINGS FROM THE MAM COLLECTION**  
**TIME:** 10am-7pm  
 (no admittance after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)  
**UNTIL:** December 31, 2016  
**VENUE:** Macau Museum of Art,  
 Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE  
**ADMISSION:** MOP5  
 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 8791 9814

**"MEMORIES OF MOMENTS - MACAO AND LUSOPHONE AFRICAN AND ASIAN REGIONS IN PHOTOGRAPH POSTCARDS" EXHIBITION**  
**TIME:** 10am-6pm  
 (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)  
**UNTIL:** December 4, 2016  
**VENUE:** Archives of Macao, No. 91-93, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, Macau  
**ADMISSION:** Free  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 2836 6866

**ART COURSES STUDENT'S EXHIBITION OF THE MACAU MUSEUM OF ART**  
**TIME:** 10am-7pm  
 (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)  
**UNTIL:** November 27, 2106  
**VENUE:** Macau Museum of Art,  
 Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE  
**ADMISSION:** MOP5  
 (free admission on Sundays and public holidays)  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 8791 9814

**EXHIBITION 'SECRET DE BOUDOIR' BY HONG WAI**  
**TIME:** 11am-7pm (opened on public holidays)  
**UNTIL:** August 31, 2016  
**VENUE:** Iao Hin Gallery, Rua da Tercena 39A  
**ADMISSION:** Free  
**ENQUIRES:** (853) 2892 1908  
**FACEBOOK:** Hong Wai Art

## Offbeat

## SEARCH RESUMES FOR NAZI GOLD TRAIN THAT MIGHT NOT EVEN EXIST

Explorers in Poland have resumed searching for a legendary Nazi train laden with treasure and armaments, dissuaded by decades of fruitless searches and a scientific determination that no train is even there.

The new dig that started in southeastern Poland yesterday attests to the power of a local legend claiming a Nazi "gold" train disappeared in a mountain tunnel as the Germans escaped the advancing Soviet army at the end of World War II.

Two explorers claimed last year to have located the elusive train hidden in a secret tunnel in the town of Walbrzych, sparking the latest gold rush.

A government official initially said he was "99 percent sure" the train was there, but geological experts using magnetic equipment found no train on the spot.

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
18:15	Once Upon A Time S1 (Repeated)
19:00	Merciless (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Antibiotic Apocalypse
21:30	Criminal Minds S10 - Premiere
22:10	Merciless
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

11 Aug - 17 Aug

## LINE WALKER - THE MOVIE

ROOM 1  
**2.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm**  
**Director:** Jazz Boon  
**Starring:** Nick Cheung, Louis Koo, Francis Ng  
**Language:** Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 97min

## DOREAMON: BIRTH OF JAPAN

ROOM 1  
**4.30 pm**  
**Director:** Shinnosuke Yakuwa  
**Duration:** 97min



**BFG**  
 ROOM 2  
**(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm**  
**(3D) 7.15 pm**  
**Director:** Syeven Spielberg  
**Starring:** Mark Rylance, Ruby Barnhill, Penelope Wilton  
**Language:** Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 117min

## CHIBI MARUKO CHAN- A BOY FROM ITALY

ROOM 3  
**2.15, 4.00, 7.30 pm**  
**Director:** Jun Takagi  
**Language:** Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 120min

## ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE

ROOM 3  
**(2D) 5.45 pm**  
**Director:** Mike Thurmeier, Galen Chu  
**Language:** Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 97min

## THE SHALLOWS

ROOM 3  
**9.30 pm**  
**Director:** Jaime Collet-Serra  
**Starring:** Blake Lively, Óscar Jaenada, Brett Cullen, Sedona Legge  
**Language:** English (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 86min

## MACAU TOWER

11 Aug - 17 Aug

## SUICIDE SQUAD

**2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm**  
**Director:** David Ayer  
**Starring:** Will Smith, Jared Leto, Margot Robbie  
**Language:** English (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 123min

## this day in history



## 1998 CLINTON ADMITS LEWINSKY AFFAIR

President of the United States Bill Clinton has admitted having an inappropriate relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

In a televised address Mr Clinton told the American people that he took full responsibility for his actions. He said: "Indeed I did have a relationship with Ms Lewinsky that was not appropriate. In fact, it was wrong."

Aides close to the president now hope the confession will bring an end to the investigation into Mr Clinton's affairs, brought by independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr.

Mr Starr's four-year inquiry began as an investigation into land deals by Hillary and Bill Clinton when he was governor of Arkansas.

It moved onto his personal life when Mr Starr began to investigate allegations that Mr Clinton had had sexual relations with Monica Lewinsky and then lied about it under oath in a sexual harassment case brought by Paula Jones in 1994.

The president's confession follows months of denial. On 26 January this year, Mr Clinton categorically denied having sexual relations with Miss Lewinsky.

Appearing serious and contrite, Mr Clinton told the American people: "I misled people, including my wife. I deeply regret that."

He concluded: "This matter is between me, the two people I love most - my wife and my daughter - and our God."

He said he had not come clean earlier because he was embarrassed but he denied he had asked anyone to lie about the relationship.

He also criticised Mr Starr and the investigation, which so far has cost £25m.

On 6 August this year Ms Lewinsky told the jury that she had an 18-month sexual relationship with the President and that the pair had discussed ways of concealing the relationship.

She also presented one of her dresses as evidence, stating it had been stained with Mr Clinton's semen during one of their sexual encounters.

If it is proved that he lied he faces possible impeachment hearings on Capitol Hill.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

On 21 September President Clinton's Grand Jury testimony was released to the public.

On 9 December 1998 the House Judiciary Committee proposed four articles of impeachment against the president. Ten days later - after a bitter debate between republicans and democrats - the House of Representatives voted to confirm the recommendation.

Bill Clinton became only the second president in American history to face such an indictment, but he refused to resign. His trial began on 7 January 1999 and ended on 12 February when senators voted to acquit him of the impeachment charges of perjury and obstruction of justice.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 A new obstacle blocks your path and keeps you from pushing forward as quickly as you would like.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Your practical nature is helping you see new ways to solve old problems.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your hidden powers are starting to make themselves known today, and that could mean that you're getting some new attention from folks who had started to take you for granted.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 It's time for you to get started on something new. That could mean almost anything from a new romance to a job in another city.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Try harder not to let yourself get too deep into bad habits today - you're more easily tempted now, and that could lead to all sorts of mischief if you let yourself go.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 It's a great day for brainstorming - or just dealing with that backlog of good ideas you've been compiling over the last few months.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Things are getting pretty heavy - even though your social energy is keeping your relationships light and bubbly.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 It's all up to you - but you thrive on the pressure! Your energy is all over the map, which actually ends up helping you as you have to deal with lots of different mini-emergencies throughout the day.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Your wild spirituality can wait for one more day - you need to focus on mundane stuff like cooking, cleaning and paying the bills.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 It's time for something fun and silly - your good energy needs an outlet other than work.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Something you picked up a long time ago comes back in a new, fresh way - and you can't believe that it's still relevant.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Someone says something really nice - and catches you off guard in a delightful way!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

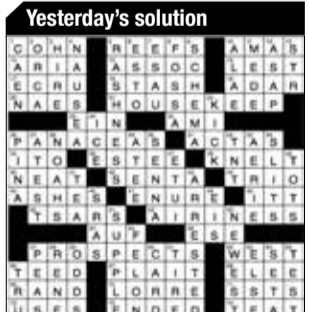
Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each category contains a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

CROSSWORDS ACROSS: 1- Columnist Barrett; 5- Infant; 9- Monetary unit of India; 14- Again; 15- Land measure; 16- Gardener's tool; 17- Rubberneck; 18- Final Four org.; 19- Martinique volcano; 20- Abjure; 22- Harmonious relation; 24- Ballerina Pavlova; 25- Bristly; 26- Smelting residue; 29- Closes in on; 31- \_\_\_ lift?; 32- South American monkey; 33- Mayday!; 36- A mean Amin; 37- Liken; 40- Andean tuber; 41- "... the cows come home"; 42- Ancient Semitic for "Lord"; 43- Vacant; 45- Hound's trail; 47- Island greetings; 48- Condition; 51- Dentist's request; 52- Mosque tower; 54- Goals; 58- Heartburn; 59- Univ. recruiting group; 61- Actual; 62- Send payment; 63- Oops!; 64- Witty Bombeck; 65- Vestige; 66- Latin being; 67- "Stay" singer Lisa; DOWN: 1- Prego competitor; 2- \_\_\_ even keel; 3- Information; 4- Clumsy; 5- Tropical fruit; 6- Ghana's capital; 7- Breast-supporting undergarment; 8- 365 days; 9- Pungent condiment; 10- Experts; 11- Inuit dwelling; 12- Prophets; 13- Narrow mountain ridge; 21- Early computer; 23- Light \_\_\_; 26- Foul mood; 27- Basic monetary unit of Ghana; 28- Trompe l'\_\_\_; 29- Try to bite; 30- Catchall abbr.; 32- Counterfeiter catcher; 33- Ex-fros; 34- Twice tetra-; 35- Claims; 38- Corpulent; 39- Conger catcher; 44- Dog of mixed breed; 45- Lacking movement; 46- Prepare an exhibition; 47- Cochise, for one; 48- Stylish; 49- Large cat; 50- Inner self, to Jung; 51- Preminger et al.; 53- Not false; 55- Eiel Saanen's son; 56- Domesticated; 57- Thick slice; 60- Startled cries;



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- 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
Customs 28 559 944
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Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
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# Mark Cavendish at long last gets Olympic cycling medal

**M**ARK Cavendish has triumphed in 30 stages of the Tour de France, won road racing's world title and captured dozens of other important races to become one of Britain's most successful cyclists.

The one thing missing was an Olympic medal. The sprinter from the Isle of Man finally accomplished that feat Monday night, taking silver in the men's omnium behind Italian rider Elia Viviani at the Rio de Janeiro Games.



Mark Cavendish of Britain holds his silver medal

### PRIORITY TO OLYMPICS

**THE SPRINTING** specialist earned the yellow jersey in the Tour de France after winning the opening stage, then won three more stages to stamp his mark on the sport's biggest race. But Cavendish said all along that one of his priorities this season was that elusive Olympic medal, so he found himself abandoning the Tour in the final week to transition to the track.

"I'm happy with it. I couldn't have done more," Cavendish said. "I made every day count. On another day I might be closer to gold, but I have to be happy."

Especially the way things have gone in previous trips to the Olympics. Cavendish and teammate Bradley Wiggins were the reigning Madison world champions when they headed to the Beijing Games in 2008. But in the event, no longer part of the

Olympic program, the duo could do no better than ninth, leaving Cavendish the only British track cyclist without a medal.

Four years ago, he headed to the London Games backed by a powerhouse road team to tackle a course that suited him perfectly — he even won a test event on it. But on race day, the British squad missed the key breakaway and Cavendish wound up 29th, reduced to being a footnote in

the race report.

So in that context, silver isn't such a bad result.

"It's always disappointing not to win," Cavendish said, "but I did all I could. And the guys behind me did all they could. So yeah, I'm happy."

His performance was impressive by any measure: Not only did Cavendish nearly overcome Viviani in the last event of the six-event omnium, he also held off



Cavendish leads the in the men's cycling omnium points race at the Rio Olympic Velodrome

reigning Olympic champion Lasse Norman Hansen of Denmark, who had to settle for the bronze medal. AP

### RIO 2016 - MEDALS

#	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	United States	26	23	26	75
2	China	15	14	17	46
3	Britain	16	17	8	41
4	Russia	11	12	12	35
5	Japan	7	4	16	27
6	France	7	9	8	24
7	Italy	8	9	6	23
8	Australia	6	7	9	22
9	Germany	9	6	6	21
10	South Korea	6	3	5	14

AD

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RIO OLYMPICS

# Time, effort and money help South Korea rule obscure sports

**S**OUTH Korea's women won the Olympic team archery title — for the eighth time in a row. Jin Jong-oh, meanwhile, took gold in the men's 50-meter pistol in Rio de Janeiro — for the third straight games.

Some in the small Asian country have an easy, long-cherished explanation for the success: The nation is simply better than everyone else at doing the little things, the things that require laser-like concentration on a small, sometimes tedious and hard-to-master skill.

But South Korea's domination in some of the smaller Olympic sports can more accurately be linked to a decades-long concentration of time, effort and money, often sponsored by the government, on training and nurturing athletes from a very young age in these specialized sports; this, in turn, has created intense competition among athletes who know that success will win them serious benefits.

Still, the perception of an innate national facility for these sports lingers, even among the athletes. The woman seen as partly responsible for the archery boom in South Korea, Kim Jin-ho, won the country's first archery gold in an international sporting event in 1978. She said she and her teammates always assumed that Koreans had a special level of sensitivity that allowed them to shoot arrows more accurately than their Western rivals.

Like much about modern South Korea, its tumultuous modern history plays a part in its supremacy in these sports.

Until democracy finally came in



Jin Jong-oh (left) of South Korea celebrates winning a shootout to secure the gold medal



Ki Bo-bae, of South Korea, competes during the women's individual archery competition

the late 1980s, South Korea was ruled by dictators who wanted to use sports as a way to promote a strong national identity and generate loyalty.

So the authoritarian government pumped money into programs for athletes who had better chances of winning medals, often in these lesser known sports, rather than building up an overall sports infrastructure for the general public. Those selected athletes trained together at government-run facilities and were awarded benefits such as good pensions and, for the men, exemptions from mandatory military service if they performed

well in international competitions like the Olympics.

As athletes in those sports succeeded internationally, the sports got more public attention. More popularity meant more steady civilian and business sponsorships. This meant more money, better training facilities and more young athletes taking up and sticking with the sports.

That system is still largely in place. Hence the success.

"I doubt that South Koreans are exclusively gifted with a delicacy of skill that produces real changes in competition," said Roh Hee-tae, a physical education professor at South Korea's

Dong-A University.

South Korea began seriously investing in archery in the late 1970s, reacting to public excitement created when Kim won. The training and investment have grown tremendously in the years since.

Kim, now 55 and a professor with Seoul's Korea National Sport University, said South Korean archers today benefit from stronger financial and administrative support and a larger number of state-of-the-art training facilities. She said that South Korean coaches do a better job than their counterparts in other countries at finding the right training

methods and motions for each archer based on their physical traits and shooting style.

There is growing popular recognition that all athletes, regardless of where they're from, must focus intensely on the little details to win. Still, the idea of Korean superiority persists.

"Some of my colleagues joked the other day that if you took a K-pop singer, in her first try she would be able to shoot arrows more accurately than most archers from other countries," said Hong In-he, a 37-year-old office worker in Seoul. "South Koreans are better in areas that require accurate and delicate skills." AP

## The 'other Olympics' are far from beach and tourist spots

**T**HE roads of the Deodoro twist and turn through residential areas, past markets where locals eat lunch outside and parks where children fly paper kites.

Grassy hills frame the region to the north and creeks weave through the middle, around ramshackle homes shrouded in trees.

Joggers mix with dog walkers and mothers pushing strollers down the sidewalks, passing groups of military personnel every few hundred yards.

The Deodoro cluster of venues is one of four at the Rio de Janeiro Games, but it is a world apart from the hustling, bustling clusters near the coast.

"It's little a bit calmer than the other venues," said Fernando Gomez,

who lives in Belo Horizonte, about five hours north of Rio. "Both are good places to be."

The Copacabana cluster is the most attractive and famous cluster, its beaches and iconic views of Sugarloaf Mountain and Christ the Redeemer. The Barra cluster is the heart of the games, home to the main Olympic Park. Maracana is in a dense urban area with the Maracana and Olympic stadiums that hold track, soccer and the opening and closing ceremonies. Fans could also have gone to the nearby the Sambodrome — the center of Rio's Carnival celebration — to see archery.

Deodoro is far more inland than other three clusters, north of Barra, northwest of Copacabana

and Maracanã. Most of the venues are on the grounds of an army facility, home to the largest concentration of military personnel in Latin America with 60,000 troops.

And it seems more like a military base than an Olympic park, with troops standing on tanks scattered among the venues and chanting cadets occasionally run shirtless through the streets in formation.

Deodoro hosts 10 sports: equestrian, mountain bike and BMX racing, modern pentathlon, shooting, whitewater canoeing, field hockey, rugby and the women's basketball group stage games.

Deodoro Park has venues for field hockey, rugby, basketball and modern pentathlon. The Olympic

Shooting Centre is just across a highway, accessed through a tunnel.

Whitewater Stadium and the Olympic BMX Centre are carved out the side of hills a few miles away in the Olympic X Park, with the mountain bike track just to the west. The Olympic Equestrian Centre is just a few miles south of X Park.

Deodoro Stadium was rowdy for big rugby games, as was Whitewater Stadium. The Youth Arena had a great atmosphere throughout, particularly when Brazil played, and the BMX center figures to be rocking when it starts today.

Everything else is well, a bit more chill, the crowds smaller than the other clusters.



Visitors makes photos at a big lettering reading 'Rio 2016' at the Deodoro Olympic area

The stadiums for field hockey and rugby were less than half full for most early-round matches. Equestrian — except for a capacity crowd on Sunday — has been about a third full most days, though the Brazilians are passionate about show jumping, roaring whenever a horse clears an obstacle.

The shooting center had an air horn blaring from the stands the first day and Brazilian fans serenaded mustachioed independent athlete Abdullah Al-Rashidi with a chant of "Ole, ole, ole, mustache" in Portu-

guese the final day. The crowds in between were mostly smaller and less vocal.

Deodoro Park has a large area between the venues with a beer garden and picnic tables set in a strand of trees. Hundreds of fans gather daily at the tables or lay in the grass, some leaning against the trees to take a siesta.

The park can fill up quickly when there's a big game or multiple sports going at the same time, though there's usually just a scattering of people across the grounds. AP

opinion

**Legal Wise**

Isolda Brasil  
 Associate, MdME



**MACAU'S EMPLOYMENT BUBBLE**

Macau Governmental Guidelines for 2016 specifically set the protection of the rights and interests of resident workers as a priority. This priority is outlined as to be accomplished by the strict implementation of a mechanism to replace non-resident workers with resident workers. Thus, if in previous years the "cut of blue cards" was just word on the street and hearsay, there is now no doubt that this is a promise that the Government will be keeping. Macau's employers have been enduring, more than ever, the hardships of running their businesses with the limitations that such a replacement of non-resident workers implies.

It's no secret that Macau with its steady and consistent unemployment rate of less than 2% for the past few years, is a full employment market. Hiring has become the worst nightmare of Macau's employers and retaining workers is a losing battle, with the turnover rate of employees going through the roof. This means that small companies, who already serve as launching platforms for recent graduates, have no chance to compete with the big employers. The fact is that as the year continues, the shock of seeing the renewal of their blue cards denied (now) by the Macau Labour Affairs Bureau seems to have subsided and big employers are coping with their loss at the expense of small employers.

The limited offer that the market provides is literally being sacked by the big "quotaless" employers, who are poaching local skilled workers from small and medium companies, that cannot compete with the high salaries and conditions offered to their resigning employees. In addition, employers are complaining that the bar has become so high that even hiring inexperienced workers is difficult and costly, as local workers have fast become aware of their scarcity and are taking advantage of the shortage of manpower. The only option available to cope with this shortage - receiving authorization to hire non-resident workers - has become an almost impossible mission in the tiny bubble that Macau's employment market has created. Obstacles such as the "virtual ratio" of local to non-residents, the silent obligation to promote local workers, the alleged existence of locals looking for (apparently) all kinds of positions offered to the local market, alongside many other (already) standardized arguments used by the authorities as grounds to deny the quota requests, are becoming increasingly harder to surpass. Moreover, if this is difficult for local companies, who strive to gain their place in the market and are "playing at home", it's even more difficult for foreign companies. Many of these are actually part of multinational groups who are trying to set their foot in the territory and invest locally but are faced with the limitations that a market without workers offers as well as the added hindrances that the protectionism of such a labor force poses.

It is well known that protectionist policies tend to lead to several negative effects, which can include a lack of competitiveness, a reduction of productivity, inefficiencies, stagnation. Ultimately and on a more personal level, the benefits that workers draw from protectionism are muffled by the miasma that such politics tend to create. In other words, workers who are put in such a bubble and do not have to compete or depend on their skills won't be able to grow as much professionally as workers who are exposed to competitive environments. As for employers, protectionism can lead to a shift of power where the employer no longer holds the control and is at the mercy of workers who can easily move on to another employer without any sense of loyalty or any other duties traditionally imbibed in the work relationship.

So an urgent question to be posed: is Macau's Government increased protectionism towards local workers really paying off or is it, in the long run just depriving local workers of growing professionally while in the process, killing the business of small and medium companies?

**THE UK'S MAY REASSURES CHINA AFTER BUZZ NUCLEAR POWER PLANT DELAY**

Prime Minister Theresa May is attempting to allay disquiet about her surprise delay to a Chinese-backed nuclear power plant by reassuring China's leader that Britain wants strong relations with Beijing.

Foreign Office Minister Alok Sharma delivered a letter from May to President Xi Jinping during a visit to Beijing.

May's office did not publish the letter, but said yesterday it was about

"reassuring the Chinese of our commitment to Anglo-Chinese relations."

China's ambassador to Britain, Liu Xiaoming, warned last week that relations were at a "crucial historical juncture" following the U.K. government's delaying of a decision on the Hinkley Point power plant. May last month announced a review of the power project, financed by a Chinese nuclear power provider and French energy giant EDF.



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May

AP PHOTO



**Indian elephant that washed up in Bangladesh dies**

An adult Indian elephant that became trapped in a swamp in Bangladesh after being caught in raging floodwaters died yesterday after weeks of struggling for survival, a conservation official said.

Tapan Kumar Dey, a former forest conservator who was overseeing the rescue operation, said the elephant died despite the "highest efforts" to save it.

"This is very sad. We tried our best to save it," Dey said.

The cause of the death of the elephant named "Bangabhadur," or Hero of

Bengal, was not immediately clear.

The elephant, tired and weak from its struggle, had been tranquilized earlier in an attempt to steer it from the swamp and to bring it closer to a road so it could be transported to an elephant safari park.

The elephant appeared to be fine on Sunday, Dey said, but was likely to have become dehydrated after being stuck in the swamp for days.

Monsoon-triggered flooding had carried the male elephant from upstream India before he became

trapped in a swamp in Bangladesh's Jamalpur district three weeks ago.

Authorities had planned to rescue it and move it to the safari park near the capital Dhaka.

Earlier, Indian wildlife authorities had abandoned plans to take the elephant back because it was unlikely that it would have been welcomed back to his herd in the hilly forests of the remote northeastern state of Assam.

Heavy downpours have flooded vast areas of eastern India since monsoon rains began in June. AP

**Joao Havelange, ex-president of FIFA, dies at age 100**

AP PHOTO



JOAO Havelange, whose two-decade presidency of FIFA saw soccer's governing body transformed into a multibillion dollar business and a hotbed for subsequent corruption that damaged its repu-

tation, has died. He was 100.

The Brazilian expanded the World Cup from 16 to 32 teams and made it one of sport's most important events. He organized six World Cups as FIFA president from 1974 to 1998, when Sepp Blatter replaced him. He secured lucrative broadcast deals, brought nations into FIFA, and created the women's World Cup.

With more cash for football also came widespread financial wrongdoing by its top officials, including Havelange. In 2013, FIFA ethics court judge Joachim Eckert said Havelange's conduct had been "morally and ethically reproachable."

Havelange was never punished. He was allowed to resign his FIFA honorary presidency in 2013. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	45-65 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	45-65 Moderate
Ambient	45-65 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**THAILAND** If Muslim separatists in southern Thailand were responsible for the bombings last week at tourist spots, it would mark a dangerous new expansion of the low-level war that has plagued the mostly Buddhist country for more than a decade.

More on p12

**AUSTRIA** A knife-wielding man attacked passengers yesterday on a train in western Austria, seriously wounding two teenagers, police said. The suspect was arrested. More on p14

**USA** Authorities in Florida say a man who may have been on a hallucinogenic drug fatally stabbed a married couple, biting off part of the man's face before wounding a would-be rescuer. Martin County Sheriff William Snyder told reporters yesterday that a man in his 20s may have been on drugs when he attacked the couple at their Tequesta home yesterday [Macau time].

AP PHOTO



**USA** Fire crews gained some significant ground on a massive Northern California wildfire that has destroyed 175 homes, businesses and other structures and charred nearly 7 square miles. Authorities arrested 40-year-old Damin Anthony Pashilk on 17 counts of arson. 1,600 firefighters were battling the blaze yesterday through warm temperatures and light winds.

AP PHOTO



**VEGAS** The last tower of the iconic Riviera Hotel and Casino came tumbling down along the Las Vegas Strip to make way for a convention center expansion. The demolition of the Monte Carlo wing came two months after the taller Monaco tower was leveled the same way. The 2,075-room property closed in May 2015 after 60 years hosting headliners from Liberace to Dean Martin.