

Six years of development

The moment: 8 pm August 22

Wynn Palace Cotai begins

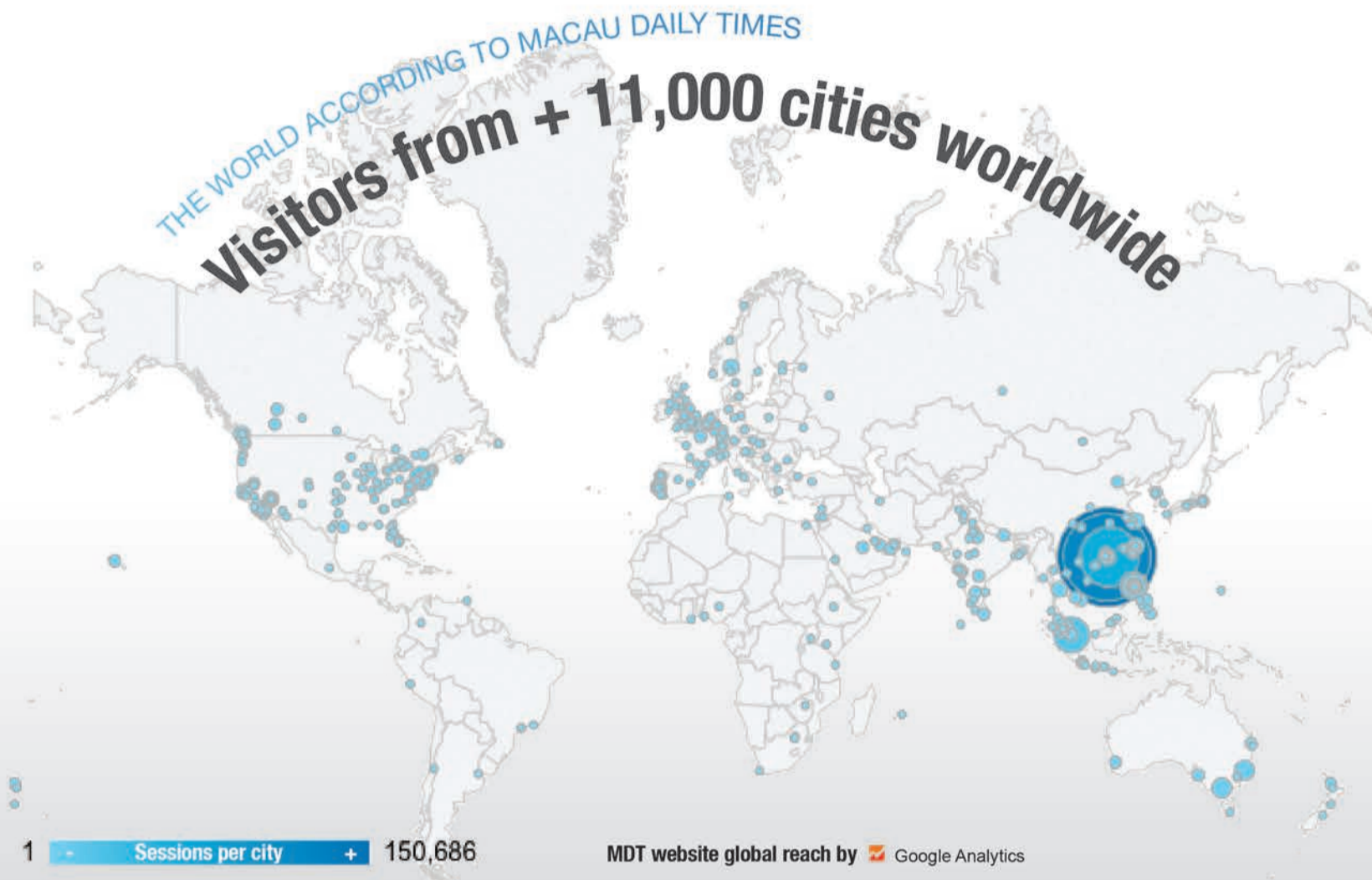


WARNING! Advertising with Macau Daily Times may be highly addictive.

 **28,589,579 page views in 2016**

160,000 in 24 hours

 + 11,000 likes



www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

facebook.com/mdtimes

advertising@macaudailytimes.com



The top countries of origin for visitors to the MDT website are Macau, greater China and the East Asia region. But the USA, Australia, Great Britain and other European countries are also in the top 10. The Times website has a true worldwide reach welcoming visits from more than 11,000 cities.

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報[®]
Times

“ THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’ ”



SWIMMING RULES

An MDT reader wrote an open letter to the president of the Sports Bureau about the questionable new rules in swimming pools. She has a point or two

P4



HK HIT-AND-RUN DRIVER ARRESTED

In a case with possible links to Macau casinos and triads, a 36-year-old suspect, surnamed Kwok, was arrested in Hong Kong

P4



GOV'T SAYS EGAMING RECOGNITION NOT ON THE HORIZON

P7 MDT REPORT

FRI. 19
Aug 2016
 T. 25°/ 29° C
 H. 75/ 98%

Blackberry email service powered by CTM

N.º 2625 **MOP 7.50**
HKD 9.50

2305 4271

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

Times

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



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA A top Chinese military officer visited Syria this week in a show of support for President Bashar Assad's embattled regime, official media reported yesterday, underscoring Beijing's backing of fellow authoritarian governments and concerns about the spread of religious militancy. *More on p10*



PHILIPPINE President Rodrigo Duterte said he will not raise long-simmering maritime disputes with China at a meeting of Southeast Asian nations in Laos next month, preferring to talk quietly with Chinese officials. *More on p10*



MYANMAR Efforts by Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi this week to bolster ties with her country's dominant northern neighbor China may hinge on whether she can resolve the fate of a massive, Chinese-funded dam project blocked by overwhelming local opposition. Suu Kyi was welcomed by Premier Li Keqiang at a formal ceremony yesterday as part of a visit that will include talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

More on backpage

'THAT PERIOD OF THE MONTH'

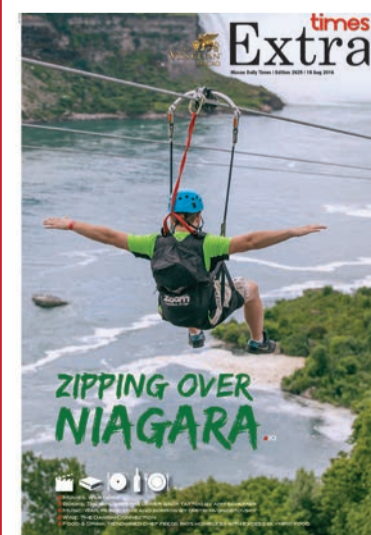
China breaks more taboos than records at Rio Games

P11



Coutinho slams 'rubber-stamp assembly', Rita Santos may run

P5



Extra

times
weekend Guide
INSIDE

GAMING

New Cotai's bonds in distress as S&P cuts view on Macau casino

David Yong

BONDS issued by U.S. partners in Macau's casino project Studio City have dropped to distressed levels after gaming revenue in the city entered a third year of declines and S&P Global Ratings lowered its outlook on the project.

The 10.625 percent notes co-issued by New Cotai LLC and New Cotai Capital Corp., units of U.S. hedge funds Silver Point Capital LP and Oaktree Capital Group LLC, were indicated at 42.5 cents on the dollar on Aug. 18, according to prices from independent fixed-income firm SC Lowy. The 2019 payment-in-kind notes, which pay interest in additional bonds rather than cash, last traded at 46 cents on Aug. 10 to yield 44.4 percent, versus 64 cents on June 15 and 73 cents on March 3, according to Trace data.

The USD3.2 billion Studio City is the latest effort in Macau to appeal to families and diversify away from gambling, after Chinese President Xi Jinping's anti-graft drive and a weakening economy stifled the casino business. It features a Batman ride, magic show and hotels and restauran-



ts. But so far such new facilities in Macau have struggled to attract new customers. Visitors to the city fell 2.6 percent to 30.7 million in 2015 and were unchanged in the first half of this year.

Silver Point Capital and Oaktree Capital own a 40 percent stake in Studio City through their funds, with Hong Kong-based Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd. holding the remaining 60 percent.

Oaktree and Silver Point spokesmen in the U.S. declined to comment. There was no immediate reply to e-mailed questions to New Cotai.

S&P cut the rating outlook on Studio City's separate 2020 notes

to negative on Aug. 15 on slower revenue and refinancing risk. The credit assessor said it could breach its HKD10.86 billion (\$1.4 billion) senior credit facilities.

The yield on Studio City's 8.5 percent 2020 notes has climbed 100 basis points this month to 8.4 percent, Bloomberg-compiled prices show.

"Studio City is within an entirely separate credit group and its debt is non-recourse to Melco," Melco said in an e-mail statement on Aug. 17. "Investors should not assume that Melco will provide any financial support to Studio City or that it would step in for Studio City." **Bloomberg**

CRIME

Hong Kong hit-and-run driver arrested

A suspected hit-and-run driver involved in accident that resulted in the death of a motorcyclist in Hong Kong was arrested last night, after eluding police authorities for 38 hours, reported Hong Kong-based newspaper The Standard.

The 36-year-old suspect, surnamed Kwok, was arrested yesterday at around 7 p.m. for dangerous driving causing death, failing to stop after the accident and to report it to the police, driving without a valid license and without third-party insurance and claiming to be a member of a triad gang.

The aforementioned accident occurred on Tuesday, when a 52-year-old motorcyclist was hit from behind by a seven-seater van. The motorcyclist sustained serious head injuries and was pronounced dead at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

It was reported earlier, after the accident, that Kwok could be a casino employee in Macau, after membership cards from a casino and staff information were found in the van, believed to have been driven by the suspect.

According to the Standard, an unidentified source told the newspaper that Kwok was known to be a triad member, making it easier for the police to track him down. Kwai Tsing regional crime squad is now investigating the case.

A police source also informed that the suspect had claimed he was drunk at the time and did not see the motorcyclist.

Security camera footage from the incident revealed that the seven-seater van changed lanes prior to the accident, from the fourth to the third and then the second, before immediately striking the motorcyclist who was riding ahead in the second lane.

The arrest occurred after video clips of the incident surfaced online, showing a part of the accident and the immediate moments that followed it. **DB**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to the President of Sports Bureau: Rules for using Cheoc Van swimming pool

Dear Mr Pun,

There is much to love and admire about Macao, and the wish to continually improve services is admirable and to be encouraged.

The recent change of Government Department and apparent change of rules for users of Government Outdoor Swimming Pools appear contradictory and short-sighted simultaneously, and moreover potentially harmful to the health of swimmers.

1. Installation of parking meters at Cheoc Van Beach

This is sensible as many cars had been left there in the past for weeks on end. Sadly only a few meters allow longer than 2 hours' parking. This will negatively impact on trade for the café and for the restaurant, not to mention the swimming pool, as well as the new rule this

season that one has to buy a ticket for each entry to the Pool complex during a day's visit. Maybe this is to encourage an increase in the purchase of season tickets, but this is not suitable for visitors to Macao and other local users.

2. No glasses to be worn in the swimming pool

Those whose head never goes underwater whilst swimming could be subject to Macular Degeneration through not being able to wear protective sunglasses - most glasses are made of plastic these days - whilst swimming, and subject to skin cancer through not being able to wear a perspex vizor whilst swimming.

The fear of glass, plastic or even perspex in the pool is understandable, but phones appear to be tolerated in the pool to take 'selfies', and phones could easily shatter if dropped on the hard surface.

3. No cooked foods to be consumed poolside

Again this is reasonable, but healthy 'tiffin' is to be encouraged after an energetic swim e.g. fruit, yogurt, nuts, dried fruit.

Sadly the convenience food available in the swimming pool's vending machines - chocolate sweets, biscuits etc, most containing considerably over recommended limits of sugar and salt, do not match the Sports Bureau's healthy lifestyle image.

Also some of the pool's staff seem to be misguided about what is cooked food, believing a yogurt to be in this category.

These changes in the rules were patiently explained to me by the very helpful and friendly pool staff. One can only conjecture the responses they must have experienced from regular users when trying to implement the new rules this season.

Indeed, whilst enjoying a peaceful swim last weekend, there was a most unpleasant incident where a user spoiled the calm en-

vironment of other users by shouting very loudly and angrily at the staff, arguing with them for quite some time, and refusing to comply with the rules, despite very polite explanations and entreaties to comply.

Given that lifeguards wear sunglasses, material facial masks and clothes under their uniforms, this could spark swimmers' anger further by denying their ability to be able to protect themselves similarly. One also wonders if the lifeguards would be able to denude themselves of their protective layers in time to effect their role saving a swimmer in difficulty.

It would be good if the Sports Bureau could consider this kindly meant, constructive feedback to ensure full usage of its charming facilities, otherwise regular swimmers will consider using other more comfortable facilities.

Yours faithfully
Patricia Thompson

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

+ 4 Million page views
PER MONTH

Thank You!

+11,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes

Times

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

DESIGN EDITOR_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS
Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitter, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong,
Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard
Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Viviana Seguí | ASSOCIATE
CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press,
Bloomberg, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Denise Lo denise@macaudailytimes.com

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

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

Renato Marques

LEGISLATORS Pereira Coutinho and Leong Veng Chai have critically evaluated the 2015-2016 legislative year. In a five-point review, the lawmakers particularly criticized the work of Legislative Assembly (AL) for failing to serve the citizens with an effective supervision of the government's policies.

In a press conference held yesterday afternoon at the Macau Civil Servants Association (ATFPM) headquarters, legislator Coutinho heavily criticized the role of AL during the legislative year.

Coutinho said that initiatives from the legislators were "weak and minimal," and that "the AL does not pay importance to the legislative initiatives from the legislators." This was exemplified by an initiative created by the two legislators regarding an interpretative note aiming to clarify the decree-law 33/81/M regarding the "Natural Heritage of Coloane" and that aims to prevent what the lawmakers call the "concrete invasion of Coloane."

"The AL didn't manage to find time to discuss one single article of our bill," stated Coutinho claiming the example shows the "tendentious way the AL works, favoring the government in all they want to do," Coutinho remarked, adding that "we think

Legislative Assembly works as a 'rubber-stamp for the government'



Rita Santos, Pereira Coutinho and Leong Veng Chai

that AL needs to change its conduct in order to change its nickname of a [rubber] 'stamp of the government'," he concluded.

The transparency of the AL work was in fact addressed in several different ways with Coutinho extending criticism to the way Q&A sessions to the Chief Executive (CE) work, saying "[these kinds of sessions] do not contribute to clarify, ex-

plain and detail the questions raised by the lawmakers," he said, affirming that the system that forces lawmakers to present the questions "one week or ten days in advance" does not work as the CE will only "read the answers" and not permit additional or follow-up questions.

Regarding these problems, the legislators propose an improvement of the system

through "eliminating the pre-sending of the questions to the government [...]" and that could be added an additional time of 2 or 3 minutes to request additional clarifications in resemblance of what already happens for the spoken enquiries."

Aiming to further add transparency to the work of AL, the legislators also propose the "press be authorized to assist to the standing committees meetings; being allowed inclusively to live broadcast the sessions in order to clearly inform citizens about the topics discussed," as both legislators claim that "working behind closed doors allows all kinds of discretions and abuses."

“The AL does not pay importance to the legislative initiatives from the legislators.

JOSÉ PEREIRA COUTINHO
LEGISLATOR

When questioned by journalists specifically on the topic, both Coutinho and Leong admitted that the summaries done by the presidents of the standing or follow-up committees "often do not match with what was in fact discussed as they selectively choose not to address the topics that aren't in the favor of the government." Coutinho remarked that this has happened ever since he first joined the AL.

The lawmakers also took the opportunity to call on the government to promote more participation from citizens, namely public servants, in the elections, calling for greater representation.

Coutinho accuses TDM of running 'election campaign' for Jiangmen Communal Society

LAWMAKER Pereira Coutinho accused the TDM Chinese Channel of running "electoral propaganda" for the Macao Jiangmen Communal Society, an avid supporter of legislator Mak Soi Kun campaign to AL. On a topic raised by the journalists during the press conference of Coutinho and Leong Veng Chai yesterday afternoon, Coutinho referred to a program of the TV station focused on the association and where the legislator is highlighted saying "[it raised] questions of professional ethics and unfair competition as it was clear for the citizens that the programme was of electoral purpose since the lawmakers were there doing personal promotion," adding that a channel supported almost exclusively by the government cannot show preference for candidates to the AL.

"We have received several complaints and even questions about when [we] would be broadcast[ing] the programme of the 'fellows of Portugal and of Macau.' We are waiting for the call from TDM to do that programme," he said, adding "the government needs to inspect TDM and not let things develop in this way creating social instability, creating unfairness and social friction" he said.

To recall, the same association announced recently that it will distribute shopping vouchers and other gifts for a large number of members. Coutinho calls on the government to establish "a real law" based on the "conflict of interests" and that grants powers to a permanent organization to investigate and to sanction these practices at least for a period of "one and half years before the elections."

RITA SANTOS SAYS IS 'TOO EARLY TO DECIDE' WHETHER TO RUN FOR AL

FORMER DEPUTY secretary-general of the permanent secretariat of Forum Macau and Chairman of the General Assembly of ATFPM, Rita Santos says "[it] is too early to take that decision [of running in the AL elections]." Santos, who was also councilor of the Council of the Portuguese Communities, recalls "when I took the decision to re-

tire it was to dedicate myself to my family," and "to have more time to give support to the legislators and to receive complaints and concerns from citizens." Santos claims that time is also needed to study and inquire with the population in order to gather the feedback from supporters to determine whether it is "worth running or not."

Film fair awards projects from Guangdong

THE "2016 Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair" ended Wednesday, with a number film projects from Macau and Guangdong effectively paired.

The Guangdong Han Yuan Education Investment & Management Ltd has successfully partnered with one film project from Macau, the "Singing Girl" and three film projects from Guangdong, namely "The Fist

and Snows," "The Same Face" and "Some Stories about Love."

According to a statement issued by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, awards were presented at the end of the event to the three projects with

the most votes by each investor.

The films, "The Same Face" and "The Fist and Snows," from Guangdong received the same number of votes, and thus were awarded the "Film Project — Grand Award."

Another project from its region, "Some Stories about Love", received the "Film Project — Award of Merit"

The initiative, held in Macau over two days, was 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 trade fair provided a platform for exchange and pairing services between film producers in a bid to facilitate the development of the film industry in the three regions.

Infiniti Q50

 **INFINITI**
INSPIRED PERFORMANCE




INFINITI Q50

THE TECHNOLOGICALLY REFINED SPORTS SALOON

Q50 2.0t SE plus

- Exhilarating 2.0-litre turbo with 211ps power
- LED Headlights with Signature Daytime Running Light
- Infiniti InTouch™ System next-gen smart connectivity
- Dual Touch Displays (8-inch and 7-inch)
- Alloy Wheels with 225/55R17 Tyres

 **INFINITI** 新康誠集團有限公司屬下
INSPIRED PERFORMANCE 新康誠汽車有限公司
XIN KANG CHENG MOTORS LTD.
Showroom : Estrada Almirante Magalhães Correia, N. 307-313,
JARDIM HOI WAN AJ/AK/AL, Taipa, Macau
Tel : +853 2885 0700

Life is about possibilities. The Q50 enhances the way you create them. How you define them.

Q50# VIEW THE WORLD WITH FRESH EYES

Daniel Beitler

Sports Bureau says eGaming recognition not on the horizon

IN response to a Times' enquiry last week on the possibility of recognizing electronic gaming (eGaming or eSports) as an official sport in the MSAR, the Sports Bureau (ID) has insisted that, as in the past, formal recognition is not on the horizon.

According to an emailed statement from the bureau, "[the] Sports Bureau has to entirely consider the development of sports [...] including the suitability and acceptability [of them] in society."

"As of today, although eSports has been recognized as a sports event in some other countries, each region should have their own considerations. According to Macau's current situation regarding the acceptability of eSports as a sports event, our standpoint remains unchanged that eSports is not recognized as a sports event," the statement continued.

Mainland China formally recognized eSports as an official sports program to be overseen by the General Administration of Sport of China back in 2003. By 2008, two professional gamers carried the Olympic torch in Hainan, en route to Beijing for the Summer Olympics' opening ceremony.

The activity has also been formally acknowledged by the relevant authorities in South Korea, the U.S., and Russia, among others. Russian authorities, after initially becoming the first official sporting agency



eSports winner Choi "Bomber" Ji Sung with the championship trophy after defeating his rival in the final

to recognize eGaming in 2001, has only recently reinstated its status after having revoked it in 2006.

The difficulties stem from that fact that defining sports, and especially defining video games as sporting activities, has always been a controversial matter. Proponents for the establishment of eSports as a formal, recognized sport, point out that such activities ought to be classified according to three criteria; careful planning, precise timing and skillful execution.

Even in Macau, the problem of whether or not to recognize

eGaming as a sport has been a sensitive subject. In the 4th Asian Indoor Games held in Macau in 2007, eSports was one of the sporting events, officiated by the Sports Bureau.

"During that time we emphasized clearly that eSports was not a recognized sport in Macau," the ID wrote in regards to the matter.

The ID did not reply by press time to a Times' enquiry for a more detailed explanation of why recognition is not on the horizon. From their initial response, it seems that the government agency is seeking to

Defining video games as sporting activities has always been a controversial matter

promote "an average universal improvement on [resident's] health standard," and does not consider the typically immobile and indoor nature of eSports to be conducive to this end.

"As one of the government departments, [the ID] must consider both the public and

society," noted the statement. "We should carry out the [promotion of] positive and popular sports, as well as develop fitness to our citizens, to create a healthy physical sports environment."

However, critics of this perspective have repeatedly argued in the past that physical exertion and outdoor playing areas – regularly associated with conventional sporting definitions – are not actually required by all traditional sports that are widely recognized today. For example, the International Olympics Committee and over 100 countries today recognize chess as a sport, though it cannot be said to require significantly more physical exertion than eGaming.

MACAU LATEST TO JOIN INT'L eSPORTS ASSOCIATION

SOUTH KOREA, considered by some to be the cradle of eSports, saw the establishment of an international organization some eight years ago, with the mission of having electronic sports recognized as a legitimate sport worldwide. While the organization's affiliate entities are not government agencies but private groups and clubs, a total of 46 member

nations are part of the International eSports Federation (IeSF). The latest member country to join IeSF was Macau, spearheaded by local association, Grow up eSports, which was accepted into the organization last month and is now able to send eGaming athletes to compete at the eSports World Championship held in Jakarta later this year.

MGTO to host 4th travel expo in September

Lynzy Valles

FOR the first time, the Macao Government Tourist Office will host the 4th Macao International Travel (industry) Expo (MITE), which will run from September 2 – 4 with a budget of MOP7 million.

The exhibition, themed "Smart Tourism," hosted by the Macau Travel Agency Association for

the past three years, will promote local tourism resources and products and create business opportunities to allow the region to become a vital exchange and transaction platform for tourism.

In a press conference held yesterday, MGTO director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes revealed that the program of the 4th MITE would feature various seminars,

a studio showcasing tourism videos, sales for FIT travel products and performances.

Aside from covering the six elements of the tourism industry such as accommodation, transportation and entertainment, the event will also feature travel media, tourism, electronic commerce and technology in tourism services among others elements.

MGTO reiterated that the event will update exhibitors and industry professionals with the latest trends in the local and overseas tourism industry.

The expo's seminars will cover analysis of new trends of FIT in the Asia-Pacific region and smart tourism development and internet application. Introduction of FIT travel via high-speed railway and promotion of tourist hot spots in 2016 will also be discussed.



Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes (center)

The upcoming tourism exhibition would also feature "China-Portugal Tourism Promotion Seminar & Travel Mart" to facilitate interchanges among tourism operators from China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

MGTO director also confirmed that there would be 14 tourism operators from Portugal attending the expo, along with a representative from Portugal's tourism office.

Budget-wise, Fernandes

told the press that aside from the local government's subsidy of MOP7 million, the Agency Association would continually seek out various other financial sources.

MGTO has forecasted 350 exhibition booths, a surge of 50 compared to last year's event.

"This year, so far as of today, we have already exceeded that anticipated 350. We have secured 369 exhibition booths already," said Fernandes, believing that there wou-

ld be more latecomers in the coming two weeks.

Enterprises and entities from 15 countries and regions have confirmed their participation as exhibitors, including travel agencies, hotels, resorts, scenic spot operators and tourism-related ventures.

The director added that the expo would not only cater business-to-business transactions but also provide sales and services for direct consumers.

Meanwhile, the president of the travel association, Alex Lao, told the press that the exhibition would feature known venture bodies including The Chimelong International Ocean Tourist Resort, National Tour Association, Air Macau and support from 16 Asia Pacific international airlines, among others.

This year, MITE is supported by the China National Tourism Administration and coordinated by the Macau Travel Agency Association and will be held at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Expo.

DROP IN MAINLAND TOURISTS TO THE PENINSULA

SPEAKING ON the sidelines of the event, Fernandes stated that despite the drop in the number of Chinese mainland tourists arriving to the peninsula, visitors from Thailand and South Korea have increased, which resulted in stable passenger traffic and hotel occupancy figures. She stressed that the office will continue to focus on

overseas promotion. The MGTO director also revealed that the government department is expecting a 10 percent increase in its annual overseas visitors this year. Further, Fernandes said the application of the Beijing Imperial Palace Hotel to perform a three-month renovation project has been approved.

REAL ESTATE MATTERS
Did You Know...?

20 Interesting Facts About Macau Property – Part 3

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor. Having been established in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.



JULIET RISDON

www.JMLProperty.com
info@JMLProperty.com

Five more facts about Macau property that you may not already know...

11. Rental yields in Macau are very low

Rents may seem high at times, but rental yields in Macau are some of the lowest in the world. Why? Other major cities around the world have diverse but mutually beneficial industries such as finance, educational institutions, advanced healthcare facilities and the like. Macau has none of these industries, which incidentally also require skilled and well-paid professionals to run them. Instead, Macau has only casino's and hotels, and whilst service professionals may earn reasonable salaries, they are certainly not enjoying the six-figure bonuses that come hand in hand with industries such as banking and finance.

12. Rental increases and limits

The rent may be adjusted once the agreement comes to an end, and there is no 'cap on the amount that the rent may be adjusted both up or down. In some countries, the amount that rents can be increased is limited to a certain percentage; say 10 percent for example. However in Macau, once the agreement comes to an end all subsequent agreements are treated as a new agreement.

13. Why many old buildings in Coloane & Taipa are falling down

If you have looked at the old sea front buildings in Coloane Village or the low-rise houses in Taipa Village and wondered why they are not fantastic restaurants, trendy cafes or just extremely nice houses, you are not alone. There are two reasons that the properties have remained in a similar condition for such a long time. The first is that there is no clear legal title on some of the properties. Property ownership on the islands of Taipa and Coloane is slightly different from Macau peninsula, and many of the village properties do not have a legal binding title.

Buying a property under these circumstances represents a great risk for the buyer, who would not be able to secure bank financing because of the legal issue. The second reason is because some of the buildings are 'protected'. Now that should be a good thing shouldn't it?

Well in this case, protected means that it is not actually protected and maintained, but rather that it cannot be 'improved' unless it becomes dangerous and unstable. Hence, owners are incentivized to leave the buildings until they fall down after which they can build a nice, new building... crazy, but true.

14. The responsibility to maintain the apartment

The responsibility to maintain the infrastructure, such as the water, electricity, sewage etc belongs to the landlord. He or she must maintain these elements to a reasonable standard unless some other provision is made explicitly between the two parties. The upkeep of the apartment itself is the responsibility of the tenant, who must hand back the apartment in the same condition that it was handed over in. This even includes cleaning the apartment before leaving IF it was handed over in a clean state at the beginning.

15. When your neighbor causes damage to your apartment

When a neighbor causes damage to your apartment through a burst or leaking pipe for example, they are duty bound to fix the problem but are not obliged to fix the damage it has caused. Apartment living can be hazardous, especially if the block is old and in need of attention, and this would help to explain the reluctance of some people to move into older buildings no matter how well appointed they are.

Next week: The Top 5

DCIC LaunchPad 2016
Delta Creativity & Innovation Celebration
Includes QR codes for presentation and registration, and logos for sponsors like San Jiao Ling and LETS Cultural District.

PokerStars LIVE Macau advertisement for Saturday SuperStack. Features stacks of chips with a spade symbol and text: 'STILL THE BIGGEST POKER NIGHT OF THE WEEK'. Includes details about the HK\$100,000 prize pool and tournament dates.

Cisco laying off 5,500 employees amid tech upheaval

Michael Liedtke, San Francisco

CISCO Systems is laying off 5,500 employees as the internet gear maker scrambles to adapt to a technology upheaval that has triggered similar cutbacks to other storied tech companies.

The shake-up announced Wednesday means about 7 percent of Cisco's roughly 74,000 workers will lose their jobs beginning this summer.

The purge is the latest fallout from a relentless march of innovation that has forced some of the world's biggest and oldest technology companies to head in new directions in search of revenue growth.

Others that have been laying off thousands of workers while overhauling their product lines include Microsoft, the world's largest software maker; Intel, the world's largest maker of computer chips; and HP, a Silicon Valley pioneer that went to the extreme of splitting itself into two separate companies that have continued to cut back.

Tech companies for decades have been prodded into sometimes painful transitions as advances in computing and faster wireless connectivity open up fertile new markets for frequently nimbler and more motivated rivals to plow while the incumbent powerhouse stick to familiar ground.

The adjustments usually are more wrenching for the companies that wait too long to pivot.

IBM, for instance, dawdled during the early phases of



the move away from mainframe computers, resulting in a traumatic overhaul that began in the 1990s and continues today. Despite its early leadership in personal computers, Apple went bankrupt during the 1990s before rebounding with its invention of the iPod and then, more importantly, the iPhone that triggered the mobile computing revolution underlying many of the current changes in technology.

"Companies are retooling now in attempt to take advantage of this next generation of opportunities," says Patrick Moorhead of tech consulting firm Moors Insights & Strategy. "History shows that some make the transition and others don't make it."

In the case of the 32-year-old Cisco, its business has been hurt as more of its corporate customers rely on remote data centers for their computing needs instead of online networks maintained on their own premises.

The San Jose, California, company is now focusing more on equipment tailored for large data centers and pouring more resources into software and security. The new emphasis is being orchestrated by CEO Chuck Robbins, who replaced the Cisco's long-time leader, John Chambers, nearly 13 months ago. **AP**

Because of Syrian war, Lebanon's tobacco industry is booming

Bassem Mroue, Beirut

SYRIA'S conflict has caused hundreds of thousands of refugees to flee to Lebanon, putting a huge strain on the Lebanese economy and its already-crumbling infrastructure.

But the five-year Syrian civil war has been a boon for at least one economic sector: the tobacco industry.

At Lebanon's main tobacco factory, located southeast of the capital, Beirut, employees work round-the-clock but can barely cover the high demand for locally-made cigarettes.

"We are lucky that there are Syrians in Lebanon," said George Hobeika, a senior official with the state-owned factory, adding that consumption of some local brands in Lebanon has more than tripled in five years.

Lebanon is hosting over a million registered Syrian refugees. Unofficially, the number of Syrians who have fled to Lebanon is estimated to be closer to two million. Many of them are unable to find work, and spend much of their day smoking in tented encampments or makeshift accommodation around the country.

In the months following the outbreak of war in March 2011, many of Syria's cigarette factories closed down. Others were not able to cover market demand after imports of tobacco stopped, leading to a sharp rise in demand for Lebanese ciga-



Lebanese farmer Abbas Khraibani, foreground, hangs tobacco leaves on long wires to dry

rettes — particularly Cedars, a brand that is similar to Syria's widely-smoked Hamra cigarettes. Lebanon's state-owned cigarette company sales peaked at USD1 billion in 2012.

Later that year, Syrians began importing cheaper brands of cigarettes through their ports, leading to a drop in imports from Lebanon. But demand in Lebanon is still high, due to the Syrian refugees and the introduction of two new premium labels, Cedars Silver and Cedars Plus, which have taken market share away from expensive imported brands.

Lebanon's government-owned Regie Libanaise des Tabacs et Tombac, better known as Regie, is the only firm authorized to produce and import cigarettes and tobacco and is a rare success story among the country's often dysfunctional state companies. It is one of the few institutions to bring money into the state's coffers.

At the Regie factory in Beirut's Hadath district, all the machines are functioning at nearly maximum capacity and Italian engineers are installing a new machine that is expected to boost production by 12,000 cigarettes a minute within weeks.

"There is high demand to export Cedars to neighboring countries, but regrettably demand in Lebanon is higher than production," said Hobeika, a member of Regie's board of directors, sitting in his office overlooking Beirut's international airport.

Karim Dawali, 36, runs a small shop where he sells coffee and cigarettes downtown, and says he sells on average about 20 packs of Cedars Silver per day compared to 17 packets of Marlboros, which are almost double the price.

"It's clean and tastes good," said Dawali, as a plainclothes policeman bought two packs of Cedars Silver. **AP**

corporate bits

CONCERT CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL JACKSON WILL BE FIRST AT THE PARISIAN



'Thriller Live,' a theatrical concert created to celebrate the life of Michael Jackson, is coming to the newly-built The Parisian Theatre from Sept. 30 to Nov. 13, for a limited season. It will be the first show held at the 1,200-seat theatre at The Parisian Macao which

officially opens Sept. 13. Direct from London's West End where it is now in its eighth year, the constantly evolving show, which has reportedly been performed over 5,000 times and has been seen by over 4 million people in more than 30 countries. According to a state-

ment issued by Sands China, 'Thriller Live' is a "90-minute, high-energy explosion of pop, rock, soul and disco takes the audience on a magical audio-visual journey through Michael Jackson's astonishing 45-year musical legacy."

As well as experiencing his legendary live performance and innovative dance routines, fans can expect to hear their favorite Jackson songs perfectly rendered by the exceptionally talented cast, including I Want You Back, ABC, Man in the Mirror, Black Or White, The Way You Make Me Feel, Smooth Criminal, Beat It, Billie Jean, Dirty Diana, Bad, They Don't Care About Us, Dangerous, Thriller and many more.

Tickets for the show are available at all Cotai Ticketing box offices.

CATHAY SAYS PREMIUM TRAVEL SLUMPING, PROMPTING DISCOUNTS

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd., Asia's biggest international carrier, says it's getting tougher to find premium fliers from Hong Kong.

The lack of first and business-class travelers from the Asian financial center - the worst since the global financial crisis days of 2009 - is such a dent on Cathay's financials that analysts are asking whether Chief Executive Officer Ivan Chu needs to find a Plan B. After more than two years at the helm of the marquee Hong Kong airline - his two predecessors stayed for about three years at the top - Chu is under pressure to revive earnings that have slumped amid an expansion by his Chinese and Middle Eastern rivals.



Cathay shares have lost about 25 percent of their value since Chu took over while passenger yields - the amount earned by carrying one person each kilometer, and a key metric of profitability - slumped to their worst in seven years. With Chinese airlines

offering more direct services to the U.S. and Europe from the mainland, Cathay's Hong Kong hub is no longer critical. The carrier also reported Wednesday that it lost HKD4.49 billion (USD579 million) from fuel hedges in the first half of the year.



Xi Jinping delivers a speech during a conference on the "One Belt, One Road" initiative in Beijing

Xi seeks to address concerns over China's new 'Silk Road' plan

Ting Shi

CHINESE President Xi Jinping is seeking to assuage international concern that his three-year-old signature initiative to revive an ancient trading route linking China and Europe is only about serving his nation's interests.

Speaking at a conference on the "One Belt, One Road" initiative in Beijing on Wednesday, Xi called for a step up in the implementation of projects to provide "a solid sense of gain" to all the countries involved. He also requested better risk assessment and security for the projects along the route that passes through countries prone to wars, terrorist attacks and political instability.

The initiative, first proposed by Xi in 2013, aims at reviving the route that connects China and Europe via Central Asia and the Middle East, as well as a path through Southeast Asia and Africa. Critics, from countries including Kazakhstan and India, say the main purpose of the plan is to boost China's geopolitical influence and export China's excess industrial capacity to over-

Xi is expected to seek wider recognition of the initiative next month at the Group of 20 summit in the Chinese city of Hangzhou

seas countries. Doubts also exist over the feasibility and security risk of the initiative.

"This is a mid-stage taking stock of the situation," said Xue Li, director of international strategy at the government-backed Chinese Academy of Social Sciences' Institute of World Economics and Politics. "The past three years have seen no shortage of skepticism and criticism from the international level, which mainly coalesced to viewing it as a new form of China threat. This was a proper time

for Xi to make a response to these concerns, and he summed up major problems that popped up and mapped out some future direction."

Xi is expected to seek wider recognition of the initiative next month at the Group of 20 summit in the Chinese city of Hangzhou.

More than 100 countries and international organizations are already participating in the initiative, with over 30 countries signing formal agreements and more than 20 countries have joined in "production capacity cooperation" in areas such as railway construction and nuclear power, Xi said.

The export of China's production and construction capacity could help participating countries push forward with industrialization and will help stabilize the world economy, Xi added.

The meeting was attended by the heads of the top national economic planning body, the foreign ministry, several entrepreneurs and scholars, and senior officials from the key provinces involved in the project such as Fujian, Shaanxi, Guangdong and Xinjiang. **Bloomberg**

Manila will not raise sea row with Beijing at ASEAN meeting



Rodrigo Duterte

PHILIPPINE President Rodrigo Duterte said he will not raise long-simmering maritime disputes with China at a meeting of Southeast Asian nations in Laos next month, preferring to talk quietly with Chinese officials.

"I will only bring the issue when we are together face to face," he told reporters late Wednesday night. "Because if you quarrel with them now and you claim sovereignty, make noise here and there, they might not just even want to talk."

In July, a Hague-based arbitration tribunal ruled heavily in the Philippines' favor

in a case challenging China's claims and aggressive actions in the South China Sea. China ignored the decision and continued to block Filipino fishermen from a disputed shoal and build new islands.

The arbitration case was filed by Duterte's predecessor. Duterte has been lukewarm in his support for the action and has said he was adopting "a softer approach" to resolving the disputes.

He said Wednesday that his special envoy to China, former President Fidel Ramos, is paving the way for possible talks with China.

"Let us create an environment where we can sit down, talk directly, and that is the time when I would say, we proceed from here," he said.

Ramos flew to Hong Kong last week to meet the Chinese legislature's foreign affairs chief, Fu Ying, and a leading government-backed scholar on the dispute, and they agreed on the need to reduce tensions through talks.

China welcomed him to visit Beijing for discussions, but the tribunal ruling was not directly discussed, Ramos told reporters. He gave no indication of when any talks might be held. **AP**

If you quarrel with them now and you claim sovereignty, make noise here and there, they might not just even want to talk.

RODRIGO DUTERTE

Admiral visits Syria in show of support

CHINESE state media say a top military officer visited Syria this week in a show of support for President Bashar Assad's embattled regime.

The official Xinhua News Agency says Rear Adm. Guan Youfei met on Monday with Syrian Defense Minister Fahd Jassem al-Frej in Damascus. It said he also met the same day with a Russian general who is coordinating his country's military assistance to Assad's fight against armed opposition groups.

Xinhua said Guan expressed China's willingness to boost military cooperation.

Guan is head of the Office for International Military Cooperation under the Central Military Commission that oversees China's 2.3 million-member armed forces.

While China has echoed Russia's approach in backing Assad, it hasn't directly contributed forces in keeping with its policy of opposing outside intervention in domestic conflicts. **AP**

Didi Tang

RIO OLYMPICS

WHO knew a simple statement about “that time of the month” could cause such a stir?

A Chinese Olympic swimmer whose popularity soared during the Rio Games for her animated facial expressions and rare candor has become a social media sensation for another off-the-cuff comment about a topic still considered taboo in China: her period.

There is also a long-held notion in China that women should not engage in exercise during menstruation

Twenty-year-old Fu Yuanhui emerged from the women's 4x100-meter medley relay last week and told a Chinese state broadcaster that she failed to swim her best in part because her period had started the day before. Television footage showed her crouching down with her hand

over her stomach. Team China finished fourth in the race.

The interview quickly trended on Chinese social media sites, where users expressed surprise — and some admiration — that Fu had shared such an intimate matter but also that she swam while menstruating. Said one blogger: “If her candor can dis-

pel the thought in some people's minds that menstruation is dirty, then her act is worth applause.”

In China, menstruation is considered an off-limits topic of conversation, a reflection of conservative views about women's bodies and sex. “It's an issue stemming from demonizing sex,” said one woman

on the Chinese question-and-answer internet site Zhihu. “Therefore, a well-educated girl should not think about anything related to sex.”

There is also a long-held notion in China that women should not engage in exercise during menstruation. Girls are excused from physical education class at

school and warned about taking showers, drinking cold water and eating raw fish during one's period. Immersion in water, the stories go, may cause infection.

And because tampons are unusual in the communist nation — there is a belief they can compromise the virginity of unmarried women — the idea that someone could swim during that time of the month is entirely novel.

Such ideas, while wrong, are something all women endure in China, said Wang Yuling, a gynecologist in Shanghai Huangpu District Health Center for Women and Children.

“If you have so many limitations during the period,” Wang said, “you could waste one-sixth of the year by thinking in this way.”

Fu, a bronze medal winner in the 100-meter backstroke, is just one of several athletes on the Chinese team breaking ground by breaking from the typical on-message style common with past Chinese Olympic squads. **AP**



Fu Yuanhui (right)

Home-price gains cool as smaller cities impose curbs

CHINESE home prices gained in fewer cities as local governments joined some of the nation's largest hubs in imposing residential property curbs to quell soaring real estate values.

New-home prices excluding government-subsidized housing gained in 51 cities last month, from 55 in June, among the 70 the government tracks, the National Bureau of Statistics said yesterday. Prices dropped in more cities for a fourth consecutive month, declining in 16, compared with 10 a month earlier. They were unchanged in three.

The figures show tightening measures are having an effect as they spread from larger hubs such as Shanghai and Shenzhen to smaller cities in a bid to tackle overheated home markets that have been buoyed by stimulus measures rolled out since November 2014. Nanjing, Jiangsu's provincial capital, and Suzhou, a regional manufacturing base, last week raised down-payment requirements for some buyers of second



residences, adding to restrictions introduced in Xiamen, a southern port city in Fujian province, and Hefei, the provincial capital of Anhui.

“The recent policy tightening could curb rapid home-price growth,” David Yang, a Shanghai-based analyst at UOB Kay Hian Investment Co., said before the data release. “Local policies will see further divergence as surging home prices and land costs trigger more tightening rules.”

Private data showed mixed signs. Prices in July gained in 66 cities among the 100 tracked by SouFun Holdings Ltd., the

owner of China's biggest property website, seven fewer than in the previous month. Average new-home prices rose 1.63 percent, quickening from the 1.3 percent pace in June.

“The price growth continued to abate,” the statistics bureau said in a statement released with the data, noting that most of the slower increases were in cities with an overheated housing market. The average new-home price rose 0.7 percent in July from June, broadly in line with the 0.71 percent increase in the previous month, according to Bloomberg calculations based on go-

vernment data.

Price gains in some second-tier hubs cooled from record-high paces. Xiamen led gains in July with a 4.6 percent increase, slower than 4.7 percent in June. Values in Hefei rose 4.2 percent, slowing from 4.8 percent a month earlier.

In Shanghai, prices climbed 1.4 percent, and they increased 2 percent in the southern business hub of Shenzhen from a month earlier, both at a slower pace after the cities unveiled curbs in March designed to rein in soaring home values and deter speculative purchases. They rose 1.7 percent in Beijing and 1.3 percent in the southern city of Guangzhou.

A slowdown in the property market may rob the economy of its biggest source of growth, Bloomberg Intelligence economists Tom Orlik and Justin Jimenez wrote in a note yesterday. Policy makers are struggling to smooth the real estate cycle as they try to achieve a delicate balance by calming speculative first-

Prices dropped in more cities for a fourth consecutive month. A slowdown in the property market may rob the economy of its biggest source of growth

tier markets while driving more construction in smaller cities, according to Bloomberg Intelligence.

With rapid increases in land and home prices, top government officials are urging local authorities to impose housing-market controls. The red hot markets exposed the “failure” of local authori-

ties in managing residents' expectations, and they bear responsibility to ensure stable home markets with curbs, the official Xinhua News Agency wrote in a Wednesday commentary.

Such a “vigilant” attitude by top authorities suggests developers face more restrictions in fund raising and land bidding this year, which will weigh on the growth in real estate investment, said Xia Dan, a Shanghai-based analyst at Bank of Communications Co.

The pace of home sales has slowed sharply, indicating investing is tapering off. The value of homes sold rose 26 percent in July from a year earlier, according to Bloomberg calculations based on data the National Bureau of Statistics released Aug. 12. That was down from 71 percent in March.

Existing-home prices increased last month in 51 cities from the previous month, three more than in June. They declined in 16 cities and were unchanged in three. **Bloomberg**

Mongolia hikes interest rate to protect currency

Michael Kohn, James Mayger

THE central bank of Mongolia raised its key interest rate to 15 percent to protect the currency, reversing a cut in borrowing costs to 10.5 percent in May.

The Mongolian tugrik initially rose after the announcement. By 4:26 p.m. in Ulaanbaatar it was falling again, and traded at 2,268 per dollar. The currency is headed for its 24th straight daily decline.

The increase follows the new government's decision earlier yesterday to freeze some spending as part of an austerity plan to stave off an economic crisis. The decision was taken to improve yields on tugrik-denominated assets in order to protect the currency and ensure mid-term stability, the bank said in a statement on its website.



Pedestrians cross a road in front of the Mongolian Stock Exchange

The landlocked nation between China and Russia has been hit hard by the slump in commodity prices and the slowdown in its larger neighbors. A newly elected government roiled markets when it announced this month that

the nation was in a "deep state of economic crisis," with the finance minister saying it may not be able to pay salaries.

"The currency is symptomatic of its balance of payments crisis. The fiscal coffer is running dry

with the government having to admit that it can't pay its civil servants," said Trinh Nguyen, a senior economist for emerging-market Asia at Natisis SA in Hong Kong. "It will need IMF help. All of this is because Mongolia has too much of its eggs in one basket - reliance on mining, which remains subdued."

Mongolia sold USD1.5 billion in sovereign debt in 2012, know as Chinggis Bonds, largely to finance road projects across the country. The government is scheduled to repay \$500 million in 2018 and the rest in 2022. The Development Bank of Mongolia faces a \$580 million repayment next year. In total, Mongolia has about \$5 billion in general government debt, according to Finance Minister Choijilsuren Battogtokh. **Bloomberg**

Biden's remark on Japan constitution raises eyebrows

A recent remark by U.S. Vice President Joe Biden that America wrote Japan's Constitution is raising eyebrows in Japan.

A popular front-page column in the national Asahi newspaper said this week that the comment "was unprecedented in its insensitivity" and "could even be considered arrogant."

Biden attacked Republican candidate Donald Trump on Monday for saying that Japan might need to consider obtaining nuclear weapons in the future.

The vice president said: "Does he not understand we wrote Japan's Constitution to say that they could not be a nuclear power?"

The constitution was drafted by U.S. forces occupying Japan after World War II, though Japan modified the draft somewhat before adoption. Some speculate Biden's comment could embolden those who want to revise the postwar charter. **AP**



U.S. Vice President Joe Biden

AD

We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

General Surgery : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong, Dr. Kwong Man

Breast Surgery : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

Urology : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

Paediatric Surgery : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

Paediatrics : Dr. Leung Ping Maurice, Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

Cardiology : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

Gastroentero-Hepatology : Dr. Zhan De Juan

General Medicine : Dr. Ng Kam Hong

Anaesthesiology : Dr. Ning Siu Kei Eric, Dr. Chan Wai Han

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

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

ALBERGUE SCM

婆仔屋文創空間

YOUNG ARCHITECTS SERIES 青年建築師系列 SÉRIE DE JOVENS ARQUITECTOS

Architects Sketches

建築師素描

Esboços de Arquitectos

X3

Opening Hours

Tuesday to Sunday from 12:00 to 20:00

Monday from 15:00 to 20:00

Duration of the Exhibition

9 August 2016 until 15 September 2016

Exhibition Venue

Albergue SCM - A2 Gallery

Calçada da Igreja de São Lázaro No.8, Macau

Free Admission

ALBERGUE SCM

ADDRESS: CALÇADA DA IGREJA DE SÃO LÁZARO No. 8, MACAU

TEL: 853 - 2852 2550/ 2852 3205 FAX: 853 - 2852 2719

INFO: facebook.com/creativealbergue.scm

EMAIL: creativealbergue@gmail.com

Organizer

Co-organizer

Sponsor

Managed by

Diplomat's defection poses major PR problem for Pyongyang

Eric Talmadge

THE defection of a North Korean senior diplomat in London poses a major problem for Pyongyang on a number of fronts — not least of which is how to publicly respond.

As of yesterday, Pyongyang hadn't made a public statement about the defection. But when — or if — it does, its response will likely be ferocious and accusatory.

Seoul's Unification Ministry announced Wednesday that Thae Yong Ho, minister at the North Korean Embassy in London, has arrived in South Korea with his family and is under the protection of the South Korean government. Thae was the second-highest official in North Korea's embassy and is the most senior North Korean diplomat to defect to the South.

Seoul, which doesn't always divulge defections, was quick to seize on this one as evidence of growing dissent within the North's ruling elite.

Its Unification Ministry claimed Thae defected because of his disgust with the Kim Jong Un regime and worries about the future of his children. A spokesman for the ministry further said that the defection is a sign of weakening unity within the North's ruling class.

Extrapolations about the bi-

Seoul, which doesn't always divulge defections, was quick to seize on this one as evidence of growing dissent within the North's ruling elite

gger significance of individual defections should be taken with a grain of salt.

Seoul and Pyongyang have strong political and propaganda motivations for the way they handle announcements about defections. Analysts generally agree there are no significant signs Kim Jong Un's regime is weakening. Moreover, previous defections of officials from the North have by and large been isolated incidents that did not lead to a chain of more choosing to flee.

Thae himself has not yet spoken in public about his motives and details about the context of his defection remain sketchy.

AP PHOTO



People watch a TV news showing a file image of Thae Yong Ho, minister at the North Korean Embassy in London

Defectors are referred to by the North in the harshest of terms. "Human scum" is a common epithet, along with "criminals" or "traitors." Pyongyang often accuses the South of tricking or paying its citizens to defect, or claims that they have simply been kidnapped.

In April, 13 North Koreans working at a North Korean-operated restaurant in China defected to South Korea in the largest group defection since Kim Jong Un took power in late 2011.

The North responded furiously to the South's account of the flight of the restaurant workers, alleging repeatedly that the women — 12 waitresses and their manager — were tricked

into thinking they were being transferred to work at another restaurant in Malaysia. It has also presented the colleagues and parents of the waitresses to North Korean and international media in Pyongyang to appeal for their release. Seoul categorically denies any wrongdoing.

Thae's case presents a more difficult conundrum for Pyongyang.

Though South Korea doesn't always make high-level defection cases public, its announcement of Thae's flight comes as ties between the rivals are at one of their lowest points in decades. North Korea conducted its fourth nuclear test in January and Seoul been working hard to apply more international

pressure on the North.

Thae, 55, is a veteran diplomat who is experienced in dealing with countries in Western Europe. He led a North Korean delegation that held talks with European Union representatives over the North's human rights situation in Brussels in 2001, according to South Korea's Yonhap news agency.

He had worked at the London embassy for about 10 years, Yonhap said. Previously, he worked at the now-closed embassy in Denmark and spent a short period of time at the embassy in Sweden, it said.

In 1997, the North Korean ambassador to Egypt fled, but he resettled in the United States. **AP**

PHILIPPINES

GDP beats forecasts in boost for Duterte's plans

Cecilia Yap, David Roman

THE Philippines economy grew faster than economists predicted last quarter, giving a boost to new President Rodrigo Duterte as he seeks to attract more investment and speed up infrastructure spending.

Gross domestic product increased 7 percent in the three months through June from a year earlier, the fastest pace since the same period in 2013, the Philippine Statistics Authority said yesterday. That was higher than the median estimate of 6.6 percent in a Bloomberg survey of 21 economists and beat the first quarter's 6.8 percent expansion.

Duterte, a former mayor who took office in June, is



seeking to relax business restrictions and cut taxes in a bid to attract more foreign investment and build on the economic success of his predecessor. His administration sees a steady acceleration in growth to 7 percent to 8 percent in the medium term, Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia said at a

briefing after the GDP release.

The government's growth outlook is "certainly not outlandish," Vishnu Varathan, a Singapore-based economist with Mizuho Bank Ltd, said by e-mail. "They do have good demographic dividends to exploit. And if the infrastructure catchup main-

tains while manufacturing investments follow, this is feasible."

The Philippines Stock Exchange Index reversed an earlier decline to advance as much as 0.6 percent after the data was released. The index was little changed at 7,948.77 as of 12:52 p.m. in Manila.

Pernia said the economy may slow down for the rest of this year as first-half growth was boosted by a surge in government spending ahead of the May general election. Second-half GDP growth just above 5 percent would be enough to meet the government's target of 6 percent to 7 percent expansion this year, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez said in an interview on Bloomberg TV.

The services industry, the largest in the economy, expanded 8.4 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier

The services industry, the largest in the economy, expanded 8.4 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier, while industrial output rose 6.9

percent and agriculture fell 2.1 percent. Consumer spending climbed 7.3 percent and government expenditure surged 13.5 percent.

Lifting the investment rate further may be the key challenge for the Philippines, said Timothy Condon, a Singapore-based economist with ING Bank. The rate was at 25 percent of GDP in the first quarter and an increase to 40 percent would be needed to set up the economy for sustained growth of about 7 percent, he said.

"I'm very heartened by the acceleration in investment growth since 2015," Condon said by e-mail. "This is all about the locals seeing it worthwhile to invest in their economy." **Bloomberg**

UN experts: Extremists foiling governments with encryption

Edith M. Lederer

INCREASING numbers of foreign fighters for the Islamic State group and al-Qaida are returning home, potentially to carry out attacks, and are using the “dark web” or encrypted messaging that the most sophisticated intelligence agencies can’t penetrate, U.N. experts said in a report circulated Wednesday.

The experts monitoring sanctions against the extremist groups said governments highlighted the challenge to national security from the communication methods being used by these “foreign terrorist fighters” and people being radicalized at home who need to be monitored and investigated.

They said the rise in the use of the “dark web” — a collection of thousands of websites which use tools to maintain anonymity — and especially encrypted messaging “has closed off the ability of even the most sophisticated agencies to penetrate huge quantities of messages.”

The result, the experts said, is that governments are “potentially losing much of their previous technological advantage over terror groups.”

Recruiters for the Islamic State group, once they engage potential fighters, also swiftly move them to “closed forums” and guide them toward encrypted messaging systems, the experts said.

The expert panel’s report to the Security Council said the threat from al-Qaida, the Islamic State, and their associates “is serious and di-



Foued Mohammed-Aggad, a Frenchman who was among the Islamic State fighters to attack Paris on Nov. 13, 2015, appears in an undated propaganda video

versifying,” despite military setbacks for Islamic State fighters in Iraq, Syria Afghanistan and Libya.

The Islamic State “demonstrated its ability to conduct complex, multi-stage attacks outside the conflict zone” while at the same time the role of its affiliates in the wider region was elevated, the panel said.

The near-simultaneous attacks conducted by Islamic State operatives in Paris in November 2015 and Brussels in March generated an overwhelming flow of information to command centers which governments described as a deliberate tactic by the extremist group “to make it more difficult to mount coordinated and targeted responses to the most dangerous continuing threats,” the experts said.

Al-Qaida and its affiliates

also maintained their position in various regions “and also demonstrated an ability to successfully plan and execute significant attacks,” the panel said.

The experts said governments estimate that the Islamic State has up to 30,000 fighters in Syria and Iraq.

Significant numbers of IS fighters have been killed as a result of military attacks and the rate of fighters leaving the extremist group has increased, but the panel said governments report that this trend is partially offset by the continued flow of new fighters into Syria and Iraq and by forced recruitment among tribes and the use of child soldiers since 2014.

The panel said the Islamic State group’s financial situation has deteriorated since last July, with oil production declining by be-

tween 30 and 50 percent as a result of air strike targeting oil infrastructure.

“Consequently oil revenue has fallen by tens of millions of dollars per month,” it said.

The group’s financial woes have also led to salary cuts for fighters, the panel said, but the Islamic State continues to earn significant revenue from taxation and extortion, the panel said.

According to governments, IS may earn as much as USD30 million a month from these methods which include business taxes, fees for electricity and water, rent for seized real estate and customs duties and passage fees.

In a sign of desperation, the panel said that in February IS started to tax the most impoverished civilians in areas under its control who had previously been exempt. **AP**

TURKEY

Three killed, dozens wounded in 2 car bombings

TWO car bombings targeted police stations in Turkey early yesterday, killing three people and wounding dozens, officials said.

A car bombing attack on a police station in the eastern province of Van killed a police officer and two civilians. Dozens of other people, including some 20 police officers, were wounded.

Authorities blamed that attack on the Kurdistan Workers’ Party, or PKK, which has launched a campaign of car bombings targeting police stations or roadside bomb attacks on police vehicles. Last week, PKK commander Cemil Bayik threatened increased attacks against police in Turkish cities.

Hours later, another car bombing hit police headquarters in the eastern Turkish city of Elazig, wounding several people, an official said.

Mahmut Varol, the deputy mayor for Elazig, told Haber Turk television the explosion occurred on the grounds of the police headquarters. Cars parked nearby also caught fire, he said.

Video footage showed a large plume of smoke rising from the area. Cars were overturned and the windows of the four-story building and its wings were blown out.

Clashes between the PKK and Turkey’s security forces resumed last year after a fragile peace process collapsed. Since then, more than 600 Turkish security personnel and thousands of PKK militants have been killed, according to state-run Anadolu Agency. Human rights groups say hundreds of civilians have also died in the clashes.

Tens of thousands of people have died in the conflict since the PKK took up arms for autonomy in southeast Turkey in 1984. Turkey and its allies consider the PKK a terrorist organization. **AP**

AD



優悅牙科護理中心
ICQ Oral Health Center

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oral examination and radiology investigation - Restorative and Cosmetic Dentistry - Children Dentistry - Orthodontic Treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oral and Dental implant Surgery - Endodontic Treatment - Periodontal Treatment - Emergency Treatment
---	---

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

Website: www.icqoral.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/icqoral

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

RM1907, 19/F, AIA TOWER, NOS. 251A-301, AVENIDA COMMERCIAL DE MACAU, MACAU SAR
TEL: (853)28373266 FAX: (853)28356483 EMAIL: INFO@ICQORAL.COM WWW.ICQORAL.COM

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.




Carpet Cleaning

Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



C&C LAWYERS
C&C 律師事務所



合伙人 PARTNERS:

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

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:

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

白穎怡 Iclia Berenguel
冼玲鳳 Mariana A. Esteves
薛明恩 Maria A. Giestas
飛嘉華 Carlos S. Ferreira
黃保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção
羅桃 Luo Tao, Elina
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
曹樂萌 Cao Lemeng, Rui

莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

楊越華 leong Ut Wa
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
王洋玲 Erna Wong
陳祖恩 Joana Chan
顏晚蓉 Teresa, Xiaorong Yan

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



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



知得更多

KNOW
MORE
LIVE
BETTER

活得更好

MACAUCLOSER.COM

生活藝術雜誌 LIVING & ARTS MAGAZINE

follow us available on

HAPPY HOUR

EVERYDAY 11PM-2AM

DRINKS BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

飲品買1送1

D2 CLUB
www.d2club-macau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edif. New Orleans 111
澳門友誼大馬路 澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良館 111
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

WELCOME TO Playmate's club
花心公子俱樂部

WILD NIGHT OUT

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

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

Attention
No admission under 18

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

TV canal macau



FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
18:30	Merciless (Repeated)
19:20	TDM Talk Show (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Documentary Serie
22:09	Advisor
22:10	Merciless
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Movie

SATURDAY

10:20	Comedy
10:50	Animation
11:50	Documentary Series
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	Soap Opera
17:30	Documentary Serie
18:45	Contest
19:30	Wild Life
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Drama
22:00	Revenge S.3
22:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Comey

SUNDAY

10:30	Young Children
11:30	Zig Zag
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Wild Life (Repeated)
16:30	Theatre
17:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News
19:20	Comedy
20:10	Ui Di Sabroso S.1
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Documentary
22:00	Doctors In The War Zone
23:00	TDM News

offbeat

EUROPE IS LEAVING THE WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE ON THE SIDELINES



Six years after the euro's debt crisis began its attack on economies from Greece to Ireland, one in six people aged between 20 and 24 is still living for the day - not in employment, education

or training. They're NEETS, for short. There are 5 million people that fit this bracket across the 28-nation European Union, according to fresh Eurostat data.

The problem isn't only that they are currently without a job. They "face a permanent disadvantage on the labor market," according to Guntram Wolff, director of the Brussels-based policy group Bruegel. "They will never be as productive as people who have a normal start."

Youth unemployment is a particular burden in countries across the Mediterranean region. In Italy, more than 30 percent of the 20 to 24-year-olds were left last year outside work or school, an increase of almost 10 percentage points from 2006. In Greece, the share climbed to 26 percent.

"Countries that are already facing the consequence of a severe economic crisis will feel the long-term impact of high youth unemployment on their economy in the next 20 to 30 years," Wolff said.

While countries in Europe's core fare better, their challenges are similar: Joblessness among young Germans or Dutch also exceeds the average rate for the entire working population. **Bloomberg**

cinema



CINETEATRO

18 Aug - 24 Aug



BEN-HUR

ROOM 1
(2D) 2.30, 7.15 pm
(3D) 9.30 pmDirector: Timur Bekmambetov
Starring: Morgan Freeman, Rodrigo Santoro, Jack Huston
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 124min

DOREAMON: BIRTH OF JAPAN

ROOM 1

4.450 pm

Director: Shinnosuke Yakuwa
Duration: 97min

LINE WALKER - THE MOVIE

ROOM 2

2.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Jazz Boon
Starring: Nick Cheung, Louis Koo, Francis Ng
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 97min

CHIBI MARUKO CHAN- A BOY FROM ITALY

ROOM 2

4.30 pm

Director: Jun Takagi
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 120min

ROBINSON CRUSOE

ROOM 3

2.30, 7.30 pm

Director: Vincent Kesteloot, Ben Stassen
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 90min

BFG

ROOM 3

4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Syeven Spielberg
Starring: Mark Rylance, Ruby Barnhill, Penelope Wilton
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 117min

MACAU TOWER

18 Aug - 31 Aug

HEARTFALL ARISES

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Ng Ban Yu

Starring: Sixuan Chen, Babyjohn Choi, Mavis Fan
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)
Duration: 106min

this day in history



2003 UN ENVOY DIES IN BAGHDAD BOMBING

A massive bomb has wrecked the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, killing at least 17 people including the UN's chief envoy to Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello.

Three floors of the concrete building collapsed in the explosion. Hundreds of people were still at work, and it was an especially busy period since a news conference had just begun.

Rescue efforts to dig out those trapped in the rubble are continuing into the night.

Alice Yacoub, a UN employee, was sitting in the cafeteria when the blast happened. "Everything came down on our heads," she said. "I can't find my colleagues and I'm worried about them."

The UN's spokesman at the scene, Salim Lone, was working in his office when the bomb went off. "There was a huge, shattering explosion. I was working on the computer, the glass in the window blew - the woodwork, everything came out of the roof.

"I ran in to the corridor. Everybody was very severely wounded, very badly hurt, bleeding, people with blood on their face."

A US military spokeswoman said the blast was caused by a truck bomb, possibly in a suicide bombing. Eyewitnesses said a concrete mixing lorry believed to have been carrying the bomb was parked just outside Mr de Mello's office when it went off at about 1640 local time (1240 GMT).

The highly-respected 55-year-old Brazilian diplomat died after being trapped under rubble for several hours. He was one of the UN's most experienced envoys, and had been on many of the most sensitive and dangerous peace missions of recent years.

The UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, said in a statement that everyone at the UN was "shocked and dismayed" at the attack.

"Nothing can excuse this act of unprovoked and murderous violence against men and women who went to Iraq... to help the Iraqi people," the statement said.

The bombing is the latest in a steady stream of attacks by groups opposed to the US occupation of Iraq.

The United Nations has just increased security measures around the Baghdad building in the wake of several recent attacks, including the bombing of the Jordanian embassy 12 days ago in which at least 14 people died.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The death toll later rose to 23.

Following the attack, all but about 50 foreign UN workers were pulled out of Baghdad.

The remainder were withdrawn in October 2003 following an attack on the Red Cross headquarters in which 12 people died. Many other aid organisations have since left Baghdad as the security situation continues to deteriorate.

In December 2003, Kofi Annan named New Zealand official Ross Mountain as an interim envoy to Iraq to replace Mr de Mello.

In February 2004, a UN team returned to Baghdad for the first time since the attack, on a fact-finding mission to discuss the handover of political power.

Iraq was run by the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), headed by American diplomat Paul Bremer until 28 June 2004 when power was officially handed back.

Elections to choose a full, sovereign Iraqi government were held in January 2005.

The United Iraqi Alliance, tacitly backed by Shia Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, led with some 48% of the vote for the 275-member National Assembly. The Democratic Patriotic Alliance of Kurdistan was in second place with some 26% of the vote. Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's party, the Iraqi List, came third with some 14%. In total, twelve parties received enough votes to win a seat in the assembly.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Everyone seems alien to you. Even one cubicle over feels like foreign territory. Wait until this wave of weirdness passes over you, or risk putting your foot in your mouth.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Having a good time at the office and having a good time outside of work mean two completely different things. It's not exactly about lowering your standards from nine-to-five, but it does mean having different expectations.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

If you think your work day should be filled with fun and romance, then you are totally out there. But if you think it should hold a minimal amount of satisfaction, then you are right on the money. Demand it.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

If all of your loftier ideas get shot down, it could be that you're not expressive enough. Don't be deadpan. Letting your excitement show is the best way to win the approval you need.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Expect the unexpected. If you're used to sour expressions, then enjoy the suddenly jovial faces around you. With a bit of exploration, you can learn just what caused the exaltation, and avoid miserable faces tomorrow.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

If you broaden the pool, you're more likely to get people to agree with your ideas. That doesn't mean you're looking for 'yes men,' but it does mean you need to align yourself with colleagues who have similar values.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

You can be convincing or you can be charming. Your approach should depend on your target. Trying to win a project? Know your facts. Need something from the next cubicle? Pour on the charm.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Don't be selfish. You're just making things harder for everyone. The energy should flow through the office, not get caught at your desk. Lay down your butterfly net and participate in the greater good.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

A certain project is turning into a bad dream. It's not at the nightmare stage yet, but it's getting close. While you want to rush ahead, you'll never escape its clutches unless you slow down.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Impulse buys during lunch are always risky. Where will you store the goods, for one? Taking a longer break than usual merely puts a blinking neon light over your head, so don't expect to slip anything quietly under your desk.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Colleagues may think you're idealistic, but you know you can finish up with lightening speed. All you need to do it is discipline and structure, plus a set of ear plugs to block out the naysayers.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Okay, blabbermouth, it's time to think long and hard before each word you utter. The moment you express an unformed thought it's the moment your boss will disagree with you. Your safest bet is listening.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	22	32	drizzle/cloudy
Harbin	18	28	cloudy
Tianjin	23	29	Heavy rain/drizzle
Urumqi	19	28	cloudy
Xi'an	27	37	cloudy
Lhasa	12	24	shower/cloudy
Chengdu	23	35	clear
Chongqing	29	39	clear
Kunming	18	27	cloudy/shower
Nanjing	28	37	cloudy
Shanghai	29	36	clear/cloudy
Wuhan	27	38	clear/cloudy
Hangzhou	28	38	cloudy/clear
Taipei	28	31	drizzle
Guangzhou	25	31	Moderate to heavy rain
Hong Kong	26	30	shower
WORLD			
Moscow	17	28	clear/drizzle
Frankfurt	15	27	cloudy/drizzle
Paris	16	25	drizzle/overcast
London	14	23	clear/drizzle
New York	23	29	drizzle/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Second-year students, for short; 6- Sports figure?; 10- "___ Tu" ('70s hit); 14- Lots; 15- Bern's river; 16- Japan's first capital; 17- In spite of; 20- Curvy letter; 21- Male duck; 22- Yellow-fever mosquito; 23- Ale, e.g.; 24- Kind of fingerprint; 25- Foosball and billiards place?; 32- Small and round, as eyes; 33- Consecrated; 34- Charlemagne's realm: Abbr.; 35- Low-cal; 36- Bridget Fonda, to Jane; 38- In ___ land; 39- Tropical cuckoo bird; 40- Atomizer output; 41- Brother of Moses; 42- Embroiderer or quilter, e.g.; 46- Norma ___; 47- Actress Kudrow; 48- Tribal symbol; 51- Pan-fry; 53- Numbered rd.; 56- Direct; 59- Elemental unit; 60- "La Vie en Rose" singer; 61- Not so hot; 62- Curtain holders; 63- Hardy boy; 64- Histrionic;

DOWN: 1- All there; 2- Cries of discovery; 3- Teachers' favorites; 4- Hem's partner; 5- Many legged; 6- North African desert; 7- Assignment; 8- Comedian Johnson; 9- Some like it hot; 10- Win over; 11- Sudden assault; 12- Sea eagle; 13- Droops; 18- Hammock holder; 19- Nursemaid; 23- A follower; 24- Pineapple vendor; 25- Queen of Spain; 26- Kind of kitchen; 27- Iota preceder; 28- Summer Games org.; 29- Butler's love; 30- Acrylic fiber; 31- Intend; 32- Boring, so to speak; 36- Pleasing; 37- Neighbor of Syr.; 38- Tibetan priest; 40- Orange Bowl site; 41- Puts forward; 43- Visions; 44- Covered with fluff; 45- Bandleader Puente; 48- Winter Palace ruler; 49- "Beetle Bailey" dog; 50- Stepped; 51- Type of guard; 52- Somewhat; 53- Nui (Easter Island); 54- Math course; 55- Whirlpool; 57- Student stat; 58- Rainy, say

Yesterday's solution

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

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



FOR SALE
www.eastcityproperty.com

FOR RENT
More info, please contact us
juliet@eastcityproperty.com
(853) 2835 2699 Office

<p>Nam Ngon Macau 1,545 sq ft / HKD 10.5M HKD 6,796 sq ft Overlooking Grand Lapa Ref: 16025468</p>	<p>Chun Leong Taipa HKD 1.69M HKD 0 sq ft Undercover Car Park Ref: 16055003</p>	<p>H Unit in Gladiolus Court Coloane 2,530 sq ft / HKD 11.8M HKD 4,664sq ft Renovated & Remodeled Ref: 11115275</p>	<p>Bauhinia Court Hellene Gardens, Coloane 1,633 sq ft / HKD 7.8M HKD 4,776sq ft Coloane Mountains Views Ref: 16045473</p>
<p>The Manhattan Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment Luxury Residence HKD 22,000 / 1,720 sq ft Ref: 16020570</p>	<p>Nova City, A unit, Tower 11 Taipa 4 Bedroom Apartment Great Location HKD 19,800 / 2,503 sq ft Ref: 16070596</p>	<p>Wa Seng San Cheong Wa U Kok, Taipa 2 Bedroom Apartment Nicely Furnished HKD 9,900 / 650 sq ft Ref: 16010555</p>	<p>Super Flower City Unit A Taipa 3 Bedroom Apartment Stunning Views HKD 19,500 / 2,200 sq ft Ref: 16060591</p>

East City Property Limited
東城 物業有限公司

Irish Olympic executive arrested in ticket scheme

Adriana Gomez Licon, Stephen Wilson, Rio de Janeiro

A senior Olympic executive from Ireland was arrested and taken to the hospital on Wednesday after police raided his beachfront hotel as part of an investigation into the illegal sale of tickets for the Rio de Janeiro Games.

Patrick Hickey, a member of the International Olympic Committee's executive board, was accused of plotting with at least nine others to sell tickets above face value in a scheme that authorities say netted about USD3 million in profits.

At least a half dozen police officers went to the luxury hotel in the upscale Barra da Tijuca neighborhood in the early morning hours to arrest the 71-year-old Hickey, who fell ill and was taken by ambulance to a local hospital.

Ireland's national Olympic committee — the Olympic Council of Ireland — said Hickey was admitted to Samaritano Hospital "for investigation of chest pain"



In this June 11, 2015 file photo, Patrick Hickey, the head of the European Olympic Committee speaks during a news conference on the eve of the opening of the 2015 European Games in Baku, Azerbaijan

and was in stable condition.

"In view of his previous cardiac history he will remain in hospital for a further 24 hours," the Irish committee said in a statement Wednesday night.

Hickey's alleged involvement was through Ireland's Olympic committee, which police said helped transfer tickets to an unauthorized vendor who would set high fees and disguise the transaction as a hospitality package. Hickey was charged with

conspiracy, ticket scalping and ambush marketing and will be detained while the investigation continues.

The Olympic Council of Ireland said Hickey decided to "step aside temporarily" as an IOC member and from all his other Olympic positions "until this matter is fully resolved." Hickey is also president of the OCI, head of the European Olympic Committees and vice president of the Association of National Olympic

Committees.

"Mr. Hickey will of course continue to cooperate and assist with all ongoing enquiries," the Irish body said in a statement.

The IOC said it "respectfully takes note" of Hickey's decision to step aside from his Olympic roles. "Until then, the presumption of innocence prevails," the committee said in a statement.

Police arrived at the IOC's hotel at 6 a.m. and found only Hickey's wife, who refused to tell them where he was. Police, however, found Hickey's Olympic accreditation badge on the floor, along with his shoes, socks and bag. They asked for the hotel's help and found him in the adjacent room, registered under his son's name.

Images by ESPN Brazil show Hickey answering the door to police and stepping into the bathroom naked. Moments later, he walks out in a white bathrobe.

Investigators said Hickey initially was shaken and the hotel's doctor recommended his transfer to a nearby hospital for tests because of his age and medical history. He remained in the hospital under police custody.

Hickey, a former judo athlete, has been an IOC member since 1995. He has served on the policy-making executive board since 2012.

IOC spokesman Mark Adams

said the committee would "fully cooperate with the police investigation."

"We don't know what the allegations or charges are yet," he said. "We have full confidence in the system here."

An Irish executive was arrested last week in the same investigation. Kevin James Mallon is one of the heads of British hospitality provider THG, the main company suspected in the scheme. Mallon was arrested along with a local employee who was working as an interpreter.

Authorities have also issued warrants for four more executives at THG, including Marcus Evans, who owns Marcus Evans Group, the parent company and owner of English soccer club Ipswich Town.

Police are also looking for two soccer agents and a financial adviser at Pro 10 Sports Management, which investigators allege was created to facilitate the transfer of tickets between the Irish Olympic committee and THG, an unauthorized ticket seller.

After the first arrests last week, the Olympic Council of Ireland said it would investigate why some of its tickets were in the possession of the suspects. The OCI name was visible on tickets displayed by police, but the Irish said they had no knowledge of the people in custody. **AP**

AD

★ 奧斯卡最佳導演提名 ★ 倫敦奧運會閉幕式表演嘉賓

"A SURE-FIRE CROWD-PLEASER" *The New York Times* "PURE STAGE MAGIC" *Sunday Telegraph, London*

STOMP

23 SEPTEMBER - 9 OCTOBER

THE VENETIAN THEATRE

TICKETS FROM MOP180

+852 6333 6660 cotaiticketing.com

STOMP PRODUCTIONS
AND GYLNIS HENDERSON PRODUCTIONS

Official Ocean Carrier
OOCL
We take it personally

Venue sponsor
THE VENETIAN
MACAO

Photo: Steve McNicholas

Jon Krawczynski, Rio de Janeiro

RIO OLYMPICS

MAYBE Neymar and his teammates can make the Olympics a success for Brazil after all. Brazil's celebrated men's soccer team rolled to a 6-0 win over Honduras in the semifinals on Wednesday to earn a spot in the gold medal match.

In other action across the Rio Games, the United States men's basketball team beat Argentina 105-78, Americans Kerri Walsh Jennings and April Ross won bronze in beach volleyball and the Jamaicans had a big night at the track with Elaine Thompson winning the women's 200 meters and Usain Bolt cruising to a win in the semifinals of the men's 200.

Brazil started the day 16th in the medal standings, with only three golds in the first 11 days. Two of the country's best chances remaining to reach the top of the podium competed on Wednesday. The men's soccer team survived, but Agatha and Barbara lost in the beach volleyball gold medal match to Germany.

Empty seats have been prevalent across Rio, but not at the Maracana Stadium, where they packed in to watch Neymar and Co. They didn't have to wait long, with Neymar scoring 15 seconds into the game. It was the fastest goal in men's Olympic history, and Brazil led 3-0 going into halftime to cruise into the final.

"We don't want to disappoint



Honduras' Alberth Elis (left) controls the ball in front of Brazil's Wallace during a semi-final match of the men's Olympic football tournament between Brazil and Honduras at the Maracana stadium on Wednesday

the fans," Brazil midfielder Renato Augusto said. "They want us to play well and they want us to win the gold."

Neymar added a goal on a penalty kick in stoppage time, and Gabriel Jesus also scored twice for Brazil, which got off to a slow start in the tournament. But the team picked up the pace and will face Germany, which beat Nigeria 2-0 in the other semifinal match. Germany's senior team trounced Brazil 7-1 in the semifinals of the World Cup in Rio two years ago.

"Hey Germany, just wait, your turn is coming up!" a fired-up fan base chanted.

Thailand's Ariya Jutanugarn became the first 18-hole leader in the history of women's golf in the Olympics. Jutanugarn shot 6-under 65 for a one-shot lead over seven-time major champion Inbee Park and Seiyoun Kim, both of South Korea. This is the first time for women's golf in the Olympics since the Paris Games in 1900, and back then it was only a nine-hole competition.

AP PHOTO



Gold medal winner Brianna Rollins (center) silver medal winner, Nia Ali (right) and bronze medal winner Kristi Castlin, all from the United States, celebrate after the women's 100-meter hurdle final

'Awesome Hour' on the track as US captures six Olympic medals

TIANNA Bartoletta kicked off her country's whirlwind run of medals on the night. So, by all rights, she should get to name it. Fittingly, the newly crowned Olympic long jump champion went with "Awesome Hour."

In a span of about 60 minutes Wednesday night, U.S. athletes hauled in a bevy of medals: Bartoletta and Brittney Reese went 1-2 in the long jump, Tori Bowie captured a bronze in the 200 and Brianna Rollins, Nia Ali and Kristi Castlin swept the medals in the 100-meter hurdles — a feat that's never been accomplished in that event.

A banner evening, for sure. The nation entered the night with 13 medals and left the track with a total of 19 — five gold, seven silver, seven bronze.

"It was an awesome hour," Bartoletta said.

She started things off by unseating Reese, the defending Olympic champion, in the long jump. Moments later, Bowie won her second medal in Rio by taking bronze in the 200 meters. Not

long after that, the hurdlers made history. This was the seventh medals sweep by the U.S. track team in the Olympics and the 23rd for U.S. women in the history of the Summer Games.

And yes, they realized what their fellow Americans were up to. Ali watched Bowie, her suitemate in Rio, bring home another medal as the hurdler waited to take the track. That fired Ali up. And then her hurdles teammates did the same thing.

And to think, the evening got off on the wrong foot when Justin Gatlin surprisingly went out in the semifinals of the 200. There went a good shot at an Olympic medal. There went another showdown with Usain Bolt.

An ankle injury hampered the 34-year-old Gatlin, who won a silver medal on Sunday in the 100.

"For me, it has been an honor to be able to come out here," Gatlin said. "At the end of the day, seeing all of these young guys and young ladies out here doing a great job, it's an honor to be able to be a part of the team and run for my country." MDT/AP

Agatha and Barbara, the defending world champions, beat Americans Kerri Walsh Jennings and April Ross in the semifinals on Tuesday night to reach the finals. But Laura Ludwig and Kira Walkenhorst dispatched them 21-18, 21-14, leaving Neymar as Brazil's only hope.

The improved play of the soccer team comes as welcome respite for the beleaguered Brazilians, who have seen the Rio Games deal with distraction, disorganization and tragedy for the last two weeks. The pro-

blems continued Wednesday when a Brazilian judge ordered that the passports of Ryan Lochte and Jimmy Feigen be seized and that the American swimmers stay in Brazil as authorities investigate Lochte's claims that he was robbed at gunpoint. Lochte's father told The Associated Press that his son had returned to the U.S. before the order was issued, but teammates Jack Conger and Gunnar Bentz were pulled off of their plane as they were getting set to leave. AP

RIO 2016 - MEDALS

#	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	United States	30	32	31	93
2	United Kingdom	19	19	12	50
3	China	19	15	20	54
4	Russia	12	14	15	41
5	Germany	12	8	9	29
6	Japan	10	5	18	33
7	France	8	11	12	31
8	Italy	8	9	6	23
9	Netherlands	8	4	3	15
10	Australia	7	8	9	24

India set for worst performance since 1992

MONTHS ahead of the Rio Games, Indian sports officials vowed that the massive nation would turn around its long history of dismal Olympic results and be proud of its athletes.

Steeplechase. Golf. Shooting. Badminton. Boxing. Tennis. Wrestling. Archery. Discus. India saw medal possibilities in all those disciplines, and the head of the government's sports authority, Injeti Srinivas, said he expected India to bring home anywhere from 10 to 14 medals.

You don't hear such optimism these days. With the end of the games just a few days away, India has yet to win any medals at all.

The Indian sports minister was chastised by Olympic officials for the "aggressive and rude" behavior of his entourage in Rio. The standout Indian athlete of the games, a gymnast known for performing one of the sport's most dangerous moves, confessed that she'd had to cobble together her own training equipment because gymnasts get so little support.

The reaction at home has been harsh. "It's a disaster," said Mihir Vasavda, a sportswriter for the Indian Express newspaper. "We're looking at returning [from an Olympics] for the first time without a medal since 1992."

In theory, India should be a serious Olympic contender with its 1.3 billion people and tens of millions of rabid sports fans. It has a growing economy and increasing wealth, a large bureaucracy that oversees sports and a deep sensitivity about its position in the world.

But none of that has helped. Instead, India's total Olympic medal count — 26 — puts it slightly ahead of Portugal, a nation with less than 1 percent of India's population. India is even behind Michael Phelps, the American swimmer with 28 medals. MDT/AP

opinion

Kapok
Eric Sautedé



THE AGE OF SUBMISSION

It is unsurprising that the proposal of a law reviewing the Electoral Law of the Legislative Assembly, put forward by the government in that very same Assembly and approved in first reading on August 9 by all legislators but four — the ones we can easily brand our own pan-democrats: Ng Kuok Cheong, Au Kam San, José Pereira Coutinho and Leong Veng Chai — is limited in scope and falls short of the ambition of our less than two-year-old government was supposed to entertain in all matters of governance. Should we be surprised?

Admittedly back in December 2014, serious doubts were raised regarding the capacity of the new secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, to carry both a far-reaching reform of the administrative (aka political) system and a much-needed revamping of the judicial institutions — as demonstrated by recent outspoken complaints coming from traditionally soft-spoken quarters of society, with lawyers and legal advisers leading the charge, aptly testify to the sorry state of judicial affairs.

The main merits of Sonia Chan appear to be that she is untainted — with the indictment of the former Prosecutor General, this is proving precious — and is a keen supporter of the Chief Executive (CE). Her previous position at the Office for Personal Data Protection had allowed her to shine as the gravedigger of an inoffensive but embarrassing so-called “civic referendum” targeting Chui’s undisputed re-election in August 2014.

Nevertheless, even though she is only acting on behalf of the vision of the CE, she is supposed to prove herself, just like Alexis Tam and Raimundo do Rosário are trying to do. But then, healthcare, education, traffic management and lodging are top priorities, and the mandate given to her colleagues is loud and clear. On her side, we are in total denial: the system is sound and thus going beyond the reform of 2012 and the ridiculously muted “+2+2+100” formula is out of the question. Electoral democracy in Macao is a matter of technicalities: due processes for the registration of voters and candidates as well as financial aspects and length of the campaign are the only issues that matter. Representativeness: who cares? Quality of the debate: what’s the point? Actual and proven capacity of the ones who represent us all: to what end?

During the public consultation organized in May in the preparation proposal of the new law, and despite organizational biases favoring traditional and pro-government sectors of the society, persistent voices have stressed that these key (substantial) issues were heard: in a TDM report, a lady was quoted as saying “the issue of insufficient directly-elected lawmakers has always bothered most of us residents” and another resident wondered “aren’t elections all about [justice] and fairness?”, thus “very [reasonably]” asking for “more directly-elected lawmakers” and “[cutting] down on the number of appointed lawmakers”.

To be fair, and in comparison to Hong Kong, the number of elected lawmakers is not that inadequate. In Hong Kong, as of today, we have 3,779,085 registered voters, and 35 (out of 70) legislators are re-instated through universal suffrage. Overall, that’s one directly elected legislator for 108,000 voters. In Macao, as of December 2015, we have 285,999 registered voters, for a total of 14 directly elected seats (out of 33 in total), so in effect one directly elected deputy for 20,500 voters. So why is the system perceived as unfair?

Having ALL indirectly elected lawmakers (whereas they are the exceptions in Hong Kong) voted in unopposed does not build trust. Having no law regarding political parties, no properly designed constituencies, a flawed electoral system dispersing the votes and an unjustifiable number of CE-appointed legislators do no help either. And then, introducing the review of the law a few months before the elections proper and dismissing any challenge to representativeness as one potentially threatening “stability” in Macao speak volumes about the lack of ambition of Chui: no wonder then that the conclusions of the public consultation reports state that for any matter pertaining to the designation of legislators, the decision power rests exclusively with the central government. Submission it is then...

THE BUZZ TAIPA HOUSES-MUSEUM BUILDINGS TEMPORARILY CLOSED

The Cultural Affairs Bureau, in cooperation with several government departments, has announced that it will proceed to re-plan and integrate the five Portuguese buildings of the Taipa Houses-Museum and its surrounding area.

The initiative aims to optimize the cultural facilities and functionality of

this area, aiming to create a cultural centre that could be used for both leisure and information activities.

The five Portuguese buildings of the Taipa Houses-Museum will be temporarily closed from August 22 onwards. The reopening date of the buildings will be announced at a later stage.



SOURCE: DSMG

Station		
Roadside	15-35 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good	😊
Ambient	30-50 Good	😊

WORLD BRIEFS

KOREA The defection of a North Korean senior diplomat in London poses a major problem for Pyongyang on a number of fronts — not least of which is how to publicly respond. [More on p13](#)



AUSTRALIA-PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Papua New Guinea and Australia said on Wednesday they have agreed to close a detention center on Manus Island for asylum seekers but they offered no details on when it will happen or on the fate of the 850 men being held there. Australia’s tough stance on migrants and refugees has long drawn condemnation from human rights groups. The country has a policy of sending people who try to reach its shores by boat to island detention centers, including Manus Island in Papua New Guinea.

TURKEY Two car bombings targeted police stations in Turkey, killing at least six people and wounding 219 others, officials said yesterday. Authorities blamed that attack on the Kurdistan Workers’ Party, or PKK, which has launched a campaign of car bombings targeting police stations or roadside bomb attacks on police vehicles. [More on p14](#)

UKRAINE A government official says three troops have been killed and six wounded in fighting in eastern Ukraine in the past 24 hours. Fighting between government forces and separatists rebels has recently intensified despite a 2015 truce.

BOLIVIA Good leadership skills won’t be enough for Bolivian military officers seeking promotion to the rank of captain - they must now add ideological schooling. An academy that previously trained soldiers for U.N. peacekeeping missions will now aim to counter U.S. political and military influence abroad.



DANIEL BEITLER

Transport Bureau to ban tour coaches in Rua da Entena

FOLLOWING the incident involving a tourist bus running into a building last week, the Transport Bureau (DSAT) has announced that it will ban tour coaches to drop off or pick up passengers along Rua da Entena, where the accident occurred.

To avoid further fatal accidents, DSAT has announced that heavy vehicles, including tourist buses, would be banned from dropping off or picking up passengers in part of Rua da Entena, between Rua Belchior Carneiro and Rua Tomas Vieira.

According to Sio Iat Pang from the Transport Bureau, tourist buses would be issued a fine of MOP600 if they violate the measure.

“We will still need to ask the police to streng-

■ Tourist buses would be issued a fine of MOP600 if they violate the measure

then the law enforcement situation in the related area,” he explained.

Sio added that the bureau should create a “comprehensive analysis” as to whether it would ban all tourists’ buses from entering the area of Ruins of St Paul.

The tour bus, which crashed into a building on Rua da Entena, left 32 passengers hurt, while four of the victims were seriously injured.

Legislators considered the fatal accident as a wakeup call to the government regarding traffic congestion surrounding popular tourist sites. **LV**

times square by rodrigo

