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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



INDONESIA Two women tourists, from Austria and Germany, were killed and about 20 other people injured in an explosion on a speedboat that was ferrying them from the island of Bali to neighboring Lombok. A manifest showed that passengers were from several countries including Britain, France, Italy, Portugal, Ireland and Spain.
More on p13

AP PHOTO



MYANMAR economists and businessmen welcomed President Barack Obama's announcement that the U.S. will lift economic sanctions and restore long-lost trade benefits to the Southeast Asian country as it emerges from half a century of oppressive military rule.

AP PHOTO



CHINA-UK The British government yesterday approved the construction of the country's first new nuclear power plant in more than two decades, a French and Chinese-backed project that had prompted high-level fears about national security. The government said that it had decided to proceed with the 18 billion-pound Hinkley Point plant in southwest England.

AP PHOTO



KOREAS Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon says he has never seen tensions on the Korean Peninsula as high as they are today and calls on the Security Council to take urgent action to prevent "provocative actions" by North Korea.

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AP PHOTO



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The kickoff

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Mermaids in Senado Square

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Saving the snow cat

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INSIDE

CHINA has charted a hopeful plan to rise to the top of the world's most played and most popular sport – football, and the plan starts right here in the neighboring Guangzhou.

Back in 2014, property tycoon Xu Jiayin decided that this was the time to open doors to what is considered to be the world's leading football academy. His mind was set and he ensured that everyone was on the same page to move towards his goal.

Xu's ambition was to prepare and train an all-new generation of young footballers who would be able to make China the next football superpower.

With an estimated cost of around MOP1.5 billion, the Guangzhou Evergrande Football School (GZEFS) is a kind of Harry Potter's Hogwarts focused on a simple concept: training to be the best of the best.

The candidates are certainly not lacking – currently the football academy has around 2,800 young Chinese players. The large majority are boys, but girls are not excluded and for the time being they number about 200 in the cohort of potential football talents.

As for the campus, it took only ten months and a significant amount of money for real estate company Evergrande (who also co-owns local club Guangzhou Evergrande Taobao Football Club) to transform the 67.5 hectares of formerly rural land in Qingyuan, Guangdong province. The new football school has a total of 50 football pitches and a squad of Spanish coaches brought to China through a partnership with Spanish giant Real Madrid. The academy's first aim was to find new talent for the local club at Guangzhou Ever-



Supporters cheer for China



Players on a team from Yanbian, China

Plans to make China a football superpower underway in Guangzhou

grande's Tianhe Stadium. The club, owned by Evergrande real estate group since 2010, was brought from the Guangzhou Sports Bureau team and has become the Chinese National Super League winner five consecutive times (2011 to 2015). At the main gates of the academy lies a 12-meter tall replica of the FIFA World Cup trophy as a reminder of the express wish of president Xi Jinping and the academy's ultimate goal.

Xi had previously stated that he wanted to see China "qualify for, host and win, the World Cup," and at Qingyuan those words are the short, mid and long-term goals.



Zhang Yuning heads the ball during the Russia 2018 World Cup Asian Qualifier match between China and Iran in Shenyang

It takes money to become a 'Chinese football star'

THOUGH there may be significant amounts of money pumped into the system, it is unrealistic to think that the training provided by the Guangzhou Evergrande Football School (GZEFS) will be inexpensive. GZEFS charges a tuition fee of RMB60,000/year which creates a clear barrier, where either the young players are considered talented enough to apply for a scholarship or they will need a guardian to cover the expense.

Although the school curriculum states that only one in each five classes is dedicated to football training, it is said that football is often the topic in the common curriculum classes.

"When I first came here, I taught using key football terms," Zhang Liya, an English teacher at the school told CNN. For Zhang and other teachers common subjects should come first. "Then we can train them to be a footballer and maybe eventually they can be a famous football star."

As any school, the GZEFS has a principal; in this case Liu Jiangnan is the man supervising the school activities.

He is hopeful that China's football status will rise in the next five years as, in his own words, "China's current ranking is incongruous with China's international standing as a world power," he told CNN.

"And of course, in about 20 or 30 years we will set our sights on the top world rankings," he added.

The large amounts of money invested into Chinese football in the recent years are also a reminder that the plan is being taken very seriously. The Chinese professional league has become increasingly more professional, with the signing by local teams of popular names in the world of football. Brazilian, Spanish, German and even Portuguese players and coaches are rushing in to support both professional teams and their training academies. The country's transfer record was broken four times in the space of a month during last off-season, and figures show that Chinese Super League teams spent more over the so-called winter transfer window than their English Premier League counterparts.

Brazilian midfielders Alex Teixeira and Ramires and the Colombian striker Jackson Martinez were just some of the names highlighted by the press – however they are not the only ones, as

The country's transfer record was broken four times in the space of a month during last off-season

in addition to players' transfers, China's top clubs are also betting their money on youth football.

Some say that on the line is not just the "love for the game." Rowan Simons is part of the community that has lived and played football in China for over 20 years, and is now a presenter on Beijing TV, an author and the owner of the media and production company - Club Football; he thinks that a good part of the money coming in to China's football arena serves the purpose of "buying favors" with the president Xi Jinping.

Following the publication of his book, "Bamboo Goalposts: One Man's Quest to Teach the People's Republic of China to Love Football," Simons told CNN: "To a Chinese billionaire, a few hundred million dollars is a small price to pay," he said, referring to the way the game is being used to "fulfill high officials' wishes."

As for the young players, they dream high – as one of the trainees at GZEFS also said to CNN when questioned about his expectations as a football player. "I hope to make it into the national football team and then make it into the Spanish clubs like Barcelona and Real Madrid," he said, adding, "Or get into the national team and fight for national pride."

Spanish coach Sergio Zarco Diaz is one of the European coaches that embraced the challenge to move to China to teach football at GZEFS. About the Chinese youth he says, "technical standard is good but tactics need to be worked on."

He is now on his fourth year working in China and in his opinion, "standards have improved dramatically but they [Chinese youth] have a long way to go," he mentioned, saying that "decision making process" is still a "big issue" to be solved. RM

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Macau-based coach sees need to enhance competition

Renato Marques

JOSE Arlindo Filho (better known as Josecler) a Brazilian coach and former footballer based in Macau, who has been working on the field for many years, has a strong opinion about the evolution of the game in China.

When interviewed by the Times, Josecler commented that "for sure China will have an ambition to win a World Cup. But this will only happen when China finds a way to have a real base work." According to Josecler, this requires not only the training of young people that has been going on, but also the creation of "competitive championships on the junior levels, that in China is lacking, which leads to a low appearance of young players around 16 years old playing in the championships."

"I believe that without that base China can't go anywhere. We see many people opening football schools in China but many of them are aiming for just the financial side of this," he said. He however reaffirmed that there are others "doing this and working with children to achieve their goals because they are passionate about the game." "I believe in the next 10 to 15 years China will start to be rewarded for that work due to this big investment in coaches that brings an added value [to the development of the sport]," Josecler said.

The coach also remarked that China is doing "what Japan and [South] Korea did before" so we can expect a similar or even better outcome due to the large population of China and therefore the large number of potential football players, statistically speaking.

Josecler states that this potential lacks in Macau not only because of the reduced number of people but also (and mostly) due to the lack of space and difficulty of renting those places to play football. In Macau "you can't book a pitch to play. You look across the border and there are 56 pitches available," he compares. "Of course China will develop because the government is creating the conditions for it and investing [in football]."

Despite the difficulties noted in the region, he still reaffirms that "we are doing it and I need to thank the people that are supporting us to continue." Based in China is Gilberto Meireles Ferreira or Gil, the defender who played in two of the



Gilberto Meireles Ferreira played in two of the top local clubs and now teaches in Zhuhai

top local clubs (Monte Carlo and Ka I) and embraced the project of one of the Brazilian historical football clubs Grêmio Football Porto Alegrense across the border.

Partnered with the "Black Panthers," the Grêmio Football School in Zhuhai is working in collaboration with the Zhuhai local government in a project that involves 12 schools.

The coach admits some difficulties in the beginning due to the "communication problems since the coaches can't speak the local language" but those difficulties were tackled through shared experience of the game.

In Gil's opinion the game in China "is growing a lot" and forcing the coach team to change their plans because "the kids are learning a lot and learning fast," he said adding:

"It is very different from Brazil or Portugal where the six and seven year-old kids they like more to play and do not pay so much attention to sporting fundamentals. In China [the

I believe in the next 10 to 15 years China will start to be rewarded for that work due to this big investment in coaches.

JOSECLER



situation] is different, they are very competitive with each other and that makes them very focused. The evolution is very big in a short period," he mentioned.

To the question of what is missing to give the final boost, Gil has no doubts in saying that they are "missing more international players in the championships. There is a restriction of only four per team and that is not helping," he said, recalling that the "competitiveness that they have needs some references to develop. If they don't have someone in a higher level that serves as reference for them to follow and try to be better than, the level will continue to be low," he stated.

Gil remarked that "football in China needs to be more disseminated... people have plenty to work with and investment is also happening a lot, contrary to other countries in Europe and South America."

Further, there is a concrete and explicit project "to take, in 2030, China to a semi-final of the World Cup," he said, stating that this goal was clearly mentioned to all people and "at this pace I think that it's perfectly possible as long as there is will from Chinese football decision-makers to raise the bar bringing more foreigners in," he concluded.

Gil agrees with Josecler in that there is a need to replicate what Japan did at the early stages of the J-League as well as the stages of the South Korean K-League.

"If that happens I think it is achievable, kids are very smart and they learn very fast," Gil concluded.

Beijing-Lisbon flights likely to happen

Chief Executive Chui Sai On, on an official visit to Lisbon, has revealed that direct flights between Beijing and Lisbon will soon be added to airline flight lists, according to a report by Macao Daily News. During Chui's meeting with approximately 100 Portuguese students, the students informed Chui that the biggest difficulty for them when traveling to Portugal stems from the lack of a direct flight between Macau and Lisbon. The Chinese Embassy in Portugal confirmed that Beijing and Lisbon have already discussed having direct flights between both capitals, with the discussion having reached a stage concerning the practicalities. He hopes that flights from Macau to Beijing and then from Beijing to Lisbon may be organized within a short timeframe.

CO2 leaks at UM lab

A CO2 leakage incident reportedly took place at one of the laboratories of the University of Macau early morning yesterday. According to a report by TDM, the leakage occurred in a cell culture lab. The school's security stated that the accident occurred when a pipe belonging to one experimental machine, which supplies CO2, became loose. The Fire Services Bureau reported that the room had low levels of oxygen, and that the machine was fixed. Nobody was injured.

Local products ready for Tmall

Three local companies running food and beverage businesses will start shipping Macau's local and imported products to mainland consumers through Tmall International, the largest online shopping platform in China, through which people can order items directly from overseas companies. The trio of companies will be categorized into the Macau center once their businesses begin on Tmall International, according to a report by Jornal Va Kio. Vang Kei Hong, one of the three companies, plans to offer between 50 to 100 products produced locally or imported from Portuguese speaking countries, with 20 to 30 percent of them being wines, according to a report by Jornal Va Kio.

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Q30# BORNTOCHALLENGE

Health Bureau condemns reports about Macau's medical service



THE Health Bureau (SSM) has contested a South China Morning Post report that criticized the city's medical service. "Earlier, a report alluded that because of the lack of infrastructure and professionals, Macau's hospitals have been sending patients to Hong Kong for treatment. Such report mislead people, and it needs to be clarified," the statement read.

SSM has claimed that as Macau has a small population and has only a few special clinical cases, it in turn has no western medicine university. The bureau claims that by sending the patients to Hong Kong for treatment the inadequacies of Macau's medical services are compensated for. They added that it also ensures that they obtain timely treatment.

In 2015, 1.6 out of 1,000 patients were

Ultimately the problem for Macau is that it simply does not have the infrastructure to cater to the spectrum of residents' health care needs.

SCMP REPORT

sent to Hong Kong, according to the official data. SSM considers that this figure "indicates that patients' referral percentage is extremely low, and it is only a supplement to local medical services."

The medical authority also claims that it is introducing a set of sophisticated medical services: the Centro Hospitalar Conde de São Januário (CSCHJ) is set to provide endobronchial ultrasonic examinations from this year. Macau is also able to provide other highly sophisticated medical treatment, such as kidney transplants and endovascular therapy, which have already been performed or will be performed on the patients.

SSM says "CHCSJ is the same with many Hong Kong governmental hospitals, it obtains the accreditation from Australian Council of Healthcare Standards (ACHS), which means the hospital's service and management reaches international levels."

Moreover, "local medical professionals have the ability to diagnose and treat more diseases" said the SSM.

The SCMP report published on Monday claimed that Macau residents often opt to receive medical treatment in Hong Kong, even in minor cases. "Ultimately the problem for Macau is that it simply does not have the infrastructure to cater to the spectrum of residents' health care needs. It has very few specialists and not a single training school for Western medicine," the report reads.

It also points out that the majority of doctors working in Macau's hospitals are graduates from medical schools in mainland China. **JZ**

Fan In Kuan's sculpture exhibition opens next week



Upon completing a degree in Taiwan and returning to Macau, young local artist Fan In Kuan will present her solo exhibition "Flexible Depth - Works by Fan In Kuan" at AFA [Art for All Society]. A total of 13 sculptures will be featured in the exhibition, mainly constructed of stone and metal, such as marble, granite, stainless steel and copper. The exhibition will be held at AFA's gallery, located in 4th Floor, Art Garden, Avenida Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues N. 265. The gallery is open from Tuesdays to Sundays (12 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and closed on Mondays and public holidays.

Weather expected to improve today

The Macau Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau's (SMG) weather prediction for today is "fine apart from cloudy periods," as indicated on the SMG website. The temperature index is marked in yellow, with temperatures ranging between 27 degrees Celsius and 33 degrees Celsius. There will be force 2 to 3 northerly winds. Yesterday, SMG continued showing typhoon sign number 1 (T1) in the early morning, as the Typhoon Meranti struck mainland China. Meranti was located about 550 kilometers northeast of Macau yesterday morning. SMG predicted that the longer range weather forecast would be mainly cloudy with a few showers as a result of Meranti.

Xue Xiaofeng appointed Liaison Office vice-head

The State Council of the PRC has appointed Xue Xiaofeng to be the new deputy head of the Central Government Liaison Office in Macau, as announced in a statement released by the Council. Xue was born in 1961 in the Shanxi province, and has an English major in addition to being a Masters of Journalism graduate. From 1981 to 1984, he worked in a middle school in Shanxi as an English teacher. According to the information made available, he joined the Communist Party in 1991. Between 2002 and 2004, he served as the director of the Guangzhou Daily. From 2011 until September of this year, Xue worked in the Zhongshan city as a Communist Party secretary.

Bus drivers demand more support facilities near bus stops

A survey released by the Macao Federation of Transportation (AGERTM) indicated that local bus drivers are in serious need of an increase in the infrastructure available to them along their daily routes around the city, including more bathrooms and air conditioners at bus stations.

A total of 252 industrial em-

ployees were interviewed, consisting of 207 drivers, 38 station heads, and seven cleaning staff. Out of the total interviewees, 249 are full-time workers and 185 of them are aged 40 or under.

48 respondents, representing 24 percent of the total number of interviewees, requested more bathrooms, which are among

the most demanded facilities in comparison to others.

"The drivers have to hold [until they can find a bathroom], it is bad for their health if [this happens] frequently," said Tong Chak Sam, chairman of AGERTM. Tong also suggested that the government should create more recognizable signs at some main bus terminals, such as at the Praça de Ferreira do Amaral, where tourists consistently approach bus drivers and station heads asking about these kinds of facilities.

"The government should establish an information center in order to answer the tourists' questions," Tong added, saying that bus drivers answer various questions from the tourists, such as where certain place are or where to go.

44 employees informed about the need for air conditioners, mainly at bus stations, followed by 33 interviewees asking for facilities providing tap water. 26 workers hope to see more facilities allowing them to rest.

Ninety four percent of the interviewees (237) have been given only half an hour for a meal break. 104 of the surveyed



bring meals from home, 62 always eat out at restaurants, 53 had a mixture of the two, and 21 went home.

The infrastructure in bus stations has been under discussion in the industry for a long time, and had been forwarded to the responsible departments a significant amount of time ago.

Regarding the government reaction towards these issues, in the words of lawmaker Lei Cheong I, who is also the vice president of AGERTM, "the government might have neglected the issues all of this time."

AGERTM says it will forward the survey to the government for their reference.

ONE SHOT NEWS



Included in the International Fireworks Competition, Korean team's performance was attended by thousands of people yesterday close to the Nam Van Lake and at Taipa's waterfront

Center to promote relations with Portuguese-speaking countries to be built

MACAU'S Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, said in Lisbon that his government is studying the creation of a complex in Macau which will incorporate the various initiatives that are underway to promote Macau as a platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

According to a statement from the Government Information Bureau (GCS), the center will be housed in a single building and bring together interests in economic and commercial areas, offering services for companies, organization of fairs, meetings and cultural exhibitions and professional training.

Chui Sai On gave no details of the project, but its announcement comes less than a month before the 5th Macau Forum Ministerial Conference in Macau, which will bring



Chui Sai On briefs reporters in Lisbon on his six-day visit to the Portuguese Republic

together senior officials from China and from Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde (Cape Verde), Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal and Timor-Leste (East Timor).

The Chief Executive, during his stay in Lisbon, led a delegation from Macau at the Portugal-Macau Joint Com-

mission and met with the President of the Republic of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa and with Prime Minister António Costa.

According to the GCS during the meetings held in Lisbon, Macau suggested the Portuguese authorities should take advantage of the Forum for

Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries to boost dialogue and cooperation in the economic and trade area between China and Portugal and use the advantages offered by the Free Trade Zone policy within China. **MDT/Macauhub**

Workers threaten to jump from building under construction

ON Wednesday morning, a group of approximately ten workers reportedly attempted to jump from the Grand Lisboa Cotai construction site in order to obtain their overdue salaries, according to a report by Jornal Va Kio.

The group of males comprised of mainland residents only, aged between 24 to 51 years old.

The workers were all sitting on a construction balance, around 60 meters above ground level. Four of them came down after communicating with negotiators, staff from the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL), and representatives of their employers. The last man descended at around 6 p.m.

Afterwards, the group of workers were sent to the police, DSAL and to other responsible parties.

Earlier in May, over 40 expatriate workers required help from a local association to get their salaries, which had been overdue for four months. Only around 20 of them visited Macau in person to seek help from the authorities. The rest were unable to cross the border as their companies had canceled their visas to Macau.

AD



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Mermaids in Senado Square to encourage people to 'care about fish'

Renato Marques

IN an initiative from the international organization, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), two activists dressed as mermaids posed at the Senado Square fountain yesterday.

The event aimed to encourage people not to eat fish by highlighting the suffering of the animals. The activists carried message boards stating in both English and Chinese the sentence "Fishing Hurts!"

But why fish? - the Times asked one of the mermaid-activists. "We are concerned about all animals. We are here today speaking about fish because they are one of these animals and many people don't think about them unfortunately," Ashley Fruno, senior campaigner for PETA Asia Pacific said.

Fruno explained that the cam-



The activists pose for pictures with a passerby

paign is a "fun and provocative way" to draw attention to a very serious message. "If you care about fish and any other animal, go vegan!," she said. "They are actually very intelligent animals with complex social structures,

that most people never think about or may not understand," she added, asking for people to "leave fish off their plates."

When questioned on the effectiveness of such a campaign, Fruno said that "people are

turning their heads and raising their eyebrows today but if we make one person think about veganism or even to start eating a little bit less meat in their diet then we have achieved our goal today," she said.

"Today we had a lot of people coming and taking photos with us, both Macau residents and tourists and we hope they go home and think about this and learn more on our website about fish. We know that in the Macau diet, both in Portuguese cuisine and Chinese cuisine there is a lot of fish used and we hope from today people think more about fish not just as items on their plate but as living beings," the activist remarked. She added that based on previous events in the region, people have shown good receptivity and positive reactions and the same would be expected in Macau.

Pataca exchange rate drops

The Monetary Authority of Macao (AMCM) announced yesterday that the preliminary estimate of MSAR's foreign exchange reserves amounted to MOP155.8 billion (USD19.50 billion) at the end of August. The reserves increased by 0.4 percent from the revised value of MOP155.2 billion (USD19.43 billion) for the previous month. According to AMCM, "the trade-weighted effective exchange rate index for the pataca fell 0.84 points month-to-month and 0.17 points year-on-year to 105.54 in August 2016, implying that overall the exchange rate of the pataca dropped against the currencies of Macau's major trading partners."

Macau and Zhuhai consumer councils cooperate

Macau and Zhuhai consumer councils worked together to test 20 samples of tissue papers and 16 samples of food storage bags. Test results showed that all items passed the testing standards. The two councils held a press conference in Zhuhai on September 13 to announce the results of the testing.

AD



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REAL ESTATE MATTERS The Definitive Guide For Tenants Part 1 - Finding a Property

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.



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The Yearly Guide For Renting A Home In this 'Guide For Tenants' series over the next 5 weeks we will cover

1. Finding a home
2. Securing the Apartment
3. The Process of Moving in.
4. The First Week in Your Property
5. On Going Living and 'Moving Out'

Finding a place to rent and call 'home' is a major headache for anyone, and it is especially difficult for newcomers. There are so many different elements that contribute to making a property 'great'. Everyone looking for a rental property has a different set of priorities, so the clearer you are on what is important to you, the easier it will be to find a great property to rent. Priority one; before you go home hunting, make a list of what is and isn't important to you in a home. For example, most people are happy to rent a furnished apartment rather than invest money in furnishings themselves. Again, if you don't plan to buy a car and prefer to rely on public transportation, being close to an area where you can catch a bus or

a taxi is a top priority. You might need to find an apartment that takes pets if you have a cat or a dog. In Macau and many cities around the world, that one requirement instantly eliminates more than half of all apartments. Deciding what is most important can be very difficult for some of us, especially if there is more than one person involved and each has his or her own wants and needs. As difficult as it is, prioritizing what you want in your rental apartment will make finding one you're satisfied with much easier. You are unlikely to find a place that ticks every box, but of course the more boxes you can tick, the better. One effective way of finding potential properties is to ask friends and colleagues about the places that they already live in. Be careful with this though, we all tend to exaggerate the good points in order to justify the decision we have made to live there. If you're looking to rent an apartment in a new building, don't be afraid ask around to see if anyone else knows the property. The schools and parents are a good source of information for this. Most people are very happy to share their thoughts on this, and

many other subjects. Obviously you also have Internet access and can conduct research on a certain building or apartment developments. Bear in mind that no matter how respected or well managed something is, there are always negative views and comments some people who just did not enjoy their experience. It may have as much to do with the person as the property. Making sure you have a master list of priorities before you see the property will help you to avoid signing a contract and then end up regretting it a week later. A Tenancy Agreement is a legal contract, and it is not something to be entered into lightly. Of course we also suggest visiting the JML Property website to search for properties or contact one of the consultants, and they will come up with a choice of properties that are the closest match to your criteria. Make sure you have done your homework, and hopefully you'll find a great property to rent in no time. Next week; we look at how you secure the apartment you have found, by talking about what required in fees, deposits and documentation.

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Singapore high-rise office rents decline 7 percent

Jack Sidders

SINGAPORE landlords are paying the penalty for a slowing economy. Alone among the world's major cities, the cost of renting an office with panoramic views is falling as supply outstrips demand.

Annual rents on the upper floors of Singapore's skyscrapers fell 7 percent to about USD775 a square meter in the first six months, according to a 23-city index compiled by Knight Frank LLP. The biggest increase was in Shanghai, where rents climbed 7.6 percent to \$774. In Hong Kong, the most expensive market, rents rose by 5.9 percent to \$2,996 a square meter, the broker said.

"There's a classic imbalance in the Singapore market," said Will Beardmore-Gray, head of Knight Frank's tenant representation and agency business. "They had relatively



Singapore

high supply and this has been exacerbated by a poor-performing economy and over development."

Vacancy rates in Singapore were 9 percent in the second quarter, compared with 3.3 percent in Shanghai, Knight

Frank data show. The city-state's economy will shrink 0.1 percent in the third quarter, according to a survey of 26 economists conducted by Bloomberg News in the week through September 13.

Demand for Shanghai office space has been lifted by the technology and creative industries, Beardmore-Gray said. The city has created 300,000 jobs in those sectors since 2009 and is expected to add 100,000 more by 2020, he said.

Manhattan skyscraper rents increased 1.9 percent to \$1,701 per square meter during the first half, the second-highest in the index, while those in Tokyo and the City of London district were unchanged at \$1,610 and \$1,226 respectively.

Four of the five cities with the fastest rental growth were in the Asia Pacific region, with Toronto the only center outside the region posting a comparable increase. **Bloomberg**

Adega de Pegões tops 'Muscats du Monde'

The 16th international competition of the world's best Muscat wines, "Muscats du Monde", organized by Forum Enologie, was held across June 29 and 30 in the city of Frontignan-la-Peyrade (France). The results of the 16th edition of the competition have been announced. The Top 10 ranking system honored eight countries: South Africa, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Spain, France, Italy and Portugal. The sweet wines of Portugal and Australia occupied the first and second places. "Setubal Do Moscatel Roxo - Adega de Pegões" was crowned the best Muscat.



HK stocks pare weekly loss as casinos, insurers advance

Hong Kong stocks ended a volatile week on a brighter note as casino shares surged and Cheung Kong Property Holdings Ltd. climbed after buying land. The Hang Seng Index rose as much as 1.2 percent before sliding in the closing auction to finish with a 0.6 percent gain. The benchmark gauge declined 3.2 percent for the week, its biggest loss in three months, after global central banks questioned the need for more stimulus. A gauge of Macau casino operators surged the most since March before Premier Li Keqiang visits the city next month, while Cheung Kong climbed 1.4 percent

AD



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Tesla's Autopilot system under scrutiny in fatal crash



Staff member cleans the hood of a Tesla Model S electric car near a display advertising Tesla's self-driving features at the Beijing International Automotive Exhibition

TESLA faces new scrutiny in China about its vehicle Autopilot system after state television broadcast allegations that a man killed in a crash had activated the driver-assist feature of his car. The state broadcaster CCTV aired a report about a January crash that killed 23-year-old Gao Yaning. The report inclu-

ded apparent dash cam footage of the car slamming into a slow-moving orange truck. An official interviewed in the report said the car's Autopilot feature was active at the time of the crash. CCTV reported Gao's family has sued Tesla in a Beijing court, though the lawsuit was not available in online

court records. Officials at the court did not answer the phone yesterday, a Chinese holiday. Tesla said in a statement that the car was too damaged in the wreck to transmit data to company servers, and that Gao's family had not cooperated with the company's investigation. "We have tried repeatedly to

work with our customer to investigate the cause of the crash, but he has not provided us with any additional information that would allow us to do so," it said. A spokeswoman for the company did not respond to questions about what the car had reported before the crash. The nationally broadcast report was a potential setback for Palo Alto, California-based Tesla's efforts to expand in China, the world's largest auto market.

Tesla has explored building a manufacturing plant in China, but under national regulations that would require it to partner with a domestic company. Both in China and the U.S., Tesla has faced scrutiny and criticism over its marketing of driver-assist features. Last month, the company revised language on its Chinese website that it said would make clearer to drivers that its Autopilot system was not self-driving. The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration are investigating the May death of a 40-year-old Tesla driver in Florida. The Tesla driver-assist feature was engaged during the crash of the Tesla Model S sedan. **AP**

TESLA SAYS FRANCE FIRE CAUSED BY BADLY TIGHTENED CONNECTION

TESLA SAYS that a fire in one of its electric cars in France broke out because an electrical connection had not been tightened properly. The company said in a statement to The Associated Press yesterday that "usually, these electrical connections are installed by a robot, but for this car this connection was installed manually." The three people aboard the Model S sedan escaped unharmed

when it caught fire during a promotional tour last month in the resort city of Biarritz. Tesla said it was the only time such an incident had occurred. It did not elaborate on how the loose connection sparked a fire. The U.S. government investigated Tesla in 2013 after two fires in Model S sedans, but closed the investigation after Tesla made changes to the cars.

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JOURNALISTS were attacked and forced out of the fishing village where China has suppressed new protests five years after the village received international attention for demonstrations against land seizures.

Wukan remains under siege two days after police arrested 13 protesters on allegations that they incited violence and arrest. The Chinese government is now staging a broad crackdown on information about the village, refusing to let journalists in and heavily restricting discussion of Wukan on social media networks.

Reporters from two Hong Kong newspapers, the South China Morning Post and the Chinese-language Ming Pao, were assaulted Wednesday night while conducting interviews and later detained for several hours, both newspapers reported. Two reporters from television station Hong Kong 01 were also detained, according to the station.

The South China Morning Post reported that a group of unidentified men stormed into a home and pushed the newspaper's journalist to the ground. Ming Pao said some in the group were wearing police uniforms, and that someone punched its two journalists even after they had followed orders to squat on the ground.

The journalists were later taken

WUKAN

China expels journalists from fishing village under siege



A police officer stands guard next to a picture of Wukan village's leader Lin Zuluan during a demonstration outside the Chinese central government's liaison office in Hong Kong

to a police station and questioned for several hours, the newspapers reported. According to Ming Pao, a government official asked the journalists to sign a pledge not to do any more reporting.

Both newspapers and the television station said their reporters were eventually taken to the Hong Kong border.

The BBC also reported that its journalists in Wukan were stopped from entering the village.

Wukan carries heightened symbolic importance after the success

of protests in 2011, when its villagers marched against land seizures and corruption. Facing an international spotlight, the Chinese government responded by letting villagers elect their local leader, a measure China's ruling Communist Party has sometimes used to quell local outcry, though national and provincial government officials are all chosen by the party.

The winner of Wukan's election was Lin Zuluan, a former protester. But earlier this year as Lin was set to lead a new round of protes-

ts over new allegations of land seizures, authorities detained him the day before a scheduled protest and later announced he had been charged with taking bribes from developers.

Lin went on television to state he had accepted bribes totaling 593,000 yuan. The government often broadcasts confessions as a means of winning public confidence in an ongoing anti-corruption campaign, though such confessions are often derided by human-rights groups as coerced.

His supporters staged more than 80 straight days of protests following his detention, even after he was sentenced last week to three years in jail.

After issuing warnings against further protests, the government sent dozens of police vans into the village early Tuesday, arrested protest leaders in their homes, and fired rubber bullets at protesters. Social media postings depicted bloodied villagers with apparent bullet wounds. Subsequent

posts have shown police posted at street corners, and villagers contacted by The Associated Press have refused to be interviewed.

Yesterday, Chinese state media said that life in the village was back to normal.

The Global Times, a state-run newspaper, posted a column headlined, "Foreign media fails to trick Wukan villagers on rumor." The column accused journalists of trying to visit Wukan to "wait for conflicts."

"Even though some foreign media have been unscrupulously inciting, planning, and directing chaos, local police have not resorted to violence to solve the issue," the column said.

The Hong Kong Journalists Association said it "strongly condemns" violence against reporters in Wukan and called on the Hong Kong government to "take effective measures to protect the rights and safety of Hong Kong journalists working in the mainland." AP

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PHILIPPINES

Witness says President Duterte ordered killings of 1,000

A former Filipino militiaman testified before the country's Senate yesterday that President Rodrigo Duterte, when he was still a city mayor, ordered him and other members of a liquidation squad to kill criminals and opponents in gangland-style assaults that left about 1,000 dead.

Edgar Matobato, 57, told the nationally televised Senate committee hearing that he heard Duterte order some of the killings, and acknowledged that he himself carried out about 50 deadly assaults as an assassin, including a suspected kidnapper fed to a crocodile in 2007 in southern Davao del Sur province.

Rights groups have long accused Duterte of involvement in death squads, claims he has denied, even while engaging in tough talk in which he stated his approach to criminals was to "kill them all." Matobato is the first person to admit any role in such killings, and to directly implicate Duterte under oath in a public hearing.

The Senate committee inquiry was led by Sen. Leila de Lima, a staunch critic of Duterte's anti-drug campaign that has left more than 3,000 suspected drug users and dealers dead since he assumed the presidency in June. Duterte has accused de Lima of involvement in illegal drugs, alleging that she used to have a driver who took money from detained drug lords. She has denied the allegations.

Matobato said Duterte had once even issued an order to kill de Lima, when she chaired the Commission on Human Rights and was investigating the mayor's possible role in extrajudicial killings in 2009 in Davao. He said he and others were waiting to ambush de Lima but she did not go to a part of a hilly area — a suspected mass grave — where they were waiting to open fire.

"If you went inside the upper portion, we were already in am-



Philippine Police Chief Ronald Dela Rosa (second from left), looks at former Filipino militiaman Edgar Matobato during his testimony at the Philippine Senate in Pasay

bush position," Matobato told de Lima. "It's good that you left."

The recent killings of suspected drug dealers have sparked concerns in the Philippines and among U.N. and U.S. officials, including President Barack Obama, who have urged Duterte's government to take steps to rapidly stop the killings and ensure his anti-drug war complies with human rights laws and the rule of law.

Duterte has rejected the criticisms, questioning the right of the U.N., the U.S. and Obama to raise human rights issues, when U.S. forces, for example, had massacred Muslims in the country's south in the early 1900s as part of a pacification campaign.

Matobato said under oath that the killings went on from 1988, when Duterte first became Davao city mayor, to 2013, when Matobato said he expressed his desire to leave the death squad. He said that prompted his colleagues to implicate him criminally in one killing to silence him.

"Our job was to kill criminals

like drug pushers, rapists, snatchers. These are the kind we killed every day," Matobato said. But he said their targets were not only criminals but also opponents of Duterte and one of his sons, Paolo Duterte, who is now the vice mayor of Davao.

Presidential spokesman Martin Andanar rejected the allegations, saying government investigations into Duterte's time as mayor of Davao had already gone nowhere because of a lack of evidence and witnesses.

Philippine human rights officials and advocates have previously said potential witnesses refused to testify against Duterte when he was still mayor out of fear of being killed.

There was no immediate reaction from Duterte. Another Duterte spokesman, Ernesto Abella, said at a news conference that while Matobato "may sound credible, it is imperative that each and every one of us properly weigh whatever he said and respond right."

Matobato said the victims in

Davao allegedly ranged from petty criminals to a wealthy businessman from central Cebu province who was killed in 2014 in his office in Davao city, allegedly because of a feud with Paolo Duterte over a woman. The president's son said the allegations were without proof and "are mere hearsay," telling reporters he would "not dignify the accusations of a mad man."

Other victims were a suspected foreign militant whom Matobato said he strangled, then chopped into pieces and buried in a quarry in 2002. Another was a radio commentator, Jun Pala, who was critical of Duterte and was killed by motorcycle-riding gunmen while walking home in 2003.

After a 1993 bombing of a Roman Catholic cathedral in Davao city, Matobato said Duterte ordered him and his colleagues to launch attacks on mosques in an apparent retaliation. He testified he hurled a grenade at one mosque but there were no casualties because the attacks were carried

out when no one was praying.

Matobato said some of the squad's victims were shot and dumped on Davao streets or buried in three secret pits, while others were disposed of at sea with their stomachs cut open and their bodies tied to concrete blocks.

"They were killed like chickens," said Matobato, who added he that backed away from the killings after feeling guilty and entered a government witness-protection program.

He left the protection program when Duterte became president, fearing he would be killed, and said he decided to surface now "so the killings will stop."

Matobato's testimony set off a tense exchange between pro-Duterte and opposition senators.

Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano accused Matobato of being part of a plot to unseat Duterte. "I'm testing to see if you were brought here to bring down this government," he said.

De Lima eventually declared Cayetano "out of order" and ordered Senate security personnel to restrain him.

Another senator, former national police chief Panfilo Lacson, warned Matobato that his admissions that he was involved in killings could land him in jail.

"You can be jailed with your revelations," Lacson said. "You have no immunity."

Duterte has immunity from lawsuits as a president, but de Lima said that principle may have to be revisited now. "What if a leader is elected and turns out to be a mass murderer?" de Lima asked in a news conference after the tense Senate hearing. **AP**

Edgar Matobato said under oath that the killings went on from 1988, when Duterte first became Davao city mayor, to 2013

FLIGHT MH370

Wing flap found in Tanzania confirmed to be part of missing Malaysian airliner

Kristen Gelineau, Sydney

A wing flap that washed ashore on an island off Tanzania has been identified as belonging to missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, Australian officials said yesterday.

The flap was found in June by residents on Pemba Island off the coast of Tanzania, and officials had previously said it was highly likely to have come from the missing Boeing 777. An analysis by experts

at the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, which is heading up the search for the plane, subsequently confirmed the part was indeed from the aircraft, the agency said in a statement.

Several pieces of wreckage suspected to have come from the plane have washed ashore on coastlines around the Indian Ocean since the aircraft vanished with 239 people on board during a flight from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing on March 8, 2014.

The wing flap brings to five the number of pieces of debris the Australian Transport Safety Bureau has determined are almost certainly, or are definitely, from Flight 370. Another piece of wing found a year ago on La Reunion Island, near Madagascar, was positively identified by French officials.

Search officials expect more wreckage to wash up in the months ahead. But so far, none of the debris has helped narrow down

the precise location of the main underwater wreckage.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau anticipates search crews will complete their sweep of the 120,000-square kilometer (46,000-square mile) search zone in the Indian Ocean off Australia's west coast by December.

Meanwhile, oceanographers have been analyzing the wing flaps from La Reunion and Tanzania in the hope of identifying a possi-



ble new search area through drift modeling. But a new search would require a new funding commitment, with Malaysia, Australia and China agreeing in July that the USD160 million hunt will be suspended once the current stretch of ocean is exhausted unless new evidence emerges that would pinpoint a specific location of the aircraft.

Earlier this week, relatives of some of the passengers on board the plane met with officials from the transport bureau and asked that more potential debris found around the Indian Ocean be examined. The families believe those items may help provide clues to the plane's location. **AP**

INDONESIA

Two tourists killed in Bali boat explosion, many injured

TWO foreign tourists were killed and about 20 other people were injured in an explosion yesterday on a speedboat that was ferrying them from the Indonesian tourist island of Bali to neighboring Lombok, police said.

Karangasem district police chief Sugeng Sudarso said the "Gili Cat 2" fast boat had about 40 people including crew on board. He said all the passengers have been evacuated and the injured are being treated on the island.

He said the dead are an Austrian woman and a woman of European nationality who police initially said was German.

Police have not yet determined the cause of the explosion, but a member of the forensics team investigating the scene said initial indications are it was an accident. The officer didn't want to be named because he is not an official police spokesman.



Police investigators examine the Gili Cat 2 boat following an explosion while it was enroute to nearby island of Lombok

Sudarso said the explosion occurred after smoke was seen billowing from an engine.

Ferry accidents are common in Indonesia, a sprawling archipelago made up of thousands of islands where regulation of

boat services is often lax.

Sudarso said the explosion, which occurred when the boat was about 200 meters from the port of departure, shattered its rear windows and upended seating.

"We are still questioning the boat captain while a forensic team is examining the scene to find the cause of the explosion," he said.

"One of the passengers died from bad injuries after being

hit by boat debris that also caused injuries to others," Sudarso said.

A manifest showed that passengers were from several countries including Britain, France, Italy, Portugal, Ireland and Spain.

Bali became a byword for tragedy in 2002 when bombings by Jemaah Islamiyah militants

■ A manifest showed that passengers were from several countries including Britain, France, Italy, Portugal, Ireland and Spain

killed 202 people, mostly foreigners.

A sustained security crackdown since then has weakened JI but counter-terrorism officials say there is still a threat of attacks from militants inspired by the Islamic State group. **AP**

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HINKLEY POINT

UK approves stalled Chinese funded nuclear power plant deal

THE British government yesterday approved the construction of the country's first new nuclear power plant in more than two decades, a French and Chinese-backed project that had prompted high-level fears about national security.

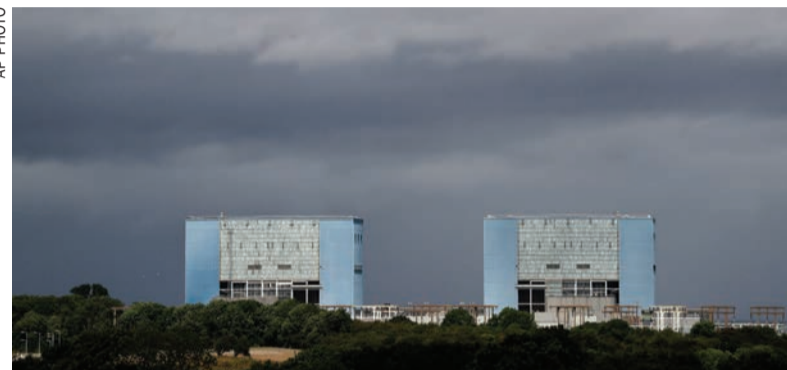
The government said in a statement that it had decided to proceed with the 18 billion-pound (USD23 billion) Hinkley Point plant in southwest England, but that future foreign-funded infrastructure projects will be subject to tighter rules.

The plant will be financed by Chinese nuclear power provider CGN and French energy group EDF.

China and France welcomed the approval, which came weeks after Prime Minister Theresa May unexpectedly stalled the deal after she took office in July, saying she wanted to review it.

The delay threw into doubt the "golden era" of ties proclaimed by Chinese President Xi Jinping during a visit to Britain last year. China's ambassador to Britain warned that it left relations between the two countries at a crossroads.

Some British politicians and diplomats are wary of the enthusiasm the previous government of



Hinkley Point A Magnox nuclear power station in Hinkley Point Somerset

Prime Minister David Cameron showed for boosting ties with Beijing, and voiced concerns about the security implications of China holding a major stake in such key infrastructure.

Business and Energy Secretary Greg Clark said the Hinkley Point deal "will include a series of measures to enhance security" and ensure it cannot change hands without the government's agreement.

Under the deal, EDF won't be able to sell its controlling stake in

the project before completion without British approval.

The British government also said it would impose "significant new safeguards" on future foreign investment in nuclear power and other critical infrastructure, to "ensure that significant stakes cannot be sold without the government's knowledge or consent."

"There will be reforms to the government's approach to the ownership and control of critical infrastructure to ensure that the full implications of foreign ownership

are scrutinized for the purposes of national security," it said in a statement.

China's CGN welcomed the Hinkley decision and said it was now "able to move forward and deliver" nuclear capacity at two more planned U.K. reactors, one of which is expected to be Chinese-designed, as well as financed.

EDF chief executive Jean-Bernard Levy said the decision "marks the relaunch of nuclear in Europe."

The French government, majority owner of EDF, said Hinkley Point was a "major step in Franco-British energy and industrial cooperation" and good news for the French nuclear industry.

France's influential nuclear industry has been struggling in recent years as the industry has leaned toward renewables and away from costly nuclear plants, notably in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima accident.

British trade unions and manufacturers also welcomed the deal,

which they said could create up to 25,000 jobs.

Nuclear power supplies about 20 percent of Britain's energy, but no new reactors have been built since the 1990s.

Clark said the Hinkley Point project would "inaugurate a new era of U.K. nuclear power" and help cut greenhouse gas emissions, which must fall by 80 percent on 1990 levels by 2050.

Opposition politicians criticized the deal's guarantee to operators of a fixed above-market electricity price for 35 years.

Labour Party lawmaker Ben Bradshaw said the government had got an "absolutely dreadful" deal.

And environmental groups say the plant is far too expensive, and money would be better spent developing wind and solar energy.

Greenpeace executive director John Sauven said Hinkley Point was a white elephant that was approved because it "became too big to fail." AP

AD

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TV canal macau



FRIDAY

- 13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
- 15:00 Monster University
- 16:40 Europa League 2016/2017: Braga - Gent (Repeated)
- 18:10 Miscellaneous
- 18:30 Precious Pearl (Repeated)
- 19:20 TDM Talk Show (Repeated)
- 19:50 Soap Opera
- 20:30 Main News, Financial & Weather Report
- 21:15 Documentary Serie
- 22:10 Precious Pearl
- 23:00 TDM News
- 23:30 Europa League Highlights
- 23:45 Portuguese Movie

SATURDAY

- 10:40 Comedy
- 11:10 Blaze Riders
- 11:30 Documentary Serie
- 13:00 TDM News (Repeat)
- 13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
- 14:50 Soap Opera
- 17:25 Documentary Serie
- 18:25 Miscellaneous
- 18:45 Contest
- 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 Comedy

SUNDAY

- 10:40 Young Children
- 11:00 Sunday Mass (Live)
- 13:00 TDM News (Repeat)
- 13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
- 14:40 Light Entertainment
- 16:30 Zig Zag
- 17:45 Documentary Serie
- 19:00 Non-Daily Portuguese News
- 19:30 Comedy
- 20:10 Publicity
- 20:30 Main News, Financial & Weather Report
- 21:00 Documentary
- 22:00 Secrets of China
- 23:00 TDM News
- 23:30 Non-Daily Portuguese News

offbeat

MAN ACCUSED OF MAILING DEAD ANIMALS TO SCHOOL JOB WINNER

A southern Indiana man passed over for a coaching and teaching position allegedly mailed four dead skunks and a dead raccoon to the successful applicant, court documents say.

Travis Tarrants, 40, of West Baden Springs was charged earlier this week in Jackson Circuit Court with two counts each of stalking, intimidation and criminal mischief. He was being held without bond.

Tarrants began harassing the successful applicant because he was chosen over Tarrants for a basketball coaching position and fourth-grade teaching job at the Springs Valley School Corp. in French Lick, WISH-TV reported (bit.ly/2cYmu0p).

One of the packages intercepted at a post office contained a dead raccoon and a message that said, "Resign! It Will Not Stop," documents said.

Investigators also believe that Tarrants placed four phone calls to the Indiana Department of Child Services, making claims that the teacher/coach was having sex with an underage student and was sexually abusing the daughter of an acquaintance.

Letters alleging a sexual relationship with an underage student also were sent to both teacher/coach and his fiancée at their jobs, documents said. One contained a picture of a man's genitals and the teacher/coach's telephone number.

Both victims also received voicemail messages threatening to kill the man's fiancée and her baby. Tarrants also is accused of spray painting "u will die" and an expletive on vehicles belonging to the victims.

Tarrants' girlfriend told investigators that he had trapped five to seven live skunks in late spring and kept them alive for several days.

Online court records did not list an attorney for Tarrants who might comment on his behalf.

cinema



CINETEATRO

15 SEP - 21 SEP

S STORM

ROOM 1

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 9.45 pm

Director: David Lam

Starring: Louis Koo, Julian Cheung, vic Chou, Ada Choi

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

TRAIN TO BUSAN

ROOM 1

7.30 pm

Director: Yeon Sang-ho

Starring: Gong Yoo, Jung Tu-mi, ma Domng-Seok

Language: Korean (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min



SULLY

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Clint Eastwood, Aaron Eckhart

Starring: Tom Hanks

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min

AT CAFE 6

ROOM 2

7.30 pm

Director: Neal Wu

Starring: Zijian Dong, Cherry Ngan, lin Bohong, Ouyang Nini

Language: Mandarin (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 103min



NINE LIVES

ROOM 3

2.15, 6.00, 7.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Barry Sonnenfeld

Starring: Kevin Spacey, Jennifer Garner, Christopher Walken

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min

TRAIN TO BUSAN

ROOM 3

3.50 pm

Director: Yeon Sang-ho

Starring: Gong Yoo, Jung Tu-mi, ma Domng-Seok

Language: Korean (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

MACAU TOWER

15 SEP - 28 SEP

SULLY

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Clint Eastwood, Aaron Eckhart

Starring: Tom Hanks

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min



this day in history



1968: POST OFFICE BACKS FIRST CLASS SERVICE

The first day of the new two-tier postal system has had a mixed reaction from the public, with some queuing to buy the new 5d first-class stamps and others complaining the new system makes sending letters more difficult.

The Post Office is promising overnight delivery for letters with a fivepence stamp on, while fourpence buys you a slower service.

It hopes to raise an extra £25 million from providing the new service, as well as levelling out the workload for postmen.

At one central London post office, there were long queues as counter clerks explained the new system - to the dismay of some customers.

"I just don't think it's worth the increase," said one man. "Not when you see all these queues here, a number of positions not manned and people standing around. I just don't think it's worth it."

The biggest impact has been on businesses, which account for about 75% of all mail.

John Peggall, the secretary of the National Chamber of Trades, said most were angry at what he called a "confidence trick" played on them by the Postmaster General, John Stonehouse.

"He's rather hidden the fantastic increase in charges - 33.3% in that particular rate... in the pretence that there's a fantastically good new service being introduced, when there's nothing of the kind," he said.

At the National Provincial Bank, which sends out millions of letters each year and spends over £500,000 on postal charges, there was concern over the extra costs in addition to the expense of a first-class service.

"A decision has got to be taken for every letter for which post it should go by, the envelope has to be marked, the postal clerk has to see this mark and stamp it accordingly, and so on," said the bank's deputy Chief General Manager, Marcus Young.

"So it stands to add to the complication of what is already a complicated operation."

Several businesses, including the BBC, Esso, British Petroleum, and Gillette, have instructed staff not to send letters by the 5d rate unless absolutely necessary.

But after the first day, the Post Office said it was encouraged by the take-up for the new rate of postage.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Just over a quarter of all letters posted on the first day were posted at the first-class 5d rate - well short of the Post Office target of 40-45%.

The initial take-up of the first-class rate has stayed roughly the same: in 2003 about 30% of mail handled by the Post Office was being delivered by first-class post.

However, since 1968 the number of letters the Post Office delivers has almost tripled, from 30 million to 82 million each day. Meanwhile, the cost of sending a letter first class has risen in real terms by nearly a quarter, although the price of a second-class stamp has stayed almost the same.

But whereas in 1968 the Post Office aimed to get 95% of first-class letters delivered by the next day, in 2002-2003 the target was down to 92.5% - and the Post Office failed to reach it by 0.7%.

The Postmaster-General, John Stonehouse, later became notorious for faking his own death. He resigned as an MP after he was convicted for fraud in 1976 and sentenced to seven years in jail.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
You are all about cultural events today — so make sure that people see your sensitive side. You're still full of fiery energy, which should make life quite a bit more interesting for all concerned.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Your thinking takes a philosophical turn later in the day — and you should run with it! You may not think it's very practical, but it's sure to get you moving in some very interesting directions.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Your ideas are good — but there are other ideas out there that may be even better! Listen carefully and try to let go of anything that has outlived its usefulness. Life can get a lot better!

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
What can you offer the world today? It doesn't have to be much — any service at all can earn you bonus karma points! Make sure that you're paying careful attention to little problems.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
You can be incredibly generous — and there are days like today, when it feels like you're giving your all. Go for it, as your terrific energy should replenish itself faster than you can spend it.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Let nature take its course today — there's just no use struggling against it! Your energy is better kept in reserve for when things start to get crazy again. You can wait out this phase for a bit longer.

Libra
Sep.23-Oct. 22
You're figuring out some deep ideas today — and may be on the road to a new discovery of some kind. See if your sparkling energy is right for figuring out the next big thing in your life.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
Something seems too good to be true — because it is! You need to figure out what you want to say or do about it, but that could just mean shutting up and letting someone else take the hit.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Your friends are more important than ever today, and you need to be sure that you're giving them the praise they deserve. Make sure all your VIPs hear from you before night falls.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
How did you get here? You may be asking yourself that after you zone out in a meeting or while on a long drive, but you shouldn't worry — things are all just how they are supposed to be.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
New people are the key to almost any problem today, so bring in outsiders if you can — or just head out and meet folks! Your social energy should help guide you in the right direction.

Pisces
Feb.19-Mar. 20
You need to think carefully before mouthing off today — someone might be paying closer attention than they let on! It's a good time for you to step up and take better care of your relationships, too.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	20	28	cloudy
Harbin	15	24	shower
Tianjin	21	27	clear
Urumqi	14	25	cloudy/clear
Xi'an	18	34	drizzle
Lhasa	9	23	moderate rain
Chengdu	19	29	drizzle/overcast
Chongqing	22	32	shower
Kunming	16	22	drizzle
Nanjing	21	34	shower/moderate rain
Shanghai	22	35	drizzle/heavy rain
Wuhan	22	33	cloudy/shower
Hangzhou	21	35	shower/heavy rain
Taipei	27	32	moderate rain
Guangzhou	26	31	cloudy/thundershower
Hong Kong	26	29	shower
WORLD			
Moscow	13	13	drizzle
Frankfurt	14	30	clear
Paris	12	30	clear
London	14	29	clear/drizzle
New York	20	32	drizzle/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Wait ___; 5- Razor name; 9- Harper's Bazaar illustrator; 13- Whip; 14- Visionaries; 16- Orderly; 17- I could ___ horse!; 18- Large motor vehicle; 19- Brown-bag stuff; 20- Field yield; 21- Tear; 22- Light; 24- Ah, me!; 26- This can be guilty or not guilty; 27- Pertaining to birth; 29- Large hall for dancing; 33- Dig find; 34- Ballet bend; 35- Make it to the end; 36- Colorful card game; 37- Intimidate; 38- Wood of the Rolling Stones; 39- To a smaller extent; 41- Hot times abroad; 42- Boat spines; 44- Concentrated extracts; 46- São Paulo feature; 47- Small gull; 48- Shoppe adjective; 49- Attractive; 52- Lady of Sp.; 53- Gee whiz!; 57- Believe; 58- Flower segment; 60- Region; 61- Payment for travel; 62- Link with; 63- Salamander; 64- Trampled; 65- Blueprint detail, for short; 66- Nonsense;

DOWN: 1- Knighted Guinness; 2- German river; 3- This, in Tijuana; 4- Pancakelike bread of India; 5- Star-related; 6- Garr and Hatcher; 7- Enlist again; 8- Rainbow shape; 9- Tangle up; 10- Do followers; 11- Lacking slack; 12- Novel ending?; 15- Frying pan; 23- Toothpaste type; 25- Fond du ___; 26- Hurts; 27- Hawaiian state birds; 28- At ___ for words; 29- Depressed spirits; 30- Paddled; 31- ___ Mio; 32- Range: Abbr.; 33- Govern; 34- Communion plate; 37- Decipher; 40- Colonized; 42- Josh; 43- Graceful in form; 45- Can be used to catch fish or surf!; 46- Aztec god of rain; 48- To talk, usually in a pompous manner; 49- Fizzling sound; 50- Bring up; 51- Eliel Saarinen's son; 52- Dance move; 54- Cream-filled cookie; 55- Puts in stitches; 56- Hell ___ no fury...; 59- Sue Grafton's "___ for Evidence";

Yesterday's solution

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

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



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	<p>One Oasis, Hyde Park Tower Macau 2 Bedrooms Apartment Well furnished HKD 13,000 / 900 sq ft Ref: 16070603</p>	<p>The Buckingham, Mid Floor Unit D, Taipa 2 Bedroom Apartment Fully Furnished HKD 18,000 / 1,147 sq ft Ref: 16020558</p>	<p>Super Flower City Unit A Taipa 3 Bedroom Apartment Stunning Stadium Views HKD 19,500 / 2,200 sq ft Ref: 16060591</p>	<p>One Central, Tower 7 Macau 2 Bedroom Apartment Great location HKD 17,800 / 1,292 sq ft Ref: 16070598</p>

Shoppes at Parisian launch marked with three days of fashion festivities



Exclusive designer runway show Front Row marked the start of three days of fashion events celebrating the official launch of The Parisian Macao's Shoppes at Parisian



Shoppes at Parisian has added more than 170 stores to the existing 650 at Sands Shoppes Cotai Strip Macao after the opening of The Parisian Macao on September 13, 2016



Kerry Hess



THE PARISIAN Macao's Avenue des Champs Elysees at Shoppes at Parisian was transformed into a glamorous runway on Wednesday night for an exclusive designer runway show, Front Row, to mark the start of three days of fashion events and promotions celebrating the official launch of Shoppes at Parisian.

The event was graced by over 200 invited guests. Adding star factor on the runway was one of the world's top models, Xiao Wen, the first Chinese fashion model named as the face of Marc Jacobs, who has also walked for leading fashion designers Hermès, Louis Vuitton, Prada, Rochas and Thierry Mugler. Australian artist Kerrie Hess, who has been commissioned by Sands Shoppes to develop a series of exclusive illustrations for Shoppes at Parisian that personify Parisian flair, also attended the event. Kerrie has created illustrations for international fashion houses such as Chanel, Cartier, Kate Spade New York and Louis Vuitton, and her illustrations have featured in luxury fashion magazines including Vogue, Tatler and Harper's Bazaar worldwide.

The event, which included a cocktail reception and after party, showcased exclusive crystal looks from Swarovski. "Shoppes at Parisian is set to embrace creative luxury – a unique positioning among our Macau retail properties," commented David Sylvester, executive vice president of Global Retail, Las Vegas Sands Corp, speaking on stage during the event. Sheldon and Miriam Adelson also attended the show.

The celebrations will continue today, when shoppers will be able to see runway shows from selected retailers as part of the official launch events. A highlight of the celebration will be a special consumer shopping experience that includes exclusive gifts and complimentary samples at selected retailers.

Tales Azzoni, Madrid

FOOTBALL

CRISTIANO Ronaldo hopes Real Madrid learned its lesson after almost losing at home to Sporting Lisbon in its Champions League opener.

Madrid's late comeback yesterday gave the defending champions a winning start in the group stage, but the team's disappointing performance at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium raised some concerns.

Ronaldo grabbed an 89th-minute equalizer and substitute Alvaro Morata netted the winner four minutes into injury time to give Madrid the 2-1 win over the Portuguese side where Ronaldo started his career.

"This game serves as a warning that we can't be starting games so poorly," Ronaldo said. "Because teams will sweep the floor with us and we don't want that. We want to finish top of the group and win."

The Spanish powerhouse struggled from the start, failing to create significant scoring opportunities and unable to keep Sporting from threatening on counter-attacks. Madrid entered the game heavily favored to win but it was Sporting which was mostly in control at the Bernabeu.

"We were a bit flat at the start, but such is football and such is Real Madrid and the comebacks are part of this mythical sta-

AP PHOTO



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo

Ronaldo hopes Madrid learns lessons from Sporting scare

dium," said Ronaldo, who made his 350th appearance with Madrid.

The Portugal forward didn't celebrate his goal except for putting his hands in the air.

"It was against the team where I learned my trade, the club has a place in my heart," Ronaldo said of Sporting. "I have a lot of respect for them, that's why I couldn't celebrate it."

Madrid is trying to become the first team to win back-to-back titles since the new Champions League format went into effect in the 1992-93 season. After one game, it is tied with Borussia Dortmund atop Group F with three points, but trails on goal difference because Dortmund routed Legia Warsaw 6-0.

"We'll analyze the aspects that I didn't like," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "What I do know is that we can perform better than we did. We came up against a team that played their game and made it difficult for us. This is the Champions League and nothing is easy in football. There are no easy games."

The comeback came after Zidane made some key changes, adding substitutes Lucas Vazquez, Alvaro Morata and James Rodriguez. The team improved significantly, with the winner being scored by Morata after a cross by Rodriguez. It was the first time this season Madrid played with the attacking trio of Ronaldo, Gareth Bale and Karim Benzema in the starting lineup.

Zidane said the hard-fought victory should boost the team's confidence going forward.

"When you win a game in this manner it means a lot to the squad," the former Madrid great said. "That's what I take away with me and I go home with a smile on my face and feeling very relaxed. We can't win all of our games 5-0. We had to dig in, but we got the three points."

Madrid's next Champions League game is at Dortmund on Sept. 27. It plays at Espanyol on Sunday in the Spanish league, a competition it leads with three wins from three rounds. AP

F1 | PREVIEW

Mercedes faces genuine challenge at Singapore GP

Chris Lines, Singapore

FOR every grand prix this season, the only question before the race has been which of the two Mercedes drivers would win.

At Sunday's Singapore GP, there is a refreshing prospect of a genuine challenge in the night race to the Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg duopoly.

Having won all but one race this season — the Spanish GP where the two rivals collided on the first lap — Mercedes will start favorites again this weekend, but not by much.

The tight, twisty and bumpy nature of the Marina Bay street circuit largely cancels out Mercedes' speed advantage over chief rivals Red Bull and Ferrari, and recent history indicates those F1 rivals should thrive this weekend.

On the similar Monaco

circuit earlier this year, Red Bull had Mercedes' measure and probably would have won if not for its pit-stop farce. Daniel Ricciardo came in for fresh tires before the pit crew was in position, so he had to drive back out and come in again next time around.

And last year's Singapore race proved a difficult one for Mercedes in qualifying on the third row of the grid and unable to mount any challenge. Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel took a comfortable victory.

Ricciardo was bullish about Red Bull's prospects this weekend, given the strong parallels with Monaco.

"We look at it as a good chance to get the victory I've been after this season," Ricciardo said yesterday. "I'm not going to put too much pressure on myself or them (the team) for this weekend but deep down, we want to win. We are a group of winners, so

if there is pressure on us to get it done this weekend, we will thrive on that."

His young teammate Max Verstappen, who took the only non-Mercedes victory this year in Spain, was cautiously optimistic, saying Friday's practice sessions will shed more light on whether Mercedes is vulnerable.

"We know we have a very good chance to score some good points here," Verstappen said. "It's difficult for me to say now that we will be the No. 1 team this weekend, because we haven't had a chance to race here yet."

For Ferrari, this race represents the best victory chance of the season. Fail to win here, and the Italian team will be staring at the very real prospect of another winless season to match 2014.

"I'm full of optimism, it should be a good place for us," said Vettel, who has been the most succes-

AP PHOTO



Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain poses for a selfie with a fan as he arrives at the Marina Bay City Circuit

ful driver in Singapore, winning half of the previous eight editions. "This track was very good for us last year and we have improved the car since then, so it could be a reasonable track for us again.

"Mercedes had an off year last year but you can't guarantee that will happen again."

Mercedes has closely investigated what went

wrong here, and it would be a surprise if it was as far off the pace in 2016 as it was in 2015.

"Last year we were blown away by the fact that we somehow got it wrong," Hamilton said to the local press. "But a lot of work went into understanding that."

"I definitely think we're not going to have as many problems as we had last

year. But if we do, we've got the tools to correct it."

Hamilton's lead over Rosberg in the drivers' championship has been cut to two points after back-to-back victories by the German at the Belgian and Italian races. Rosberg has never won in Singapore, and his best race performance dates back to 2008 when he finished second for Williams. AP

opinion

Kapok
 Eric Sautédé



POLITICAL MATURITY

As Kenneth Chan, a former Civic Party legislator, puts it with a sarcastic bitter-sweet smile: advocating “universal suffrage” and “greater democracy” is not “sexy” anymore in Hong Kong, people want more, and they made their voice heard, loud and clear, via the ballot box, in what some dub an act of “resistance” to Beijing’s encroachment over glorified liberal values. The democratic camp has once again prevailed in the geographical constituencies of the Legco election, and even comforted its precious veto power over bills that require a two-third majority to be made into law.

Should we be surprised? As also acknowledged by Mr Chan, what we used to call the pan-democrats had been talking about and pushing for universal suffrage for more than 20 years with very limited results, quite the contrary. Beijing’s stiffening position regarding the degree of openness it would tolerate for the 2017 Chief Executive election, the growing estrangement of CY Leung, the present Chief Executive, from a politically savvy middle class and the rise of a youth-led protest movement that culminated with the Autumn 2014 Umbrella Movement were bound to have consequences. The signs of change had already become visible in the November 2015 district councils election and again in the February 2016 legislative by-election in the New Territories East constituency: so-called localist groups 本土派 had made a strong showing, thus vindicating the umbrella movement heritage.

But then, a general election was something of a different scale and the context had been changing fast: frustration and humiliation had triggered very adverse and boisterous reactions, but fear was creeping in, even more so with the book-sellers disappearance of October 2015.

The scope of data available regarding the election is still limited, but as pointed out by political scientist Edmund Cheng, several observations can already be made.

As far as turnout is concerned — more than 58%; the highest ever — there is obviously a close correlation between street protests and high turnout: the previous record high was in 2004 in the wake of the massive protests against article 23.

The support for the pro-democracy camp (55%) and the pro-regime camp (around 40%) is steady, and the great novelty thus lies in the fragmentation of and the reshuffling of personnel within the pro-democracy camp, in favour of radicals, localists and supporters of self-determination — with the latter concept being fuzzy enough to allow for many interpretations, including a more neutral “community engagement”.

Clearly, there is a convergence between street politics and electoral politics: only two veteran pan-democrats who held their seats before 1997 made it this time and as many as 6 “umbrella generation” activists were elected in geographical constituencies. Is that enough to say with CY Leung that “a large number of voters were dissatisfied with the performance of the pro-democracy lawmakers in the past, and they didn’t formerly vote for the pro-establishment camp”?

For Edmund Cheng, in order to explain why the pro self-determination camp has been able to become a catch-all party in just one stroke, one has to look into structural changes and conjectural forms of mobilisation.

There were indeed transformative effects of the umbrella movement, both regarding the high level of turnout and the registration of new voters. Then the political-identity claim overrode socio-economic issues, although one could argue that the overall highest vote-getter, Eddie Chu Hoi-dick, actually ran a campaign with a comprehensive perspective underpinned by social justice and sustainability. And lastly, polarisation of the vote increased, with a generation gap translating into very differentiated voting reserves.

As far as context was concerned, the disqualification of pro-independence or localist candidates over the summer paved the way for “strategic voting” to become significant — thus uniting the “idealists” — and the influence of social media has become a distinctive and potent feature of electoral politics in this part of the world.

When and if rationality is concerned, vote allocation and strategic voting become crucial points, and social media can obviously compensate for the lack of resources. Points not to be forgotten for our own legislative elections in 2017.

THE BUZZ PAUL AND RINGO BACK TOGETHER FOR BEATLES FILM OPENING

The surviving Beatles will get together for the British premiere of director Ron Howard’s film that documents the band’s chaotic years on the road.

Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr will be in London today [Macau time] for the opening of “Eight Days a Week — the Touring Years.”

The film traces the group’s progression from playing to small frenzied crowds at The Ca-

vern Club in Liverpool to their sold-out stadium shows in the United States.

Their last official gig was at Candlestick Park in San Francisco in 1966. McCartney says the band knew it was time to stop touring, partly because fans screamed so loud the band couldn’t hear the music.

The film project has the backing of Yoko Ono, the widow of John Lennon, and Olivia Harrison, widow of George Harrison.



Cars are stranded on a waterlogged street in Quanzhou, Fujian province, yesterday

MERANTI

Two dead after powerful typhoon sweeps through China, Taiwan

A powerful typhoon swept into southeastern China yesterday after hitting Taiwan, leaving a total of two dead and dozens injured.

Weather officials in both China and Taiwan said Meranti was the strongest storm of its kind this year. Chinese state media reported one death and one person missing, as high winds and rain shattered windows on tall buildings, knocked down trees and disrupted water supplies in China’s Fujian province, causing a

widespread blackout in the coastal city of Xiamen.

In Taiwan, the Central News Agency reported one person was killed and 44 were injured on the island by the storm. It said Meranti knocked out power in almost 1 million homes and water in more than 700,000.

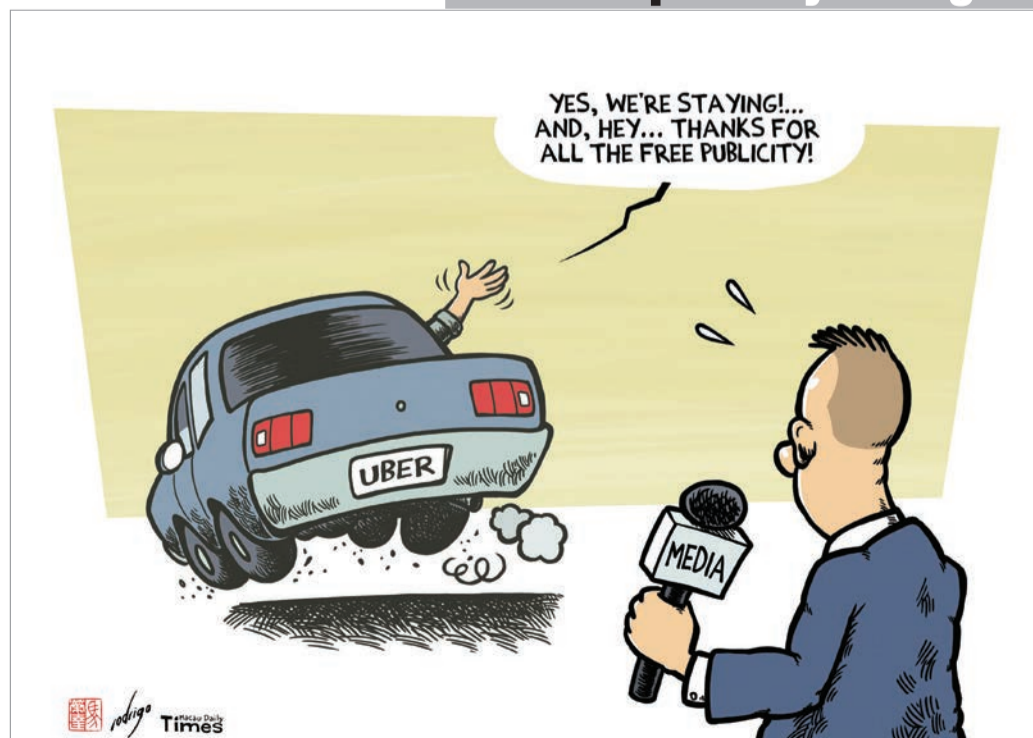
More than 140 trains heading into southeastern China were canceled. An 800-year-old bridge in Fujian province was one casualty of the storm; state media released video of a rapidly flowing river pushing against the brid-

ge until it fell in.

Another video posted online shows a large, moon-shaped balloon bouncing between cars on a roadway. The balloon was an apparent decoration for Thursday’s start of the three-day Mid-Autumn Festival in both mainland China and Taiwan.

Chinese meteorologists downgraded Meranti from a super typhoon to a tropical depression yesterday afternoon and said they expect it to fade further as it moves north. AP

times square by rodrigo



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

WORLD BRIEFS



FLIGHT MH370 A wing flap that washed ashore on an island off Tanzania has been identified as belonging to missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, Australian officials say. More on p12



JAPAN-US Opponents of planned U.S. helipads on Japan’s southern island of Okinawa step up protests in Tokyo after the central government used military aircraft to transport equipment for the project.



JAPAN Dressed in a white pants suit, the new head of Japan’s main opposition party stood out as she raised her hands on stage with three other dark-suited party leaders. Renho Murata, who generally goes by only her first name, is one of three women who have assumed prominent political posts in recent weeks in a country more known for its male-dominated political and business hierarchy.

PAKISTAN Police arrest the father, husband and brother of a woman who was tortured and hanged alongside her alleged boyfriend in a so-called honor killing in the village of Mian Channu, in eastern Punjab province.



WWI Britain’s Prince Charles and other dignitaries honor thousands of soldiers from New Zealand and other Pacific islands killed 100 years ago in World War I.

SAMSUNG Samsung’s recall of 2.5 million Galaxy Note 7 phones after several dozen caught fire and exploded may stem from a subtle manufacturing error, but it highlights the challenge electronics makers face in packing ever more battery power into ever thinner phones, while rushing for faster release dates.