



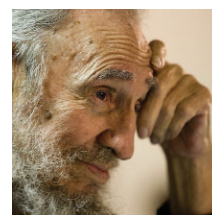
56 STUDENTS DEBATE IN MODEL EUROPEAN UNION

P4



IMPORTED LABOR, WAGES TOP CONCERNS
The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, was at the AL for the second day of his Policy Address presentation

P7



FIDEL CASTRO DIES AT 90 IN CUBA
Fidel, who defied the power of 10 U.S. presidents during his half-century of rule in Cuba, has died

P10,13,14

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“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



TAIWAN Veteran Chinese director Feng Xiaogang has picked up the best director award for his social satire “I Am Not Madame Bovary” at the 53rd Golden Horse Awards, considered the equivalent of the Oscars for Mandarin-language cinema.

AP PHOTO



ABU DHABI With Lewis Hamilton purposefully slowing him down, two other drivers hard on his tail and the title on the line, German driver Nico Rosberg held his nerve to win the Formula One championship for the first time. More on p19

NEW ZEALAND Seven people are dead and another person is missing after a chartered fishing boat disappeared from view in large waves at the entrance to a harbor near Auckland. More on p11

PHILIPPINE troops backed by aircraft have assaulted local sympathizers of the Islamic State group, including dozens of militants who took cover in an unoccupied Islamic school in the country’s south, military officials say.

AUSTRALIA Six people have died and five remained on life support after a rare condition known as thunderstorm asthma struck Australia’s second-largest city.

More on backpage



MACANESE DIASPORA

Global community gathering kicks off

P2

Anima opens new cat shelter, calls for microchipping regulation

P3



MacauDaily presents

Times

MACAO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL & AWARDS

Int'l Film Festival Reaching out

IFFAM SUPPLEMENT INSIDE



Ninth Gathering of Macanese Communities kicks off

Renato Marques

THE ninth edition of the gathering of Macanese communities held every three years was formally opened yesterday at the Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel.

For this year's edition the meeting features 1,540 participants, of which 894 come from Canada, USA, Brazil, Australia and Portugal, among others.

Macau is also well represented in this edition by 646 Macau re-

sident participants.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Chief Executive (CE), among other government officials. Chui Sai On highlighted in his speech the importance of such a community as a "connection link" connecting people who "have been residing and working in Macau, generation after generation, giving rise to Macau's unique ethnic characteristics in language, culture, religion, customs and cuisine." The CE added that these characteristics made them "a bridge for communication and

exchanges between different cultures [during the past five centuries]."

José Luís Sales Marques, president of the Standing Committee of the Council of the Macanese Communities (CCM) spoke on behalf of the organizing committee. He highlighted the efforts that have been put in by the Macanese "Casas" [houses] and Association around the world to "keep up with the goals of the CCM, notwithstanding the challenges associated with poor economic environment in many of the hosting countries,

Macau used to be our 'little Europe' where everybody knew each other and hug each other in the streets.

FRANCISCO COLAÇO XAVIER

the weight of the local cultures and language on a daily basis, generational change of guards and the limits derived by the small size of our community worldwide."

Leonel Alves, president of the General Council of the CCM, praised the local community during his speech "The people of Macau, regardless of the nationality or ethnicity, are accustomed to welcoming Macanese from the diaspora in this city once every three years," he said. Alves, who is also a lawmaker and member of the Executive Council, added that such gatherings "contribute to the strengthening of Macau as a multicultural city, proud of its diversity and able to protect its identity and history."

In Alves' opinion the Macanese communities across the world have an important contribute to the "projection of our city to the world."

Interviewed by the Times, Francisco Colaço Xavier, who lives in Seattle (US) and is taking part in the gathering for the first time, said: "Macau used to be our 'little Europe' where everybody knew each other and hug each other in the streets. For me this is a come back to those 'hugging' moments and those memories from the 'old days'. So far has been surprisingly good."

UM to establish Chinese-Portuguese bilingual teaching and training center

THE University of Macau (UM) plans to establish a Chinese-Portuguese bilingual teaching and training center next spring. The move, according to a statement by UM, was made "in order to promote reform of its Portuguese language programs, and produce more bilingual professionals to support the SAR government's effort to 'build a better Macau through talented people'."

The center plans to devise innovative teaching methods based on the characteristics of Macau students and develop pedagogical models and quality evaluation standards tailor-made for Chinese-speaking learners.

The statement highlights that UM's Department of Portuguese has a culturally diverse faculty team, among

them academics whose research interests include learning or teaching Portuguese as a second language. With the support of a such a team, the center will formulate medium and long-term training plans based on the current situation in Macau. One of its aims will be to improve the university's Portuguese language curriculum in order to attract more students.

Additionally, the center is expected to launch training programs for Portuguese language instructors from primary and secondary schools in Macau, as well as those from universities in mainland China. The center will also collaborate with the Forum for Economic and Trade Co-Operation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries

(Macao) in offering courses in Chinese language and culture for students from Portuguese-speaking countries, and in providing language support for professional courses taught in Portuguese, such as courses in tourism, business management, and medical sciences.

On the teaching material front, the center plans to design innovative audio-visual teaching materials that are more suited to Macau students, to supplement its existing teaching materials.

In addition, the center will establish partnerships with organizations and companies in Macau and overseas where Portuguese is a working language, so as to create more internship opportunities for students to practice their Portuguese language skills.

CE: Macau aims to industrialize traditional Chinese medicine

THE government is committed to the industrialization of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) in Macau, the Chief Executive said on Friday.

Chui Sai On made the remarks in a speech at the opening ceremony of the First World Health Organization (WHO) Inter-Regional Training Workshop on the quality and safety of traditional medicine.

The event is organized by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine (Macau), and is co-hosted by the MSAR government and WHO.

The Government Information Bureau reported that Chui emphasized how the development of the TCM sector is one of the major elements in the diversification of Macau's economy. The government's devotion to promoting the TCM sector was also noted. The government's future efforts will include ensuring Macau is positioned as an international base for quality control of TCM and as an international exchange and trading pla-

form for the health industry. These measures will be in keeping with Macau's economic development effort as outlined in the Guangdong-Macau Cooperation Framework Agreement.

The Guangdong-Macau Traditional Chinese Medicine Industrial Technology Park, located on Hengqing Island in Zhuhai Prefecture, can take advantage of Macau's bridging and linking role with Portuguese-speaking countries, Chui said.

The WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine (Macau) was established in August last year with help from the global health body and the Central Government. A number of agreements in relation to the development of TCM have also been signed between the Government and the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine. These steps are considered international recognition of Macau's effort to promote TCM and have created the expectation of further development of the sector in Macau in the future.

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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 Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong,
Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard
Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Sandra Norte (designer), Viviana Seguí | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS
JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg,
Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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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,
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Lynzy Valles

Anima opens new facility and calls for regulation over microchipping

ANIMAL welfare group Anima (Macau) launched its Cat's Paradise in Coloane Village on Saturday to help resolve the ongoing challenge of rescuing and effectively caring for stray cats in the region.

The reconditioned sanctuary, where approximately 180 rescued cats are currently sheltered, has three rooms that accommodate cats that have infectious diseases or are under recovery.

Anima (Macau) president Albano Martins told the Times that the cats would have adequate space in Coloane Village, saying that the shelter could house up to 500 cats.

"I'm very happy because at last we have cats that can happily play and have a lot of space. Some diseases will not transmit so fast [due to secluded rooms]," he explained.

Martins said that the challenge has always been finding funding for this non-government association.

This year, the Macau Foundation provided MOP3.5 million for the association's operational expenses. Martins said their budget for 2017 is MOP8 million, and expressed his hope that the financial support would rise.

He shared that the group



Cat's Paradise in Coloane



Carla Flores poses in the new facility

spends MOP350,000 a month to pay Anima's 36 employees. "Volunteers can come and help. But you know we have to have professional people," he said. "Volunteers come when they want and we need to give food everyday. We are happy they come [but] it does not solve every problem," he continued.

According to Martins, Anima delivers sustenance to over 30 sites in the region to help feed strayed dogs and cats in the territory.

Another major matter he mentioned was the lack of regulation in regards to the micro-

chipping of the stray animals. Martins stressed that there are more stray cats than dogs, and therefore the region should make it compulsory for cats to hold a microchip.

"Many of them are abandoned animals [and] others are just lost animals. But as the law do not ask them to have a microchip, we [will] never know if the cat is abandoned or lost," he reiterated.

Martins' contention is that this law should be amended. Although the group has suggested the necessary amendments to the government, he said the

government's response was apathetic.

With Anima's latest statistics showing that they have rescued 229 cats in the region, compared with 164 cats in the comparative period last year, he hoped that the government would "wake up and see that [the group] is right."

"Otherwise we cannot rescue them," he lamented, when asked what could occur if the MSAR fails to revise the law.

Carla Flores, a Macau resident who volunteered with the "Cat's Paradise" project, said that she believes that the matter of

strayed animals is important not only in Macau but around the world. She praised Anima (Macau) for the group's initiative on establishing an adequate space for the abandoned cats.

"I do believe that we need more entities like this. Macau is rather small but the problem with stray animals is really big," she explained.

The recently launched Cat's Paradise, which also houses rabbits, turtles and security dogs, is open to the public. Flores noted that the new center would help raise awareness of stray animals, particularly in children.

"Bringing the children here really helps to convey the idea that cats, dogs, rabbits and turtles are worth protection and that they are not toys."

Flores, who has adopted two cats from Anima a few years ago, also noted that sufficient and proper space is problematic in the territory.

"To be able to find the place [Cat's Paradise] where we are now it's a miracle to be honest. Let's hope there are more miracles [to come]," she concluded.

AD

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EDUCATION

Model European Union brings together 56 students from six local universities

FIFTY-SIX students from six tertiary institutions in Macau participated over the weekend at the fourth edition of the Macau Model European Union (EU). Participants – undergraduate and postgraduate students – were from nine different nationalities. The event took place at University of Macau's (UM) Senate Room.

The Model EU is an educational simulation program in which participants recreate the political decision-making of a European council, at the level of heads of state and government, to learn about European politics and current issues. This year's topic was the exit of the United Kingdom from the EU.

According to a statement issued yesterday by the European Union Academic Program in Macau (EUAP-M), "participants displayed a deep understanding of the functioning of the EU as well as of the positions of the countries they were representing. At the end of the two-days of discussion, studen-



ts reached a consensus on a set of conclusions, which included, among others, a recall that the free movement of goods, services, persons and capital are necessary preconditions for the European Single Market, and a proposal for the establishment of a transition period of a minimum of three years after the conclusion of the negotiations between the EU and the United Kingdom."

The three winners (the team of two delegates from Greece as well as the best individual participant, a student representing Hungary) were awarded free study missions to

Europe, funded by EUAP-M, which will take place next summer. They were, respectively, He Wenting and Fu Qiuming (UM) and Evelin Rizzo (from Italy and Maastricht University, who is currently at the UM under an exchange program). Runner-ups included the teams representing Italy (Lin Sijie and Xiao Shiling, UM) and Latvia (Esther Li and Li Xinwei, UM). Runner-ups will be awarded a cash prize of MOP1,000 each.

The runner-ups of the individual participants' competition were Dorji Wangchuk (a national from Bhutan, delegate

from the Netherlands, UM), and Yao Fangyuan (representing Portugal, UM), who won a cash prize of MOP1,000 each. The best position paper of the 28 member-states presented at the summit was awarded to

■ **This year's topic was the exit of the United Kingdom from the EU**

the team representing Romania (Hoi Keng Ieong and Haiyu Wang, UM). They won a cash prize of MOP 3,000.

The 56 participants, from a total of 120 applicants, came from the UM, City University of Macau, Institute for Tourism Studies, Macau Polytechnic Institute, Macau University of Science and Technology, and University of Saint Joseph.

The event was co-organized by the EUAP-M and the Youth Association of International Affairs (YAIA) of the UM, and held with the support of the Institute of European Studies of Macau (IEEM), the Department of Government and Public Administration, Faculty of Social Sciences, UM, as well as the Faculty of Law, UM.

Established in 2012, the EUAP-M is a partnership between the UM and the IEEM, co-financed by the European Union. It aims to bring the EU to the closer attention of the Macau's general public and, in particular, students of all levels.

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ARTS

CCM presents 'The Nutcracker'

THE Macao Cultural Centre (CCM) has announced that "The Nutcracker," an all-time classic for families, is coming to Macau. The show will be staged from January 13 to 15 (Friday to Sunday) at CCM's Grand Auditorium.

Produced by the Hong Kong Ballet, the piece was conceived by Terence Kholer, a young Australian choreographer who has constructed a new visual approach to his reinterpretation of the tale, without losing the charm and elegance of the original story. Set to the sound of Tchaikovsky's immortal musical score, "The Nutcracker" will immerse the audience in Clara and Fritz's journey to a dream world, ruled by a mischievous army of rats and toy soldiers, among other magical characters. The plot of this two-act ballet begins on Christmas Eve, when Clara's godfather offers the little girl a wooden nutcracker.

Ranked as one of Asia's preeminent classical dance companies, the Hong Kong Ballet features a cast of internationally recognized interpreters well-known to Macau's audience. The company has been in town on previous occasions to stage iconic works such as "Cinderella," another family classic performed in 2009.

CCM will present "The Nutcracker" from January 13 to 15, 2017 (Friday to Sunday) at the Grand Auditorium. Tickets are available since yesterday at CCM's box office and Macau Ticketing Network outlets.



From left to right: Eugene Pao, Tots Tolentino, Jeremy Monteiro and Chanutr Techatana-nan

Lynzy Valles

MACAU Jazz Week 2016, the fifth edition of the festival, kicked off last night at the Macau Cultural Center with the 'Asian Jazz All-Stars Power Quartet.'

The quartet features Jeremy Monteiro, Eugene Pao, Tots Tolentino and Chanutr Techatana-nan who come from Singapore, Hong Kong, Philippines and Thailand respectively.

The musicians have performed together in Europe, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia.

According to Monteiro, a Singaporean pianist, the group has known each other since the mid-80s.

"We have a strong repertoire base already that we have been building up the last 10 years we have played together," he explained to the Times. "And every time we get together we add a couple of new tunes and build a repertoire," Monteiro continued.

The group also praised the efforts of the Macau Jazz Promotion Association for annually bringing in diverse jazz groups in the territory, which has helped in promoting the genre to the residen-

MUSIC

Fifth Macau Jazz Week opens

ts of Macau.

Pao, a jazz guitarist, who often visits the region told the Times that Macau residents seem to be more knowledgeable and interested in the jazz genre; adding that more music festivals should be organized in the future.

"In a city full of hotels and being so commercial and everything, it is great to have something [like this]."

Echoing the same sentiments, Monteiro added that residents are in need of art and music events, especially in commercial regions.

"I always say that sports is important because it kind of builds the morale of a country or a nation; and art and music energizes the soul of the country," he suggested. "The combination of sport and art and culture is very important [to a] country or region," he said.

Meanwhile, Macau Jazz Pro-

motion Association president Mars Siu-Hong Lei highlighted the continuous challenge of promoting the music culture to the Macau audience. He reiterated that the association seeks to promote such events to the Chinese-speaking community, particularly to the

Macau is too much about development and economy and young people are kind of sick of it.

MARS SIU-HONG LEI
MACAU JAZZ PROMOTION
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

younger generations.

"Macau is too much about development and economy and young people are kind of sick of it. Many are still looking for other activities," he lamented.

Siu also stressed that space is still problematic for the association to hold music events. According to him, Macau lacks space that could easily hold concerts and music festivals, noting that the Macau Cultural Center is more often fully-booked.

"Until today we do not have a concert hall in Macau," he stressed. "Imagine how nice [it would be] if we have a city park [with a] stage. What if we can do something like that? It does not have to be a big theater," he said.

The fifth Macau Jazz Week will run from December 8 until December 11, featuring musicians from the territory and neighboring regions.

AD



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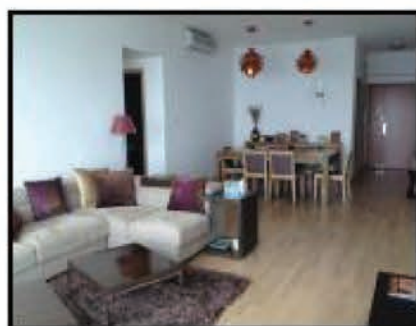
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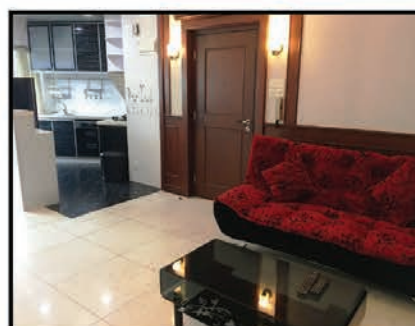


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POLICY ADDRESS | LIONEL LEONG

Salary growth and labor import top lawmakers' concerns

LAST Friday, Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong continued to answer questions posed by the lawmakers, during the second day of his Policy Address presentation at the Legislative Assembly. The main concerns covered in Friday's session were the employment issues of non-resident workers.

The number of non-resident workers in Macau and how their salary levels have resulted in the extensive import of workers was the matter that was discussed most thoroughly.

Au Kam San said that he is not against importing workers but he opposes abuses against a large inflow of non-resident workers. "Locals have been affected by [Macau's] migrant workers related policies, [...] the behaviours promoted by the government goes against the protection of the public," said Au.

Lawmaker Kwan Tsui Heng said that there are two non-Macau resident workers for every five employees. Kwan gave an example of the consequences of this ratio by saying that construction workers are earning salaries that are as low as their salaries in the year of 2010.

"If we acknowledge the importance of construction workers, and if we consider that their work is demanding, why are their salaries so low?"



Lionel Leong (center)

asked Kwan.

She also remarked that human resources industries

have experienced a decline in their salaries that began 30 years ago, when the government, at that time, interfered in the economy and imported a great number of workers, including those working in the catering and hygiene industry.

Kwan pressed the point by asking, "How much have these workers' salaries improved [over the past years]?" She strongly supports salary improvement for all workers and stated that she is also committed to "improving the salaries of non-resident workers. They are human, they also need to live in Macau. [We] can not depend so much on cheap labour."

Kwan, like Au, also opposes the abusing over importing labour. "Non-resident workers should be a supplement to the local workforce, but it is the opposite which is happening," noted Kwan.

She also pointed out that many migrant workers have acquired semi-permanent resident status under Macau's immigration policies.

Another problem addressed by Kwan referred to the number of Macau residents occupying relatively high positions in Macau companies. She suggested that the city should aim to maintain the ratio of employees at a more equitable 85 percent share of Macau residents in executive

There is a trend for residents to move upwards.

LIONEL LEONG

levels.

Similar topics were also raised by several other lawmakers, such as Leong Veng Chai, Chui Sai Peng Jose, and Lam Heong Sang.

In replying to the lawmakers, Leong said that Macau's average salary increased 5.4 percent since the year of 2000 until 2015. He said that starting from the second half of 2014, Macau's economy entered an adjustment period, and that employee's salaries "did not decrease but were in fact increased."

He then added that "both the industries and the employees indicated that the employees' salaries all increased."

The Secretary for Economy and Finance claims that more Macau residents have worked in Macau as managing staff. According to Leong, from 2010 until the first three quarters of 2016, there was a 47 percent increase in the number of Macau residents working as managing staff.

"There is a trend for residents to move upwards," said Leong. In reply to more questions posed by lawmakers regarding issues over the city's labour force, Leong said that the government is planning on establishing an inspection system which will allow the government to collect data from resident and non-resident workers on big construction sites.

Oil price remains high compared to rest of the world

Ho Ion Sang and Sio Chi Wai have doubts over the reasons behinds Macau's expensive oil prices.

According to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the oil import price has decreased to MOP4.39 per kilogram in September this year, compared to MOP8.32 per kilogram in February last year, representing an approximate 50 percent decrease.

However, in Macau, despite this decrease, oil has always been sold for more than MOP13 per kilogram, regardless of the import price.

Macau pays MOP4.4 (per kilogram) to mainland China for importing oil. Hong Kong only pays HKD3.79, according to Ho.

Ho had questioned on why Macau residents need to "suffer from the expensive oil [prices]." He also asked the secretary for an explanation of why the importing price has decreased but the selling price remains the same.

Sio Chi Wai commented that it is because of the related industry, which has been manipulating the price.

Leong said that the Macau Economic Service (DSE) has been observing the change in oil price and have been organizing meetings with the industry regularly. He claims that the authority requested the commercial chamber and oil sellers to launch a questionnaire in order to understand the reasons that contribute to the evolution in oil prices.

However, he said that this measure would not substantially increase our understanding of the changes in price. He also mentioned that, at the current stage, he expects the oil industry will, by meeting with the authority regularly, begin to understand the public's concerns about the changes in the price of oil.

GOV'T TO RESEARCH TRADE UNION LAW

THE SECRETARY for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, said that the government will research the possibility of establishing a trade union law in the region. Leong's statement came after Au Kam San's query at the Friday's Legislative Assembly meeting. Au raised the topic, asking, "When will the trade union law be complete? If you are not willing to answer the question, I hope that

AL's staff can require all parities to deliver references related to the law." Triggered by Au, Tsui Wai Kwan voiced the opposite opinion saying that it is not the right time to put this law onto the agenda. Tsui countered that "when the [workers] have law and weapon held in their hands, there will be people causing troubles. It is equal to the US's gun control problems."

Benjamin Katz, Alex Morales

JAGUAR Land Rover Ltd. said it intends to build electric cars in the U.K. if the government can overcome shortfalls in available energy and infrastructure investment, potentially giving Britain a manufacturing boost as it leaves the European Union.

The company, which employs about 40,000 people in the U.K., said it aimed to build new facilities and lift its payroll in the country, without committing to a specific number of jobs. The expansion could create around 10,000 positions, said Martin Yardley, chief executive officer of the Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership, which promotes the economy in the region where many of Jaguar Land Rover's U.K. operations are clustered.

Jaguar Land Rover Chief Executive Officer Ralf Speth is moving to double the number of vehicles produced worldwide to one million a year. The company, owned by Tata Motors Ltd. of India, plans to build its first electric vehicle at a plant in Austria owned by Magna International Inc. and have it on the road by 2018.

Speth said he wants future electric models to be built in the U.K. while cautioning that current levels of power supply are insufficient to produce those cars. He also said the company would require mobile network investments that could help with the development of autonomous vehicles.

"We want to build our electric

Jaguar Land Rover wants to make electric cars in Brexit U.K.



vehicles in the West Midlands, in the home of our design and engineering," Speth said in a speech Thursday. "If we double the cars we can double the workforce."

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Philip Hammond on Wednesday announced 390 million pounds (USD485 million) of funding over the next five years to support ultra-low emission vehicles, including 80 million pounds for charging networks.

Jaguar Land Rover already invests about 3.5 billion pounds in research and development each year, a spokesman said.

If Jaguar Land Rover goes ahead with the U.K. plans, it would create about 7,500 jobs

in the Coventry area through 2020, Yardley said in a telephone interview Friday, though about 2,500 of those positions would be moved from elsewhere in the country. The payroll would be boosted by a further 5,000 in the following decade, he said.

The expansion could also

■ The company employs about 40,000 people in the U.K.

create 50,000 to 100,000 additional jobs in the automotive supply chain and service industries, Yardley said.

"As an industry it's incredibly productive because it has a higher ratio of indirect jobs than other industries," he said.

Jaguar Land Rover's expression of interest in building electric cars in the U.K. follows a commitment by Nissan Motor Co. to continue manufacturing at a plant in Sunderland, England, after the Japanese company said it might ask the U.K. government to compensate it for any negative consequences of Brexit. **Bloomberg**

Hong Kong-Shenzhen stock-trading link to start on December 5

Eduard Gismatullin, Benjamin Robertson

CHINA will start its second stock-trading link with Hong Kong on Dec. 5, another step in the country's efforts to open up the mainland market.

The Shenzhen-Hong Kong connect will give investors in the city access to stocks on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange, where many Chinese technology companies are listed. The program has been awaited for more than two years following the launch of the Shanghai-Hong Kong connect in November 2014.

The link's start was announced by regulators amid the yuan's biggest monthly decline against the U.S. dollar since a one-time devaluation in August last year. The

Shanghai and Shenzhen connections are a key part of China's push to internationalize its currency and should also help the country's stocks integrate into the world's markets. When MSCI Inc. in June rejected the nation's shares for inclusion in its global benchmarks, among the issues it cited were barriers facing foreign investors wanting to trade in China.

"We're ready for another milestone in our mutual market access initiative," Charles Li, chief executive officer of Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd., said in a statement. "Shenzhen connect will open up another mainland market for international investors, give investors on both sides of the boundary more choices and enhance access to the mainland's

stock market through our market and to our market through the mainland market."

China has been slowly improving market access and gradually easing restrictions on money flow. In February, authorities removed limits on foreign involvement in the country's interbank bond market, while Bloomberg News reported in September that officials had scrapped guidelines on Qualified Foreign Institutional Investors' mainland asset allocations.

Investors buying into Shenzhen will have access to any stock in the Shenzhen Stock Exchange Component Index and Shenzhen Stock Exchange Small/Mid Cap Innovation Index that has a market value of more than 6 billion yuan, according

to an August presentation from Hong Kong's Securities and Futures Commission. Any company that is dual listed in the city and Hong Kong will also be available. Buying shares traded on Shenzhen's ChiNext small-cap gauge will be limited to institutional investors at the "initial stage" of the link, the SFC said.

The connection to Shenzhen is a "positive step from the standpoint of index managers and their clients, and increases the chances of affirmative decisions on their part in their reviews over the coming year," Nick Ronalds, managing director for equities at the Asia Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association in Hong Kong, said before the announcement.

The link with Shanghai



hasn't been as popular as authorities may have hoped, with investors rarely hitting the daily limits. Global investors sold a net 3.51 billion yuan of mainland shares using the existing link between Shanghai and Hong Kong in the first half of November, even as China's benchmark equity gauge climbed into a bull market.

The Shenzhen link "reduces foreign investors' reliance on QFII, thus relieving the difficulty of hedging renminbi, which has been increasingly volatile of late," Tony Cheung, head of quant analytics at Liquidnet Holdings Inc. in the Asia Pacific region,

said by e-mail. "This reduces the costs of investing in Shenzhen and should ultimately translate into cheaper fees paid by end investors. For example, ETF management fees will be lower."

Hong Kong's government welcomed Friday's announcement of the start of the link.

"We will closely monitor its implementation so that it will contribute to the economic and financial reforms of our country and reinforce Hong Kong's position as an international financial center," the city's financial secretary John Tsang said in an e-mailed statement. **Bloomberg**

13 detained in China over deadly construction collapse



Workers look for survivors after a work platform collapsed at the Fengcheng power plant in eastern China's Jiangxi Province

Gerry Shih, Beijing

CHINESE authorities detained 13 people over the collapse of scaffolding at a power plant construction site that killed 74 workers, as a preliminary investigation zeroed in on how the building company had rushed the job. Most of the dead had been working on the interior concrete wall of a massive circular cooling tower 70 meters up when the scaffolding collapsed Thursday morning, resulting in one of China's most serious industrial accidents in years.

In a statement issued Saturday, the committee of the State Council, or China's cabinet, said early findings suggested that a shortened timeframe for the power plant project, hasty construction and mismanagement played a role in the disaster, without giving details.

Although authorities did not disclose details about the 13 detentions, the focus of the investigation has turned to the power plant's operator, Jiangxi Ganneng, and a major engineering firm, Hebei Yineng, which has taken on multiple high-profile power plant projects and has a history of workplace fatalities.

Yineng has won contracts to build plants in more than a dozen provinces and in Turkey and Malaysia, according to previous interviews given by executives. In 2012, seven Yineng builders in a cooling tower in Yunnan pro-

vince tumbled to their deaths after scaffolding collapsed. Three years before that, two workers died after a vehicle accidentally backed into a scaffolding support beam at a Yineng-built cooling tower in Guangdong province.

Several of the company's publicly listed telephone lines and a mobile phone number for the company's legal representative rang unanswered on Friday. The company's websites could not be opened.

State media reports said the accident occurred during a change of work shifts, possibly accounting for the high death toll. Workers had also been toiling around-the-clock in three shifts to make progress on the project ahead of the arrival of bitter winter weather, according to local media interviews with surviving employees.

The 1,000-megawatt coal-fired plant had been designated a priority project by the province, likely adding to the pressure on workers.

The deadly accident has taken on added political significance in recent days after Chinese President Xi Jinping urged local governments to hold those responsible accountable and the State Council established a special committee to investigate.

China has suffered several major work-safety accidents in recent years blamed on weak regulatory oversight, systemic corruption and pressure to boost production amid a slowing economy. AP

ADVERTORIAL

SANDS CHINA NEWS

Sands China Participates in Responsible Gaming 2016

Variety of company initiatives in place in support of annual MSAR community campaign

Sands China Ltd. kicked off its support of Responsible Gaming 2016 on Oct. 10 with a series of initiatives in support of the annual event organised by the MSAR Social Welfare Bureau, the MSAR Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau, and the University of Macau.

Lasting from early October through January 2017, Sands China's Responsible Gaming 2016 activities are aimed at further increasing team members' awareness of problem gambling and to foster responsible gaming behaviour.

In the heart-of-house areas of Sands Macao, The Venetian Macao, Sands Cotai Central and The Parisian Macao, the company has set up notice boards promoting the MSAR government's Responsible Gaming 2016 initiatives, which include a quiz on smartphone apps, various responsible gaming activities offered by Gaming Employees' Home, and information about Gaming Employees' Home's 24-hour hotline and online gambling counselling services. Video screens in the properties' heart-of-house areas are also showing a responsible gaming promo clip created by the MSAR government.



Sands China also offered its own responsible gaming quiz for team members Oct. 10-28, attracting over 6,000 team members to participate. Questions spanned topics like probability, games of skill, self-exclusion, and the company's responsible gaming information kiosks.



Besides being able to take the quiz on site at Sands Macao, The Venetian Macao, Sands Cotai Central and The Parisian Macao, team members could for the first time take the quiz in a more interactive and accessible bilingual format using WeChat.

As in years past, Sands China set up several Responsible Gaming Ambassador Walls, acknowledging the company's Responsible Gaming Ambassadors, who have completed an eight-hour training course to increase their responsible gaming knowledge and skill sets. A total of 80 additional team members became new ambassadors in August 2016, bringing the total number of ambassadors to 440.



Finally, the company continues its long-standing annual practice of contributing financially to three local responsible gaming centres. On Oct. 20, cheque presentations totalling MOP 450,000 were made to the Young Men's Christian Association of Macau, the Sheng Kung Hui Social Services Coordination Office, and the Industrial Evangelistic Fellowship of Macau to aid their responsible gaming efforts.

Sands China remains committed to the personal well-being of its guests and recognises the importance of responsible gaming to the Macao community. Sands China launched a self-exclusion programme in 2004, and was a pioneer in Macao in establishing its comprehensive responsible gaming programme in 2007, with the goals of contributing to the continuous development of the Macao community, bearing corporate responsibility in addressing social issues and developing an environment and a culture of responsible gaming in Macao.



The company also regularly engages in offering responsible gaming training for team members, and in academic research and social activities, and posts responsible gaming information throughout all its properties, in both patron and back-of-house areas, and all team members receive mandatory responsible gaming training as part of their orientation programme upon joining the company. In 2011, Sands China conducted a company-wide refresher training, and also held its first Education Week, aiming to gauge team

members' awareness of responsible gaming and problem gaming. Since 2009, the company has been an annual participant in responsible gaming activities organised by the Macau Social Welfare Bureau, DICJ and the University of Macau.

In addition, Sands China has established long-term cooperation with local non-profit organisations and academic institutions to help minimise the social impact of problem gaming. Since 2006, the company has contributed over MOP 4.4 million to various organisations as part of its ongoing support of responsible gaming initiatives in Macao.

Gerry Shih, Beijing

IN the shadow of east Beijing's soaring glass skyscrapers, elderly retirees still speak nostalgically about their Cuban brothers-in-arm, faraway comrades bound by communist solidarity.

But in central Beijing's halls of power, Cuba is perhaps seen these days as something less romantic: a market for China's booming private-sector exports.

Viewed from the world's largest communist country, Fidel Castro's death is a reminder of how the communist axis has changed beyond recognition since the ideologically charged era when the bearded revolutionary cut a dashing figure on the world stage alongside leaders like Mao Zedong.

After establishing diplomatic relations in 1960, the countries' fortunes diverged over the ensuing decades: China began adopting free-market reforms in the 1980s and morphed into an economic powerhouse — Communist mostly in name — while Castro persisted with Marxism, Cuba's economy hobbling on under U.S. sanctions.

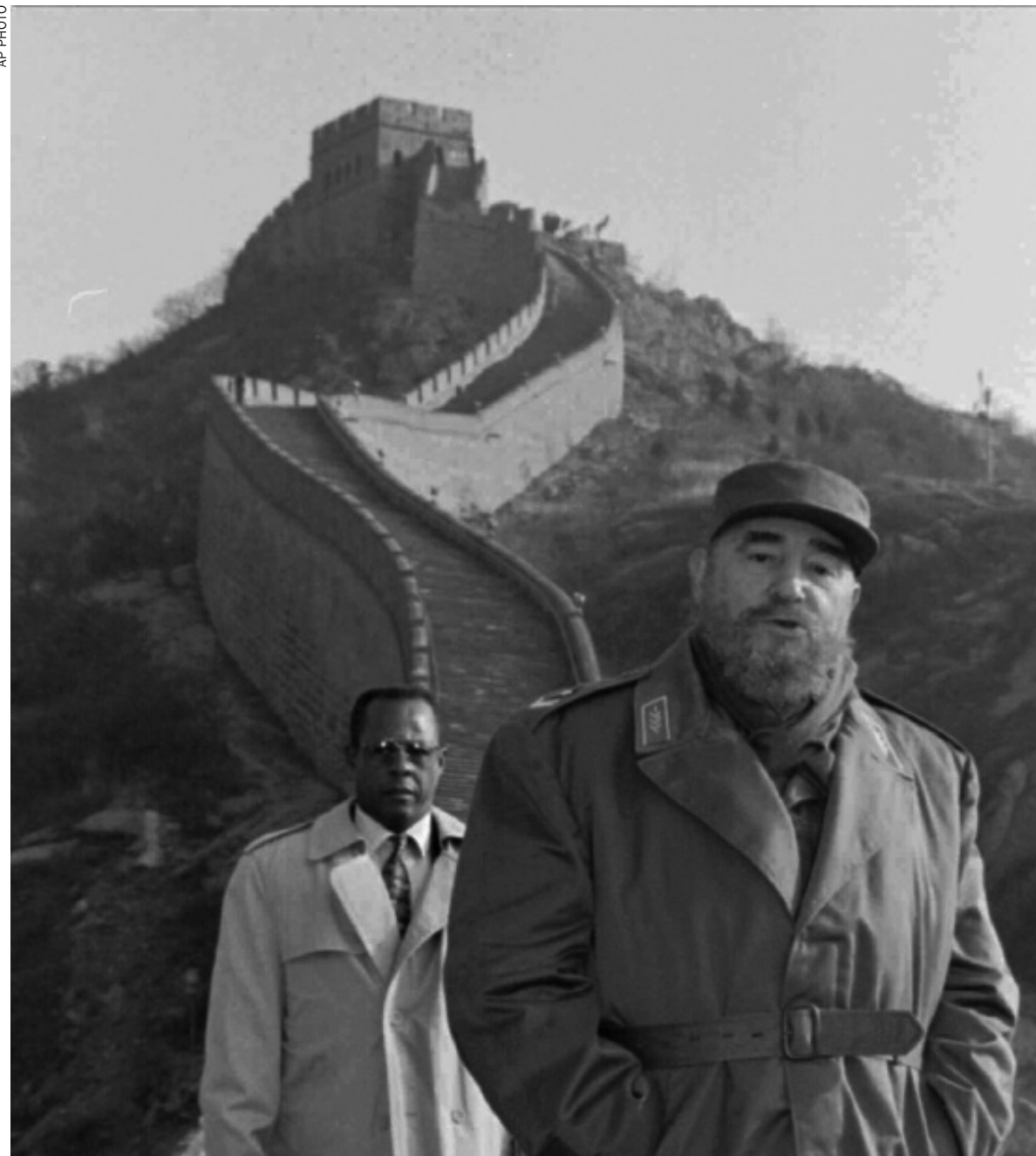
Today, the two countries' leaders frequently nod to their shared ideological history, but bilateral relations revolve more around jointly developed beach resorts or Chinese telecoms investments. In a September visit, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang offered to support Cuba's development as a "comrade and brother," while Castro congratulated China on the growth it has achieved and sought assistance in agricultural technology.

At around USD2.2 billion a year, trade between the two countries is dwarfed by China's commerce with the rest of Latin America, which totals \$236 billion, according to Chinese state media. But China is Cuba's top creditor and second-largest trading partner after Venezuela, and ties have deepened swiftly.

Chinese refrigerators are found in Cuban homes, China's "Yutong" brand buses ply Cuba's highways and Chinese Unionpay cards are accepted at Cuban ATMs. In December, Air China launched a direct flight from Beijing to Havana largely to serve burgeoning Chinese tourists looking to spend holidays in the island nation.

"After China deepened reform and opened up in early 1990s,

Castro's death a reminder in China of changed communist axis



Fidel Castro stands on the Great Wall of China during a 1995 visit to Beijing

■ Castro was always greeted warmly in Beijing

the development of bilateral ties between China and Cuba did not focus too much on ideology," said Zhu Feng, dean of the Institute of International Studies at Nanjing University. "Economic development and cooperation, which were beneficial to economic and social development in both countries, became more important."

Geopolitical tectonics have realigned in other ways since Castro's prime. Cuba restored diplomatic relations with the United States last year after a half-century freeze, a rapprochement that China viewed warily. Meanwhile, Washington lifted an arms embargo against Vietnam, another erstwhile communist enemy, and has backed Hanoi in maritime disputes against neighboring China.

North Korea remains a communist holdout, but the country's leader, Kim Jong Un, has increasingly exasperated China, which is collaborating with the United States to try to halt its erstwhile ally's nuclear pro-

gram.

Shi Yinhong, a professor of international relations at Renmin University in Beijing, said the 90-year-old Castro's death had been anticipated and there will be no material change in China-Cuba relations, given that he relinquished power to his brother Raul years ago.

Still, Castro's passing is being mourned with a deep and genuine sense of nostalgia in China, even if he feels like an icon from a bygone era.

Chinese President Xi Jinping sent a telegram to Cuba on Saturday mourning the loss of a "dear comrade and true friend" of the Chinese people who

made "immortal contributions to the development of socialism around the world."

Chinese state television rolled out hours of historical footage. Voiceovers highlighted Castro's cigar-chomping charisma, ideological conviction and seeming "invincibility," while denouncing U.S. intelligence operations against him and crippling U.S. sanctions against his country.

China's official Xinhua News Agency, meanwhile, eulogized a man who "resisted the American superpower for half a century" with the headline: "Old Soldiers Never Die."

From Jiang Zemin to Xi, who frequently reaches for Marxist-Leninist symbolism and language, generations of Chinese leaders have displayed an affinity for the distant ally at a personal level. Xi made a visit to Cuba in 2014 and, as he told an audience last year, sipped a mojito at Ernest Hemingway's favored bar.

Castro, likewise, was always greeted warmly in Beijing, and many older Chinese remember the 1995 visit when, decked in his tell-tale green fatigues, he stepped up to Mao's memorial in Tiananmen Square and snapped a military salute. Even in his later years, Castro was pictured wrapping Chinese leaders in bear hugs, eliciting surprise and delight from his hosts.

In the alleyways near Beijing's glittering World Trade Center complex, not far from Cartier and Versace boutiques, elderly residents on Saturday pondered the legacy of a man who loomed large in their youths.

"He was a good person," said a 78-year-old retired railway worker surnamed Zhang. "Cuba is our friend. I still remember joining the anti-U.S. parade to support Cuba in my 20s. The sugar we had was from Cuba."

Liang Yongxing, 60-year-old retired civil servant, said he was astonished by the news of Castro's death, calling it a momentous occasion for the international order.

"Aside from North Korea, I think he was the last person who clung to pure socialism," he said. AP

Strong earthquake in remote far-western China kills 1

A strong earthquake in a remote area of China's extreme west has killed at least one villager after a home collapsed, authorities said Saturday.

The seismological bureau of China's Xinjiang region said that 55 homes were damaged and 32 collapsed in an area bordering Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan in the

quake that struck late Friday.

The government has dispatched emergency response workers and closed some railways in southern Xinjiang.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake had a preliminary magnitude of 6.5 and struck western Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The USGS repor-

ted the quake as quite shallow, at a depth of 12 kilometers (7.5 miles).

Shallow earthquakes are more likely to cause damage in populated urban areas, but that

area of the Xinjiang highland is largely rural.

China's earthquake monitoring agency said the quake epicenter was located in Akto county in Kizilsu Khirgiz Autonomous Prefecture in Xinjiang, which is near the regional hub of Kashgar. AP



Nine eight-wheeled Singapore-made Terrex infantry carrier vehicles seized at a container terminal in Hong Kong

Singapore teams heads to Hong Kong to secure army carriers

SINGAPORE'S army is sending a team to Hong Kong to secure nine of its armored personnel carriers that were seized by customs authorities while in transit through the southern Chinese territory, the Defense Ministry said Friday.

The ministry said in a statement that the team was on its way to "address the security" of the eight-wheeled Singapore-made Terrex infantry carrier vehicles that were held by Hong Kong customs on Wednesday.

The statement did not say where the vehicles had been shipped from, but Singapore's Straits Times newspaper said they were being sent to Singapore from Kaohsiung in southern Taiwan. The ministry said the vehicles were not carrying ammunition or sensitive equipment.

Hong Kong's South China Morning Post newspaper cited unidentified sources as saying the vehicles were used in training in Taiwan and that in order to secure their release, Singaporean author-

ities would need to contact China's Foreign Ministry. The militaries of Taiwan and Singapore have long trained together, much to the irritation of Beijing, which regards self-governing Taiwan as a breakaway province.

The seizure also comes amid Chinese displeasure over Singapore's approach to South China Sea territorial disputes. Though not a claimant in those disputes, Singapore has irritated China by advocating that countries should abide by international rules. Chi-

na claims virtually the entire strategic waterway as its own and says international law has no jurisdiction in the matter.

Some experts quoted in Hong Kong media reports speculated that China would use the seized military shipment to pressure Singapore to adopt a friendlier stance toward China on the dispute.

However, Chinese military analyst Yue Gang said that was unlikely given Beijing's reluctance to draw attention to the disputes following an international arbitration panel's ruling

in July that invalidated most of its territorial claims in the area.

"It is not worth it for China to connect the seizure of the shipment to the issue of the South China Sea. It will only give Singapore an excuse to play up the case," said Yue, a retired colonel in the People's Liberation Army.

The seizure took place onths after China cut off communication and exchanges with

The seizure comes amid Chinese displeasure over Singapore's approach to South China Sea territorial disputes

Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen's independence-leaning administration and launched a creeping campaign to diplomatically isolate the island.

In Beijing, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said the government was verifying details about the seizure of the vehicles. He reiterated China's opposition to Taiwan conducting military exchanges with any country Beijing has ties with.

"China has long been resolutely opposed to official exchanges, including military exchange and cooperation, between Taiwan and any countries that have diplomatic ties with China," Geng Shuang said at a regular briefing. **AP**

NEW ZEALAND

7 dead, 1 missing as waves hit fishing boat

Nick Perry, Wellington

SEVEN people were killed and another person was missing after a chartered fishing boat disappeared from view in large waves at the entrance to a harbor near Auckland, New Zealand authorities said.

The boat Francie was carrying 11 people when it got into trouble on Saturday afternoon in Kaipara Harbour. Rescuers managed to pull three survivors from the water, who were taken to a hospital. A search for the missing person was continuing Sunday, said police Inspector Duncan Hall.

Crew members from the

boat notified the coast guard that they were attempting to cross a sandbar at the entrance to the harbor at about 2 p.m., said Patrick Holmes, the chief executive of Coastguard New Zealand.

He said the coast guard raised the alarm an hour later after the boat didn't

Waves at the sandbar were about four meters high at the time of the accident

report back and could no longer be reached on its marine radio or by mobile phone.

Other boats in the area reported to the coast guard that they could no longer see the boat, although he wasn't yet clear if it had sunk. An investigation was underway.

Waves at the sandbar were about four meters high at the time of the accident, Holmes said. Sandbars are formed by sand building up on the seafloor, something which can happen at harbor entrances where the ocean meets calmer harbor water.

"All sandbar crossings are dangerous. They shift



Muriwai beach is seen Sunday, Nov. 27, 2016 after the chartered fishing boat Francie disappeared off Auckland

with storms and tides, so the bars are not in exactly the same position," Holmes said. "Because it's a disturbance of the seafloor, the action of the

waves becomes distorted and irregular."

Eyewitnesses told Television New Zealand that rescuers in helicopters plucked the survivors

from the water and placed them on a beach, where locals kept them warm until ambulances arrived.

Police said they were still trying to establish what happened to the boat and how its occupants ended up in the harbor, which is about 75 kilometers northwest of Auckland.

Inspector Hall said rescuers recovered five bodies from the water soon after the accident. Another two bodies washed ashore at nearby beaches and were found early Sunday.

The Facebook page for Francie Charters says its boat Francie is licensed to carry up to 20 people with two crew members. It shows customers using fishing rods to catch snapper and other fish, and encountering dolphins. **AP**



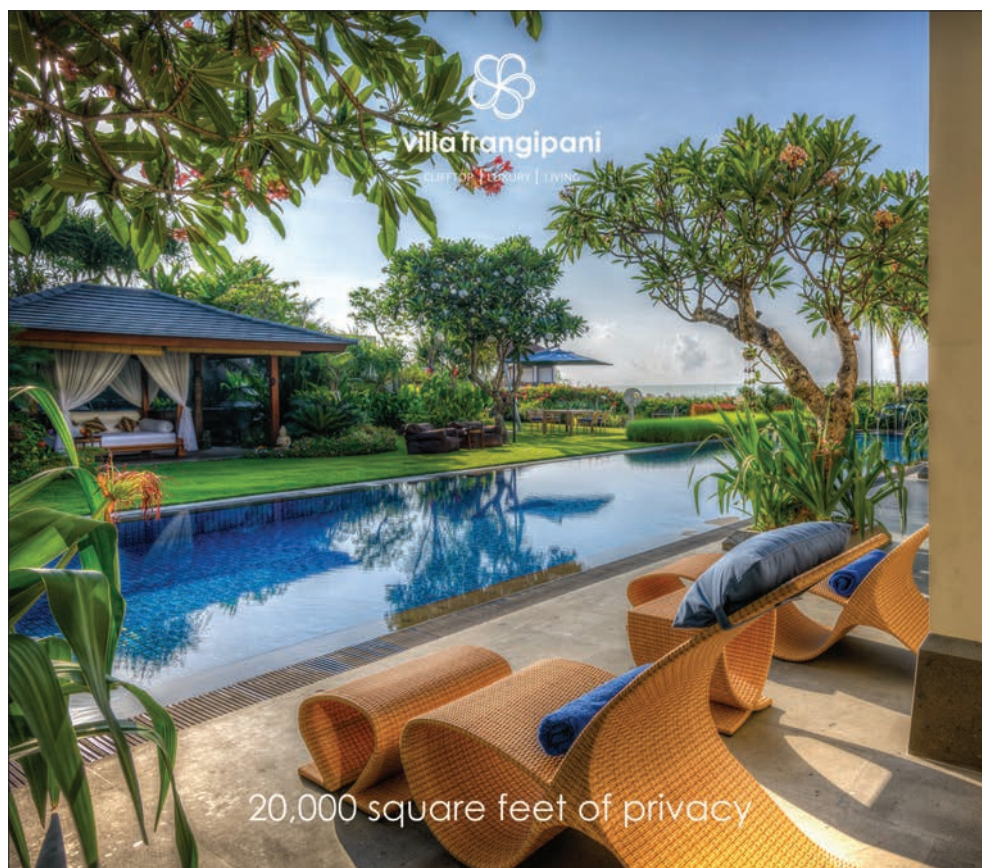
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商匯館 MACAO IDEAS

Michael Smith, Liam Vaughan

OBITUARY

Fidel Castro, communist former leader of Cuba, dies at 90

FIDEL Castro, who established a communist regime in Cuba that survived the collapse of the Soviet Union, inspired revolutionary movements and brought two superpowers close to nuclear war before stepping down after 49 years in power, has died. He was 90.

The former leader died at 10:29 p.m. Friday local time, his brother, President Raul Castro, who has ruled the country since 2006, said on state media Nov. 25. He will be cremated early on Saturday and the government set a funeral for Dec. 4.

Reaction to Castro's death, like his life, was deeply divided. World leaders including South Africa's President Jacob Zuma, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and several Latin American politicians issued statements and tweets highlighting Castro's achievements and extolling his virtues.

President Barack Obama issued a statement offering condolences to Castro's family, acknowledging the "powerful emotions" being experienced by Cubans, and said the U.S. extended a hand of friendship: "the Cuban people must know that they have a friend and partner in the United States of America."

President-elect Donald Trump said "Castro's legacy is one of firing squads, theft, unimaginable suffering, poverty and the denial of fundamental human rights."

"Our administration will do all it can to ensure the Cuban people can finally begin their journey toward prosperity and liberty," Trump said in a statement.

Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro tweeted: "To all the revolutionaries of the world, we have to continue with his legacy and his flag of independence, of socialism, of homeland."

At the same time, crowds of exiled Cubans and their supporters gathered on the streets of Miami to celebrate the passing of a sometimes unyielding ruler who divided families and ruled with an iron fist. Havana, meanwhile, remained quiet.

CUBAN REVOLUTION

French President Francois Hollande wrote in a statement that Castro "embodied the Cuban revolution, in the hopes it had aroused and then in the disillusion it had provoked" and expressed his condolences to Raoul, his family and the Cuban people.

The Cuban government said public events to mark Castro's death will begin today, with a rally a day later at Plaza de la Revolucion in Havana and then a three-day procession to carry his ashes to Santiago de Cuba for a funeral on Dec. 4.

"This strong and wise man always looked with confidence to the future" wrote Russian President Vladimir Putin, emphasizing the relationship between the two countries. In a telegram read on

AP PHOTO



In this 1960 file photo, Cuba's revolutionary hero Ernesto "Che" Guevara, center, Cuba's leader Fidel Castro, left, and Cuba's President Osvaldo Dorticos, right, attend a reception in an unknown location in Cuba

China Central Television, President Xi Jinping said Castro was the founder of Cuban communism, and a "great figure in our times and history."

One of the world's longest-serving political leaders, Fidel Castro led rebel forces that wrested control of Cuba from Fulgencio Batista in 1959. As prime minister and then president, Castro boosted literacy and health care for the island's poor, while imprisoning thousands of dissidents, seizing private property and sparking an

Reaction to Castro's death, like his life, was deeply divided

exodus of Cubans who braved dangerous waters on homemade rafts to reach U.S. shores.

It's not yet clear how Castro's passing will impact the delicate detente between the U.S. and Cuba. Relations between the two countries have thawed since 2014, with President Barack Obama visiting Cuba this year and promising to ease sanctions that have crippled the island's economy for half a century. However, on the campaign trail President-elect Donald Trump criticized Obama for making "concessions" to the regime.

The bearded Castro claimed a place on the world stage at the height of the Cold War by making Cuba an outpost of the Soviet

Union only 90 miles (145 kilometers) from Florida. He pushed the superpowers toward nuclear war in the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 and gave military and political support to revolutionary groups and Marxist governments in Latin America and Africa, cementing his reputation as a foe of the U.S.

DEEP IMPACT

"Starting in the 1960s, Cuba has been a huge player, disproportionate to its size, on the world stage and that's largely because of Fidel," said Geoff Thale, program director at the Washington Office on Latin America. "Cuba and Fidel are the symbol of the little guy standing up against the hemispheric giant. People still have this romantic image of Cuba as a symbol of revolution."

His regime withstood a U.S.-sponsored invasion, known as the Bay of Pigs, in 1961, while he personally survived at least eight assassination plots by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Castro always defended the Cuban revolution. "I have not one iota of regret about what we've done in our country and the way we've organized our society," he told author Ignacio Ramonet for "Fidel Castro: My Life," an oral history published in 2006.

That year, he started to ease his grip on power when he ceded temporary control to his younger brother, Raul, while recovering from surgery. He resigned as president and commander-in-chief in favor of Raul on Feb. 19, 2008. The switch of leadership led to re-

form, though not the democracy that successive U.S. presidents and generations of Cuban-Americans had hoped for.

RECOGNIZING REVOLUTION

On Dec. 17, 2014, President Obama announced plans to restore diplomatic relations and ease the five-decade embargo on the island, steps many Cubans and Cuban-Americans thought would never occur in Fidel's lifetime.

The following month, Castro lent his support to a thaw in relations while remaining skeptical of U.S. motives.

"I do not trust the policy of the United States nor have I exchanged a word with them," he wrote in a letter published by state media. "This does not mean, however, that I would oppose a peaceful solution to conflicts or threats of war."

In March 2016, President Obama visited the island nation. "I have come here to bury the last remnant of the Cold War in the Americas," he said.

Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz was born on Aug. 13, 1926, in Biran, Cuba, one of seven children fathered by Angel Castro y Argiz, a Spanish immigrant laborer, with Castro's mother, Lina Ruz Gonzales, a member of the household staff.

Castro was sent to schools run by the Roman Catholic Marist and Jesuit religious orders. He was passionate about baseball and was named Cuba's "outstanding collegiate athlete" in high school.

He told author Ramonet that his rebellious streak developed early. "I didn't like authority, because at that time there was also a lot of corporal punishment, a slap on the head or a belt taken to you," Castro said.

LAW SCHOOL

In 1945, Castro enrolled in law school at the University of Havana and took his first steps into revolutionary politics.

While still in school, the future Cuban leader joined 1,200 men who set out to invade the Dominican Republic and overthrow dictator Rafael Trujillo. The Cuban navy turned the expedition back.

In 1952, two years after receiving a law degree, Castro ran for Cuba's Chamber of Deputies. The race ended when Batista, then a general in Cuba's military, staged a coup and canceled elections.

Castro led about 165 men in an attack on army barracks the following year, hoping to spark a popular uprising. The troops killed eight of his men and executed scores when the fighting was over. The survivors fled and were later captured and tried.

Representing himself at the trial, Castro gave a two-hour speech that ended with an oft-cited declaration: "History will absolve me." He was sentenced to 15 years in prison and released after two years as part of a general amnesty.

IN EXILE

Castro went into exile in Mexico, where he joined forces with Argentine communist revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara.

In 1956, the two crossed the Caribbean with about 80 men on a yacht called the Granma to start a guerrilla campaign against Batista. Cuban forces killed all but 12 on landing. Castro retreated into the Sierra Maestra mountains with the survivors. There, he grew the beard that would become his trademark.

"Everybody just let their beards and hair grow, and that turned into a kind of badge of identity," he told Ramonet.

Castro's rebels rallied public support, and on Jan. 1, 1959, drove Batista into exile. Castro was 32.

Over the next two years, transforming Cuba into a communist dictatorship, Castro seized land and nationalized sugar mills, ranches and oil refineries owned by U.S. interests. His government imprisoned or killed political opponents, declared the country atheist and closed 400 Catholic schools.

CONTINUED FROM P13

U.S. EMBARGO

In 1962, U.S. President John F. Kennedy imposed a trade embargo, which was continued under successive U.S. leaders, depriving Cuba of its largest trade partner and starving the economy of dollars. In 2014, the government claimed the U.S. embargo had cost the island USD117 billion.

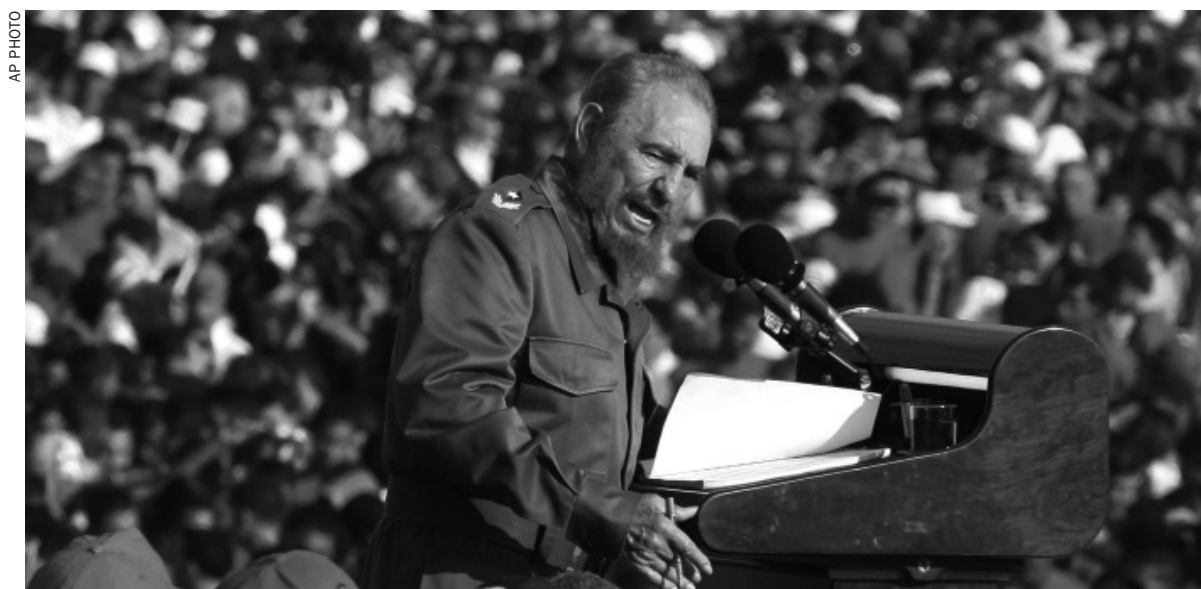
From 1960 to 1965, the CIA mounted at least eight assassination plots against Castro, according to the 1975 report of a U.S. Senate committee headed by Senator Frank Church, a Democrat from Idaho.

"I've survived 600 attempts on my life," Castro said in Cordoba, Argentina, in July 2006.

The Bay of Pigs invasion was authorized by President John F. Kennedy. On April 17, 1961, refugees armed by the CIA staged an amphibious landing at the bay on the island's southwest coast with the goal of sparking an uprising. Castro's forces killed more than 100 invaders and captured more than 1,100. He released the prisoners after securing a ransom from the U.S. of \$53 million worth of food and medicine.

MISSILE CRISIS

Eighteen months later, photographs taken by a U.S. spy plane showed Castro had allowed the Soviet Union to build nuclear-missile bases in Cuba. The discovery marked the start of the Cuban Missile Crisis, 13 days during which the world stared down "the gun barrel of nuclear war," in the words of Kennedy



In this May 1, 2006 file photo, Cuba's leader Fidel Castro speaks on International Workers Day in Revolution Plaza in Havana, Cuba

I've survived 600 attempts on my life.

FIDEL CASTRO

speechwriter Theodore Sorensen. Kennedy imposed a naval blockade on Cuba and ordered nuclear weapons loaded onto aircraft.

After almost two weeks of crisis, Kennedy offered to secretly withdraw U.S. missiles from Turkey and Italy if the Soviet Union withdrew its missiles from Cuba. The next day, Radio Moscow broadcast a statement by Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev that the weapons would be dismantled.

While Cuba's economy stagnated over the next decades, Castro sent military forces to support

guerrilla movements in developing countries throughout the 1970s and 1980s, often clashing with U.S.-backed governments.

During Castro's period in power, tens of thousands fled Cuba, mainly to the U.S., where they established anti-Castro communities in South Florida and the New York area.

MASS EXODUS

The largest decampment, the so-called Mariel boatlift, took place in 1980. After groups of Cubans tried to leave the country by fighting their way into foreign embassies, Castro removed security forces from the buildings. Within a week, 10,000 Cubans pushed their way into the Peruvian compound.

Castro responded by announcing that Cubans were free to leave. He invited emigres in the U.S. to pick them up at the port of Mariel. The harbor was soon clogged

with boats that helped ferry more than 125,000 people to the U.S.; included among the "Marielitos" were criminals whom Castro had released from prison, mentally ill people and others he found undesirable.

The loss of Soviet aid after 1991 sent Cuba's economy into a deep depression, with Castro rationing food and ordering people to ride bicycles to save gasoline. He generated foreign exchange by allowing Spanish-built hotels, filled with European tourists, to line the country's resort beaches. He continued to spar with the U.S. over immigration.

PAPAL VISIT

The Communist Party lifted its ban on membership in religious organizations in 1991. Castro invited Pope John Paul II to visit in 1998, allowing four open-air Masses and responding to the

pope's call for a prisoner amnesty by releasing 300 inmates, including about 70 held on political charges.

In 1999, a new patron emerged when Hugo Chavez became president of oil-rich Venezuela and reached out to form political and economic partnerships with Castro. Under Chavez and his successor, Nicolas Maduro, Venezuela provided Cuba with 100,000 barrels of oil a day in exchange for the services of 30,000 health-care providers and athletic trainers.

Castro maintained a repressive grip on society and, in 2003, implemented a new crackdown on dissidents that led to international condemnation.

As Castro's health deteriorated, his wide-ranging speeches, once a fixture of Cuban life, were replaced by opinion columns in state-controlled newspapers, where he defended socialism, even as the government run by his brother Raul dismantled some restrictions on home ownership, travel abroad and private businesses.

When Raul and Obama in December 2014 announced plans to improve ties, Fidel didn't offer any public comments.

Castro's marriage to the former Mirta Diaz-Balart, whom he married in 1948, ended in divorce in 1955. They had a son, Felix Fidel Castro Diaz, nicknamed Fidelito.

In 1961, Castro began a relationship with Dalia Soto del Valle, a teacher whom he married in 1980, according to "Fidel Castro: My Life." They had five children: Alexis, Alex, Alejandro, Antonio and Angel. **Bloomberg**

In Miami's Little Havana, Castro's death sparks celebration

Jonathan Levin, Michael Smith

CUBAN-AMERICANS took to the streets in Miami Saturday morning as news spread that Fidel Castro, the father of the Cuban revolution and a man who prompted many to flee the island, leaving behind homes and family members, had died at 90.

While Havana remained eerily quiet after the announcement of Castro's death on state media, hundreds had gathered on a stretch of 8th Street in Miami's Little Havana, banging pots and pans and dancing. Cars rolled slowly through the streets, honking and waving Cuban and American flags. Other celebrations were seen in Cuban-American neighborhoods like Hialeah.

Members of Miami's burgeoning Venezuelan com-



munity joined the celebration, too. Many consider themselves kindred spirits of the Cubans, having fled a place that the late Hugo Chavez imagined in Cuba's image.

For an obituary on Fidel Castro, click here.

"The tyrant is finally gone," said Guillermo Ramon, 67, who came to Miami 26 years ago from the island, predicting that the death would hasten the

demise of the regime run by Fidel Castro's brother, Raul. "The suffering has come to an end."

Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado said in a statement: "For fifty seven years Fidel Castro has been the symbol of tyranny and oppression of our people. I call on the Obama administration and the Trump administration to demand real changes from the Cuban regime, on behalf of many Cubans who

have died in the US and in Cuba waiting for this day and for freedom."

For all the jubilation in the streets, Castro's death comes at a time when the future for the U.S. relationship with Cuba is uncertain. President Barack Obama visited the island earlier this year and promised to ease sanctions in place since the early years of the Cold War, but the victory of Donald Trump has left many wondering whether the detente will last.

Trump won the state of Florida thanks in part to support from Cuban-American voters critical of the regime they left behind. In Little Havana, Trump-Pence signs could be seen in the crowd on Saturday morning. Trump tweeted: "Fidel Castro is dead!" to his 16 million followers. Later, in a statement, the president-elect said the "tragedies,

death and pain" caused by Castro couldn't be erased, but that his administration will do "all it can to ensure the Cuban people can finally begin their journey toward prosperity and liberty."

"There's a lot of reason to think that finally things will change in Cuba," said Angel Ali Gonzalez, a 32-year-old security guard with a fat Cohiba cigar in his shirt pocket, who was born in Miami to parents who immigrated in 1969.

On 8th Street, Gonzalez was waving a "Trump-Pence: Make America Great Again" sign and wearing one of the campaign's signature baseball caps. Although polls show signs of change in political views among many younger members of the community, Cuban-Americans have been an electoral bulwark for the Republican Party in Florida for decades.

During his visit to Havana in March, Obama said Cubans had essentially created Miami as it currently exists. The bilingual Spanish-English commu-

nity in South Florida has earned a reputation as the de facto capital of Latin America, drawing waves of immigrants from countries including Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela, and becoming a place where Latin American tycoons invest and enjoy their money.

Many immigrants originally from the island, and their children, have gone on to play important roles in American politics, while others -- like billionaire real estate developer Jorge Perez -- have personally helped shape the Miami skyline.

Olivia Carlos, 29, immigrated with her parents from Cuba when she was 10, joined the U.S. Navy, and eventually returned to the island when she was stationed for a year in Guantanamo Bay. For her, Castro has long been a part of her tangled personal narrative.

"This is a very emotional day for me, and I hope this means there's light at the end of the tunnel," she said. "Maybe there's hope that things will finally change in Cuba." **Bloomberg**



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what's ON



URBAN HIKES – AN EXCHANGE EXHIBITION BY TAIWAN, HONG KONG AND MACAU ARTISTS
TIME: 12pm-7pm (closed on Tuesdays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: December 4, 2016

VENUE: Ox Warehouse, intersection of Av. Coronel Mesquita and Av. do Almirante Lacerda

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

ADMISSION: Free

FORMER HOME OF REVOLUTIONARY LEADER YE TING

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement (Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

Offbeat

ARGENTINE ATTORNEY SEEKS RELIEF FOR HIS PACHYDERM PLAINTIFFS



Attorney Andres Gil Dominguez may have had bigger cases, but he's never had bigger clients.

A city prosecutor's office has authorized Gil Dominguez to represent three elephants in captivity at a former zoo in Argentina's capital. He's demanding that Mara, Kuki and Pupi be transferred to a reserve abroad where they can have a better quality of life.

"The lockup of the elephants violates their rights and constitutes abuse punishable by law," Gil Dominguez said Thursday.

The case follows a notable 2014 ruling in Argentina that determined an orangutan named Sandra was entitled to some of the same rights as humans.

The 140-year-old zoo where Sandra and the elephants have lived for most of their lives closed its doors this year and authorities announced that hundreds of its animals would be set free as it transformed into a park. But officials there argue the three elephants would not survive if set free into the wild.

"These are animals that were born or have lived most of their life in captivity," said Rosario Espina, director of biodiversity at the Buenos Aires eco-park.

"What we can do is improve their well-being in their infrastructure and handling. But they can't be set free, because they'd die."

Many of the former zoo's enclosures are considered inhumane by modern-day standards. All three elephants live in a small treeless site in the Palermo neighborhood of Buenos Aires near busy avenues and buildings.

Mara hails from Asia and was rescued from a local circus. Espina said experts have recommended against the transfer of the 52-year-old elephant because its advanced age could pose a health risk. Kuki and Pupi come from Africa and now are in their 30's and have more possibilities of being transferred to a sanctuary abroad.

But their transfer will depend on finding the right conditions, carrying out health exams and obtaining sanitary permits in a process that could take up to two years, Espina said.

The eco-park managed by the city of Buenos Aires plans to improve the enclosure where the elephants live. **AP**

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:55	Debate on Security Policy Report for 2017 (Live)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sport
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	UEFA Champions League 2016/2017 Magazine Programme
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

24 Nov - 30 Nov



SHUT IN

ROOM 1

2.15, 6.00, 9.45 pm

Director: Farren Blackburn

Starring: Charlie Heaton, Naomi Watts, Jacob Tremblay

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 91min

YOUR NAME

ROOM 1

4.00, 7.45 pm

Director: Makoto Shinkai

Language: Japanese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 115min

FANTASTIC BEASTS & WHERE TO FIND THEM

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45 pm

Director: David Yates

Starring: Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 133min

SHOW ME YOUR LOVE

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Ryon Lee

Starring: Nina Paw, Raymond Wong, Ivana Wong

Language: Cantonese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 121min

FANTASTIC BEASTS & WHERE TO FIND THEM

ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: David Yates

Starring: Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 133min

MACAU TOWER

17 Nov - 30 Nov

FANTASTIC BEASTS & WHERE TO FIND THEM

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: David Yates

Starring: Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 133min



this day in history



Gro Harlem Brundtland

1994 NORWAY VOTES 'NO' TO EUROPE

Norway has voted to reject membership of the European Union in a referendum, for the second time in its history.

With 92% of the referendum votes counted the "no" campaign had a clear margin of 52.4% to 47.6% for the "yes" vote. Turnout was estimated at 80%.

The result is a blow for Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, who has made Norwegian membership of the EU her main political goal for the last four years. "It was the people who made the decision, and we as a country have to live with that," she said.

Norway first rejected membership of the European Economic Community, as the EU was then known, in 1972. That result, by a similar margin to today's vote, forced the resignation of the government.

Mrs Brundtland has ruled out resignation this time, but it remains unclear how she will lead Norway into a non-European future.

The leader of Norway's Anti-European Union campaign, Anna-Enger Lahnstein, told supporters "With this, we have said Yes to Europe and Yes to international solidarity - but we don't want to join the Union."

The result threatens to leave the country bitterly divided after the closely-fought campaign.

Voters in the far north, the stronghold of the "no" campaign, rejected membership by a margin of 80-20, whereas the capital, Oslo, where a third of voters live, backed membership.

The "no" campaign led consistently in opinion polls throughout the campaign, but last-minute gains by the "yes" campaigners narrowed the gap and made the result too close to predict.

Recent votes for EU membership in fellow Scandinavian countries Finland and Sweden swayed many voters, but even that was not enough to reverse the trend.

The "yes" campaign has centred on the potential for Norway to become isolated if it doesn't join neighbouring EU countries in an era of expansion and change.

However, the "no" campaign argued EU membership would undermine the country's independence and its control over its rich petroleum and other natural resources.

But economists also warn that although Norway's oil-dependent economy is strong in the short term, North Sea oil and gas revenues are due to tail off soon and growth is expected to weaken.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The final result was 52.2% no to 47.8% yes, with turnout a record 88.6%.

A poll in 2002, following the introduction of the Euro, suggested the tide had turned in Norway, and more than 50% were now in favour of EU membership.

However, there are no imminent plans to reconsider applying. Gro Harlem Brundtland resigned two years after the "no" vote, after three terms in office.

She served as director of the World Health Organization from 1998-2003.

In 2004 she was listed by the British newspaper, the Financial Times, as the 4th most influential European for the last 25 years, behind the Pope, Mikhail Gorbachev and Margaret Thatcher.

In May 2004 the EU took in 10 new members, expanding it to 25 member nations, with more under consideration.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Something small is rapidly turning into something big — and that's a problem! Even if it seems good on its face, you can bet that it's going to be more trouble than it's worth. Nip it in the bud.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Your best friend is looking for you — but do you want to be found? Your energy is strong, but you're pretty sure you're just going to have to help them put out another fire. Do what's right.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

It's time to focus (or re-focus) on your career. Are you in the right job? The right field? Do you work with the right people? All these questions are likelier to find solid answers today, as long as you ask.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Your energy levels are topped off, and almost entirely positive. You should be able to make great progress on almost anything you set your mind to, which means that life is just about to improve.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Don't listen to any new offers that come your way today — especially if they involve you laying down any money. No bets, no investment opportunities — nothing. You need to be as skeptical as possible.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Ease up on that kid or intern — or anyone else who finds themselves in your crosshairs. It's vital that you keep your criticisms to yourself for now, if only to let them learn their lessons on their own.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

Something small and fun turns out to be incredibly disruptive — so make sure that you're ready for the consequences! You should be able to rearrange your schedule to accommodate what's most important.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

That love buzz comes back in a big way — so get ready for a new crush or a renewed passion for your sweetheart. Your amazing energy makes you as attractive as ever, too, so it's certainly mutual.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

It's one of those days that starts slowly and never really seems to speed up. Try to avoid tripping over your own feet as you make it from one event to another. Things should pick up soon!

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

It's a good day to write out your thoughts and feelings — you may be able to show someone why you're the right person for the job (or for their heart). Get creative and see what happens!

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

It's tempting to go for your wallet at the first sign of trouble today — but you need to avoid the temptation to overspend. This is one of those times when your bank account may be misleading.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Someone close is pestering you for attention — but it doesn't seem to trouble you at all! It's one of those days when you're sure you can help, even if you're not sure what the problem is exactly.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table of weather conditions for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

WORLD

Table of weather conditions for world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- ___ even keel; 5- Grazing sites; 9- Sugar suffix; 12- Captain of the Nautilus; 13- One of Chekhov's "Three Sisters"; 15- This can be guilty or not guilty; 16- Perceive as fact; 17- Tooth; 18- March time; 19- Possibly; 21- Food store; 23- Fencing sword; 24- West ender?; 25- Hoarded; 28- Clean; 33- Hard drinker; 34- H.S. junior's exam; 35- Racer Yarborough; 36- Just the Way You ___; 37- Retains; 38- ___ canto; 39- Expose; 41- Roll call response; 42- Together; 44- Breaks; 46- Trouble, slangily; 47- Secreted; 48- Pequot captain; 49- Greek goddess of health; 53- Dangerous current; 57- Opposite of sans; 58- Vitality; 60- Pianist Gilels; 61- "Alice" diner; 62- Utopias; 63- Sicilian resort; 64- Leaky tire sound; 65- Bickering; 66- High time;

DOWN: 1- Peeling potatoes, perhaps; 2- Hawaiian goose; 3- Latin love; 4- Not anywhere; 5- Walked lamely; 6- Uneven, as if gnawed away; 7- Have a bug; 8- Glitch; 9- Ye ___ Shoppe; 10- Prophet; 11- Not difficult; 14- Takes into custody; 15- Outing; 20- Imitator; 22- Guadalajara gold; 25- Wild guesses; 26- Law of Moses; 27- Verdi work; 28- Software buyers; 29- Neck part; 30- Toil; 31- 1985 Kate Nelligan film; 32- Strikes out; 34- Jury member; 37- Turkish viceroy of Egypt; 40- Morals; 42- Quickly, briefly; 43- 11- or 12-year-old, e.g.; 45- Dead heat; 46- Need for liquid; 48- Rice-___; 49- Poor actors; 50- Fashion first name; 51- Hair goops; 52- Verdi heroine; 54- ___ expert, but...; 55- Pebbles's pet; 56- Oomph; 59- Receive;

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

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-66.

Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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



AD

FOR SALE and FOR RENT advertisement for JML Property.

Real estate listings for various properties in Macau, including Rua Central, Taipa Warehouse, Taipa Car Park, and Iau Lei Garden.



The New Tiguan2. All grown-up



Active Info Display



1.4TSI with 150HP



5 star NCAP



LED Headlight



3D LED Taillight

The Tiguan 2 is a great all-grown-up SUV with distinctive styling which redefines its class and confidently points the way to the future. The new generation Tiguan is the first sport utility vehicle to be based on the modular transverse matrix (MQB), and it sets new standards in design, comfort and functionality. In doing so it of course remains capable of off-road, with a rugged all-wheel drive system that includes premium class technology for use on and off the highway. The Tiguan 2 is, then, both more SUV and more than an SUV.



Volkswagen

PS : 1) The pictures are for reference only.

2) In the event of any dispute, Volkswagen Hong Kong reserves the right to make the final decision.

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Jerome Pugmire, Abu Dhabi

Rosberg wins Formula One title for 1st time; Hamilton 2nd

GERMAN driver Nico Rosberg held his nerve to win the Formula One championship for the first time after finishing second at the season-ending Abu Dhabi Grand Prix yesterday.

Defending champion Lewis Hamilton won the race from pole position for his 53rd GP win. Rosberg was 12 points ahead of his teammate coming into the title showdown and only needed to finish third, even if Hamilton won.

Hamilton blatantly disobeyed team orders to speed up near the end, thus backing Rosberg toward Sebastian Vettel and Max Verstappen in third and fourth places, respectively.

Vettel could not quite pass Rosberg and he finished third ahead of Verstappen.

Having finished runner-up for the past two seasons, the 31-year-old Rosberg finally emulates his father Keke Rosberg, who won the F1 title in 1982.

"That was definitely not the most enjoyable race I've had. Can't believe it's over. I'm ecstatic," Rosberg said.

Hamilton, meanwhile, misses out on a third straight title and fourth overall, despite ending the year with 10 wins — one more than Rosberg.

Hamilton slowed in the later stages of the race to increase the chances of Rosberg being overtaken by other drivers. If Rosberg had been passed by Vettel and Verstappen and had finished fourth, then Hamilton would have held onto his title.

When his team told him over race radio to up the tempo, Hamilton replied bluntly: "I suggest you guys let us race."

Even a direct order from Mer-



Nico Rosberg of Germany celebrates on the podium after winning the 2016 world championship while teammate Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain, right, applauds

cedes' executive director Paddy Lowe four laps from the end did not work.

Rosberg was clearly getting nervous, and Vettel was a wheel's length away from him on the final lap.

But he kept his cool and his elation was evident as he let out a delighted screech of "Yes! World champion" when he crossed the line.

Then he jumped out of his car and danced around the track before being hugged by his mechanics.

Hamilton made a point of coming over to congratulate Rosberg and offered him a hug. Rosberg accepted but it was a brief one, and then he carried on celebrating as he was tossed into the air by his Mercedes crew.

He then grabbed Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone and lifted him into the air, while Ecclestone congratulated him.

Hamilton stood in the corner sipping water as Vettel — himself a four-time F1 champion — smiled and congratulated Rosberg.

On the podium, Rosberg's eyes were watering as the weight of his achievement sank in and he thanked his wife, who also wiped away tears.

"A big congratulation to Nico. Good job man," Hamilton said, and they shook hands more enthusiastically this time.

"Congrats to Lewis, you are a great competitor," Rosberg said.

Rosberg survived the tense finale of the race as well as earlier drama when he was close to colliding with Verstappen on lap 21

as they jostled for second place.

With the sun setting on the Yas Marina track, the race started with Hamilton on pole for the 12th time this season — a career best — and 61st overall, four behind Brazilian great Ayrton Senna.

Hamilton got away cleanly, as did Rosberg — albeit cautiously. Meanwhile, Verstappen's car went into a spin following contact shortly after the start, dropping down from sixth to last, but soon caught up.

Hamilton came in for his first tire change on the eighth lap, and Rosberg came in for his on the next lap.

But the German driver was held up for a couple of seconds by Vettel, who had just come in for his stop, and when he came out, he was behind Verstappen and Hamilton.

Rosberg needed to overtake Verstappen to get closer to Hamilton, but his team told him not to take any risks.

Verstappen, the youngest driver to win an F1 race, has earned a reputation for his risky, borderline dangerous overtaking and has upset other drivers this season.

As he and Rosberg jostled for second place, they twice almost came into contact, and Rosberg must have been mightily relieved to see him pitting shortly after.

He was back on his tail later on, but Vettel was between them and he didn't get another crack at

Rosberg.

Last season, Hamilton sealed the championship in style with three races to spare, while in 2014 the title also went down to the final race in Abu Dhabi. However, Rosberg was in contention then because of a double points rule that applied only to the final race and has since been scrapped.

After losing last year's title, the German driver won the final three races of the campaign and the first four of this year to show Hamilton that he meant business.

As Hamilton struggled with engine problems early on, Rosberg looked in command as he opened up a lead of 43 points.

The topsy-turvy campaign saw Hamilton bounce back to lead Rosberg by 19 points heading into the summer break.

Rosberg then turned the tables on Hamilton to lead again by 33 points, only for Hamilton to respond with three straight wins to trim that to 12 heading into their Abu Dhabi showdown.

Last-race scenarios are nothing new to Hamilton and this was fourth time he has been involved in such a finale.

He won on the last day of the season in 2008, beating Brazilian Felipe Massa by one point in a dramatic final race.

The previous year, Hamilton was the one feeling bruised as he lost the title by one point to Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen. **AP**

3 Olympic gold medals stripped in latest IOC doping retests

THREE Olympic gold medals and one silver medal were stripped on Friday from athletes caught in the latest round of positive doping retests from the 2008 and 2012 Summer Games.

Seven athletes from Belarus, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan were retroactively disqualified after testing positive for steroids in a reanalysis of their stored doping samples, the International Olympic Committee said.

The IOC, which stores samples for 10 years, reanalyzed more than 1,000 samples from the 2008 Beijing Games and 2012 London Olympics with improved techniques that can detect the use of ste-

roids going back weeks and months, rather than days.

Weightlifter Ilya Ilyin of Kazakhstan was formally stripped of two gold medals — one each from the Beijing and London Games, both in the 94-kilogram class. He is believed to be the first summer Olympic athlete to lose two golds for doping.

The Kazakhstan Olympic Committee had announced Ilyin's sanction on Wednesday. The IOC said in Friday's statement that he tested positive for stanozolol on his Beijing sample and for stanozolol and turinabol in his London test.

In comments reported Wednesday by Kazakh

media, Ilyin said he was "shaken" and "in shock" at the news and was considering an appeal. Ilyin is one of the biggest names in weightlifting, and the only athlete to win two Olympic gold medals for Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan's weightlifting program, which had been one of the world's most successful over the last 10 years, has been almost wiped out by the retesting, with all five gold medals won by Kazakh lifters in 2008 and 2012 now stripped.

Oksana Menkova of Belarus was stripped of the Beijing gold medal in the women's hammer throw after her retested samples came back positive for

turinabol and oxandrolone, the IOC said. She also was disqualified from the London Games, where she finished seventh after testing positive for turinabol and stanozolol.

Natalia Mikhnevich of Belarus was stripped of the silver medal in the women's shot put from Beijing after her samples were reanalyzed and tested positive for methandienone and stanozolol, the IOC said.

Mikhnevich joins her husband, Andrei, in being stripped of shot put medals from Beijing. He lost his 2008 bronze medal when he was caught for doping in retests of samples from the 2005 world championships.

While Andrei Mikhnevich is serving a life ban, Natalia also now faces a life ban for a second doping offense. She served a two-year doping ban in 2013-15.

Also sanctioned Friday were: Pavel Lyzhyn of Belarus, fourth-place finisher in the men's shot put in Beijing; Svetlana Usovich of Belarus, eliminated in the semifinals of the women's 800 meters in Beijing; Boyanka Kostova of Azerbaijan, fifth place in the women's 58-kg weightlifting division in London; and Anastasia Mironchuk-Ivanova of Belarus, seventh in the women's long jump in London.

No final decision has been made on reallocation of medals.

Szymon Kolecki of Poland is in line to inherit Ilyin's weightlifting gold from Beijing, while Saeid Mohammedpour of Iran

could take his 2012 gold.

Miankova's hammer gold medal could be awarded to Yipsi Moreno of Cuba, with Zhang Wenxiu of China in line to be upgraded to silver and Darya Pchelnyk of Belarus to bronze.

The reallocation of medals in the Beijing women's shot put is complicated by the fact that another Belarusian, Nadzeya Ostapchuk, won the bronze. Ostapchuk was stripped of the London gold medal after testing positive at those games.

The IOC recorded at least 98 positive tests across numerous sports from the London and Beijing retesting program, with more expected in the pipeline. The IOC also plans to retest samples from the 2014 Sochi Winter Games after the former Russian lab director said samples were manipulated to cover up doping by Russian athletes. **AP**

opinion

World Views

Nisha Gopalan, Bloomberg

Go West. China's property rush to London has long legs

London has a property problem. Brexit is looming, potentially wiping out thousands of finance jobs, real-estate investment trusts are slumping, office values are dropping, and the city is losing money to places like Frankfurt and New York.

Funny, but Chinese investors don't seem to notice.

Whatever travails residential landlords face, commercial property in London remains good value for the Chinese, and it isn't all due to the post-Brexit plunge in the pound.

Beijing and Shanghai may offer relatively high returns for commercial landlords of more than 4 percent, but the yield spread - the difference between what government bonds pay and rental yields - is among the lowest of major financial centers. In London, it's about 3.5 percent, versus 1.5 percent in Shanghai and 1.8 percent in Beijing, third-quarter data from CBRE Group Inc. show.

In China, investors are also accustomed to agreements that allow tenants to negotiate six-year leases after three years. In London, eight- to 10-year contracts are the norm. Brexit may have muddied London's long reputation as a stable market, but on the whole, landlords can still count on reliable tenants.

Add to that closer ties between the U.K. and China (despite tensions that flared when Prime Minister Theresa May briefly held up the Chinese-funded Hinkley Point nuclear plant), and the allure is clear. A possible stock trading link between Shanghai and London would bring the two even closer, making it easier for mainland companies to set up shop.

Little wonder then that Chinese money flows into London are picking up again. Chinese investors, among the world's most active buyers of real estate, are on track to plow 4 billion pounds (USD5 billion) into property in the city this year, beating the 2015 record by a large margin. Developer APB London and Citic Group Corp. are helping to build a new business district in the east while companies including China Minsheng Investment Corp. and China Vanke Co. are among those that have forked out millions on office buildings.

Investors from elsewhere may be rethinking their commitment to London - certainly the recent surge in U.K. government bond yields has lessened the appeal of commercial developments. But in China, people are not only coping with a weakening yuan and slower economic growth but government curbs that are starting to put pressure on real estate prices across the board.

Those domestic tensions won't ease any time soon, giving this property gold rush West long legs.

THE BUZZ CHINA SIGNS PARTNERSHIP WITH GERMANY TO BOOST FOOTBALL

China is turning to World Cup champion Germany in a bid to boost football in the country through the exchange of ideas and training for players and coaches.

China Vice Premier Liu Yandong has welcomed a five-year partnership signed between the countries, saying, "We can learn from Germany in many ways."

Members of the German football federation

and football league met with their counterparts from China in Cologne on Saturday, one day after the agreement was signed in Berlin.

The German league says in a statement that "comprehensive measures are to be taken to support the growth of soccer in China," and the agreement is the outcome of earlier talks between German Chancellor Angela Merkel and China President Xi Jinping.

HK classic 'Comrades: Almost a Love Story' to get South Korean TV remake



"Comrades: Almost a Love Story" - restored clip

Lee Hyo-won, Hollywood Reporter

THE Hong Kong cult classic Comrades: Almost a Love Story will be remade in South Korea as a TV series, Studio LYD announced on Friday. The project is one of the latest examples of the high demand for intellectual property (IP) in the Asian entertainment industry.

The 1996 film by Peter Chan, about two Chinese mainlanders trying to make a life in Hong Kong, was a critical and commercial success across Asia. The Korean adaptation will feature a North Korean or a

Chinese-Korean man who gets taken under the wing of a smart and ambitious woman, trying to find her own way to a better life in the bustling city of Seoul. Comrades will be distributed by Warner Bros. International Television Production.

"We have kept an eye on this IP for many years and are very excited to develop the project for the Korean market. The original film was such an iconic story and a reboot could re-energize the original themes for a modern-day Korean audience," said Joon Lee, CEO of Studio LYD, in a statement.

Studio LYD specializes in producing Korean dramas and movies from international IPs and develops Korean unscripted formats to co-produce and syndicate with international partners.

In addition to the Comrades remake, Studio LYD is also developing the Korean remake of the Chinese hit web series, Go Princess Go, with LeTV and FOX Network Group.

The company was formed by Joon Lee, former head of North Asia and head of original production for mainland China for FOX Network Group; J.S. Kim, former CEO of CJ Entertainment and former president of KT Media Hub; and Park Hyung Jun, who also produced the 2010 Korean remake of John Woo's A Better Tomorrow.

Park, who is Studio LYD co-founder and producer, will head the production. "I'm very excited to be able to take one of Asia's top melodramas and turn it into a Korean drama. This is a story that I'm very passionate about, and we plan to bring in one of Korea's top writers to start on the project," he said in the statement. Bloomberg

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Lin Shanchuan



People parade a wooden-made boat during a folk festival held Saturday in Tong'an District of Xiamen, southeast China's Fujian Province.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	40-60 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	55-75 Moderate

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



SWISS voters rejected a plan to accelerate the country's exit from nuclear energy in a referendum yesterday, turning down an initiative that would have forced their government to shut the last plant in 2029.

TURKISH authorities have detained two reporters working for foreign news organizations in southeast Turkey, the latest journalists taken into custody as part of the government's sweeping crackdown following July's failed coup.



SYRIAN government forces advanced deep into eastern Aleppo yesterday amid a swift collapse of rebel defenses inside the divided northern city, threatening to cleave the opposition's enclave between its northern and southern parts.

UGANDA More than four dozen people have been killed in fighting between Ugandan forces and a tribal militia in a remote district near the border with Congo, Ugandan officials said yesterday as security forces battled armed men protecting a tribal king who is accused of leading the rebels.



BRAZILIAN President Michel Temer lost a key aide on Friday after being dragged into an influence-trafficking scandal that threatens to revive political uncertainty in Latin America's largest economy. Geddel Vieira Lima, Temer's top congressional liaison, stepped down after he and the president were accused of exerting undue pressure to construct a building in which Lima has a stake.