

RESIDENT SCAMMED OVER INVESTMENTS IN US

A local teacher claims to have lost a total of USD60,000 in a scam involving property investments in the U.S.

P2 CRIME



WYNN LAS VEGAS, **VENETIAN MACAO** IN TOP 10 MOST **INSTAGRAMMED** HOTELS

P9



VP QUITS CABINET IN NEW DUTERTE DILEMMA

The Philippine vice president resigned her Cabinet post after citing irreconcilable differences with President Rodrigo Duterte

P12 PHILIPPINES



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" THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN

WORLD BRIEFS

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ITALY Voters dealt Premier Matteo Renzi a resounding rebuke by rejecting his proposed constitutional reforms, plunging Europe's fourth-largest economy into political and economic uncertainty yesterday. Renzi, who had boldly staked his political future on winning the referendum announced he would quit following Sunday's referendum vote, in which 60 percent of voters signaled they wanted a change in political direction. More on p15

CHINA-IRAN The foreign ministers of China and Iran urge governments not to violate the deal that limits Iran's nuclear activity in exchange for the lifting of sanctions, in remarks apparently directed at Presidentelect Donald Trump's incoming administration.

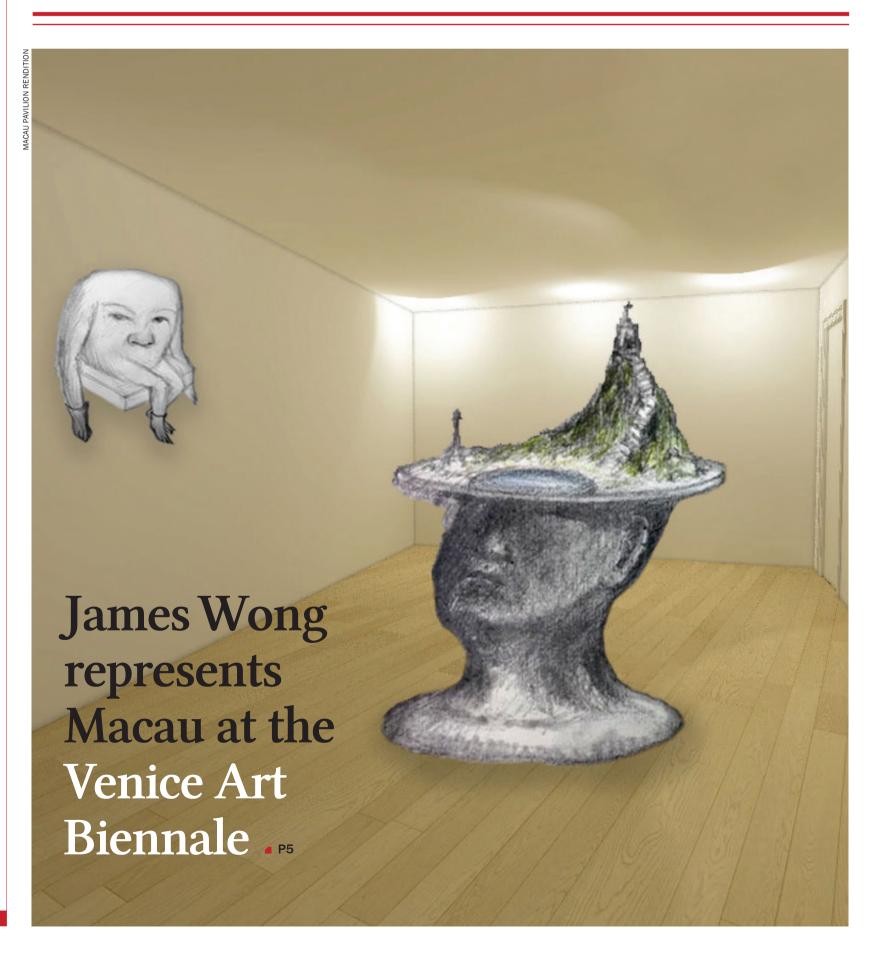
VIETNAM is seeking about USD1.2 billion in overseas loans for its only oil refinery to increase its output. When completed in 2021, the expanded Dung Quat Refinery will be able to meet half of Vietnam's tuel needs, rising from about one-third now with its current capacity of 148,000 barrels a day.



JAPAN Prime Minister Shinzo Abe says he will visit Pearl Harbor with U.S. President Barack Obama at the end of this month, becoming the first leader of his country to go to the U.S. Naval base in Hawaii that Japan attacked in 1941

More on backpage

Repossessed lands back in the market next year ...



Renato Marques

Alocal teacher, aged 45, was involved in a case over alleged investments in U.S. Real Estate. The resident claims to have lost a total of USD60,000 (around MOP480,000), according to a statement from the Judiciary Police (PJ) given yesterday at a press conference held at the Public Security Police Force (PSP) headquarters.

The case goes back to August 2014, when the teacher saw a website promoting investment in real estate in U.S.

He contacted the company by email to register his interest and received a reply stating the conditions and highlighting the "high return investment rate."

In September 2014, he finally decided to invest after thinking about the opportunity. He invested through two money transfers to two different accounts abroad and the total transaction amount was approximately USD60,000.

From that moment, the victim claims to have lost contact with the company and to have never received any interest regarding the investment.

He kept trying to reach the company for almost two years until July this year, when he finally gave up and suspected that he had been scammed.

He decided to present a formal complaint on Friday, December 2.

For the time being there is no more information on the case, which is still under investigation

In a separate case, a man, aged 48, from mainland Chi-



Local resident scammed over investments in US real estate

na also claims to have been drawn into a scam, along with two other people. The scam involved HKD1.6 million.

The victim claims to have met a couple in a Macau casino about two years ago, who convinced him to open an account in a VIP Club in order to exchange gaming chips for

At that time, he also said they convinced him to delegate powers to the two to do such actions at any time.

According to the PJ report, the woman allegedly called the victim on April 29, 2015 asking him to come to Macau to play, which he did.

On the next day, the same woman offered to help him to cash out a total of HKD1.6 million in chips.

Later on the same day, the case started to unfold in an unusual way with the male sus-

pect heading to the PJ to present a complaint against the woman over illegal cash withdrawals using credit cards.

After investigating, the PJ concluded that the complaint against the woman had served as a red herring to justify to the victim that he could not receive his money because the woman (who allegedly was in possession of his money) had been arrested and the money had been confiscated in the process.

In fact, when the PJ arrested the woman she had only the amount of HKD4,000 in her possession, claiming not to be aware of the whereabouts of the remaining sum.

According to the PJ, the male suspect was intercepted on Thursday (December 1) while crossing the border at the Border Gate Cross-point.

He was presented to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) on the accusation of fraud.

It is not clear at the moment if the woman will face any charges as the police are still investigating her relation to the case.

Reports lead to prosecutions of drug consumption

Two reports, one from a shopping mall and another from the public hospital (CHCSJ) have led to separate accounts of the prosecution of two Macau residents on accusations of drug consumption according to a statement from the Public Security Police Force (PSP) given during a press conference held yesterday at the force's headquarters.

The first case, which occurred on December 1, was reported by the security staff of a shopping mall where they called an ambulance to assist a female that was feeling unwell and had fainted in one of the shopping mall's restroom facilities.

Arriving at the scene, the police officer was informed by the security staff that the woman had fainted but before she

was transported to the hospital she had taken out two folded bank notes and one straw from one of her pockets. She was in a semi-consciousness state at that time and claimed that she did not know the origins of the items.

Further investigation revealed that there was white powder inside the folded bank notes, which was tested positive for ketamine. Around 0.41 grams was detected in the sample.

Questioned at a later time and after receiving some treatment at the hospital, the woman said to the police that she was feeling unwell because before leaving her house as she had consumed sleeping pills and had drunk wine.

She claimed that she was not a habitual drug user and that she was not aware that she had taken any illicit drugs. In a similar but separate case, the PSP also informed to have received a report from the CHCSJ claiming to have received a patient presenting strange behavior, leading hospital staff to suspect that he had taken drugs.

The man was tested positive for morphine and admitted he had bought a small packet that he thought to be heroine from another man for the price of MOP100. After that, he headed to the Triangle Garden area where he admits to having taken the drugs before fainting, when he was then taken to the hospital.

Both suspects, were accused of illegal consumption of narcotics and were presented to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP). RM

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Repossessed lands to be back in the market in public tender

HE Secretary Raimundo do Rosário has announced that several lands reclaimed by the government will be put out for public tenders next year.

Raimundo's statements came after questions of several lawmakers, including Si Ka Lon and Chan Melinda Mei Yi, who raised concerns over Macau's public housing and affordable housing related issues

Si Ka Lon noted that public housing has always been a concern of the residents, and Chan Melinda Mei Yi expects Raimundo to solve the problems for Pearl Horizon's former buyers.

Raimundo told the lawmakers that there will be four affordable house projects



completed in 2017, providing more than 3,400 housing units to those in need.

Also in 2017, his departments will start planning and designing public housing for

lands located at Avenida Wai Long and at Avenida do Almirante Lacerda, which were both retaken by the government. The secretary also informed that the government will complete research, in 2017, on Macau's public housing demand.

Regarding Chan's question, which suggests that the government should go through legal procedures as for Pearl Horizon's former buyers to receive compensation, Raimundo acknowledged that these buyers are the victims of the problematic real estate project.

PEARL HORIZON FORMER BUYERS WORSHIP BAO GONG TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

APPROXIMATELY 10 Pearl Horizon former buyers went to Bao Gong Temple on Sunday to pray to Bao Gong (a government

pray to Bao Gong (a government officer during the reign of Emperor Renzong in China's Song Dynasty) to solve their problems quickly. According to a report by Macao Daily News, Kou Meng Pok, president of Pearl Horizon Proprietors Association, said that the former buyers are afraid the problem would cause them to

lose the lands even when they

are rightfully able to retain them.

Kou said that the Polytec Group indeed received their money in exchange for the properties, and that the government charged taxes. He hopes that the three parties, including the buyers, can discuss the issue face-to-face to find a reasonable solution.

Kou said that some other buyers have suggested a demonstration at Polytec Group's headquarters on Macau's handover anniversary.

Julie Zhu

THE major concern raised by lawmakers yesterday was over the city's problematic transportation system. The inefficiencies of the system have been evident in traffic jams, traffic accidents and the fleets of tourist buses.

Yesterday, during the Legislative Assembly's (AL) plenary meeting debates on the government's 2016 policy, the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, together with directors from the bureaus under his administration, answered the questions posed by lawmakers.

Lam Heong Sang pointed out that for the last 10 months, Macau's public transportation has been expanding seriously, with Macau's buses transporting a total of approximately 600,000 passengers during some days.

Lam suggested that Raimundo should change Macau into a "walking city", dividing the city into different regions where only

POLICY ADDRESS | RAIMUNDO DO ROSÁRIO

Public transportation and waste separation heavily discussed



sidewalks exist, and work to connect all these regions together. By doing so, he stated that "the transportation might be better."

Chan Hong also reminded the secretary that transportation has already become the top issue concerned by the city's young generations. In addition, Chan questioned the government as to whether it is considering adding more bus routes, more bus lines during rush hours or double-decker buses and whether they are thinking about introducing an electrical bicycle system to the city.

Raimundo, in reply to Lam, said "I trust it [the walking system], and I am confident in it, but it needs time." The secretary claims that a good public transportation must have a good walking system.

However, Raimundo admitted that he does not have a schedule ready for the lawmakers which concerns this plan. "We need to wait longer, [...] but that does not mean we will not do it," assured Raimundo.

The Secretary noted that this year, the increase in the number of cars will be at most 0.8 percent. "This year is the first time that the increase in the number of cars is less than one percent," informed Raimundo.

Raimundo also added that the transportation authorities have kept encouraging the public to use electric cars and motorbikes. He admits that these vehicles are still unattractive to the drivers.

"Even though the government does not charge taxes upon purchases of electric cars, there are still no peo-

Lam Heong Sang suggested that Raimundo should change Macau into a 'walking city'

ple buying these types of vehicles," said Raimundo.

Lam Hin San, Director of the Transport Bureau (DSAT), also remarked that adopting electric buses in Macau has not produced an obvious positive effect yet.

The director stated that a big scale promotion of electric buses in Macau is currently impossible. He said that the cost of keeping the buses at full electrical charge would be high. Lam said that the transportation authority will continue researching buses powered by renewable energy.

In addition, Lam noted that several bus lines have recently expanded their capacity, especially those carrying 12,000 passengers on a daily basis. These buses have changed into medium sized buses from small sized buses, carrying more than 60 passengers as opposed to the previous 37.

Sio Chi Wai doubted Macau's commitment to waste separation, (the separation of recyclable and landfill waste) which has always been ignored, even though the authorities have been promoting waste separation in the city for a long time.

"Why has waste separation not seen some good results after so many years? You said: Macau pretty much failed on environment protection. Why is environment protection forever a slogan in Macau?" Sio questioned Raimundo.

"I also think it is a relative failure," admitted Raimundo, adding that "maybe not enough promotion and education have been done."

The Secretary claims that he has visited separate trash cans around Praça de Ponte e Horta, but saw only common trash in all the trash bins. "This is a failure; our government indeed has [not done enough]," said Raimundo.

Sio, however, said that the secretary "is not a failure." His suggestion to Raimundo was that he should concentrate his efforts on two groups, women and domestic helpers, as these are the two groups who frequently deal with waste at home.

GOVERNMENT-OWNED COMPANY TO REPLACE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE OFFICE

THE Transportation Infrastructure Office (GIT) will be revoked next year, Raimundo do Rosário revealed at yesterday's AL plenary meeting.

The secretary said that the government will establish a company, which will be a government-owned entity, to replace GIT.

The company will specifically serve for public services.

According to Raimundo, the change is being prepared for the year of 2019, when the city's Light Railway Transit (LRT) opens. The new company will then be responsible for LRT related management and operations.

Sands China to extend its ecofriendly products and services

Lynzy Valles

Sands China Ltd. held its 2016 Sands Supplier Excellence Awards at The Venetian last week in a bid to recognize the partnerships with its major suppliers.

Held for the fourth consecutive year, more than 300 service providers and suppliers were nominated for this year's awards by Sands China's business units and employees.

The nominated companies represent industries such as construction and development, furniture and equipment, facilities and services, food and beverages, and many others.

According to Jaehong Choi, vice president of procurement and supply chain for The Venetian Macao, the gaming operator seeks to continually educate its suppliers to explore ecofriendly products.

As Sands China acquires and puts sustainability measures into place under the Sands ECO360° glo-



Jaehong Choi

bal sustainability strategy, Choi noted that the casino developer would increase the percentage of eco-friendly products purchased.

According to him, 60 percent of the products and services, which are graded as eco-friendly, are already being purchased for categories including F&B and lighting facilities.

"Moving into next year, we will increase the target number a little bit more. We will continue to educate our suppliers [to] provide green products for us," he assured the Times. "We will extend more areas [and] categories of products or services [for us] to

purchase green products,'

he continued.

As Newsweek magazine named Sands China one of the top green companies in the world earlier this year, the vice president noted that Sands China is keen to maintain its leading position in the territory, as a

'green' company and will consequently extend its need for 'green' products.

This year, the annual event invited micro suppliers, aside from the Small and Medium Enterprises and large companies. This year, dozens of the company's new suppliers are categorized as micro suppliers - an effort to help develop small local businesses.

According to Choi, Sands China is launching a new system, and one of its key focus will be working with local suppliers to further develop their connections with large scale businesses.

"We'd love to see those micro suppliers down the road to become SMEs. [The scheme] is meaningful to our organization [so] we will be very bullish next year in terms of developing local suppliers," he added.

Held at the end of each year, the awards are a global initiative of Sands China's parent company, Las Vegas Sands Corp. (More on p18)

CCM opens application for children's choir



THE Macau Cultural Centre (CCM) is looking for young voices to join its Children's Choir in the coming year. Applications are now open to children, aged 8 to 16, who are interested in exploring their singing skills and musical culture.

Most recently, CCM's young voices presented a mini-concert combining theatrical expression and body movement in the ARTmusing Fun program.

Besides these performing moments, choir members have also been active in communityoriented events and environmental projects, according to a statement issued by CCM.

CCM Children's Choir provides musical practice with classes in Cantonese - complemented with English - taking place every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Application forms should be submitted by December 22 at CCM or any Macau Ticketing Network counter. Candidates who have submitted applications will be individually notified of audition times, scheduled for December 27 and 28. Monthly fees will cost MOP200.

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MacauDaily APPENDER •

James Wong represents Macau at the Venice Art Biennale

MACAU artist, James Wong Cheng Pou, has been chosen (through a judging panel arranged by the Macao Museum of Art (MAM)) to represent the region in the 57th edition of the Venice Art Biennale that will take place in Italy from May 13 to November 26 next year, according to a statement provided by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC).

The five members of the judging panel; comprising of the Director of the School of Arts of the Macao Polytechnic Institute (IPM), Hsu Hsiu-Chu, the veteran Macau artist Wong Ho Sang, in collaboration with the director and art consultant of MAM, Chan Hou Seng and António Conceição Júnior and the curator of MAM, Ng Fong Chao, unanimously chose Wong from a group of nearly 40 Macau-based candidates to showcase his works alongside many other international artists.

During the information session held yesterday



He is currently President

of the Printmaking Resear-

ch Centre of Macau and

Chief Curator of the Macau

In the past he has assu-

med several roles, namely

as the Chief of the Divi-

sion of Arts Research and

Museology of Leal Sena-

do, the Head of the Print-

making Department of the

Academy of Visual Arts

(known today as the School

of Arts of the Macao Poly-

Printmaking Triennial.

MAM also revealed the exhibition plan of the Macau Pavilion for the 2017 Biennale.

Wong was awarded with the 2010 Sovereign Asian Art Prize and was recognized as one of the top 30 Asian artists.

He was involved in the development of modern art education in the territory and has been dedicated to education in printmaking since 1990.

Coordinator of the Ethnography Exhibition in Luis de Camões Museum.

Outside of Macau, his works have been showcased in mainland China, Japan and in the United Kingdom and are part of the collections of several institutions around the

technic Institute) and the

In this edition of the Venice Biennale, the Macau Pavilion will feature Wong's work creating an ambience using three-dimensional modeling, installations, paintings and mobile images in order to express the artist's experience of the region's rapid development in recent years. The layout is designed to evoke memories of going back to the countryside.

The Venice Art Biennale has been held since 1895 and is one of the most important contemporary art events attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the globe every year. RM

Governments expects to build tunnels at Guia Hill



The Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) revealed that it would be possible to build tunnels close to Guia Hill in order to allow pedestrians to access the hill by walking. According to a notice published recently by the department, a

consultation company has been invited to do research on the possibility of opening such facilities. DSSOPT is considering the construction of one tunnel through the east and the west of Guia Hill, as well as the construction of bridges on the outside to connect the tunnels to Macau Ferry terminal and to Zona de Aterros do Porto Exterior (ZAPE).

Lorcha Macau won't be returning to the city



Alexis Tam, the secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, says that Macau government will not take back Lorcha Macau to the region. Lorcha Macau is a mix of Chinese style junk and the Portuguese "caravela," which was built in Macau 29 years ago, that

is currently parked in Portimão, Portugal. The discussion of this topic was triggered by Fundação Oriente, the entity that currently owns the ship; Fundação Oriente asked Tam's office on the chance of Macau taking back the "lorcha". According to a report by Jornal Cheng Pou, Alexis Tam said that the Macau government had considered the boat's value, the cost of repairing it, and benefits it could contribute to the economy and had come to the conclusion that it would be inappropriate to accept the ferry. The secretary acknowledged that the replica of 17th century "lorchas" has historical value, but said that it would be in Macau's best interest to keep it parked in Portugal's waters.

> Sam, I left a copy of my ID documents and itinerary with the family. I've also prepared a list of emergency contacts.

AD



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Lynzy Valles

HINA has the means to convince many countries, particularly its neighbors, to establish asymmetrical win-win partnerships with itself - referred to as a "good neighbor policy," according to Jean-Pierre Cabestan, head of the Department of Government and International Studies at Hong Kong Baptist University.

Speaking on the sidelines of the France Macau Business Association monthly breakfast meeting last week, the scholar reiterated that China's assertive foreign and security policy was initially a response to the global decline in the financial power of the U.S. in 2008. This policy assertiveness has since expanded its influence to neighboring regions as well.

Major foreign policy trends under Chinese President Xi Jinping have included an increase in the country's international assertiveness, namely taking more risks and showing more initiative when it comes to global affairs. Cabestan pointed out that in order to understand this policy one must not forget the China Dream and the vision of overtaking the United States as the world's major economic and diplomatic superpower.

The professor of international studies stated his belief that Xi's foreign policy could succeed due to the increasing dependence of many countries on

Cabestan added that since Xi came into power, "China-USA strategic polarization has become stronger, increasing risks of friction."

However, when questioned on how China's policy assertiveness could affect Macau, he said the "risk is pretty low."

"Macau is [...] not bringing trouble to China; [it's] very different from Hong Kong," Cabestan told the Times. "What I think the Central Government





Xi's policy assertiveness a success – so far, says scholar

The Central Gov't is worried about whether HK localists and new political movements would [...] have an impact on Macau.

JEAN-PIERRE CABESTAN

is worried about is whether Hong Kong localists and new political movements in Hong Kong would [...] have an impact on Macau. I think that's a major concern but I don't see it," he continued.

Earlier this month, thousands of Hong Kong residents took the streets to protest against the National People's Congress Standing Committee's decision to disqualify anyone from office who fails to make a sincere and solemn oath. The demonstrators demanded that China's top legislative panel stop interfering with the SAR's pro-independence advocates.

In Cabestan's opinion, the political cultures of the MSAR and Hong Kong are dissimilar, as the HKSAR has an old tradition of questioning power. He noted that it is easier for China to "buy [Macau] people and their support."

"I would say [China was able to] buy their lack of involvement in politics," he said.

The scholar reiterated that Hong Kong would fail to obtain "full democracy" as long as China has a "one-power policy system."

Meanwhile, what is influencing Macau should be China's international activism along the example of the Marshall Plan, which is the "One Belt, One Road (OBOR)" initiative, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the internationalization of Chinese

According to Cabestan, it is in the interests of China, along with the anti-corruption campaign, to "keep Macau prosperous and happy."

Thus, the East Asian country will likely continue to allow masses of tourists to enter the MSAR. Cabestan also noted that China is keen on further involving Macau in the OBOR.

The scholar argued that China is benefiting from the current democracy crisis, as democratic governments across the globe undergo periods of uncertainty and hardship.

"[Globally] they want more freedom, they want to have good [and] competent leaders," he explained.

With the growing disparities and inequalities in democratic societies worldwide, particularly regarding issues around the migrant crisis, the university department head noted that such issues have not been well addressed by global leaders.

"How can [they] accept one or two million migrants when they have an 11 percent unemployment rate. Who's going to buy that?" he said, adding, "We need more responsible and pragmatic leaders."

Cabestan considers that Xi's foreign and security policy assertiveness has been successful - so far.



MGM hosted an interview day for local candidates with disabilities last week, which is one of the on-going campaigns included in the series of Mass Recruitment Fairs for the upcoming MGM Cotai's Grand Ope-

ning, scheduled for Q2 of 2017. A total of 26 disabled candidates were referred to participate in this Campaign, in coordination with the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL).

According to a statement is-

sued by the company, the initiative is intended to encourage those with disabilities to engage in employment and promote social inclusion while MGM expands its Golden Lion Team.

The event offered non-gaming job openings under six different departments including Housekeeping, Food & Beverage, Kitchen & Stewarding, Floral, Rooms and Finance -Warehouse.

In line with the vision to "Create a Better Tomorrow Today," MGM has begun hiring team members with disabilities since its opening, in 2007.

At present, a total of 22 disabled employees are working at both MGM's non-gaming and gaming operations under various departments.

During the Macau Shopping Festival, Sands Shoppes Cotai Strip Macao is offering prizes for lucky shoppers, including a luxury retail experience and hotel stays at either The Parisian, Conrad, Cotai Central or the Holiday Inn at Cotai Central.

Shoppers can also win Eiffel Tower tickets, Sands Shoppes shopping vouchers worth a total amount of MOP60,000 and more, according to a press release issued by Sands China.

To be in a chance of winning one of more than 45,000 gifts, with a total value of over MOP8 million, shoppers simply need to spend MOP500 in a maximum of three transactions. They can then try



the lucky draw at redemption counters located at the Customer Service Desk on Level 3,

Shoppes at Parisian. Celebrating the festival at

Sands Shoppes until December 31, shoppers can indulge in some retail therapy and eniov events and savings across a range of brands.







List of Winning Restaurants and Eateries of 2016 "Star Merchant Award" and "Service Star Award":

Deluxe Restaurant

Service Star Award: FENG WEI JU (Starworld Hotel)

Star Merchant Award:

- 1. FENG WEI JU (Starworld Hotel)
- 2. JIN YING (City of Dreams)
- 3. PALÁCIO LISBOA (Hotel Lisboa)

- 4. PORTAS DO SOL (Hotel Lisboa)
- 5. ROUND-THE-CLOCK COFFEE SHOP (Hotel Grande Lisboa)

First Class Restaurant

Service Star Award: BEIJING KITCHEN (City of Dreams)

Star Merchant Award:

- 1. 360° CAFÉ RESTAURANT (Macau Tower Convention & Entertainment Centre)
- 2. BEIJING KITCHEN (City of Dreams)
- 3. GOLD MOON GARDEN (Metropark Hotel)
- 4. HIP SENG (Starworld Hotel)
- 5. HONG KONG GOLD MEDAL SEAFOOD HOT POT (Galaxy Hotel)
- 6. KA NIN WA (Rua de Pedro Coutinho)
- 7. LUA AZUL (Macau Tower Convention & Entertainment Centre)
- 8. LUGANG CAFÉ (Galaxy Hotel)
- 9. Mezza 9 Macau (City of Dreams)

- 10. MYUNG GA (Galaxy Hotel)
- 11. OCEAN CLUB COFFEE HOUSE (Avenida dos Jardins do Oceano)
- 12. PRAHA RESTAURANT (HOTEL HARBOURVIEW)
- 13. ROYAL ROBATAYAKI (Grand Emperor Hotel)
- 14. THE SPAGHETTI HOUSE (Galaxy Hotel)
- 15. THE SQUARE CAFE AND PROTUGUESE RESTAURANT (Hotel Sun Sun)
- 16. TROMBA RIJA (Centro de Diversões da Torre de Macau)
- 17. TSUI WAH RESTAURANT (Galaxy Hotel)

Second Class Restaurant

Service Star Award: DYNASTY HIP SENG SEAFOOD HOT POT RESTAURANT (Tong Nam Ah Central Comércio)

Star Merchant Award:

- 1. BEVERLY SEAFOOD RESTAURANT (Beverly Plaza)
- 2. CIDADE DE MARISCO JIN YUE XUAN (Macau Fisherman's Wharf)
- 3. COZINHA PINÓCCHIO (Largo dos Bombeiros, Taipa)

- 4. DYNASTY HIP SENG SEAFOOD HOT POT RESTAURANT (Tong Nam Ah Central Comércio)
- 5. EMPEROR PALACE FOOD COURT (Grand Emperor Hotel)

Food and Beverage Establishments

Service Star Award: ESTABELECIMENTO DE COMIDAS MACTUGAL (Rua Fernão Mendes Pinto, Taipa)

Star Merchant Award:

- 1. CAFÉ IRLANDÊS (Rua de Coimbra, Taipa)
- 2. CAFÉ VOYAGE (Avenida do Hipódromo)
- 3. CULINARIA VIETNAMITA CHO LON (Avenida Xian Xing Hai)
- 4. ESTABELECIMENTO DE COMIDAS ANTÓNIO (Rua dos Clérigos, Taipa) 5. ESTABELECIMENTO DE COMIDAS KASHIMA (Avenida de Horta e Costa)
- 6. ESTABELECIMENTO DE COMIDAS KAU DIM (Rua Cidade de Santarém)
- 7. ESTABELECIMENTO DE COMIDAS MACTUGAL (Rua Fernão Mendes Pinto, Taipa)
- 8. ESTABELECIMENTO DE COMIDAS PAK FU CHONG (Macau Fisherman's Wharf)
- 9. ESTABELECIMENTO DE COMIDAS SEEK YOUR CHOICE (Pátio do Lago da Praia Grande)
- 10. PIZZA HUT (Fa Seng, Taipa)
- 11. PIZZA HUT (Pak Wai)
- 12. PIZZA HUT (Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro)
- 13. PIZZA HUT (Van Sion Son Chun)
- 14. PIZZA HUT (Wan Yu Villas)
- 15. WA IAT LOJA DE SOPA DE FITAS (Rua do Comandante João Belo Bairro Fai Chi Kei)

List of Winning Travel Agencies of 2016 "Star Merchant Award" and "Service Star Award":

Travel Agency Industry

Service Star Award - Inbound Service: COTALTRAVEL (The Venetian Macau, Grand Canal Shoppes)

Service Star Award - Outbound Service: HN GROUP LIMITED (Praça Kin Heng Long)

Star Merchant Award:

- 1. AGÊNCIA DE VIAGENS CHEONG KONG (Edf. China Civil Plaza)
- 2. CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE (MACAO) LIMITED (Edf. Nam Kuong)
- 3. CHONG NGA TRAVEL AGENCY COMPANY LIMITED (Edf. Centro Comercial Brilhantismo)
- 4. COTAI TRAVEL (The Venetian Macau, Grand Canal Shoppes)
- 5. ENERGY TRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Travessa dos Anjos)
- 6. ESTORIL TOURS TRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Rua de Pequim, Edf. Comercial I Tak)
- 7. FEI IEONG INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Rua de Pequim, Centro Comercial Kuong Fat)
- 8. G TRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Edf. China Civil Plaza)
- 9. GALAXY TOUR & TRAVEL COMPANY LIMITED (Galaxy Hotel)
- 10. GRAY LINE TOURS (MACAU) (Rua do Campo)
- 11. HONG THAITRAVEL SERVICES (MACAU) LIMITED (Avenida da Praia Grande)
- 12. HN GROUP LIMITED (Praça Kin Heng Long)
- 13. JUVENTUDE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL (Rua de Pequim, Edf. Macau Finance Centre) 14. LAP KEI TRAVEL & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY LIMITED (Tong Nam Ah Central Comércio)

- 15. MACAU EXPLORER CULTURAL TRAVEL (Edf. Nam Fong)
- 16. MACAU GONBEI TOURISM & DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (Edf. China Civil Plaza)
- 17. MITS MACAU INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE CO. LTD. (Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, Taipa)
- 18. MULTINATIONAL YOUTH TRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Edf. Nam Fong)
- 19. NEW SINTRA TOURS LIMITED (The Macau Square)
- 20. ORIENTAL INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL (Rua de Pequim, Edf. Macau Finance Centre)
- 21. SHUN TAK TRAVEL SERVICES LIMITED (Rua de Pequim, Edf. Macau Finance Centre)
- 22. SOUTH CHINA (MACAO) TRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Edf. Nam Fong)
- 23. STDM TOURS TRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Macau Landmark) 24. TOP HOLIDAYS-P & E INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL CO. LTD. (Edf. China Civil Plaza)
- 25. VENG KITTRAVEL COMPANY LIMITED (Rua da Tribuna, Edf. Chun Pek Garden)
- 26. WA OU TOURISM COMPANY LIMITED (Rua de Pequim, Edf. Macau Finance Centre)
- 27. YING LITRAVEL AGENCY LIMITED (Rua de Pequim, Centro Comercial Kuong Fat)
- 28. YOUAOMEN AGÊNCIA DE VIAGENS LDA. (Edf. China Civil Plaza)



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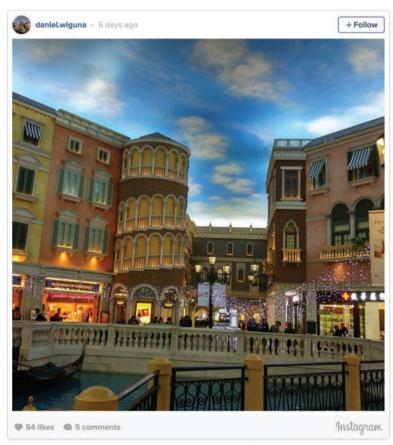
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2016's most instagrammed luxury hotels are mega-destinations





you're using Instagram as a way to figure out where the cool kids are traveling, expect to be steered to the largest hotels on earth. At least that's the indication based on this year's list of most Instagrammed luxury hotels, which the company has shared exclusively with Bloomberg. All the properties on the list were classified as five-star stays, but they didn't earn their spots on this list by virtue of their excellent service or comfortable beds. They're not

purveyors of exclusivity or gateways to glamorous cities, but mega-destinations unto themselves. Forget Instagrammable moments — these hotels are Instagrammable universes. So here's what not to miss when you inevitably plan your own trip.

1. The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas

The most Instagrammed hotel in the world is handsdown Las Vegas's coolest. Go for drinks at the property's burlesque-inspired Rose Rabbit Lie bar and make sure you're booked into one of 21 brand-new Boulevard Penthouse suites, which start at a massive 2,000 square feet and include private gaming

2. Atlantis, the Palm,

As if the 113-acre Atlantis wasn't already big enough, it's spawning a sibling resort called The Royal Atlantis next year with 44 floors and 800 rooms. The crown jewel of the USD1.4 billion project will be its duplex bridge suite, with a glass-bottomed pool that will literally hover between two sections of the building. But until that opens, you'll have to settle for a glass-walled underwater room that's submerged in the stingray-filled Ambassador Lagoon.

3. Fontainebleau Miami

There's still time to get this year's most coveted Fontainebleau Instagram: The hotel is hosting Justin Bieber for its New Year's Eve celebration. But that just speaks to the nightlife prowess at this Miami Beach institution: It's where you'll find epic clubs such as Liv, plus such lounge-y restaurants as Hakkasan and Michael Mina 74.

4. Wynn Las Vegas Instagram: Instagram photo by Nikki Ekstein

Lots of visitors Instagram the Chihuly ceiling at the Bellagio when in Vegas, but the flower displays at the Wynn are even more eye-catching (where social media are concerned). That's your money shot, but there's another, lesser-known photo opp you should hit up, too. The Lake of Dreams show, centered around a lit-up, 40-foot waterfall, runs nightly on the half hour—like the Bellagio's fountain, but hipper. (Do you sense a theme?)

5. Ushuaïa Ibiza Beach Hotel

The fact that this hotel makes the top 10 list is a truly impressive feat, given that it's open only during the summer season. But it's where you'll find Avicii and David Guetta pretty much every Sunday and Monday night next summer-so you know it's likely to appear on next year's list, too. Don't even think about Instagramming the rooms here. If you're not shooting the scene, a snap of the oysters at the seaside champagne bar is de rigueur.

6. Venetian Macao

Instagram: Instagram photo by Daniel Wiguna

Those ubiquitous photos of the Grand Canals are mind benders: Are you in Vegas? Italy? Certainly not Asia. So have some fun with your followers and include some Chinese signage in your shot of the Venetian-it's what will set it apart. Then go shopping for Celine handbags at the duty-free shops and pose (with swag) in front of the Eiffel Tower replica—you'll really throw your audience for a loop.

7. Aria Resort & Casino, Las Vegas

Here's the strategy for winning at Aria: Head straight to Carbone, where everything is served with a heaping side of dramatic effect, be it the Caesar Alla ZZ (tossed tableside) or the sticky sweet Cherry Pepper Ribs (a dish with foodie cred). It's as much a theatric experience as O, the Cirque de Soleil production that plays four nights a week near the Poker Room and the Buffet.

8. Atlantis Hotel & Casino, Paradise Island, Nassau, Bahamas

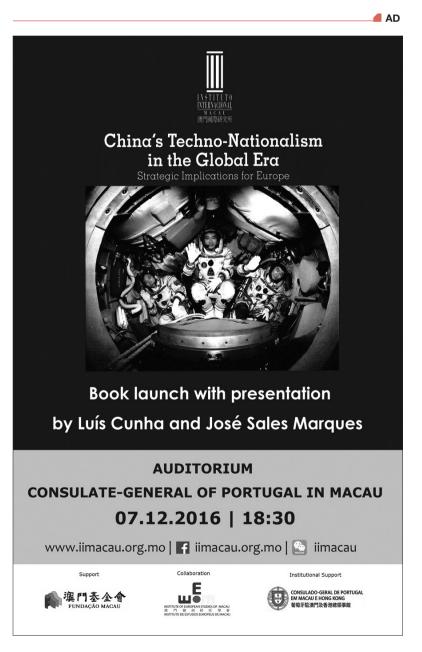
Since it's really a complex of nine hotels (and 20 pools and 21 restaurants and 19 bars), it's no wonder this massive property gets lots of traction on social media. Focus your attention on the Cove Club, the most luxurious place to stay on site. Then wake up early and grab a spot on the bright red daybeds that float in the middle of the Cove's 9,000-square-foot pool for the best photo opp anywhere on the island.

9. Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Punta Cana, **Dominican Republic**

In keeping with Hard Rock's roots, this property's Music Lab lets vou get into a recording studio for a dayperhaps in hopes of hitting it big on YouTube. Not your jam? Hit the moon pool at cocktail hour for a #sunset shot that tops the charts.

10. W Barcelona

It's all about the views at this sleek city hotel-set in a sailboat-shaped building right on the edge of the Barceloneta boardwalk. Request a highfloor room that faces both the city and the ocean—or get your 'gram from the rooftop bar instead. Bloomberg



Regulator slams stock acquirers as 'robbers'

CHINA'S top securities regulator resorted to unusually harsh language to denounce leveraged acquisitions of shares in listed companies, as officials move to rein in financial risks associated with a surge in dealmaking.

China Securities Regulatory Commission Chairman (CSRC) Liu Shiyu also questioned the legitimacy of the funding sources at acquirers that he didn't identify, saying their behavior challenges the nation's rules, as well as their own professional ethics. Such acquisitions show "retrogress and decay in humanity and commercial morals, and is by no means financial innovation," the 55-year-old Liu said.

"By using improperly obtained money to conduct leveraged acquisitions, you've gone from strangers at the gate, to barbarians and eventually robbers of the industry," he said at a meeting of the Asset Management Association of China in Beijing on Saturday, a transcript of which was posted on the regulator's website. "That's not allowed."

The comments came after China Evergrande Group, the country's largest property developer, last month stepped up purchases of shares in rival China Vanke Co. in the weeks after a warning from the Shenzhen stock exchange that it is closely monitoring Evergrande's investments, some through its insurance unit, in listed companies. The bourse said it strengthened supervision after finding "abnormal trading behaviors" that affected share prices of Vanke and others.

"This manifests top regulators' stance on insurers' buying spree, and it will be helpful for the market to develop along a healthy path," Zhou Min, a Hong Kong-based analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., told Bloomberg, citing controversies surrounding insurance companies' trading in the stock market.

While much of the money used for stock purchases by most acquisitive insurers was raised from high-yield, short-term products and poses large liquidity risks, such funds can't all be categorically called "improperly obtained," Zhou said. "But we can't exclude the possibility that the CSRC has collected some evidence of certain wrongdoings at some acquirers." MDT/Bloomberg

US urged to stop disrupting acquisitions

CHINA urged Washington yesterday to stop disrupting its foreign corporate acquisitions after President Barack Obama blocked the purchase of a German maker of semiconductor manufacturing equipment as a security risk.

The proposed acquisition of Aixtron SE by China's Fujian Grand Chip was "pure market behavior," said a foreign ministry spokesman, Lu Kang.

On Friday, Obama ordered Fujian Grand Chip to drop its attempt to take over Aixtron's California subsidiary. The government said Aixtron's technology has "military applications."

"We hope that the United States will cease making groundless accusations about Chinese companies and will provide a fair environment and favorable conditions for investment by them," said Lu at a regular briefing. "I think this matter will in the long run be in the interests of all the parties concerned."

It was the third time in three decades that a U.S. president has blocked an acquisition by a Chinese company on security grounds.

Germany approved the 670 million euro (USD740 million) takeover of Aixtron's German parent but said last week it was reconsidering due to unspecified "security-related questions."

Aixtron, based in Herzogenrath, says its headquarters, research and development operations and existing technology would remain at its current sites under the proposed acquisition. MDT/AP

HONG KONG-SHENZHEN

New cross-border stock link widens access to China



Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd. Chairman Chow Chung-kong (left) and Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying (right) smile after beating a gong during at a ceremony in Hong Kong yesterday

TRADING began yesterday on a new cross-border stock link between Hong Kong and the neighboring Chinese city of Shenzhen, widening access to China's markets for global investors.

The long-awaited Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect link allows international investors to buy and sell 880 high-growth small and midcap stocks traded on the exchange in the southern boomtown of Shenzhen via the Hong Kong exchange.

A similar link between Hong Kong and China's main exchange in Shanghai was launched two years ago but has shown only a mediocre performance, with investors rarely hitting daily limits on trading volume.

Hong Kong's top leader and the exchange's chairman marked the occasion by banging a gong in a ceremony connected by live videolink to their counterparts in Shenzhen, where officials rang a bell to kick off trading.

Market response was muted in early trading, with the Shenzhen All-Share index down 0.4 percent while the Hang Seng slipped 0.3 percent, in line with other Asia market declines.

"If Shanghai Connect was our baby step on the first step, Shenzhen Connect is our second step. Now we can walk and we can begin to run. So this indeed is a historical moment," said Charles Li, chief executive of market operator Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing.

With a market value of USD3.3 trillion, Shenzhen's exchange rivals Shanghai's in size and is the world's eighth biggest. While Shanghai is home to many huge state-owned enterprises, Shen-

zhen's bourse is dominated by small, fast-growing private companies in up-and-coming sectors such as technology and health-care. It often is referred to as China's Nasdaq.

"We believe Shenzhen is the largest untapped market in the world and, not surprisingly, investor knowledge is fairly limited," HSBC's Steven Sun and Bruce Pang said in a recent report.

Foreign ownership of Shenzhenlisted companies is minimal, at less than 1.2 percent. In Hong Kong, a former British colony controlled by China that has a financial system open to international investors, it's 46 percent.

Of the 880 stocks listed in Shenzhen that can be traded via the Hong Kong exchange about 200 on the tech-heavy ChiNext board will be open to institutional professional investors at first.

Mainland investors, meanwhile, get access to 417 Hong Kong small cap stocks. That might appeal to mainland investors looking to diversify away from assets deno-

We believe
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HSBC ANALYSTS

minated in the yuan, now at its weakest in eight years. Hong Kong stocks are priced in the city's own currency, which is pegged to the U.S. dollar.

Shenzhen's status as a financial center has risen as China's communist leaders have sought to shift away from reliance on exportoriented manufacturing toward growth based on self-sustaining, more environmentally friendly domestic demand.

"Shenzhen represents the 'new economy,' that's very clear," said Nicole Yuen, head of China equities at Credit Suisse. She noted that about two-thirds of Shenzhen-listed firms are private enterprises while the remaining third are state-owned. On the Shanghai board, it's the reverse, she said.

Expanding cross-border trading could help restore confidence in China's markets after a spectacular meltdown last year that was worsened by regulators' attempts to intervene. In June, the global stock benchmark provider MSCI opted not to add mainland Chinese stocks to its widely followed Emerging Markets Index. It said the markets need to be more accessible and closer to international standards.

"Shenzhen Connect may not simply open a floodgate of untouched opportunities as some might expect," said Michael Karbouris, Nasdaq's head of Asia-Pacific business development.

"The market is fairly expensive and already dominated by retail investors that like to speculate, and the combination of low cap stocks and volatility means the investment story is not straightforward. Investors will need to exercise caution." MDT/AP



HINESE leaders face a challenge: How to deal with Donald Trump.

Weeks before taking office, the incoming American president is riling Beijing with confrontation and online statements that appear to foreshadow a tougher foreign policy toward China.

China awoke yesterday to sharp criticism posted by Trump on Twitter, days after Beijing responded to his telephone conversation with Taiwan's president by accusing the Taiwanese of playing a "small trick" on Trump.

Trump wrote: "Did China ask us if it was OK to devalue their currency (making it hard for our companies to compete), heavily tax our products going into their country (the U.S. doesn't tax them) or to build a massive military complex in the middle of the South China Sea? I don't think so!"

That was apparently prompted by China's response to Trump's talk Friday with Tsai Ing-wen, the first time an American president or president-elect is known to have spoken to a Taiwanese leader since the U.S. broke off formal diplomatic relations in 1979.

So far, China has avoided responding with open hostility. Yesterday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said China would have "no comment on what motivated the Trump team" to make the tweets, but said he believed both sides would continue to support a "sound and a stable bilateral relationship."

"For us, for China, we do not comment on his personality," Lu said. "We focus on his policies, especially his policies toward China."

China's reaction to Trump's call with Tsai was relatively lowkey given the sensitivity China places on Taiwan.

The U.S. and Taiwan retain strong unofficial ties, and the U.S. sells weapons to the selfgoverning island. But American leaders have for decades avoided any official recognition in deference to China, which claims Taiwan as part of its territory, to be captured by force



Beijing faces decision on how to respond to Trump's tweets

President of Taiwan" was sure to inflame China, which considers anv reference to Taiwan having a president as a grave insult.

But China only said it would make a "solemn representation" in Washington, and Lu declined to expand on that statement vesterday. Instead, China seemed to offer Trump a facesaving way out of an apparent blunder by blaming the Taiwanese. English-language comin another tweet to Tsai as "the state-run newspapers known to is certain that Trump doesn't

be used by China's ruling Communist Party leadership to send messages abroad.

"Trump might be looking for some opportunities by making waves," the Global Times said in an editorial headlined, "Talk to Trump, punish Tsai administration.'

"However, he has zero diplomatic experience and is unaware of the repercussions of shaking up Sino-U.S. relaif necessary. Trump's reference mentaries then appeared in two tions," the newspaper said. "It

China's reaction was relatively lowkey given the sensitivity of the issue

want a showdown with China, because it is not his ambition, and neither was it included in his promise to the electorate. He puts out feelers to sound China out and chalk up some petty benefits.'

China's response was characteristically coded. But it now faces an incoming president who deals in outspoken tweets, not communiques.

Vice President-elect Mike Pence said on Sunday that the phone call shouldn't necessarily be interpreted as a shift in U.S. policy. He shrugged off the attention to the incident as media hype. "It was a courtesy call," Pence told NBC's "Meet the Press."

Ned Price, a spokesman for the White House National Se-

curity Council, said Trump's conversation does not signal any change to long-standing U.S. policy — although some in Taiwan expressed hopes for strong U.S. support from the incoming administration.

In terms of Trump's criticisms, Chinese imports are taxed at standard U.S. rates, while Washington has recently slapped painful punitive tariffs on Chinese steel, solar panels and other goods.

And while China once kept a tight grip on the value of the yuan, also known as the renminbi, it now allows it to trade within a bandwidth 2 percent above or below a daily target set by the People's Bank of China.

Shi Yinhong, a professor of international relations at People's University in Beijing, predicted China would not lash out immediately, but calibrate its response over the next several months after Trump enters the White House.

"Trump's remarks will certainly raise the concerns of Chinese leaders," Shi said. "But at the moment, they will be restrained and watch his moves closely." MDT/AP

Taiwan risks mainland wrath

WITH her precedent-breaking conversation with Donald Trump, Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen is betting that a little recognition from the incoming U.S. leader was worth the risk of backlash from China.

The telephone call Friday, which lasted for a little more than 10 minutes, was the closest a Taiwanese president has come to getting formal U.S. recognition since it established relations with the Communist government in Beijing almost four decades ago. With it, Tsai drew global attention to the democratically run island's increasing isolation in the shadow of a rising China, which considers Taiwan part of its territory that can be retaken

by force.

Still, the move raises the threat of retribution from China, which has been ratcheting up pressure on Tsai since her pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party's landslide election win in January.

"It might earn Tsai Ing-wen a round of applause now, but it'll be detrimental to Taiwan's development in the long run," said Jin Canrong, an associate dean of the Renmin University's School of International Studies in Beijing and an adviser to China's national legislature. "Taiwan's destiny is much more intertwined with the mainland than the U.S., especially economically." MDT/Bloomberg



VIETNAM

Floods kill 13 people

Floods from torrential rains have killed 13 people in central Vietnam, with more rain forecast for the region. Local disaster officials said yesterday that floods since late November have killed six people in Binh Dinh province and three in Quang Nam province. The floods have largely receded, they said. The government said in a report that another four died in Quang Ngai. The floods damaged the region's infrastructure, agriculture and livestock, it said. The report says a cold spell from the north is expected to bring heavy rains to the region. Central Vietnam is one of the country's poorest areas, and has suffered two bouts of floods since October, killing nearly 50 people. Vietnam is prone to floods and storms that kill hundreds of people each year.

INDIA

Tamil Nadu leader in critical condition



The popular leader of India's southern Tamil Nadu state was in critical condition after undergoing surgery yesterday morning, hours after suffering a heart attack, the hospital said. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayaram Jayalalitha was being monitored by "a team of experts, including cardiologists, pulmonologist and critical care specialists," according to a statement from Dr. Subbaiah Viswanathan at Apollo Hospital in the state capital of Chennai. Thousands of Jayalalitha's supporters, wailing and crying, gathered outside the hospital to pray for her recovery. Police were deployed across the state to ensure security, out of fear that her death could trigger widespread violence and riots. The U.S. Consulate in Chennai put out an advisory urging Americans to be careful in the city and avoid large crowds. Affectionately called "Amma," or "Mother," by her supporters, Jayalalitha joined politics in the early 1980s after a successful film career. She has had three stints as chief minister of Tamil Nadu.

PAKISTAN

Police report hotel fire in Karachi

A massive fire swept through a fourstar hotel in the southern port city of Karachi yesterday, killing at least 11 people, officials said. More than 50 people suffered injuries in the early morning blaze, which started in the hotel kitchen, police officer Taugeer Naeem said. The exact cause of the fire was not yet known, he said, adding that four of the people who died were women. Dr. Semi Jamali at Karachi's Jinnah's Hospital said some foreigners were among those being treated for burns. Suffocation caused more deaths, she said. TV footage of the incident showed guests at the hotel using bedsheets to climb down from windows. Meanwhile, a man standing at a balcony kept waving for help but the hotel did not have any means of reaching him, a survivor. Hamid Ali, recalled. He said the guests were sleeping when the fire broke out.



In this June 30 file photo, Vice President Leni Robredo is sworn in during inauguration ceremonies in suburban Quezon city, north of Manila



of the National Bureau of Investigation in Manila on Nov. 14

PHILIPPINES

VP quits Cabinet in new Duterte dilemma

Jim Gomez, Manila

THE Philippine vice president resigned her Cabinet post yesterday after citing irreconcilable differences with President Rodrigo Duterte, who had banned her from attending Cabinet meetings, in a new political dilemma for the leader.

Robredo, who stepped down as housing secretary but will stay on as vice president, spoke of "major differences in principles and values" with the brashtalking president and a plot to remove her from the vice presidency. Duterte accepted her resignation "with a heavy heart" and immediately named a replacement.

In her resignation letter, Robredo told Duterte that she "exerted all effort to put aside our differences, maintain a professional working relationship and work effectively despite the constraints." But she said Duterte's order banning her from Cabinet meetings had made it impossible for her to do her job at the housing agency.

"Remaining in your Cabinet has become untenable,"

she said.

A human rights lawyer and respected political newcomer, Robredo said at a news conference that she would stay on in her elected post as vice president, adding that she would continue her anti-poverty projects.

In the Philippines, presidents and vice presidents are elected separately and often come from rival politi-

Remaining in your Cabinet has become untenable.

LENI ROBREDO PHILIPPINE VP

cal parties, like Duterte and Robredo.

"We will not allow the vice presidency to be stolen because that is against the voice of the majority," Robredo told reporters.

Robredo suggested that the Duterte administration may be supporting former

Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., her closest opponent in May's vice presidential election. She did not mention the alleged plot to oust her from the vice presidency in her resignation letter.

Marcos Jr. is the namesake and son of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who was overthrown by a 1986 "people power" revolt. Robredo actively joined that uprising.

We have fought this battle before and won," Robredo said. "We will never let anyone revise our history and twist it to turn evil into good."

Robredo's resignation comes amid a political storm over Duterte's decision to allow the burial of the longdead dictator Marcos in the country's Heroes' Cemetery and a bloody crackdown against illegal drugs that has alarmed Western governments and human rights watchdogs.

Robredo is the second official to resign from Duterte's administration in less than a week. Maria Serena Diokno quit as head of the government's historical commission last week to protest Duterte's decision to allow Marcos' Nov. 18 burial in the cemetery.

Robredo has cited her strong opposition to the burial, the drug killings, Duterte's plan to reimpose the death penalty and "sexual attacks against women" among the issues on which she differed with Duterte, who took office on June 30.

The last straw, she said, was when she was notified Saturday by Cabinet Secretary Leoncio Evasco Jr. through a text message about the president's order for Robredo "to desist from attending all Cabinet meetings" starting from yester-

Evasco said Duterte decided to bar her from Cabinet meetings because of her "irreconcilable differences" with the Duterte administration.

Robredo did not provide details about the alleged plot to remove her from the vice presidency, but her electoral victory has been questioned by Marcos Jr., a friend of Duterte. AP

Nick Perry, Wellington

'EW Zealand's popular Prime Minister John Key stunned the nation yesterday when he announced, in a breaking voice, he was resigning after eight years as leader.

Key had been widely expected to contest his fourth general election next year. But he said he wanted to ensure he didn't make the mistake that some other world leaders have done, and instead wanted to leave while he was on top of his game.

Speaking in a shaking voice, Key said he had made personal sacrifices for the job and the role had taken a toll on his family.

Key said his National Party caucus would meet Dec. 12 to decide on a new party leader and prime minister, and that he expected to formally submit his resignation to the Governor-General that same day. He said he would back his deputy Bill English to take over. English said he would likely decide in the next day or two if he would seek the role.

The New Zealand dollar fell by nearly 1 percent on the news and was trading at USDo.71.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said he'd sent Key a short message: "Say it ain't so, bro."

NEW ZEALAND

Prime Minister John Key resigns after eight years



New Zealand Prime Minister John Key announces his decision to resign yesterday, in Wellington

"John Key is one of the most outstanding national leaders in the world today," Turnbull told reporters. "He has done an extraordinary job for New Zealand. He is somebody that all of us, right around the world, leaders in countries large and small, draw inspiration from."

New Zealand's opposition leader Andrew Little said the

decision had taken everybody by surprise. "He is entitled to be recognized for what he has done for New Zealand," Little said. "He's been there through some pretty difficult times."

Key was a successful currency trader before turning to politics. He was elected to the nation's parliament in 2002 and enjoyed a quick rise, becoming leader of his center-right opposition party in 2006. He won his first general election and became prime minister in 2008.

He won subsequent elections in 2011 and 2014 and retained unusually high popularity ratings. His party was a clear favorite to win the most votes at next year's election, at least until his announcement yesterday.

Key said that steering the country of 4.7 million through the economic crisis of 2008 and on to improved fortunes was a proud accomplishment.

"Very few countries are in the financial position we are in," Key said. "We're strong, we're in surplus, we're growing, we're creating jobs, we're doing well."

New Zealand is enjoying relatively robust annual GDP growth of over 3 percent and the unemployment rate has fallen below 5 percent, thanks in part to growth in tourism and construction.

Key also talked about the importance of standing beside the people of Christchurch after an earthquake in 2011 killed 185 people.

"Simply put, it has, for me, been the most remarkable, satisfying and exciting time of my life," he said. "But despite the amazing career I have had in politics, I have never seen myself as a career politician."

"For my wife Bronagh, there have been many nights and weekends spent alone," he said. "My daughter Stephie and my son Max have transitioned from teenagers to young adults while coping with an extraordinary level of intrusion and pressure because of their father's job."

He said he wasn't sure what life after politics would bring, other than he would probably take up positions on a couple of company boards and accept international speaking engagements. He said he would remain on as a member of parliament long enough that he wouldn't force a special election ahead of next year's general election. **AP**













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Times

TALIAN voters dealt Premier Matteo Renzi a resounding rebuke by rejecting his proposed constitutional reforms, plunging Europe's fourth-largest economy into political and economic uncertainty yesterday.

Renzi announced he would quit following Sunday's referendum vote, in which 60 percent of voters rejected his proposals and signaled they wanted a change in political direction. Renzi, who had boldly staked his political future on winning the referendum, is expected to hand in his resignation to President Sergio Mattarella shortly.

The unexpectedly large margin of defeat with a robust voter turnout of 68.5 percent appeared to rule out any chance that Renzi would be offered another shot at forming a government. Analysts did, however, expect Mattarella to ask Renzi to stay on long enough to pass the new budget, with a target date of Dec. 23.

The vote energized the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement and the anti-immigrant Northern League, whose leader has allied himself with far-right figures in Europe including France's Marine Pen.

While Italy's opposition parties were united in antipathy for Renzi's policies and reform course, they have little else in common and have already begun vying to position themselves for a new election, although the timing of any vote remained unclear. Analysts expect that Mattarella will appoint a transition government to draft a new election law, with speculation centering on either Renzi's finance minister, Pier Carlo Padoan, or the president of the Senate, Pietro Grasso, to lead the effort.

But that course is already facing opposition.

Northern League leader Mat-

Italy faces political, economic uncertainty after referendum



Anti-referendum militants gather in downtown Rome after Italian Premier Matteo Renzi yesterday announced his resignation

teo Salvini called for an immediate election this winter "because real change happens only through electoral victory."

The current election law, which Renzi wanted to reform, would hand a huge bonus of seats to the lower house while maintaining a proportional system for the upper house, raising the potential for parliamentary gridlock.

With much wrangling ahead, the risk facing Italy is "a prolonged muddle-through period, the emergence of an ineffective, patched-up coalition government in the postelection phase and continuously poor economic performance," said Wolfango Piccoli, a political analyst at the Teneo Intelligence consultancy.

European partners sought to downplay the risk for the common euro currency and European unity. "This is a crisis of government, not a crisis of state, and it's not the end of the West. But it's certainly not a positive contribution against the backdrop of the crisis in Europe," German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said in Athens.

The EU finance commissioner, Pierre Moscovici, told reporters in Brussels that "I'm very confident in the capacity of the eurozone to resist all kind of shocks"

The main stock index in Milan

was volatile. It opened down 2 percent, with many bank shares suspended due to excessive volatility, but recovered to trade down only 0.9 percent.

Investors had been anticipating Renzi's defeat for several days, and had sold off Italian stocks and bonds. Yesterday's sanguine market reaction can also be attributed to the fact that Italy's markets indirectly enjoy a big backstop from the European Central Bank.

The central bank for the 19-country eurozone is buying 80 billion euros (USD85 billion) every month in bonds, including government debt, across the currency bloc. It is expected on Thursday to decide to extend that program beyond its current end date of March. The bond purchases aim to boost growth and inflation but also effectively help keep low government borrowing rates. That is crucial for Italy, which has a massive public debt load of 130 percent of GDP.

Renzi swept into power two and a half years ago on a pledge to dismantle the system, claiming the moniker of demolisher. His brash ways divided his own party, however, and his confidence was widely perceived as arrogance, even in other European capitals and especially in Brussels, where he had grown increasingly bold in pressing for flexibility on the budget.

"I lost and the post that gets eliminated is mine," Renzi said after the polls closed. "The government's experience is over." MDT/AP

Russian patriarch blesses new Paris church, a Putin project

THE patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church consecrated a prominent new church on Sunday near the Eiffel Tower seen as a controversial symbol of Russian President Vladimir Putin's influence in Europe.

Patriarch Kirill, a close ally of Putin, led the elaborate sanctifying ceremony in the Saint Trinity Church on the banks of the Seine River, the gold-domed centerpiece of a 100 million euro (USD106 million) complex owned by the Russian government that will

include a cultural center and a school.

The hours-long ceremony included the consecration of the altar, a procession around the grounds and the placing of relics, accompanied by an all-male choir and the rich smells of incense. While it was primarily a religious event, it carried strong political overtones.

The staunchly conservative Kirill came to Paris' Left Bank as Europe faces a populist push against multicultural liberalism in favor of the kind of tougher, more traditional politics that Putin and the Russian Orthodox Church eschew. And his visit comes as some leading French and other European politicians argue for better relations with Russia after years of diplomatic tensions over Moscow's role in the conflicts in Syria and Ukraine.

Putin championed the project for a new Russian church in Paris, which prompted criticism from rights groups when it was first approved in 2008, and new concerns as diplomatic relations soured in ensuing years. Putin played down suspicions that it would be used by Russian secret services to spy on sensitive government buildings and embassies in the surrounding neighborhood.

The Russian state-owned church on a prominent piece of Parisian real estate is also an awkward symbol for secular France, which adheres firmly to its division between church and state.

The patriarch thanked France for allowing the construction of the "magnificent" Paris site.



Russian Patriarch Kirill, an ally of Putin, presides over a blessing ceremony in the Saint Trinity Church in Paris on Sunday

In meetings with Russian emigres, he warned that it's "dangerous" for them to lose their loyalty to Russia. "It's your duty.

You can live wherever you want, but you cannot break spiritual and cultural ties with your people," he said. MDT/AP



what's ON



Exhibition "Traces and Vision - Longzhou 'Shehuo' Folk Performances, PHOTOGRAPHY BY WU XIAOPENG'

TIME: 9am-9pm

UNTIL: January 8, 2017

VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery of the

Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100 / 2882 7103

St. Joseph's Seminary

TIME: 10am-5pm daily (Closed on Wednesdays,

opened on public holidays)

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary / Rua do

Seminário

Cantonese Guided Tour: 3pm-4pm (Saturdays

and Sundays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

FORMER HOME OF REVOLUTIONARY LEADER YE

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

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am-6pm daily, (Except Thursdays, open

on public holidays)

UNTIL: February 21, 2017 VENUE: Macau Science Centre, Avenida Dr. Sun

Yat-Sen ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre MOP25;

Planetarium MOP60-80 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

TAK SENG ON PAWNSHOP

TIME: 10:30am-7pm (Closed on the first Monday

of every month)

VENUE: No. 396 Avenida Almeida Ribeiro

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

Offbeat

CHEERS GREET BRITISH VETERAN, 89, AS HE STARTS HIS NEW JOB

An 89-year-old army veteran who made national headlines in Britain with a newspaper ad seeking work has started his new job.

The Cantina Kitchen & Bar in the seaside town of Paignton in southwestern England announced on its Facebook page that Joe Bartley was starting work Sunday.

The widower, whose wife died two years ago, placed the ad because he was "dying of boredom." He says his building has a community area but "not a soul comes in." and when he returns home, there's "nobody to talk to."

The local cafe made him an offer and the Herald Express newspaper posted a video of Bartley walking in to ap-

Bartley told the BBC he was "overwhelmed by all the attention" and was looking forward to "getting down to the job.'

TV canal macau

13:00 TDM News (Repeated)

News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast 13:30

Debate on Transportation and Public Works Policy 14:55

Report for 2017 (Live)

20:30 Main News, Financial & Weather Report

21:00 Non-Daily Portuguese News

21:10 **TDM Interview**

21:40 Once Upon A Time S1

22:10 Precious Pearl

23:00 **TDM News** 23:30 Miscellaneous

00:05 Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

RTPi Live 00:40



CINETEATRO

01 DEC - 07 DEC

CRAYON SHINCHAN MOVIE 2016

2.15, 6.00, 9.45 pm **Director: Wataru Takahashi**

Language: Cantonese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 104min

YOUR NAME

поом 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 Yares Starring: Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 133min



THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS

гоом 3

2.30, 4.45, 7.15 pm **Director: Derek Cianfrance**

Starring: Michael Fasssbender, Alicia Vikander, Rachel

Language: English (Cantonese) **Duration: 133min**

SHUT IN воом 3

9.30 pm

Director: Farren Blackburn Starring: Charlie Heaton, Naomi Watts, Jacob Tremblay

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 91min

MACAU TOWER

01 DEC - 07 DEC

UNDERWORLD BLOOD WARS

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm **Director: Anna Foerster**

Starring: Kate Beckinsale, Theo James, Lara Pulver

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 91min





1992 MOB RIPS APART MOSQUE IN AYODHYA

A mob of Hindu militants has torn down a mosque and attacked other Muslim targets in the north Indian town of Ayodhya, in one of India's worst outbreaks of inter-communal violence.

The gathering at the mosque began as a religious procession organised by three right-wing Hindu groups, including the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Hindu extremists have been campaigning to get rid of the Babri mosque in Ayodhya, a focus for Hindu-Muslim hostility for decades.

They want to build a Hindu temple in its place, to mark what they believe to be the birthplace of the Hindu warrior king, Lord Ram.

A court has already ordered that the mosque be protected from demolition.

The leaders of the three parties promised to stand by the court's decision, and said today's demonstration would be limited to a religious ceremony symbolising the laying of the first bricks of a Hindu temple. But before the ceremony could start, the 200,000-strong crowd broke through police cordons.

They used hammers to knock down the three domes of the mosque, and then tore at the bricks with their bare hands until the building was totally destroyed.

The government had brought in hundreds of extra police, but eyewitnesses said they stood by and allowed the destruction to take place.

The mob also turned on Indian and foreign journalists recording the scene, before moving on to attack Muslim houses and property in the area. The violence has sent shockwaves throughout the

Security forces throughout the north are on high alert, fearing a backlash from India's 120 million strong Muslim population, and the government has sent paramilitary reinforcements to the area.

The cabinet met in emergency session and dismissed the BJP-led government in Uttar Pradesh for fai-

ling to protect the mosque. The state - and its 150 million inhabitants - will be ruled directly from New Delhi.

The Prime Minister, Narasimha Rao, has repeatedly appealed for calm in radio and television broadcasts. What happened today is a matter of great concern

and shame for all Indians," he said. The leader of the BJP, Lal Krishna Advani, described the incident as "very unfortunate", and appealed to the crowd still at the Babri mosque site to leave.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The destruction of the Babri mosque in Ayodhya triggered some of the worst inter-communal violence since partition in

More than 2,000 people died in rioting throughout India. The BJP's leader, LK Advani, resigned as leader of the opposition, accepting "moral responsibility" for the violence. He subsequently became deputy prime minister in the BJP

government of Atal Behari Vajpayee. He was among seven Hindu leaders ordered to stand trial in 2003 for inciting violence at Ayodhya, but charges against

him were dropped. In government, the BJP distanced itself from its previous hardline agenda, and agreed to leave the Ayodhya issue to the

A panel of three High Court judges is still trying to determine who owns the Babri mosque site.

In February 2002, one of the Hindu groups involved in the 1992 demonstration, the VHP, again called hundreds of volunteers to the site to begin construction of the temple. A train carrying activists returning from Ayodhya was at-

tacked and at least 58 people killed. The incident sparked another wave of rioting throughout Gujarat in which up to 2,000 people, mainly Muslims, died.

YOUR STARS



Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You're the playful sort -- always have been, always will be. And for the most part, that fact is appreciated by your family, friends and sweetheart, even when you push the envelope past the point of no return.



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

n fact, no matter who you're talking with or what the subject might happen to be, the depth of your feelings will be quite evident in both the words you choose and the way you phrase your opinions.



Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You should probably expect it, in fact. If they don't sound like they're going to follow your counsel, don't be hurt, especially if they're a younger person.



Libra

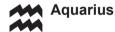
Sep.23-Oct. 22

It's time to take care of the ones you love, whether it's your family, the friends you've had for years and years, or your current romantic interest. You're tuned in.



Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Well, don't hold back your feelings. Be cranky, if that's how you feel. Do get to know your audience before you let it all out, though, just so you can be sure they'll forgive you.



Jan. 20-Feb. 18

In fact, if you've been involved with one particular person or group for some time now, regardless of the personalities involved, you'll be amazed at how easily everyone will get along -- and it will all be thanks to you.



Taurus

April 20-May 20

Now that you know, be careful to keep your checkbook close and only buy what this far-off friend will appreciate, not something extravagant just to make a point.



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

our feelings for your loved ones (especially your special someone, if you're attached), and also your oldest and dearest friends, will be quite obvious to one and all



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

So when someone who's really not much more than a stranger starts

getting close to you, enjoy it -- but if you're attached, don't let it get too far.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Anyone you think of in intimate terms will become even closer to you now -- especially your siblings. This closeness will happen without your thinking about it -- not consciously,



Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You'll be a veritable fount of willpower now, and only too happy to get everything done that needs doing. You won't have to tackle it all by yourself, though.



Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Staying home alone might seem appealing at first, but if you really think about it, you might decide that a good, long, heart-to-heart chat with a friend would be a much better use of your time.



SUDOKU

Easy

3 9 8 3 1 9 8 9 7 5 7 1 3 6 8

5 7

Medium

9

4

2

7 4

3

6

5

5

2

6

Easy+

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

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			7					
2								7
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					1			

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	-5	6	clear/cloudy
Harbin	-24	-13	cloudy
Tianjin	-1	8	clear/cloudy
Urumqi	-9	4	cloudy
Xi'an	0	11	clear
Lhasa	-5	9	clear
Chengdu	3	16	clear
Chongqing	8	15	cloudy
Kunming	5	17	cloudy
Nanjing	3	13	cloudy/clear
Shanghai	8	13	overcast/cloudy
Wuhan	3	12	clear
Hangzhou	8	12	overcast/cloudy
Taipei	18	20	drizzle
Guangzhou	15	20	cloudy
Hong Kong	18	22	cloudy
WORLD			

WORLD

Moscow	-12	-7	flurry
Frankfurt	-5	1	clear/cloudy
Paris	-2	5	clear/cloudy
London	5	7	drizzle
New York	2	10	drizzle/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Rock clinging plant; 5- Baby bird?; 10- Rind; 14- ___ above; 15- From ; 16- Wheel shaft; 17- Capable of creating; 19- Arab sailing vessel; 20- Mode of action; 21- Resembling a flower part; 23- Spiritual interpretation; 25- Spanish Mister; 26- Grammarian's concern; 28- Gaping grin; 31- Describe; 34- Fervor; 36- Sound of a bagpipe; 37- Give ___ rest; 38- Intend; 40- Vietnam's ___ Dinh Diem; 41- Greek island; bagpipe; 37- Give -shanter (Scottish cap); 44- "A Death in the Family" author; 45- "Earth in the Balance" author; 47- Saturn's largest moon; 49- "The covers of this book are too far ____" â€" Bierce; 51- Two wrestlers on the same side; 55- Prompt; 58- Theater district; 59- Bread spread; 60- Parochial; 62- For ____ Jolly Good Fellow; 63- Mineral used as a gem; 64- Capri, for one; 65- Internet writing system that popularized "pwn3d" and "n00b"; 66- Stone marker; 67- Poor grades;

DOWN: 1- Molten material: 2- The Pacific, for example: 3- Traditional portion of Muslim

law; 4- Submachine gun; 5- Daydream; 6-Little one; 7- Elevator man; 8- Gads about; 9- Prison warden; 10- Detachable lock; 11- Hortatory; 12- "The Time Machine" people; 13- Obscene; 18- Classic autos; 22-Licorice-like flavoring; 24- Discharge; 27-Really bother: 29- Impulse to act: 30- Gin Rlavoring; 31- Joel's "Cabaret" costar; 32-Romance lang.; 33- Metallic element; 35-Boundary; 38- Clear of vermin; 39- Certify through a notary public; 42- Lightweight overcoat; 44- Tums, e.g.; 46- Blows one's top; 48- Not "fer"; 50- Fortune-telling cards; 52- Beethoven dedicatee; 53- ___ of Two Cities; 54- Burrowing animals; 55- Sci-fi author Frederik; 56- Peter Fonda role; 57-Easy stride; 61- Actor Kilmer;



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37	+	\vdash		38		\vdash	\vdash	†	39	Т		40	$^{+}$	$^{+}$
41	+	\vdash	42	┪		43	\vdash	†	†	t	44	┪	†	\vdash
45	\top	\vdash	\vdash	\vdash	46		47	\vdash	\vdash	48	┪			
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55	56	┖	\vdash	\vdash	Т	\vdash	57		58	$^{+}$	†	†	$^{+}$	$^{+}$
59	$^{+}$	\vdash	\vdash		60	T	\vdash	61	Т	t	t	T	$^{+}$	†
62	+	\vdash	\vdash		63	\vdash	\vdash	\vdash	\vdash		64	$^{+}$	$^{+}$	+
65		\vdash	+		66		\vdash	+	+		67	+	+	+

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PJ (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300 IACM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000

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lau Lei Garden Taipa

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Jardim De Wa Bao Taipa

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Sands China recognize outstanding suppliers















Wilfred Wong, SCL president and COO





THE 2016 Sands Supplier Excellence Awards was held at The Venetian Macao last week, with Sands China Ltd. recognizing the outstanding cooperation and services of its suppliers.

"The success of our company and the success of our suppliers is connected, creating a mutually beneficial relationship," said Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd. "We appreciate and value our suppliers, and we hope these business partners - from large companies to medium and small enterprises – have the opportunity to develop a long-term business partnership with us," he added. From among thousands of service providers and suppliers

working with Sands China, more than 300 companies were nominated for this year's Sands Supplier Excellence

The winners included long-established local companies that have contributed to the region's development over the

Besides some large companies, three out of the seven winners are local SMEs (Ka Ming Trading, Wa Toc Engineering Company Limited, and ICON Gaming Technology Limited), a testament to Sands China's ongoing support of local Macau enterprises.

The awards recognized outstanding suppliers in seven categories: small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), corporate culture and sustainability, cost management, service excellence, project management, total quality management, and innovation.

GOLF

Hideki Matsuyama ends his year on a big roll

Doug Ferguson, Nassau

T started with a victory at home in the Japan Open. It ended with another trophy in the Bahamas against a short but strong field.

Five tournaments. Four victo-

The way Hideki Matsuyama is playing, he might wish the Masters started next week.

Or maybe not.

"I'm kind of glad it's not," he said with a broad smile, "because I don't think I could win next week."

Winning must be exhausting for the 24-year-old Japanese star, and no one has been more proficient at it over the last two months. Even more alarming is that Matsuyama is making it look easy, although getting through the final nine holes at the Hero World Challenge felt as heavy as walking through the beach sand of the Bahamas.

Coming off seven-shot victories in the HSBC Champions and the Taiheiyo Masters, he had a seven-shot lead over Henrik Stenson going into the final round at Albany Golf Club. Matsuyama didn't make another birdie after the ninth hole, and his lead was reduced to two shots with two holes to play



Hideki Matsuyama

when he closed with two pars for a 1-over 73 and a two-shot victory.

"I can't say that I played well today," he said. "But I did win Tiger's tournament, and what a great honor it is."

Matsuyama said Tiger Woods has been his golfing idol as long as he can remember, and as much as he enjoyed winning, he was just as happy to see Woods

back in competition. Woods led the field with 24 birdies, but six double bogeys contributed to a 15th-place finish in the 17-man

The first time he heard of Woods was when Matsuyama was 5 and watched video -"over and over and over again," he said — of Woods winning the 1997 Masters. Three years later, Woods won 10 times around the world, including the final three majors in what is considered his best season.

"Unfortunately, I wasn't able to see all those wins because they didn't have the broadcast in Japan," Matsuyama said. "But I knew Tiger was winning, and I knew he was very good. And I almost expected him to win every tournament."

Perhaps he is starting to appreciate what it's like to get on a roll.

"I'm not even close to being mentioned in the same sentence as Tiger," he said. "But I am working hard, and hopefully, little by little, I'll get better and better."

Matsuyama isn't the first player to get on a hot streak. Last year, Jason Day won four out of six tournaments against the strongest competition in the world, including the PGA Championship and a pair of Fed-Ex Cup playoff events.

Matsuyama now has 12 victories worldwide, and while he became the first Asian to win a World Golf Championships title, a major is where players are measured.

"You've got to do it in the big events in the summer, too," Woods said. "So it's going to give him a boat load of confidence going into next year and he's going to be one of the top guys to beat for a very long time. Look at his swing, look at his game and look at the body that he has. It's built to handle the test of time."

Matsuyama hasn't finished out of the top five since the Tour Championship, and while he can't explain why he keeps winning, this recent run likely dates to the Deutsche Bank Championship. It was there that Hiroshi Iwata suggested a drill for his putting, which has held Matsuyama back.

Iwata introduced him to the "Pelz Putting Tutor," a small metal plate with two tiny steel balls at the end that are set apart just over the width of a golf ball. It is designed to help players line up putts and with their stroke.

Iwata's drill is to make 10 short putts in a row with a conventional grip, using only the left hand and only the right hand.

Perhaps it helped this week that Matsuyama's caddie, Daisuke Shindo, wanted the week off. So he borrowed Iwata's caddie, Mei Inui. Not only does she know the drill, she managed to keep Matsuyama calm when his lead was slipping away.

"When things get tough, I sometimes put my head down and become quiet," he said. "But Mei was always positive throughout, even the back nine, and was giving me good vibes, which really helped coming in."

Matsuyama, who now lives primarily in Orlando, Florida, is headed home for Japan to spend time with his family. He's worked hard. He's won plenty. He could probably use a break, but it won't be for long. He wants to keep this going into the new year, which starts Jan. 5 in Hawaii. And he's already thinking about the Masters.

"I think he'll be a major champion within the next couple of years, personally," Jordan Spieth said. "It's awesome to see him tearing it up here." **AP**



Steve Douglas, Manchester

THERE used to be no chester United at scoring much-needed late goals.

Under Jose Mourinho, the opposite is happening.

In the last two months, United has drawn five of its seven games in the Premier League. Three of those draws — against Stoke, Arsenal and most recently Everton this weekend have come after conceding equalizers in the 82nd minute or later.

"This is what we are

doing for a long time playing well, better than opponents," Mourinho said in comments that could easily be on a loop in post-match news conferences. "Getting draws but deserving victories."

The dropped points have left United in sixth place in the standings after 14 games, 13 points behind first-place Chelsea and more crucially nine points off the Champions League qualification positions. No team has dropped more points from conceding goals in the last 10 minuTHE UNLUCKY ONE

Mourinho irritable as Man United keep throwing away points

tes of matches this season than United, which also lost 3-1 at Watford in September after letting in goals in the 83rd minute and in injury time.

Mourinho has called United the "most unlucky team in the Premier League." It's certainly the case that United has failed to win games it has dominated, none more so than the o-o home draw against Burnley when Mourinho's side had 37 attempts on goal.

Instead of "unlucky," Mourinho might chose to use the words "least clinical." And the Portuguese coach might also need to look at his own role in this.

Against Arsenal on Nov. 19, United was winning 1-0 and in control of the match when Mourinho decided to replace playmaker Juan Mata, who had scored the fielder Morgan Schneiderlin in the 85th minute. Momentum quickly shifted and substitute Olivier Giroud powered in a late header to earn Arsenal a 1-1 draw that even its coach, Arsene Wenger, acknowledged was undeserved.

That was Arsenal's only attempt on target all match.

On Sunday against Everton, United again was leading 1-0 after Zlatan Ibrahimovic's 42nd-minute goal when Mourinho made another defensive substitution in the 85th, bringing on Marouane Fellaini for Henrikh Mkhitaryan. The aim, ac-

cording to Mourinho, was for Fellaini to bring protection in front of the degoal, with defensive midfense with his height and strength as Everton went direct in its search for an equalizer.

But Fellaini's first meaningful contribution to the match was to foul Idrissa Gueye with a clumsy challenge in the area. Leighton Baines then equalized from the penalty spot.

Mourinho was irritable with the media afterward, angry at journalists questioning his decision to bring on Fellaini and asking why United continues to throw away points from dominant positions.

"It is a problem that our position in the table is not a reflection of our performances," he said.

Mourinho said pundits have double standards when criticizing his team, based on his past reputation of eking out victories

"When my team are playing pragmatic football and winning matches and winning titles, you say it is not right and nice," Mourinho said. "When my teams play very, very well, there is a huge change in relation. Now you say what matters, no matter, is to get result."

United didn't play "very, very well" against Everton but was still on course for a victory, only a third in the league since Aug. 27.

Once again, the 20-time champions, who once pulled wins out of nowhere, contrived to do the opposite. AP

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

opinion

Our Desk Daniel Beitler



HISTORY, LEST IT BE FORGOTTEN

With the 50th anniversary this month of the turmoil of the 1-2-3 Incident in Macau, and subsequently the call for the event to be introduced to children's textbooks, it seems an apt time to question how the 1-2-3 Incident, and other events in the territory, will be taught.

There is not one account of history. Any historian or serious history educator would contend that there are multiple narratives, and their plurality is necessary if we are serious about understanding the past.

The recent announcement of plans for the education authorities of Macau and mainland China to jointly draft history textbooks for Macau – or the standardization of history education – should be an extremely worrying development, considering China's whitewashing of its past.

That is not to single China out as the only offender. New World navigator Christopher Columbus is revered like a saint despite his unsaintly and barbaric actions, even by his contemporaries' standards. The British glorification of the 'empire days' ignores the blockade of international aid to famine-struck Ireland (itself the result of British policy) and the invention of the world's first concentration camps during the Boer wars.

These examples are among the most shameful incidents of Anglo history, but they have been largely unknown or repressed for decades. It is only when revisionist theorists challenge mainstream conceptions that events return to the surface to be re-examined.

East Asia lags significantly behind the West in promoting the concept of various historical narratives – or "narrative plurality". I recently looked through a Japanese history book aimed at young adolescents. Instead of referring to the combatants of World War II as the Allied and Axis powers, the book's authors preferred to use the terms "nations with resources" and "nations without resources" respectively. This is a very kind (and not an entirely inaccurate) way to label the combatants. Japan is notorious for dismissing its 20th century war crimes, and this denial continues to deteriorate and undermine Japan's foreign relations.

While the Communist Party (CCP) of the PRC conceded the faults of the Cultural Revolution decades ago, the recent resurgence in anti-foreigner sentiment seems capable of shifting the entire blame of the turmoil to the colonialists. Even the demands in Macau this week for the 1-2-3 Incident to be incorporated into children's education were notably absent in their criticism of mainland-sponsored imported radicalization.

It is both tragic and arguably undesirable to attempt to suppress narrative plurality, but it is also dangerous when the historical "authority" is an authoritarian dictatorship. In Japan and South Korea it is permissible to challenge the established narrative and to question whether local accounts accurately depict events of the past. The CCP has an especially poor track record, and dissenters are often punished.

Take the example of the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression – China's name for the East Asian Theater of World War II. While the Chinese Civil War was brought to a halt, when the Kuomintang (Nationalists) and the CCP made an alliance to repel the Japanese invasion in 1937, most historical accounts accept that the Kuomintang did the bulk of the fighting, leaving the CCP to the countryside where it strengthened in preparation of the resumption of intra-Chinese hostilities.

A 70th anniversary mainland celebration of the end of that war embittered the Taiwanese last year when it depicted Chinese soldiers in CCP uniforms repelling the Japanese.

That is just one example of what might be called a 'false narrative'. Though even false narratives have a place in narrative plurality, the freedom to challenge them and propose alternative accounts is limited in China.

The biggest concern is how a standardized textbook might detail the many controversial events from China's recent past. The Great Leap Forward, where Mao's refusal to recognize the failure of the campaign resulted in tens of millions of deaths, and the Tiananmen Square incident of 1989, an event only vaguely recalled by young Macau residents, come to mind.

WYOMING POLICE TO DOLE OUT DONATED MONEY FOR GOOD DEEDS

A good deed could turn into a USD50 tip from Jackson law enforcement officials who will dole out donated money ahead of the holidays.

The Jackson Hole News and Guide reports that Teton County Sheriff Jim Whalen says anonymous donors have contributed enough for deputies, officers and troopers to give \$50 to \$100 gifts.

Whalen said the money could be given out

for almost anything, including good drivers or people who are simply down on their luck. He said the cash gifts are about spreading goodwill.

Donations last year helped officials run a similar effort.

Whalen said all of this year's donors were Jackson Hole residents. The area has a number of wealthy residents who own large estates.

OXFORD ECONOMICS SURVEY

Trump seen as biggest global economy risk

Donald Trump's future policy stance poses "the single largest risk to the global economy," according to a client survey by forecasting firm Oxford Economics Ltd.

More than half of respondents said that the probability of a sharp slowdown has increased over the past three months, according to the firm's Nov. 14-21 survey on global risk perceptions conducted among about 180 clients and contacts.

percent Twenty-seven said a potential trade war triggered by Trump was the top risk to the global economy over the next two years, followed by 23 percent who said a more severe downturn in the Chinese economy was the top risk. Trump also was seen as the most likely source of faster global growth, with 38 percent citing the potential for the U.S. economy to surge on new fiscal stimulus he has proposed.

Trump often invoked China during his campaign, threatening to slap tariffs on its exports and vowing to label it a currency manipulator. He spoke Friday by phone with Taiwan President Tsai Ing-Wen, prompting a protest from Beijing, which regards





the island as its territory. Trump took on China's government Sunday in a series of tweets criticizing it for currency manipulation, barriers to foreign competition and militarizing the South China Sea.

The survey results show a "marked shift in the global economic outlook" Jamie Thompson, Oxford's London-based head of macro scenarios, said in a statement with the survey. "With the degree of policy and political uncertainty unusually elevated, the greatest source of risk to the global economy both to the upside and the downside - is undoubtedly now the U.S. policy stance."

Aside from Trump and China, the biggest downside risks over the next two years were seen as geopolitical tensions such as Iran, Russia, the Middle East or South China Sea; continued Federal Reserve interest rate increases spurring emerging market concerns; rising populism in the EU; Brexit-related uncertainty; and a sharp jump in oil and commodity prices.

The top catalysts for growth, after potential U.S. fiscal stimulus, were fiscal policy being loosened globally; global productivity rebounding; Brexit spurring EU reform and Germany driving stronger euro-zone growth, according to Oxford's survey.

The global economy will expand 3.1 percent this year and 3.4 percent next year, according to the latest World Economic Outlook by the International Monetary Fund, released in October. The fund lowered its 2017 forecast to 3.4 percent from 3.5 percent in July.

Trump has discussed investment proposals, which include roads, bridges and airports, ranging from more than USD500 billion to \$1 trillion over a decade. He said in a recent speech that he aims to make America's infrastructure "second to none" while putting millions of people to work and doubling economic growth. **Bloomberg**

Roadside 60-80 Moderate High Density Residental Area Ambient 65-85 Moderate Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS

NEW ZEALAND's popular Prime Minister John Key stunned the nation when he announced, in a breaking voice, he would resign after eight years as leader. More on p13

UZBEKISTAN Election officials say that acting President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has overwhelmingly won a tightly controlled presidential election, garnering 88.61 percent of the vote.



SYRIA Rebel shelling of the Syrian governmentheld part of Aleppo killed a Russian nurse in a makeshift Russian hospital in the city yesterday while a Russian fighter jet crashed into the Mediterranean Sea after returning from a sortie over Syria. The developments were a blow to Russia, which has been one of the staunchest supporters of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

GAMBIA An appeals court in Gambia has ordered the release of a top opposition politician and 18 others who were arrested after participating in a peaceful protest earlier this year calling for political reforms.

SPAIN Provinces in southern and eastern Spain are on alert for heavy rains for a second day after torrential downpours left two dead and many roads and buildings flooded in several towns.



BRAZIL Tens of thousands of protesters took to the streets in cities across Brazil to express disgust with public corruption and outrage at what they say are lawmakers' attempts to muzzle the judges and prosecutors pursuing those crimes.

THIS IS MY CITY

Naturalist episode to be screened tonight



ONE episode of the "No Trilho dos Naturalistas: Angola" (Tracking the Naturalists: Angola) four-part series will be screened tonight from 6 p.m. at Casa Garden as part of This Is My City 2016.

The series explores the Portuguese botanical expeditions to Africa undertaken by the University of Coimbra naturalists since the 18th century, discussing the diversity and ecology of plants, how tropical ecosystems thrive and the relationship between people and the environment.

The film, directed by André Godinho, will be presented by the project coordinator for the series, António Carmo Gouveia, together with University of Hong Kong botany expert Alexandra Cook.

The botany expert's current research projects concern the herbarium as a scientific object and the circulation of "materia medica", a collection of knowledge on medical matters transferred from Asia to Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries.