



NON-LOCAL POPULATION DECREASES

Non-resident workers totaled 176,666 at the end of the third quarter, a decrease of 2,028 over the previous quarter

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TRAFFIC ACCIDENT SENDS 18 TOURISTS TO HOSPITAL

Eighteen tourists were sent to hospital on Saturday following a traffic accident between their tour bus and a van

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CHINESE SPEND BILLIONS ON 'SINGLES DAY'

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

JAPAN Shinzo Abe held a meeting with a Taiwanese politician yesterday, hours after Chinese President Xi Jinping warned him not to break with past consensus on what Beijing regards as a renegade province. Abe held a 30-minute meeting with James Soong, head of the People First Party on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Danang, Vietnam.



MEDITERRANEAN A German newspaper has published a list of 33,293 people it says died while trying to immigrate to Europe between 1993 and May of this year. The list, published by daily Der Tagesspiegel, covered 46 pages and included names, ages and countries of origin, when available, as well as how the victims died and their date of death. Often, though, they never were identified.



PHILIPPINES US President Donald Trump's lengthy Asia trip wound down as it began, with a visit meant to be centered on trade and North Korea shadowed by questions about Russia. More on p12,13

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LANDMARK SALE

Head of realtors enters gambling sector

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JULIE ZHU



Macau Food Festival kicks off with Japan as invited country

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Macau Legend sells Landmark to real estate investor

Daniel Beitler

DAVID Chow's Macau Legend Development Ltd has announced in a filing to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange its intention to dispose of 100 percent equity in the Landmark Macau casino-hotel for some HKD4.6 billion.

The buyers are a group of four entities led by Dong Lap Hong Investment Company. Controlling a 58 percent stake in the acquisition, Dong Lap Hong is owned by Chong Sio King according to the commercial registry, who is also the president of the board of the Macau General Association of Real Estate.

Ben Lee, managing partner of IGamiX Management & Consulting, told the Times that the deal was unusual given that the expertise of the buyer lies in the real estate market.

"It's unusual as the buyers don't appear to have any background in the casino or junket industry," he said yesterday. "This close to the concession billing process, it relies on quite a few assumptions on the surety of SJM's concession being [renewed]."

Lee said that the valuation shows that buyers have not been deterred by the possibility of a non-renewal in the upcoming license negotiations. "The license [issue] doesn't seem to impact the price all that much," he said, comparing it to earlier property acquisitions.

Located along the Amizade strip in ZAPE, the Landmark



Macau is owned by New Macau Landmark Management Ltd, a subsidiary of David Chow's group, while its gaming services are provided by another subsidiary, Hong Hock Development Company, which also services the Babylon Casino and Legend Palace Casino.

As of June 2017, the Pharaoh's Palace Casino in The Landmark Macau included 60 mass market gaming tables, 17 VIP gaming tables and 141 slot machines in operation, all provided by gaming concessionaire SJM Holdings. In 2016, the audited revenue for the com-

pany amounted to HKD274.8 million, posting a loss of about HKD84 million.

Macau Legend said that the disposal will "enable the Group to streamline its operation."

The HKD4.6 billion deal, struck on Thursday after the HKSE had closed, was followed a day later by a 3.2 percent uptick in Macau Legend's share price.

According to the filing, the sale is pursuant to an opinion issued by a local legal advisor to Macau Legend Development, clarifying that the deal does not violate any of Macau's laws. Under Macau law, casino operators must be

endowed with a license from the government, however gaming concessionaires can lease gambling operations to third parties under management contracts.

SJM Holdings is responsible for the 67 gaming tables currently in operation at The Landmark and its approval of the deal is still pending, according to Thursday's filing. It is believed that the MSAR government will also need to give its tacit approval for the deal to complete.

"It's a straightforward property deal, but the gaming part is always subject to government approval," said gaming analyst

Lee. "I don't expect there to be any pushback from the government [... as] the satellite casino system has been in place for a while and it is a market-recognized value. [... That is,] the value of the casino is inseparable from the property."

To this end, the filing states that both SJM and the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau will be notified of the terms of the deal "as soon as practicable."

“It's unusual as the buyers don't appear to have any background in the casino or junket industry.”

BEN LEE
MANAGING PARTNER OF IGAMIX

What is known is that the deal will see SJM will pay a service fee to Hong Hock of about 15 percent of gross gaming income in exchange for the operational expenses of running the casino. Moreover, "Hong Hock will be entitled to receive 0.5 percent of total monthly gross gaming income generated from the Gaming Tables," to be paid by New Macau Landmark.

In addition, agreements with existing gaming promoters will be shortly terminated, except for Neptune VIP Room.

A document containing more information on the disposal, as required under the listing rules of the HKSE, is expected to be circulated to shareholders on or before November 30.

Grand Prix event kicks off with car and motorcycle show

THE 64th Macau Grand Prix was officially opened on Saturday with the regular Car and Motorcycle Show held at Tap Seac Square in central Macau.

The event, the first of many events scheduled at and away from the track for the Grand Prix, is also an opportunity for the many fans to get up close

and personal with some of the machines that will race the Guia circuit from November 16 to 19. There is also a "meet and greet" opportunity with the men driving and riding them.

Over the weekend, several of the GT category sports cars that will run in the FIA GT World Cup – as well as the 28 motorcycles racing in the 51st

Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix – were on display for the enjoyment of passers-by.

In the center of the square, the number 29 Dallara-Volkswagen from Carlin Motorsports – driven by Portuguese driver António Félix da Costa to last year's title in the FIA F3 World Cup – was also on display.

In addition, several of the official cars that will be in operation during the Grand Prix to ensure safety and prompt reaction to accidents were on display. Many of the riders competing in the Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix met fans and posed for pictures with their motorcycles. Among them was the



winner of the last two editions, Peter Hickman, eight-time winner Michael Rutter, and many others.

The show also included a pre-registration booth

for the newly-launched Macau Grand Prix Club, a pop-up store with GP merchandise created by Macau designers, and family-friendly games. **RM**

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Traffic accident sends 18 tourists to hospital

EIGHTEEN tourists were sent to hospital on Saturday following a traffic accident between their tour bus and a van.

The accident occurred in the Avenida Dr Sun Yat-Sen near the Macau Fisherman's Wharf. Preliminary information points to the collision occurring due to the bus trying to avoid a pedestrian who was crossing the street.

Eighteen out of the 40 tourists from mainland China – 17 women and one man, aged between 25 and 68 years old – were sent to the emergency ward of the Hospital Conde de São Januário to receive treatment for minor injuries, mostly bruises.

The Health Bureau stated that only one woman was sent for an X-Ray of her skull,

with no problems detected, and that she also had a cut on one of her arms. The woman has been safely discharged from the hospital.

This is not the first time in Macau that tour buses have been involved in road collisions that led to hospitalization. The most serious incident to date occurred in August 2016 when 32 tourists from the mainland were injured, with three of them in serious condition, after their tour bus crashed into a building on Rua da Entena.

Concerns regarding tour bus safety in that area have been addressed by recent measures from the government, forbidding such vehicles to be driven in some old areas of the city.

Non-resident population decreases slightly

THE region's total population was 648,500 by the end of September, up by 100 quarter-to-quarter, according to information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). Non-resident workers totaled 176,666 at the end of the third quarter, a decrease of 2,028 over the previous quarter.

In the third quarter of 2017, Chinese immigrants (1,274) and individuals granted the right of abode (387) rose by 498 and 5, respectively, on a quarter-to-quarter basis.

Meanwhile, the bureau indicated that the female population (343,400) accounted for 53 percent of the total.

813 cases of marriage registration were recorded



in the third quarter, down by 120 quarter-to-quarter. In the first three quarters of 2017, there were 2,840 cases of marriage registration, down by 72 year-on-year.

1,690 live births were delivered in the third quarter of 2017, up by 94 quarter-to-quarter.

Male babies totaled 900 and the sex ratio at birth stood at 113.9, corresponding to 113.9 male babies per 100 female babies.

In the first three quarters of 2017, the number of live births dropped by 343 year-on-year to 4,846.

Mortality totaled 529,

an increase of 7 quarter-to-quarter. The top three underlying causes of death were neoplasms (162), diseases of the circulatory system (118) and diseases of the respiratory system (113).

In the first three quarters of 2017, mortality dropped by 152 year-on-year to 1,558.

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Momota and Yanyan win badminton singles

Japan's Kento Momota won the 2017 Macau Open men's singles title at the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion yesterday, defeating Ihsan Maulana Mustofa of Indonesia. The unseeded Momota took 41 minutes to beat 14th-seeded Mustofa 21-16, 21-10. Momota currently stands at number 74 in the Badminton World Federation rankings. Yesterday's Open was the first time the two players had faced off in Macau, with Momota now leading the head-to-head 2-0 after defeating Mustofa at last year's Hyderabad Badminton Asia Team Championships. In the women's singles final, which featured two first-timers in the competition, China's Cai Yanyan won over Taipei's Pai Yu Po 21-15, 17-21, 21-16 after over an hour on the court. The women's doubles competition was won by China's Yaqiong Huang and Xiaohan Yu, while the men's doubles was won by Indonesia's Pangkaryanira and Santoso. The mixed doubles tournament was won by the Chinese pair Yaqiong Huang and Siwei Zheng.

Chau Wai Kuong to retire in December

The director of the Judiciary Police (PJ), Chau Wai Kuong, announced last week that he will retire in December, by which time he will have served society for 41 years. The outgoing PJ Director said that he has no regrets about his work. Regarding whether he had recommended a successor, Chau claimed to have left that decision to his superior. Chau joined the Public Security Police Force in 1984 and started serving on the Judiciary Police in 1988. He was appointed as the Deputy Director of PJ in 2010 and subsequently Director of PJ in 2014.

Court rejects police officer's appeal to resume job

A former chief police officer of the Judiciary Police (PJ) appealed to the Court of Final Appeal to get his job back after being fired by the PJ in July. The officer was terminated after PJ discovered he had defrauded 320 mainlanders who thought he could get them a job in Macau. In total, the former police officer obtained 1.5 million RMB from the victims. The former officer stated that he needed the job back because four people, including his children and both parents, depend on him financially.

HKFA to face penalty if fans continue booing China anthem

THE Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) may face disciplinary action from the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) – which represents football authority FIFA in Asia – if Hong Kong fans continue to disrespect the playing of China's national anthem.

As the Times reported, disrespect was again shown ahead of last Thursday evening's friendly match with Bahrain in Mong Kok Stadium. On Tuesday evening, the Hong Kong side will meet Lebanon in another Group B qualifying match for the 2019 AFC Asian Cup.

According to sports website ESPN FC, the AFC has already issued a warning to the HKFA and will impose sanctions if disgruntled football fans continue to disrespect the law.

According to the same source, no action was taken by the AFC as a result of the Thursday match "as [the match] was not part of an official competition," but the regional body issued a warning last month after fans voiced their discontent at the anthem being played before their AFC Asian Cup



Fans cover their faces and boo the Chinese national anthem before the friendly match against Bahrain

qualifying win over Malaysia. The same source said the Thursday match was attended by some plainclothes police officers, information of which HKFA said it was not aware.

"We were not informed about [police] action," HKFA chairman Brian Leung told the South China Morning Post, adding that he expects the situation to come under control.

"We did not hear too much of booing when the national anthem was played [this time] and we do hope the fans continue to come to support the Hong Kong

team. This should be their primary objective," Leung said.

Following the Occupy Central events, several groups discontent with the return of Hong Kong to Chinese rule in July 1997, have used sports events, mostly football, to voice their dissatisfaction with how the central government in Beijing is interfering with the governance of the two Special Administrative Regions, the second of which is Macau.

The Hong Kong football association fears that the Hong Kong team, which plays in FIFA and AFC competitions, will be hit

with sanctions despite having been granted sporting autonomy for 50 years following the handover.

The team is currently attempting to qualify for the AFC Asian Cup finals, which has not happened since 1968.

Hong Kong currently occupies third place in the four-team group with five points in four matches, the same number of points as North Korea (in second). Lebanon leads the group with 10 points in four matches and has already been granted qualification to the finals.

EDUCATION

UM holds graduation ceremony with more than 1,000 postgraduates

THE University of Macau (UM) held the Ceremony for the Conferment of Honorary and Higher Degrees 2017 on Saturday, awarding graduation certificates to 1,008 graduates of PhD, master's, and postgraduate diploma and certificate programs.

Lam Kam Sen, chair of UM's University Council and representative of the UM chancellor, said that a university's mission is to nurture talented people for society.

UM Rector Wei Zhao said that all universities share the same goal: to provide the best edu-

cation for outstanding young people in the local community. In this regard, the rector expressed that UM has the obligation to do just the same: "nurturing outstanding graduates to be future leaders."

"A university is an institution developed to instill virtue and integrity while engaged in the pursuit of excellence. In other words, it is a perpetual journey of edification in our moral system and values," the rector said.

"As such, any nation or region needs its own exemplary flagship university as the carrier of its profound historical tradition and cultural heritage. In this sense, the cultural legacy of Macau needs to be preserved and passed on by a flagship university," he added.

The rector emphasized that a university



offers a "window for the world to look into the community or region to which it belongs."

"A flagship university represents the region in terms of its scientific, technological and cultural development," he said.

He went on to say that quality research not only enhances Macau's, but is also a driving force for its socio-economic progress and overall future.

Congratulating the graduates, the rector

stated that the graduates are "important participants and contributors" and have helped the university progress in campus development and research in recent years.

Among the graduates, 136 received PhD degrees, 779 received master's degrees, and 93 received postgraduate certificates or diplomas.

In addition, scholarships were presented to 21 outstanding master's students and graduates.

HONORARY DOCTORATES CONFERRED ON THREE SPECIALISTS

THE UNIVERSITY of Macau (UM) held the Ceremony for the Conferment of Honorary and Higher Degrees 2017 on Saturday, conferring honorary doctorates upon three scholars in recognition of their achievements and significant contributions to society and education. The scholars included academic He Jingtang, a prominent figure in the Chinese school of archi-

ecture; Henry T. Yang, a structural engineering expert; and Binglin Zhong, an educationist. Together with UM Rector Wei Zhao, Lam Kam Sen, chair of UM's University Council and representative of the UM chancellor, conferred the Doctor of Science honoris causa degree on He Jingtang and Henry T. Yang, and conferred the Doctor of Education honoris causa degree on Binglin Zhong.

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Masanori Yamato (right) and Hayato Shingu (left)



Aspect of the event

Macau Food Festival highlights Japanese food

Julie Zhu

THE 17th Macau Food Festival kicked off last Friday at the Sai Van Lake Square, with the Japanese Village food area returning to Macau as one of the highlights of the popular event.

The 17-day festival, which ends November 26, invited more than 150 catering entities, including 25 from Japan.

This year offers food streets with various themes, such as Asian food, European food and desserts, among some other specialties.

This year's main attraction, Japanese food, will be available at the unique Japanese Village, where traditional Japanese performances will take place.

Masanori Yamato, vice-director of Edosan-Yamatoya Japan Yamato Group Co., Ltd. and director of the Kansai Foods Export Promotion Cooperative Association (KFEPCA), told the Times that KFEPCA had cooperated with the United Association of Food and Beverage Merchants of Macau to bring the exhibition of Japanese cuisine to Macau.

"This is our second time here. Last time was in 2014. The United Association of Food and Beverage Merchants of Macau invited us again to come," said Masanori Yamato, aided by a translator.

"All our food products are famous back in the Kansai region. We selected them from a great variety of products which are typical of Kansai," revealed Masanori Yamato, who then emphasized that "we want Macau

people to experience Japanese food and we would love to come back again."

All our food products are famous back in the Kansai region.

MASANORI YAMATO

"We transported most of the food ingredients from Japan to Macau, which is a quite difficult process [...] Now, we are shipping food from Japan every day," said Hayato Shingu, Director of the Cargo Development Group, Aviation Sales and Marketing Development of Kansai Airports.

Hayato Shingu also said that despite the difficulties of bringing food from Japan to Macau, they persisted because they want to provide the Macau public with exceptional Japanese food.

Ryoma Suminaga, Chief Operating Officer of Misawa Shoten, a Japanese vegetable and fruit supplier, brought fresh fruits from Japan to the festival. He stated that his company was invited by Macau's importers to be at the festival to provide fresh Japanese fruits to the Macau public. He also told the Times that Misawa Shoten supplies fruit to Wynn, and that the company exports about 500 kg of fruit to Macau every week.

Daisy Zhang, a tourist from Shenzhen, came to Macau specifically for the food festival.

"We have been coming to the food festival every edition for the past three years. This time we came specifically for the opening. The crowds are a lot smaller than last year, but I think it may be because it's [still] the opening. Last year, we skipped the opening day," said Zhang, adding that "today, the experience has been better, but tomorrow it might change [...] Nevertheless, the transportation around is terrible."

As she works in the tourism industry, Zhang learnt about the festival from several sources.

"There is a great variety of food, with food from all kinds of places. I have a friend who loves Japanese food. However, when she arrived here, she was a little bit disappointed because the variety of Japanese food was not as diverse as she had imagined." When asked about the festival's prices and hygiene, Zhang had mostly good things to say.

"The prices are very reasonable. I think the Japanese food might be slightly above average in terms of prices. The hygiene is also fine. You can hear them announcing hygiene tips and suggestions through the speakers, mainly for people to not throw out trash indiscriminately."

"We have been coming every year also because we are quite fond of the festival and we want see what differences were implemented between consecutive editions," she continued.

When discussing possible improvements, Zhang suggested that "there could be shuttle buses at the ferry terminal, which might be a bit more convenient for tourists."

"The transportation should be better. I noticed that there are no instructions at the bus terminal. The festival is at night, it's dark, and people are just crossing the streets [from the bus terminal straight to the festival]. I hope the [logistics] can be upgraded," said Zhang.

RUGBY

Macau Bats youth teams score several decisive victories

OVER 100 players and supporters from the Macau Bats Rugby Club journeyed to King's Park in Hong Kong on November 5 to participate in the first rugby festival of the 2017/18 season, where local teams made a strong impression by claiming several decisive victories.

A total of six teams were fielded by the local club, with age groups encompassing teams from under-7s up to under-16s.

The first team to play were the under-16s, who

joined forces with the Flying Kukris club from Hong Kong to compete against a strong Valley Fort team. According to a statement from the Macau Bats, the combined local-Hong Kong team established an early lead of 14-5 by half-time, and continued the offensive to a 35-17 win.

The under-7s team also made their competitive debut, winning one game, drawing another and losing two. The team faced off against Shatin She Pei

(3-5), the Police Club (2-2) and Flying Kukris (2-3) before beating Discovery Bay (5-2) in what the Bats described as a "highly merited" win.

Meanwhile, the under-9s team, playing their first contact rugby tournament, returned to Macau undefeated, securing three wins against Valley Fort (8-0), the Tsuen Wan Rhinos (5-3) and Hong Kong FC (8-0), followed by a 4-4 draw against Flying Kukris.

The under-12s team

competed in the Richard Hawkes Cup at the Happy Valley ground, participating in four close games. They were on the wrong end of two 1-2 defeats against Sandy Bay and the USRC Tigers, also playing out a 2-3 defeat against Flying Kukris and a 1-1 draw with Hong Kong FC.

As for the other age groups, the under-8s came away with two wins and two narrow losses from their games, while the under-10s team recorded a perfect four wins



from four games to "end the tournament on a high for the club," Macau Bats said.

The Macau Bats under-16s team will play the Hong Kong Barbarians

on November 12, and the under-12s will host Harrow International School to play for the Pipistrelle Cup on November 18 at The International School's pitch in Taipa.



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Houston Court, B Unit

(Ref: 17090657)

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Situated in the heart of Coloane village. The apartment has a modern open plan kitchen, dining and living area. Great size double master bedroom with en suite shower room and masses of storage. Simply furnished throughout with stylish furniture. The kitchen comes fully fitted with good quality built in appliances

FOR SALE



Va Nam, Taipa Village

(Ref: 17085531)

680 sq.ft. HKD 4.42M

Rate: HKD 6,500

Top floor apartment Taipa Village. Fully renovated 4 years ago from a small two bedroom property to a large one bedroom. The bedroom has ample space for king bed and lots of storage, two fabulous windows giving lots of natural light into the room. Lovely shower room with walk in shower



Coloane Village (Investment Property) - Coloane

(Ref: 16095490)

664 sq.ft. HKD 4.252M

Rate: HKD 6,404

Located in the quiet village of Coloane. Renovated 3 years ago this apartment needs no further investment. 2 bedrooms; a double & single size. Shower room with built in cabinets. Fully fitted kitchen. Open views. Close to Coloane bus stop, village square, cafes



The Landmark

(Ref: 17095535)

3,543 sq.ft. HKD 38M

Rate: HKD 16,409

This 3,500 sqft property at the Landmark lives up to its name by combining urban residential comfort with just the right amount of dazzle. The L-shaped kitchen does not disappoint, with stylish appliances, built-in Brandt ovens and an island table.



Mandarin Residences Serviced Duplex

(Ref: 17065522)

3,487 sq.ft. HKD 88M

Rate: HKD 25,236

The property comes tastefully designed with elegant, high-grade furnishing and floor-to-ceiling windows that provides a breath-taking panoramic view of the sea and Macau. The modern galley kitchen on the first floor comes fully-fitted with high-grade



Old Taipa, Nam Long (I Unit)

(Ref: 16095500)

515 sq.ft. HKD 3.8M

Rate: HKD 7,378

Unique property located at the beginning of old Taipa village. A great investment property which was renovated in 2015, making the original two small bedrooms into one spacious bright room bedroom. The kitchen has also been opened up and is now just off the living area, giving the apartment a lofty feeling. The kitchen is small however well equipped with most appliances built in.



Hellene Gardens, Lot IV, Unit B, Carnation Court, Coloane

(Ref: 17025509)

1,663 sq.ft. HKD 8.3M

Rate: HKD 4,990

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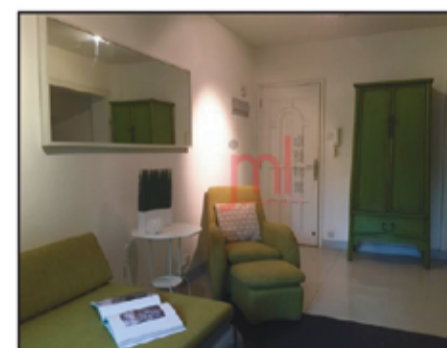
Nam Long, Taipa Village

(Ref: 17085534)

691 sq.ft. HKD 4.485M

Rate: HKD 6,490

Lovely apartment on the second floor of a three storey building in Taipa Village. Renovated 10 years ago from a two bedroom property to a great size one bedroom apartment, well maintained and managed by JML of the last ten years, historical maintenance data available on request. The bedroom has ample space for double bed and plenty of storage.



Va Fat, Taipa Village

(Ref: 17085533)

638 sq.ft. HKD 4.25M

Rate: HKD 6,661

Lovely apartment on the third floor of a five storey building in Taipa Village. Renovated 3 years ago the apartment has two good size bedrooms and separate walk in shower room. The apartment has been well maintained and managed by JML of the last eight years, historical maintenance data available on request. The main bedroom has ample space for double bed and plenty of storage.

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Aya Batrawy, Jon Gambrell

Dubai Air Show opens with Emirates' USD15.1b Boeing buy

THE biennial Dubai Air Show opened yesterday with hometown long-haul carrier Emirates making a USD15.1 billion buy of American-made Boeing 787-10 Dreamliners, as the world's biggest defense companies promoted their weapons amid heightened tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Other airlines also are taking part, but missing from the trade show this year is one of the region's largest long-haul carriers, Qatar Airways, amid diplomatic fallout between Qatar and four Arab nations.

The Boeing announcement came after over an hour and a half of delays by Emirates amid rumors of a possible Airbus sale involving its A380 aircraft, a major workhorse for the airline. Journalists asked Emirates CEO and Chairman Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum about Boeing's European competitor Airbus, specifically its A350.

"We were comparing the two apples," he said, but found that the Boeing 787 is "the best option" for Emirates "given its maintenance and so on."

The Boeing 787-10 typically lists for \$312.8 million. Delivery will begin in 2022.

Chicago-based Boeing Co. already has 171 787-10s on order. Among those waiting for the aircraft are Abu Dhabi-based Etihad. Boeing builds the 787 at its plant in North Charleston, South Carolina, which U.S. President Donald Trump visited in February.

Last week, the U.S. plane manufacturer secured an order valued at more than \$37 billion



Emirates president Tim Clark points out the image of new, state-of-the-art, first class private suites, during a press conference at the opening day of the Dubai Air Show

at list price for 300 of its single-aisle and double-aisle planes during Trump's visit to China. Trump also was present for the signing ceremony last month between Boeing and Singapore Airlines for 39 new aircraft, including 19 of the 787 Dreamliner, in a deal worth up to \$14 billion.

Sheikh Ahmed made a point to say the deal will help create more jobs, long a mantra of Trump. The deal was signed in the presence of Dubai's ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who also serves as the United Arab Emirates' prime

minister and vice president. "The order will take Emirates' total [number of] wide body aircraft of the Boeing to 204 aircrafts, units worth over \$90 billion," Sheikh Ahmed said. "This is a long-term commitment that supports hundreds of thousands of jobs, not only at Boeing but also throughout the aviation supply chain."

The airline's business has suffered under Trump's travel bans affecting predominantly Muslim nations, as well as the recent ban on laptops in airplane cabins. Emirates said it slashed 20 percent of its flights to the U.S.

in the wake of the restrictions. That's in turn hurt Dubai International Airport, the home of Emirates and the world's busiest international travel hub.

Emirates is the world's largest Boeing 777 operator, with 165 in service today

The air show comes as the Qatar dispute is now in its fifth month with no resolution in sight. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain cut ties with Qatar in June over its ties with Iran and its support of Islamist groups, accusing the small Gulf state of supporting extremists, charges it denies. The Arab quartet cut direct flights with Qatar and closed their airspace to Qatari aircraft.

Qatar Airways previously had played a big role in the Dubai Air Show, reserving a large pavilion and displaying its latest aircraft to visitors.

At the start of the air show, Dubai-based Emirates, the Middle East's largest carrier, unveiled new, state-of-the-art, first class private suites.

In an industry first, passenger suites in the middle aisle without windows will be fitted with "virtual windows" relaying the sky outside via fiber optic cameras on the plane. There's also a video call feature in the suites that connects passengers to the cabin crew, as well as temperature control and various mood lighting settings.

Emirates President Tim Clark declined to say how much a ticket in the 40 square-foot (3.7-square-meter) private suite will cost. The private suites will be available on the airline's Boeing 777.

In previous years, major Mideast carriers have flexed their spending power at the Dubai Air Show, including \$140 billion in new orders announced in 2013 before the collapse of oil prices. Prices have rebounded recently to around \$60 a barrel.

Regional tensions have spiked further since Lebanon's Prime Minister Saad Hariri announced his resignation last week in a pre-recorded video on a Saudi television station from Saudi Arabia. His surprise resignation has raised questions about whether the kingdom forced Hariri to resign in order to wreck the government and pressure the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group.

Saudi Arabia also has tightened its blockade on Yemen after Iranian-allied rebels there launched a missile at the Saudi capital, Riyadh, last week. The Saudi-led war in Yemen, which began in March 2015, has killed at least 10,000 civilians and pushed millions to the brink of famine. The United Nations and aid groups warn that the blockade could bring millions of people closer to "starvation and death." AP

VietJet may buy 787s or A350s as airline weighs US route

VIETJET Aviation JSC plans to expand its fleet to include wide-body jets as the Vietnamese low-cost carrier considers California as its first U.S. destination starting about 2019.

Vietnam's biggest private airline would use the larger aircraft to begin the route after the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration grants Vietnam airlines permission to fly to America, said Nguyen Thi Phuong Thao, VietJet's founder and chief executive officer. The first flights could link the Southeast Asian nation with the Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport, located near a large Vietnamese community, and would also be close enough to serve

San Francisco, she said. "We aim to expand international flights in the next few years" Thao said in an interview. "We want to make international flights 60 percent of our total flights. We are also studying the possibility of using widebody planes for long-haul flights when market conditions are favorable."

VietJet, known for a publicity stunt involving bikini-clad flight attendants, is expanding rapidly as it goes head on with Vietnam Airlines Corp. for a larger slice of an air-passenger market that the International Air Transport Association estimates will be among the world's five fastest-growing in the next 20 years. Vietnam Air CEO

Duong Tri Thanh said this week the state-controlled carrier is considering a route to Los Angeles by late 2019 or early 2020.

VietJet - which currently operates only single-aisle planes - yesterday signed a USD600 million deal to acquire Pratt & Whitney engines to outfit 10 narrowbody jets during a ceremony with U.S. President Donald Trump in Hanoi. Trump visited the nation's capital after attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders' meeting in Da-nang.

The latest deal is separate from a \$3.6 billion contract signed earlier this year for 215 engines.

The budget airline's international capacity has soared by more than 150

percent in the past year, said Brendan Sobie, a Singapore-based analyst at CAPA Centre for Aviation.

"The domestic market has had this great growth in the last five years, tripling in size, but there is a limit to that," he said. "A lot of these people who have become first-time fliers in the last five years will be able to travel overseas as they build discretionary income."

The carrier has ordered 230 Airbus SE and Boeing aircraft since 2014. VietJet and national carrier Vietnam Airlines each had a 42 percent share of the domestic aviation market last year, though VietJet's 2017 share is probably less as it focuses on overseas expansion,



Sobie said.

Last year, the budget carrier ordered 100 Boeing 737 Max 200 aircraft with a list price of \$11.3 billion. It agreed to buy 30 A320neos valued at \$3.6 billion in 2015, adding to an order for as many as 100 Airbus planes a year earlier. VietJet, which began operations in December of 2011, expects to serve 17 million passengers this year, after carrying about 15 million travelers last year.

The carrier expects its 2017 profit to rise 10 percent from its target for the year, according to Thao.

VietJet's international expansion has focused entirely on Asia, with more than 400 weekly overseas flights scheduled by the end of this year, up from just 130 a year ago in October, Sobie said. Flying to the U.S. will be a much tougher challenge for VietJet as it goes up against entrenched carriers, Sobie said. **Bloomberg**

CHINESE consumers have spent billions of dollars shopping online for anything from diapers to diamonds on "Singles Day," a day of promotions that has grown into the world's biggest e-commerce event.

China's largest e-commerce giant, Alibaba Group, said Sunday sales by the thousands of retailers on its platforms for the 24-hour period on Saturday amounted to 168.3 billion yuan (USD25.3 billion), setting a new record for the company. It was 39 percent more than sales clocked last year on Alibaba's platforms of 120.7 billion yuan.

By comparison, American shoppers last year spent more than \$5 billion shopping online on Thanksgiving Day and Black Friday, according to Adobe, which tracks such data. Shoppers also spent \$3.39 billion on Cyber Monday last year, the largest single online shopping day in the U.S., Adobe said.

In China, Alibaba's main rival, online retailer JD.com, did not provide a sales figure only for Saturday but said cumulative sales over the 11-day period starting on Nov. 1 through Saturday totaled 127 billion yuan (\$19 billion).

Starting at midnight Friday, diamonds, Chilean frozen salmon, tires, diapers, beer,

Chinese spend billions shopping online on 'Singles Day'



Workers monitor laptops at the command center for Chinese e-commerce giant JD.com during "Singles Day" in Beijing

shoes, handbags, and appliances were shipped out from JD.com's distribution centers on trucks bound for deliveries

across China.

China is already the world's largest e-commerce market and the share of online shopping

that makes up all consumer spending grows every year. Boston Consulting Group forecasts online spending will

rise by 20 percent a year, hitting \$1.6 trillion by 2020, compared with 6 percent growth for off-line retail.

Singles Day was begun by Chinese college students in the 1990s as a version of Valentine's Day for people without romantic partners.

Zhang Jingjing, a 30-year-old clerk for an engineering company, prepared for Singles Day by building a shopping list on Alibaba's retail platform Tmall and watching for when prices dip. She then clicks and snags a long-sought item at a discount.

"I have often emptied my 'shopping cart' on Singles Day," Zheng said. "I have been watching those goods for a long time and know very well their original prices."

The spending gives a boost to the ruling Communist Party's efforts to nurture consumer-based economic growth and reduce reliance on trade and investment. China has 731 million internet users, up 6 percent from 2016, according to government statistics. **AP**

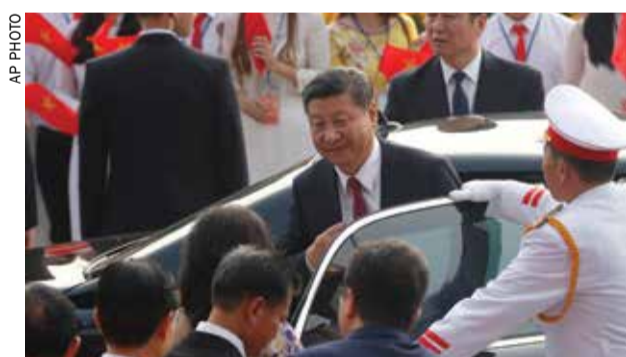
Xi Jinping makes state visit to Vietnam

VIENTNAM gave Chinese President Xi Jinping the red carpet treatment yesterday at the start of a state visit, as the two communist neighbors try to broaden their economic ties and work on resolving territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

Xi and Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party, reviewed an honor guard and headed for talks behind closed doors. It was Xi's first overseas trip since consolidating his power at a party congress last month.

Xi and U.S. President Donald Trump, among others, just finished an Asia-Pacific economic summit in the Vietnamese coastal city of Danang. Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang said that his country wants to end disputes in the South China Sea through peaceful means.

"It's our policy to settle



Xi Jinping (center) arrives for the inauguration ceremony of Chinese sponsored Vietnam-China Cultural Friendship Palace

disputes in the East Sea through peaceful negotiations and with respect for diplomatic and legal process in accordance with international law, including the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea," he said, referring to the South China Sea.

Quang made the comments during a joint news conference with Trump. Trump had offered earlier yesterday with Quang to serve as a mediator on the South China Sea disputes.

Vietnam and China,

along with four other governments, claim all or parts of the South China Sea, which is believed to sit atop rich natural resources and occupies one of the world's busiest sea lanes.

China in recent years has built artificial islands and increased its militarization there, drawing criticism from Washington, which argues that the U.S. has a national interest in freedom of navigation in sea lanes critical for world trade.

Vietnam has become the most vocal opponent

of China's moves after Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte softened his country's stance on China.

Tran Viet Thai of the Vietnam Diplomatic Academy said Xi's visit is important to build mutual trust.

"The visit marks a new step forward in Vietnam-China relations," he said. "Hopefully the relations will continue to stabilize, because the two sides currently share great interests in broadening their cooperation and maintaining stability."

Bilateral relations plunged to their lowest level in years when China in 2014 parked a giant oil rig in an area claimed by Vietnam. The incident sparked deadly anti-China protests for several weeks.

The two communist neighbors have in recent months experienced spats over the South China Sea. In July, Vietnam had to suspend an oil and gas exploration project conducted by Spain's Repsol company, under apparent pressure from China. In September, Vietnam protested live-fire drills by China near the Paracel islands. **AP**

Hong Kong, Southeast Asian nations sign free-trade pact

HONG Kong signed a free-trade agreement and an investment deal yesterday with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in pacts that it said are a vote against protectionism elsewhere.

ASEAN officials said the free-trade agreement they signed with Hong Kong in Manila is the sixth such deal forged by the 10-nation bloc after concluding similar pacts with China, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand.

The Philippines is hosting an annual summit of ASEAN heads of state with Asian and Western leaders that opens Monday.

Hong Kong Commerce Secretary Edward Yau Tang-wah said the new free-trade accord is "a loud and clear vote from all of us here for freer and more

open trade" amid protectionist tendencies in other parts of the world.

He said ASEAN is Hong Kong's second-largest merchandise trading partner and fourth-largest partner in services trade "but the best is yet to come," with the agreements expected to fuel new investment opportunities and boost trade flows.

Philippine Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez, this year's chairman of the ASEAN Economic Ministers, said the signing of the two agreements marks the commitment toward shared prosperity and inclusive growth in the region.

"We send a strong message to the world of our outward oriented drive and economic resolve toward cooperation," he said. **AP**

Where Cambodian leader sees US plots, others see US inaction

Matthew Pennington, Washington

CAMBODIA'S leader is destroying a political opposition movement that threatens his three-decade grip on power and he's accusing America of plotting his downfall. An influential opposition figure is in Washington wondering if she'll get any help at all.

Prime Minister Hun Sen talks about nefarious U.S. designs to unseat him, but the United States rejects that claim as baseless and experts say his attacks are driven by a fear of losing elections next year.

Opposition leader Kem Sokha is imprisoned and his party seems likely to be dissolved this week by Cambodia's highest court. His daughter, a spokeswoman for the Cambodia National Rescue Party, is urging President Donald Trump's administration to act quickly and try to salvage democracy in the Southeast Asian nation.

"Hun Sen thinks the world is not paying attention and that nobody is prepared to do anything about it," said Monovithya Kem, who wants the United States to impose sanctions on Cambodian officials complicit in the crackdown.

Monovithya said about 20 lawmakers, out of the party's 55 in the 123-member National Assembly, have fled Cambodia since Kem Sokha was arrested Sept. 3 and charged with treason, which carries a sentence of up to 30 years in prison. Monovithya and her sister also fled, fearing arrest. The government accuses them of conspiring with the CIA.

It's not unusual for Cambodian politicians to demonize the U.S. There's fertile history to draw on.

U.S. secret bombing during the Vietnam War is often blamed



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen arrives at Clark International Airport, north of Manila

for the rise of the Khmer Rouge, whose late 1970s genocidal rule killed one-quarter of the Cambodian population. After a Vietnamese invasion toppled the Khmer Rouge, the U.S. voted for a coalition including the former rulers to retain Cambodia's U.N. seat instead of giving it to the Vietnam-backed government.

Since Cambodia emerged from civil war in the 1990s, however, the U.S. has been a more benign presence. Since 1991, it has provided USD1.8 billion in aid for development and democracy promotion and \$60 million in military assistance, U.S. government data show. Hun Sen's eldest son was even educated at West Point.

But in recent years, the Cambodian leader's relationship with Washington has become increasingly acrimonious. In that time, Cambodia's reliance on nearby China, which avoids criticizing others' human rights records, has intensified.

"U.S. influence in Cambodia is at an all-time low," said John Sifton, Asia advocacy director for Human Rights Watch in Washington.

It's not unusual for Cambodian politicians to demonize the U.S. There's fertile history to draw on.

He said the U.S. retains some power and leverage, particularly through voting rights at the World Bank and Asian Development Bank that provide aid for the impoverished country. America also is a big market for Cambodian textiles. Still, U.S. officials aren't sure they can

change Hun Sen's calculus.

"Authoritarians don't give up power easily," Sifton said. "He still has China. He still has Vietnam. He still has ASEAN members who will stand beside him." There are 10 members in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, whose leaders Trump met at a summit in the Philippines yesterday.

Through 32 years in power, Hun Sen has mastered how to sideline political opponents. In 1997, he ousted a co-prime minister in a bloody coup. In recent years, he's used Cambodia's pliant judicial system.

To avoid international reprisals, he's often struck last-minute political compromises. He allowed former opposition leader Sam Rainsy to contest the last national elections in 2013 when Hun Sen narrowly retained power in a flawed vote. Rainsy now lives in exile.

As Hun Sen now looks ahead to a July vote, he's mounting perhaps

his biggest assault on Cambodian democracy since the coup. The government filed a lawsuit with the Supreme Court for the opposition party to be dissolved, alleging it conspired to topple his administration. The court is due to rule on Thursday.

Hun Sen said last week he was willing to wager 100-to-1 that the party will be dissolved.

Speaking to The Associated Press, government spokesman Phay Siphon claimed to have evidence proving American agents have conspired with the opposition. The government has previously publicized a video clip showing Kem Sokha giving a speech in which he describes a grass-roots political strategy to challenge Hun Sen with U.S. support.

U.S. Ambassador William Heidt has dismissed the allegation as "intentionally inaccurate, misleading and baseless."

Heidt was summoned to Washington this past week for consultations amid calls from U.S. lawmakers for visa bans and possible financial sanctions on Cambodian officials involved in the crackdown. It's a course supported by Human Rights Watch and other activists.

Cambodia's government also has targeted civil society and media, shuttering radio stations with programming from U.S.-funded Radio Free Asia and Voice of America. The National Democratic Institute, which helped train political parties and election monitors, was kicked out of the country.

Convicting Kem Sokha and dissolving his party would set back the relationship between Washington and Phnom Penh further. But it's unclear whether that would be the step leading to American sanctions.

The fence-sitting frustrates Monovithya Kem as she lobbies for U.S. action now, not after a court ruling that dismantles the opposition.

If the party is dissolved, she said, "there is absolutely no way the elections next year will be free and fair." AP

INDONESIA

Museum removes Hitler display after protests

Stephen Wright, Jakarta

AN Indonesian visual effects museum that encouraged visitors to take selfies with a waxwork of Hitler against a giant image of the Auschwitz extermination camp has removed the exhibit after protests.

The De Mata Trick Eye Museum's marketing officer said the statue was removed Friday night following an Associated Press story highlighting

outrage from Jewish and rights groups.

Human Rights Watch had denounced the exhibit as "sickening" and the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, which campaigns against Holocaust denial and anti-Semitism, had demanded its immediate removal.

The museum, which has waxworks of about 80 famous people, had the Hitler figure on display since 2014.

It initially defended the

exhibit as "fun" and said it was one of the most popular waxworks with visitors to the infotainment-style museum in the central Java city of Yogyakarta.

On Sunday, the space at the museum occupied by Hitler was empty and the image of Auschwitz, where more than 1 million people were exterminated by the Nazi regime, was gone.

It was not the first time Nazism and its symbols have been normalized or even idealized in Indo-

nesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation and home to a tiny Jewish community.

A Nazi-themed cafe in the city of Bandung where waiters wore SS uniforms caused anger abroad for several years until reportedly closing its doors at the beginning of this year.

In 2014, a music video made by Indonesian pop stars as a tribute to presidential candidate Prabowo Subianto stirred outrage with its Nazi overtones.



A visitor walks past the wax figure of Adolf Hitler displayed against the backdrop of an image of Nazi Death Camp Auschwitz-Birkenau next to Star Wars character Darth Vader (right)

Pacific trade deal closer but leaders won't endorse it yet

Tran Van Minh, Elaine Kurtenbach

TRADER ministers from 11 Pacific Rim countries said they reached an agreement Saturday to proceed with the free-trade Trans-Pacific Partnership deal that was in doubt after President Donald Trump abandoned it. However, an immediate formal endorsement by the countries' leaders meeting in Vietnam appeared unlikely.

A statement issued in the early hours Saturday said an accord was reached on "core elements" of the 11-member pact. The compromise was delayed by last-minute disagreements that prevented the TPP leaders from meeting to endorse a plan on Friday.

"Ministers are pleased to announce that they have agreed on the core elements of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership," the 11 nations said in a statement.

A news conference was scheduled for later Saturday morning Vietnam time.

Japan's delegate to the talks, Economy Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, told reporters that disagreements that cropped up Friday had been resolved in five hours of talks that stretched late into the night.

"We have confirmed there was no mistake about us having reached a basic agreement," Motegi said.

Asked by reporters if the deal had the support of Canada, whose Prime Minister Justin Trudeau did not show up for the meeting planned for Friday, Motegi said "yes."

"Canada did agree, and that means the 'top' also agreed," he said. Japanese media reported that the Japanese and Vietnamese co-chairs of the minis-



Several heads of state attend the APEC-ASEAN dialogue, on the sidelines of the APEC summit

terial meetings would hold a news conference Saturday on the sidelines of the summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, which wraps up later Saturday.

Canada's Minister for International Commerce Francois-P Champagne said in a tweet Saturday that "after lots of work, big progress was made on the 'Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership.'"

Trudeau said days earlier that Canada would not be rushed into an agreement.

New Zealand's Trade Minister David Parker told reporters that leaders who gathered for Friday's meeting expecting a final report on the talks were surprised by Trudeau's absence. Late Thursday, there had been "no distance between the parties," he said.

Despite enthusiasm for sticking with the plan following the U.S. withdrawal under Trump in January, criticism over various issues persists. Detractors

of the TPP say it favors corporate interests over labor and other rights. Trudeau said days before arriving in Danang that he would not be rushed into signing an agreement that did not suit Canada's interests.

■ The TPP member countries are trying to find a way forward without the US

Aspects of the trade pact have raised hackles also over a requirement that companies be allowed to sue governments for lack of enforcement of related laws.

The proposed basic agreement reached in Danang said that the ministers maintained "the high standards, overall balance and

integrity of the TPP while ensuring the commercial and other interests of all participants and preserving our inherent right to regulate, including the flexibility of the parties to set legislative and regulatory priorities."

The TPP member countries are trying to find a way forward without the U.S., the biggest economy and, before Trump took office, one of its most assertive supporters. Trump has said he prefers country-to-country deals and is seeking to renegotiate several major trade agreements to, as he says, "put America first."

Trump reiterated his markedly different stance on trade before the 21-member APEC summit convened late Friday with a gala banquet.

The U.S. president told an APEC business conference that "we are not going to let the United States be taken advantage of anymore." He lambasted the World Trade Organization and other trade forums as unfair to the United States and reiterated

his preference for bilateral trade deals, saying "I am always going to put America first."

Trump said he would not enter into large trade agreements, alluding to U.S. involvement in the North American Free Trade Agreement and the TPP.

In contrast, Chinese President Xi Jinping told the same group that nations need to stay committed to economic openness or risk being left behind.

The Chinese president drew loud applause when he urged support for the "multilateral trading regime" and progress toward a free-trade zone in the Asia-Pacific. China is not part of the TPP.

APEC operates by consensus and customarily issues nonbinding statements. TPP commitments would eventually be ratified and enforced by its members.

But even talks this week on a declaration to cap the APEC summit had to be extended for an extra half day as ministers haggled over wording. It's unclear what the exact sticking points were, but officials have alluded to differences over the unequal impact more open trade has had on workers and concerns over automation in manufacturing that could leave many millions in a wide array of industries with no work to do.

As a developing country with a fast-growing export sector, this year's host country, Vietnam, has a strong interest in open trade and access for its exports to consumers in the West. The summit is an occasion for its leaders to showcase the progress its economy has made thanks largely to foreign investment and trade. Danang, Vietnam's third largest city, is in the midst of a construction boom as dozens of resorts and smaller hotels pop up along its scenic coastline.

APEC's members are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the U.S. and Vietnam. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

Lawmaker resigns as dual-citizenship fiasco widens

ONE of Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's lawmakers resigned from parliament, saying he may be a dual citizen, leaving the government at least temporarily in minority status.

John Alexander, speaking to reporters, said it's possible he also holds British citizenship through his father. "Therefore it is my obligation that I must resign," the 66-year-old said in Sydney on Sa-

turday.

The citizenship scandal has already claimed five lawmakers, including former Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce, with the High Court ruling last month they were ineligible to sit in parliament. Joyce had been the only lower house lawmaker caught up in the affair, and the court ruling cost the prime minister his one-seat majority.

Joyce, who has since re-

nounced his New Zealand citizenship, is seeking to regain his seat in a special election on Dec. 2, which he's expected to win. Alexander confirmed he intends to recontest his seat of Bennelong, and there's a good chance of reclaiming it as he won with a 9.7 percent margin last year.

Turnbull, speaking from Vietnam after the announcement, rejected suggestions a general election

should be held, and said Alexander had done the right thing. "As I've said publicly and privately, if members believe that they are ineligible to sit in the parliament, they shouldn't sit in the parliament," he said.

Independent lawmakers have agreed to support the government so it remains in office. Still, the issue appears set to drag on into 2018 amid questions about the origins of sev-

eral other lawmakers - distracting the government and potentially stalling its legislative agenda, including company tax cuts.

The Liberals' leader in the Senate, Stephen Parry, quit parliament on Nov. 1 after it was confirmed he was a British citizen. Two independent senators, Rebekha Sharkie and Jacqui Lambie, have also said they're looking into whether they could be dual citizens.

The government hasn't ruled out referring four lawmakers from the main opposition Labor party to the High Court. Labor has so far skirted the scandal, with leader Bill Shorten saying his party has proper vetting procedures to ensure would-be lawmakers renounce any dual citizenships before they nominate as a candidate, as required by the constitution. **Bloomberg**

QUESTIONS about Russian meddling in the 2016 election have followed President Donald Trump overseas to Asia.

Trump said during a news conference yesterday in Vietnam's capital that he believes U.S. intelligence agencies, which have concluded Russia interfered in the 2016 U.S. presidential election to help him win. But Trump also says he believes Russian President Vladimir Putin when Putin claims his country did no such thing. "I believe that he feels that he and Russia did not meddle in the election," Trump said of Putin at a news conference with Vietnam's president in Hanoi. "As to whether I believe it, I'm with our agencies."

Top U.S. intelligence officials, including those at the CIA, have concluded that Russia interfered in the election to help the Republican Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton. A special counsel and multiple Congressional committees are also investigating potential collusion between Moscow and Trump campaign aides. That probe has so far led to the indictments of Trump's former campaign chairman and another top aide for financial and other crimes unrelated to the campaign, as well as a guilty plea from a Trump foreign policy adviser.

Trump's comment came shortly before he took off for the Philippi-

Questions about Russian meddling follow Trump to Asia



Trump (right) and Vladimir Putin talk during the family photo session at the APEC Summit in Danang

nes, the final stop of his five-country maiden trip to Asia. Trump is slated to attend a pair of international summits as well as meet with Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte several times while in Manila.

Duterte has come under fierce criticism from human rights groups for overseeing a violent drug war complete with extrajudicial killings. Trump has previously praised Duterte's handling of his nation's drug problems.

Questions about whether Trump

believed the intelligence community's conclusion about Russian election meddling have trailed Trump since January, when he said for the first time at a news conference shortly before taking office that he accepted Russia was behind the election year hacking of Democrats that roiled the White House race. But the issue wasn't settled.

Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One on Saturday on his way to Hanoi, Trump had said that Putin again vehemently denied the

allegations — this time on the sidelines of an economic conference in the seaside city of Danang. Trump danced around questions of whether he believed Putin, but stressed Putin's denials. He also accused Democrats of using the issue to try to sabotage relations between the two countries, putting lives at risk. "Every time he sees me, he said: 'I didn't do that.' And I believe — I really believe — that when he tells me that, he means it," Trump said, arguing that it made no sense for him to belabor the issue when Russia could be helpful to the U.S. in dealing with North Korea, Syria and other places.

Trump also lashed out Saturday at the former heads of the nation's intelligence agencies, claiming there were plenty of reasons to be suspicious of their findings. "I mean, give me a break. They're political hacks," Trump said.

In a tweet sent yesterday from Hanoi, Trump bashed the "haters and fools" he said were questioning his efforts to improve relations with Russia and accused critics of "playing politics" and

hurting the country.

Trump's Saturday comments sparked criticism from lawmakers with ties to the intelligence community. Sen. John McCain, the party's presidential nominee in 2008, said in a statement that Trump's faith in Putin's denial was "naive."

"There's nothing 'America First' about taking the word of a KGB colonel over that of the American intelligence community," McCain wrote, referring to Putin's former career in Soviet intelligence.

Trump, in the Hanoi news conference, also pointed to sanctions that have been imposed on Russia as punishment for their meddling in the election. "They were sanctioned at a very high level, and that took place very recently," he said. "It's now time to get back to healing a world that is shattered and broken."

A day before leaving for Manila, Trump had acknowledged his warm relationships with many authoritarian leaders — but said that he has great relationships with everyone. **AP**

AD



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**Last 2017 BBAM
@ St. Regis Breakfast
ALERT FILM BUFFS!**

Thursday 16th November
Guest Speaker: Mike Goodridge
*Newly appointed Artistic Director
of the International Film Festival
& Awards Macao (IFFAM)*

**Second International Film Festival
and Awards Macao:
What to Expect?**

Goodridge was formerly CEO of London-based production, finance and sales company Protagonist Pictures from 2012, bringing some of the most acclaimed and successful independent films of the last five years to the world. The films have played in all the world's major festivals including Cannes, Venice, Sundance, Berlin, Telluride, Toronto and New York. Goodridge is a member of BAFTA and the European Film Academy.

Venue: Amber Room I, 5/F, The St. Regis Macao, Cotai
7.45 am: Registration
8 am: Sit-down and breakfast
8.10: Presentation and Q&A session
9 am: Close

*Strict No-Show/Late Cancellation policy applies for this event
Vegetarian option to be requested before Monday 13th November.*

**BBAM Members: Complimentary
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US

Veterans Day marked with parades, somber ceremonies

Americans honored their military veterans Saturday with a parade in the wintry cold of New York City, where one World War II vet thanked onlookers for remembering, and in a somber ceremony in a Texas community bloodied by a church massacre where almost half of those killed had ties to the U.S. Air Force. Across the Atlantic, millions of people in Britain and France paused to remember war victims as they marked Armistice Day, which this year was the 99th anniversary of the end of World War I.

SPAIN

Catalan lawmaker freed from jail after posting bail

A top Catalan lawmaker on Friday left a Madrid prison where she spent the night after posting the bail a Spanish judge imposed as part of a wide-ranging rebellion investigation stemming from Catalonia's declaration of independence. Spain's Supreme Court said the judge who jailed and set bail Thursday for Catalonia Parliament speaker Carme Forcadell, freed her after the 150,000 euros (USD175,000) bond was registered.

TURKEY

Plan to kidnap cleric Gulen from US denied

Turkey yesterday dismissed as "ludicrous and groundless" a report that Turkish officials may have discussed kidnapping a U.S.-based Muslim cleric in exchange for millions of dollars. On Friday, The Wall Street Journal reported that Special Counsel Robert Mueller was investigating an alleged plot involving former U.S. National Security Adviser Michael Flynn and his son to forcibly remove Fethullah Gulen and hand him over to Ankara for as much as USD15 million.

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Water wizards: Dutch flood expertise is big export business



A man rides a bicycle next to self-raising dike in the Dutch fishing village of Spakenburg

Mike Corder, Spakenburg

ON a calm, clear morning, historic wooden fishing boats float tranquilly on the glassy waters of the Dutch harbor of Spakenburg. Yet just over a century ago, they were slamming through the houses lining the harbor as a powerful storm unleashed flooding that devastated this picturesque fishing village.

These days, an innovative new self-raising dike protects the village on the edge of Eemmeer Lake, 50 kilometers southeast of Amsterdam. The 300-meter long barrier is concealed in the sidewalk when not in use, and is lifted up to 80 centimeters by the very floodwaters it is designed to keep out.

It's just the latest example of Dutch ingenuity and planning in this low-lying nation's constant battle with water — and increasingly, technology like it is becoming a lucrative Dutch export.

"We live here in a very vulnerable place," said Roeland Hillen, director of the Dutch Flood Protection Program. "We have to adapt to survive."

That message resonates with many other flood-prone countries now attending climate change talks in Bonn, where delegates from some 195 nations have gathered to discuss rules for implementing the 2015 Paris climate accord. The meeting in the former German capital, which runs until Friday, is being presided over by Fiji, one of the many small island nations threatened by rising sea levels.

"We will feel the impact of climate change all over the world most profoundly through water," said Henk Ovink, the Netherlands' Special Envoy for International Water Affairs, who is at the Bonn conference.

The Dutch government teamed up earlier this year with Japan and the U. N. Environment Program to create a Global Center of Excellence on Climate Adaptation in the Netherlands that will be formally launched Tuesday on the sidelines of the Bonn conference.

The center aims to "su-

port those who struggle to put climate adaptation effectively into practice in all parts of the world," the government said.

The Dutch government earmarks 1 billion euros per year to keep up its defenses against high water

Housing the water expertise center in the Netherlands was a no-brainer. Some 26 percent of this nation of 17 million people lies below sea level and 29 percent is vulnerable to river flooding. The Dutch struggle to keep the country dry has been a constant fact of life for centuries.

The center will have bases in the northern city of Groningen and in a new floating office in the port city of Rotterdam.

The Dutch government earmarks 1 billion euros (USD1.16 billion) per year to keep up its defenses against high water. The money is spent on maintaining and strengthening dikes and levees and on other water mitigation measures. By 2050, the country aims to

reinforce some 1,900 kilometers of dikes and levees, Hillen said.

But while the costs are high, expertise and technology developed by the Dutch are becoming increasingly valuable commodities. Annual exports of Dutch water technology and expertise have doubled since 2000 to just under 8 billion euros (\$9.3 billion) a year. "Water is an asset and a threat," said Ovink.

Recent contracts involving Dutch companies include Netherlands-based Arcadis being selected as part of a consortium involved in a 10-year "seawall resiliency project" to strengthen a century-old San Francisco harbor wall that protects an area including the city's beloved Fisherman's Wharf.

Back in Spakenburg, experts say the self-raising dike is a good example not only of new techniques for holding back rising tides, but also how to integrate such barriers in spatial planning. Sinking the wall into the sidewalk means that it does not spoil views of the picturesque harbor for tourists or locals. The technology already is being put to use in projects in England, Vietnam and China.

Ovink stresses that it is just one of a multitude of defenses the Dutch have developed to hold water at bay.

"There is no [single] fix," he said. "It's a culture of living with water." AP

Bassem Mroue, Beirut

Lebanon: Saudi should clarify why Hariri hasn't returned

LEBANON'S president called on Saudi Arabia Saturday to clarify the reasons why the country's prime minister has not returned home since his resignation, announced from the kingdom, as the United States and France expressed their support for Lebanon's sovereignty and stability amid heightening tensions between Beirut and Saudi Arabia.

A political crisis has gripped Lebanon and shattered the relative peace maintained by its coalition government since Prime Minister Saad Hariri's stunning announcement Nov. 4 from the Saudi capital that he was resigning.

Lebanese officials have insisted on the return home of Hariri from Saudi Arabia amid rumors he is being held against his will. Saudi officials have said that their measures against Lebanon are in response to the militant Hezbollah's group support of anti-Saudi rebels in Yemen known as Houthis.

Lebanese President Michel Aoun called on Saudi Arabia to clarify why Hariri hasn't returned home since announcing his resignation saying that "the



A poster of outgoing Prime Minister Saad Hariri hangs on a building with Arabic words that read, "Prime Minister Saad Hariri is a Symbol of moderation"

obscurity regarding Hariri's conditions makes anything that he says or does not reflect truth." It was an indication that Aoun does not recognize Hariri's resignation.

In statements released by his office, Aoun called on Saudi Arabia "that is linked to us through

deep brotherly and friendly relations to clarify the reasons that are preventing" Hariri from returning to Lebanon.

White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said in a statement that Washington calls upon "all states and parties to respect Lebanon's sovereignty,

independence, and constitutional processes."

Saudi Minister for Gulf Affairs Thamer al-Sabhan warned earlier this month that his government would deal with Lebanon as a hostile state as long as Hezbollah was in the Lebanese government. The Lebanese unity government that Hariri formed a year ago includes Hezbollah members — the result of a tacit Saudi-Iranian agreement to sideline Lebanon from the other proxy wars in the region.

Al-Sabhan blasted in a tweet late Saturday as laughable those expressing support and "love" for Hariri despite their previous opposition to him. He added that those who "sold out" Lebanon would soon be exposed.

"In this sensitive time, the United States also rejects any efforts by militias within Lebanon or by any foreign forces to threaten Lebanon's stability, undermine Lebanese government institutions, or use Lebanon as a base

from which to threaten others in the region," Sanders said. She was apparently referring to Hezbollah and Saudi Arabia.

Sanders described Hariri as "a trusted partner of the United States in strengthening Lebanese institutions, fighting terrorism, and protecting refugees." Sanders said the Lebanese army and security forces are the only legitimate forces in Lebanon.

Also Saturday, Lebanon's state-run National News Agency reported that French President Emmanuel Macron called Aoun expressing France's commitment to Lebanon's "unity, sovereignty and independence and to help it in preserving political and security stability."

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman said Saudi Arabia is aiming to create unrest in Lebanon after doing so in the Gulf region and Yemen. Bahram Qasemi said in comments carried by state news agency IRNA that the kingdom is trying to destabilize the region. AP

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what's ON



PURGE ONE'S MIND: TRIO EXHIBITION BY LEONG KIT MAN, IM HOK LON AND MOK HEI SAI
TIME: 11am-10pm
UNTIL: November 25, 2017
VENUE: Lakeside Gallery - Room S1 in Anim'Arte NAM VAN, located at Nam Van Lakeside Plaza at Avenida Panorâmica do Lago Nam Van
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

FLOW: GLASS ART EXHIBITION BY SUNNY WANG
TIME: 9am-9pm (Open on public holidays)
UNTIL: November 19, 2017
VENUE: Temporary Exhibition Gallery of IACM, No. 163, Av. Almeida Ribeiro
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

A PROMENADE IN THE SMALL CITY: AN ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION OF THE MACAU CULTURAL AND CREATIVE MAP
TIME: 11am-10pm
UNTIL: December 31, 2017
VENUE: Lakeside Gallery, Anim'Arte
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY
TIME: 10am-5pm (Closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)
VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do Seminário
ADMISSION: Free
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Offbeat

POKERSTARS BORROWS FROM FANTASY GAMES TO ATTRACT MORE PLAYERS

The world's largest online poker company is seeing whether a new version of the game will attract players who like a little bit of magic with their cards.

PokerStars has been testing Power Up, which disrupts the traditional game of poker by giving players a wide range of abilities to see or choose specific cards. The hybrid version is the latest attempt by PokerStars owner The Stars Group Inc. to revive growth in its core business, and the new game will be followed by other variations, according to Chief Executive Officer Rafi Ashkenazi. A full commercial push is planned for next year.

"We're trying to tap into new audiences that are not playing poker today but are playing other strategy card games," Ashkenazi said in a telephone interview Thursday. That includes Hearthstone, a fantasy card game with a loyal base of followers who use spells and minions to attack opponents, he said.

Stars Group reported quarterly earnings that beat analysts' estimates as a new loyalty program helped boost poker revenue, while the casino and sports betting units continue to drive growth. Keeping an active pool of poker players is the easiest and cheapest way for the company to attract customers to its newer businesses.

New prospects also opened last month, when Pennsylvania became the fourth U.S. state to legalize online gambling. The Stars Group plans to get into the state and has eyes set on Michigan and New York, which have pending bills, Ashkenazi said.

"If these two states will open up to regulation, say, in 2018 at some point, then I think there will be some sort of knock on effect in the U.S.," Ashkenazi said.

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13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	RTPi Live
15:00	Miscellaneous
16:40	Miscellaneous
17:35	Zig Zag
18:10	Brazilian Mini Serie (Repeated)
18:40	Non-daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	Brazilian Mini Serie
22:40	Miscellaneous
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Champions League Magazine 2017/2018
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

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09 Nov - 15 Nov



LOGAN LUCKY

ROOM 1

2:15, 4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Steven Soderbergh

Starring: Daniel Craig, Channing Tatum, Adam Driver, Ridley Keough

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 118 min



THOR: RAGNAROK

ROOM 1

7:00pm

Director: Taika Waititi

Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Cate Blanchett, Tom Hiddleston

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109 min



MIX!

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30PM

Director: Junichi Ishikawa

Starring: Yui Aragaki, Eita Ryoko, Hirotsue Koji Seto, Mei Nagano, Yu, Aoi

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 120 min

FLATLINERS

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Niels Arden Oplev

Starring: Ellen Page, Diego Luna, Nina Dobrev, James Norton

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 110 min

LET ME EAT YOUR PANCREAS

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:30, 7:30pm

Director: Sho Tsukikawa

Starring: Minami Hamabe, Takumi Kitamura, Shun Oguri

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 115min

this day in history



Nevado del Ruiz, Colombia

1985 VOLCANO KILLS THOUSANDS IN COLOMBIA

About 20,000 people are feared dead after a volcanic eruption in northern Colombia.

Four towns in the Andes region are reported to have been buried when ash spewed out of the volcano, Nevado del Ruiz, causing a mudslide.

The worst-affected was Armero, the province of Tolima's second largest city, about 50 miles from the Colombian capital, Bogota.

Armero, which lay in a valley below the 4,937m volcano, was virtually destroyed - buried by mud and rubble swept down on to it. The fatal eruption happened during the night when most of the town's 27,000 residents were in bed.

Nevado del Ruiz, known locally as "the Sleeping Lion", had not erupted for nearly 150 years.

Even though it is located only 310 miles 500 km from the equator, the volcano's summit is covered with snow.

It had given some warning of increased activity - in recent months there had been some rumblings from the crater - but the authorities had told Armero residents it was safe to remain in the city.

The initial blast began on Wednesday afternoon when ash came showering down. An evacuation was ordered but abandoned when the volcano went quiet at about 1900 local time.

However, just after 2100 a more serious eruption began causing the summit's icecap to melt and carry mud and debris down the mountain at speeds of up to 50 km per hour.

The town of Armero lay in the so-called "Ring of Fire", an unstable area of the earth's crust encircling the Pacific Ocean which includes most of the world's active volcanoes.

The Colombian government has appealed to the United Nations for help. However, rescue efforts are being hampered by fallen bridges and impassable roads.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The final death toll was estimated at 23,000. It was the second most deadly eruption in the 20th century after the 1902 eruption of Mont Pelee on the Caribbean island of Martinique which killed 29,000 people.

Following the 1985 eruption, Nevado del Ruiz remained active for several more years, culminating in eruptions in 1991 and 1992. It was not the first time the volcano had caused deaths.

In 1595, 636 people were killed after a mudflow swept down the mountainside. Another eruption in 1845 led to 1,000 deaths. Around 50 years later settlers began to build the city of Armero directly on top of the hardened mudflow deposits. After the 1985 disaster the government declared the site of the buried city to be "holy ground".

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You're irresistible, and that is lots of fun - but it's not always easy. You might have to juggle a few people who are helpless in the face of your magnetic charms.

Taurus April 20-May 20 You're in the middle of a personal renaissance, but someone you love is calling for you, in need of advice that only you can give. You're as solid as a rock, and your advice is always firmly grounded in reality.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You've got a big decision to make, and you need to make it soon. It may have you thinking some uncharacteristically serious thoughts - about what you think is really important, for starters.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 After days of mulling things over and shuffling around your house whenever time has allowed, you're ready to get your show back on the road - you've been quiet for long enough!

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You like to play with friends and strangers, and you make no apologies for your love of the good times. In the midst of all your recent fun, however, you may have made plans for tonight.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You're in the mood to stay home all day, but weirdly, you also feel restless - and you definitely don't want to turn in early! An impromptu party at your place might be the best of both worlds.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 While you've got their ear, you may also want to mention an item that's been on your professional wish list for a while: a better schedule. If it all works out, you may be able to find a way to work from home permanently.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You're thinking big thoughts about big issues - like politics, religion, and education. When you're in this kind of mood, you need to spend as much time as you can with those who share your feelings and opinions.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 To you, nothing exceeds like excess. If one is good, then two is better - and a thousand or more would probably be just terrific! At the moment, this trait is making itself known in your personal relationships.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You've had quite a week, full of highs and lows - and that's just not like you! You like to see yourself as an emotional rock, never letting anything as trivial as a passing feeling get between you and your objectives.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Your emotions are running high right now, so, unfortunately, pushing your buttons is a lot easier than usual. On the other hand, anyone who tries to put one over on you at work has your coworkers to contend with.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Ever since you told your people you were 'off duty' for a while, it's been spookily quiet around your place. The good news is that you're starting to relax. Take it a step further and plan some actual recreation?

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

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CHINA

Beijing 0 12 cloudy/clear
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Urumqi -4 3 clear
Xi'an 3 15 clear
Lhasa -3 15 clear
Chengdu 12 18 cloudy
Chongqing 14 17 overcast
Kunming 8 21 clear
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Hong Kong 22 25 drizzle/cloudy

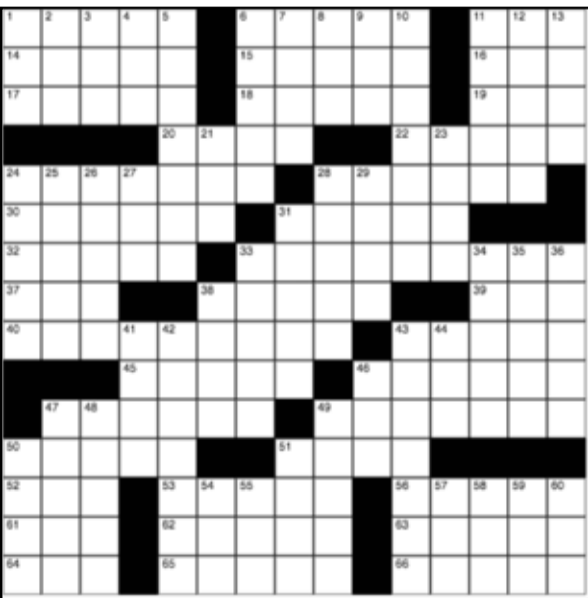
WORLD

Moscow -2 2 sleet
Frankfurt -1 7 sleet/drizzle
Paris 4 9 drizzle/cloudy
London 3 6 clear
New York -3 10 overcast/drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Green-lights; 6- Humorous; 11- Loser to DDE; 14- Wave-related; 15- Grassy plain; 16- Links org.; 17- Govt. security; 18- Permit; 19- Heston's org.; 20- Asta's mistress; 22- Facial expression used by Elvis Presley; 24- Partly anhydrate; 28- Financially solvent; 30- Sentence determiner; 31- "Dallas" matriarch; 32- Rose oil; 33- ___ in Seattle; 37- Caviar; 38- Martini garnish; 39- Prefix with profit or fiction; 40- Lucky; 43- Aquarium fish; 45- Ridiculous; 46- Facade; 47- "You ___ worry"; 49- Regret; 50- It's human; 51- Leak slowly; 52- Neighbor of Syr.; 53- Convocation of witches; 56- Utopias; 61- DI doubled; 62- Japanese dish; 63- Fountain treats; 64- Prior to, to Prior; 65- Bobby of the Black Panthers; 66- Brownish gray;

DOWN: 1- Baseball's Mel; 2- They're related; 3- Without further ___.; 4- China's Sun ___-sen; 5- Thin; 6- Strongly fragrant sage; 7- Spanish stew; ___ podrida; 8- Prefix with content; 9- Daughter of Cadmus; 10- Marsh marigold; 11- Sleep issue; 12- Everglades bird; 13- German river; 21- Bruins legend; 23- Yuletide; 24- Diminutive being of folklore; 25- Threepio's pal; 26- Bishop's headdress; 27- Sch. group; 28- Advil rival; 29- Turn tail and run; 31- Select group; 33- Bias; 34- Computer key; 35- Sensitive spots; 36- Animal trap; 38- ___ even keel; 41- Wedding cake feature; 42- Disrobe; 43- Storm; 44- Brian of Roxy Music; 46- Neckline shape; 47- Polite denial; 48- So spooky as to be frightening; 49- Fasten again; 50- Duration; 51- Political satirist Mort; 54- Litigate against; 55- Youth org.; 57- 1950 film noir classic; 58- URL ending; 59- Siesta; 60- Opposite of NNW



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
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PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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Cardona apologizes amid racism storm in South Korea

John Duerden, Seoul

COLOMBIA'S Edwin Cardona has apologized after sparking a racism controversy during his team's 2-0 loss to South Korea in an international friendly.

The Colombian midfielder made an apparently derogatory gesture with his eyes toward South Korean players in the second-half of Friday night's game at Suwon World Cup Stadium, south of Seoul.

"I didn't mean to disrespect anyone, a country or a race, but if anyone felt offended, or interpreted it in that way, I am sorry," Cardona said in a video posted on the Colombian national team's official Twitter account.

Two goals from Tottenham's Son Heung-min gave the South Koreans a first win since March but Cardona's actions, visible on the television broadcast, received considerable attention.

"I want to say I am not an aggressive person," said Cardona,



Edwin Cardona (second from left) fights for the ball against South Korea's Lee Jae-sung and Son Heung-min (left)

who plays for Boca Juniors in Argentina. "I am sorry that something that happened during the game has been misinterpreted."

Cardona's actions were condemned by the Korean media and captain Ki Sung-yeung.

"The Colombians were really physical, which can happen in football," said Ki, who plays

for Swansea City in the Premier League. "Racist behavior is unacceptable, however. Colombia is a team full of world-class players and it was disappointing to see this kind of thing."

This is not the first racist controversy on a South Korean soccer field this year.

During the 2017 Under-20

World Cup in June, Uruguay midfielder Federico Valverde reportedly made a similar gesture after scoring a goal, although he insisted it was a private celebration meant for his friends.

Colombia heads to China for another World Cup warm-up match on Tuesday, while South Korea hosts Serbia. **AP**



SKI

Neureuther wins World Cup slalom as Ryding fails to finish

FELIX Neureuther of Germany won a men's World Cup slalom yesterday after first-run leader Dave Ryding skied out.

Aiming to become the first British skier to win a World Cup race, Ryding stretched his advantage to 0.51 seconds before a mistake threw him off the course.

Neureuther finished in 1 minute, 42.83 seconds to beat Henrik Kristoffersen of Norway by 0.37 and Mattias Hargin of Sweden by 0.45.

Marcel Hirscher was 1.32 behind in 17th spot in an unexpected appearance just 87 days after breaking his left ankle. The Austrian six-time overall champion only resumed training earlier this week.

The race in Finnish Lapland was the first of the Olympic season after a giant slalom in Austria was canceled because of bad weather two weeks ago.

AD

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WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

Socceroos back in Australia, get 1st advantage over Honduras

THE Socceroos arrived back in Australia yesterday, getting the first advantage over Honduras ahead of the return leg of their intercontinental playoff for a spot at next year's World Cup.

The Australians left Honduras on a charter flight within hours of the 0-0 draw in the first leg at San Pedro Sula and flew home with one quick stop, aiming to cut down on the travel fatigue and get refreshed as quickly as possible for Wednesday's deciding match in Sydney.

The Socceroos were frustrated after several missed opportunities in the away leg, but coach Ange Postecoglou was content not to have conceded a goal.

The Hondurans preferred a night at home after the first match and were taking a commercial flight via Dallas, a relative disadvantage considering the long flight and the 17-hour time difference between San Pedro Sula and Sydney.

"Every little bit counts in such big games," Australia defender Trent Sainsbury said after lan-



Australia's Tomi Juric (center) dribbles the ball past Honduras' Henry Figueroa (left)

ding on home soil. "Honduras still have a long way to go; we're already here and we can recover and be fresh — we'll take every little advantage we can get at the moment."

The Australian players traveled from three continents to assemble in Honduras last week, but have remained as a squad in the meantime. And they're also familiar with the long-haul fl-

ghts from playing club football abroad, and having to travel for Asian qualifiers far away in countries such as Saudi Arabia.

The Australians quietened the raucous, parochial crowd in Honduras last Friday local time, and are hoping to use a bigger crowd packed with their own fans at Sydney's Olympic stadium to get them through on Wednesday. It was the same

venue where the Socceroos ended decades of intercontinental playoff disappointments with a win on penalties over Uruguay in 2005 to qualify for the following year's World Cup in Germany.

The Australians have qualified for both World Cups since then, and are hoping to make it four in a row by securing a spot for Russia.

Postecoglou's squad will be bolstered by the return of Matthew Leckie and Mark Milligan — who were suspended for the first leg of the series — and the return from injury of Robbie Kruse. Sainsbury said nobody was under any illusions about what was at stake this week.

"You make a mistake and it could be the end of the road. You win and we're going to Russia," Sainsbury said. "We've done it multiple times, there's always a lot of pressure."

"This team is coming of age now and the next step will be to beat this Honduras team and then have a really good World Cup." AP



RUGBY

France fights back to avoid even heavier loss to New Zealand

Only a second-half rally salvaged pride and prevented another humiliation for France in a 38-18 loss at home to World Cup champion New Zealand. It was France's 11th straight loss to New Zealand, but it could have been far worse after the All Blacks scored four first-half tries seemingly at will. New Zealand routed France 62-13 in the 2015 Rugby World Cup quarterfinals. Another hammering appeared inevitable when hooker Dane Coles, winger Waisake Naholo, center Ryan Crotty and flanker Sam Cane scored tries — all converted by flyhalf Beauden Barrett — to give the All Blacks a 31-5 lead at halftime at Stade de France.

AD



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monitora/monitor: **Cristina Vinhas**

horário/schedule:
Terças
Tuesdays
18h00 - 21h00
Sábados
Saturdays
14h30 - 17h30

total: 30 horas/hours
10 sessões/sessions

início/starts: 18/11/2017
fim/finishes: 19/12/2017

propina/fee:
MOP 1200 *

língua/language: Português e Inglês/Portuguese and English ** patrocínio/sponsor: Fundação Macau

local/venue: Avenida do Dr. Francisco Vieira Machado n° 431-487 Edf. Industrial Nam Fung 8° andar B, sala 1, Macau

número máximo de participantes/maximum number of participants:
10 (Será respeitada a ordem de inscrição sendo esta efetiva mediante o pagamento de propina).
10 (The registration order will be respected and registration is considered when payment is done).


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opinion

Insight
Paulo Barbosa



SINGAPORE HAS A STRATEGY, MACAU AND HONG KONG DON'T

Already among the world's most expensive places to own a vehicle, Singapore has announced in October that it will stop increasing the total number of cars on its roads next year.

The annual growth rate for cars and motorcycles in the Lion City was already small (0.25 percent) but will be cut to zero in February. The Singaporean Land Transport Authority decided to go ahead and implement the measure, despite only around 15pct of the population owning a vehicle.

Meanwhile in Macau, the latest news indicates that the mutual recognition of driver's licenses between Macau and the mainland will go ahead.

The Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário stated last week that the measure "can't be postponed" (why?) and that cars from the mainland won't be able to enter Macau (but many already enter, given the double license policy).

According to the Secretary, the mutual recognition will mean that drivers from the mainland will be able to "pick a car from a friend or a relative, or rent a car" and drive it into Macau.

The usual questions remain unanswered: Did the Macau government have any say in this? Are there any estimates of the impact that a measure such as this could have on car traffic? What is the rationale behind the introduction of an arrangement that is likely to increase traffic on our clogged roads, and which seems to contradict the government's goals of reducing traffic and investing in public transportation?

Last but not least: Does the accelerated integration of Macau in the Greater Bay Area serve to benefit Macau's citizens or will it be used to disintegrate the region, perhaps preparing for the post-2049 scenario?

Overall, what we can learn from this measure and many others with a similar outcome is that, unlike Singapore, Macau and its bigger – not older – neighbor Hong Kong both lack a development strategy. The lack of strategy means that these are cities struggling with a declining quality of living. Thus, they are slowly being dehumanized.

Unlike Singapore. We may not like its authoritarian politics and its somewhat over-regulated environment, but Singapore is exemplary in many ways. When I travel there I'm always surprised to see how the city is becoming more and more modern while retaining its multicultural character and a green environment.

Many good ideas and projects have recently been introduced in Singapore. The Marina Bay Sands, with a "sky terrace" perched atop three hotel towers, almost instantly became an icon of the city when it opened in 2010. It shows how an integrated resort with a casino at its heart can become a symbol of good taste and innovation.

Right beside it stand the magnificent Gardens By The Bay, another instant icon built on reclaimed land under the government's plan of upgrading Singapore from a "Garden City" to a "City in a Garden". The nature park includes stunning gardens and the monumental solar-powered "Supertrees", where rainwater is collected. It showcases sustainable practices and plants from across the globe.

Not far away is Resorts World Sentosa, another major tourist hub featuring countless attractions, including a casino.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Hong's "Smart Nation" initiative seems to be paying off. The city-state ranks in the top places to live in many different surveys, including second post in a global smart city index where Hong Kong ranked 68th. Many measures are being rolled out such as self-driving cars, remote health monitoring and e-learning.

The days of Hong Kong as a major financial power and a conveniently situated clearing house are declining. Macau is an encircled casino republic, which lives and will continue to live on the easy dollar.

Both SARs follow political diktats and have no clear or healthy development strategy. Singapore does.

THE PRINCE STANDS IN FOR QUEEN AT WAR MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Prince Charles has led Britain's annual Remembrance Sunday ceremony for war dead, taking the role held for more than six decades by his mother, Queen Elizabeth II.

The 91-year-old queen watched the service at London's Cenotaph memorial from a balcony alongside her 96-year-old husband Prince Philip.

The monarch, who is reducing her public duties after 65 years on the throne, had asked her

son to lay a wreath of poppies on her behalf.

Britain's political leaders and dignitaries from the Commonwealth also attended the ceremony in central London, laying wreaths on the Portland stone monument inscribed with the words "the glorious dead."

Thousands of military personnel, veterans and members of the public gathered on a cold, sunny day to honor those killed in World War I and subsequent conflicts.

A decade in the making, Louvre Abu Dhabi opens to the public

Malak Harb, Abu Dhabi

THOUSANDS of curious onlookers walked through the galleries of the Louvre Abu Dhabi as it opened to the public for the first time Saturday, ending a decade-long wait for a project plagued by questions over laborers' conditions.

Online tickets sold out and hundreds more stood in line Saturday morning for the chance to see the works of the likes of Pablo Picasso and Rodin.

The modernist museum, designed by French architect Jean Nouvel, sits under a honeycombed dome of eight layers of Arab-style geometric shapes. It draws the lapping waters of the Persian Gulf into its outer corridors. At night, light inside pours out of its saltshaker-like dome.

"This museum actually goes beyond expectations because the museum is an icon in itself and ... under its beautiful roof it has so many nice pieces of art which brings the whole world together," said Michaela Stolz-Schmitz, who lives in Dubai.

Another visitor, Christine Bayhon, was similarly impressed.

"We've seen it on the internet so we sort of have an idea what it is, what it looks like but getting here and really being here and seeing all of this, I'm in awe," Bayhon said. "It's like, 'Oh wow.' I tried to capture it on my phone but I just couldn't."

Manuel Rabate, the director of Louvre Abu Dhabi, called the museum's collection "unparalleled anywher



re in the region."

"After an exciting period of preparation, the opening is a truly special moment," Rabate said in a statement. "Today, this building becomes a museum."

The Louvre Abu Dhabi's inauguration Wednesday drew Arab leaders and kings, as well as French President Emmanuel Macron and his wife Brigitte.

Envisioned by France's then-President Jacques Chirac as a means to fight extremism with art after the Sept. 11 attacks, the Louvre Abu Dhabi is intended to be a bridge between East and West, with Buddhist, Christian, Islamic and Jewish artifacts.

However, the conservative mores of Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital that's more buttoned-up than freewheeling Dubai, can be seen in the relative absence of pieces depicting nudity.

Authorities have not said how much it costs to build the museum. However, Abu Dhabi agreed to pay France \$525 million for the use of the "Louvre" name for the next 30 years and

six months, plus another \$750 million to hire French managers to oversee the 300 loaned works of art. A center at Paris' Louvre now bears the name of the late UAE President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, which was also part of the deal.

During construction, the project faced intense criticism over labor conditions, as workers toiled for long hours in the brutal heat for low pay. A worker was killed in an accident in 2015, while another died of "natural causes" in 2016, according to Abu Dhabi authorities.

Hundreds working on projects on the island, including the Louvre, were deported or lost their work visas for launching strikes over their conditions, according to a 2015 Human Rights Watch report. Labor strikes are illegal in the UAE.

Today, much of Saadiyat Island, envisioned as a cultural district anchored by the museum, is still empty. A planned Middle East outpost of the Guggenheim remains unbuilt, with just a poured foundation on the salt flood plain.

Part of the reason is the drop in global energy prices from over \$100 a barrel in 2014 to around \$30 in early 2016.

On Saturday though, visitors simply appeared awed to visit.

"I wanted to experience it for real, rather than just looking in the TV or in pictures," visitor Juliet Bayhon said. AP

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

WORLD BRIEFS

INDONESIAN police said yesterday they have fatally shot two men suspected of burning down a remote police station on Sumatra island. National police spokesman Rikwanto said the suspects were killed early Sunday in the West Sumatra district of Dharmasraya, about 220 kilometers from the province capital of Padang



INDIA United Airlines temporarily suspended Newark-New Delhi flights due to poor air quality in India's capital, and said some extra charges will be waived for passengers forced to reschedule. "We are monitoring advisories as the region remains under a public health emergency, and are coordinating with respective government agencies," a United Airlines spokesperson said

LEBANON Thousands of Lebanese taking part in the country's annual marathon used the event to call on Prime Minister Saad Hariri to return home after he resigned under mysterious circumstances during a visit to Saudi Arabia. More on p15



UK Prime Minister Theresa May is caught in a vise of pressure from both sides of the Brexit debate as she tries to get a key plank in the government's plans for leaving the EU through Parliament. The European Union (Withdrawal) Bill returns this week to the House of Commons, where it will face a flurry of amendments from lawmakers.

