



**WE COULDN'T HAVE
CREATED GREATNESS ALONE!**

As MGM turns 10, we are proud to honor the 1,900 team members who have supported our great journey for over 10 years.

A big thank you from the MGM management team.
Here's to many more years of greatness together!

MGM CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF GREATNESS

We are so glad to celebrate your first 10 years of dedicated service at MGM and look forward to sharing an even greater journey ahead.

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Chairman and Executive Director
MGM China Holdings Limited

Ms. Pansy Ho

Chairwoman and Executive Director
MGM China Holdings Limited

Mr. Grant Bowie

Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director
MGM China Holdings Limited

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USJ LAUNCHES CINEMA PROGRAM TO FILL VOID
USJ launches a bachelor in Digital Cinema to train much needed professionals in cinema production said dean Alvaro Barbosa

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PACKER TESTIFIES IN ISRAELI PM SCANDAL
One probe concerns allegations that Netanyahu accepted lavish gifts from wealthy supporters, including James Packer

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RONALDO GIVES MADRID THIRD CLUB WORLD CUP

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“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

WORLD BRIEFS



AUSTRALIA-N. KOREA
A South Korean-born Sydney man was charged yesterday with acting as an economic agent for North Korea in Australia by allegedly attempting to broker sales for Pyongyang that included components used in ballistic missiles. **More on p12**

US-MYANMAR Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the U.S. plans to impose sanctions on at least one person responsible for the crackdown on Myanmar's Rohingya Muslims.

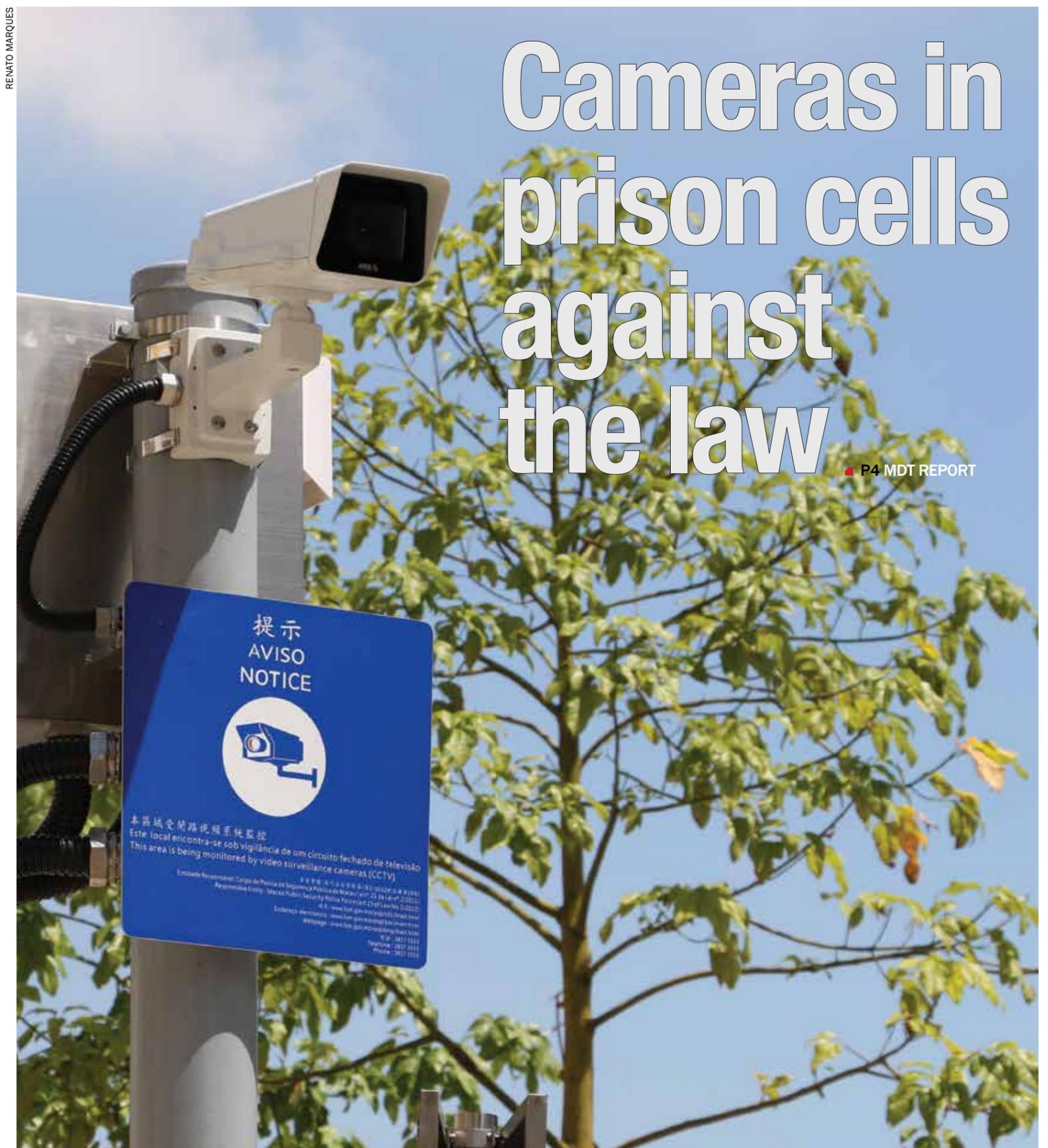


INDONESIA Muslim clerics called for a boycott of American products yesterday in Indonesia's largest protest against President Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. **More on p13**

AFGHANISTAN Taliban insurgents attacked checkpoints in the southern Helmand province yesterday, killing 11 police, an official said.

SYRIA Government forces have entered small parts of the northwestern rebel-held province of Idlib in one of their deepest incursions into the area where President Bashar Assad's government has almost no presence.

More on backpage



Cameras in prison cells against the law

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MIGRANT WORKERS

Macau is 'not yet on the black list,' says Indonesian diplomat

▲ P7

Cameras in prison cells might be unlawful says data protection office

Renato Marques

THE installation of surveillance cameras in the individual cells of Macau prisons, announced last week by the director of the Correctional Services Bureau (DSC) Cheng Fong Meng, may violate the SAR's Personal Data Protection Act (LPDP), the Office for Personal Data Protection (GPDP) told the Times.

In response to the Times, the GPDP said that the LPDP "defines a set of strict provisions on the processing and protection of personal data. All the LPDP and its provisions must be observed during the processing of personal data by both public and private entities."

However, the GPDP added that the DSC's proposed measure was just a preliminary study at this point and they refrained from commenting further, citing that it was "not [...] possible at this stage to carry out a concrete analysis of the issues involved."

The department said that neither it nor the DSC had sought

a formal legal opinion on the matter.

Cheng said on the sidelines of last week's commemoration of the DSC's anniversary that "we are going to study the feasibility of installing surveillance cameras in the prison's individual cells and we will see if it goes against [violates] the relevant laws."

Of course, we won't install the cameras in toilets and bathrooms.

CHENG FONG MENG
DSC DIRECTOR

He added that he believed installing the cameras in the inmates' cells "won't conflict with existing privacy rules" and clarified that "of course, we won't install the cameras in toilets and bathrooms."



The proposed installation of cameras is a preventive measure for cases such as a recent suicide case when a prisoner hung himself at the Coloane prison. The suicide is said to be the prison's fourth such

case in the past decade.

This is not the first time that such security measures have been targeted by the GPDP. In a recent policy address, Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak acknowledged that

the GPDP had at least twice ordered the removal of some surveillance cameras in the region's streets upon discovering that they could record residents' activities inside their homes.

BLOOMBERG



Gov't to launch measures to control housing market

THE government is planning to launch mortgage- and tax-related measures designed to control the price of Macau housing and promote the healthy development of the real estate market, the Go-

vernment Information Bureau said in a statement.

According to the note, Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On announced the measures over the weekend, during a media briefing that conclu-

ded his four-day visit to Beijing.

"The Government has studied measures to control the city's high housing prices closely, and has received a number of suggestions from the community," said Chui.

He added that in 2018, the government will begin work on a long-term mechanism for sharing fiscal reserves, as well as the establishment of an investment and development fund.

The CE also said the

government would soon announce the quotas for local entities seeking to operate cross-border transport services via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKM-ZB). These include private vehicles, official vehicles, coach services and taxis.

The note added that the issue "is still being discussed between Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Macau [authorities]." **RM**

Ho Iat Seng leads NPC vote

LEGISLATIVE Assembly President Ho Iat Seng received the most votes (440) among 15 candidates to represent Macau in the National People's Congress (NPC), the People's Republic of China's main legislative body.

Four of the 12 members were elected to the NPC delegation for the first time: Dominic Sio (433), Ng Su Lai (413), Lai Sai Kei (377) and Si Ka Lon (316). Besides Ho Iat Seng, Chui Sai Peng (420), Kou Hoi In (422), Lao Ngai Leong (437), Lok Po (430), Paula Ling (382), Ho Sut Heng (394) and Iong Weng Ian (432) maintain their seats. Kevin Ho (288), Wong Ian Man (157) and Fong Ka Fai (203) were cast out. The electoral college was composed of 466 members. Some 462 ballots were validated and four were considered invalid.

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Times

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Some of our favorite Grande Praça moments include:

Christmas Wonderland 2011
The Magic of Butterfly Reinvention at MGM
MGM Aquarium
Joana Vasconcelos – Valkyrie Octopus

2007 onwards
Since MGM MACAU's opening, over
12,000,000 people
have been delighted by our Grande Praça

MGM has consistently supported cultural events such as:
MGM Lion Dance Championship
since **2010**
MGM has continued the legend of
the lion dance championship for **6** years

Oktoberfest Macau at MGM
since **2009**
We are proud to have hosted
this cultural celebration for
9 years running



Celebrating Ten Years of Great Moments

Just as Macau has blossomed over the past 10 years, so too has our beautiful lion grown to become a symbol of pride for us all

The MGM story is one of artistry and culture. As an integrated resort operator with a significant footprint in Macau, we have created a cultural platform that blends heritage of the East and West, and provided a pathway to the city and the international platform – bringing Macau to the world and the world to Macau. In the past golden decade, with our innovative and creative spirit, we are incredibly proud to have ushered in the authentic Oktoberfest, and turned it into an annual signature event of the city, where locals and tourists can get a real taste of the Bavarian festivity. The exciting MGM Lion Dance Championship sheds an international spotlight on our traditions and introduces our community and youth to this Chinese cultural sport.

Our commitment to art has led to spectacular events, such as Macau's first large-scale butterfly habitat, *The Magic of Butterfly Reinvention at MGM* in 2012. Opened in 2013, our 5,000-square foot MGM Art Space serves as a medium for making art accessible to all. Our commitment to culture has led to a recent collaboration with the creative minds behind teamLab, unveiling the virtual world of *Learn & Play! teamLab Future Park* with interactive spaces that bring people together through participatory and creative journey.



A few highlights of our international exhibitions:

Botticelli's Venus:
The Life and Times of a Goddess
Red Sandalwood Art Exhibition of Old Beijing City Gates
Biennial of the Lions
Edgar Degas – Figures in Motion
A Golden Way of Life - Très'Ors
Learn & Play! teamLab Future Park

since **2007**
MGM has hosted
23 first of their kind
exhibitions in Macau

We look to the future with great pride; MGM COTAI is ready to open its doors on January 29, 2018, where advanced technology is utilized to bring locals and tourists a whole new spectrum of fun and entertainment. We will continue to redefine entertainment as we strive to unleash greatness.



PROPERTY WANTED FOR SALE OR RENT

Email us your property details and asking price or call us at: +853 2835 2699



FOR RENT



Apartment C, Nam Long, Taipa

(Ref: 17110660)

420 sq.ft. HKD 8,800

Unique top floor studio apartment with stunning sun terrace. Located at the beginning of Taipa village a stones throw from CuppaCoffee. Nicely fitted out with everything within reach plus plenty of storage this apartment is perfect for a singleton.



C Unit, Vai Fat, Taipa

(Ref: 17110659)

800 sq.ft. HKD 12,800

Fabulous newly renovated one bedroom furnished apartment. Modern fitted kitchen with western style oven & cooktop. Great location in Taipa across the road from CuppaCoffee. Available from 5th December 2017

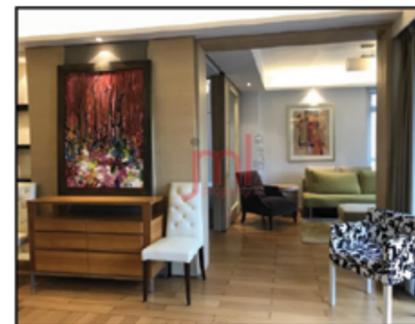


Kinglight, Taipa

(Ref: 17120662)

800 sq.ft. HKD 15,000

Stunning top floor apartment with stunning views across the Taipa race course to Henqin. The apartment comes fully furnished and has plenty of storage. The large double bedroom has an en suite shower room and a lovely open plan split level kitchen and living area.



Carnation Court, Hellene Gardens, Unit A

(Ref: 17110661)

1,663 sq.ft. HKD 17,500

Modern apartment on low floor. Beautifully furnished throughout with lots of storage space in every room. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, small storage space, open plan living and dining area with bi-fold doors onto small balcony.. Galley style fitted kitchen including white goods. Price includes one car park space.

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



4th Floor Car Park, The Manhattan, Taipa

(Ref: 17115538)

sq.ft. HKD 1.85M

Rate:

Car park space available for Sale in the Manhattan, Taipa. Great location on the 4th floor. Good size space. Asking price HKD1.85 million



Grande Plaza, Taipa

(Ref: 17115537)

980 sq.ft. HKD 8.88M

Rate: HKD 9,061

Superb bright & quiet three bedroom apartment in Taipa just off the main road. Three good size bedrooms with two shower rooms, on W suite off the master room. The location is fantastic right next to the escalator off the main road in Taipa, easy for transportation and shopping.



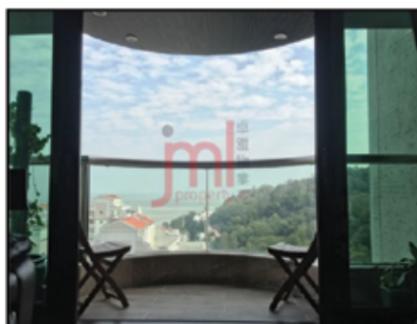
Old Taipa, Nam Long (I Unit)

(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

Located in the clean, beautiful island of Coloane, this stunning 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment has incredible sea views from the living room and master bedroom, and green mountain views from all other rooms. The apartment has been renovated to a high standard with modern bathrooms etc



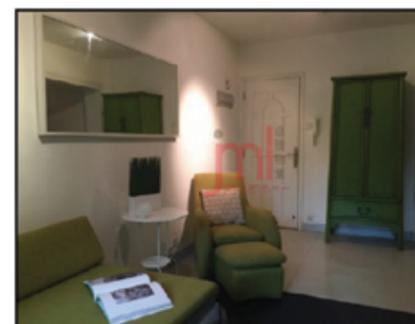
Nam Long, Taipa Village

(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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Indonesian consulate takes steps to protect migrant rights

Lynzy Valles

THE Indonesian consulate in Hong Kong and Macau said that it is working closely with the city's Labour Affairs Bureau to address local migrant groups' call for rights protection.

Compared to neighboring Hong Kong, where foreign domestic workers are entitled to various benefits under the Employment Ordinance, the MSAR lacks protection – such as a minimum wage law – for these workers.

Tri Tharyat, consul general of the Indonesian Consulate in Hong Kong and Macau, said the matter is also being assessed by Indonesian authorities.

Speaking on the sidelines of a press conference yesterday, Tharyat said, "we need to work more and more [...] This is one of the issues that my authorities back in Indonesia will determine [...] whether Macau is considered [to have] enough protection for our workers."

To date, Indonesia has blacklisted 15 countries and regions – all in the Middle East – for inadequate protection of Indonesian migrant workers.

"We are still reviewing the current status of Macau," he said. "Macau is not on the list yet but we are reviewing Macau's status. [...] There is still some homework that we need to [settle] with the Macau government. At the moment, we are trying our best to [keep] Macau open for our market."

He admitted that it is challenging to control the activities of Indonesian workers in Macau, as most of them arrive in the city on travel visas.

Hong Kong authorities had



Tri Tharyat

previously announced that the city would need 240,000 new domestic workers in the next 30 years to cater to the needs of its aging population.

The consul general revealed that he has met with more than 30 job agencies which travel to Indonesia and the surrounding provinces to find people interested in working in Hong Kong.

He noted that Indonesians are more demanding than Filipino nationals as they master the local language quicker.

Asked whether there is a similar demand in Macau, Tharyat noted that the consulate has not received any

official information or announcement.

He added that Hong Kong authorities only grant visas to these workers after receiving a stamp from his office, which is a different process from Macau's.

He said this is just one of the procedures that the Indonesian consulate uses to keep track of migrant workers, along with local agencies back in Indonesia and Hong Kong.

With over 5,500 Indonesian workers in the city, the consulate – which is open in Macau three days a week – recently expanded its premises due to the increasing number of migrant workers in need of assistance.

The office currently has one personnel in the region that operates a 24-hour hotline, which can be reached from Indonesia as well.

Tharyat said the real challenges are human trafficking syndicates – which bring many Indonesian workers to China and other countries – and the Indonesian nationals who use Macau as a point of transit when travelling to other countries for illegal work, which the consulate cannot control.

"Since [last] year, I have received 13 reports of this type. Of these 13 reports, we managed to help all of them; three cases were brought to trial in Indonesia," he said.

MGTO and IACM to adjust restaurant licensing mechanism



The Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) and the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) will issue licenses to restaurants as separate administrative entities. MGTO director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes said restaurants inside hotels or shopping malls will be licensed by MGTO, whereas all other restaurants will be licensed by IACM. Senna Fernandes believes that only a few restaurant licenses will be transferred to IACM. She also said that MGTO is reviewing its own license mechanism, with the department having already concluded the first draft of the review, and that it is considering introducing one-station restaurant licensing in 2018.

Cloud computing center expected at government building

A cloud computing center is expected to open in mid-2018 at the government's Areia Preta service building, as part of the Macau government's partnership with Alibaba to build Macau's smart city capabilities. The center is currently intended to serve the government's restaurant licensing administration. The government expects to launch a consultation draft on Macau's smart city development next March. The public consultation will last for two months, with a report on the consultation tentatively scheduled for release in the third quarter.

Government plans to conclude new taxi regulations by Q1 2018



The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, said yesterday that the legal services are finalizing their analysis of the proposal for the revision of the Taxi Regulation. According to the official, the services are making every effort to complete the legislative procedures within the first quarter of 2018, a statement from Government Information Bureau informed. Speaking to the press, Chan said that the service responsible for drafting the review bill had already delivered their document to the legal services to grant a final opinion. Chan also shared that regarding the enforcement of a system that allows sound recording inside of the vehicles, the services have already gathered opinions from the Office for Personal Data Protection and that this has been already considered in the preparation of the bill.

Those struggling financially need not pay for copies of medical records

THE list of fees to request copies of medical records was published last week in compliance with the medical error law, as stated in the Chief Executive (CE) order number 27/2017.

The order, which

comes from the Office of Secretary Alexis Tam, sets out the fees to be paid to the Health Bureau (SSM). It also establishes a mechanism for people facing financial difficulties to be exempted from

payment for the "welfare services" of the Conde de Sao Januario Hospital Center. Those with special authorization from the Medical Error Expert Committee may also be exempted.

The SSM said such

a method ensures that the process is fair and that users retain a "right to the information". The maximum fee stated by the CE's order will still be applied to prevent abuses of the system, as "clinical

records are considered sensitive data," that must be handled by professional staff and "it becomes necessary to charge a certain amount to cover the costs associated [with] such work." **RM**

Q&A **ÁLVARO BARBOSA**
DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF CREATIVE INDUSTRIES, USJ

'In Macau there is a big need for audiovisual production'

Julie Zhu

THE University of Saint Joseph (USJ) will launch a bachelor in Digital Cinema starting from September 2018, to train professionals in cinema production. The focus will be on the creative process and state-of-the-art digital technology will be used.

The Bachelor of Digital Cinema is a four-year course that introduces students to the three main areas of digital cinema production: documentary, fiction and visual effects.

After completing this program, the principle career pathways for graduates will be to work in the audio-visual industry across different market segments, such as: independent film production, advertisement film production, media production departments (government, casinos, hospitality groups) and education, according to the course's official description published on the USJ's website.

Álvaro Barbosa, Dean of the Faculty of Creative Industries and Coordinator for the Department of Music, which is the faculty that the course belongs to, spoke to the Times regarding some other details about this new course.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - What can students learn from the new digital cinema program?

Álvaro Barbosa (AB) - The area of cinema has been around for a while in academia, and the students that are going into the film and cinema program don't



necessarily intend to be film directors and filmmakers necessarily, this is like a fundamental discipline and an area that you learn. But the fact that you know how to produce audiovisual content with cinema quality is a requirement in many industries today. Many of these people end up, of course, producing their own films in the film industry. But also in marketing, in the advertising industry, in media and communication, in journalism, [...] all these areas require a benchmark of quality of standard of quality for image and audiovisual production that needs to have a cinematic quality, and a visual cinema program is a pro-

gram that provides the knowledge required to produce this kind of content.

MDT - Is the initiative behind the program's launching related to the local market?

AB - In Macau, there is a big need for audiovisual production. You walk around the industry, and you look around, [...] they have the video, and the quality is not always the best, but in general, Macau demands a lot of [jobs] in the audio visual industry, and it outsources a lot from the outside. On the other hand, I don't think that the universities will

need to train the students only to answer to the demands of [the market]. This is a very small place, I think we also have to think about training students that are from Macau and abroad; to answer the needs in the world and in South Asia. So on some level, this is actually an area in which there is a demand all over the world and also in Macau. In Macau there is no program like this up until now. There hasn't been any film program that has been introduced into the university system, though, there is some traditional production of films in Macau, a number of films that have been shot in Macau, and a number of

films that introduced Macau, and in this year's [international] film festival, we have two movies from Macau. This is the area that exists and has been existing for a while, but there is never been an academia response, so we are trying to introduce this as well.

■ ■
We want to have a relatively small group [...] around 15 to 20 students.

MDT - What is the criteria to select the lecturers?

AB - We are hiring some professors to work with us, but we have a very strong partnership with the School of Arts from the Catholic University of Portugal. They have the sound and image program, which has been the leading film program in the country for many years. We are teaming up with them to get a lot of professors coming from the school [in Portugal] and also from abroad.

MDT - How many students are you looking for for this intake?

AB - The maximum that we are allowed to have in this program is 40. However, we do not expect to have such a big group. We want to have a relatively small group [...] around 15 to 20 students. If we do have more than that, we have to split into two classes, because it must be a program of small groups. We have not opened the application yet, so we don't know exactly how that's going to turn out. When we decided to launch this program, we also asked around in other programs in Macau, which are related with communication and media. Many of the students have been telling us that they chose those programs as there is no cinema program in Macau.

SCIENCE

UM medical researchers win awards at Challenge Cup

TWO teams formed by postgraduate students from the University of Macau's (UM) Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences (ICMS) received second prize and third

prize, respectively, at the Challenge Cup, a national competition in extracurricular high-tech projects for college students.

Held at Shanghai University, the competition

attracted 1,230 entries from mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan.

One of the UM teams, led by Assistant Professor Wang Chunming, received second prize for a new type of wound dressing they developed from Chinese medicines that can effectively heal stubborn wounds.

The other UM team, led by ICMS Director Wang Yitao and Wang Shengpeng, received third prize for a new type of sunscreen spray, with Chinese medicines as its main ingredients.

According to a statement issued by the UM, since its founding in 2003, the ICMS has achieved significant results in producing graduates, as it has received several awards at the Challenge Cup over the past 15 years.

The Challenge Cup is a national science and technology competition held in China. It is hailed as the 'Olympics' in technological innovation among Chinese university students.

The competition is hosted by well-known mainland universities and jointly organized by the



Central Committee of the Young Communist League, the Chinese Association for Science and Technology, the Ministry of Education, the All-China Students' Federation, and provincial governments.

CAMPUS TOUR LAUNCHED

THE UNIVERSITY of Macau recently launched an 'A Day at UM' Campus Tour Campaign. Guided by PR Student Ambassadors, participants will visit various locations on campus and learn more about the experiences of UM students.

The 'A Day at UM' campus tours are available Monday through Saturday, with two 1.5-hour sessions per day. Participants will also have the opportunity to receive limited-edition souvenirs. A minimum of ten people are required for each tour.

Japan Gaming Congress returning ahead of IR bid

THE Japan Gaming Congress will return in 2018 with a conference at the Conrad Tokyo from May 10 to 11. Returning for its third year, the Congress is the largest event of its type in Japan focusing on the integrated resort industry, and attracts both local attendees and audiences from key international markets such as Las Vegas, Macau and Singapore.

Japan stands on the edge of game-changing casino legislation that could see the jurisdiction become an industry competitor on par with Macau, the world's largest gaming hub. Some analysts put Japan's market value at USD40 billion annually, significantly outstripping the USD33 billion in gross gaming revenue that Macau is on track to record this year.

According to organizer Clarion Gaming, the confirmed attendees for May's Congress include Lawrence Ho, chairman and CEO of Melco Resorts and Entertainment.

"With Japanese IRs [integrated resorts] nearing as an investment reality, there has never been a more exciting time to participate in the Japan Gaming Congress," he said, according to a statement from Clarion Gaming.



An aspect of last year's conference

"We are very happy to return to this important forum and deepen our dialogue with local business partners and the industry at large, and with them, pioneer the future of entertainment in Japan."

Melco Resorts and Entertainment has expressed keen interest in investing in Japan on several occasions in recent years. Earlier this year, Ho said that there was no limit on how much the company was prepared to invest, describing it as a "priceless opportunity".

The gaming operator is expected to face stiff competition from

Sands China, Hard Rock Cafe and Alvin Chau's Suncity, among others.

The event will see key Japanese authorities in attendance, including figures from the central government and several prefectures.

The 2018 conference will tackle a variety of subjects, including updates to the much-anticipated legislation related to problem gambling and general industry topics such as business procurement, non-gaming entertainment amenities, legal issues, and other issues of interest. **DB**

Packer testifies in Israeli PM scandal

ISRAELI police questioned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for about four hours yesterday over two corruption scandals surrounding the long-ruling leader, one of which involves Australian gaming tycoon James Packer.

It was the sixth time police have questioned Netanyahu over the scandals, which have yet to threaten his rule but have chipped away at his public approval ratings. Police suspect him of being involved in bribery, fraud and breach of trust.

One investigation concerns allegations that Netanyahu accepted lavish gifts from wealthy supporters, including Packer, who until December 2016, owned a stake in Macau gaming operator Melco Crown Resorts.

On Friday, Prime Minister Netanyahu was presented with Packer's testimony that several Israeli media reports said strengthened the likelihood of bribery charges against him.



James Packer

"I admire Prime Minister Netanyahu and am happy that I was given the opportunity to be his friend," Packer said in his testimony, according to Israeli media. "I was happy to give him presents, many times at his request and his wife Sara's request."

Netanyahu has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing, claiming that the gifts were occasional and "certainly not [given] in the systematic and planned way" as alleged. He also called the accusations against him a witch hunt orchestrated by a hostile media. **MDT/AP**

Monetary Authority raises base rate 0.25pct

THE Monetary Authority of Macau raised the base rate of the discount window last week by 25 basis points to 1.75 percent, making it the fifth raise since December 2015.

As the pataca is linked to the Hong Kong dollar,

the movements of policy rates in the two SARs must remain consistent in order to maintain the effective operation of the linked exchange rate, said the Authority in an explanatory statement.

As a result, the Monetary Authority followed

the lead of its Hong Kong counterpart last week and raised the base rate by 25 basis points.

Meanwhile, since the Hong Kong dollar is linked to the US dollar under the linked exchange rate system, the rate hike action of Hong Kong

was attributed to the decision of the U.S. Federal Reserve to raise the Fed's fund rate on December 13.

"In recent months, money market rates in Macau have been trending up and pataca liquidity has been contracting. The

pressure of local banks to raise interest rates at the retail level has been accumulating owing to rising fund costs in the money market," noted the Monetary Authority.

"The possibility of uplifting loan and deposit interest rates by Macau banks cannot be ruled out in the foreseeable future," it cautioned.

The Authority also warned that the public ought to remain alert to continued change in local interest rates because of the "potentially enlarging volatility of the real estate market." Higher base interest rates will mean an additional burden on mortgage loan repayments for many Macau homeowners.

corporate bits

JANET McNAB RECEIVES HOTELIER AWARD

The managing director of Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel, Cotai Central and The St. Regis Macao, Cotai Central, Janet McNab, received top honors at last week's prestigious BMW Hotelier Awards 2017 event, where she was named "General Manager of the Year, Greater China".

In her role, McNab oversees the hotel operations of the 4,001-room Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel, as well as the 400-room St. Regis Macao.

According to a joint statement, the Australian-born Italian has spent 15 years in Asia, working at properties across Thailand, China, Indonesia and Macau.

Upon receiving her award, McNab said, "working with me are 2,000 dedicated people



who keep me going every day. [...] This recognition is very special and I take my hat off to them all."

The annual Hotelier Awards are the only accolades in Greater China and Asia in which finalists are judged by their peers within the industry.

FREE WI-FI NETWORK EXTENDED

"FreeWiFi.MO" was launched last week, with the aim of providing the residents and tourists of Macau with more convenient free Wi-Fi access points.

To date, CTM, the Macau International Industrial Technology Development Association (AIDIT) and Y5ZONE Macau have been the only entities involved in the FreeWiFi.MO project. In conjunction with the Wi-Fi Go service provided by the Macao Post and Telecommunication Bureau (CTT), there are currently 280 access points provided

by the FreeWiFi.MO service.

These points include the main tourist attractions and routes, bus stops and public infrastructure sites.

The director of CTT, Derby Lau, said that CTT will try to increase the number of access sites to 360 by the end of this year.

Access to the FreeWiFi.MO network is not subject to any requests. All parties, as soon as they select the FreeWiFi.MO network, can use the service for a cumulative duration of at least 60 minutes per day.

LEON LAI PERFORMS AT THE VENETIAN MACAO



Hong Kong singer Leon Lai performed his "Leon Random Run 2017 Concert in Macau" at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena on Saturday. According to a press release by Sands China, the pop star delighted fans with a 'greatest hits' set list, performing popular songs such as "Summer of Love", "Silly and Infatuated" and "There's Not One Day I

Don't Think of You." He also chatted with the crowd, sharing stories about his life and how he still loves to bring his music to fans all over the world. Lai has held around 400 concerts worldwide. His current Leon Random Run 2017 Concert toured China last year before coming to Macau.

SOUTH CHINA SEA

As tensions ease, Beijing keeps building on disputed islands

Matthew Pennington, Washington

TENSIONS over China's island-building in the South China Sea may have eased in the past year, but Beijing has kept busy.

New satellite imagery shows China has built infrastructure covering 72 acres in the Spratly and Paracel islands during 2017 to equip its larger outposts to be air and naval bases.

The Washington-based Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative closely tracks developments in the South China Sea, where China and several Asian governments have conflicting territorial claims. It said Thursday there has been construction of hangars, underground storage, missile shelters, radar arrays and other facilities.

The activity comes as China joins what are likely to be protracted negotiations with Southeast Asian nations on a "code of conduct" for South China Sea. Tensions with



This image shows a satellite image of Fiery Cross Reef in the Spratly island chain

the U.S. on the issue have also eased, despite Washington's criticism of Beijing's conduct.

The construction is the follow-up phase to a campaign of land reclamation that was completed by early 2016 in the Spratlys, an island chain where Malaysia, Taiwan, the Philippines, Vietnam and Brunei

also have claims. According to the Pentagon, China has added more than 3,200 acres of land to the seven land features it occupies in the area.

China also seems to have halted smaller-scale operations to expand islands in the Paracels that lie farther north, the initiative said.

want," Poling said.

The most construction has been on Fiery Cross Reef in the Spratlys, including hangars alongside its 3,000-meter airstrip, underground structures likely intended to house munitions or other materiel, hardened shelters for missile platforms, and communication and radar facilities, the initiative said.

It also noted that China has deployed new military aircraft at Woody Island in the Paracels. At the end of October, the Chinese military released images of J-11B fighter planes there for drills. In mid-November, Y-8 transport aircraft were spotted on the same island that may be capable of electronic intelligence gathering.

Marine Lt. Col. Christopher Logan, a Pentagon spokesman, said last week that he could not comment in detail on U.S. assessments of the region but that "further militarization of outposts will only serve to raise tensions and create greater distrust among claimants."

The United States does not claim territory in the South China Sea but has declared it has a national interest in ensuring that the territorial disputes there are resolved peacefully in accordance with international law and that freedom of navigation and overflight are guaranteed. China has opposed what it calls U.S. meddling in an Asian dispute. **AP**

AD



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Uighur security personnel patrol near the Id Kah Mosque in Kashgar



Children play in the old city district of Kashgar where Chinese national flags are prominently hung

AP EXCLUSIVE

Thought police instill fear in western China

Gerry Shih, Korla

NOBODY knows what happened to the Uighur student after he returned to China from Egypt and was taken away by police. Not his neighbors, not his classmates, not his mother.

“Is he dead or alive?” the mother said, tears streaming down her face when Associated Press reporters visited her at home unexpectedly and showed her a photo of the student.

The student’s friends think he joined thousands — possibly tens of thousands — of people who have been spirited away without trial into new indoctrination centers. The mass disappearances, beginning the past year, are part of efforts by Chinese authorities to use detentions and data-driven surveillance to impose a police state over the region of Xinjiang and its 10 million Uighurs, a Turkic-speaking Muslim minority that China says has been influenced by Islamic extremism.

Unprecedented levels of police blanket Xinjiang’s streets in many cities. Cutting-edge surveillance systems track where Uighurs go, what they read, who they talk to and what they say.

Through rare interviews with Uighurs who recently left China, a review of government procurement contracts and unreported documents, and

a trip through southern Xinjiang, the AP pieced together a picture of a campaign that’s ostensibly rooting out terror — but instead instilling fear.

Most of the more than a dozen Uighurs interviewed for this story spoke on condition of anonymity for fear that Chinese authorities would punish them or their family members. The AP is withholding the student’s name and other personal information to protect people who fear government retribution.

The Xinjiang regional government did not respond to repeated requests for comment. But China’s government describes its Xinjiang security policy as a “strike hard” campaign that’s necessary following a series of attacks in 2013 and 2014, including a mass knifing in a train station that killed 33. A Hotan city propaganda official, Bao Changhui, told the AP: “If we don’t do this, it will be like several years ago — hundreds will die.”

China also points to decades of heavy economic investment and cultural assimilation programs and measures like preferential college admissions for Uighurs.

Authorities refer to the detention program as “vocational training,” but its main purpose appears to be indoctrination. Training sessions on “Mandarin, law, ethnic unity, de-radicalization, patriotism” are described as lasting

anywhere from 3 months to 2 years.

In Korla, one center the AP visited was labeled a jail. Another was downtown on a street sealed off by rifle-toting police.

Southern Xinjiang, where Korla is located, is one of the most heavily policed places on earth.

In Hotan, police depots with flashing lights and foot patrols are set up every 500 meters. Motorcades of more than 40 armored vehicles rumble down city boulevards. Police checkpoints on every other block stop cars to check identification and smartphones for religious content.

Uighurs abroad say it’s too risky to stay in touch with their families in China

Xinjiang’s published budget data shows public security spending this year is on track to increase 50 percent from 2016 to roughly 45 billion yuan (USD6.8 billion) after rising 40 percent a year ago. It’s quadrupled since 2009, when a Uighur riot broke out in Urumqi, killing nearly 200 people.

But much of the policing goes unseen.

Shoppers entering the Ho-

tan bazaar must pass through metal detectors and place their national identification cards on a reader while having their faces scanned. AP reporters were stopped outside a hotel by a police officer who said the public security bureau had been remotely tracking the reporters’ movements by watching surveillance camera footage.

The government’s tracking efforts have extended to vehicles, genes and even voices. A biometric data collection program appears to have been formalized last year under “Document No. 44,” a regional public security directive to “comprehensively collect three-dimensional portraits, voiceprints, DNA and fingerprints.” The document’s full text remains secret, but the AP found at least three contracts referring to the 2016 directive in recent purchase orders for equipment such as microphones and voice analyzers.

China has also turned to a familiar low-tech surveillance tactic: recruiting the masses.

A Uighur businessman from Kashgar who fled China said his four brothers and his father were in prison because of his escape and that families tasked with spying on one another in his community had also been punished. Members from each were sent to re-education centers for three months, he told the AP.

A document obtained by U.S.-based activists and seen

by the AP shows Uighur residents in the Hebei Road West neighborhood in Urumqi, the regional capital, being graded on a 100-point scale. Those of Uighur ethnicity are automatically docked 10 points. Being aged between 15 and 55, praying daily, or having a religious education, all result in 10 point deductions. A neighborhood police official in Urumqi surnamed Tao confirmed that every community committee in the city needed to conduct similar assessments.

Uighurs abroad say it’s too risky to stay in touch with their families in China.

When Salih Hidayar, an American Uighur graduate student, last called his 70-something grandfather this summer, the elderly man told him kindly not to call again. He later heard his grandfather had been sent to an indoctrination camp.

A Uighur student who moved to Washington following the crackdown this summer said that after his move, his wife, a government worker still in Urumqi, messaged to say the police would show up at her home in 20 minutes. She had to say goodbye: after that she would delete him permanently from her contacts list.

Later, he couldn’t help himself placing one last call home. His daughter picked up.

“Mom is sick but she doesn’t want me to speak to you. Goodbye,” she said. **AP**



A submarine missile is paraded across the Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang

Sydney man charged with brokering North Korea missile sales

Trevor Marshallsea, Sydney

A South Korean-born Sydney man was charged yesterday with acting as an economic agent for North Korea in Australia by allegedly attempting to broker sales worth tens of millions of dollars for Pyongyang that included components used in ballistic missiles.

The Australian Federal Police said 59-year-old naturalized Australian Chan Han Choi used encrypted communication to broker sales and discuss the supply of weapons of mass destruction. His actions contravened both United Nations and Australian sanctions against North Korea, police said.

Police said the man was acting to generate income for Pyongyang by arranging the sale of computer software used for guiding ballistic missiles as well as expertise from North Korea to other "international entities." Police didn't elaborate.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said he had been briefed

by AFP Commissioner Andrew Colvin on the "very, very serious matter" and warned anyone thinking of assisting North Korea that "the AFP will find you."

"North Korea is a dangerous, reckless, criminal regime threatening the peace of the region," Turnbull said. "It supports itself by breaching U.N. sanctions, not simply by selling commodities like coal and other goods, but also by selling weapons, by selling drugs, by engaging in cybercrime."

He added: "It is vitally important that all nations work relentlessly to enforce those sanctions because the more economic pressure that can be brought on North Korea, the sooner that regime will be brought to its senses."

Despite international sanctions, cash-strapped North Korea last month test-fired its most powerful missile that may be able to target the U.S. mainland.

Choi is facing six charges related to brokering the sale of

missile componentry and expertise from North Korea to other international entities, and attempting to transfer coal from North Korea to entities in Indonesia and Vietnam.

Choi didn't appear or apply for bail in a Sydney court Sunday,

and bail was formally refused.

Federal police Assistant Commissioner Neil Gaughan said the governments of Indonesia and Vietnam — or authorities in those countries — were not involved in the coal transfer attempt.

Pyongyang unmoved as world unites against its nuke ambitions

NORTH Korea's friends and enemies joined forces Friday in opposing its determination to be recognized as a nuclear weapons state and calling on leader Kim Jong Un to negotiate the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula — but the North gave no sign of budging on its nuclear ambitions.

In a very rare appearance by a North Korean at the U.N. Security Council, Ambassador Ja Song Nam told a ministerial meeting that the country's possession of nuclear weapons was "an inevitable self-defensive measure" to defend the country against "the U.S. nuclear threat and blackmail."

Ja never mentioned the possibility of talks. Instead, he called the council meeting "a desperate measure plotted by the U.S. being terrified by the incredible might of our republic that has successfully achieved the great historic cause of completing the state nuclear force."

South Korea's Vice Foreign Minister Cho Hyun told the council



North Korean Ambassador to the United Nations Ja Song Nam

that North Korea is "in the final stages of nuclear weaponization" and warned that if it can put a nuclear warhead on an intercontinental ballistic missile "it will fundamentally alter the security landscape in the region and beyond."

He urged the international community to grasp the urgency of the threat this poses and find ways to halt the North's nuclear program — including by maximizing pressure and uniting in answering "absolutely no" to North Korean attempts to be recognized as a nuclear-weapons state.

Choi is the first person charged under Australia's Weapons of Mass Destruction Act and could face a maximum 10-year prison sentence.

Gaughan said the charges related to his alleged activity over the past year, but that allegations dated back to 2008.

Choi was arrested Saturday and charged over two transactions that were unsuccessful. "But we estimate that if these trades were successful, we're talking tens of millions of dollars," Gaughan told reporters.

He said investigations were continuing and that more charges could be filed against Choi.

"The AFP are saying this man was a loyal agent of North Korea, believing he was acting to serve some high patriotic purpose," Gaughan said.

Police started investigating Choi after a tip-off from another international agency on another matter, he said.

"I know these charges sound alarming, but we are not suggesting that there are any weapons or missile componentry that came to Australian soil," he said. "We're alleging all of the activity occurred offshore."

Choi's activities also involved commodities including oil and gemstones.

"This is black market 101. It's the same with the coal and oil and gemstones — it's all about making money for North Korea," he said, adding the case was "like nothing we have ever seen on Australian soil."

"Any individual who attempts to fly in the face of sanctions cannot and will not go unnoticed in Australia," he said. **AP**

NORTH KOREA MARKS 6TH ANNIVERSARY OF KIM JONG IL'S DEATH

CROWDS OF flower-bearing North Koreans yesterday streamed past statues and portraits of their leaders to pay respects on the sixth anniversary of the death of Kim Jong Un's father, Kim Jong Il. With somber, recorded music playing in the sub-zero air, thousands upon thousands of people marched up Pyongyang's Mansu Hill to bow and

place flowers at the feet of two giant bronze statues of Kim Jong Il and national founder Kim Il Sung. Although the sense of national mourning is less intense than in previous years, North Koreans are expected to avoid drinking, entertainment and inappropriate displays of enjoyment on the day before and the day of the anniversary.

PAKISTAN

Suicide bombers attack church, killing 5

TWO suicide bombers attacked a church in the southwestern city of Quetta yesterday, killing five people and wounding 18 others, officials said.

Sarfaraz Bugti, home minister for Baluchistan province, said hundreds of worshippers were attending services at the church ahead of Christmas. He said the attackers clashed with security forces, with one assailant killed at the entrance while the other made it inside.

Baluchistan police chief Moazzam Ansari confirmed the death toll. He praised the response of security forces guarding the church, saying the attacker who made it inside was wounded and unable to reach the main building.

“Otherwise the loss of lives could have been much higher,” he told reporters.

Quetta police chief Abdur Razzaq Cheema said a search is underway for two suspected accomplices who escaped.

Local television showed ambulances and security patrols racing to the scene while women and children were being led out of the church's main gate. Hospital officials said two women were among the dead while another five women and two children were among the wounded.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Muslim extremists have targeted Pakistan's Christian minority in the past. **MDT/AP**

INDONESIA

Clerics want boycott of US products over Jerusalem

MUSLIM clerics called for a boycott of American products yesterday in Indonesia's largest protest against President Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Wearing white robes and carrying banners reading “Indonesia unites for Palestine” and “Save our Palestine,” an estimated 80,000 people rallied in the capital of the world's largest Muslim nation in the 10th straight day of protests.

Anwar Abbas, a top cleric from the Indonesian Council of Ulema, read a petition calling on Indonesians to stop buying American products until Trump revoked his move.

“Don't rely on their products,” he said, as the crowd including men, women and children responded by waving Indonesian and Palestinian flags and shouting “boycott!”

In the petition, the clerics urged Trump to immediately revoke his recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital because it has hurt international justice, violated human rights of the



Palestinians and undermined peace efforts.

It also demanded nations not follow the U.S. in moving their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and urged the U.N. Security Council to hold an emergency session to discuss Trump's declaration.

The chairman of the clerics council, Ma'ruf Amin, said “let's fight together with the government and the world

for the freedom of Palestine through political, diplomatic and economic ways.”

Indonesian President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo has strongly condemned Trump's move as a violation of U.N. resolutions. Indonesia does not have diplomatic ties with Israel and has long been a strong supporter of Palestinian aspirations for a statehood. **MDT/AP**

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Chileans vote in fiercely contested presidential election

CHILEANS voters are deciding whether to swing the world's top copper-producing country to the right or maintain its center-left path in a fiercely contested presidential runoff election.

Billionaire Sebastian Pinera once looked set to easily win Chile's presidential runoff and swing the country back to the right. Now, the election's outcome is so uncertain analysts say the nation could remain on its center-left path.

The election was thrown into uncertainty after the billionaire businessman obtained a lower-than-expected turnout in November's first round of voting. He faces journalist and center-left Sen. Alejandro Guillier, who has been buoyed by support from Chile's hard left.

Chile has been hit by lower international prices and demand for copper, which



Sebastian Pinera (center), a former Chilean president running for reelection

is the backbone of its economy. The economic slowdown and disenchantment by Chileans who feel that President Michelle Bachelet wavered on her promises of profound social changes in labor and education initially helped Pinera, who ended his 2010-2014 term with a poor popularity rating.

Polls are banned in the

weeks ahead of the election but analysts say that based on the last polls released and trends seen, it appears the race is now up for grabs.

"What it is showing, though, is that there's practically a tie between the two of them," said Javier Sajuria, a lecturer in politics at Queen Mary University of London.

Pinera oversaw annual economic growth avera-

ging 5.3 percent during his first term. But the 68-year-old conservative struggled to deal with massive protests over inequality and education rights and left office with low popularity ratings.

He now proposes slashing taxes on business to revive growth and vows to launch a USD14 billion, four-year spending plan that includes fresh investments in infrastructure.

Guillier promises to continue Bachelet's plan to increase corporate taxes to partly finance an education overhaul, reform the pension and health care system. He also wants to diversify Chile's copper-dependent economy and develop alternative sources of energy to lower investment costs.

"Since [Guillier] is not very popular, he has tried to turn the election into a referendum on Pinera. As a former president, Pinera has high negatives," said political scientist Patricio Navia of New York University.

In recent weeks the race has polarized, with Pinera comparing Guillier to Nicolas Maduro, the president of crisis-riddled Venezuela, a scare tactic that seems to have backfired. **MDT/AP**



CHILE

Landslide leaves 5 dead, 15 missing

A mudslide fueled by heavy rains swept over a village in southern Chile on Saturday, leaving at least five people dead and 15 missing, officials said.

Rain caused a river to overflow and the side of a hill to collapse, burying 20 of the 200 houses in Villa Santa Lucia in the Los Lagos region, located 790 miles south of Chile's capital, Santiago.

President Michelle Bachelet declared the region a catastrophe zone and confirmed the number of dead and missing. She met with her team of ministers to coordinate rescue and assistance efforts.

Earlier Saturday, Deputy Secretary of the Interior Madmud Aleuy said there were three people dead, including an unidentified tourist, and 15 others missing.

Some of the injured were taken by helicopter to medical centers. Two families were evacuated because of a fire caused by the slide, authorities said. Water and electricity service to the area was knocked out. **AP**

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Karel Janicek, Prague

Populist far-right leaders want no EU in future Europe

FAR-RIGHT populists in Europe vowed Saturday to work together to create a new model of inter-continental cooperation that is far removed from the European Union.

Leaders of parties from France, the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, Britain and other countries met in Prague to discuss ideas for Europe's future under the headline "For a Europe of Sovereign Nations."

They attacked the EU for its migrant policies, accused its leader of trying to create a super state run by Brussels and praised U.S. President Donald Trump's approach to migration.

Marine Le Pen, leader of France's far-right National Front, blamed the EU for getting "everything wrong."

"Because we love Europe, we accuse the EU of killing Europe," Le Pen told reporters. She said parties like hers want to save Europe "by preserving nation-states."

"We are not xenophobes, we are opponents of the European Union," Le Pen said. "I think this is something we have in common, because the European Union is a disastrous organization which is leading our continent to destruction through dilution by drowning it in migrants, by the negation of our respective countries, by the draining of our diversity."

Geert Wilders, founder of the

Dutch anti-Islam Party for Freedom, followed suit.

"My party is convinced that the Netherlands would be better off outside the European Union, and it will be better for our economy, for our security," Wilders said.

Wilders singled out immigration and "Islamization" of Europe as the most pressing issues.

Far-right populists accused EU leaders of trying to create a super state run by Brussels

"We must have the courage, to introduce travel bans as President Trump has done in the United States," he said. "We must have the courage to restrict legal immigration instead of expanding it. We must have the courage to repatriate the illegal immigrants."

Parties with anti-immigration platforms have been making

AP PHOTO



Dutch politician Geert Wilders, founder and current leader of the Party for Freedom

gains at the polls in Europe, although Wilders and Le Pen both ran unsuccessfully this year for the top political posts in their countries.

More recently, Austria's far-right Freedom Party became a partner in a new coalition government after receiving more than a quarter of the vote in a parlia-

mentary election.

Le Pen called it "very good news, excellent news for Europe."

The meeting was hosted by the most anti-migrant, anti-Muslim, anti-EU party in the Czech Republic, Freedom and Direct Democracy. It finished fourth in October's parliamentary election, winning 22 seats in the 200-seat

lower house of Parliament.

The party wants to ban Islam, which it calls an ideology of hate. Its chairman, Tomio Okamura, is currently a deputy speaker of the house.

Hundreds protesters joined a peaceful rally against the far-right gathering in Prague on Saturday. AP

AD

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what's ON



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TIME: pm-8:30pm (Mondays)
9:30am-8:30pm (Tuesdays to Sundays;
closed on public holidays)
ADDRESS: No. 69 - 81, Rua da Ribeira do Patane
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2825 9220

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
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

MONKEY KING

TIME: 4pm & 8pm daily (Except on Thursdays)
VENUE: Sands Cotai Theatre
ADMISSION: MOP420, MOP480, MOP680, MOP880, MOP1080
COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818
KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)
ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

LAI CHI VUN REBIRTH—ARTWORKS EXHIBITION OF LAI CHI VUN SHIPYARDS AREA

TIME: 11am-10pm
UNTIL: December 31, 2017
VENUE: Lakeside Gallery, Anim'Arte Nam Van
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRES: (853) 2836 6866

Offbeat

GAZA EATERY OFFERS DISCOUNTS TO NORTH KOREANS BUT NO TAKERS



A shawarma restaurant with a poster of N Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Jabaliya refugee camp, Gaza Strip

A Gaza eatery is offering massive discounts to North Korean diners but there is just one problem — there are no North Koreans in Gaza.

Ibrahim Raba, manager of a shawarma restaurant in Gaza's Jabaliya refugee camp, says he is offering the 80 percent discounts to show his appreciation for North Korea's rejection of President Donald Trump's recent recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

He has also placed a large photo of reclusive North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on the glass door entrance to his restaurant.

A new Kim fan, Raba likes to quote the North Korean leader, saying: "Trump proved he is mentally deranged."

And though Raba knows there are no North Koreans in Gaza, he hopes they will come someday, perhaps after joining other foreign aid workers.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	RTPi Live
15:00	Miscellaneous
15:45	Miscellaneous
17:35	Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated)
18:25	Non-daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:50	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Champions League Magazine 2017/2018
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

14 DEC - 20 DEC



STAR WARS EPISODE VIII

ROOM 1
(2D) 2:15, 9:30pm
(3D) 6:50pm

ROOM 2
(2D) 4:15, 7:00pm

Director: Rian Johnson
Starring: Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Mark Hamill
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 150 min



MY LITTLE PONY: THE MOVIE

ROOM 1

5:00pm

ROOM 3

2:30pm

Director: Jayson Thiessen
Starring: Emily Blunt, Kristin Chenoweth, Liev Schreiber
Language: Cantonese
Duration: 99min

WONDER

ROOM 2

2:15, 9:45pm

Director: Stephen Chbosky
Starring: Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, Jacob Tremblay
Language: Chinese (English)
Duration: 113min



MY TOMORROW, YOUR YESTERDAY

ROOM 3

4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm

Director: Takahiro Miki
Starring: Sota Fukushi, Nana Komatsu
Language: Japanese (English & Chinese)
Duration: 111min

this day in history



1950 RADIO TIMES HITS CHRISTMAS DEADLINE

The Christmas edition of the Radio Times will be out in time for families to plan their festive viewing and listening - despite recent publishing difficulties. An industrial dispute, which disrupted production of the country's most popular magazine and other publications for several weeks of the autumn, has finally been settled.

One newspaper report said the dispute had cost the BBC £65,000 in lost sales.

The Christmas edition of the Radio Times is traditionally its biggest-selling issue. Sales are expected to exceed the weekly average of eight million copies. Last year the BBC made £1,039,464 from its publications, most of it from the Radio Times.

The dispute was called by London Master Printers and the London Society of Compositors over pay and working conditions. They were demanding a weekly wage of £8.

The weekly edition of the Radio Times failed to appear first on 8 September. The following week an emergency 20-page version of the magazine was printed.

Over the course of the next couple of months several more editions were cancelled, or printed in a shorter form.

Some research was made into getting printing plates for the Radio Times made up in France. But the printers made it clear they would not handle the foreign plates.

Agreement was eventually reached in November to pay printers a minimum weekly wage of £7 15s, linked to a cost of living index.

New terms were also agreed for taking on apprentice compositors. From now on, their numbers will be linked to the degree of unemployment among compositors.

The 1950 Christmas Radio Times features an illustration of the nativity scene by Walter Hodges on the front cover and inside a picture of the King George VI reading his Christmas message.

It will be despatched ready for sale in the shops this coming Friday (22 December).

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Radio Times has been published since 1923. In its 80-year history the magazine has only failed to appear 11 times - four of those were during the printing dispute of 1950.

In the 1950s the magazine was selling around eight million copies a week and claimed to be the world's biggest-selling magazine.

Its highest-ever sales figure was achieved for the Christmas edition of 1988 which sold over 11 million copies.

Following the de-regulation of the market, which allowed other magazines to include listings for all tv and radio programmes, sales have dropped. The Christmas 2002 Radio Times sold just under three million copies.

The printing process is now entirely digital. The power the print unions wielded over the newspaper industry was broken by Rupert Murdoch during the Wapping dispute in 1986.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You may have been planning to spend the day relaxing, but when the universe makes a decision, it's hard to argue. Right now, that decision involves getting your affairs in order - there are no two ways about it.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Someone you've been carrying a torch for may finally let you know that the feelings aren't more than mutual. They may even have been lugging around a brighter flame than you have.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You're so sociable that it's hard to catch a glimpse of you alone -- and you're usually found with more than one person. You just prefer groups - the more the merrier, as they say.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Right now it's going to be quite a challenge for even you to scale back the heated-up rhetoric, even if it means the difference between a knockdown, drag-out argument and keeping the peace.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Right now, as your own pride is running on high, it's easy to see how you'd defend the people, things, and ideals you love with fierceness. Issuing a warning might be nice - but only if you think it's merited.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Break free from the pack and capture something (or someone) that is your heart's desire. Give it all you've got - holding back comes across as hesitation or weakness and just confuses matters.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You have a chance to really change some financial agreement you don't like, thanks to some particularly helpful financial energy. This is doubly true when it comes to negotiations or other social events.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Some bright social energy is zipping through your life right now, giving you an extra dose of sex appeal. Not only does this enhance all first impressions, it also gives you the ability to think quickly on your feet.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Authority figures don't reach their positions through their sweet and accommodating natures. They have to interview brutally, assign tasks that are next to impossible.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 If you live with anyone - friends, family, spouse or lover - get them out of the house for a bit. You're on a clean-and-purge mission to sort, scour and organize everything you own.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You're neither cold nor impersonal, and you're probably quite tired of others thinking you are before getting to know you. You're actually just picky, and there's nothing wrong with that.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 If you're still shopping for a soul mate, try to relax. Over the next few days, you should have quite a few opportunities to meet the right person - and you don't have to look far to find them!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

MIN MAX CONDITION

CHINA

Table with 4 columns: City, Min, Max, Condition. Includes Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong.

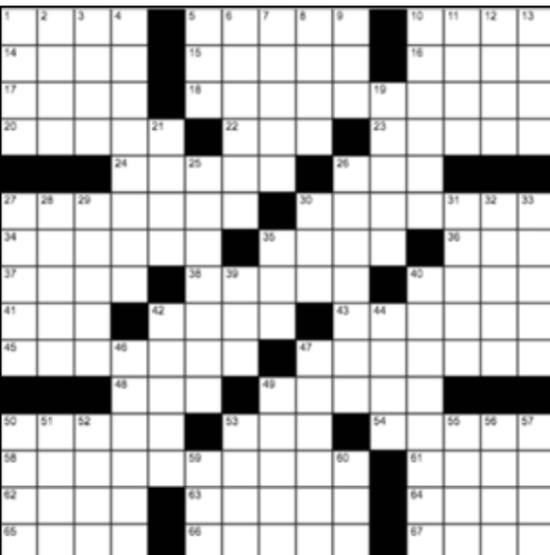
WORLD

Table with 4 columns: City, Min, Max, Condition. Includes Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon; 5- Sports area; 10- Energy units; 14- "Whip It" band; 15- Loathes; 16- Metal fastener; 17- Three Lives; 18- Charming; 20- Art supporter; 22- Chinese "way"; 23- Struck out; 24- Leaves port; 26- Bruins legend; 27- State of decline; 30- Covered with frost; 34- Tell; 35- Disfigure; 36- Thurman of "Pulp Fiction"; 37- Banned apple spray; 38- Litmus reddeners; 40- Aroma; 41- Oh yeah? who?; 42- Dressed; 43- Important; 45- Green berry; 47- Scoffed; 48- Dreyer's partner in ice cream; 49- Quizzes, trials; 50- Abbreviated time off; 53- Monitor, for short; 54- Went public with; 58- Not enough; 61- Glum; 62- Spillane's Jury; 63- Unexpected victory; 64- French 101 infinitive; 65- Actor Penn; 66- Milo of "Barbarella"; 67- Arab sailing vessel;

DOWN: 1- "What I Am" singer Brickell; 2- Boxer Oscar Hoya; 3- Nights before; 4- Polaris, e.g.; 5- Caught ya!; 6- Child's toy; 7- Kett and James; 8- Adopted son of Claudius; 9- Simile center; 10- Goes in; 11- Racetrack boundary; 12- Bestow; 13- Dog-powered snow vehicle; 19- Software medium; 21- CafA@ au; 25- Perfectly; 26- Prayers; 27- Eface; 28- Brazilian port; 29- Burn brightly; 30- Craze; 31- Henry VIII's house; 32- Chew the scenery; 33- Ventured; 35- Central; 39- Structural engineer's software; 40- Unequal; 42- Training group; 44- Greek salad ingredient; 46- Blush; 47- Small sofa; 49- Rubbish; 50- Journalist Jacob; 51- Start the pot; 52- Okinawa port; 53- Drinking vessels; 55- Portnoy's creator; 56- Monetary unit of Germany; 57- A Barrymore; 59- Status; 60- JFK listing;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



AD

Real estate advertisement for JML Property. Includes 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' sections with property details like 'Grande Plaza', '1st Floor Car Park, The Manhattan', 'Apartment B, Daffodil Court', 'Va Fat', 'Kinlight', 'Carnation Court, Hellene Gardens, Unit A', 'Apartment C, Nam Long', and 'Apartment C, Vai Fat'. Includes JML Property logo and contact info.

Q30

突破常規

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FOOTBALL

Ronaldo goal gives Real Madrid its third Club World Cup title

CRISTIANO Ronaldo scored from a free-kick as Real Madrid claimed its third Club World Cup title after beating Brazilian team Gremio 1-0 Saturday.

The Ballon d'Or winner fired his right-footed shot between two players in Gremio's defensive wall, leaving goalkeeper Marcelo Grohe no hope of reaching the ball before it bounced inside the post in the 53rd minute.

"[Ronaldo] is always there at the key moments," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "Nobody can do what he does."

Madrid became the first team to retain the FIFA Club World Cup title, and collected its fifth trophy of 2017, along with the Champions League, Spanish league, European Super Cup and Spanish Super Cup.

Ronaldo celebrated the goal by rushing to Madrid's dugout where he was embraced by his teammates. The goal increased Ronaldo's record to seven goals in the competition. He also scored in Madrid's 2-1 comeback win over Al Jazira in the semifinals.

"What am I going to say? The numbers speak for themselves. I am very happy. The team played fantastically well and it has won another title," Ronaldo said. "We played a very good game and deserved the victory."

Madrid equaled Barcelona's record of three titles for the short knockout tournament between the champions of

AP PHOTO



FIFA's six continental confederations and the host nation's league winner.

European clubs have won 10 of the last 11 Club World Cups, with only Brazil's Corinthians interrupting that streak in 2012 when it defeated Chelsea.

Zidane played the same starting 11 from last season's Champions League final in June, when Madrid crushed Juventus 4-1 — led by Ronaldo's double.

The European champions outclassed Gremio throughout the match, but the clo-

sest they got to scoring in the first half was Dani Carvajal's goal-bound volley in the 20th that was cleared by Pedro Geromel.

Gremio had to scramble on several occasions to stop Madrid inside its own area. At the other end, a free-kick by

Edilson for the South American champions swerved onto the top netting near the half-hour mark.

Geromel had tried to set the tone early on with a hard tackle that left Ronaldo writhing in pain, and hoping for a booking that never came.

Ronaldo had a poor first half. He twice erred in short passes with his back heel that failed to reach his teammates, and he squandered a good opportunity when he took too long to shoot when a loose ball fell to him close to the net.

All that changed after the interval. Ronaldo baited Jailson into fouling him outside the area with some fancy dribbling, setting up his winner.

Ronaldo thought he had another goal moments later, but Karim Benzema was ruled offside before he passed the ball back to Ronaldo.

Marcelo Grohe kept his side in the game by pushing Luka Modric's shot onto his post and denied Ronaldo a second goal, but Gremio never mounted a serious response to get the equalizer.

Mexico's Pachuca beat Al Jazira 4-1 in the third-place match earlier Saturday. **AP**

FOOTBALL

South Korea win East Asian Championship

SOUTH Korea stunned Japan 4-1 on Saturday to win the East Asian Championship after Kim Shin-wook scored two goals.

"This was seen as a pre-

paratory match for both sides ahead of the World Cup, so I am very happy we won," South Korea coach Shin Tae-yong said. "Even so, there is still room for improvement and I hope

both sides can improve together moving toward the finals."

Yu Kobayashi gave Japan the lead from the penalty spot after just three minutes, but South Korea

scored 10 minutes later as Kim Shin-wook headed home a cross from Kim Jin-su on the left. Then Jung Woo-young put South Korea in front with a free kick from 25 yards in

the 23rd minute.

Kim Shin-wook added a third goal for South Korea in the 35th minute, converting after being found inside the area by Lee Jaesung, and a free kick by

Yeom Ki-hun in the 69th minute deflected into the goal off Kobayashi.

"I can't say much about today's match," Japan coach Vahid Halilhodzic said. "South Korea vastly outdid Japan. In terms of power and technique, the South Korean team amazed me with the way they managed to control the game." **MDT/AP**

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opinion

Rear Window
 Severo Portela



FOUR DAYS IN BEIJING

It is understandable that we would take Chief Executive Chui Sai On's early December visit to Beijing to be nothing more than routine, although highly formal, utterly political, and not only because the highlight is an audience with President Xi Jinping. The CE's political agenda is year after year more or less the same. Besides the audience with the President, Chui Sai On is supposed to make a presentation of the 2017 work report, as well as present the MSAR guidelines for 2018, followed by a certain number of meetings with Central Government departments.

Also understandable, is the fact that the public information coming from the audience and the meetings with the PRC government agencies or departments is formal and scant, this way putting down or delaying any guessing games back in Macau at the SAR level. In the coming 2018 year we will be able to have a much more educated guess as to what names the local lingo puts to the "north winds" blowing over the tiny MSAR. There may be conflicting signs causing concern about the particular special substance that creates the fabric of the special administrative region that brings a sense of being in control.

Macau seems to be played by two opposing forces: inside, there is a trend to deconstruct pieces of legislation, by erasing old stuff or by adding new stuff; at the extreme, regulatory micromanagement will challenge the whole of the system, creating a Swiss cheese; externally, there is a comprehensive option to join bigger realities, bigger projects, larger horizons that one way or another dwarfs MSAR: Hengqin first, today the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Great Bay Area, tomorrow - if Macau is to find a role - the Belt and Road initiative.

Under the China National Tourism Administration, Macau takes part in a new organization, a federation, indeed, of nine cities in the Guangdong Province - Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Foshan, Huizhou, Dongguan, Zhongshan, Jiamen, Zhaoqin - and the two SARs. The federation is to promote joint branding and market sharing, among other elements, to forge a world-class travel destination. CNTA Li Yaying believes that tourism is changing and that a new era of holistic tourism development has arrived!

There is nothing wrong in looking for opportunities out of the Macau box; no problem to abide by the mantra of diversification; or jump onto the wagon of integration.

What seems, if not wrong, plainly regrettable is the weakening of the rule law, in a general sense, of which lawmaker Sulu Sou's suspension is an example of a wrong move, soon to be proven to be a little too problematic to be just the cost of red tape in the development of the Macau Special Administrative Region. What seems odd, if not threatening, is the decision to freeze Ng Kuok Cheong's tabling of a discussion to replace the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (thus fulfilling the Basic Law) on grounds that allegedly NPC Zhang Rongshan had already advised that the proposal without elections followed the Basic Law. Take this as a precedent, and fear.

January, 2018 will begin with the case of Legislator Sulu Sou together with former president of the New Macau Association Scott Chiang scheduled to start on the ninth at the Court of First Instance. They answer to aggravated disobedience to police agents - more or less for having walked in the middle of the road instead of the boardwalk! Sulu Sou, who managed to attain lyrical brilliance with his innocuous paper plane-throwing antics, seems to be in dire straits to find a lawyer.

THE BUZZ CHILLY WEEK AHEAD AS TEMPERATURES DROP TO 9 DEGREES CELSIUS

The Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) expects this week's temperatures to drop to as low as 9 degrees Celsius, rising gradually again by the end of the week.

The SMG said the drop in temperature is due to a strong winter monsoon affecting the South China coastal areas, which will bring cold and

dry weather to the region over the next few days.

The bureau advised citizens to stay healthy by paying attention to weather changes, avoiding prolonged exposure to the cold, and dressing warmly, especially the elderly, young children and those suffering from chronic medical conditions.

Station	Air quality	Icon
Roadside	25-45 Good	
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good	
Ambient	20-40 Good	

SOURCE: DSI/MG

China, Britain pledge cooperation as UK leaves EU

BRITAIN and China pledged to promote London as a center for offshore use of Beijing's currency and cooperate in clean energy research and promoting trade as the United Kingdom prepares to leave the European Union.

Officials announced the agreements following an economic dialogue led by Britain's finance minister, Philip Hammond, and a senior Chinese economic official, Vice Premier Ma Kai. The event was attended by a delegation of British business leaders and economic officials.

British leaders are looking to China for trade and investment as they try to fashion a new global role and offset reduced access to the other 27 nations of the European common market.

The two sides agreed to promote international use of China's tightly controlled yuan and develop yuan-based business in London. That could help to shore up the British capital's status as a global financial center outside the EU.

"The two sides will discuss future trade arrangements and push for the conclusion of a China-EU investment agreement," Ma said at a joint news conference.

The economic dialogue is an annual event, but this year's gathering at a government guesthouse in Beijing took on special significance following Britain's 2016 vote to leave the EU. Hammond was accom-



Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond [second from right] and Chinese Vice Premier Ma Kai [center]

panied by the governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, British financial regulators and an unusually large delegation of businesspeople for such an event.

Hammond said London is looking for a "sustainable future arrangement" with the EU. He said that was likely to be more complex than agreements made with Canada or members of the European Economic Area.

"It is likely that we will want to negotiate specific arrangements, bespoke arrangements that reflect the long and close trading history," said Hammond.

British officials want "an environment which will effectively replicate the current status quo," allowing companies to conduct trade and financial services across borders, he said.

Premier Li Keqiang, China's top economic official, expressed confidence Friday during a meeting with Hammond in

"steady and sound growth" of Chinese-British relations regardless of what happens between London and the EU.

"We hope the U.K. and the EU will conduct their Brexit negotiations in a way that's mutually beneficial for both sides and result in outcomes that are desirable for both sides," said a deputy Chinese finance minister, Shi Yaobin.

Chinese and British officials also agreed to look at ways to expand Britain's role in Beijing's "Belt and Road Initiative."

Hammond announced the British export finance agency will support up to 25 billion pounds (USD33 billion) of new business along the "Belt and Road" in Asia. He said a former HSBC Group chairman, Douglas Flint, would serve as the British Treasury's envoy to "Belt and Road."

"China and Britain are natural partners in the Belt and Road Initiative," said Ma. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

MDT/Paulo Coutinho



Whistleblowers. As the international parade participants dispute territory with tourists and cars on a cold Sunday, Main Street came to an halt while agents added noise to the pollution making things worse. This should not happen on a Sunday. Not on Main Street. Thank you.

WORLD BRIEFS



PALESTINE Hamas marked the 30th anniversary of its founding with a mass rally of many thousands of supporters, staging a show of strength at a low point in the Islamic militant group's history.

GABON A man stabbed two Danish journalists in Gabon's capital, declaring it was in retaliation for U.S. attacks against Muslims, Gabon's defense minister said.



SOUTH AFRICA The fight to replace South Africa's scandal-prone President Jacob Zuma began Saturday as thousands of delegates of the ruling African National Congress gathered to elect a new leader.

AUSTRIA The new Austrian government led by a conservative and a nationalist party is pledging to tighten the country's asylum and immigration regulations while maintaining a firm commitment to the European Union.



CHILE Voters are deciding whether to swing the world's top copper-producing country to the right or maintain its center-left path in a fiercely contested presidential runoff election. More on p14

PERU Lawmakers in Peru have launched proceedings to oust President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, who refuses to resign after being accused of failing to disclose decade-old payments from a Brazilian company embroiled in Latin America's biggest corruption scandal.