



**WARNING TO STAY CLEAR OF COLOANE BEACHES**

P4



**TAX RELIEF FOR REVAMP WORKS**

The Urban Renewal Committee discussed the implementation of tax relief measures for renovation works

P7



**YOU ARE FIRED, TILLERSON**

Trump announced Tillerson's ouster in a tweet. He said he would nominate CIA director Mike Pompeo as Secretary of State

P20

WED. 14  
Mar 2018

T. 18°/ 23° C  
H. 75/ 98%

facebook.com/mdtimes  
+ 11,000

N.º 3006  
**MOP 8.00**  
**HKD 10.00**

2305 4271

**Times** MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

**\$98 / 1GB**

Mainland China, Macau, HK  
Data, Voice Airtime, SMS

**Share Usage**

Note: CTM reserves the right to make the final decision in case of any dispute.

CTM

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**JAPAN-KOREA**  
Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (right) met with South Korea's intelligence chief yesterday, and said that while he welcomes any dialogue with North Korea regarding the country's denuclearization, the North must take real steps toward that goal.  
More on p13

**MYANMAR's** government yesterday rejected two reports presented to the U.N. Human Rights Council that concluded it committed extreme human rights violations, probably amounting to crimes under international law, in its repression of several minority groups.



**PHILIPPINES** Two militants, one Filipino and the other Malaysian, who survived the crushing of a siege of a southern Philippine city last year are among the leading candidates to succeed a slain Islamic State group regional leader as the rebels attempt to recover from setbacks.

**THAILAND's** cabinet agreed yesterday to draft a law to oversee cryptocurrency trading, seeking to tax the largely unregulated market.

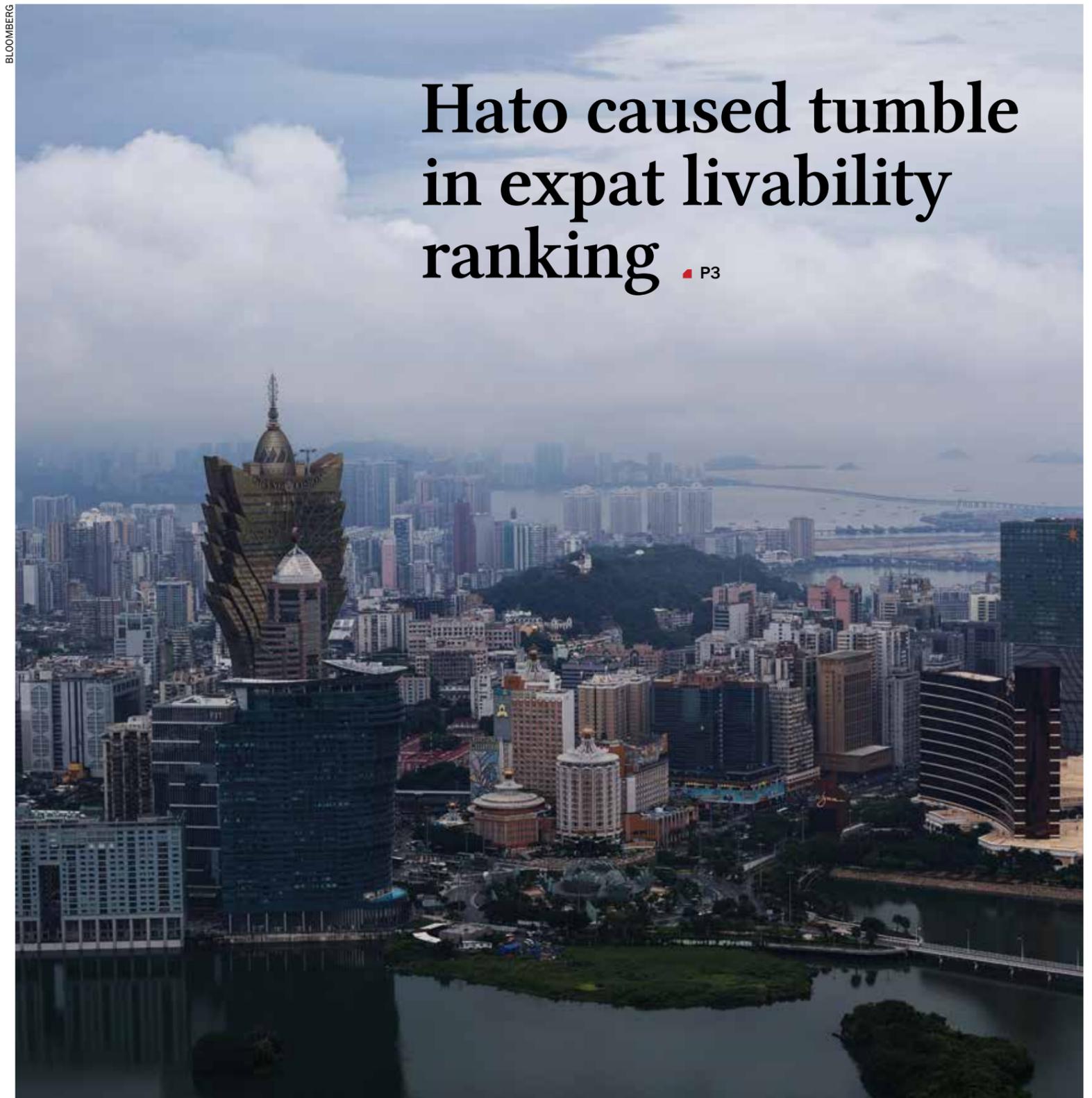


**NEPAL's** president, Bidhya Devi Bhandari, was elected to a second term in voting yesterday by national and provincial lawmakers. The Election Commission said Bhandari received a large majority of the ballots.

More on backpage

# More New Macau activists under probe

P5



Hato caused tumble in expat livability ranking

P3

# Health Bureau says no smoking rooms authorized for Wynn Palace

**T**HE Health Bureau (SSM) has issued a statement in which it acknowledges its awareness of some casino workers collecting signatures for a petition to enforce smoking control measures in the VIP rooms and high rollers' common areas of the Wynn Palace casino in Cotai.

Several casino staff have complained that their health has been compromised by Wynn Palace permitting gamblers to smoke in those areas. In response, the SSM clarified, "no authorization for the creation of smoking rooms or smoking areas has been issued for the casino [in question]," adding that smoke control inspectors are working with the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau to enforce the existing law and tackle the occurrence of "illegal situations."

The SSM also recalled that, according to last year's re-



view of the tobacco control law by the Legislative Assembly, smoking is strictly prohibited in common areas and VIP gaming rooms in casinos, except in smoking rooms previously authorized under the new requirements. The bureau reaffirmed that "if smoking rooms are found not

to meet the new requirements, or have not been authorized [for] its construction, they will be closed and the [people responsible] for them will be charged according to the law."

The SSM also noted that in the first two months since the entry into force of the

amendments to the Tobacco Control Act, 138 joint inspections were conducted in casinos and illegal smokers were charged 262 times, figures that represent a 50 percent increase in the number of inspections year-on-year and an 188 percent hike in the number of charges year-on-year.

CPPCC

## SARs can improve mainland's poverty situation

**C**HAN Meng Kam, a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and a former Macau lawmaker, has suggested his compatriots in the SARs should contribute to the mainland's task of alleviating poverty in China.

According to a report by Macao Daily News, Chan suggested the SARs' media sources should focus on places in the mainland where deep poverty exists, to allow Macau citizens to understand the reality behind poverty in the mainland, as well as to enhance their understanding of the country.

Chan said that Macau residents could first be arranged to provide their help in the mainland areas predominantly populated by ethnic minorities where deep poverty exists, such as Xinjiang and Tibet.

Besides donating money or goods and improving the education environment and living conditions of these areas, Chan believes that a key aspect for alleviating poverty will be helping these regions to develop their own specific cultural industries, to increase their income.

Chan also suggested that Macau's role as a platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries can also be used to lift areas out of poverty.

According to Chan, Macau can help target regions of the mainland to organize exhibitions in Macau featuring goods made locally in the poverty stricken areas. It can also help regions to enhance communication with other areas of the world through Macau, in particular by helping them to sell their goods to Europe and Portuguese-speaking countries.

CLBrief

China-Lusophone Brief

About us | Subscribe | Log in | f | Q

Countries -

Macao

Topics -

Profiles

Book of the Week



ANGOLA 11 March 2018

### The rise of African web entrepreneurs

Since China became Africa's largest trading partner in 2009, trade has continued to climb, helped by cooperative frameworks put in place by the Chinese government and its African counterparts such as Angola and Mozambique. The momentum is expected to build over the medium term to make economic ties become even closer and stronger.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACAO

BRAZIL

CHINA

## New China-Lusophone news service launches

**A**N English language news service that aims to provide in-depth analysis of the developing economic and political situation in Portuguese-speaking

countries, as well as emerging business opportunities with China, was launched this week.

Called China-Lusophone Brief (CLBrief),

the service will explore issues of legislation, taxation and investment opportunities. It will profile key personalities in the public and private sectors, as well

as survey the general economic sentiment of Portuguese-speaking countries.

Based in Macau, CLBrief intends to identify new routes and opportunities for companies and people while supporting Macau's role as a trade and economic platform between China and the eight Portuguese-speaking countries.

With a large team of researchers and analysts worldwide, CLBrief will provide exclusive and detailed information on issues of current economic relevance to China's initiatives, as well as their connection with Portuguese-speaking countries.

At launch, the service included several articles related to the MSAR, such as "A new life for Forum Macao?", "The Greater Bay Area Initiative: a further step in regional integration"

and "Macau businessman forges ahead with bank in Cabo Verde", referring to David Chow's latest project in the archipelago nation.

It also features articles on Chinese e-commerce companies in Portuguese-speaking countries, Brazil's pressure on China to diversify investment, the challenges Mozambique is facing in regaining international investor confidence and the biography of Mozambican foreign minister José Pacheco.

On request, the new service will also produce sectoral reports on investment opportunities in countries of which CLBrief has specialized knowledge, as well as in industries seeking partners and capital.

At the time of publication, CLBrief is offering free-of-charge subscription registration for its promotional launching stage.

### LAWMAKERS BRING PROPOSALS TO BEIJING

**MACAU MEMBERS** of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference proposed new measures for film projects and environmental pollution during their recent trip to Beijing. Si Ka Lon proposed that China support Macau in the SAR's efforts to present itself as a foundation for Chinese- and Portuguese-speaking countries' post-production of film projects. He further suggested that China offer tax relief for Macau films, as well as support the post-production of mainland projects in Macau. Ho Ion Sang suggested that China improve the environmental pollution in Beijing and neighboring regions by reducing coal usage, in addition to using more renewable energy-powered vehicles in public transportation and in the government's fleet.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

+ 4 Million page views  
PER MONTH

Thank You!

+12,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



Times

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sauttedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Viviana Segui  
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

# Typhoon Hato caused tumble in expat livability ranking

**M**ACAUI has tumbled 18 places on a livability ranking for Asian expatriates on account of the impact of last year's typhoons, a global mobility consulting firm said yesterday. The fall puts the MSAR in joint-100th place out of a total of 480 surveyed cities.

The annual ranking, compiled by Employment Conditions Abroad (ECA) International, seeks to evaluate the livability of over 480 locations worldwide via several quality of life metrics.

Factors used in the assessment include climate, availability of health services, housing, access to leisure facilities, infrastructure, air quality, personal safety and political tensions. The firm notes that "the impact of some of the factors assessed will vary according to the home location of the assignee," but does not expound on how this is factored into the ranking.

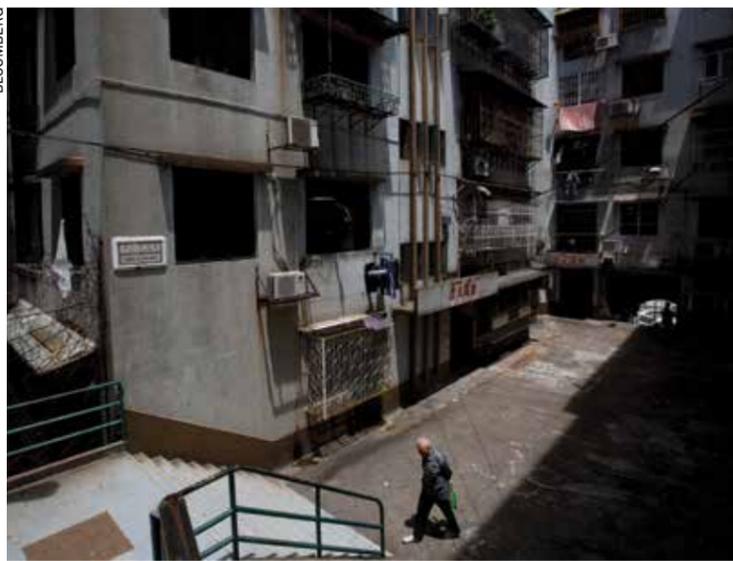
The significant drop registered for Macau this year was

justified on the back of several typhoons last year, most notably Hato, which struck the city on August 23.

"Macau has seen a drop in the rankings due to the impact of severe typhoons that hit the area in 2017 and it is now considered less livable than locations such as Seoul which it sat above in last year's rankings," said Lee Quane, regional director - Asia, at ECA International.

An ECA International representative added in an email to the Times yesterday that the typhoons had "impacted negatively on the natural phenomena criteria [...] but also on utilities, as both the power and water supplies were significantly impacted."

Meanwhile, Hong Kong remained more or less stagnant in joint-28th. According to Quane, the semi-autonomous territory "continues to suffer from long-term air quality and pollution issues which have seen it stay in the low position in the rankings."



Elsewhere in China, the majority of cities registered a fall in the rankings on the basis of heightened internet censorship, the ban on virtual private networks (VPNs), and a deterioration in air quality. Beijing dropped the furthest, falling 10 places to 134th.

This year, Singapore defended

its position as the most livable city in the world for Asian expats. According to Quane, "This is due to a combination of factors such as low crime rates, easy access to good quality schools and healthcare and lower levels of pollution than a lot of other locations in the region."

Singapore was followed in the rankings by three Australian cities: Brisbane in second position, and Adelaide and Sydney in joint-third. Perth (6th), Canberra (10th) Darwin (13th) and Melbourne (13th) all secured spots in the top-15.

Quane said that "Australian cities always tend to perform strongly in terms of livability for Asian expats due to the excellent facilities and infrastructure, as well as the generally low levels of crime and air pollution."

As for Japan, all surveyed cities in the country continued to perform well, earning places in the top-40 for Asian expatriates. Some notable factors in Japan's expat attractiveness are "the excellent facilities and infrastructure, as well as the high availability of a very broad range of goods and services."

Taking the top spot for Europe this year is again the Danish capital, Copenhagen, followed by Bern, Switzerland (13th) and the Dutch cities of Amsterdam, Eindhoven and The Hague, which all placed joint-16th.

London lagged considerably behind in joint-67th, and New York trailed in joint-82nd, mostly on account of poor metrics for crime levels and air pollution. **DB**

AD

## ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

**Languages:**  
ENGLISH, CHINESE,  
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,  
KOREAN, SPANISH,  
FRENCH, ARABIC,  
RUSSIAN

**Services**  
TRANSLATIONS,  
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,  
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

**We translate +10,000 words a day**



Contact: Ms. Amy Yang  
Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo  
Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edf. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

EDUCATION

# Tam wants more mainland students in Macau

**T**HE Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, met several central government officials last week in Beijing to discuss possibilities of cultural exchange and cooperation between Macau and mainland China.

According to a statement from Tam's office, the visit included a meeting with the Minister of Education, Chen Baosheng. Tam was said to be pleased with the results of the measure to allow local students to access university institutions in the mainland. According to the figures cited, this has already led to the acceptance of approximately 1,000 students since last year, indicating greater recognition by Macau students and their parents.

This year, Tam said the MSAR government will continue promoting the exchange and training of teachers and students in fields such as science, arts, languages, sports and national education. The measure is designed



Alexis Tam (left) and Chen Baosheng

ned to attract more mainland students to Macau.

Chen Baosheng said that education in Macau has produced good results and expressed hopes that this will continue. "Macau will foster, in a stable way, the education of the love for the motherland and for Macau, laying the foundations for a stable prosperity in the long term," he said.

Macau and the mainland have already adopted common teaching materials for history, which may "expand to more subjects" in future.

In relation to cultural activities, the authorities revealed that a series of activities are being planned "with the help of the Ministry of Culture" to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the handover in 2019.

Both sides also agreed to deepen cultural exchange and cooperation, especially in the cultural and artistic development of Macau youth. To this end, the Ministry of Culture will provide more opportunities for young people in Macau to learn mainland practices, such as internships in national, provincial and municipal cultural institutions.



Cheoc Van beach

## People warned to stay clear of Coloane beaches

**A**'black substance' has appeared in the sands of the Hac Sa and Cheoc Van beaches in Coloane, the Marine and Water Bureau (DSAMA) has warned. According to a statement issued by the bureau, the company hired to clean the beaches has "steadfastly proceeded with the cleaning works."

DSAMA has posted warnings at the beach "appealing to citizens and tourists to pay attention to the situation and [not to go] to the beach."

The relevant government departments have been notified and DSAMA will carry out a site inspection to collect samples of the substance.

In a statement issued yesterday, the bureau stressed that there are currently no lifeguards at the beaches, as the summer season has not yet arrived. Passers-by who "find any irregularity" should contact DSAMA by phone.

AD

APRESENTAÇÃO DO ÁLBUM 唱片展演

**OITO . 八**

**TOMÁS RAMOS DE DEUS E MIGUEL ANDRADE**  
PAULO PEREIRA, MARIO VENDITTI, IVAN PINEDA, ADAM KIMONT, PAN HO E KIT LAM

LEITURA DOS POEMAS POR 讀詩  
**YAO FENG**

**21** /03/2018 20h  
EDIFÍCIO ANTIGO TRIBUNAL 舊法院大樓

ORGANIZAÇÃO 組織: CASA DE PORTUGAL 澳門葡萄牙人之家  
PATROCÍNIO 支持: 澳門基金會 FUNDACÃO MACAU  
APOIO 贊助: [Logos]

**仁德** CENTRO MÉDICO PEDDER  
◆ 仁德醫療中心 ◆

*We bring high quality of medical service to Macau*

**General Surgery** : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Kwong Man, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong

**Breast Surgery** : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

**Urology** : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

**Paediatric Surgery** : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

**Paediatrics** : Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

**Obstetrics & Gynaecology** : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

**Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery** : Dr. Lam U Lin

**Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine** : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

**ENT** : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

**Cardiology** : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

**Gastroentero-Hepatology** : Dr. Zhan De Juan

**General Medicine** : Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio

**Dietitian** : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau  
T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com  
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed

# More New Macau members under investigation

**M**ORE New Macau Association (ANM) members are under investigation for alleged aggravated disobedience, the group revealed at a press conference yesterday, just months after lawmaker and former ANM president Sulu Sou was ousted from the Legislative Assembly to face similar charges.

The activists are being investigated for breaching electoral regulations in campaigning activities prior to last year's Legislative Assembly election in September.

One of the three cases mentioned involves Paul Chan, a former Macau lawmaker, who said yesterday that he was heard at the Public Prosecutions Office but has not yet been charged.

Also at yesterday's press conference, ANM reviewed its undertakings from the previous lunar year, and promised to keep up its fight in the year ahead.



"Macau's human rights condition is deteriorating. Self-censorship and executive power abuse remain frequent, especially from the police," a statement released by the as-

sociation noted. "The strive for democracy, freedom and public interest is still difficult [...] but we] continue our work to advance Macau's political and social environment."

The association also reviewed the work undertaken by young democrat Sulu Sou.

Sou survived just seven weeks in the Legislative Assembly before he was suspended on

December 4 so that his prosecutorial immunity could be waived and he could be brought to court. Sou stands accused of the crime of aggravated disobedience dating back to a 2016 demonstration.

**Macau's human rights condition is deteriorating. Self-censorship and executive power abuse remain frequent.**

NEW MACAU ASSOCIATION

During his brief tenure, the democrat raised seven written parliamentary questions, one oral question and two debate motions, according to ANM. He also disclosed seven detailed records of meetings – to the ire of fellow lawmakers – under the title of "No Secret in the Legislature", advocating for greater transparency in the Assembly. **DB**

## Journalism was a door to 'meet and talk with very special people'

Renato Marques

**P**ORTUGUESE journalist and author Ana Margarida de Carvalho gave a talk yesterday afternoon at the Macao Polytechnic Institute (IPM) titled "From Journalism to Literature."

Carvalho was in town for the seventh edition of The Script Road - Macau Literary Festival.

Speaking to an audience almost exclusively composed of students enrolled in Portuguese language courses, the award-winning author addressed the impact of her 25-year journalism career on her current occupation. "Journalism gave me [an opportunity] to get in touch with many things, sometimes with quite horrible things and tragedies... but also gave me a chance to meet and talk with very special people," Carvalho said.

"We are influenced by all events and situations that happen throughout our lives. We are more of the past than of the present, we are layered human beings full of sediments and marks," she said,



Ana Margarida de Carvalho (left)

adding that events of the past pave the road ahead for people.

When asked about her definition of a good writer or what a person must possess to achieve that status, the author said, "There are many ways to define a good writer, but one of them is the [possession] of a permanent curiosity about all things. That is, to look [into something] and never consider that [fact or thing] as ordinary [and] manage to keep the amazement effect when facing the triviality; [the] look of a child that gets amazed with the things they experience for the first time."

She added that the "good thing" about being a writer is "to be able to [convey] that 'first-time' feeling, I think this is very important" and reminded her audience that books are capable of transporting people through time and space.

On the topic of her departure from journalism to focus on fiction, Carvalho said, "I was [making] a great effort and leaving behind a lot of things that I shouldn't have left and [due to journalism] I had to skip many things that were important in my life. Then [I realized] that in fact what was requested from me was too little and

that I had mental space to do other things. So when that opportunity appeared, I immediately accepted it."

She added that she did not have any book planned or partially written while she was doing journalistic work, as that was impossible: "I was always too busy even to think about it."

Regarding her visit to Macau, the author said she was moved to realize that "[in another] corner of the world there are people interested in learning Portuguese [who are making] a great effort to study a language that is so different from their own."

She said she was pleased to know that these students are interested in a kind of literature that is "on the opposite end" of what they are used to.

Carvalho has received several prestigious awards from Portuguese literature and journalism associations. Her first novel "Que Importa a Fúria do Mar" ("what the fury of the sea matters") was published in 2013 and awarded the Grand Prize for Novels from the Portuguese Writers Association.

## Men facing charges in Australia over illegal exports of greyhounds

**F**OUR men are facing charges in New South Wales, Australia, in relation to the alleged export of nine greyhounds to China and Macau without a greyhound passport and certified pedigree issued by Greyhounds Australasia, as announced in a statement by Greyhound Racing New South Wales (GRNSW). Paul Wheeler, Danny Li, Wei Shan and Yiwen Xi have been charged with conduct detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control and promotion of greyhound racing.

Wheeler is considered one of Australia's leading greyhound owners and breeders.

Investigations into the case began in 2016, but formal accusations are only being made now, with the first court hearing scheduled for the end of this month. According to the same statement, the four suspects are also facing additional charges relating to the alleged failure to notify GRNSW of exports under the GRNSW Racing Rules.

The greyhound racing authority added that in the cases of Li, Wei and Yiwen, "each face additional charges relating to their alleged failure to attend or produce documents to the Inquiry, as directed."

The GRNSW said it would not make any further comments on the charges until a decision has been made.

Last October, the GRNSW announced the disqualification of another three greyhound racing participants following a similar investigation.

The case is likely to fuel the cause of local animal protection organization Anima, which has been battling greyhound-related issues in Macau for several years. The latest of these concerns is the fate of the 600-odd greyhounds that Anima claims are still living at Macau's Canidrome facility.

The Canidrome may close as soon as this summer, but animal activists are still worried about the dogs' fate, as the company that manages the facility has not been forthcoming.

# MAGNUS SECURITY SERVICES

## 馬格納斯 保安 (澳門) 有限公司

License No. 5/2010

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69

Edif. Ind. Fok Tai, 12 floor "B", Macau SAR

Tel.: (853) 2822 1341

Fax.: (853) 2822 0824



**SECURITY SERVICES**  
全面保安服務

**EVENTS SECURITY**  
活動場地保安

**SPECIAL OPERATIONS**  
特別行動

**SECURITY SYSTEMS**  
保安及安全系統

**RISK ASSESSMENT &  
RISK MITIGATION**  
風險評估及應對措施

**SECURITY FORCE TRAINING  
& EVALUATION**  
保安部隊訓練及評核

www.magnus-security.net

"MAGNIFYING YOUR SECURITY"

contact@magnus-security.net



# MAKE-UP

## FOR ALL OCCASIONS

### SPECIALIZE IN:

- BRIDAL / WEDDINGS
- PHOTO SHOOTS
- GRADUATION
- PARTY
- SPECIAL EVENTS



MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JULIANAC.MAKEUPARTIST

TEL / WHATSAPP / WECHAT: (853) 6685 3323



# MACAU BATS RUGBY CLUB

## 澳門蝙蝠欖球會



FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-15 適合男生和女孩5-15歲



**New players welcome. Saturdays 10am,  
Taipa Stadium.**

新玩家歡迎。星期六上午10點,澳門運動場

Email: macaubats@gmail.com

Macau Bats Rugby

# Region's urban planning 'facing urgent needs'

Julie Zhu

A seminar on Macau's urban planning was held last week at the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST). Architecture scholars from several universities, including Waseda University and Tsinghua University, and other mainland universities, voiced their opinions during the event.

On the sidelines of the seminar, Lin Guangzhi, director of the Institute for Social and Cultural Research, said that Macau's urban planning must involve cooperation with its neighboring regions, particularly Guangdong Province and the city of Zhuhai.

In Lin's opinion, the Greater Bay Area development plan is "an excellent opportunity" for Macau's spatial expansion.

When talking about the factors that affect Macau's spatial expansion and development, Lin said, "one of the aspects is the economic element, which consists in industry. If we expand the space, but then we can't use it for the gaming sector, then it is worth thinking about what [financial gains] it can be used for."

The researcher believes that more space could be used for the tourism and leisure sector.

"Another aspect is population," said Lin. "According to the estimates, by 2036, the [Macau's] population will reach between 790,000 and 800,000. Due to the growing population, we need to expand our space."

When offering suggestions to the Macau government, Lin said



Zhang Zhiqing

that all development and spatial use should be planned consistently with the government's plan for the city's development.

Zhang Zhiqing, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Arts of MUST, said that the seminar is an event related to one of MUST's research and design camps. These study and create design plans for the spatial development of Macau.

When giving his opinion on Macau's urban planning, Zhang said that "with the support of the State [China], we [Macau] have to expand our space. For Macau, it represents a development opportunity as well as a big challenge because the city must address the issue of space expansion."

"We have realized that Macau, in terms of urban planning and



Lin Guangzhi

Due to the growing population, we need to expand our space.

LIN GUANGZHI

space improvement, is facing urgent needs, including the need for talented human resources," he declared. Zhang mentioned that MUST has applied for permission to open a Master of Architecture with the government, along with a PhD degree, in order to meet Macau's future need for talented human resources.

According to Zhang, postgraduate students from the seven

universities, including MUST and those mentioned earlier, have been making design plans and doing research together on the topic.

"Actually, the design phase has already started, where our professors are leading somewhere around 50 students," said Zhang. He said the team is not just concerned with teaching activities; it also organizes field trips.

"The theme of the research is Macau's urban space and sustainable development," said Zhang, adding that "some ideas must [are bound to] be generated during the days teachers and students go out on field trips in Macau."

The team will draft a report regarding their research results, which will later be presented in Japan, at Waseda University.

"On the other hand, [the reuse of industrial buildings] involves changing the function of an industrial building as well as the laws," said Comandante, adding that "[we could] prepare some special regulations [and] make a few exceptions [in order for industrial buildings to be used for other purposes]."

The coordinator noted that his task force considers it suitable for industrial buildings to be used for cultural and recreational activities, or even training programs.

His team also suggested that the government could issue temporary licenses to the organizers of such activities to permit them to use industrial buildings. **JZ**

## Construction of AL car park planned for Q2

The construction of the underground car park at the Legislative Assembly (AL) square is expected to commence in the second half of this year. The government opened a public tender for the concession yesterday, and received nine bids. The maximum length of the construction period is 450 work days. The car park consists of two underground floors and will be used exclusively for the Legislative Assembly. It will be connected to the AL's current car park and offer 250 new parking spaces for light vehicles and motorbikes.

## Suspension of customs officer continues

A customs officer who was suspended for 80 days after hanging China's national flag upside down has had his employment suspension appeal rejected by the Court of Final Appeal. Last year, the officer hung the Chinese flag incorrectly at the Coloane pier. The officer argued that the Judiciary Police failed to provide evidence to prove that he was the one who had hung the flag incorrectly. The court rejected his appeal on the grounds that the misconduct had damaged the reputation of Macau Customs Services in the eyes of the public, and reiterated that hanging the national flag upside down is a serious violation.

## MOP10 notes issued in 1991 and 1995 to finish on May 26

MOP10 bank notes issued in the years of 1991 and 1995 will be withdrawn from circulation on May 26 this year, the Monetary Authority of Macao has informed in a statement. According to the same statement, the notes issued by both the Banco Nacional Ultramarino S.A. and Bank of China - Macau Branch will expire on May 26. The Monetary Authority wants to remind citizens in possession of these banknotes to exchange them before the deadline.

# Tax relief proposed for building renovation works

THE Urban Renewal Committee discussed tax relief for building renovation works, Paul Tse, a member of the Committee, told the media after yesterday's meeting.

According to Tse, his team, which is the first of three Urban Renewal Committee task forces, raised three proposals to the committee regarding tax relief for building renovation.

Given three conditions, tax relief could be granted to select parties.

"When the building is facing safety issues, [property owners] can get a

tax relief for the renovation; when they [the buildings] are related to Macau's important public benefit, there can also be tax relief; when all property owners agree on a renovation, there can be a tax relief as well," explained Tse.

Regarding the residences of property owners who acquired their buildings through a renovation process, the committee suggested that the government either provide them with temporary residences or offer them other sponsorship programs.

Paulino do Lago Comandante, co-coordinator of the committee's second task force, introduced his team's work report on the sidelines of the meeting, which concluded with a report regarding the reuse of industrial buildings.

"Currently, there are some difficulties [affecting] the laws [in regard to the reuse of industrial buildings]," said Comandante.

However, he mentioned the fact that Hong Kong had managed to carry out similar works and that "we want to see whether there can be small

amendments within the legal framework."

"[We could] establish a simple legislation procedure for the re-usage of industrial buildings," declared Comandante.

"Currently, a few industrial buildings are not performing industrial activities. They are either abandoned, or they are being used for different types of activities," Comandante remarked. He also noted that the reuse of industrial buildings should not only comply with Macau's fire regulations, but with all other safety regulations.

# Alibaba endorses esports for Olympics, but not violent games



Lulu Yilun Chen

**ALIBABA** Group Holding Ltd. is happy to help promote the inclusion of competitive video games as an Olympic sport, just as long as they aren't violent or gory.

China's biggest e-commerce company, which operates an esports business and is a sponsor of the Olympics Games through 2028, is pushing for soccer, car racing and other games to be endorsed as an official competitive sport, said Zhang Dazhong, chief executive officer of AliSports.

That move could bar some of the world's biggest titles from the Olympics, such as League of Legends and PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds, which are both distributed by Alibaba's competitor Tencent Holdings Ltd. in China. Esports is becoming a big business, drawing spectators to huge arenas where competitors battle each other for prizes and

glory. The industry is projected to reach USD5 billion in annual revenue by 2020 from ticket sales, advertising, broadcast rights and merchandising, according to researcher Activate.

"In our communication with the Olympics committee, we've come to have a better understanding of their values, which is to promote peace," Zhang said in a telephone interview. "That's why for the future development of esports, we will focus more on titles that are actually related to sports, instead of games that focus on violence and slaughter."

Alibaba, which is investing 300 million yuan (\$47 million) in esports in the year through March, is hosting the World Electronic Sports Games this week, where the member of the International Olympic Committee will also attend to observe. The e-commerce giant teamed up with

the Olympic Council of Asia to add esports to the 2017 Ashgabat Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games and the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games.

Game producers will need to be willing to share their intellectual property for free at the events, and the titles need to have a large fan base, according to Zhang. Because of the fast-changing nature of online games, it would be best to review what titles to include and adjust the rules on an annual basis, instead of every four years, he said.

"We think as a third party esports organizer we're a better match for principles that the Olympics promotes, which is fairness," Zhang said, adding that Alibaba will boost its investment in its esports unit this year, without giving a specific amount. "If you're a games producer, you're suspected of only pushing your games for your own benefit."

Bloomberg



## Samsung is said in talks for multi-year cobalt deal from Congo

William Clowes, Sam Kim

**SAMSUNG** C&T Corp., an affiliate of the world's biggest smartphone maker, is in talks for a multi-year deal to buy cobalt from a Congolese miner, joining Apple Inc. in the global rush to secure supplies of the metal at the heart of the electric-car boom.

Samsung C&T has approached Somika SPRL to buy cobalt produced at its Kisanfu mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo after only buying copper from the company for the past four years, according to people familiar with the situation. It's unclear how much cobalt will be bought and Samsung still needs to complete tests on the shipping cost and potential users, said one of the people, who asked not to be identified because the talks are private.

Somika Chairman Chetan Chug confirmed talks with Samsung C&T but declined to elaborate because no agreement has been reached. The miner has been approached for talk by Chinese and Korean makers of cobalt products.

"We typically do one year, maximum two years, and ensure we optimize the cobalt pricing," Chug said.

The talks between Somika and C&T, the trading arm of South Korea's biggest business group and

an affiliate of Samsung Electronics Co., shows the conglomerate is keen to capitalize on booming demand after cobalt prices have more than tripled since the start of 2016.

Cobalt is an essential ingredient in rechargeable lithium-ion batteries that go into modern gadgets. While smartphones use about eight grams of refined cobalt, the battery for an electric vehicle requires over 1,000 times that. Two-thirds of global cobalt supply comes from Congo, where there has never been a peaceful transition of power and child labor is still used in parts of the mining industry.

Apple is in talks to buy long-term supplies of cobalt directly from miners, Bloomberg News reported last month. The iPhone maker is one of the world's largest end users of cobalt for the batteries in its gadgets, but until now it has left the business of buying the metal to the companies that make its batteries.

Samsung SDI Co., another affiliate that supplies batteries to carmakers including BMW, plans to recycle cobalt from used mobile phones. Last month, the South Korean company said it plans to buy a stake in a company with recycling technology and sign a deal to ensure long-term cobalt supplies. **Bloomberg**

### corporate bits

#### MANDOPOP SINGERS TO BRING 'EVERLASTING DIVAS' CONCERT TO MACAU



Five of Taiwan's most popular female singers – Jolin Tsai, Angela Zhang, Valen Hsu, Tanya Chua and Matilda Tao – will bring their "Everlasting Divas" concert to The

Venetian Macao's Cotai Arena on April 7.

With sales of approximately 25 million albums, Jolin Tsai is one of Asia's top-selling female recording artists of the 21st

century and enjoys a massive fan base worldwide, as cited in a press release issued by Sands China.

Singer, actress and TV host Angela Chang has released nine albums. Her popularity soared after she appeared in high-profile Taiwanese television dramas for which she also sang the theme songs.

Valen Hsu is a singer-songwriter with more than 14 albums to her name. She is also a successful actress and author.

Singaporean-born singer-songwriter Tanya Chua released her first English-language album "Bored" in 1997. She later recorded four more English records and 11 in Mandarin.

Matilda Tao has hosted numerous hit variety shows including "One Million Star", "University" and "Guess", as well as prestigious award ceremonies.

#### APPLE ADDS MORE 'TEXTURE' TO ITS SERVICES WITH MAGAZINE DEAL



Apple has bought digital magazine distributor Texture to extend its subscription services beyond music and online storage.

The deal announced Monday puts Apple in control of a service often described as a Netflix of magazines. Texture allows readers to pore

over articles in more than 200 magazines for USD10 per month, much like Netflix sells unlimited access to its video programming.

But Texture hasn't proven as popular as Netflix, which boasts 55 million subscribers in the U.S. alone. Texture hasn't specified how many subscribers it has, but CEO John Loughlin said in a 2016 interview that the number ranged in the "hundreds of thousands."

Apple didn't disclose how much it paid for Texture, which had raised at least \$90 million since it was founded nearly a decade ago as Next Issue.

Unlike most Apple products, Texture will be available on devices powered by Google's Android software in addition to the iPhone and iPad.

# Angola leads in attracting Chinese financing for energy infrastructure

**A**NGOLA is the African country that has received most Chinese funding for the construction of energy infrastructure since the year 2000, according to a recent study from Boston University, in the United States.

The Boston University Global Development Policy Center study reports that over the past 18 years, China has provided funding of about USD34.8 billion for energy infrastructure in African countries, of which \$8.9 billion to Angola, well above Nigeria (\$6.6 billion).

Zambia, Uganda and South Africa received Chinese loans of more than \$2 billion over the same period, Sudan \$1.6 billion and the remaining African countries \$11 billion.

In supporting infrastructure reconstruction in Angola, China has focused on financing the construction of dams, namely the Caculo Cabaça dam.

The new dam, whose first stone was laid in August 2017 by former President José Eduardo dos Santos, will be the largest power plant in the country, and the construction project received funding of \$4.5 billion granted by the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China.



The offices of Sonangol EP stand illuminated at night in Luanda

Angola's energy and water minister, João Baptista Borges, said construction of the new Caculo Cabaça dam in the Kwanza basin will enable it to reach the goal of 9,000 megawatts of installed capacity across the country by 2025 as well as exporting electricity to neighbouring countries.

The Boston University study showed that the proportion of Chinese funding for energy infrastructure in Africa has been in-

creasing relative to other regions and that last year this continent received the most from these capital flows (\$6.8 billion), above Southeast Asia (\$5.8 billion).

Data from the study includes figures from the China Development Bank and the Export and Import Bank of China.

"Traditional multilateral development banks have not been proactive in major energy projects, and China is more than

willing to fill that void," said Kevin Gallagher, professor of global development policy at Boston University.

The same expert warned that Africa's demographic explosion, which is expected to bring the continent's population to more than 1.3 billion people by 2050, leads to a projection of an increase in demand for energy production and transmission in the coming decades.

The latest report by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) on Angola said that relations with China will be given "high priority" by the Angolan authorities, as reflected in the recent agreement on entry visas between the two countries.

## The new dam financed by China will be the largest power plant in Angola

"The opening of a branch of the Bank of China in mid-2017 should make Angola a more attractive destination for small and medium-sized Chinese companies," the EIU said.

"The government will also continue to seek loans from China to enable it to continue capital spending program to build highways and power plants," despite greater attention from Chinese entities on the "risk of projects with dubious repayment capacity," said the EIU. **MDT/Macauhub**

### SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

## BP/Kosmos consortium signs contracts for oil prospecting

**T**HE consortium of British companies BP Exploration Operating and US-based Kosmos Energy has signed two oil block prospecting contracts with the São Tomé and Príncipe National Petroleum Agency (ANP-STP), the agency's director said in São Tomé on Friday.

Orlando Pontes said

the consortium will pay a signing bonus of USD5 million for each contract, with payment to be made within 30 days of signing the contracts.

Under the contracts, the BP group will become the operator of blocks 10 and 13, leaving the São Tomé and Príncipe state with a 15 percent stake in each of them.

These contracts are valid for 28 years, with the first eight being for seismic surveys and the remaining 20 for development and production.

Block 10 has an average depth of 2,500 meters and an area of 6,839.6 square kilometers, while block 13 has an average depth of 3,000 metres and covers

an area of 6,776.9 square kilometers.

In addition to the exclusive economic exploration zone, São Tomé and Príncipe also has another joint operation with Nigeria, under a treaty that grants 60 percent of revenues to the Nigerian state and 40 percent to the archipelago. **MDT/Macauhub**



advertising@macaudailytimes.com

Times

**Times App**  
News At Hand

+50m pageviews per year  
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

Available on the App Store | Get it on Google play

THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'™

**New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.**

**Carpet Cleaning**

Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



# No term limit could allow leader to be bold on Hong Kong, Taiwan

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

**C**HINA'S move to scrap term limits and allow Xi Jinping to serve as president indefinitely puts him on track to deal with some of the country's weightiest long-term sovereignty challenges, especially the fates of Hong Kong and Taiwan.

The question is, will Xi bet big on bold moves that could result in potentially disastrous consequences?

Hong Kong offers a delicate initial test. Since passing from British to Chinese rule in 1997, the financial hub has operated as a "special administrative region," retaining its own legal and economic system and enjoying a considerable degree of autonomy from Beijing.

That arrangement was supposed to last 50 years, until 2047, but calls for political reform in the city and what many see as Beijing tightening its controls and encroaching on freedoms there have created rising tensions.

Earlier this month, a member of the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee delivered a stern warning to Hong Kong delegates to China's rubber-stamp parliament over the central government's limits of tolerance.

"Using the high degree of autonomy to reject, fight and erode the central government's comprehensive jurisdiction is absolutely not allowed," Zhao Leji

told members of the National People's Congress, which passed a constitutional amendment Sunday abolishing presidential term limits, opening the door for Xi to rule for as long as he wants.

**Using the high degree of autonomy to reject, fight and erode the central govt's jurisdiction is absolutely not allowed.**

ZHAO LEJI  
POLITBURO STANDING COMMITTEE

Hong Kong activists had already been set on edge by the disqualification of pro-democracy lawmakers from the city's Legislative Council and the apparent abduction by Chinese security forces of several men who published salacious tomes about China's leadership.

Still, Hong Kong remains one of the world's freest economies and a window to the outside for the Chinese financial system, which operates under much tighter restrictions. The cosmo-

politan city of 6 million, with its vibrant tourism, arts and education sectors, also remains a beacon to many aspiring Chinese.

"I don't think bold action is necessary with respect to Hong Kong," said Michael Mazza of the American Enterprise Institute think tank in Washington, D.C.

Xi is "already well along in the process of turning [Hong Kong] into just another Chinese city," he said.

Self-governing Taiwan, however, is quite a different story, posing a direct challenge to the Communist Party's claim as the representative of all Chinese and guardian of Chinese sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Since splitting from the mainland amid civil war in 1949, the former Japanese colony has evolved into a wealthy, vibrant democracy whose 23 million people take an increasingly dim view of any form of political integration with Beijing.

By casting himself as a leader of historic standing, Xi has assumed the mantle of unifier and may regard failure in this regard as a stain on his reputation. In his most direct comments on the issue, he told a Taiwanese envoy in 2013 that a final resolution was required, and that what he regards as the "sacred mission" of unification "cannot be passed on from generation to generation."

"Action on Taiwan is certainly possible. Unification is a key aspect of Xi Jinping's goal of 'national rejuvenation,' necessary for achieving the 'China Dream,'" Mazza said, referencing two of Xi's chief goals.

**[Xi is] already well along in the process of turning Hong Kong into just another Chinese city.**

MICHAEL MAZZA

Xi "may conclude that peaceful unification is not in the cards any time soon, leaving him to rely on coercion or outright force to achieve his goals," he said.

Already, China over the past two years has been ratcheting up political, diplomatic and economic pressure on Taiwan's independence-leaning president, Tsai Ing-wen.

A military attack, however, could quickly draw in the U.S., which is legally bound to respond to threats against the island.

Yet the risks of an attack on Taiwan remain prohibitively high, to the point of threatening regime stability in China, due in no small

part to its embrace by the U.S. and Japan, said Miles Yu Maochun, a China politics expert at the U.S. Naval Academy. Hong Kong, meanwhile, remains too valuable to Beijing in its present form to risk upsetting, he said.

Xi views Taiwan and Hong Kong as equally important to cementing his authority, said analyst Teng Biao, a visiting scholar at New York University's U.S.-Asia Law Institute.

"When he has strengthened his own power, he will show zero tolerance for Taiwan and Hong Kong independence, and even more threaten the use of force," Teng said.

While it is broadly assumed that an increasingly dictatorial Xi will also grow more aggressive on the world stage, it's unclear how that will manifest itself. China says it is committed to seizing a group of uninhabited flyspeck islands in the East China Sea from Japan, but is also aware that such action would trigger the U.S.-Japan security alliance.

And despite President Donald Trump's "America first" policy and his withdrawal of the U.S. from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, Washington and its armed forces show no sign of giving up the West Pacific to China.

While Xi's position appears unassailable, domestic political risks remain that may prompt him to take an even harder line at home and abroad, said Teng, who was detained by Xi's regime while working as a human rights lawyer.

"When the Communist Party faces political, economic and ideological challenges, and given the fact that the party firmly refuses a democratization, the only way seems to become more dictatorial and oppressive," Teng said. **AP**

NPC

# New anti-graft body set to boost Xi's extended rule

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

**C**HINA is set to give President Xi Jinping a powerful new weapon as he prepares to rule indefinitely — a Communist Party-led anti-corruption agency to police not only the party's cadres, but also doctors, teachers, entertainers and other state employees.

The move is part of a sweeping government reorganization to boost the authority of the party headed by Xi, who has firmly established himself as China's most formidable leader since Mao Zedong.

On Sunday, China's rubber-stamp legislature scrapped a two-term limit on the presidency, paving the way for Xi to rule for as long as he wants. That has dismayed critics who fear a return to one-man rule and the destruction of modest measures in place since 1982 to constrain power in China.

The National People's Congress yesterday began a third and final reading of a draft supervision law that would extend the newly formed anti-graft body's authority, led by the party, over vast numbers of workers in the public sector.

Chinese University of Hong Kong law professor Ryan Mitchell said expanding the scope of the anti-graft agency's powers to include government workers may have been "calculated as a way to intimidate the bureaucracy into more closely following the party line."

The law would merge the party's anti-graft watchdog body with one overseeing the civil service to form a new National Supervision Commission, defined as a political body independent of the Cabinet, courts and prosecutors, raising fears of political abuse.

The body will have the right to detain suspects for up to six months without seeking a judge's permission. Authorities must inform the suspect's family and work unit of their detention within 24 hours, except in cases where evidence might be destroyed or the investigation otherwise impeded, according to a text of the draft law.

Other details, such as where suspects will be held, who will be responsible for their welfare and what form of legal representation they will be permitted, have not been announced.

A chief flaw of the new commission is that it will operate

outside standard legal procedures ensuring due process, said Mitchell and other experts, including Hong Daode, a professor of criminal law at Beijing's China University of Political Science and Law.

"There should never be two different sets of procedures when handling criminal cases," Hong said.

The bill will establish supervisory commissions at various levels down to the counties. They will have the power to scrutinize government employees, as well as people working in state-owned companies and research institutes, schools, hospitals, sporting bodies and elsewhere. In Beijing alone, a pilot program instituted last year quadrupled the numbers under scrutiny to almost 1 million.

The commission also replaces the party's previous procedure for investigating corruption suspects known as "shuanggui," whose opaque nature led to frequent allegations or torture, forced confessions and other abuses.

"Replacing 'shuanggui' with rigorously regulated detention will help settle a long-lingering legal problem," Li Jianguo, a senior official with the legislature, said in introducing the draft law. "This has displayed our resolve

and confidence to realize a full, law-based governance."

Hong questioned that assertion, saying the commission would be free to operate with few constraints, especially in the detention of suspects and denying them the right to legal representation.

"Now they've broken all the restrictions," he said.

Also yesterday, the congress began a review of a major reorganization of government agencies, including the establishment of a ministry of veterans' affairs to oversee the welfare of China's millions of retired soldiers.

Veterans who served as far back as the 1950-53 Korean War have staged sporadic street protests, including in Beijing, demanding higher pensions and improved benefits. Currently, local governments are placed in charge of veterans' welfare, creating huge inequalities in services and compensation across the country.

Plans were also announced to create a newly powerful regulator to oversee the scandal-plagued banking and insurance industries as they try to reduce debt and financial risk.

The proposed Cabinet reshuffle and draft supervision law are almost certain to be passed during the legislative session, which wraps up next week. **AP**



## Beijing merges bank, insurance regulators to tackle risk

**C**HINA'S government announced plans yesterday to create a newly powerful regulator to oversee scandal-plagued banking and insurance industries as they try to reduce debt and financial risk.

The move is in line with the ruling Communist Party's efforts to gain more direct control over the state-dominated economy and reduce financial risk following a run-up in debt that prompted global rating agencies to cut Beijing's government credit rating last year.

The new agency, a merger of separate Cabinet bodies that oversee banks and insurers, will be charged with "preventing and dissolving financial risks," said the plan submitted to the ceremonial national legislature for endorsement. It did not mention the third financial regulator, which oversees the securities market.

Separately, the plan also calls for creating a national market regulator, drawing in anti-monopoly, pricing and other powers from food and drug, industry and product quality agencies.

Beijing has launched a series of regulatory overhauls over the past two decades, creating and merging agencies, to respond to the growth of China's vast, state-owned banking, insurance and finance industries.

The latest announcement follows Beijing's promise in November to raise and eventually eliminate limits on foreign ownership of banks, insurers and securities firms.

The division of responsibility among multiple financial agencies prompted concern regulators were failing to keep track of increasingly complex activity by banks, insurers and companies.

Despite being mostly state-owned, Chinese banks, insurance and securities firms are highly autonomous. Bosses of the biggest state-owned institutions often rank higher in the ruling party than the officials in charge of regulatory agencies, allowing them to defy rules.

Lack of coordination hampered the official response to a stock market collapse in 2015.

The insurance industry has been shaken by corruption scandals and complaints of reckless speculation in stocks and real estate. Banks face complaints they obscure their levels of lending and risk.

Regulators seized control of privately owned Anbang Insurance Group, one of China's biggest insurers, in February and said they were acting to protect its solvency. Two other insurers were penalized earlier following complaints of reckless speculation.

The top insurance regulator, Xiang Junbo, was expelled from the ruling party in September and charged with taking bribes. Authorities have yet to give further details.

Some major companies that have run up multibillion-dollar debts to banks face pressure to pay those down while others face questions about their solvency.

China's total corporate, local government and household debt surged to the equivalent of more than 270 percent of annual economic output, high for a developing country, after Beijing used repeated infusions of credit to shore up economic growth following the 2008 global crisis.

Authorities announced plans last year to allow some state-owned companies to pay down debt using stock but few have done so.

Officials speaking this week at the annual meeting of the ceremonial legislature have tried to defuse public concern. The central bank governor, Zhou Xiaochuan, said the rise of debt has slowed and risk is manageable.

The latest change would bring together the China Banking Regulatory Commission and the China Insurance Regulatory Commission. **AP**



Hawaii Gov. David Ige



A smartphone screen capture shows a false incoming ballistic missile emergency alert sent from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency system

## HAWAII

# Officials deny request for phone logs related to false alert

Caleb Jones, Honolulu

HAWAII officials have repeatedly pointed to a low-level state employee and a breakdown in his agency's leadership as the main cause for a January missile alert that left hundreds of thousands of islanders thinking they might die in a nuclear blast. But efforts to find out more about what other top officials did that day have been stymied at the highest levels of state government.

Hawaii law says opening the government to public scrutiny "is the only viable and reasonable method of protecting the public's interest."

But for nearly two months, Gov. David Ige's office has refused to provide information requested by The Associated Press that could show how he and other officials handled the crisis.

Citing open records law exemptions, Ige's office has declined to release phone logs, text messages, instant messages and calendars related to the missile alert, even as the state moves forward with recommendations to implement a new missile alert system.

His office says it does not keep those documents.

"We are not aware of any state agency that maintains the governor's office cell/office phone records, instant messages or text messages," Ige's Senior Special Assistant Donna Fujimoto-Saka said in an email.

She said Ige's office receives bills from the phone company, "but these bills do not contain any record of incoming or outgoing calls."

R. Brian Black, executive director of the Civil Beat Law Center for the Public Interest in Honolulu, says the governor's office is not being consistent with the spirit of Hawaii's open records law.

"There is ultimately a fear amongst many public officials of revealing any information, and so if they have the authority anywhere to withhold it, they will," he said.

The law center, which advocates for open government in Hawaii, had hoped Ige's administration would set a "top-down approach" to promoting transparency, Black said.

"They have done things in that regard, but this is not a great example," he said.

The AP sent a similar request for emails, phone logs and text messages to the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, the department that sent the alert, on Feb. 5. It has not yet received any documents from the agency.

Hawaii isn't alone in its handling of records for cellphones, text messages and other modern forms of communication.

Accessing such documents is a problem "across all levels of government" in the United States, in part because many agencies lack policies and practices for

storing, archiving and searching them, said Adam Marshall, Knight Foundation litigation attorney for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press based in Washington.

"That can be really problematic, especially when they show what the government officials are doing in their official capacity," Marshall said.

Ige's office has agreed to release some documents requested by the AP, primarily emails that are subject to redaction, but has levied hefty fees to process them. An initial estimate of nearly USD4,500 was given to fill a request for emails to and from the governor's staff on the day of the alert. A narrowed request for four senior staff members' emails was met with a roughly \$1,500 fee.

The federal law for access to government documents allows fee waivers for journalists seeking information that has public interest. States also grant waivers but can charge for things like the

amount of time spent searching, sorting and redacting information, leading to a patchwork of fees nationwide.

In Hawaii's case, the state's \$60 waiver is often outweighed by its fees, especially for emails, Black said.

"The federal FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) is pretty good when it comes to fees and fee waivers," Marshall said. "But at the state level, it is certainly the case that prohibitively high fees discourage and in some cases entirely inhibit the production of public records to members of the news media."

Drawn-out negotiations for documents and slow responses from agencies also can diminish the information's value.

Among the criticisms of Hawaii's handling of the missile alert was the time it took to inform people there was no actual threat. Residents and visitors waited about 40 minutes before official messages from state agencies were sent to all points that received the initial warning.

If North Korea launched a nuclear-tipped ballistic missile, officials say it would take as little as 12 minutes to reach Hawaii after an alert goes out. The first word of the Jan. 13 mistake — a social media post from Hawaii's Emergency Management Agency — came about the same time as a real missile would have hit the islands.

The governor did not address

the public until his communications team retweeted the emergency agency's social media cancellation several minutes later. Ige said he did not have the passwords to his social media accounts and has chosen not to use the platforms to communicate directly with the public.

State lawmakers' first opportunity to ask Ige about his role in the mistake was Jan. 19, when he appeared at a hearing. The governor answered some questions then left early.

At the time, Ige spokeswoman Cindy McMillian said only that the governor had other duties to attend to.

Responding to an AP request for Ige's calendar and phone records from that day, his office wrote: "The governor's personal calendar will be withheld because it is not maintained as a government record."

The office pointed to Ige's public calendar, which had no official business listed on the day of the hearing.

After a request for all documents showing the governor's official business that day, Ige's office last week emailed the AP two proclamations he signed Jan. 19: one declaring March 9 "Spread the Word to End the Word Day," referring to a slur for mental disability; and another naming March 21 "SBDC Day," after the Hawaii Small Business Development Center. It did not respond to follow-up questions.

Upon Ige's departure from the hearing, some lawmakers openly criticized him and asked him to stay.

"This is a national tragedy, and you're leaving in 45, 50 minutes," Rep. Gene Ward said as Ige walked out. "He's the one where the buck stops, Mr. Chairman." AP

■ Accessing such documents is a problem 'across all levels of government' in the United States

**J**APANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with South Korea's intelligence chief yesterday, and said that while he welcomes any dialogue with North Korea regarding the country's denuclearization, the North must take real steps toward that goal.

"I believe it is extremely important that North Korea takes concrete actions to achieve what it has said," Abe said at the beginning of talks with South Korean intelligence chief Suh Hoon.

President Donald Trump has agreed to meet North Korean leader Kim Jong Un by May, and South Korean President Moon Jae-in is set to meet Kim in late April.

Suh was in Tokyo to brief Japanese officials on developments. He was part of a South Korean delegation that met Kim in Pyongyang last week. Another senior member of the delegation has briefed Chinese officials in Beijing.

"I think it was very meaningful that Workers Party of Korea Chairman Kim Jong Un expressed his intentions toward denuclearization in his own words," Suh said. He said he hoped to convey Moon's message that coo-

JAPAN

# Abe says North Korea must take real steps to denuclearization



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (right) speaks to South Korea's National Intelligence Service Chief Suh Hoon (left) during a meeting in Tokyo

operation between the two countries is crucial to push forward a move toward peace on the Korean Peninsula.

On Monday, Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono, after meeting with Suh, credited recent changes in North

Korea's position to increased pressure by the international community, and said the pressure must continue until the North fulfills its promises with concrete actions.

In Beijing, South Korea's national security director, Chung Eui-yong, met with Chinese President Xi Jinping and praised his role in contributing to the recent positive changes on the Korean Peninsula. Xi told Chung the peninsula was "facing an important opportunity of mitigation and dialogue," according to Chinese state broadcaster CCTV.

North Korea's foreign trade, more than 90 percent of which passes through China, has taken a hit since Beijing agreed to increasingly harsh U.N. Security Council resolutions aimed at pressuring the North into ceasing its nuclear and missile tests and rejoining denuclearization talks. **AP**

**SUMMIT RAISES HOPE KIM WILL RELEASE THREE US DETAINEES**

**HOPES FOR** the release of three American citizens imprisoned in North Korea got a big boost by the news of a possible summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. Freeing the prisoners would be relatively low-hanging fruit and a sign of goodwill by Kim. It would also mark something of a personal success for Trump, who has highlighted the issue since last June, when University of Virginia student Otto Warmbier died days after North Korea turned him over to American authorities. Trump banned Americans from traveling to the North in response and featured Warmbier's father prominently in his State of the Union speech in January. All three Americans now doing time in the North are men, and all three are ethnic Koreans.

AD



**BBAM**  
澳門英國商會  
British Business Association of Macao

**BBAM @ St. Regis Breakfast**  
on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018  
Guest Speakers:  
**Dominic Choi**  
Partner and Creative Director of Meta Architecture Design Office Ltd. (MAO)  
&  
**Jeff Li Wen Yen**  
Managing Partner of Nuno Simões & Associados – Lawyers and Notary

**Business.....or Not:  
The Architectural and Legislative Challenges  
on Business Environment in Macau**

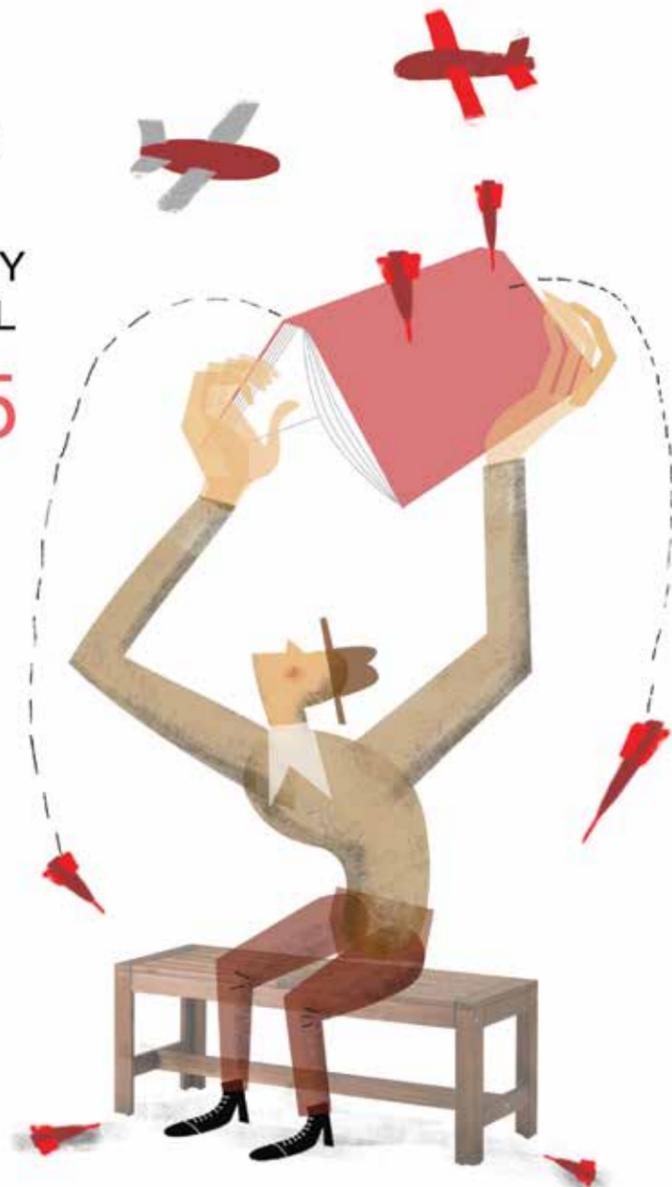
This presentation will endeavour to provide clarity and an understanding of the current business environment in Macau from two different perspectives – the architectural environment and the legislation policies. The speakers will highlight the difficulties and challenges of planning and adapting existing business to the ever evolving conditions of Macau as well as an insight into the future development, noting how building regulations development may have a big impact on business planning, new or existing.

**Venue: Amber Room I, 5/F, The St. Regis Macao, Cotai**  
7.45 am: Registration  
8 am: Sit-down for breakfast  
8.15: 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 19<sup>th</sup> March*

**BBAM Members: Complimentary  
Non-Members – MOP/HKD 180.00  
RSVP to: [bbam@britchammao.org](mailto:bbam@britchammao.org)**

澳門文學節  
MACAU LITERARY FESTIVAL  
10-25  
三月 March



rota das letras • 萬文不朽 • the script road  
thescriptroad.org

Justin Pritchard & Reese Dunklin,  
Jacksonville, N.C.

AP INVESTIGATION

# US military overlooks sex abuse

A decade after the Pentagon began confronting rape in the ranks, the U.S. military frequently fails to protect or provide justice to the children of service members when they are sexually assaulted by other children on base, an Associated Press investigation has found.

Reports of assaults and rapes among kids on military bases often die on the desks of prosecutors, even when an attacker confesses. Other cases don't make it that far because criminal investigators shelve them, despite requirements they be pursued.

The Pentagon does not know the scope of the problem and does little to track it. AP was able to document nearly 600 sex assault cases on base since 2007 through dozens of interviews and by piecing together records and data from the military's four main branches and school system.

Sexual violence occurs anywhere children and teens gather on base — homes, schools, playgrounds, food courts, even a chapel bathroom. Many cases get lost in a dead zone of justice, with neither victim nor offender receiving help.

"These are the children that we need to be protecting, the children of our heroes," said Heather Ryan, a former military investigator.

The tens of thousands of kids who live on bases in the U.S. and abroad are not covered by military law. The U.S. Justice Department, which has jurisdiction over many military bases, isn't equipped or inclined to handle cases involving juveniles, so it rarely takes them on.

Federal prosecutors, for example, pursued roughly one in seven juvenile sex offense cases that military investigators presented, according to AP's review of about 100 investigative files from Navy and Marine Corps bases.

In one unprosecuted case from Japan, witnesses confirmed that a 17-year-old boy pulled a 17-year-old girl from a car in a school parking lot and took her to his residence, where she said he raped her. A medical exam of the girl found his semen.

On a U.S. Army base in Germany, Leandra Mulla told investigators that her teenage ex-boyfriend dragged her to a secluded area and thrust his hand down her pants while forcibly trying to kiss her. Four years later, Mulla still wonders what came of her report.

Offenders, meanwhile, typically receive neither therapy nor punishment, and some are shuffled off to other installations or into the civilian world.



Leandra Mulla at her home in Tabor City, N.C.

In North Carolina, at Camp Lejeune, the coastal training ground for U.S. Marines, a 9-year-old boy admitted to Naval Criminal Investigative Service investigators that he had fondled toddlers in his home and classmates at Heroes Elementary School. He said he couldn't help himself.

Military child abuse specialists couldn't help him either — they intervene only when the alleged abuser is a parent or other caretaker. A federal prosecutor twice declined to take action.

A dozen current or former prosecutors and military investigators described to AP how policies within the Pentagon and Justice Department thwarted efforts to help victims and rehabilitate offenders.

"The military is designed to kill people and break things," said former Army criminal investigator Russell Strand, one of the military's pioneering experts on sexual assault. "The primary mission, it's not to deal with kids sexually assaulting kids on federal property."

Sexual assault cases can be difficult to investigate and messy to prosecute, more so when they involve children. Offenders may threaten further harm, and victims or their parents may not want to relive the trauma through lengthy investigations and prosecutions.

AP began investigating sexual violence among military children after readers of its 2017 investigation of sex assault in U.S. public schools described an even more complex problem on bases.

AP found the otherwise data-driven Pentagon does not analyze reports it receives of sexual violence among children and teens on base. When the Defense Department said it could not pinpoint the number of assault reports, AP used U.S. Freedom of Information Act requests to obtain investigative reports and data from the agencies that police the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines. AP also analyzed documents released by the Pentagon's school system, which educates 71,000 students in

seven U.S. states and 11 other countries.

Records the military initially released omitted a third of the cases AP identified through interviews with prosecutors, military investigators, family members, whistleblowers and data that officials later provided. Other cases get buried.

Strand, now a private-sector consultant, estimated that in the Army alone colleagues passed on opening several hundred sex assault cases involving offenders under 14. Strand said he learned of those alleged assaults in the 32 years that he was a military investigator and, later, as a trainer.

Responding to AP's findings, the Defense Department said it "takes seriously any incident impacting the well-being of our service members and their families." The department promised to take "appropriate actions" to help juveniles involved in sex assaults. It said it was "not aware of any juvenile sex offender treatment specialists" working in the military or its school system.

## MISSING REPORTS

Leandra Mulla was a freshman at Vilseck High School on a U.S. Army base in Germany when, she recalls, her former boyfriend dragged her off campus and sexually assaulted her one afternoon in February 2014. Her basketball coach saw her crying and alerted the principal's office.

At a police station on base, Army criminal investigators and local authorities met with Mulla. They took some of her clothes as evidence, she said, and when it was over an officer explained someone would be in touch.

After no one followed up and the boy remained in school, her father sought answers. Pete Mulla, a civilian Army employee, said military investigators offered fuzzy details about German officials possibly having done something.

All the family could glean was that some sort of restraining order had been issued.

"I just really want closure," said Mulla, who graduated

# among kids

last spring. "At least tell me something."

Prosecutors in Germany, who share jurisdiction over crimes on U.S. military bases there, told AP they investigated but found insufficient evidence to file charges. The Pentagon school system told AP it had "no responsive records" on the Mulla case.

Leandra Mulla said neither the Army nor the school offered her any help, such as counseling.

"The military is a great field to be in," she said. "But they just like to cover up what goes on because they have an expectation and they try to uphold an image."

How sexual assault reports are handled can hinge on personality and rank. Whether their child is the accused or accuser, higher-ranking families receive more consideration, several former military investigators and lawyers told AP. Supervisors with kids of their own were more likely to push an investigation, they

said, while in Army offices preoccupied with case backlogs investigators would stash less serious allegations in a "raw data" file, where they languished.

Regulations require that all credible reports of sexual assault be investigated, Army Criminal Investigation Command spokesman Chris Grey said, adding that raw data files are checked for cases that merit a second look.

AP unearthed just over 200 cases missing from records the military and Pentagon school system initially provided when asked about assaults. At least 44 had been criminally investigated.

Some agencies resisted providing all data sources or defined cases in ways that led to undercounts. Pressed about missing cases, for example, Grey said that data initially released representing "the number of sex crimes reported at installations" in fact reflected a much narrower subset — full investigations "closed" only af-

ter an extensive, bureaucratic paperwork process.

Among the missing cases was one in which an Army investigator's step-daughter reported being assaulted in a pool at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. According to the official data provided AP, there were no assaults at that base. The last assault on any Army base in Germany was, according to the records, in 2012 — two years before Mulla reported being attacked.

## ■ The tens of thousands of kids who live on bases in the US and abroad are not covered by military law

AP also found undisclosed cases at large military bases in Alaska, Colorado, Texas and Italy, which reported having no or only a few sexual assaults.

Unlike many U.S. school districts, Pentagon schools do not publicly share statistics on stu-

dent sex assaults. Responding to AP's request for total incidents since the start of 2007, school officials said they had information only as of fall 2011 and produced documents that showed 67 sexual assault or rape reports through last summer.

### ELUSIVE JUSTICE

On most bases, the military's criminal branches investigate sex assault reports, and U.S. Justice Department attorneys decide whether to prosecute.

Federal prosecutors tend to be "allergic" to any case involving juveniles, said James Trusty, a Washington, D.C., attorney who as a longtime Justice Department section chief advised colleagues considering juvenile prosecutions.

Department policy is that federal prosecutors should hand juvenile cases to their local counterparts whenever possible. AP found few military bases where local authorities regularly assumed such cases.

The federal reluctance to prosecute is clear in an AP analysis of about 100 juvenile-on-juvenile sex assault investigations on Navy and Marine Corps bases over the last decade.

Investigators referred 74 cases to federal prosecutors who,

according to records released to AP, pursued only 11 cases. In contrast, local prosecutors were presented with 29 cases and acted on 11.

Cases from overseas bases were almost never prosecuted, including those that came with a confession.

In one unprosecuted case, a 14-year-old boy told investigators that over many months he broke into the bedrooms of two girls on an Air Force base in Japan while their families slept. He later recanted an admission that he molested one girl, though records noted video evidence of a sexual assault.

The findings come from more than 600 pages of investigative summaries the Naval Criminal Investigative Service released after redacting some details on personal privacy grounds.

One case involved the alleged assaults by the 9-year-old boy at Heroes Elementary on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune.

Less than 24 hours after the initial report of an assault in the boy's home, the federal prosecutor on base declined to take the case because of "the age of the parties involved and the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident," according to the case file. AP

AD

**D2 CLUB**  
www.d2clubmacau.com

**MACAU FISHERMAN'S WHARF, EDF. NEW ORLEANS III**  
澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良III  
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

**HIP HOP PARTY**  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
ALL GLASS DRINKS & BLACK LABEL BOTTLE  
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE ALL NIGHT  
所有杯裝飲品 & 支裝黑牌威士忌  
全晚買1送1

**WELCOME TO Playmate's Club**  
花心公子俱樂部

**WILD NIGHT OUT**

Come and buy a Standard drink Mop45 only  
You can see a European Striptease Show

Attention  
No admission under 18

**Business Hours: 8:00pm-4:00am**

Address: Basement, Hotel Guia, Macau Tel: 28532081 www.macauplaymatesclub.com

## what's ON



## 11TH MACAU DESIGN BIENNIAL (HGM)

TIME: 10am-7pm, last admission at 6:30pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: March 31, 2018

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## THE DINOSAUR HUNT

TIME: Round the clock ("Dino Escape" green-screen experience only available from 12pm-8pm)

UNTIL: April 15, 2018

VENUE: Studio City Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8868 6767

## A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF MACAU – EXHIBITION

TIME: 10:30am-5:30pm (closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: March 31, 2018

VENUE: Gallery of Carmo Post Office in Taipa

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2837 8138

## MONKEY KING

TIME: 4pm & 8pm daily (except on Thursdays)

VENUE: Sands Cotai Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP380, MOP480, MOP680, MOP980, MOP1280

COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818

KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

## DOCUMENTING IMPERMANENCE: AN EXHIBITION OF REPORTAGE PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALICE KOK AND STUDENTS

TIME: 9am-10pm

UNTIL: March 31, 2018

VENUE: Team Building, Institute for Tourism Studies

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2856 1252

## Offbeat

## SNO-CAT RESEMBLING 'DUKES OF HAZZARD' CAR STOLEN IN COLORADO



"Yeee Haaa!"

Authorities in Colorado are looking for a man suspected of stealing a Sno-Cat fitted out to look like the "General Lee," the famous car featured in the classic television series "The Dukes of Hazzard."

Co-owner John Brandenburg says the large, treaded snow vehicle was on a trailer outside a Minturn restaurant when someone hitched it up and drove away sometime Sunday.

He immediately took to social media and received several responses from people who said they saw a pickup hauling it west on Interstate 70.

Brandenburg says the thief covered the Sno-Cat in tarps, but the decal on the side door was still visible.

KCNC-TV in Denver reports the Sno-Cat was tracked to a garage in the Grand Junction area. A SWAT team was deployed, but the suspect managed to get away.

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
15:40	Zig Zag
17:30	Miscellaneous
18:25	Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated)
19:15	TDM Interview (Repeated)
19:50	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Miscellaneous
22:10	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Champions League Highlights
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:35	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:10	RTPi Live

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

08 - 14 MAR



## TOMB RAIDER

ROOM 1

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

Director: Roar Uthaug

Starring: Alicia Vikander, Daniel Wu, Dominic West

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 118 min



## MARK FELT: THE MAN WHO BROUGHT DOWN THE WHITE HOUSE

ROOM 2

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

Director: Peter Landesman

Starring: Liam Neeson, Diane Lane, Bruce Greenwood

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 103 min

## BLACK PANTHER

ROOM 2

02:15, 04:45, 9:45pm

Director: Ryan Coogler

Starring: Chadwick Boseman, Lupita Nyong'o

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 134min

## AGENT MR CHAN

ROOM 3

4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Cheung Ka Kit

Starring: Dayo Wong Tze Wah, Charmaine Sheh Sze Man

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

## IS THE ORDER A RABBIT? DEAR MY SISTER

ROOM 3

5:45, 7:00, 9:15pm

Director: Hiroyuki Hashimoto

Starring: Ayane Sakura, Inori Minase, Risa Taneda

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 60min

## this day in history



## 1960 RADIO TELESCOPE MAKES SPACE HISTORY

The British radio telescope at Jodrell Bank in Cheshire has set a new space record making contact with the American Pioneer V satellite at a distance of 407,000 miles.

The previous record, about 290,000 miles, was set by the Soviet satellite Lunik III, which photographed the back of the Moon last year.

Jodrell first made contact with Pioneer V after it went into orbit around the Sun, between the paths of Earth and Venus.

The American satellite was launched from Cape Canaveral in Florida three days ago on 11 March.

Shortly after launch, the Jodrell Bank telescope was used for the first time to give commands to a rocket in space.

By pressing a button at Jodrell Bank, the 90lb (43kg) payload was separated from the third stage of the launching rocket.

The telescope then succeeded in switching off the satellite's transmitter, which will help conserve its battery power for later in the mission.

It is hoped eventually Jodrell Bank will be able to pick up signals from the satellite up to 50 million miles from Earth.

This will only be made possible by the very large solar-powered batteries on board which run the transmitter. The solar "paddles" projecting from the satellite will recharge the batteries using the sun's radiation, but the current will still need to be conserved if it is to last until July, as planned.

The transmitter will be switched on for no more than 45 minutes a day at first. Later transmitting time will be reduced to five minutes a day.

Within a week, the satellite will be more than a million miles from Earth and its more powerful 150-watt transmitter will have to be switched on by command from Jodrell Bank.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

In April 1960, the command centre in Hawaii began having problems contacting Pioneer V and Jodrell Bank began to play a bigger role in controlling the satellite.

When the telescope was built in 1957, it was the world's largest fully steerable radio telescope, a title it held for more than 10 years. It is still in the top few radio telescopes in the world. Originally called the Mark 1, it was upgraded to the Mark 1a in 1970. It was rededicated the Lovell Radio Telescope in 1987 to mark 30 years of operation.

The Lovell Radio telescope now has a new galvanised steel surface built at a cost of £2.5m.

It is 30 times more sensitive than when it was built.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 There's no question that you take to responsibility like a fish takes to water.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Whether it's a problematic personal relationship or an interaction with a difficult work colleague that's on your mind, there isn't a whole lot you can actually do about it.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You could spend the workday in an abstract, philosophical mode that leads you to all kinds of interesting new solutions to old work problems.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 When's the last time you read a really good book, hmm? Why not email a few friends whose taste you trust and ask for a recommendation or two.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 There's nothing quite like sharing but not doing, is there? So don't describe how you'd like to be a nightclub crooner or a performance artist or a corporate executive who can hardly find enough companies to raid.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 If you stick to your guns, you'll persevere. An obstacle - the corrupt old west sheriff who shows up at the saloon (just as you are about to finish your macchiato and get on with your plans!).

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 For a finale to your day, you might spend time in late afternoon and early evening making things the way you want them to be. It's going to take a lot of work.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You see things other people don't. Problems, solutions, subtle patterns, deeper meanings - it's almost like you have an extra gift of sight. Do your best to communicate, patiently and kindly.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Spend the day making plans. Big plans, little plans. Plans for the near future, plans for the distant future, plans for tonight. Make plans to make plans if you want to.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Spend the morning delving into those deep, dark, potentially treasure-filled waters of 'why are we here' and 'how can I fulfill my calling as a human being.' In the late afternoon, you switch gears.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Plan something special for tonight. It doesn't matter if it's last minute. Call up a friend or a couple of friends or a significant other or a couple of people you can imagine one day becoming your significant other.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 It's a long road, this life, and it's full of big questions. But go ahead and try to work out solutions to the immediate problems. Taking a practical approach might be just the ticket.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table for China and World cities, including min/max temperatures and conditions.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- \_\_\_ never work!; 5- Somewhat; 9- Musical sounds; 14- Small jazz combo; 15- Domesticated; 16- Cherish; 17- Distribute cards; 18- Actress Thompson; 19- Beneath; 20- Planes, trains, and automobiles, e.g.; 23- Greek letter; 24- Apr. addressee; 25- Views; 29- Spent, as batteries; 31- \_\_\_ rule; 34- Chipped in; 35- Laugh loudly; 36- \_\_\_ impasse; 37- In spite of; 40- Rat-\_\_\_; 41- Goes out with; 42- Sniggler; 43- DDE's rival; 44- Small batteries; 45- Sacristy; 46- TV adjunct; 47- Blue; 48- Comprehensive; 56- Authority; 57- Peek-\_\_\_; 58- Vintner's prefix; 60- Eats to a plan; 61- Native Nigerians; 62- Asian country; 63- Tapestry; 64- Not punctual; 65- Exxon, once;

DOWN: 1- \_\_\_ be an honor; 2- Waste allowance; 3- Make-up artist?; 4- "Damn Yankees" vamp; 5- Bikini tryouts; 6- Bay city; 7- Bullets and such; 8- Precious; 9- Knight wear; 10- "Golden Boy" playwright; 11- \_\_\_ me tangere; 12- Switch ending; 13- Darned; 21- \_\_\_ say more?; 22- Jewelled crown worn by women; 25- Capital of Yemen; 26- Benjamin; 27- Kett and James; 28- Salamander; 29- Prescribed amounts; 30- Consumes; 31- Leaning; 32- Less bananas; 33- Wrathful; 35- She played Carla on "Cheers"; 36- Fruity drinks; 38- Romanov rulers; 39- I \_\_\_ vacation!; 44- Beyond; 45- Located above the water table; 46- Roman goddess of the hearth; 47- Snob; 48- Meat-grading org.; 49- Neet rival; 50- Textile worker; 51- Follow; 52- "Dancing Queen" quartet; 53- Chadic language; 54- Grazing sites; 55- Slaughter in Cooperstown; 59- Barcelona bear;



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



Real estate advertisement for JML Property, listing various properties for sale and rent in Taipa, Coloane, and Nam Long.



AD



# MALO CLINIC

THE ART OF CREATING SMILES

*Sculpting smiles  
with detail and  
precision*

## Dear patients and friends of Taivex Malo Hospital Dental Clinic/Macau MALO CLINIC,

We at Macau MALO CLINIC would like to apologize to you all.

The Macau Health Bureau has notified the hospital to stop all operations for 6 months, thus the dental clinic won't be able to provide you with dental services either.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

### Within this time period, patients may choose the following options:

- A.** Go to one of our 18 Malo Clinic clinics in Mainland China, all of which, together with Macau MALO CLINIC, operate under MALO CLINIC China Management, following the exact standards and medical protocols as any international MALO CLINIC.

Macau MALO CLINIC will provide the transport to and from our clinics in Guangzhou or Shenzhen. Macau MALO CLINIC will manage the necessary bookings in all MALO CLINICS in China, as well as follow-up and medical records will be provided to our colleagues in China.

- B.** For all patients who will be in Portugal during this period, Macau MALO CLINIC will manage the necessary bookings, follow-up and patients' medical records to our colleagues in any MALO CLINIC in Portugal.

- C.** For those patients who are willing to wait for MALO CLINIC in Macau to proceed with the treatments, we are putting all our efforts in finding a partnering healthcare organization at the moment in order to continue our practice.

### If any urgent situation arises or if you have any enquiries, please feel free to contact us.

Office phone  
8862 2208 / 8862 2206

Cellphone  
00853—6826 9099

Wechat  
MALODENTAL853  
(Can be contacted at any time)

Email  
service.mimc@maloclinics.com.cn

Website  
<http://www.maloclinics.com.cn>

Once again, we would like to apologize for all the inconvenience this has put on you all.

Thank you all for your understanding and support. We hope to find solutions for everyone's cases as soon as possible so that we may keep providing quality dental service to you all.

Yours Sincerely,

WORLDWIDE

Guimarães | Oporto | Gaia | Aveiro | Coimbra | Sintra | Cascais | Lisbon | Almada | Portimão | Faro | Funchal | Windsor | Verona  
Münchenglöckbach | Oslo | Warsaw | Gdansk | Athens | Ioannina | New York | Rutherford | Jersey City | Elizabeth | Miami | Portland  
Toronto | Montreal | Trois-Rivières | Brossard | Bogotá | Melbourne | Sydney | Perth | Brisbane | Hobart | Gold Coast | Luanda  
Tel Aviv | Ramat Hasharon | Dubai | Karachi | Chennai | Macao | Hong Kong | Beijing | Shanghai | Guangzhou | Shenzhen | Taiyuan  
Zhengzhou | Chengdu | Qingdao | Haikou | Shenyang | Fuzhou | Hangzhou | Tokyo | Sapporo | Bangkok | Phuket | Singapore



+ INFO



FOLLOW US



Venus Williams (right) hugs opponent and sister Serena after defeating her

## TENNIS

# Oh, sister: Venus beats Serena at Indian Wells

Beth Harris, Indian Wells (Calif.)

**O**NE sister is rusty, just beginning a comeback after having a baby. The other is rejuvenated at 37, back in the world's top 10.

An unwanted rivalry with roots going back 20 years had its latest chapter yesterday [Macau time] at the BNP Paribas Open, with Venus Williams beating sister Serena 6-3, 6-4 in the third round for her first win over her younger sibling since 2014.

It was their earliest meeting since a 17-year-old Venus beat 16-year-old Serena in the second round of the 1998 Australian Open. They played for the first time since last year's Australian Open final, when a pregnant Serena won her 23rd Grand Slam title.

"That's going to be a huge story, maybe the story of the year," men's No. 1 Roger Federer said of Serena's comeback. "Hopefully, she decides to play a lot and enjoy herself in the process and get back to who knows how high? It almost

doesn't matter, but it would just be amazing to see her do it now."

But this night belonged to Aunt Venus.

She closed out the 1 1/2-hour match on her second match point when Serena's forehand service return sailed long. It was one of Serena's 41 unforced errors, including 17 on the forehand side.

"I'm just lucky that I've played more matches than her right now," Venus said on court afterward. "She just came roaring back. I had chances for the match to be over, but it wasn't."

Venus broke Serena at love in the sixth game for a 4-2 lead in the first set. She emphatically closed out the 36-minute set with back-to-back aces that clocked 108 mph and 120 mph.

"I definitely know her well, but she definitely played a little bit better than she normally does," Serena said. "She served very consistently. She just did everything great."

Venus raced out to leads of 3-0 and 5-2 in the second set. Serena's shot went wide to set up her sister's first match point. But Serena cracked a backhand winner down the line for deuce. Venus' forehand was long and she double-faulted away the game to make it 5-3.

Serena held to trail 5-4 with an ace and a clean winner.

Venus faced two break points in the next game, but got bailed out on Serena's consecutive forehand errors to get to deuce. Venus hung on from there to end their 29th meeting.

"Missing shots that I never miss, and so close," Serena said. "At least they're in the margin. I'm getting there. It's not exactly where I want to be, but I'll get there eventually."

Serena still owns a 17-12 advantage overall, although Venus evened their WTA Tour head-to-head meetings at 7-7.

"I really abhor every time we play, but I do enjoy the battle when I'm out there," Serena said last weekend. "It's just afterwards I don't like it as much."

It was obvious at the net when they greeted each other with a one-arm hug and neither smiled. Venus did her usual victory pirouette, but still didn't smile.

A stone-faced Serena exited the court to cheers, pointing her right index finger in the air.

Serena was back on the WTA Tour for the first time since ending a 14-month absence during which she gave birth to daughter

Alexis Jr. and married Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian, who sat courtside.

"It's good that I don't have to say that this is the best tennis I have ever played and I lost," Serena said. "My room for improvement is incredible."

Typically, the sisters wouldn't meet until the later rounds of a tournament. But 36-year-old Serena was unseeded in this event. Venus is seeded eighth.

Serena won her first two matches, while Venus received a first-round bye and won her opening match.

"I think she's going to be speeding back to the seedings and to winning tournaments sooner than later," Venus said.

The Indian Wells match was 17 years in the making.

The sisters were supposed to play each other in the desert in 2001. A packed stadium awaited their semifinal but shortly before the match was to begin Venus withdrew with a right knee injury.

Serena went on to play Kim Clijsters in the final. Venus and her father Richard were greeted with boos as they made their way to their seats, with some fans believing Richard had been behind Venus' withdrawal.

Richard Williams said he heard racial slurs from the crowd and he paused to shake his fist at them. Serena was booed throughout the final before she beat Clijsters in three sets for her second title in the desert.

After that, the sisters boycotted Indian Wells for 14 years. Serena came back in 2015 only to withdraw with a knee injury before her semifinal, and Venus followed the next year.

Both sisters have been greeted warmly by fans each time they've played here since that turbulent time.

"It never crossed my mind," Venus said. **AP**

## RUGBY

# Chariot derailed: England's team hits problems

**T**HE wheels are coming off the English chariot.

After two years of unprecedented and virtually unstinting success under Eddie Jones, England's rugby team has hit problems just as the 2019 Rugby World Cup is looming into view.

"I always said this year would be the hardest year we'd have," Jones said of the third year in England's World Cup cycle.

He's been proven right.

The English won the last two Six Nations under Jones, one a Grand Slam. After back-to-back

losses to Scotland and France over the past two weeks, they are in danger of finishing in fifth place — their lowest position in the tournament since 1983 when it was called the Five Nations.

The English won 24 of their first 25 tests. Now, they are staring at three straight losses, which hasn't happened to them in the Six Nations since 2008.

The home match against Grand Slam-chasing Ireland on Saturday is shaping up to be a crucial one for Jones on his journey with England to the Ru-

gby World Cup in Japan.

It wasn't long ago that most rugby experts were saying England was the team most likely to stop New Zealand being world champion for the third straight time. "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" — England's rugby anthem — was being sung with added gusto around Twickenham.

Fraillies have been exposed in recent weeks, though.

This is England's biggest weakness — and Jones knows it.

"It's a sizeable but fixable problem," Jones said

on Saturday after the 22-16 loss in France. "We can address it and keep getting better at it, but the reality is that we probably won't get better at it until the World Cup."

In Paris, the English were turned over 11 times, a contributing factor to their massive penalty count of 16. They were demolished at the breakdown in the 25-13 loss to Scotland last month and nothing changed against France.

In both games, Chris Robshaw was England's openside flanker and he's not a natural there, pre-



ferring instead to play on the blindside. Jones knows that, too, having criticized England's deployment of Robshaw in that position during the Rugby World Cup when in charge of Japan.

Jones has also said En-

gland is struggling at the breakdown because there is a difference in attitudes to the tackle area in international rugby and in England's domestic's Premiership, in which fewer numbers are committed to the ruck. **AP**

opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



LOCAL PRIMARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

The education system in Macau is unusual in that there is no standard national curriculum and most schools are non-government. Moreover, the government is happy to subsidize a substantial share of school building costs and schools can get a significant per student operating subsidy. Finally, the government is largely non-interventionist in controlling school operating practices. This lays an excellent foundation for an innovative and vibrant education system. It gives schools flexibility and permits them to focus on "niche markets" and proactively respond to changing community needs and try out new approaches and technologies for learning and teaching. I strongly believe that the stifling constraints that schools often operate under is a major contributor in keeping many national education systems in the "dark ages".

Unfortunately, I believe that the enviable education system that we could have here is currently being crippled in several important ways by poor government oversight and planning.

Firstly, the requirements for teaching qualifications are low or non-existent and only a few local universities offer degrees in teaching. This means that the typical Macau school teacher, especially at the primary level, is very poorly trained and has had little exposure to modern teaching ideas and technologies. They typically follow the practices they experienced in their own primary and secondary education, which strongly emphasized rote learning of facts that were not related to "real life", and they do not know any better and have few incentives to learn. The government itself seems to recognize this problem and subsidizes secondary school teachers to upgrade their qualifications, but not primary school teachers, which is where you can have the greatest impact.

If you want to improve schools you should initially focus on primary education and then move on to secondary education as the student cohort grows up. Focusing improvements on secondary schooling means fixing damage that has already been done – it is much easier to prevent problems from occurring than to correct damage after it has been done.

Secondly, while the subsidies given to schools are excellent they are tied to restrictions on other tuition so that if schools accept government subsidies they are severely hamstrung in their total available income. This forces schools to focus on reducing costs, which they typically do by having very large classes taught by very poorly paid and lowly qualified teachers. All the available literature indicates that a good education system must start with well paid, highly qualified teachers that are well supported and teach relatively small classes. It is simple common sense that good people are attracted to well paid and fulfilling careers and that students benefit from individual attention, which is impossible in a class of 50.

Thirdly, the Macau education department monitors relatively meaningless measures of school performance such as student and teacher attendance records. Having a flexible education environment that encourages innovation is great, but only if the performance of schools is properly monitored and improvements are facilitated. Around the world there are several good systems of school accreditation where inspectors come in to evaluate school missions and visions, the quality of the learning and teaching and the subsequent life success of school graduates. Only third world countries where schools are corrupt and teachers are not regularly paid have problems with students and teachers absenting themselves from school, which should not be a focus of concern in Macau!

Schools have a huge potential in Macau but I believe that improvements will not be realized until schools are given much more freedom to raise tuition and other sources of income, much better teaching qualifications are required, school certification and assessment becomes much more sophisticated and the focus shifts to improving primary education first.

THE UK SAYS EX-SPY POISONED WITH SOVIET-DEVELOPED NERVE AGENT

The use of Russian-developed nerve agent Novichok to poison ex-spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter makes it "highly likely" that Russia was involved, British Prime Minister Theresa May said.

Novichok refers to a class of nerve agents developed in the Soviet Union near the end of the Cold War. The agents were ostensibly created in an attempt to avoid the international chemical weapons treaty that had just been signed; any new substances wouldn't be subject to past treaties.

Novichok behaves slightly differently than other nerve agents, with some reports that the class of substances is deadlier than similar chemicals like sarin or VX and harder to identify.

"Novichok agents significantly extend the range of possibility for nerve agents," said Andrea Sella, a professor of inorganic chemistry at University College London. There are five known nerve agents, which are mostly colorless liquids that can kill within minutes, if in-gested.

TWITTER ANNOUNCEMENT

Tillerson out at State, to be replaced by CIA chief Pompeo



Rex Tillerson and Mike Pompeo

**PRESIDENT** Donald Trump ousted Rex Tillerson as secretary of state yesterday, making a surprise Twitter announcement that he's naming CIA director Mike Pompeo to replace him. "Mike Pompeo, Director of the CIA, will become our new Secretary of State," Trump tweeted. "He will do a fantastic job! Thank you to Rex Tillerson for his service! Gina Haspel will become the new Director of the CIA, and the first woman so chosen. Congratulations to all!"

A White House official said Trump wanted to have a new team in place ahead of upcoming talks with North Korea and various trade talks. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to speak publicly.

There had been longstanding rumors throughout most of Tillerson's tenure

of friction between Trump and his secretary of state, a former Exxon Mobile Corp. CEO.

In October, NBC news reported that Tillerson called the president a "moron," something Tillerson never actually denied. Tillerson continued to insist his relationship with the president was solid and brushed off rumors of strain between them.

Tillerson was slated to retire from Exxon in March 2017 at age 65 under the company's mandatory retirement policy.

Paid USD27.3 million last year, Tillerson has accumulated roughly \$160 million in Exxon stock along with \$149 million of unvested stock options, according a proxy statement the company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Tillerson had just returned from a shortened trip to

Africa hours before Trump's announcement. Trump offered no explanation for the change.

While on board, the Secretary of State cast the poisoning of an ex-spy in Britain as part of a "certain unleashing of activity" by Russia that the United States is struggling to understand. He warned that the poisoning would "certainly trigger a response."

Tillerson, echoing the British government's finger-pointing toward Moscow, said he didn't yet know whether Russia's government knew of the attack with a military-grade nerve agent, but that one way or another, "it came from Russia." He said it was "almost beyond comprehension" why a state actor would deploy such a dangerous substance in a public place in a foreign country where others could be exposed. **MDT/AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Prince of the people. Britain's Prince Harry meets well-wishers in the Dean's yard, after the Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey in London.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	50-70 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	45-65 Moderate
Ambient	45-65 Moderate

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

**SOUTH AFRICA** The Nelson Mandela Foundation is preparing events and other initiatives this year to mark the centenary of the birth of the anti-apartheid leader who became South Africa's first black president.

**SPAIN** The European Court of Human Rights has sided with two Spaniards who set fire in public to a photograph of Spain's king and queen, saying their protest amounted to freedom of expression.



**EU-BRITAIN** The European Union's chief Brexit negotiator (pictured) warned Britain yesterday against undercutting EU rules and regulations that underpin anything from social protections to food security when it leaves the bloc.

**SYRIA** Turkish troops and allied Syrian opposition fighters have begun a siege of the Syrian Kurdish-held town of Afrin, the Turkish military said yesterday, marking a significant advance in Ankara's seven-week operation that also almost fully encircles hundreds of thousands of civilians.



**ARGENTINA** A group of American scientists who were stranded in an ice-bound island off the northeastern tip of the Antarctic Peninsula has been rescued by an Argentine icebreaker.

**MEXICO** Prosecutors say they have arrested a man who allegedly played a decisive role in the disappearance of 43 college students in 2014. The Attorney General's Office says the suspect probably belonged to the Guerreros Unidos drug cartel.