



**GOV'T CALLS
EU REMARKS
'IRRESPONSIBLE'**

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**NEW ART GALLERY
OPENS**

A new art space opened earlier this month, kicking off with a photo exhibition titled Fukushima

P5 MDT REPORT



**ATLANTIC CITY
REBOUNING**

The oceanside city is showing signs of a rebound, after a decade-long decline led to the closing of five of 12 casinos

P8 GAMING



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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



INDONESIA A newly drilled unregulated oil well in western Indonesia exploded into flames early yesterday, burning 18 people to death and injuring dozens of others.

MALAYSIA Police yesterday released a photo of one of the two alleged assailants who gunned down a Palestinian engineer over the weekend, and said they are believed to still be in the country.

AP PHOTO



PHILIPPINES Tourists are spending their final hours on Boracay, enjoying the Philippine island's famed white-sand beaches before it closes for up to six months to recover from overcrowding and development.

INDIA's widening current-account deficit is coming back to haunt the rupee, with analysts clamoring to lower forecasts on Asia's second-worst performing currency.

BLOOMBERG



IRAN President Hassan Rouhani condemned talks between the U.S. and France over the multi-party nuclear agreement, urging his American counterpart to stand by his existing commitments before seeking to impose additional demands.

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IFFAM

Chen Kaige to serve as jury president

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The director of the famed "Farewell my Concubine" (pictured), Chen Kaige was appointed to serve as international jury president at the third edition of the International Film Festival & Awards - Macao later this year.

RENATO MARQUES



Benfica's efforts not enough to beat N. Korean side

P3 AFC CUP



Han Zheng meets the Macau delegation

Top MSAR officials receive 'training' in Beijing

CHAN Zheng Tuesday met with senior officials and the prosecutor general of the MSAR to discuss matters including the "comprehensive and accurate implementation" of the one country, two systems policy and the Basic Law, according to several reports.

Han, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central

Committee, said the top Macau officials should safeguard national sovereignty, security, and development interests unwaveringly. He added that they should actively pursue development, advance harmony, and firmly maintain lasting prosperity and stability in Macau.

The officials should work diligently to help integrate Macau's own development into the overall development of the

country, and seek benefits for the people, Han said, according to a Xinhua report.

At the meeting, Han praised the Macau government officials for their achievements in the development of Macau as well as for bringing together all sectors of society, consolidating and enhancing the prosperity and stability of the region.

Representing the Macau delegation, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia

Chan, spoke with the media, noting that this was the first time that Han had received representatives from Macau and Hong Kong since he took office, with the duties of being in charge of the two regions' affairs.

The secretary noted that, "it becomes imperative to respect the socialist system implemented by national institutions, as well as respect for the Communist Party, according to the status of the ruling party in the

country. [...] It also becomes necessary to defend the powers of the Central Government, assimilating in an organic way the high level of autonomy enjoyed by the MSAR and to foster both the 'political awareness' and the "awareness of the country's general interests."

As a third point, Chan noted that is necessary to "seize local development opportunities, benefit from Macau's special characteristics to diversify its economy and to plan a long-term development according to such characteristics and roles defined." As a final point, Chan remarked on the topic of "caring [for] Macau's people," noting that Han said that the government "should work for the wellbeing and satisfaction of Macau residents, listening to their voices and requests," in order to ensure not only that the defined direction is followed but to make it easy to spot possible shortcomings.

According to Xinhua, the Macau officials and the prosecutor general were in Beijing "for training." Sonia Chan revealed that the training session organized for the Macau main officials, which was concluded yesterday, served to inform them about the national situation and to prepare all government officials for the "new era" of "communism with Chinese characteristics" instituted by President Xi Jinping, as well as the new developments and intentions on the relationship of China with other countries and regions in the light of the new international situation.

Pousada de São Tiago expansion project moves forward

THE expansion of the Pousada de São Tiago Hotel, located in Barra, unveiled back in 2014, has received the green light from authorities and will soon move forward, the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) confirmed to Jornal Tribuna de Macau, after receiving a favorable opinion from the Cultural Affairs Bureau.

The five-star hotel unit, installed since 1982 on the former São Tiago da Barra Fortress (da-

ting originally from the 17th century), has been temporarily closed since the end of March 2017. At that time, the owner of the facility, lawmaker Angela Leong, announced its temporary closure due to a lack of guests at the hotel. This was mostly attributable to the negative impact of the adjacent construction of Barra's multi-modal transportation center that will connect the light rail to other public transport systems upon completion.

According to DSSOPT, the building owners are preparing to move forward with the expansion, which was announced by the contractor who won the tender for the works. The project scope covers a "new 7-storey building and vehicle access passages in the northeast of its current site." The same company is also "undertaking excavation, granite chipping and crushing, anchor packing, slope consolidation and other site levelling engineering,

as well as the construction of reinforced concrete structures for the new hotel, outer walls, electro-mechanical devices, gardens and other works." The company responsible for the project, the Metallurgical Corporation of China Ltd (MCC) Overseas, also announced on their website in early December that the works commenced in mid-November last year, but did not specify a date of completion. When the hotel closure



Works at the plot facing the hotel led to its temporary closure

was first announced in February last year, Leong said that the hotel would reopen once the construction of the Light Rail Transit facilities was fi-

nished, noting that all employees working at the hotel unit would be temporarily relocated to other hotels belonging to the group.

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THE European Commission of the European Union has adopted the latest annual report to the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers on political and economic developments in the Macau SAR, covering 2017.

The report, which assesses the state of the politico-economic environment of Macau and details the nature of EU-Macau relations, found several areas of concern in Macau last year. Its findings led the political bloc to conclude that a greater commitment to democracy, rule of law and protection for fundamental freedoms and rights was required in the MSAR.

In particular, the European Union lobbied for "greater public involvement" in the election of Macau's chief executive and the Legislative Assembly, which "would enhance their legitimacy, increase public support and strengthen governance."

The EU said that work is ongoing regarding the commitments taken by the Macau government to address the EU's concerns under its screening of third countries and jurisdictions' taxation policies and practices. In December last year, Macau was temporarily black-listed by the European political bloc, accused of being a tax haven.

The report mentions several worrying developments, including the banning of activists, lawmakers and journalists from entering Macau last year and self-censorship of the media.

"There appears to be a degree of self-censorship [in the media], particularly in Chinese-language media and when reporting on Chinese affairs. NGOs and media activists continue to raise concerns over self-censorship, which is due to the

EU report calls for greater commitment to democracy

media's reliance on government funding."

It also mentioned allegations from pro-democracy activists that the Central Government unlawfully hacked their social media, email and instant messaging services in order to monitor election campaign activity.

■ The report mentions the banning of activists, lawmakers and journalists from entering Macau

Meanwhile, the EU praised the local government's fight against human trafficking – for example through training sessions, public awareness campaigns and increased cooperation with mainland Chinese and Hong Kong intelligence agencies. However, it added that "trafficking in human beings remains an issue in Macau" and that "the number of prosecutions and convictions remains low despite a large number of complaints."

In economic terms, the Macau economy appeared to be making strong gains in its recovery, the EU said. In particular, the "diversification of the gambling sector gained some ground over the last year," even as it remains a long-term goal of the government.



Gov't: European Union making 'irresponsible' comments

THE local government has reacted yesterday to the European Union annual report on Macau, expressing its strong opposition to claims made in the document.

According to a statement issued by the Government Information Bureau, the report "contains groundless and baseless claims, and made irresponsible comments about Macau's internal affairs."

The statement continues by saying that "Macau's internal affairs are a domestic matter for

China: foreign countries have no right to interfere in China's domestic affairs."

Claiming as "undeniable facts" that the MSAR "has been strictly implementing the principle of 'One country, two systems', 'Macau people governing Macau' and the exercise of a high degree of autonomy", the statement claims that "the successful implementation of the above is effective in maintaining the political stability of Macao, in boosting economic development, and in strengthening social harmony."

FOOTBALL

Benfica efforts not enough to beat 4.25SC

Renato Marques

BENFICA de Macau football club lost 0-2 against North Korea's 4.25 Sports Club yesterday evening in match four (of six) of the group stage for the Asia Football Confederation (AFC) Cup. Benfica was trying to correct the mistakes made in the previous match against the same side two weeks ago, having lost 8-0 in Pyongyang. This time, the local team started the game trying to control defensively the best players of the North Korean club.

And things were running well until around the 16th minute of the first half, when the 4.25SC started to grow and to threaten



to score. With a couple of good saves, goalkeeper Batista kept the nil.

The strategy of Benfica

to hold the game was starting to fail and the 4.25SC was playing wide on both left and right wings. Ben-

fica was trying to respond through the center with long-passes trying to reach the forward players.

At minute 23, in the sequence of a corner kick and with the ball crossing the box back and forth, Korean captain An Il Bon secured the first goal.

The game then entered the hardest phase for Benfica with several attacks from 4.25SC that resulted in a similar play as in the first goal, catching a rebound. The ball was kicked inside the box with the referee Omar Mohamed Hassan Al-Ali pointing to the penalty mark by charge of Ngue-ma over Kim Yu Song.

Called to convert, An kicked the ball with precision - touching the crossbar - to make it 0-2, 31 minutes into the first half of the match.

Until the half-time whistle, Benfica managed to balance forces and in the last five minutes even attempt on goal, but very far from a real scoring chance.

Following the break, the game was more evenly balanced and played a lot on the midfield with the best opportunities still coming to the North Korean side and allowing Batista to shine with a few more good saves. The match reached fulltime with the same score as it had reached half-time - 0-2 - to North Korean side that with this win scored three more points and guarantees its progress into the next stage of the competition.



Chen Kaige

IFFAM

Chen Kaige to serve as int'l jury president

CHINESE filmmaker Chen Kaige has agreed to serve as international jury president at the third edition of the International Film Festival & Awards – Macao later this year, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

Kaige, who is famously the only Chinese filmmaker to

have won the Cannes Palme d'Or, is a leading figure in what is sometimes termed the "fifth generation" of Chinese cinema.

He will lead the judging panel for the festival's main competition segment, dedicated to first- and second-time filmmakers.

IFFAM festival director Mike Goodridge told the film and

television media outlet that it was a "great honor" to welcome Kaige as international jury president.

"That he has agreed to be our jury president this year is a great honor to our festival," he said. "With a 35-year filmography spanning Yellow Earth (1984) to last year's dizzyingly spectacular Legend of

the Demon Cat, he pioneered a new era in Chinese cinema in the 1980s and 1990s, yet continues to challenge himself today with the same energy, ambition and command of the medium across many different genres."

Citing further comments of Goodridge, the Hollywood Reporter noted that there will be several new additions to the festival this year, including a showcase called "New Chinese Cinema" that will feature selections of Chinese-language cinema from 2018.

Another new element will be a "For All the Family" segment, screening family film favorites from around the world.

Meanwhile, many of the popular segments from previous years are also set to return this year. Among them is Flying Daggers - a selection of international genre films - the Best of Fest Panorama, the Director's Choice Retrospective (in which international directors select some of their favorite classic genre films), and the usual array of special presentations and career achievement awards.

The third edition of the film festival is due to be held in Macau between December 8 and 14.



Arts Festival kicks off tomorrow

THE 29th Macao Arts Festival (MAF) kicks off tomorrow with an opening ceremony at 7.40 p.m. in the lobby of the Macau Cultural Centre.

With the theme "Origin" – which symbolizes the "spring of life" – this edition of the MAF presents 26 shows and exhibitions, as well as an outreach program, for a total of over 100 activities.

The festival opens with stage play "Das Kapital" on April 27 and 28, presented by the Shanghai Dramatic Arts Centre. The new version of Karl Marx's grand classic incorporates local elements and illustrates the duality of capitalism through black humor.

On the same days, local choreographer Tracy Wong will present "Les Curious Fringes – Blast of the Cave", a theatrical dance performance incorporating visual art installations.

Based on the performance "The Victory Shipyard" in 2017, the play "Sunset at the Shipyards" by Dream Theatre Association will be held on April 28 and 29, with a total runtime of two hours and 15 minutes per session. It focuses on Macau residents' recognition of the need to conserve local culture by retelling the history of the local shipbuilding industry.

A Portuguese artist will also present experimental theatre "Parasomnia", which integrates installations with images and sounds, from May 2 to 6 at the Mandarin's House.

The Cultural Affairs Bureau said in a statement yesterday that tickets to certain programs are limited.

Health Bureau issues alert to avoid measles affected areas

THE Health Bureau (SSM) has issued a warning regarding a measles outbreak in Okinawa, Japan, which has also affected Taiwan.

The SSM informed that it is currently monitoring the situation in neighboring regions and warns residents with children younger than one year old are not to travel to affected areas. The bureau also states that it will not permit

vaccinations of children below the age of one, even if those children are travelling, because the vaccine has limited effectiveness in infants of such a young age. According to the SSM, the vaccine is not immediately effective and requires a minimum of two weeks to trigger some degree of immunity.

The bureau also warns all parents to avoid travelling to affected areas with unvaccina-

ted infants, noting that, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), the clinical efficacy of the first vaccination in infants under nine months of age or between nine and 11 months of age is only 72 to 77 percent efficacious respectively. The vaccine's efficacy increases to 93 percent if the child is over one year of age.

When the vaccination process is complete after the second inocula-

tion, the vaccine produces an efficacy of 97 percent.

According to the WHO recommendations, Macau has developed a vaccination regime in which children are vaccinated against measles first at 12 months of age, and again at 18 months. This regime provides permanent protection against measles, according to the SSM. In the past, the first inoculation that was given

to nine-month-old children was suspended due to low efficiency and due to the absence of any current risks of an epidemic outbreak in Macau, given that the disease had been well under control for a long time.

Nevertheless, the SSM noted that there are several neighboring regions where outbreaks of the disease occur often, especially in some provinces in the mainland, Taiwan and Okinawa, advising residents to take special precautions when travelling to these locations.

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

Lynzy Valles

New gallery pledges to present art with no restrictions

A new art space in the city officially opened earlier this month, kicking off with a photo exhibition, Fukushima.

Cora Si, former curator of the Ox Warehouse art association, said that a local design company, Chiii Design, has lent the space to the group and provided them with the facilities to hold art exhibitions.

Speaking to the Times, Si explained that the space, "At Light," is not restricted to exhibiting any form of artwork. Indeed, the next exposition will feature a private collection of oil paintings.

"Actually we don't [target] a specific kind of exhibition. Now it's mainly contemporary art," said Si.

Initially, the art space behind the government headquarters was formerly named "Chii Gallery," but it was not fully utilized.

"The idea for this gallery was to use it as an exhibition space but the gallery did not think about what kind of [exhibitions] they want it to have," said Si.

"Later on, the gallery met with us and they thought that it's okay to lend the place to us, so [that's] why we're here now," the curator said.

Currently, the art space is showcasing the works of photo-

grapher Kan Tai Wong, who documented the livelihood of cities and towns damaged by the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011.

The following year, he entered the exclusion zone established after the Fukushima nuclear disaster and took photos with a Polaroid camera, believing that the particular medium would add an additional emotional layer of color.

The photographs show the livelihood of residents in the aftermath of the earthquake, including farmers growing cobs in their restored lands while villagers carry out rituals and festivals.

Meanwhile, the curator believes that the art space serves as a platform for artists to freely showcase their works.

"This place is beautiful, and has an old style western architecture. I think this is really an ideal space. I even think it's more beautiful than the exhibition spaces in Taipa Museum," she remarked.

Comparing it to the previous art space for which she curated, Si noted that "At Light" gives a



Cora Si



different vibe and receives much more freedom to showcase various artworks.

"The government lent the previous one [Ox Warehouse] and they gave us freedom [to showcase artworks], but the people

I'm working with are different now [...] and they're really easy to work with," said Si.

"We want to keep the flexibility of "At Light" when we are operating this space because many [art] spaces have restrictions re-

garding how you want to display artworks, which isn't so good," the curator added.

Si revealed that "At Light" is planning to hold six exhibitions this year, along with a community event.

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Aperfeiçoar o sistema de segurança pública Para melhorar a capacidade de gerir emergências

Dez prioridades para prevenção e redução de desastres

Um Regulamento: revisão da Lei de Bases da Protecção Civil.
A redação da Lei-Base e de dois outros regulamentos administrativos já se encontra preliminarmente concluída; os documentos serão submetidos brevemente a consulta pública.

Um conjunto de medidas preventivas: Formulação de medidas preventivas gerais, especiais e dos serviços governativos, vocacionadas para responder a emergências e contingências.

Os Serviços de Polícia Unitários estão incumbidos da formulação de um plano geral de resposta a emergências, cuja mais nova revisão estará concluída até ao final do presente mês. Desde o tufão Hato, para além de um conjunto nove medidas preventivas especiais, concebeu-se ainda um plano de evacuação das zonas vulneráveis a "storm surges", causadas por tufões. No futuro, pretende-se dar continuidade à criação de medidas preventivas especiais para fazer frente a emergências de diferentes naturezas. O Plano Geral de Protecção Civil define as responsabilidades dos departamentos do Governo e as medidas preventivas, cuja elaboração caberá aos serviços competentes.

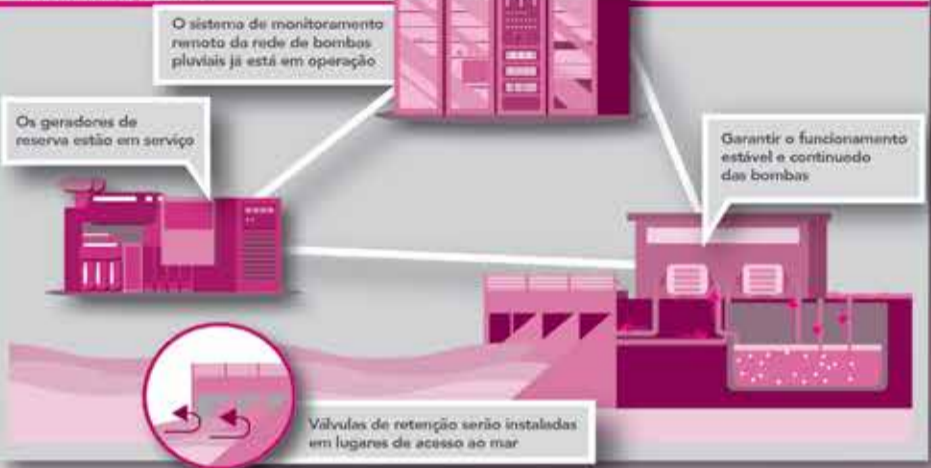
Um Plano: "Plano Decenal de Prevenção e Redução de Desastres em Macau (2019-2028)" os trabalhos de elaboração já foram iniciados, em todos os campos; prevê-se que estejam concluídos até ao final do ano.

Sete projectos prioritários:

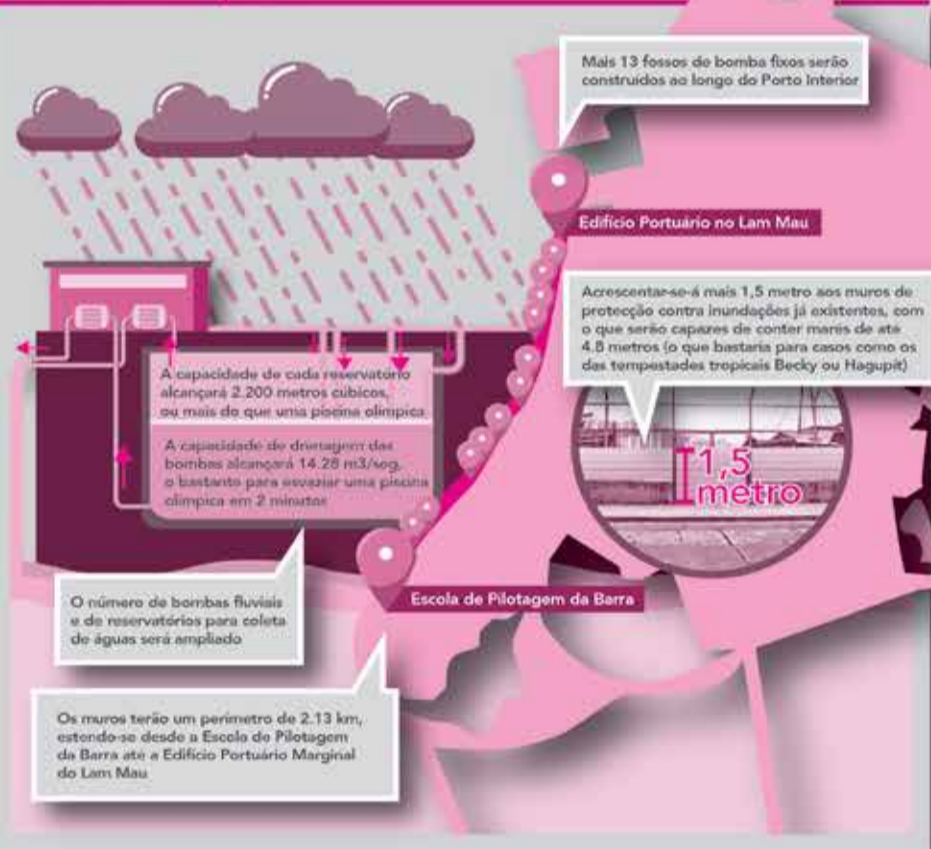
A concluir-se neste ano, antes da estação dos tufões	Próximos objectivos
1 Construção de uma plataforma de comando para emergências <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Plataforma de Comando para Emergências foi desenhada em conjunto com o Instituto de Investigação sobre Segurança Pública da Universidade Tsinghua. A instalação básica de parte dos subsistemas estará finalizada até ao dia 28 de Abril deste ano, no intuito de que possa ser envolvida na simulação de tufão, organizada pela Protecção Civil, a ter lugar naquela data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ante-se que, em 2019, será possível aperfeiçoar os sistemas de primeira fase. Entre 2020 e 2021, a plataforma de comando deverá estar pronta e totalmente funcional. Entre 2022 e 2028, deverá ser instituída a plataforma de comando para operações de emergência, gestão da segurança na cidade e integração.
2 Aprimoramento da capacidade integrada dos serviços meteorológicos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Já foram estabelecidos mecanismos para avaliação e consulta sobre ciclones tropicais. Publicou-se a Ordem Executiva n.º 61/2018 - Aprova o Código dos sinais de tempestade tropical e o Sinal de ventos fortes de monção. Lançar-se-ão esforços para rever a Ordem Executiva n.º 15/2009, que aprova o Aviso de "storm surge". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A partir deste ano, privativas sobre os diferentes graus de intensidade dos tufões e sobre o período de sua passagem por Macau serão divulgadas ao público, dentro das possibilidades. Intende-se melhorar a capacidade de previsão e medição de desastres através da instalação de estações de monitorização do nível da água, estações meteorológicas automatizadas e estações pluviométricas, entre outras medidas.
3 Reforço da rede eléctrica para resistir a desastres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ampliar-se-á o abastecimento da rede eléctrica local, aumentando para três os atuais dois fontes de 500 quilovolts. O circuito de linhas eléctricas de 220 quilovolts, que ora liga Fenghuang e Zhuhai, será substituído por cabos de transmissão subterráneos. Acrescentar-se-á o fornecimento de electricidade por parte das estações de energia das regiões vizinhas, o que deve ser implementado antes da estação dos tufões. Acelerar-se-ão os consertos dos cabos principais de transmissão eléctrica de 220 quilovolts em Macau, que devem entrar em funcionamento em Junho próximo. As 60 salas de transformadores nas zonas baixas serão transferidas para lugares mais altos, ajustando-se a posição dos anéis, instalando-se portas à prova d'água, etc. Esses trabalhos devem estar concluídos em Julho vindouro. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defini-se-ão critérios para as instalações de distribuição de electricidade nas zonas baixas, os quais serão progressivamente implementados como padrões para as vistorias técnicas dessas construções. Melhorar-se-á a capacidade de geração de energia local, tendo, possível, em emergências, ampliá-la em 50%. Com isso, garantir-se-ão serviços essenciais como hospitais, comunicações, fornecimento de água, com capacidade autónoma de fornecimento de energia para a maior parte dos habitantes. Acelerar-se-á a utilização de novos grupos geradores a gás natural, lançando-se esforços para que estejam em serviço até ao verão de 2021.
4 Construção de barragem de marés no Porto Interior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> O sistema de monitoramento remoto da rede de bombas pluviais já está instalado, encontrando-se em fase de testes. Envidar-se-á esforços para que se realize o concurso público das casas de bombas já instaladas no Porto Interior, bem como das galerias e colectores pluviais. O "Relatório do plano geral da comporta de retenção de marés e do sistema de escoamento de água na zona marginal do Porto Interior de Macau" já foi apresentado ao Governo Central. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reforço do trabalho de desobstrução, manutenção, conservação e aprimoramento da rede de bombas, galerias e colectores. Realizar-se-ão obras de reboco e impermeabilização no perímetro do Porto Interior, com a construção de treze novos poços de bomba fixos, melhoria dos dispositivos anti-transbordamento presentes nas bocas das galerias, incremento da capacidade de drenagem. Construção de muros de protecção contra inundações semi-desmontáveis, capazes de conter marés provocadas por tempestades tropicais tais como Becky ou Hagupit. Dar seguimento ao "Relatório do Estudo de Viabilidade da Barragem de Maré no Porto Interior - Prospecção Geotécnica e Estudo Temático", planeando-se a construção de barreiras contra maré desmontáveis. Isso permitirá, no longo prazo, as inundações na zona marginal do Porto Interior.
5 Construção de abrigos de emergência, áreas para evacuação e acolhimento de vítimas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nas diferentes zonas de Macau, será criado um total de 14 centros de abrigo, 4 pontos de concentração/estações de evacuação, para servir de refúgios de emergência. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planeja-se a construção de abrigos nas novas zonas urbanas.
6 Intensificar a divulgação e educação sobre prevenção e redução de desastres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Já estão concluídos o "Plano de trabalho de prevenção de catástrofes nas escolas" e suas respectivas instruções. Com base nestes, realizar-se-ão exercícios teóricos (Table Top Exercises) nas escolas, com participação de representantes do Centro de Coordenação e Protecção Civil dos SPU, a quem caberá instruir sobre noções gerais de segurança e da prevenção/redução de desastres. No momento, estão a ser editados "materiais suplementares sobre educação da segurança" para o jardim-de-infância, o ensino básico e secundário, os quais deverão começar a ser utilizados no ano lectivo 2018/2019. Organizou-se o evento "palestra de divulgação científica sobre a prevenção/redução de desastres e sessão de explicação sobre o plano de apoio financeiro para projectos nesta área". O "plano de apoio" em causa já foi lançado, vocacionando-se para estimular as escolas a organizarem toda sorte de eventos de divulgação científica. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Dia Internacional para a Redução de Desastres, foram convidados representantes de todas as escolas de Macau para realização sistemática de exercícios conjuntos, o que serviu para acumular experiências práticas. Está em criação um mecanismo eficiente de educação sobre a segurança pública. Durante a Semana de Ciências e Tecnologia deste ano, será realizada exposição de um conjunto de materiais educativos, incluindo programas de realidade virtual sobre tufões, terremotos e inóndios, aulas expositivas e simulações práticas. O Fundo para Desenvolvimento das Ciências e da Tecnologia organizará diversos tipos de actividades de popularização científica e também prestará apoio financeiro às escolas de Macau, públicas e privadas, para que realizem eventos sobre o tema de prevenção/redução de desastres.
7 Estabelecimento de um sistema de seguros contra catástrofes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lançamento de "Plano de financiamento às pequenas e médias empresas para a instalação de elevadores para mercadorias". Lançamento do "Plano de financiamento às pequenas e médias empresas para a instalação de portas anti-enchentes". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Já está concluído o "relatório do estudo sobre o sistema de seguros contra catástrofes". Preliminarmente, adota-se o modelo do programa de seguros baseado no índice de catástrofes, mantido pela província de Guangdong. A seguir, proceder-se-á à aquisição do seguro, na forma da lei. Espera-se que todas as formalidades sejam cumpridas ainda neste ano.

Mais medidas contra inundações

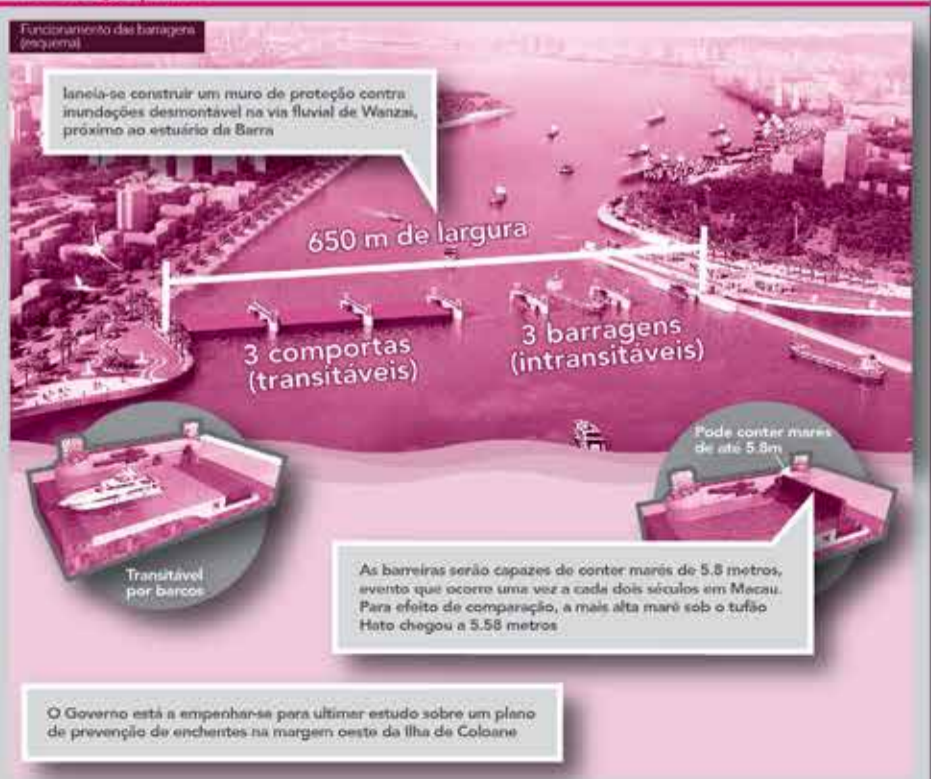
No curto prazo



No curto/médio prazos



No longo prazo





Matt Maddox

GAMING

Wynn Resorts' new CEO scales back his predecessors' projects

Christopher Palmeri

WYNN Resorts Ltd.'s new chief executive officer said he's pulling back on some of the projects begun by founder and predecessor Steve Wynn, including

a lake resort under development in Las Vegas.

Speaking on his first earnings call since replacing Wynn in February, Matt Maddox said a new resort with a nightly, floating parade on a lake will be scaled back in favor of beaches and bars focused squarely on

high-end customers. He called the proposed USD3 billion budget for Paradise Park "not sustainable." Maddox is also reviewing plans for another project on recently purchased land across the street from the company's original Wynn Las Vegas.

Macau operations drive Wynn's revenue growth

WYNN Resorts Ltd. has released its financial results for the first quarter of 2018, which show that its operating revenue rose more than 20 percent over the same quarter in 2017 to USD1.72 billion (MOP13.87 billion).

According to the company, the increase was led by an improvement in the revenue of Wynn Palace and Wynn Macau. The two resorts saw their revenue rise by \$213.5 million and \$65.5 million respectively, representing 95 percent of Wynn's total growth in operating revenue. Meanwhile, Las Vegas operations saw its revenue increase by just USD12.8 million year-on-year.

The company's new CEO, Matt Maddox, said he was "as excited as ever about the future prospects of this company." He said the company had seen "no degradation of business" during a reporting pe-



riod marked by scandal.

In terms of casino revenue, Wynn Macau registered \$539 million in the quarter, a 10.5 percent increase compared with the first quarter of 2017. Meanwhile, casino revenues from Wynn Palace amounted to \$568.5 million, increasing more than 50 percent year-on-year.

Non-casino revenues from Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace amounted to \$79.2 million and \$97.4 million respecti-

vely, an increase of 22.3 percent and 29.5 percent each, according to the company.

Nevertheless, the company registered a net loss attributable to Wynn Resorts of \$204.3 million or \$1.99 per diluted share in the first quarter of 2018, down from a net income of \$100.8 million in the first quarter of last year. In its financial statement, Wynn Resorts said that the loss was primarily due to a

Maddox is taking steps to show the company is changing since Wynn left two months ago following allegations of sexual misconduct dating back decades. The new CEO said the company considered more than 50 candidates before selecting three women to join the board this month. He said the company also added paid parental leave benefits.

Maddox said his goal is 'reducing the noise surrounding our business'

Maddox said his goal is "reducing the noise surrounding our business."

Wynn Resorts is under investigation by casino regulators in Nevada, Macau and Massachusetts over the actions of former CEO Steve Wynn and the board's handling of the allegations against him. That hasn't hurt results at the company, which owns casinos in Las Vegas and Macau.

Macau is rebounding from a multiyear slump. New resorts, including one that Wynn opened in August of 2016, have stimulated demand. **MDT/Bloomberg**

one of the company's directors overseeing an internal investigation into sexual misconduct allegations. Elaine Wynn said, in a filing with U.S. regulators on Monday, that John Hagenbuch is allied too closely with Steve Wynn, and asked shareholders to reject his re-election.

In a statement responding to Elaine Wynn's letter, the company noted its decision last week to add three women directors to its board but did not directly address Hagenbuch's status.

The final chapter of the company's long-running legal battle also ended earlier this month, with Wynn agreeing to pay his ex-wife \$25 million in a settlement. Elaine Wynn had joined the dispute alleging that she had been unfairly removed from the board by her ex-husband and others in 2015 because of her inquiries into company activities.

Wynn Resorts said Elaine Wynn had dropped claims against it, and that the company made no payment under the agreement.



Chong Sai pharmacy to temporarily close

The Chong Sai Pharmacy, said to be Sun Yat Sen's former workplace and currently operating as a museum, will temporarily close to the public in order for its electric facilities to be renovated. According to a statement issued yesterday, the venue will be closed on May 5 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

ID launches sports events page

The Sports Bureau (ID) has launched the Facebook page "Macao Major Sporting Events" to spread information about sport events held in Macau. According to a statement issued yesterday by the ID, the page will include news about events such as the Dragon Boat Races and the Macau Grand Prix. The page will include ticketing information and interviews with athletes.

Specific accusation considered for fake marriages

Local authorities are considering amending the immigration regulations and laws of Macau in order to combat fake marriages. In a response to lawmaker Leong Sun Iok's written enquiry, the Office of the Secretary for Security announced that the security force is considering amending the city's laws so as to set up a specific offence for fake marriage, thus deterring crimes of this nature. The office noted that, in Macau, due to the current laws and regulations, people may obtain residence status through a fake marriage. However, the actions perpetrated by these people indeed violate the law, because forged documents are provided. The office said that it has noticed criminals using the Internet to promote fake marriages.

108 graduated from IPM Seniors Academy

A total of 108 senior citizens have graduated from the Seniors Academy of the Macao Polytechnic Institute (IPM). The director of the academy, Lam Wan Mei, said that there have been a growing number of senior citizens applying to the Seniors Academy in recent years. In 2017, 673 senior citizens registered with the school, with IPM admitting approximately 140 people. This coming July, the academy plans to enroll approximately 120 new students. According to Lam, the government is planning to allow IPM to provide additional student positions within the Seniors Academy.

GAMING

Just as Atlantic City stems bleeding, competition comes calling

Elise Young

FOUR nights of Beyonce failed to ignite lasting buzz for Revel, the USD2.4 billion Atlantic City casino that flopped after little more than two years. Now the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino is heading to New Jersey's battered gambling resort with a mix for the masses: country greats, headline comics, 1980s pop stars, even a hypnotist.

The oceanside city is showing signs of a rebound, after a decade-long decline led to the closing of five of 12 casinos. With two new venues set to open in 2018, Governor Phil Murphy is projecting the highest casino-tax revenue in eight years - just as more competition has arrived or is coming in Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island.

Murphy, a Democrat who took office in January, already is taking steps to end the state takeover of Atlantic City that was pushed by his predecessor, Republican Chris Christie, and opposed by local officials, unions and residents. At the same time, Pennsylvania, which overtook Atlantic City as the second-largest U.S. gambling market in 2012, now allows betting at truck stops and airports and has cleared the way for a second Philadelphia casino.

"The Northeast is just a disaster waiting to happen," said Alan Woinski, president of Gaming USA, a Paramus, New Jersey-based gambling consulting company. "There will be closings in the next few years."

During Atlantic City's 2006 peak, New Jersey collected \$417.5 million in taxes on casino revenue, money dedicated to programs for senior citizens, education and the disabled. Last year the total was half that, even with the addition of \$37 million from online gambling. For the fiscal year that starts July 1, Murphy is

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Aerial views of Atlantic City

budgeting \$238 million, a figure not reached since 2010.

Murphy, a former Goldman Sachs Group Inc. senior director, campaigned on returning the 39,000-resident city to local control. On April 16 he announced plans to remove the law firm overseeing Atlantic City. While the firm, headed by a Christie ally, saved the city tens of millions of dollars with a bond deal, private trash collection and lower fire and police costs, it charged more than \$4 million, according to public records obtained by Bloomberg.

"Atlantic City has without question turned a corner, but it still has a ways to go," Murphy said in Jersey City on April 19. "We've now begun to undo this big-footing, the taking over."

Atlantic City, which has a monopoly on gambling in New Jersey, once relied on casinos for 70 percent of its property taxes. Five casinos closed from 2013 to 2016, and the city's credit rating was cut to junk by Moody's Investors Service in 2014 and Standard & Poor's in 2015.

While the city remains below investment grade, Atlantic City gambling revenue rose for a se-

cond-straight year in 2017, helped by the increase in Internet gambling.

Ocean Resort Casino at the former Revel property, bought by Colorado developer Bruce Deifik for \$200 million in January, expects a September opening. Hard Rock is scheduled to open June 28 at the former Trump Taj Mahal, once owned by Donald Trump, and has promised more than 200 live shows in its first year.

"It's not about gaming -- it's about entertainment," Jim Allen, Hard Rock International's chief executive, said April 18 when he announced the casino's opening date at the company's Times Square restaurant. "We come to Atlantic City with a mindset of growing the market."

In January, though, Moody's said U.S. Northeast gambling is saturated and cited "cannibalization" of gaming revenue in New York after two casinos opened there. In another report, S&P said overall competition will become fiercer.

"Commercial casino gaming expansion in the region may provide short-term economic and budgetary gains, but is unlikely

to improve state credit quality and may prove a long-term credit risk for states in the region," S&P analysts Timothy Little and Eden Perry wrote on Jan. 24.

Atlantic City, which has a monopoly on gambling in New Jersey, once relied on casinos for 70 percent of its property taxes

Revel's grand opening in May 2012 drew then-First Lady Michelle Obama and her daughters to one of four concerts by Beyonce. Spas and fine dining, though, weren't enough to lure high rollers, and bread-and-butter visitors were turned off by a smoking ban and the lack of buffet dining. It closed in September 2014 having twice declared

bankruptcy.

The Hard Rock, with a \$375 million renovation of Trump's onetime boardwalk property, will be the first Atlantic City casino to open in more than six years. The plan calls for 2,200 slot machines and 125 card tables, plus more than 150,000 square feet of event space.

While Revel sought a clientele that would think nothing of dropping big bucks for Beyonce, Hard Rock is going for broader appeal, with comedians Amy Schumer and Jon Lovitz and country stars Florida Georgia Line and Blake Shelton. Other acts include lesser-known comedian-turned-hypnotist Doug T and '80s rockers Rick Springfield and Pat Benatar.

"You may not be bringing in the most coveted acts but you don't necessarily want that customer anyway - you need the more well-rounded customer that's going to gamble, spend money in the bars," said Woinski, the Gaming USA consultant.

The oversight prescribed by Christie has put the city itself in less risky shape. S&P said it's "unlikely to face a near-term credit or payment crisis" through October after cutting its budget, settling tax appeals and beginning to collect casino payments in lieu of taxes. S&P still considers the city "very weak" on economy, management, budget, liquidity, debt and pension obligations.

Meanwhile, gamblers have plenty of closer-to-home alternatives to driving 100 kilometers from Philadelphia and 127 miles from New York City.

"You're never going to get back to the point where Atlantic City has a monopoly on Eastern gambling," S&P credit analyst David Hitchcock said by telephone. "You're never going to have that dominant draw from other states." **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

MGM ORGANIZES SESSION TO ENHANCE GASTRONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

An exchange session has taken place, organized by MGM, between the Task Group for the Promotion of Gastronomy and Cultural Industries of The Committee of Cultural Industries and MGM Cotai's celebrity chef, Graham Elliot.

This special session aimed to exchange ideas about how to enhance the city's gastronomic development with art and cultural elements so as to reinforce its designation as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy.

Members of the Task Group visited the restaurant kitchen of Coast and were introduced to the restaurant's philosophy

and inspirations from local flavors, according to a statement released by the gaming operator.

The whole group was then joined by Grant Bowie, CEO and executive director of MGM China Holdings Limited, to further discuss the next step in promoting a more creative and vibrant gastronomic scene in Macau.

Chef Graham Elliot said at the discussion, "Macau is a place with rich cultural heritage and unique flavors and, so far, it is the only place out[side] of America [in which] I am interested in running a restaurant."



WYNN INTRODUCES ZERO-EMISSION BUSES

Wynn yesterday announced the introduction of clean energy buses to optimize its existing shuttle fleet.

As part of the initial inception period for the project, Wynn has purchased eight clean energy buses to offer hotel guests transportation services to and from its hotels, the gaming operator announced in a statement.

The zero-emission fleet includes six tour coaches and two "public bus" style vehicles, which are expected to enter service in May 2018.

Wynn stated that it will gradually implement the use of

clean energy buses in the future.

The clean energy buses are aimed at achieving zero-emissions.

This follows Wynn's initiative in 2016, in response to the government's transport integration arrangements involving cooperation with another gaming operator to enhance its hotel shuttle bus service. The initiative involves the launch of a joint shuttle bus route to connect passengers between the respective properties and the Gongbei Border Gate.

AFRICA

Smaller lusophone countries economies grow above average

SÃO Tomé and Príncipe, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde, the three smallest Portuguese-speaking African economies, are expected to see economic growth in 2018 well above the average for the sub-Saharan Africa region, according to the latest forecast from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).



São Tomé, the capital city of the African Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe

Projections are particularly favorable for São Tomé and Príncipe, which will see its economic growth accelerate to 5 percent this year, up from 4 percent last year, gaining even more momentum in 2019, rising to 5.5 percent.

In the case of Guinea-Bissau, this year and in 2019 the country is expected to keep the same pace of economic growth recorded in 2017 – 5.5 percent.

With regional economic growth increasing to 3.4 percent this year and 3.7 percent in the next, Cape Verde accelerates this year to 4.3 percent growth but is expected to slow to 4 percent next year.

The two largest Portuguese-speaking African economies will

see below average growth this year and next, with Mozambique slowing to 3 percent this year and 2.5 percent in the next, which is a downward review of previous IMF forecasts. However, the Mozambican economy presents the most encouraging prospects for the medium term – 9.9 percent growth in 2023, a year in which the country's natural gas exploration is expected to begin.

Angola is expected to record the lowest growth among Portuguese-speaking African countries

in 2018 and 2019 – 2.2 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively, according to the upward review of IMF forecasts. For 2023, the forecast is more encouraging, 4.9 percent, which is above the regional average.

Angola's economic growth forecasts by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) are less generous than those of the IMF, projecting a rate of just 1.7 percent this year.

In Africa's Pulse report, a six-month review of the state of African economies conducted by

the World Bank, also released last week, Angola is singled out along with Nigeria and South Africa, as examples of "gradual recovery of growth" in the biggest economies.

"For many African countries, economic recovery is vulnerable to price fluctuations and the production of raw materials," said Punam Chuhan-Pole, the World Bank's chief economist and author of the report, stressing the need for "diversification strategies" at a governmental level.

Overall, the World Bank considers that the recovery in sub-Saharan Africa is not fast enough, with growth levels still far below pre-crisis levels and it is urgent to accelerate and extend macroeconomic and structural reforms "to achieve high and sustained growth levels."

The report also points to an increase in public debt in relation to Gross Domestic Product in the region and a change in debt composition, "since countries have moved away from traditional sources of financing on preferential terms to other market-based ones." **Macau/Macauhub**

Brazil is the main supplier of pork to China

BRAZIL has become the main supplier of pork to China, said Ricardo Santin, vice president of markets for the Brazilian Association of Animal Proteins (ABPA), adding that sales in March increased 178 percent year-on-year to 13,600 tons.

"This growth rate was also registered with Hong Kong, with a 58 percent increase, and given the trade disputes between China and the United States, numbers are expected to grow further, gradually regaining previously levels of shipments, reducing the losses caused by the suspension of sales to Russia," said Santin, quoted by the Brazilian press.

Figures released by the Brazilian Ministry of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services showed that Brazilian exports of pork to China reached 39,200 tons in the first quarter of this year, an increase of 151.6 percent compared to the same period of the previous year.

The rapid growth in the sale of pork to China has helped to offset the drop in exports to Russia, which banned imports of Brazilian pork products in December 2017, Chinese state newspaper Global Times reported.

In the first quarter of 2018, Brazilian pork companies exported 129,300 tons, which was 11.9 percent below the tonnage recorded in 2017, with revenues falling 24.6 percent to \$275.6 million, against \$365.5 million a year earlier. **MDT/Macauhub**

Angola's net international reserves continue to fall

ANGOLA'S net international reserves were the lowest since April 2017, totaling USD12.839 billion, down 1.69 percent compared to \$13.06 billion recorded in January, according to statistics released by the National Bank of Angola.



Mercado reported that the country's net international reserves have fallen by 47 percent since 2015 when the economy began to feel the effects

of the drop in oil prices and also the year in which the gradual decline of those reserves began.

The prolonged drop in the price of oil is one of the factors that have contributed to the continued decline in net international reserves, thus contradicting the government's objectives in the Macroe-

conomic Stabilization Plan (2017-2018), which seeks to stabilize reserves, to ensure at least six months of imports.

According to the most recent data published by the Angolan central bank, the country's net international reserves stood at \$18.66 billion in April 2017, and since then it has been gradually moving forward with August, for example, recording a fall of almost \$2 billion. **MDT/Macauhub**

Angolan newspaper

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Attendees look at the E-SEED concept car by Chinese automaker BYD after a press conference at the China Auto Show in Beijing yesterday

BELT & ROAD

Chinese automaker plans electric car production in South Africa

Joe McDonald, Beijing

A state-owned Chinese automaker announced plans to produce electric vehicles in South Africa, highlighting the growing role of the world's largest auto market in a technology seen as the global industry's future.

BAIC Group's announcement at the Beijing auto show, the industry's biggest sales event of the year, came as Nissan unveiled its first electric car designed for China while General Motors displayed Buick SUV it says can go 600 kilometers on one charge. Chinese automaker Geely debuted a gasoline-electric hybrid developed with its Swedish sister company, Volvo Cars.

Electrics are money-losers for most producers, but automakers are investing heavily in what they see as the wave of the future, especially in China. Its communist leaders want to make their country a center for the emerging industry and are promoting electrics with subsidies and other tools.

China accounted for half of last year's global sales of electrics. Auto executives say Chinese sales of electrics and hybrids could top 1 million vehicles this year.

BAIC is preparing to set up a "new energy car production base" in South Africa by the end of June, said chairman Xu Heyi. Xu said it would have an annual production capacity of 100,000 vehicles but he gave no details of

how much of the manufacturing would be done in South Africa.

That would make BAIC the second Chinese company to produce electric vehicles abroad, following BYD Auto, which manufactures battery-powered buses in a California factory.

"BAIC is going to become a leading domestic and world-class new energy car-manufacturing company," Xu said.

BAIC makes a popular low-priced line of plug-in electrics. It plans to increase total annual sales of electrified models to 1.5 million by 2025, Xu told reporters.

The government is shifting the financial burden for developing e-vehicles to automakers with quotas that take effect next year. They require them to earn credits by selling electrics or buy them from competitors. That is forcing brands to create models that can appeal to Chinese buyers without subsidies.

At the auto show's media day, Nissan Motor Co. unveiled its Sylphy Zero Emission, the first of 20 electric models the Japanese automaker and its local partner plan to roll out in China over the next five years. Nissan says the Sylphy, a lower-priced version of its popular Leaf, can go 338 kilometers on a charge.

"The new EV era for Nissan begins today," said Jose Munoz, chairman of Nissan's management committee for China. Munoz said the car is part of efforts to make China a "profit pillar"

for Nissan along with Japan and North America.

The Beijing show, Auto China 2018, is being overshadowed by mounting trade tensions between Beijing and U.S. President Donald Trump, who has threatened to hike tariffs on Chinese goods including automobiles in a dispute over technology policy.

Communist leaders want to make their country a center for the emerging industry

The impact on automakers should be small, according to industry analysts, because exports amount to only a few thousand vehicles a year. Those include a GM SUV, the Envision, and Volvo Cars sedans made in China for export to the United States.

China's first-quarter sales of electrics and gasoline-electric hybrids rose 154 percent over a year earlier to 143,000 units, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers. That compares with sales of just under 200,000 for all of last year in the United States, the No. 2 market.

GM, Ford Motor Co., Daimler AG's Mercedes unit and other automakers are developing models for China with local partners that deliver more range at lower prices.

On Tuesday, Volkswagen unveiled the E20X, an SUV that is the first model for SOL, an electric brand launched by the German automaker with a Chinese partner. The E20X, promising a 300-kilometer range on one charge, is aimed at lower Chinese market tiers where demand is strongest.

"The Chinese market is key for the international auto industry and it is key to our success," said VW CEO Herbert Diess.

The auto show follows Beijing's announcement last month that it would allow full foreign ownership in its auto industry beginning with electrics producers this year and extending to all vehicle types by 2020. That would repeal rules that required global automakers to work through local partners, an arrangement that required them to share technology with potential Chinese competitors and prompted complaints by Washington, Europe and Japan.

Auto companies have complained joint ventures are costly and cumbersome, but executives said they are unlikely to make any changes immediately. They said automakers are likely to stick with local partners that help with

government relations and sales in China's state-dominated economy.

"Relationships and working together is more important in China than any place I've ever worked," said Trevor Worthington, Ford Motor Co.'s vice president for Asia-Pacific product development. "I couldn't imagine a world in which we said we are going to go it on our own."

Electrics are forecast to account for 35 to over 50 percent of automakers' China sales by 2025.

At the show, global and Chinese brands also displayed dozens of gasoline-powered models from compact sedans to luxurious SUVs. Their popularity is paying for development of electrics, which aren't expected to become profitable for most producers until sometime in the next decade.

China's total sales of SUVs, sedans and minivans reached 24.7 million units last year, compared with 17.2 million for the United States.

SUVs are the industry's cash cow. First-quarter sales rose 11.3 percent over a year earlier to 2.6 million, or almost 45 percent of total auto sales, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers.

New but fast-growing Chinese automakers trail global rivals in traditional gasoline technology but industry analysts say the top Chinese brands are catching up in electrics, a market with no entrenched leaders.

BYD Auto, the biggest global electric brand by number sold, presented two hybrid SUVs and an electric concept car at the show. The company, which exports battery-powered taxis to Europe, also displayed nine other hybrid and plug-in electric models.

Geely unveiled a gasoline-electric hybrid sedan, the Bo Rui GE, developed with Volvo Cars, also owned by Geely's parent company.

Jianghuai Automobile Co., the local partner in VW's Chinese electric brand, also is looking at possible plans to export electric cars to Europe and Latin America, according to Xia Shunli, general manager of JAC's electrics unit.

The Geely parent became Daimler's biggest shareholder this year with the purchase of a 9.7 percent stake. Industry analysts say that gives Geely founder Li Shufu leverage to press for possible collaboration, though the German automaker already has a venture with Chinese rival BAIC Group.

Daimler had a preliminary meeting with Geely but has yet to discuss alliances or any other details, said its chairman, Dieter Zetsche. He said the meeting was no more than "get to know each other."

"We have not even found specific topics to talk about," Zetsche told reporters. "We are in very early stages." AP

Backlash sparked over pressure to stop student #MeToo

Yanan Wang, Beijing

BEFORE Yue Xin became a central figure in China's burgeoning movement against sexual harassment, she recorded herself singing a revamped version of the 1960s pop classic "Que Sera Sera."

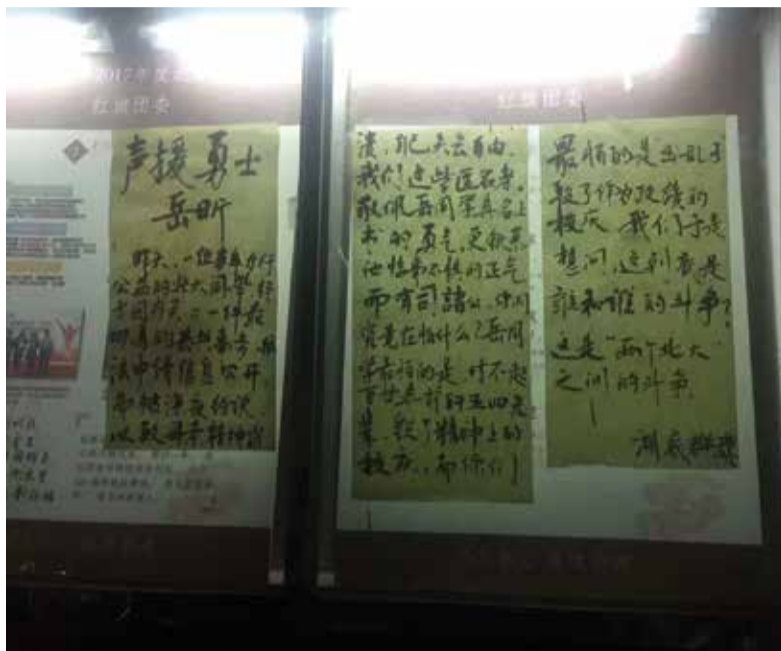
"Will we be equal? Will we be free?" sang the Peking University senior in a voice clip posted online, putting her own spin on Doris Day's "Will I be pretty? Will I be rich?"

Now these words and Yue's writings on privilege and self-expression have become rallying cries for students expressing rare public outrage over the elite institution's efforts to quiet her exposure of a decades-old rape case. The vocal backlash, including an online petition launched, is being regarded as a pivotal moment in China's nascent #MeToo movement.

Yue and seven other students at Peking University formally requested that Peking University disclose its actions in the investigation of sexual misconduct by Shen Yang, a former professor, against Gao Yan, a student who killed herself in 1998 after telling friends that Shen raped her.

Shen no longer works at Peking University and was dismissed from posts at Nanjing University and Shanghai Normal University earlier this month.

According to a letter from Yue that was widely circulated online, Peking University has threatened and intimidated her and



A picture circulating on WeChat showing protest posters at Peking University

her parents in an attempt to stifle discussion of the matter. Yue posted a plea on her WeChat messaging account this week saying that she had been taken away from her dormitory in the middle of the night by her distraught mother and a university instructor.

"I'm confined to [my parents'] house right now," Yue wrote. "I've lost my freedom."

Yue did not respond to requests for comment, and friends said they have been unable to reach her.

Peking University's Foreign Languages School, the department to which Yue belongs, said in a statement that they brought Yue's mother to campus "out of concern" that the student had not responded to messages for hours.

The university did not respond to further requests for comment.

Underscoring the degree of attention attracted by Yue's case, People's Daily, the official newspaper of the ruling Communist Party, took the rare step of issuing a call for reconciliation between students and the university and for "young people's voices" to be understood.

"Students and faculty together comprise the university's fate," the paper said in a commentary Tuesday. "The school must accept constructive suggestions in a timely manner [...] and not be evasive."

"Students have already developed an awareness of their rights that is impossible to crush," said Feng Yuan, a prominent women's rights advocate. "The fight for women's rights will only

become more defiant with every setback."

While China is beginning to confront problems of sexual harassment and gender discrimination, any kind of campus activism is extremely sensitive for a ruling party with vivid memories of the 1989 student-led pro-democracy demonstrations centered on Beijing's Tiananmen Square. The movement was crushed by the military and Chinese college campuses have since been among the most closely monitored venues for organization and discussion.

Posts about Yue and Shen's case have been heavily censored. The term "Yue Xin" was not searchable on the Twitter-like Weibo platform yesterday, and posts related to her situation have been scrubbed from WeChat — prompting jokes that a "404 Error" symbol should become Peking University's new logo.

Despite such measures, students have been vocalizing their discontent. Big-character posters — sheets featuring large, handwritten Chinese characters reminiscent of past protest movements — appeared near the historic Democracy Wall triangle on campus, where students advocated political reform in the 1980s.

"We ask you gentlemen in charge of the school: What are you actually afraid of?" the posters said, asserting that Yue was acting in the spirit of the May Fourth movement, when thousands of students from Peking University, also known as PKU, marched to Tiananmen Square in 1919 to protest the govern-

ment's response to the Treaty of Versailles.

A petition published online, said to be signed by students and alumni, condemned the school's "unjust" treatment of Yue and other students who raised Shen's case, demanding that pressure on them be lifted.

On social media, users expressed disappointment in "what PKU has become" and shared a school photo of Yue with the caption "PKU's soul is not dead."

Fang Kecheng, a journalist and Weibo commentator, described Yue in a blog post as someone who approaches everything with great attention to detail, carefully observing the world around her and meticulously analyzing problems.

Yue is "one of those rare PKU students," wrote Fang, an alumnus. She is among the students who offer "a beacon in the dark night, encouraging generations to come."

I'm confined to [my parents'] house right now. I've lost my freedom.

YUE XIN

According to Fang, Yue gave sex education classes to children in poor areas and wanted to be a journalist.

In an essay published on her public WeChat account, Yue ruminated on social inequality in China and her own privilege.

"What I bear is the original sin of the structural injustices of this whole society," Yue wrote. "I truly have no reason to not move forward; I truly have no reason to move forward only for my sake." AP

STRAIT DIPLOMACY

Beijing says further steps ready to target Taiwan independence

CHINA is prepared to take further steps to counter perceived moves by self-ruling Taiwan toward formal independence following recent war games aimed at intimidating the island's leaders, the government said yesterday.

Signals sent by the military exercises "are extremely distinct and clear," the spokesman for the Cabinet's Taiwan Affairs Office, Ma Xiaoguang, told reporters at a bi-weekly news briefing.

"We have the firm will, complete confidence

and sufficient capability to frustrate any types of Taiwan independence schemes or actions and protect national sovereignty and territorial integrity," Ma said.

"If the Taiwan independence forces continue to act however they wish, we will take further actions," he said.

Responding to Ma's comments, Taiwan's equivalent Cabinet agency, the Mainland Affairs Council, said Chinese "military pressure and threats are a provocation and sabotage of the

status quo of peace in the Taiwan Strait and region."

"Only through abandoning military threats, facing up to the reality of political division between the sides and undertaking pragmatic communication and dialogue can we help heal the differences between the sides," it said in a statement.

Taiwan denounced the exercises last week in the Taiwan Strait dividing the sides as a threat to regional peace and stability and said it would make no concessions.

China claims Taiwan as its own territory and says the two sides, separated during a civil war in 1949, must eventually be united, by force if necessary. Any potential conflict could quickly draw in the United States, since Washington is legally bound to respond to threats to the island's security and is its chief supplier of foreign military hardware.

China's authoritarian Communist government severed ties with Taipei almost two years ago after independence-leaning

President Tsai Ing-wen refused its demand to recognize the democratic island as a part of Chinese territory.

Long-simmering tensions between the sides have spiked again in recent weeks. Beijing was especially angered by comments by Taiwan's premier, William Lai, in parliament that he's a "Taiwanese independence worker."

Chinese officials have also denounced the recent passage of a U.S. law encouraging more high-level government contacts with Taiwan, saying that violates U.S. commitments not to restore formal exchanges severed when Washington switched diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1979.

Ties have also been ro-

led by U.S. plans to provide Taiwan with submarine manufacturing technology, a proposed arms sale and the appointment of hawkish U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton.

Along with the recent war games involving aviation units of the People's Liberation Army ground force, China has stepped up air force training flights around Taiwan and increased naval activity in the South and East China seas.

Diplomatically, it has blocked Taiwan from taking part in international forums it used to attend and has sought to squeeze the island's tourism industry by cutting back on the numbers of Chinese visitors traveling there. AP

AP PHOTO



MYANMAR

Forgotten Kachin conflict intensifies in the north

Todd Pitman & Esther Htusan, Laiza

On the front lines, the army is pounding rebels with airstrikes and artillery. In the displacement camps, terrified civilians are building bomb shelters of sandbags and stones. And everywhere in this troubled swath of Myanmar's north, there is a growing sense the conflict will only get worse.

While the world is focused on the plight of Myanmar's Rohingya Muslims, a civil war is raging here, pitting government forces against another of the country's minorities — the Kachins, mostly Christian. It's one of the longest-running wars on Earth, and it has intensified dramatically in recent months, with at least 10,000 people displaced since January alone, according to the United Nations.

The crisis, though, is also one of the world's most forgotten, overshadowed even in Myanmar by violence against Rohingya in the west, nearly 700,000 of whom have been driven into exile by the military. While the conflicts differ, they share a tragic theme, said Zau Raw, who heads a rebel committee overseeing humanitarian aid in the mountainous sliver of territory the militants control along the Chinese frontier.

Just like the Rohingya, the Kachin have begun to realize that "the army wants to wipe us out," he said. "This is a war to cleanse us."

The Kachin, who are mostly Christian, have fought for greater

autonomy in this predominantly Buddhist nation since 1961. But their campaign is part of a much broader struggle for power pitting the ethnic Burman majority — who control the all-powerful military and top government posts — against dozens of ethnic minorities.

At least 20 of those groups have taken up arms since independence from Britain in 1948, and the government in recent years has signed cease-fires with 10 of them. Six other groups, including the Kachin, are still fighting.

Although military atrocities here do not match the scale of those documented against the Rohingya over the past year, a U.N. fact-finding mission in March reported "marked similarities" between the two conflicts.

Just as in Rakhine, the U.N. has received new reports of grave abuse by security forces, including killings, abductions, pillage, torture, rape and forced labor. And just like Rakhine, the government has restricted humanitarian access to desperate populations who have fled — around 120,000 people in Kachin and neighboring Shan states, according to local officials.

Those restrictions have grown significantly tighter since former opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi took office in 2016, Zau Raw said. The government is now stopping the U.N. and most international organizations from reaching rebel zones altogether, leaving it to local Baptist and Catholic groups to distribute dwindling aid.

Last week, Kachin community leaders called on the government to allow medical aid to reach 2,000 people — including children and pregnant women — who have been trapped in a forest near the front with little food or water for weeks. There has been no response.

Authorities have alleged that some of the aid ends up in the hands of rebel fighters, which rebels and humanitarian organizations staunchly deny. Zau Raw said the government's objective was simple: They're trying "to make life more difficult for civilians" living in rebel areas, he said, adding that malnutrition among children is worsening.

■ The Kachin, who are mostly Christian, have fought for greater autonomy in this Buddhist nation since 1961

Myanmar's military could not be reached for comment. But presidential spokesman Zaw Htay acknowledged human rights violations have occurred — although he said both sides were to blame.

"Whenever there is fighting, there is collateral damage," he said, adding that the govern-

ment, for its part, is keen to end the war. "This is why we are urging the ethnic armed groups to sign a nationwide ceasefire."

Rebels of the Kachin Independence Army have met the military repeatedly for peace talks, but they have refused to sign a truce because the government does not recognize several insurgent groups they are allied with. The Kachin have also refused to recognize the 2008 constitution, which endows the military with tremendous power.

Like most other minorities, they view their struggle as an existential fight for survival and equal rights. The military, by contrast, sees the rebels as a "terrorist" force bent on destabilizing the nation, according to rebel Brig. Gen. Maran Zaw Tawng.

While both sides blame each other for reigniting hostilities in Kachin State in 2011 after a 17-year truce, there has only been one military victor since then: the vastly better equipped government army, which has seized more than 200 rebel outposts in the jade-rich state. The latest blow came in March when an entire rebel battalion retreated from Tanai, a region whose gold and amber mines brought in vital tax revenues for the militants.

A wounded guerrilla who survived the battle, Dee La, told The Associated Press that government forces pounded their positions for months with fighter jets, helicopter gunships and artillery. On the final day of fighting, he described being shelled

in a non-stop bombardment so fierce, he and other rebels could not even carry away the bodies of five dead comrades.

"They were using drones to locate our positions, then they would hit us with airstrikes," he said from a hospital bed in Laiza, the small town that served as rebel headquarters. "We lost everything [...] it was a failure."

The 39-year-old guerrilla was blinded in one eye and wounded in his arm when a land mine he was planting during their withdrawal detonated by accident.

Although both sides have been accused of planting mines and forcibly recruiting children into their ranks, Myanmar's army has gained a reputation for brutality that dwarfs that of any other group.

The U.N. Human Rights Council said it had received new reports of an old military tactic here: patrolling soldiers seizing civilians — many severely beaten or sexually assaulted — and forcing them to work as porters or human shields.

More reports of abduction and killings have emerged, too. In March, for example, the bodies of two Kachin men from a displaced camp in government territory were found dead in a shallow grave. Both men — like three others from the same camp a year earlier — had been missing for weeks after being detained by soldiers under murky circumstances.

The army has also fired mortar shells indiscriminately in and around Laiza for years, killing and maiming residents. The latest assault, on April 12, wounded two men on a nearby banana plantation; three other civilians have been killed in a similar bombing this month in Kachin state, according to the rebels.

After several days of shelling in December, the residents of two displaced camps, Mung Lai Hkyet and Woi Chyai, built dozens of bomb shelters on the ground beside their homes — a testament to the war's enduring terror. Similar bunkers had been built in other camps near Laiza after a wave of airstrikes in 2013.

"All we know is fear," said Lahtaw Kai Ring, a 35-year-old mother who had not finished building her own bunker when a nearby mortar blast forced her to scramble inside it on Christmas Eve with her two crying children, ages 5 and 8, in tow.

That nobody knows when or where more shells will fall "is what scares us most," she said, weeping as she recounted how her children now beg her to flee even at the sound of firecrackers.

Laphai Kai Nan, a 29-year-old teacher who was wounded in one of those assaults by shrapnel that tore into the back of her neck and ripped apart her jaw and half a dozen teeth, said the army's objective was clear.

"They don't care" where the bombs land, she said. "They're aiming to hit anyone who is Kachin." AP

PRESIDENT Donald Trump said Kim Jong Un wants a historic, high-stakes meeting as soon as possible and suggested the North Korean dictator has been “very open” and “very honorable,” a sharply different assessment of a leader he once denounced as “Little Rocket Man.”

The United States and North Korea have been negotiating a summit between Trump and Kim to be held in May or June to broker a deal on Pyongyang’s nuclear program. Trump, who has struck a decidedly optimistic tone on the situation in recent days, said yesterday [Macau time] that the United States and North Korea were having “good discussions.”

“We have been told directly that they would like to have the meeting as soon as possible. We think that’s a great thing for the world,” Trump said at the White House alongside French President Emmanuel Macron. “Kim Jong Un, he really has been very open and I think very honorable from everything we’re seeing.”

Trump cautioned that North Korea had not followed through on previous promises, but credited tough steps from his administration — including sanctions and organizing pressure from international allies — for having forced Pyongyang to hold talks. And he again sug-

KOREAS

Trump calls Kim open, honorable as summit planning goes on



President Donald Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron during their meeting in the White House

gested that he would “leave the table” if the negotiations were not productive or if North Korea was not operating in good faith.

“We’ll see where that all goes,” the president said. “Maybe it

will be wonderful or maybe it won’t.”

Trump’s comments came days after a flurry of moves from North Korea that the White House was anxious to promote as signs

that its coercion campaign was working. On Saturday, North Korea announced it will close its nuclear testing facility and suspend nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile tests — a

move welcomed by Trump as “big progress.”

However, the North stopped short of suggesting it will give up its nuclear weapons — as Trump suggested in a weekend tweet — or scale back its production of missiles and their related components. When pressed on what he meant by the goal of “denuclearization,” Trump said, “It means they get rid of their nukes. Very simple.”

“It would be easy for me to make a simple deal and declare victory. I don’t want to do that,” the president said.

This week, U.S.-allied South Korean President Moon Jae-in and Kim will hold a summit in the Demilitarized Zone between the Koreas that could lay the ground for Trump’s planned meeting with the North Korean dictator. The leaders of the U.S. and North Korea have never met during six decades of hostility since the Korean War.

The exact date and location of the possible summit has not been determined. **AP**

AD

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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.

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In this courtroom sketch (from left) Duty counsel Georgia Koulis, Alek Minassian, Justice of the Peace Stephen Waisberg and Crown prosecutor Joe Callaghan appear in court in Toronto

CANADA

Toronto van attack suspect may have felt anger against women

A chilling Facebook message posted before a van plowed onto a crowded Toronto sidewalk has raised the possibility the suspect in the attack nursed grudges against women and it is bringing back memories of a 1989 massacre of 14 women that remains one of Canada's most traumatic acts of violence.

A crowd gathered yesterday [Macau time] in Toronto's North York community to pay their respects to the van victims at a makeshift memorial of roses, candles and messages of condolence.

"I needed to come here to show that I'm not afraid of this city," said Meena Chowdry, wiping away tears. "That one man's actions cannot taint an otherwise beautiful, welcoming city."

Earlier in the day, the 25-year-old suspect, Alek Minassian, was charged with first degree murder in the deaths of 10 pedestrians mowed down by a rented van that he sent careening along a mile of a busy walkway. Fourteen others were injured.

Toronto Police Services Det. Sgt. Graham Gibson said at a news conference that those killed and injured were "predominantly" women, though he declined to discuss a possible motive.

"All the lanes are open with this investigation," said Police Chief Mark Saunders.

Authorities had yet to release a list of victims. Those known to have been killed include a 30-year-old woman from Toronto, Anne Marie D'Amico, who was active in volunteer work, as well as a female student at Seneca College, which Minassian attended. A Jordanian citizen and two South Koreans were also among those killed.

The gender issue arose because of what police called a "cryptic" Facebook message posted by Minassian just before the incident that suggested

he was part of an online community angry over their inability to form relationships with women.

The now-deleted post saluted Elliot Rodger, a community college student who killed six people and wounded 13 in shooting and stabbing attacks near the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 2014.

Calling Rodger "the Supreme Gentleman," the Facebook post declared: "The Incel Rebellion has already begun! We will overthrow all the Chads and Stacys!"

Those killed and injured were 'predominantly' women

Rodger had used the term "incel" — for involuntarily celibate — in online posts raging at women for rejecting him romantically. Like-minded people in internet forums sometimes use "Chad" and "Stacy" as dismissive slang for men and women with more robust sex lives.

The anti-women sentiment also recalled Canada's 1989 massacre at the Ecole Polytechnique, an engineering college in Montreal, when 25-year-old Marc Lepine entered a classroom, separated the men from the women, told the men to leave and opened fire, killing 14 women before killing himself. In a suicide note, he blamed feminists for ruining his life.

Since then, there have been sporadic mass shootings in Canada, but none with a higher death toll — reinforcing the view among many Canadians that their country is less violent than the United States. AP

USA

Waffle House suspect's ex-bosses asked FBI to keep, help him

THE co-owner of a Colorado crane company where the suspect in a deadly weekend shooting at a Nashville restaurant once worked said she had urged federal officials to keep him in custody after he was arrested at the White House last year.

Travis Reinking, 29, is accused of opening fire Sunday outside a Waffle House with an AR-15 rifle and then storming the restaurant, wearing only a green jacket. Four people were killed and four others were wounded in the shooting.

But Reinking had exhibited erratic behavior for years before the shooting. Darlene Sustrich, who co-owns a Colorado crane company where Reinking once worked, said they got a call from the FBI after he allegedly tried to jump the White House fence last July.

"We told them, 'Hang onto him if you can. Help him if you can,'" Sustrich said.

Federal officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Reinking has been charged with four counts of criminal homicide. And a tweet from the Metro Nashville Police Department said he also faces four counts of attempted murder and one count of unlawful possession in the commission of a violent felony.

Davidson County Sheriff Daron Hall said that Reinking has been "compliant" and "cooperative" since he was transferred to the jail late Monday after he was captured near the apartment where he lived. Reinking is wearing a vest known informally as a "suicide smock" and will remain under close observation at a maximum-security facility in Nashville.

An attorney listed as Reinking's lawyer did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

Meanwhile, the man who snatched the rifle away from the gunman during the shooting told Tennessee lawmakers yesterday he faced "the



Travis Reinking sits in a police car after being arrested in Nashville

true test of a man," drawing a standing ovation during his brief address. As the state House hailed him as a hero, James Shaw Jr. said he acted to save his own life early Sunday and saved others in the process.

"I never thought I'd be in a room with all the eyes on me, but you know, I'm very grateful to be here," Shaw told House members. Shaw said he has gone to see some of the shooting victims in the hospital and they all remembered him. He apologized to the people whose loved ones died in the attack.

The state Senate also honored Shaw yesterday [Macau time].

After the shooting, authorities say Reinking escaped on foot from the restaurant and shed his only item of clothing. By the time he was captured in the woods nearby, police had searched his apartment and found the key fob to a stolen BMW they had recovered in the parking lot days earlier. The BMW theft had not initially been tied to Reinking.

Police seized multiple items from his apartment including: a Remington rifle with a magazine, cartridges for different calibers of guns, two rifle scopes and gun cleaning equipment. Police also found three books on patents in the apartment, along with a sketchbook, two iPhones and a number of pieces of computer equipment, court records show.

Nashville Police Department Lt. Carlos Lara told reporters Reinking was arrested Monday

after detectives were tipped to the suspect's presence by some construction workers. He carried a black backpack with a silver semi-automatic weapon and .45-caliber ammunition.

The arrest ended a 24-hour manhunt involving more than 160 law enforcement officers, but it left troubling unanswered questions about official responses to months of bizarre behavior before the restaurant attack, including encounters with police in Illinois and Colorado and an arrest at the White House that raised red flags.

Sustrich, Reinking's former boss, described him as appearing paranoid and delusional at times. A former co-worker told a Salida, Colorado, police detective Reinking was infatuated with singer Taylor Swift and claimed to be a sovereign citizen.

Last July, Reinking was arrested by the U.S. Secret Service after he entered a restricted area near the White House and refused to leave, saying he wanted to meet President Donald Trump. The suspect told Washington, D.C., police he was a sovereign citizen and had a right to inspect the grounds, according to an incident report.

Reinking was not armed at the time, but at the FBI's request, Illinois police revoked his state firearms card. Four guns, including the AR-15 used in the shootings, were transferred to his father, a procedure allowed under Illinois law. AP

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what's ON



TREASURE FROM THE DEEP SEA – EXHIBITION OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELICS OF THE NANHAI NO.1

TIME: 10am-6pm (closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: July 31, 2018

VENUE: Macau Museum

ADMISSION: MOP15

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

THE EXHIBITION “SWISS STYLE NOW”

TIME: 10am-9pm

UNTIL: June 17, 2018

VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery, located at No. 95,

Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

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

MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm;

closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except on Thursdays; open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Science Center

ADMISSION: MOP25 (Exhibition Centre)

MOP60 (Planetarium 2D dome or 2D

sky shows)

MOP80 (Planetarium 3D dome or 3D

sky shows)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

“MY CHINESE ZODIAC” – EXHIBITION BY RAQUEL GRALHEIRO

TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)

12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)

UNTIL: May 13, 2018

VENUE: A2 Gallery, Albergue SCM

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

Offbeat

US FILMMAKER MARTIN SCORSESE WINS SPAIN'S ASTURIAS ART PRIZE

American filmmaker Martin Scorsese has been awarded Spain's Princess of Asturias award for the arts, with the jury describing him as an uncontested major figure of contemporary cinema.

New York-born of Italian descent, Scorsese has produced and directed dozens of fiction and documentary films, including “Taxi Driver”, “Cape Fear”, “Casino” and “The Wolf of Wall Street.”

The 75-year-old has also worked on popular TV series and performed as an actor.

The jury says describes his work as “transcendent,” uniting “mastery, innovation and classicism.”

The 50,000-euro award announced yesterday is the first of eight prizes – also including social sciences, sports and scientific research – handed out annually by a foundation named for Crown Princess Leonor. The awards are presented each fall.



TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
17:50	Miscellaneous
18:35	Miscellaneous
19:00	Brazilian Soap Opera (Repeated)
19:50	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Miscellaneous
21:35	Non-daily Portuguese News
21:40	Portuguese Serie
22:15	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Champions League Highlights
23:40	Documentary
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:55	RTPi Live

cinema



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26, 27 & 29 APR



AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

ROOM 1
2:30, 6:00, 9:00pm

ROOM 2
4:00pm

Director: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo

Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 149min

TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY

ROOM 2
2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Chan Tai-Lee

Starring: Teresa Mo, Ling Man Lung, Ray Lui, Bonnie Xian

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 91min



SECRET SUPERSTAR

ROOM 2
06:045pm

Director: Advait Chandan

Starring: Aamir Khan, Zaira Wasim

Language: Hindi (English & Chinese)

Duration: 150min



RAMPAGE

ROOM 3
2:15, 07:30, 9:30pm

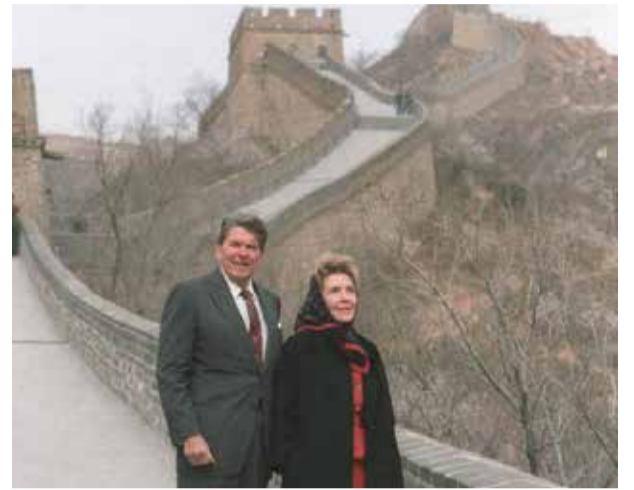
Director: Brad Peyton

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Naomie Harris, Malin Akerman

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 107min

this day in history



1984 REAGAN ARRIVES IN CHINA

The US President, Ronald Reagan, has landed in China at the start of a six-day visit - the first by an American president since Nixon in 1972.

He arrived with his wife, Nancy Reagan, just after 1400 local time (0600 GMT), and was driven to Tiananmen Square, in the centre of the Chinese capital, Beijing, for a welcoming ceremony outside the Great Hall of the People.

He was greeted by the Chinese President, Li Xiannian, to the deafening sound of a 21-gun salute.

Mr Li told Mr Reagan he shared his view of the importance of the Pacific region, referring to a comment made by Mr Reagan in a statement before his arrival.

President Reagan then attended a banquet given in his honour by President Li.

Mr Reagan used the occasion to speak, in Chinese, about the need for “mutual respect and benefit” between China and the United States.

The president is accompanied in China by a party of more than 600 journalists, aides, secret service men and officials who guard the codes for launching nuclear missiles.

The talks start tomorrow, and are expected to address a variety of subjects.

The White House spokesman, Larry Speakes, said the United States and China are expected to reach an agreement to assist US companies in helping develop commercial nuclear power in China.

But there is no sign of any compromise over the key issue of Taiwan.

The government-controlled People's Daily newspaper has today re-stated the view of the Chinese government that relations with America are being held back by Washington's support for the Kuomintang nationalist regime in Taiwan.

Until Nixon's visit in 1972 Washington only recognised the ousted nationalist government in Taiwan, where it had been forced into exile after being overthrown by communist forces in 1949.

Nixon, however, signed the Shanghai Communique, which for the first time recognised the communist government in Beijing. It resulted in diplomatic relations between the two countries for the first time, as well as the transfer of diplomatic recognition to Beijing as the Chinese capital.

Washington still continues to support Taiwan, however, and maintains unofficial links, including the sale of arms, to the frustration and anger of the communist leadership in Beijing.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

There was, as expected, no agreement on the key issue of Taiwan. Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping told President Reagan the US “should not interfere” in the process of reunifying China.

The Sino-American relationship is widely seen as one of the most important bilateral relationships in the world, and has gone through many ups and downs.

Perhaps the lowest point was the Chinese army's brutal suppression of student democracy protests in Tiananmen Square in 1989. US-China relations were frozen for almost 10 years.

There have also been several difficult incidents, such as the Nato bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade in 1999, and the collision of a US spy plane with a Chinese jet in 2001.

Washington continues to supply Taiwan with arms, and there is still little progress towards addressing persistent criticisms of China's human rights record.

But China's campaign for wider global acceptance resulted in its membership of the World Trade Organisation in 2001.

Diplomacy between the two countries still remains fraught with difficulties, and looks set to remain a delicate balancing act for the foreseeable future.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19

If you've missed out on any of the good gossip that's been going around lately...

Taurus April 20-May 20

If love isn't in the air now, it never will be. It's so very much in the air that within your circles...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21

Okay, so it's not common for you to open your fridge and find a full array of carefully prepared gourmet dishes...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22

That may not actually be music in the air, but it's sure going to sound that way to you - and once you start talking...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22

If anyone loves romance, it's you. You love love, and all the trappings, gestures and additional emotions that go along with it...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Still thinking a lot more about staying in and getting to know your babe better than you have in some time? Well, then, you go right ahead...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22

You're just now getting used to the idea that this new position might be absolutely perfect after all, and that there's really not one more 'perk' you could possibly have imagined...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You're an emotional beast. No doubt about it. You'd never debate that fact. In fact, you're pretty darned proud of it...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You may decide to stay in and snuggle up with that certain someone you know wants to watch 'Pretty Woman' with you in the worst possible way - with some chocolate strawberries...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Oh, it's okay. If you trusted them enough to do all this for them to start with, you can trust that they won't tell anyone about it...

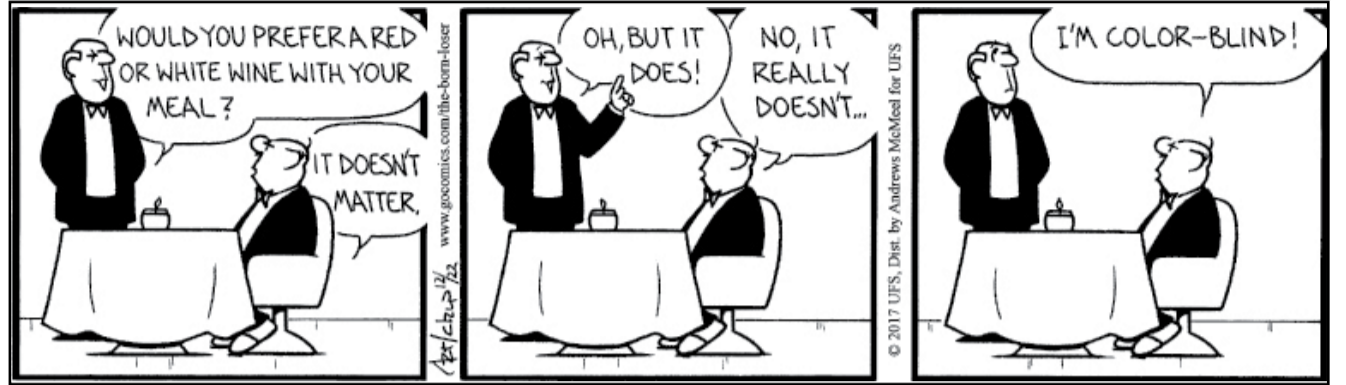
Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Better use one of those personal days you've got coming, because, with the rest of us game to do whatever it takes to have some unpredictable fun, you definitely won't want to be chained to a desk...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20

Don't you have at least one or two sick/personal days coming? Well, how about using them now - and convincing a certain someone to take the day (or so) off with you? Oh, sure you can...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized as Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard.

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

Crossword puzzle clues and solutions, including 'Yesterday's solution' and 'Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com'.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

List of useful telephone numbers for emergency, fire, police, and other services, accompanied by a telephone icon.

Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' listings in various locations like Taipa, Coloane, and Manhattan.



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Steve Douglas, Liverpool

MOHAMED Salah looked to the ground and held up his hands, almost apologizing for the sheer beauty of his goals.

Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp laughed to himself in incredulity. Roma's players, former teammates of Salah, were shellshocked. Anfield rocked in jubilation.

In the latest virtuoso performance of his stunning first season at Liverpool, Salah produced two world-class finishes in the first half then set up further goals for Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino to help his team into a scarcely believable five-goal lead in the Champions League semifinals. Then he handed his old club a lifeline — by leaving the pitch.

After Salah was substituted in the 75th minute, Roma seized the initiative and scored two late goals to escape from Anfield with a 5-2 loss from the first leg yesterday [Macau time].

The Italian side has already shown in this season's competition that a three-goal deficit can be overcome. Just two weeks ago, Roma beat Lionel Messi's Barcelona 3-0 in the Stadio Olimpico to advance from the quarterfinals on away goals.

Liverpool has been warned ahead of next week's second leg.

"The tie is not over, we have already proven that against Barcelona," Roma coach Eusebio Di Francesco said. "Whoever doesn't believe in a comeback should stay home. That applies to the fans in the stands as well."

There was a strange atmosphere after the final whistle of one of the most extraordinary Champions League matches. Liverpool had just become the first team in 23 years to score five goals in one leg of a semifinal, yet its players



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah scores his side's second goal

FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Salah magic leads Liverpool to 5-2 win over Roma in semis

left the field thinking it was an opportunity lost.

Roma's fans, meanwhile, sang loudly and proudly long after the final whistle. They had been given unlikely hope.

"We have to work again in Rome now, that is no problem," Klopp said. "There would have been work if we had won 5-0."

It is still in Liverpool's hands, though. Especially with Salah in the team.

The Egypt forward's display was as exquisite as Roma's defending was naive, with his two goals moving him on to 43 goals for the season in all competitions. Salah won English soccer's Player of the Year award on Sunday and, at this rate, the Ballon D'Or could be his next year.

His first goal came after Roma striker Edin Dzeko gave up possession cheaply in Liverpool's half. The ball made its way to Sa-

lah, who cut inside from the right edge of the penalty area and curled a shot in off the crossbar, near to the post. It couldn't have been placed any better.

If that was a typical Salah finish from his first half of the season, his second goal was a replica of a couple of his more recent strikes. Firmino timed his through ball perfectly and Salah outpaced Juan Jesus before applying a dinked finish over goalkeeper Alisson, just like he did to eliminate Manchester City in the quarterfinals.

"Outstanding, pretty much undefendable," Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp said of Salah, who he signed from Roma for 42 million euros (then USD47 million) in June. "He is playing a season that is not normal."

Salah didn't celebrate either of his goals, out of respect for his former teammates, but he made them suffer by setting up goals for the other members of Liverpool's devastating forward line.

Taking advantage of Roma's recklessly high defensive line, Salah provided right-wing crosses for Mane and Firmino to score almost identical, close-range goals in the 56th and 61st minutes, respectively. Salah, Firmino and Mane have now scored 28 goals between them in this season's Champions League — more than every other team that has taken part in the competition.

When Firmino glanced home a header from James Milner's corner in the 69th to make it 5-0, Li-

verpool had scored five goals in 33 minutes either side of halftime and Roma's players were on the floor — literally in the case of its distressed goalkeeper, Alisson. The semifinal looked over with 110 minutes remaining.

However, Klopp took off Salah in the 75th minute and Roma suddenly began to swarm all over the home side, outshooting them eight to one in the final 15 minutes.

Two of them resulted in goals. Dzeko chested down a long pass to slot a low finish inside the near post in the 81st and when Milner handled a shot from Radja Nainngolan, Diego Perotti converted the penalty in the 89th.

"If anyone wants to say it is my mistake we conceded the two goals because I change the striker, I have no problem with that," Klopp said. "We did not prepare our passes and he [Salah] was running all the time and it would not have helped us if he gets an injury."

A three-goal deficit will not scare Roma's players after what happened against Barcelona. Yet it is highly unlikely that Liverpool, the master of the counterattack, will fail to score against a side that has to take chances going forward.

"If any of my players think Roma doesn't have enough to come back, they will not play," Klopp said.

Bayern Munich played Real Madrid early today [after closing time] in the other semifinal, with the first leg in Germany. **AP**

Two men from Rome arrested after attacking Liverpool fan

TWO men from Rome were arrested on suspicion of attempted murder following an assault before a Champions League game that left a Liverpool fan in critical condition, police said.

The injured 53-year-old man is being treated in the hospital after being caught up in what Merseyside Police say was an "altercation" between Liverpool and Roma fans outside Anfield ahead of the match.

Liverpool said it is "shocked and appalled" by the incident, which was described by UEFA as a "vile attack."

"The perpetrators of this ignominious attack have no place in and around football," UEFA said, "and we trust they will be dealt with utmost severity by the authorities."



Roma said it condemned the "abhorrent" behavior of what it described as a minority of traveling fans who "brought shame on the club."

"There is no place for this type of vile behavior in football and the club is now cooperating with Liverpool

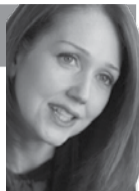
Football Club, UEFA and the authorities," Roma said. "The club's thoughts and prayers are with the 53-year-old Liverpool fan in hospital and his family at this time."

Liverpool won the first leg 5-2. The second will be played in Rome next week.

opinion

Girl About Globe

Linda Kennedy



MEG'S LEGS. A GUTS OR GARTERS DILEMMA

There's a Royal controversy striking not at the heart of Buckingham Palace, but a bit further down, in the gusset.

'Meghan Markle bucks Royal protocol by shunning tights.' – declared Daily Mail online, before opining on the pins and shins that challenge the monarchy.

The shunning took place when Prince Harry and Meghan Markle recently met youth delegates to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in an unusually balmy London. Harry's sock selection went unrecorded. Her lack of tights did not. There was no 'tell-tale satin sheen', the editorial pointed out.

How, a commoner may ask, is Royal legwear protocol made clear? A parchment, 'Her Majesty's Pantyhose Policy'? Or a committee of Royal equerries on tights?

There is 'an unspoken rule', the Mail clarified. It doesn't say – but actually does – that Royal female legs are to be covered by nude tights, a barrier between posh flesh and commoners' eyes. Like most class barriers, it's subtle yet crucially important. This one is denoted in denier: at least seven and better 15. The Duchess of Cambridge is a hosiery heroine, never exposing her unsheathed calves. Other Royal females also toe the line on tights.

'Lese majesty' is causing harm to the dignity of a monarch. 'Legs majesty' is my allegation the Queen's silent insistence on tights is less about decorum and more about concealment of varicose veins – the one time Royals don't want to make a thing about blue blood.

Nude tights are difficult to keep run-free, especially with dogs around. Perhaps there are ladies-in-waiting dedicated to hosiery, who approach their Royal mistresses dangling glossy nylons with a reinforced gusset, after being up at 6am checking for ladders. But getting rid of them would be a saving from Palace costs. And, in one move, make the monarchy more chic.

Nude tights are naff. Aside from this, there are a number of explanations for Meghan's reluctance. She is possibly too busy; one could spend days in the tights section of a store, hunting the right combination of opacity, size and toe durability, only to realise you've approached the checkout with a footsie.

Perhaps she is saving the planet. Everyone is about reducing wrapping these days. Tights are human wrapping.

Curtseying in tights could well be constricting. Or it may be the belief she has the right to choose, and it's a question of her tights human rights.

But, really, isn't this an opportunity for the zany new generation to show their sense of humour? Royal males have form with leg wear. Henry VIII wore tights. In France, so did Louis XVI.

The couple could host a Shakespearean costume party, and leak photos of Harry in tights and a cod piece.

Or shape their calendar to offer a sarcastic photo opp. There must be a fashion start up that makes tights.

Or be seen exercising together. For this occasion, Harry should wear man tights, the compression ones for fitness.

Royal protocol faces a test. Is it truly willing to modernise, as tan tights are from a previous generation - Gen 15 Den?

Will Meghan be brave and defy the Queen, or give in and wear nude tights? It's a guts or garters situation.

And if she yields to pressure, I at least hope she starts her own hosiery company: Meg's Legs. British Royal Tan will become the new American Tan. Her tights' brand will sell out, creating a thriving export market, and a reputation that Britain is a nation built on nylons.

Failing that, there's a strong chance the bad English summer could be her saviour. Rain and cold have their plus points. Trouser weather.

THE BUZZ SPANISH POLITICIAN RESIGNS OVER THEFT AND DEGREE SCANDALS

A top politician for Spain's ruling party has resigned as the head of the Madrid region, opening a new crisis for the conservative government of Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy.

Regional president Cristina Cifuentes announced her resignation hours after she was seen in a video allegedly showing

lifting cosmetics in a supermarket seven years ago.

It follows a monthlong controversy over a master's degree in regional law granted to Cifuentes by a public university, which faked signatures of professors and administrators after she apparently failed to attend most classes.



Station	Air quality	
Roadside	40-60 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	35-55 Good	😊
Ambient	35-55 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

RWANDA The BBC reports that four mass graves have been unearthed in the East African country of Rwanda, probably dating from the 1994 genocide. About 200 bodies have been exhumed.

NIGERIA Officials in Nigeria say gunmen killed 15 people in an early-morning attack on a Catholic church, including two priests.



ARMENIA Several thousand protesters took to the streets of the Armenian capital yesterday after talks between the opposition and the acting prime minister were called off.

SPAIN's Interior Ministry says police has found nearly 9 tons of cocaine concealed in a banana shipment from Colombia, a European record for drugs found inside a shipping container.

BRITAIN Prince Charles has spent a lifetime waiting to be king. Now the 69-year-old heir to the British throne has another position to wait for – he was approved as the next head of the Commonwealth made up of the U.K. and the countries that once were its colonies.



MEXICO Three vanished film students whose case had become emblematic of Mexico's 30,000 missing people were killed after being caught unaware in the midst of a drug gang turf battle, officials say.

NICARAGUA Authorities released some student protesters arrested during anti-government demonstrations over the past week and the Roman Catholic Church agreed to act as a mediator as President Daniel Ortega sought to lower tensions in Nicaragua.

Indian court jails spiritual guru for life in rape case

AN Indian court found a high-profile spiritual guru guilty of raping a teenage female devotee in 2013 and sentenced him to life in prison.

The verdict against 77-year-old Asaram Bapu was read out inside the prison where he is being held in Jodhpur in Rajasthan state because of fears that his followers might resort to violence.

Security was tight around the prison complex and in states where the guru has a large following.

The trial was the latest in a series of high-profile rape cases in India that have fueled public protests and raised questions about how police handle the attacks and treat the victims.

Last August, another popular and flamboyant Indian spiritual guru, Dr. Saint Gurmeet Singh Ram Rahim Insan, was sentenced to 20 years in prison on charges of raping two female followers.

Responding to widespread outrage over the recent rape and killings of young girls and other attacks on children, India's government last week approved the death penalty for people convicted of raping children under age 12.

Judge Madhusudhan Sharma announced yesterday



Controversial spiritual guru Asaram Bapu (center) being escorted by police in 2013 at the Jodhpur airport

the prison term for Bapu and sentenced two of his associates to 20 years in prison each for helping him in the crime.

The judge convicted Bapu on charges of criminal conspiracy, wrongful confinement and rape.

Bapu has denied the charges, and a spokeswoman, Neelam Dubey, said Bapu would appeal the verdict in a higher court.

The girl in her complaint to police in 2013 accused Bapu of raping her when she visited his retreat in Jodhpur with her mother. She was 16 at the time. The girl's

family said they had been followers of Bapu for more than a decade.

Bapu has been in prison since his arrest in 2013. He ran more than 230 ashrams with residential schools with millions of followers across India and abroad, including the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Uganda and Kenya.

Religious sects wield considerable political clout in India. Bapu is also on trial along with his son Narayan Sai in a separate case in which two sisters have accused the two men of sexual assault. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Aaron Favila



A Filipino fire dancer performs for the last time a day before the government implements the temporary closure of the country's most famous beach resort island of Boracay. Tourists were spending their final hours on Boracay, enjoying the Philippine island's famed white-sand beaches before it closes today for up to six months to recover from overcrowding and development.