



GROUP AGAINST DEMOLITION

A group is against the demolition of a modernist building in downtown Macau owned by the Holy House of Mercy

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PAUL CHAN LEAVES NEW MACAU

Paul Chan explained that he intends to make space for the group's youthful leadership

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TRUMP'S REMARKS DRAW IRE IN EUROPE

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Greater Bay Plan

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

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

VIETNAM A court in southern Vietnam is scheduled to put on trial an American citizen of Vietnamese descent accused of disturbing public order after he took part in rare protests.



INDONESIA's deeply conservative Muslim province of Aceh publicly caned 15 people found guilty of violating Shariah law, despite pledging not to carry out the punishment in public.

MYANMAR At least 15 people were killed and dozens injured in a landslide at a jade mine in northern Myanmar's jade mining region, state media and officials said yesterday.

INDIA At least seven people were killed and 22 others injured in Indian-controlled Kashmir yesterday when a boulder rolled down from a mountain and fell on local tourists bathing at a waterfall.



SYRIA Government forces unleashed hundreds of missiles on a rebel-held area near the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights yesterday, activists said, the latest phase in an offensive to clear southern Syria of insurgents.

SAUDI ARABIA The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for an attack on Saudi prison security guards in al-Qassim last week.

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Flooding returns to Inner Harbor district

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France wins 2nd World Cup title, beats Croatia 4-2

P19 FOOTBALL

Roundtable calls on public support to save downtown building

A roundtable was held yesterday to discuss the future of the "Rainha Dona Leonor" housing block in downtown Macau (besides Hotel Sintra), which opponents of the government's proposal to demolish say holds significant heritage value.

The speakers at the roundtable were lawmaker and chairwoman of Civil Power Agnes Lam, heritage enthusiast Billy Au and Rui Leao, president of Docomomo Macau Association, a group that claims to document and represent examples of modern architecture in Macau.

"The roundtable was about raising awareness," said Leao, who is also an architect and a member of Macau's Urban Planning Committee.

"We found out recently that the government was putting to discussion the urban guidelines for that plot, which will be discussed next Wednesday at the Urban Planning Committee meeting," he told the Times in an interview yesterday.

"The government proposal is to have that building demolished – but that raises a lot of urban issues. [...] The building is of very high heritage value and should have already been classified by the government and protected."

The housing block, located on Avenida Infante Dom Henrique, is nearly 60 years old, having



The "Rainha Dona Leonor" housing block (right)

been designed in the late 1950s by the architect José Lei. The building was the first high-rise residential building in Macau equipped with an elevator.

According to those in favor of protecting the site, which is owned by the Holy House of Mercy, the building showcases the principles and ideals born with the advent of modernist architecture in the second half of the 20th century.

This week, Docomomo Macau Association will submit a request to the government to have the building listed.

However, Leao believes that

it is important to gather public support for the listing of such sites – especially when, like the "Rainha Dona Leonor" housing block, they are in a somewhat decrepit state.

Hence the roundtable was held to reach out to the public and raise awareness of the government's proposal.

"It is difficult to request a listing on a purely technical basis," he said. "The public needs to understand the value of such buildings, even if they are in a bland, run-down state. I hope that we were successful in delivering that message." DB

Unfinished housing project victims ask for compensation

Julie Zhu

APPROXIMATELY 50 people who claimed to have purchased properties in the Hon Fok Garden building, whose development was never finished, gathered at said building's land plot on Friday, seeking help from the government and Hon Fok Garden developers.

The group gathered at Av. Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues, where the housing project is located, asking the project's developer for compensation.

The group said that the buyers' situation is worse than that concerning the Pearl Horizon Project.

They remarked that the Pearl Horizon project developer still offered a compensation plan to buyers, whereas Hon Fok Garden's developer has never communicated with buyers.

According to the demonstrators, some of them purchased a house during a pre-sale, in 1992.

Back then, they had already paid one hundred thousand patacas for the first installment.

In 1991, Kinbo Land Investment Company Limited bought the land plot for the development of Hon Fok Garden.

Later, the project's ownership went to another land investment company, which authorized the land to be developed by one of its branch companies.

During the transfer of ownership, different developers rea-

ched out to buyers expressing their willingness to help them, although no results were ever produced.

The group said they have been notified recently that the land has once again been sold to another company.

The group hopes that the Macau government can aid buyers and urge the developer to provide a solution to the issue in order to avoid harming the rights of small buyers.

The group also observed that since Hon Fok Garden project's issue took place before the city's pre-sale related law came into effect, the case can not be solved by the city's new law, and no parties have ever stepped out explaining the issue.

The developer has also been accused of ignoring buyers' problems. One of the buyers, surnamed Kou, paid MOP460,000 for the pre-sale project in 1992.

The Hon Fok Garden project was supposed to occupy an area of 3,520 square meters, providing 116 residential units. In 1992, more than 90 units were sold, together with car park spaces involving an estimated market value of more than MOP20 million.

Previously, it was reported that the housing project did not see the start of its construction phase because the company had been involved in a judicial case. Moreover, in that time, Macau was suffering from a weak economy prior to the handover.

ASK THE VET

by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

KITTEN CARE ESSENTIALS

A kitten needs to be with his mother for the first eight weeks of his life, however if this is not possible, you need to be the surrogate mother. You need some kitten care essentials for the first few weeks:

Sleeping box; newborn kittens spend a lot of time sleeping, so you need to provide a warm, comfortable box. The room where the box is placed should be warm, as kittens don't have the capacity to keep a normal temperature and may suffer from hypothermia, which can be fatal. Blankets and towels to keep the kitten warm. Special formula kitten food. Soft toys or paper.

Later, your kitten will also need:

Litterbox
Cat litter
Food and water bowls
Toys

KITTEN HEALTH

The kitten needs to be taken to the vet. The vet will examine your kitten's health and look for parasites or diseases. A newborn kitten does not get vaccines until the age of eight to nine weeks.

FEEDING THE KITTEN

If you have the mother cat nursing your kitten, you don't need to feed the kitten. However, if the mother is not present you need to feed the kitten. Kittens have their eyes closed for the first 10 days of their lives, so you will need to use a syringe to hand feed your pet. Get Kitten Formula from Royal Canin and feed your kitten following the guidelines on the box, according to your pet's weight. Kitten food is different from adult cat food; it contains a special formula that is high in protein and fats. The food needs to be highly digestible and nutrient

dense. Kittens need wet food, as this is easier to digest. Newborn kittens can't handle dry food, but this may be given after the kitten is eight weeks old. Feed your kitten 10 to 12 times in 24 hours or once every two hours.

Don't feed the kitten cow milk; this may cause diarrhea or indigestion.

The kitten will start growing teeth at about two weeks. After three weeks, you may start giving your kitten a food bowl and train him to use it.

ELIMINATION

Newborn kittens cannot defecate without help. The mother helps kittens to eliminate food by licking their bum. Use a moist cloth and massage your kitten's stomach and bum to stimulate bowel movement. At this age, the kitten will not be able to use a litter box to urinate, so you need to clean after the kitten.

PLAYING AND SOCIALIZING

The first weeks are essential in determining your cat's behavior. If the kitten is with his mother and brothers, he will learn how to play safely and will socialize. However, if your kitten



is alone, you will need to cuddle him and play with him to develop a relationship with your pet. The kitten typically starts standing up at about two to three weeks, and will start playing at three to four weeks.

Hope this info helps
Till next week
Dr Ruan

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Paul Chan announces departure from New Macau

PAUL Chan Wai Chi has announced his departure from the New Macau Association (ANM), explaining that he intends to make space for the group's youthful leadership.

Chan, a former Macau lawmaker, ran second to Sulu Sou on the ANM ticket in the 2017 Legislative Assembly election, but did not win a seat.

Speaking to Portuguese-language newspaper *Hoje Macau*, Chan said his resignation from the pro-democrat group would allow the younger members of the organization to take over the leadership without feeling like they are still "under the shadow of the senior members."

"Senior and more experienced members [...] can share their opinions. However, this does not mean they should become a master at pulling strings from behind," Chan told public broadcaster TDM over the weekend. "The lea-



Paul Chan Wai Chi (center) pictured with other members of the New Macau Association

dership of the younger generation should not live under the shadow of the senior members."

He noted that his departure is not a sign of disagreements within the New Macau Association, as per the parting of incumbent lawmaker Au Kam San, who left the association in early 2016, citing differences of opinion.

Political commentator Larry So told the Times that he had "certain reservations" when asked for his opinion on Chan's stated reasons for leaving. So said that Chan could have remained in a

mentoring position within the association without stepping on the toes of the next generation of leaders.

"I believe that there are some internal divisions over a number of issues," he told the Times yesterday. "I suspect that this is only a part of the real reason."

So also said that Chan brought a degree of credibility to the pro-democrat group, which is mostly staffed by young activists.

"They definitely still need that credibility because, apart from Sulu Sou, the rest of them are not that well-

known. Upon [Chan's] departure, the credibility and reputation of the association will be affected," said the political commentator.

They definitely still need that credibility because, apart from Sulu Sou, the rest of them are not that well-known.

LARRY SO
ANALYST

TDM reported that Chan, who is a Catholic, intends to work on religious activities in future. **DB**

Hainan hopes to launch flight to Macau this year

SOUTH China's Hainan Province plans to open another 20 international air routes by the end of the year as the island strives to build itself into a major international tropical resort and free trade port, the provincial tourism department said yesterday.

More flight routes will be established to link the island with Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, as well as Russia and Southeast Asian countries. The number of international flights is expected to reach 100 by 2020, the department said.

The island received more than 1.1 million overseas tourists in 2017, up nearly 50 percent year-on-year.

The number of international tourists reached 946,000 in the first half of this year, a year-on-year growth of 16.26 percent.

Under a new policy established in May, group and individual tourists from 59 countries and regions, including Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and the United States, may visit Hainan visa-free and stay for up to 30 days on the condition that they book their tour through travel agencies.

Hainan currently has 53 international air routes, including 12 which were opened or resumed in the first half of this year. **MDT/Xinhua**

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THE establishment of the Greater Bay Area and the announced goal of achieving simplified living and travelling around the nine cities and regions that compose of the southern China area, including Macau and Hong Kong, has been triggering several opinions and pre-announced measures.

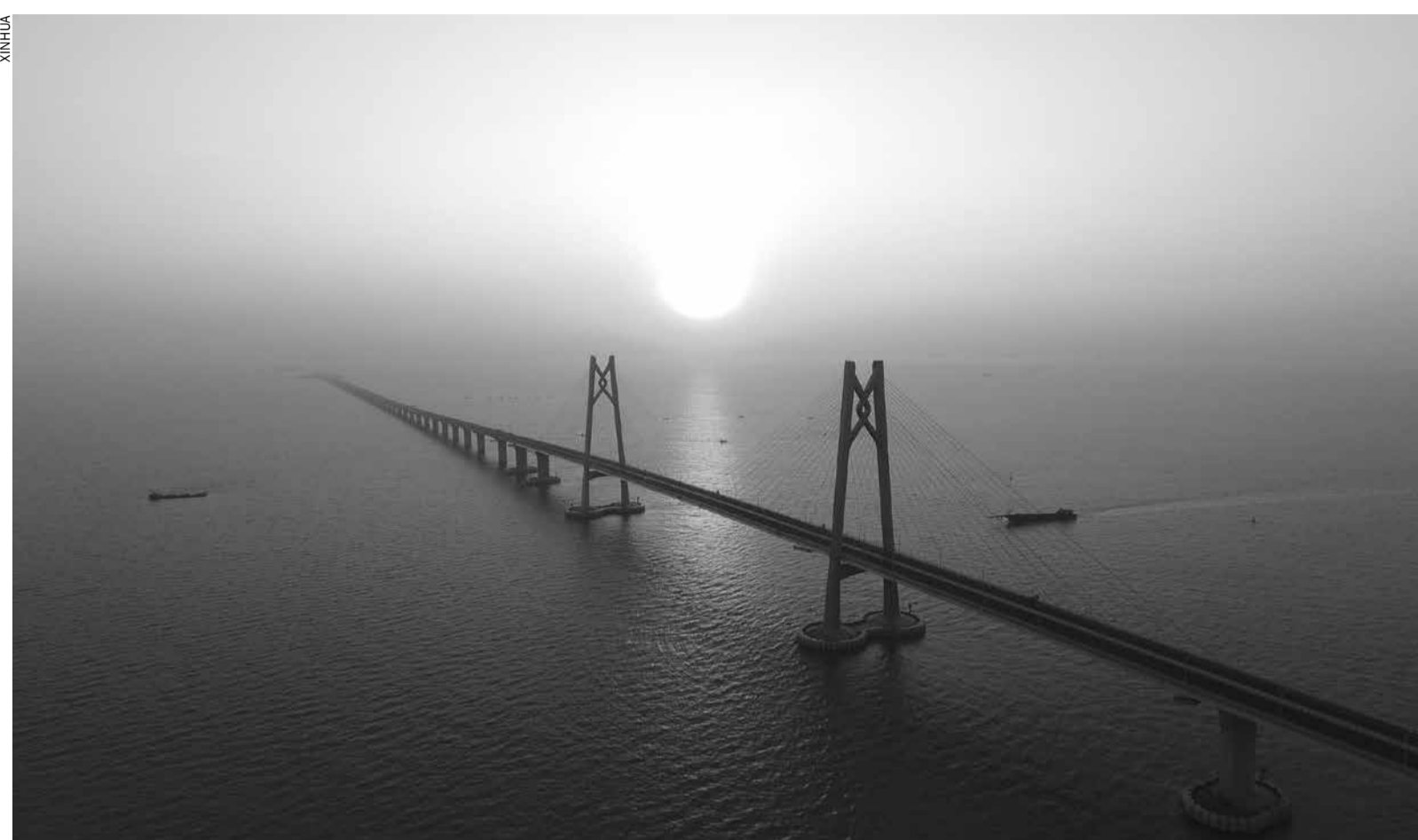
Although the plans are still a well-kept secret, the governments of the Special Administrative Regions (SARs) have rushed to highlight the many advantages that the creation of this “megalopolis” will bring. This is especially in regard to opportunities for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and younger generations. The creation of such interconnections between the cities and regions that make up the area would create a megacity equivalent to the fifth-largest economy in the world by 2030, with a forecasted population of nearly 70 million people.

In Macau, a number of lawmakers have questioned the Chief Executive (CE), asking for more details regarding the plans of the Greater Bay Area, namely the field or fields in which the region could benefit from the policy and the impact that could be expected from regional integration. This follows on from several previous occasions, namely during the CE's last visit to the Legislative Assembly in April this year.

Lawmaker Kou Hoi In was one of those to address the topic in a direct manner, questioning the CE on the opportunities and missions created by the Greater Bay Area and how Macau will adjust and integrate such a project in order to “catch that fast train.” Several others noted the fact that there are no publicized plans regarding how the new framework could affect Macau's competitiveness.

A reply from the CE indicates that there is a need to await the definite plans by the central government. In the words of Chui Sai On, that will happen soon. Summarizing the benefits, the CE said “this will ease the lives of all the people living in this area,” noting that there are already several test-projects being held in different areas. “We need to be prepared to embrace this plan and to have an open mind [to receive it],” he said.

The same seems to be happening in the neighboring region of Hong Kong, where some officials and lawmakers have been conveying words of encouragement, namely to young people, to consider living across the mainland China border in order to “escape the territory's sky-high housing prices” and to “find more job opportunities.”



The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge plays a key role in the regional integration plan

ANALYSIS

Greater Bay megalopolis triggers both hopes and fears

As Reuters reported recently, such efforts are not an easy sell, but pro-China business leaders claim that it is all a matter of time until such “resistance” falls and people accept the idea.

Even if the idea of being able to afford a house and having a job that supports a better lifestyle can attract many, other Millennials may miss the freedom granted under the “one country, two systems” rule enjoyed by both SARs. This especially concerns access to information via the media and Internet resources, which are free in Hong Kong and Macau, contrary to the mainland where there is vigorous enforcement of censorship.

According to Reuters, former student leader, young activist and politician Nathan Law said, “many young people don't reject the idea of visiting the mainland for fun. But if you want them to live there, you have your head in the clouds,” he said, adding, “you can't even use WhatsApp or watch YouTube videos. You are isolated from the world.”

Such an opinion is shared by most, if not all, “hardline activists” who claim that Hong Kong's young people will simply never buy into the idea of living across the border. Several studies show that the overwhelming majority of the region's youth identify themselves as Hong Kong people, rather than Chinese people.

In one survey conducted by pro-establishment organization Hong Kong Youth Power Association published last May, almost 60 percent of the 878 young people surveyed said they would not consider working or living in the “Greater Bay Area,” citing reasons such as the “distance from home,” higher taxation of income (on the mainland when compared to Hong Kong) and being unfamiliar and uncomfortable with Chinese government policies and enforcement rules. On the other hand, Beijing has made it clear on several occasions that economic integration is key and an important part of the policies is to reinforce the integration of the Hong Kong SAR, which relies on the support from an important share of the business community.

Jonathan Choi, Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce of Hong Kong and member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (the top advisory body to China's parliament), was quoted by the Hong Kong Economic Times just last month as saying “we will no longer be Hong Kong people, but Greater Bay Area people... We should therefore focus on integration rather than on the interests of Hong Kong.” The influx and diffusion of people in the recent years has resulted in Hong Kon-

g-born people being bred in the mainland. Many of these people belong to families with business interests, and are likely to be more familiar with the mainland and would probably contribute to the reduction of support for pro-democracy movements in Hong Kong.

Bay Area purchases so far have been for investment purposes or holiday homes, rather than as primary residences.

PROPERTY INVESTOR

Hong Kong's Chief Secretary for Administration Matthew Cheung also addressed the topic of distance, as quoted in a blog titled “De-bunk the myths over Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area,” saying, “that distance, I believe, will no longer be a problem once they [people of HK] have learned about the latest progress of our growing transport infrastructure links with the Bay Area.” This wou-

ld facilitate the migration, which, according to the Hong Kong government and figures cited by Reuters, is already occurring. “At least 500,000 Hong Kong people resided in the mainland last year, up from 155,000 in 2009 and just 62,000 in 2003, according to official data,” he stated.

The same source also cites property agents in southern China, saying that the demand for properties in cities such as Zhuhai and Zhongshan have increased as much as 40 percent, but noted that most of the property seekers were not young people, but “sophisticated investors” trying to anticipate demand from the public and hoping to profit on the sale.

According to one of these investors who was also quoted by Reuters, “In Zhongshan, homes can be bought for RMB1,400 per square foot, while those in Zhuhai go for around RMB4,000 per square foot, a steep discount [compared] to roughly HKD15,000 per square foot for an apartment in Hong Kong” or the average of around HKD9,400 in Macau, reported by the government at the end of 2017.

Nevertheless, the property investor and expert told Reuters, “Bay Area purchases so far have been for investment purposes or holiday homes, rather than as primary residences.” **RM**

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FOR RENT



Large Dynasty Plaza Commercial Space

(Ref: 18070685)
3,500 sq.ft. HKD 72,000

This spacious commercial space is immediately available for rent in the NAPE area of Macau. The former lawyer's office is well suited for any commercial tenant looking for a convenient park-side work space, including architectural firms, law firms and design companies. Viewing available upon request.



Lakeview, Macau

(Ref: 18060680)
3,430 sq.ft. HKD 30,000

Bright and spacious 3 bedrooms, 1 dressroom and 1 utility room apartment in Macau. Furnished Partly. Front balcony with the great view of Macau skyline and Nam Van Lake. Convenient location, close to Grand Lisboa and Senado square. (Available From : August 2018)



The Buckingham

(Ref: 18060681)
700 sq.ft. HKD 18,000

Two double bedroom fully furnished apartment in luxury complex of The Buckingham, Central Taipa. The apartment has been fitted out to Marriott Hotel standard. Well fitted galley style kitchen equipped with kitchen essentials. Close to banks, supermarkets and public transportation this property is in the perfect location for convenience.



Manhattan D unit, High Floor

(Ref: 18070684)
2305 sq.ft. HKD 29,800

Fabulous family apartment on a high floor in the Manhattan, located in central Taipa. Four bedrooms: three doubles & one single, separate shower room and en-suite bathroom off the master room. The Manhattan has a super outdoor lap pool and kids outdoor climbing frame, indoor private dining room for twenty, and a state of the art gym (better than many local hotels).

FOR SALE



Jubilee Court, Macau

(Ref: 18030672)
2,200 sq.ft. HKD 15.98M
Rate: HKD 7,263

Great size four bedroom apartment in downtown Macau, across the road from Star World and next to the Landmark this apartment is well located. Two double bedrooms have built wardrobes and walk in shower rooms. The other two bedrooms share a bathroom. Plenty of bespoke storage throughout the property.



Old Macau, Unique Walk Up

(Ref: 18065557)
950 sq.ft. HKD 4.48M
Rate: HKD 4,715

Located close to St Lazarus church on the Macau peninsula this apartment has three bedrooms (one on the rooftop), it's a duplex the property has a lofty feel about it. Modernised a few years ago it needs little renovation.



Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau

(Ref: 18055556)
627 sq.ft. HKD 3.9M
Rate: HKD 6,347

One bedroom apartment in Heritage Area of Macau. A five minute from the Ruins of St Pauls. Renovated 3 years ago. Good size master bedroom with built in wardrobes. Modern shower room with built in under counter cabinet. Well equipped kitchen. S shaped living / dining area with small nook for desk.



Va Nam Top Floor

(Ref: 18045550)
750 sq.ft. HKD 4.18M
Rate: HKD 5,573

This property is centrally located in Taipa and enjoys exclusive access to the corresponding rooftop area. The internal area does need some TLC which makes it a unique opportunity for investors to renovate and force appreciation. The property is currently tenanted but can be viewed with prior arrangement.



Calçada da Surpresa, 12, Ching Fai Court, Macau

(Ref: 18035547)
2,000 sq.ft. HKD 11.5M
Rate: HKD 5,750

LOFT in the centre of Macau. A unique opportunity to live in this sleek, modern property. The large open space area on the ground floor houses the open plan living and dining areas with fabulous designer kitchen located at back of the property. Viewing can be arranged by appointment.



The Buckingham, Unit C, Taipa

(Ref: 18025544)
1,186 sq.ft. HKD 9.48M
Rate: HKD 7,993

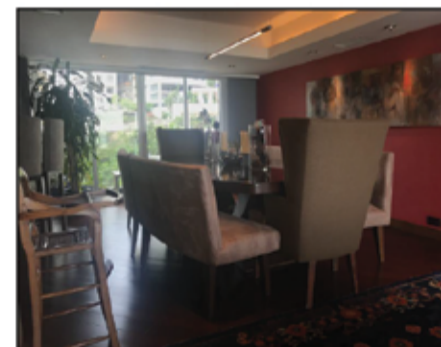
Great two bedroom apartment in Central Taipa. Open plan kitchen with fitted appliance. Two double bedrooms sharing one walk in shower room. Good size living area with balcony.



Violet Court, Hellene Gardens, Coloane

(Ref: 18035546)
2,530 sq.ft. HKD 20M
Rate: HKD 7,905

Its unusual to find such a beautifully designed apartment in Macau especially with stunning views over Hac Sa beach. The interior renovation has been thoughtfully designed by the owners cousin a well known architect in Portugal. The quality of this apartment is second to none and a real show piece.



Choi Long Meng Chui, Taipa

(Ref: 18045555)
3,398 sq.ft. HKD 21M
Rate: HKD 6,180

Fabulous apartment with stunning open views across to Macau. Originally four bedrooms converted to three bedrooms with three bathrooms, two en suite. The open plan dining area at the back of the property has another balcony with a view of the original University of Macau. Two parking spaces (one covered and the other open).

Office: (853) 2835 2699

Email: Info@JMLProperty.com

Contact Property Consultants Today.

Juliet Risdon (English Speaker)

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Flooding returns to Inner Harbor after heavy rain

SEVERAL areas of the Inner Harbor district were flooded yesterday morning after the rainfall which occurred around 10 a.m. According to reports on site, the water level reached between 30 to 50 centimeters in some areas, namely in the section in between Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro and Patane.

According to the information provided by the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG), this event will occur once more today, as the SMG noted that there is a chance of "slight flooding" occurring in the Inner Harbor district area between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. "due to astronomical tide." Helping the high tides will be the "occasional showers" forecast and the "Force 4 to 6 east to southeasterly winds with gusts."

According to TDM, the SMG has also reported some unexpected problems related to the water level monitoring system in the area, reporting some "inaccurate levels" when, after the peak of the flood, the waters started receding, a situation that



led the SMG to report a warning to the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau to check the operability of such equipment.

Almost a year ago, and during the passage of typhoon Hato took place, the Inner Harbor was one of the most affected areas of Macau due to the very

high floods that were responsible for damage and the loss of several lives.

Since that time, the area has been addressed by the government, representatives of which have said in several press conferences, as well as in the Legislative Assembly, that it is

planning several projects aimed at tackling the problem. So far, and after almost one year passing since the incident, local residents have not felt any difference, and complain that even without serious storms or the influence of typhoons, flooding in the area is recurrent. **RM**

Nine arrested for illegal gambling during W. Cup

Early last week, nine people were arrested in mainland China and Macau for organizing illegal gambling activities during the World Cup. The Judiciary Police arrested seven suspects, five men and two women, in two residential units in Taipa. One of the seven suspects is a Taiwan resident, while the remaining are all from mainland China. In addition, 11 mobile phones, 12 SIM cards, HKD204,250, RMB79,000, USD700 and 14 bank cards were seized from the apartments. The six mainland residents have been transferred to the mainland government authority.

63 phone scams recorded in first half of 2018

A total of 63 phone scam cases have been recorded in the first half of 2018, according to the Judiciary Police (PJ). In 45 of these 63 cases, criminals pretended to be civil servants from mainland China's public departments, with losses amounting to a total of MOP7.6 million. In another 15 cases, the victims were instructed to guess the identity of the criminals, with losses amounting to a total of MOP540,000. In addition, there were more than 10 cases in which criminals stole mobile application information to conduct fraud.

TUI rules companies must pay fine for LRT delay

The Court of Final Appeal's (TUI) judgment has ruled that the three companies awarded the construction contract for the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) should pay fines for delaying the LRT's construction. The three companies appealed on the basis that the delays around the construction resulted from the fact that another company was carrying out engineering works on the related LRT project location. Previously, in December 2017, the three companies appealed to the Court of Second Instance, but had their appeal dismissed. TUI judged that the delay must be the companies' responsibility.



60 percent of affected patients trade faulty pills

A total of 732 people have performed an exchange of the faulty antihypertensive medicines affected by a recall from the local health authorities, representing 59 percent from the estimated number of patients affected, according to the statement issued by the Health Bureau (SSM). This was the final figure of the patients that resorted to the fast lane service that the Bureau established at the external consultation services of the Conde de Sao Januario Hospital Center

(CHCSJ). The aim for the fast lane service is to avoid long waits by the patients during the three-day period of enforcement of the contingency plan established by SSM for the recall and replacement of six antihypertensive medicines found to contain the impurity N-Nitrosodimethylamine.

SSM also said that those who have not yet replaced their medicine prescriptions may do so in person or designate representatives in the possession of their ID cards

and medical assistance card as well as the previous prescriptions at the pharmacy of the CHCSJ during normal opening hours from Monday to Friday.

According to figures previously disclosed, the problem affected patients who had been prescribed the "Valsartan Tablet" in 80 mg and 160 mg doses, "Valsartan + Hydrochlorothiazide Generis" in 80 mg and 160 mg doses, and "Valsartan tablets HCT" in 80 mg and 160 mg doses, among a total of 1,238 patients.

Appeal court sides with gov't in land concession expiration

THE Court of Second Instance (TSI) has backed the government's decision to reclaim three land plots for expiration of the concession without the expected development once again, reaffirming the decision as lawful, the Office of the Court of Final Appeal announced in a statement.

In the statement, the Office acknowledges the ruling by the TSI in the appeals for the cases regarding the decision of the Chief Executive to declare the expiration of the concession of land plots, considering the reasons given by the appellants as invalid.

The cases referred to plots located in Coloane and in Taipa, the first in the industrial area of Seac Pai Van, the second in the Ka Ho area and the third in the Pac On area in Taipa. In all cases, the concession period given was well past the 25-year period, without which the concessionaires have made the necessary development to

make the concession period definitive.

In all cases, the Court ruled that, since the concessionaires did not complete the use of the land until the expiration of the 25-year concession and consequently, such concessions could not, by the previous fact, become definitive, the government has the duty, according to Articles 166 and 167 of the Land Law, to declare expiration, disregarding the fact that such non-development is or is not due to factors to be appointed to the concessionaires. In this sense, and according to the law in force, the court rules that there is no "[breach] of the principles of good faith, equality, justice, impartiality and trust, neither the lack of prior hearing or lack of inquiry."

In light of such premises, the TSI denied the appeals made by the three concessionaires and maintained the three decisions declared by the Chief Executive.



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opinion

JAPAN ISN'T STEPPING ASIDE AS CHINA STEPS UP

Daniel Moss, Bloomberg

China doesn't quite have the game sewn up. So bad is the West's public-relations standing in the era of Trump and Brexit that it's easy to see Chinese ascendancy as a welcome stabilizer in markets, finance, economics and trade. Awe at President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative is a prime example, conveying the unhealthy notion that democracies can't do big things anymore and China is sweeping all before it.

The same mythology characterizes China as the only country that matters in Asia. Suddenly in the Western mind, Asia is China and China is Asia. (Never mind that as recently as the 1990s, many people said the same thing about Japan.)

Writing off the rest of Asia overlooks the strength of Japanese companies and steps by Tokyo to steer economic policy — not to mention development aid — toward countering Chinese influence. A secondary theme is the sense that America, Japan's closest economic and security ally since 1945, is increasingly inward looking and unreliable.

Japan needs to diversify its portfolio. The country wants back in the game and is enlisting partners where it can. India, which feels encircled by China, is eager for an ally. In September, prime ministers Shinzo Abe and Narendra Modi jointly announced plans to build a bullet-train line financed almost entirely by Japan. India gets infrastructure, and Japanese companies like Hitachi and Kawasaki Heavy get contracts. A few months earlier, the two leaders unveiled the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor, aimed at joint development in Africa. The contest with China, which has made big inroads into Africa, is impossible to miss.

In Southeast Asia, Japanese companies are also winning the infrastructure race. Not only are they doing more business than Chinese firms among the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, they remain the dominant Asian direct foreign investor. Together with the U.S. and the European Union, Japan accounted for more than half the total in 2015.

Chinese companies may catch up. And the Chinese military may come to dominate Asian security. But Japan isn't going to acquiesce. Japanese interests haven't just packed up and headed for their low-growth, low-inflation home turf.

On the contrary, conditions at home are partly responsible for corporate Japan's renewed interest in the overseas markets. Abe and Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda have made concerted efforts to reflate and reinvigorate Japan's economy. They have met with mixed success. Deflation is no longer pervasive, and capital spending plans look promising, but officials and executives still wrestle with the implications of an aging and dwindling population. Prospects for sustained earnings and revenue growth look stronger away from home.

Japanese companies direct a lot of investment toward China, but here again Japan feels the need to diversify. China's pace of economic growth is still high by almost any measure, but it's cooled considerably over the past decade and will probably slow to about 6 percent over the next couple of years.

Japanese companies, like other foreign investors, feel increasingly exposed to diplomatic tensions. Imagine if a Japanese minister makes one offhand remark that displeases Beijing. Next thing you know, that plant in Guangzhou is placed on hold or, as was the case with South Korean conglomerate Lotte, fire safety rules suddenly become an issue.

It was different when China was building its economy and needed to catch up to the major industrial powers. That era is over. "Made in China 2025," another signature Xi initiative, may offer opportunities for technology investment, but that program is about making China great. Not anyone else.

The idea of a Japanese "southern strategy" has roots in the country's history. As Corey Wallace writes in *International Affairs*, the concept has been around since the Meiji era in the late 19th century. Back then it had military as well as commercial components.

However it diversifies its portfolio, Japan is sending one clear message: China hasn't yet vanquished all competitors.

BLOOMBERG



China Southern in talks with British Airways on joint venture

Benjamin Katz

CHINA Southern Airlines Co., one of the nation's top three state carriers, is exploring a joint venture with British Airways for flights between the Asian country and the U.K., according to the company's global sales director.

Asia's biggest carrier by fleet size is discussing with IAG SA's BA on how to extend cooperation beyond the existing basic code-share agreement announced in December, Senior Vice-President Luo Laijin said in an interview Friday at London's Heathrow Airport. The two are discussing special pro-rate agreements, flight connections from the U.K.'s capital to cities including Manchester, Edinburgh and Glasgow, as well as to some African cities.

"We are developing with British Airways all sorts of different business cooperation and we are going to develop, even deepen our relationship with them," Luo said. He was speaking at an event to mark the opening of a new route between London and Sanya, a city at the southern tip of China's Hainan Island.

Chinese carriers are bolstering their global networks with partnerships and investments to serve an aviation market that the In-

BLOOMBERG



ternational Air Transport Association estimates will surpass the U.S. as the world's biggest by as early as 2022. With more mainland travelers taking to the skies, China Southern plans to expand its fleet to about 1,000 by 2020, from the current 750 passenger and cargo aircraft it operates.

The Guangzhou-based carrier has said it's been building its hub and has prioritized subsidizing fares for European travelers. It's looking to extend partnerships with carriers outside of the three

global airline alliances, including its partnership with Air France-KLM, which currently includes a joint venture, Lajun said.

China Southern is also "looking at other opportunities to do stake cooperation" with both U.S. and European airlines beyond the USD200 million stake purchased by American Airlines Group Inc. last year, he said. Net income at the carrier jumped to a record 5.96 billion yuan (\$890 million) last year on the back of a stronger yuan. **Bloomberg**

Beijing bars foreign companies, other securities from stock link

CHINESE investors will be barred from trading in shares of dozens of foreign companies and those with weighted-voting rights such as Xiaomi Corp. as regulators seek to shield retail investors using the nation's stock link with Hong Kong from less widely understood securities.

The Shanghai Stock Exchange's exclusion also covers stapled securities — when two or more securities are linked together, according to a July 14 statement. The decision creates an exception to current rules allowing all Hang Seng Composite Index's mid- and large-cap shares to trade in Hong Kong through the stock link. Hang Seng Indexes had planned to make the three asset classes available for inclusion in its in-

dexes in the third quarter. "Many security companies believe the mainland investors do not fully understand the complexity and risks that come with more exotic

This fits into the general idea that Chinese money should be used to support Chinese companies.

SHAO YU

products, and that more cases of dual class shares should be tested out before allowing mainland investors to participate," the regulator said in the statement.

The decision is another setback for Beijing-based Xiaomi to attract local investors. The mobile phone maker was the first company with weighted voting rights to list on the Hong Kong bourse and had already postponed issuing Chinese depository receipts amid a sluggish market. The ban also may continue to make Hong Kong-listed companies that do most of their business outside greater China, such as Prada, Samsonite and L'Occitane, inaccessible to mainland investors.

Xiaomi didn't immediately respond to a request

for comment. Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. said that it is very selective in allowing the listing of weighted-voting rights companies and that sufficient safeguards to protect investors are already in place, according to a statement released after the ruling. The shares should be allowed to trade on the stock connect link "as soon as possible."

"This fits into the general idea that Chinese money should be used to support Chinese companies," said Shao Yu, Shanghai-based chief economist at Orient Securities, who does not see the move as a total surprise. "Regulators are adopting a rather conservative attitude towards weighted-share arrangements and are inclined to observe how they do for a little longer." **Bloomberg**

Yanan Wang, Gerry Shih

Nobel widow's release is short-lived human rights triumph

THE release of the Chinese Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo's widow from eight years of house arrest this week brought some comfort to China's activists. But the rare triumph for human rights in China was short-lived: Her brother was forced to stay behind, ensuring Liu Xia stayed silent on the one-year anniversary of her husband's death Friday.

Memorials are planned in Hong Kong and Berlin, where Liu Xia landed this week after years of international calls to free her from the isolation China imposed to quell any encouragement Liu Xiaobo's Nobel might have had on human rights activists.

But the poet and artist Liu Xia herself will be noticeably absent. Tienchi Martin-Liao, a Chinese-born writer based in Germany and friend of the couple, said Liu cannot meet with the public or speak to the media for "reasons that have nothing to do with her health."

"She wants to join, but she cannot," Martin-Liao said Friday by phone. Rights groups have said Liu will feel pressured to remain silent as long as her brother Liu Hui remains in China. Liu Xia was never charged with a crime and is seen worldwide as a tragic victim of her love for an enemy of the Chinese state.

Liu Xiaobo was serving an 11-year sentence for "inciting subversion of state power" when he died of liver cancer last summer. He helped write Charter 08, a manifesto calling for political and economic liberalization.

In 2010, while Liu was in prison, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. China was outraged and denounced the Nobel committee as celebrating a criminal. Liu Xia was put under house arrest, with guards at



In this Thursday picture, Liu Xia (right) stands with friend Tienchi Martin-Liao in a residence in Berlin

her apartment building keeping away visitors, soon after she returned from telling him in prison that he had been given the honor.

The isolation drove her into depression. Martin-Liao said Liu Xia's psychological condition has greatly improved since she arrived in Berlin, but they are awaiting medical consultations before changing drugs given to her by Chinese state security agents during her house arrest.

Despite the constraints on the widow and concerns about her health, Martin-Liao struck an optimistic note.

"But on the whole, she's in really good spirits," Martin-Liao said. "You've seen the pictures: She is like a small bird that has flown out."

Back in mainland China, the

Rights groups have said Liu will feel pressured to remain silent as long as her brother Liu Hui remains in China

authorities have gone to great lengths to prevent attempts to pay tribute to Liu Xiaobo.

Because Liu's ashes were buried in the ocean in proceedings that were closely controlled by the authorities, supporters have tried to hold memorials by various seashores. Some among them have been detained or arrested.

On Friday, police escorted Beijing activist Hu Jia to the northern city of Chongli, which doesn't have a coastline, to prevent him from marking the anniversary.

Hu, speaking by phone from his enforced trip, said he re-

membered Liu Xiaobo for being courageous in his convictions and having humanitarian spirit.

"He was called a traitor, an enemy of the nation," Hu said. "But in fact, he did everything out of love and humanity — he was truly human."

Government critics reflecting on the anniversary said Liu Xia's release did little to change the reality that the harshest crackdown on civil liberties in decades was continuing unabated. On Wednesday, a veteran pro-democracy campaigner was sentenced to 13 years in prison for "subversion" — a similar charge to Liu Xiaobo's.

"They say that China has entered a new era, and indeed that is the case," said Bao Tong, a former high-ranking Communist Party official and friend of the couple. "So long as you are living as a Chinese citizen, you are in a constant state of defending your rights, because your rights are in a constant state of being infringed upon."

The administration of President Xi Jinping, the most powerful Chinese leader since Mao Zedong, has led a widespread crackdown on civil society, targeting human rights lawyers and other independent groups considered a threat to the ruling party.

Bao was hopeful that history would ultimately side with Liu.

"History is not going to say that China had a criminal named Liu Xiaobo," Bao said. "Rather, it will say that China had many people who longed for a democratic, constitutional government, but they were thrown into jail by those in power at the time." AP

June trade with North Korea falls by more than half

Joe McDonald

CHINA'S imports from North Korea plunged 92.6 percent in June compared with a year earlier under U.N. sanctions imposed to stop Pyongyang's nuclear and missile programs, the customs agency said Friday.

Exports of Chinese oil and other goods to the North fell 40.6 percent, a customs agency spokesman, Huang Songping, said at a news conference. He gave no financial totals.

The trade curbs have remained in place despite diplomatic contacts including U.S. President Do-

nald Trump's June meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

American Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who visited Pyongyang this month, said sanctions wouldn't be lifted until Kim follows through on his pledge to scrap its nuclear weapons.

China provides nearly all of the isolated North's trade and energy supplies. Beijing has imposed limits on oil exports and sharply reduced North Korean revenue by banning purchases of its textiles, seafood and coal.

Beijing was long Pyongyang's diplomatic pro-

tector but has supported the U.N. sanctions out of frustration at what Chinese leaders see as their neighbor's increasingly reckless behavior.

Beijing also ordered North Korean-owned restaurants and other businesses in China, an important revenue source, to close.

In the first six months of the year, Chinese imports fell 88.7 percent from the same period of 2017 to 690 million yuan (USD103 million), according to Huang. Exports declined 43.1 percent to 6.4 billion yuan (\$960 million).

Huang said Chinese exports to the North have

declined for 11 straight months, while imports have declined for 10 months.

Beijing has "consistently implemented" the U.N. trade curbs, Huang said.

Also Friday, a deputy Chinese foreign minister sounded a reassuring note about North Korea after Trump complained Beijing might be disrupting diplomatic efforts due to its trade dispute with Washington. The official, Kong Xuanyou, said there has been "positive momentum" and Beijing is in "close coordination" with Washington.

"We will stay in touch



Tourists peek through the telescopes into North Korea as a truck crosses the friendship bridge connecting China and North Korea

with the United States through various channels in a joint effort to uphold peace and stability on the peninsula to facilitate the political settlement of the

Korean issue," Kong said. If the governments involved "candid discussions as equals," then "all the questions will find the right answers," he said. AP

Tokyo's reign as world's largest city fades

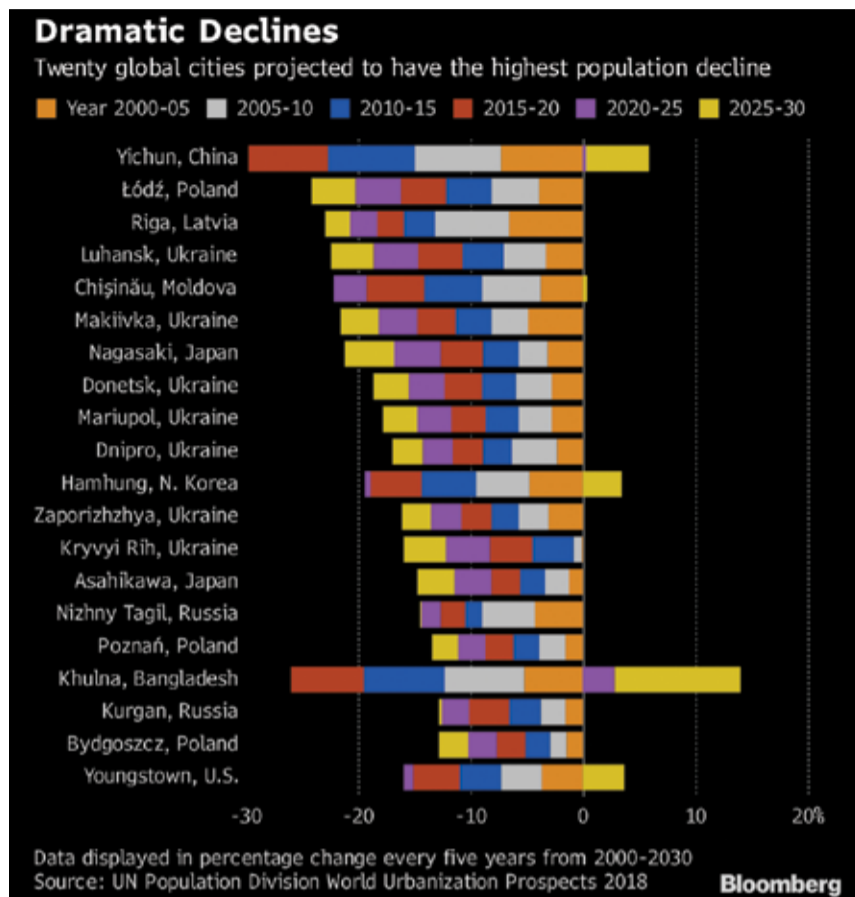
Alex Tanzi, Wei Lu

YEARS of low fertility, emigration, political strife, economic contraction and natural disasters have contributed to population losses in some global cities, according to data released by the United Nations. Most of the cities with falling populations are located in Asia and eastern Europe, such as Japan, Poland, Romania, Russia and Ukraine, where overall population sizes have been either stagnating or in decline.

As of 2018, Tokyo is still the world's largest city with 37 million inhabitants, but its growth has plateaued and is projected to begin declining around 2020, while Delhi continues the ascend to become the most populous city in the world in 2028.

In the Land of the Rising Sun population declines are widespread. Between 2030 and 2035, 63 urban areas, out of a total of 1,800 in the world, with a population of 300,000 inhabitants or more in 2018, are expected to shrink. Of which, 33, or more than half of them are in Japan. By the end of the century there could be 50 million fewer Japanese than there were at its peak.

Looking at approximately one



generation's time from 2000 to 2030, the population of three industrial cities in China's Yichun, in the northeast province of Heilongjiang, Youngstown in Ohio, United States and Hamhung, in

the Hamgyong province of North Korean are expected to fall in size significantly.

Among the most populous cities in 2000, some will make a dramatic change by 2030. New York-

Newark metropolitan area, will be pushed out of top 10. Paris, France, the only Western European entry in 2000, will place number 35 in 2030, with a forecast of 11.7 million people. Seoul, South Ko-

rea, with an estimated annualized growth rate of less than 0.1 percent, second lowest to Osaka, Japan's negligible rate of growth will be pushed to No. 42 in 2030, a 24 place drop in rank. **Bloomberg**

Times They Are A-Changin'
Population ranking shifts among the world's largest urban centers

2030 Rank	Location	Pop, M	Country	Total %	2000 Rank	Location	Pop, M	Country	Total %
1	Delhi, India	38.94M	India	2.6%	1	Tokyo, Japan	34.45M	Japan	27.0%
2	Tokyo, Japan	36.57M	Japan	30.1%	2	Osaka, Japan	18.66M	Japan	14.6%
3	Shanghai, China	32.87M	China	2.3%	3	Mexico City, Mexico	18.46M	Mexico	18.1%
4	Dhaka, Bangladesh	28.08M	Bangladesh	15.1%	4	New York, U.S.	17.81M	U.S.	6.3%
5	Cairo, Egypt	25.52M	Egypt	21.3%	5	Sao Paulo, Brazil	17.01M	Brazil	9.7%
6	Mumbai, India	24.57M	India	1.6%	6	Mumbai, India	16.16M	India	1.6%
7	Beijing, China	24.28M	China	1.7%	7	Delhi, India	15.69M	India	1.5%
8	Mexico City, Mexico	24.11M	Mexico	16.3%	8	Shanghai, China	14.25M	China	1.1%
9	Sao Paulo, Brazil	23.82M	Brazil	10.6%	9	Cairo, Egypt	13.63M	Egypt	19.5%
10	Kinshasa, DR Congo	21.91M	DR Congo	18.2%	10	Kolkata, India	13.10M	India	1.2%
11	Lagos, Nigeria	20.60M	Nigeria	7.8%	11	Buenos Aires, Argentina	12.50M	Argentina	33.7%
12	Karachi, Pakistan	20.43M	Pakistan	8.4%	12	Los Angeles, U.S.	11.80M	U.S.	4.2%
13	New York, U.S.	19.96M	U.S.	5.8%	13	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	11.31M	Brazil	6.5%
14	Chongqing, China	19.65M	China	1.4%	14	Beijing, China	10.29M	China	0.8%
15	Osaka, Japan	18.66M	Japan	15.3%	15	Dhaka, Bangladesh	10.28M	Bangladesh	7.8%
16	Kolkata, India	17.58M	India	1.2%	16	Moscow, Russia	10.00M	Russia	6.8%
17	Istanbul, Turkey	17.12M	Turkey	19.4%	17	Manila, Philippines	9.96M	Philippines	12.8%
18	Lahore, Pakistan	16.88M	Pakistan	6.9%	18	Seoul, S. Korea	9.88M	S. Korea	20.8%
19	Manila, Philippines	16.84M	Philippines	13.4%	19	Karachi, Pakistan	9.83M	Pakistan	7.1%
20	Buenos Aires, Argentina	16.46M	Argentina	33.4%	20	Paris, France	9.74M	France	16.3%

Source: UN Population Division World Urbanization Prospects 2018
Bloomberg

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In this March 30, 2017, file photo, ousted South Korean President Park Geun-hye, center, arrives at the Seoul Central District Court



In this Dec. 17, 2016 file photo, protesters shout slogans during a rally against the impeached Park Geun-hye

Hyung-Jin Kim, Kim Tong-Hyung

Did S. Korea army plot coup to keep ousted leader in power?

A group of army generals rolling tanks and troops into Seoul to seize power. Paratroopers firing at large crowds calling for democracy. Tanks and armored vehicles stationed at universities to intimidate student protesters.

Such scenes of military intervention in South Korea have been nonexistent since the country achieved democracy in the late 1980s. But revelations this past week of a document showing the military drafted plans to mobilize troops to suppress protests last year have struck a nerve among people in one of Asia's most vibrant and wealthiest democracies. Some allege the plans even included a scenario for a coup.

The memories of brutal, military-backed dictatorships that imprisoned, tortured and executed dissidents remain vivid to many South Koreans. But most experts say the actual chances for another coup in South Korea are extremely low. A look at the explosive revelations and why a coup is nearly impossible to pull off today:

ERUPTION OF SCANDAL

A controversy over the military plans arose last week when a ruling party lawmaker disclosed a document drafted by a military intelligence unit that showed plans to deploy troops if protests grew violent following a court ruling in March 2017 that would determine the fate of conservative then-President Park Geun-hye. Lawmakers had impeached Park over broad corruption allegations in December 2016.

The document written by the Defense Security Command describes a military response to protests both in support of and against Park. After the Constitutional Court ruled to formally remove Park from office, fierce rallies erupted denouncing the

court verdict but weren't serious enough to pose a threat to national security. The plans for troop deployment weren't carried out.

However, Lim Tae-hoon, an activist who analyzed the document, said the plans were clearly targeted at a much larger group of anti-Park protesters, who poured onto the streets in their millions to passionately but peacefully call for Park's ouster.

Pointing out that the document included plans for martial law and contemplated how the army could bypass the military's normal chain of command to quickly deploy large forces to Seoul, Lim raised suspicions that a closed group of army leaders plotted a coup to increase Park's powers if she survived the attempt to oust her.

“They were ready to make pathetic and frantic efforts to serve their interests if the court had rescued Park's presidency.”

KIM DONG-YUB
SEOUL'S INSTITUTE FOR FAR
EASTERN STUDIES.

“There was no reason at all for the army to prepare plans to deploy troops and even consider martial law,” Lim said.

Following a public outcry,

Park's liberal successor, Moon Jae-in, who won the presidential election in May last year, ordered an investigation into the document. Baek Hye-ryun, a lawmaker from Moon's party, said it would have been “no different than a coup” if army leaders had plotted to use drastic measures to crack down on anti-Park protesters.

Military experts downplay such views. Despite the peaceful nature of the protests, the military is obligated to prepare for exceptional situations where troop intervention is required to maintain order, they say.

Kim Dong-yub, a former South Korean military official, said it's clear that the creators of the document “were held captive by the past.” Still, it would be excessive to say there were plans for a coup, he said.

“They were ready to make pathetic and frantic efforts to serve their interests if the court had rescued Park's presidency,” said Kim, now an analyst at Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies.

IS A COUP EVEN POSSIBLE?

None of the five military experts interviewed by The Associated Press believed there was a real chance a coup could happen in 21st century South Korea. “There's not even a 0.1 percent chance for that,” said Kim Taewoo, former president of the Korea Institute for National Unification in Seoul.

Here's why experts find a coup virtually impossible:

— Ubiquitous smartphones and internet services in South Korea would make it extremely

difficult for rebels to keep their coup plans confidential and sneak troops to large population areas. South Korea is one of the world's most wired nations, with about eight out of every 10 citizens having smartphones.

— Coup forces would try to seize TV stations and newspapers to dictate the flow of information and force their message to the public. But that's much harder to do in the age of live streams on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

— Tanks and other military vehicles mobilized by coup forces would probably never reach Seoul in time, bogged down by the metropolitan area's notorious traffic.

— Most importantly, many young soldiers and officers, born and raised in a full-fledged democracy, likely wouldn't follow orders if their commanders turn against their own citizens.

“The sense of citizenship by our soldiers is totally different from the past. If they got an unjust order to point their guns at their own citizens, not at North Korea, I doubt they would follow such orders,” said Seoul-based military expert Kim Dae-young.

South Korea has more than 600,000 troops, a majority of them men in their 20s drafted into a two-year mandatory service.

PAST MILITARY RULES

The fierce public reaction to the document is partly tied to Park's family history. She is the daughter of staunch anti-communist dictator Park Chung-hee, a late general-turned-autocrat who ruled South Korea for nearly 20 years before he was assassinated

by his own spy chief in 1979.

Park Chung-hee led several thousand marines, paratroopers and other combat forces that moved into Seoul in the early hours of May 16, 1961, in the country's first successful coup. During his rule, he occasionally proclaimed martial law and other decrees to crack down on protests and jail critics.

He had previously survived two attempts on his life and justified his dictatorship with the threat posed by what he called belligerent North Korea. Proponents remember him as a hero who achieved a rapid industrialization and lifted the nation from the devastation of the 1950-53 Korean War, but opponents call him a ruthless leader with a bloody record of civilian oppression.

Less than two months after Park Chung-hee's death, Maj. Gen. Chun Doo-hwan and his military cronies drove tanks and troops into Seoul in December 1979 in the country's second successful coup. The next year, he orchestrated a brutal military crackdown on a pro-democracy uprising in the southern city of Gwangju, killing at least 200 people.

In the summer of 1987, massive street protests forced Chun's government to accept direct presidential elections. However, his army buddy Roh Tae-woo, who had joined Chun's 1979 coup, won the election held later in 1987 thanks largely to divided votes among liberal opposition candidates.

After leaving office, both Chun and Roh were arrested and spent time in prison on bribery, treason and other charges. AP

Charges undermine Assange denials about hacked email origins

Raphael Satter, Desmond Butler

At the beginning of 2017, one of Julian Assange's biggest media boosters traveled to the WikiLeaks founder's refuge inside the Ecuadorian Embassy in London and asked him where he got the leaks that shook up the U.S. presidential election only months earlier.

Fox News host Sean Hannity pointed straight to the purloined emails from the Democratic National Committee and Hillary Clinton's campaign chairman.

"Can you say to the American people, unequivocally, that you did not get this information about the DNC, John Podesta's emails, can you tell the American people 1,000 percent you did not get it from Russia or anybody associated with Russia?"

"Yes," Assange said. "We can say — we have said repeatedly — over the last two months that our source is not the Russian government and it is not a state party."

The Justice Department's indictment Friday of 12 Russian military intelligence officers undermines those denials. And if the criminal charges are proved, it would show that WikiLeaks (referred to as "Organization 1" in the indictment) received the material from Guccifer 2.0, a persona directly controlled by Russia's Main Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff, also known as GRU, and even gave the Russian hackers advice on how to disseminate it.

Whether Assange knew that those behind Guccifer 2.0 were Russian agents is not addressed in the indictment. But it seems unlikely that Assange, a former hacker



WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange greets supporters from a balcony of the Ecuadorian embassy in London

who once boasted of having compromised U.S. military networks himself, could have missed the extensive coverage blaming the Kremlin for the DNC hack.

Assange told Hannity he exercised exclusive control over WikiLeaks' releases. "There is one person in the world, and I think it's actually only one, who knows exactly what's going on with our publications and that's me," Assange said.

On June 22, 2016, by which point the online publication Motherboard had already debunked Guccifer 2.0's claim to be a lone Romanian hacker, WikiLeaks sent a typo-ridden message to the persona, saying that releasing the material through WikiLeaks would have "a much higher impact than what you are doing," the indictment states.

"If you have anything hillary related we want it in the next [two] days pref[er]able because the DNC is approaching and she will solidify bernie supporters behind her after," says a message from July 6, 2016, referring to the upcoming Democratic National

Convention and Clinton's chief party rival, Bernie Sanders.

The exchange appears to point to a desire to undercut Clinton by playing up divisions within the Democratic camp. "we think trump has only a 25% chance of winning against hillary ... so conflict between bernie and hillary is interesting," the message says.

The indictment also puts to rest a conspiracy theory, carefully nurtured by Assange and his supporters

At that time in the campaign, there were simmering tensions between the supporters of Clinton and Sanders that would come to a head during the convention because of the hacked emails.

WikiLeaks and a lawyer for Assange, Melinda Taylor, did not re-

turn messages seeking comment on the indictment or the exchanges with Guccifer 2.0.

Assange's eagerness to get his hands on the alleged material from GRU reflected in the indictment — and prevent anyone else from beating WikiLeaks to the punch — is also revealed in leaked messages to journalist Emma Best. She, like several other reporters, also was in communication with Guccifer 2.0.

In copies of Twitter messages obtained by The Associated Press and first reported by BuzzFeed, WikiLeaks demands that Best butt out.

"Please 'leave' their convers[a]tion with them and us," WikiLeaks said on August 13, 2016, arguing that the impact of material would be "very substantially reduced" if Best handled the leak.

Best told BuzzFeed she dropped the matter. About an hour after the conversation ended, Guccifer 2.0 announced on Twitter that it was sending a "major trove" of data and emails to WikiLeaks.

The indictment also puts to rest a conspiracy theory, carefully

nurtured by Assange and his supporters, that slain DNC staffer Seth Rich was at the origin of the leaks.

Rich died in July 2016 in what police in the District of Columbia say was a botched robbery. But the tragedy became fodder for conspiracy theorists who pushed the unfounded allegation that Rich, 27, had been providing information to the hackers and was killed for it.

It was Assange who first floated the idea into the mainstream, bringing up Rich's case in an interview with Dutch television the following month.

"What are you suggesting?" the startled anchor asked him. "I'm suggesting that our sources take risks and they become concerned to see things occurring like that," Assange answered.

The anchor pressed Assange repeatedly, eventually saying: "It's quite something to suggest a murder. That's basically what you're doing."

Over the next few months, WikiLeaks would continue to amplify the conspiracy theory — all while stopping short of endorsing it outright. During all this time, the indictment alleges, WikiLeaks knew full well that Guccifer 2.0 was its source, cajoling the account's operators to hand it more data and ordering rival journalists to steer clear.

The conspiracy theory has been a source of deep pain for Rich's family, who declined to comment on the indictment.

Lisa Lynch, an associate professor of media and communications at Drew University who has written about WikiLeaks, said the indictment highlighted the cynicism of WikiLeaks' wink-wink support for conspiracy theories.

"We can see very well-intentioned people arguing about whether those documents should be published," Lynch said of the DNC documents. "But the whole Seth Rich thing is incredibly venal." AP

HAITI

Prime minister resigns amid fuel price hike fallout

Ezequiel Abiu Lopez, Evens Sanon

HAITIAN Prime Minister Jack Guy Lafontant resigned Saturday amid calls for him to step down over his handling of a failed plan to raise fuel prices that set off a wave of deadly protests.

Lafontant told Haiti's Chamber of Deputies that he sent President Jovenel Moise his resignation letter. Moise confirmed via Twitter that he had accepted Lafontant's resignation along with those of other Cabinet members.

The prime minister's

abrupt resignation came ahead of a vote on a motion of censure Lafontant, a first step toward asking that Moise name a new prime minister to form a Cabinet to handle the crisis. The prime minister is the second highest official in Haiti after the president.

Lafontant was to answer questions about the July 6-8 riots that followed the government's attempt to raise fuel prices by up to 51 percent as part of an agreement with the International Monetary Fund. At least seven people were killed and dozens of busi-

nesses were looted during the unrest.

Instead, Lafontant used the opportunity to announce his resignation, while in various parts of Haiti's small protests were held demanding the head of state step down.

As the session began, chamber president Gary Bodaue wrote on his Twitter account that the legislature "is at a crossroads in history; it must assume its responsibilities." He had earlier called the price hikes "untimely" and "inoperative."

Lafontant suspended the fuel prices increases after

protests erupted last week but the disturbances continued and calls for the prime minister to resign grew, including from the opposition and some business groups.

Lafontant, a 57-year-old doctor who took office in March 2017, had said the price hikes of 38 percent to 51 percent for gasoline, diesel and kerosene were needed for Haiti to balance its budget.

Government officials agreed to reduce subsidies for fuel in February as part of an assistance package with the IMF. The agreement also included



People run after cars were set on fire near the Best Western hotel during protests over a fuel price increase in Port-au-Prince

increased spending on social services and infrastructure and improved tax collection in an effort to modernize the economy of one of the poorest na-

tions in the Western Hemisphere.

Lafontant's replacement will be nominated by Moise and confirmed by the Senate. AP

Jesse J. Holland, Russell Contreras

Trump's remarks about changing European culture draw ire

PRESIDENT Donald Trump's lament this week that immigration is "changing the culture" of Europe echoed rising anti-immigrant feelings on both sides of the Atlantic, where Europe and the United States are going through a demographic transformation that makes some of the white majority uncomfortable.

Historians and advocates immediately denounced Trump's comments, saying such talk would encourage white nationalists.

"The way he put this argument about changing our culture [...] about Europe becoming less nice than it is, in other words, these people are here and they are making the culture crappy and making the place lesser, that's straight out of the white supremacist/white nationalist playbook," said Heidi Beirich, director of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Project.

Trump, in an interview with the British newspaper *The Sun*, blamed immigration for a changing culture in Europe: "I think allowing millions and millions of people to come into Europe is very, very sad. I think you are losing your culture. Look around. You go through certain areas that didn't exist ten or 15 years ago."

Trump, the grandson of a German immigrant and the son of a Scottish immigrant to the United States, repeated his contention at a news conference with British Prime Minister Theresa May:

"I just think it's changing the culture. I think it's a very negative thing for Europe. I think it's very negative," he said. "I think it's very much hurt other parts of Europe. And I know it's politically not necessarily correct to say that, but I'll say it and I'll say it loud. And I think they better watch themselves because you are changing culture, you are changing a lot of things." Beirich called those comments "racist."

Claire M. Massey, a scholar at

the Institute for British and North American Studies at Ernst-Moritz-Arndt Universität in Greifswald, Germany, said Trump's comments were "awfully painful," especially for the United Kingdom, where immigration has played a key role in rebuilding the country after World War II. "England and the United Kingdom wouldn't be what it is today without immigrants," she said.

I think allowing millions and millions of people to come into Europe is very, very sad. I think you are losing your culture.

DONALD TRUMP

Massey said Trump's comments remind her of the rhetoric coming from neo-Nazis in Germany and Poland. The comments will embolden the far-right in Europe at a time when many European nations are already very diverse.

Lisbon, Portugal, for example, is now home to sizable and visible Brazilian, Cape Verdean, and Angolan populations. The immigrant groups and their Portuguese-born children have helped revitalize areas of the cities once in disrepair and have a presence in everything from professional

AP PHOTO



Protestors holding banners gather after a march opposed to the visit of the U.S. President in Trafalgar Square, London

football teams to popular culture.

Portuguese Mozambique-born fado singer Mariza is among the nation's most beloved performers.

In France, immigrants from the Middle East and Africa have settled throughout Paris and have drawn the ire of the far-right and even some moderates over the city's changing makeup. Then-French Prime Minister François Fillon decreed in 2011 that women were banned from wearing face veils outside of the home except in mosques or as car passengers. A European court later upheld the ban, saying the intent was to unify the country, but not before an outcry by human rights activists.

Throughout England, from London to Liverpool, immigrants from Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the former British colonies in the Caribbean have reshaped various neighborhoods, drawing scorn from members of the far-right and some rural residents who blamed the European Union and immigrants for the economic struggles of once-prosperous mining regions.

The United States is also going

through a demographic shift. The Census Bureau estimates that the country's population will have more minorities than whites for the first time in 2043, a change due in part to higher birth rates among Hispanics and a stagnating or declining birth rate among blacks, whites and Asians.

Trump's public life has been filled with controversial statements about immigrants.

In the first moments of his presidential campaign in June 2015, he called for the construction of a border wall with Mexico and accused the country of sending migrants who were "bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people."

He continually used dark imagery to depict immigrants as dangerous invaders. Then, in the aftermath of a terrorist attack that December in San Bernardino, California, that was carried out by a U.S.-born Muslim and his Pakistani wife, who was a legal U.S. resident, Trump called for barring all Muslims from entering the country. The Supreme Court eventually upheld his executive order banning travel from several

mostly Muslim countries, rejecting challenges that it discriminated against Muslims or exceeded his authority.

In January, Trump questioned why the U.S. would accept more immigrants from Haiti and "shithole countries" in Africa as he rejected a bipartisan immigration deal, according to one participant and people briefed on the conversation.

In recent weeks, Trump bowed to tremendous political pressure and issued an executive order ending his administration's practice of separating migrant children from their parents when families cross the border with Mexico illegally.

Paul A. Kramer, a Vanderbilt University historian who specializes in the politics of inequality in the United States, said Trump's most recent comments were an intentional attempt to ally himself and his base in the United States with the far-right nationalist movements in Europe.

"The rising tide of white nationalism is something that he embraces, that he sees himself as participating in and that he wants to encourage," Kramer said. **AP**

NICARAGUA

Students reunite with families after attacks

AP PHOTO



A student, who had taken refuge at the Jesus of Divine Mercy church amid a barrage of armed attacks, is embraced by a relative

MORE than 200 Nicaraguan university students were reunited with their parents Saturday after a tense night of armed attacks that left two dead and dozens wounded.

The students had sought refuge in a local church after police forced them out of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, which had been occupied during two months of protests against the government of President Daniel Ortega.

"It was a really hard night. They discharged their entire heavy arsenal against

stones and mortars," said a sobbing young man who declined to give his name out of fear. "They wanted to kill us all."

Father Raul Zamora said the students came under fire at the Jesus of Divine Mercy church for more than 12 hours. He said a journalist from *The Washington Post* and a journalist from the BBC exited the church safely earlier Saturday, along with some wounded students who needed urgent hospital care.

The police onslaught was televised by local me-

dia outlets and covered by three local journalists who reported via Facebook Live. Students fearing for their lives sent farewell messages to friends and family. "I did it for the country and I don't regret it," a crying girl said in a video that went viral. "Forgive me mama, I love you."

The police have not issued official statements.

Two students were killed, Roman Catholic cardinal Leopoldo Brenes said.

On Saturday morning, Cardinal Brenes negotiated with the president's office for the safe transfer of

students out of the church and to the Metropolitan cathedral, where representatives from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights were on hand. "We have said not one more death, and this keeps happening," Brenes said. "These two deaths hurt."

Tensions in Nicaragua erupted this spring after the government announced cuts to social security. The changes were quickly reversed, but students took to the streets and occupied the main university with a wider call for Ortega to step down.

The crisis has left around 270 dead and more than 2,000 wounded as forces loyal to the government crack down on opponents. **AP**

what's ON



SCULPTURE – A JOURNEY, EXHIBITION BY ANTONIO LEÇA

TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)

UNTIL: October 21, 2018

VENUE: A2 Gallery, Albergue SCM

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

CATALOGUE EXHIBITION IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACAU MUSEUM

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

UNTIL: August 30, 2018

VENUE: Kun Iam Ecumenical Centre

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 1516

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

TIME: 10am-5pm daily (closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do Seminário

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

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

Offbeat

FINNISH BREWERY CREATES QUIRKY BEER FOR TRUMP-PUTIN SUMMIT

AP PHOTO



A small Finnish craft brewery is paying a humorous tribute to the Helsinki summit.

RPS Brewing has issued a limited-edition lager depicting cartoon U.S. and Russian presidents on its label, with text for Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin saying "Let's Settle This Like Adults" and "Making Lager Great Again."

The beer has been in high demand since it hit the shelves nationwide a few days ago and the whole 10,000-bottle lot had been sold out ahead of Monday's summit. Samples have also been delivered to the U.S. and Russian embassies in Helsinki.

CEO Samuli Huuhtanen told The Associated Press on Saturday that "a couple of good beers can help any negotiations," especially if followed by a visit to a Finnish sauna.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscellaneous
16:05	Miscellaneous
16:55	Miscellaneous
17:10	Maternity
18:00	Non-daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:10	FIFA World Cup Diary
19:30	Portuguese Serie - Sr. 2
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Miscellaneous
22:15	Tech Tree
22:25	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Big Interview
00:45	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:30	RTPi Live

Cinema



CINETEATRO

12 - 18 JUL



ANT-MAN AND THE WASP

ROOM 1

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

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Evangeline Lilly, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 118min



SKYSCRAPER

ROOM 2

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

Director: Rawson Marshall Thurbe

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Neve Campbell, Chin Han

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 102min



BEIRUT

ROOM 3

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

Director: Brad Anderson

Starring: Jon Hamm, Rosamund Pike

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

CODE GLASS LELOUCH OF REBELLION III - GLORIFICATION

ROOM 3

9:15pm

Director: Goro Taniguchi

Starring: Jun Fukuyama, Takahiro Skurai, Yukana

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 140min

this day in history



1969 APOLLO 11 TAKES OFF FOR THE MOON

The Apollo 11 space rocket has taken off successfully from Cape Kennedy, Florida, at the start of the first attempt to land a man on the Moon. An estimated one million people gathered from all over the state to see the giant Saturn 5 booster rocket blast off. The launch was on schedule, at 1432 BST (1332 GMT).

Nine seconds before lift-off, the rocket's five engines ignited, sending a sheet of flame over the launch pad and about 20 acres of the surrounding marshland. Then with an immense roar, the booster rocket took off into the sky, taking Apollo 11 and the hopes of the world with it.

It is the first time human beings have attempted to land on another heavenly body. Almost 12 minutes later, Apollo 11 went into orbit around the Earth.

On board are three astronauts, Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin. All have already flown in space during the Gemini manned space missions, and have been intensively training as a team for many months.

They carry with them goodwill messages from the heads of the member states of the United Nations and their flags.

Two hours and 44 minutes after take-off, the engine of the third-stage booster was fired for five minutes and 47 seconds, and the speed increased to 24,545mph (39,500 km/h) to take the astronauts out of orbit and shoot them off to the Moon.

Neil Armstrong, the flight's commander, reported: "We have no complaint with any of the three stages on that ride. It was beautiful."

The launch was watched by US Vice-President Spiro Agnew, who said it marked a "new era of civilization".

"With the lift-off of Apollo 11, America enters a new age of discovery," he said.

Apollo 11 is scheduled to touch down on the Moon on Sunday 20 July if all goes well. Speaking at a news conference before the launch, Neil Armstrong said the landing on the Moon and the take-off from it were "the big unknowns".

The lunar module, known as Eagle, is scheduled to land on the Moon at 2100 BST (2000 GMT).

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

On 21 July 1969, right on schedule, Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the Moon, stepping onto the Moon's surface in the Sea of Tranquility at 0256 GMT.

He was joined by Buzz Aldrin 20 minutes later. The entire event was watched avidly by millions live on television across the world.

The Apollo 11 crew returned safely on 24 July and spent the next 21 days in quarantine at an American military base - a procedure dropped in subsequent missions since no alien organisms were found.

The Moon landing marked the pinnacle of the space race and American investment in the space programme declined accordingly.

The last three of the original 20 Apollo missions were cancelled, and the last lunar module, Apollo 17, landed in December 1972.

In January 2004 however, interest in missions to the Moon was rekindled when US President George Bush announced American astronauts would return to the Moon by 2020 as the launching point for journeys further into space.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Maybe you have your eye on a promotion at work...

Taurus April 20-May 20 Today at work, you may well experience sudden bright lights and a few rolling-thunder-type sounds...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Don't even think about leaving the building if you really don't want to. Your friends, siblings and neighbors may try to talk you out of it...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You might want to touch base with a close friend - somebody who knows you really well. They might be just the right helper for what you want to do...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You have a flair for communication. No, you don't just put things in black and white. Yes, you infuse your communicates with every color of the rainbow...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You're quite an able swimmer in the channels of communication. Whether the waters are rough or smooth, warm or a little bit icy and with a nip that makes other folks' toes curl...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Conservation isn't just for forest rangers, you know. Look around at how you spend your resources (money, energy, emotions, time). Ask yourself whether you're engaged in a renewable strategy...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Whether you use your hands and facial gestures but no sound (like a mime) or you use your voice over the loudspeaker (like a sports announcer) you need to communicate. You might use pictures...

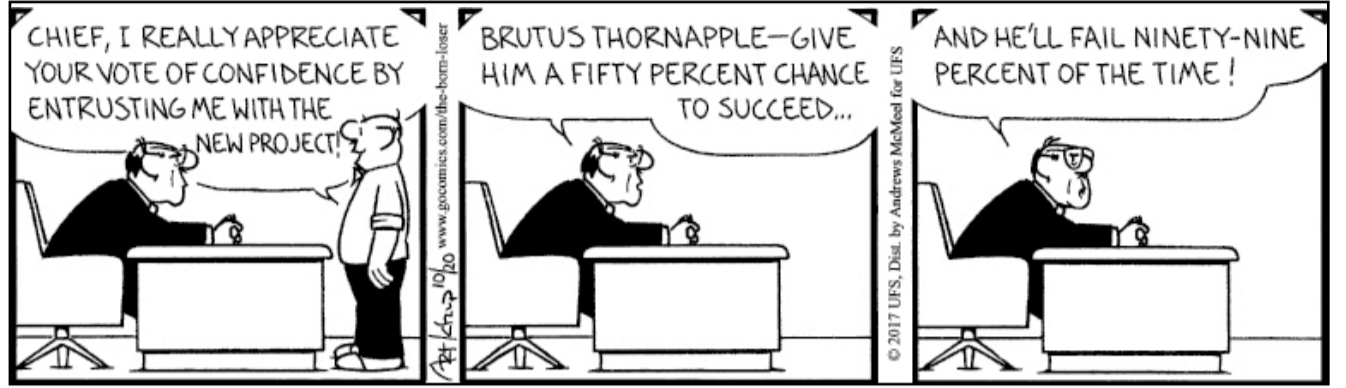
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You're meant for big things, yes. But maybe they aren't going to happen today. Or at least, there's nothing you can do to make them happen today. But that doesn't mean they aren't getting closer every day in every way...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Have you always wanted to learn French? Mandarin? Swahili? Or any of the world's many other languages? Learning a new language is, they say, like living another life...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 If there's a festering disagreement nobody wants to get into, and it's plaguing one of your relationships, don't let it fester any longer than it has already. A wound has to be cleaned...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 There's no question that you can handle pressure. You can. You have before and you will now. No, the question is how you handle it. Do you make sure you maintain a healthy diet...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

Easy Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 7, 5, 6, 1, 4, 2, 9, 3, 7, 6, 2, 5, 3, 1, 4, 8, 9, 9, 8, 6, 4, 1, 8, 2

Easy+

Easy+ Sudoku grid with numbers 9, 7, 5, 6, 5, 8, 4, 9, 5, 2, 8, 7, 6, 9, 1, 3, 7, 1, 9, 2, 3, 8, 1, 6, 4

Medium

Medium Sudoku grid with numbers 8, 9, 7, 3, 4, 7, 3, 6, 6, 1, 5, 3, 9, 3, 6, 9, 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 1, 2, 9, 6, 2, 4, 8, 3

Hard

Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 7, 9, 3, 5, 1, 2, 3, 7, 1, 9, 4, 6, 7, 3, 1, 2, 8

WEATHER

Weather table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table of weather conditions for various Chinese cities: Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong.

WORLD

Table of weather conditions for various world cities: Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Island near Sicily; 6- Praise; 10- Part of ETA; 13- Donkeys; 14- Initial stake in a hand of poker; 15- Actor Guinness; 16- Bridges; 17- Intend; 18- Rocket launcher; 19- Sets of equipment; 20- Reconsider; 22- Catches sight of; 24- Low bow; 28- Methuselah's claim to fame; 31- Curt; 32- Lauder of cosmetics; 34- Numbered hwy.; 36- Playthings; 37- "Wheel of Fortune" buy; 38- Place in a bank account; 41- Gore and Hirt; 42- Touched down; 44- Give ___ break!; 45- Ornamental coronet; 47- Capital of Vietnam; 49- Hymn; 51- Middy nap; 53- A place for vacationers; 56- Having a resemblance; 59- Muddy up; 61- Color quality; 64- Yours, in Tours; 65- Conductor Georg; 66- Egyptian fertility goddess; 67- And ___ goes; 68- Silk fabric; 69- Fast flier; 70- Juniors, perhaps; 71- Curved letters;

DOWN: 1- Face covering; 2- Easy ___; 3- Atty.-to-be exams; 4- Sawbuck; 5- Pompous sort; 6- San Diego suburb; 7- Work without ___; 8- Mormon state of western USA; 9- Actor Leary; 10- Carte start; 11- Hi-___; 12- Color TV pioneer; 15- Short sock; 20- Cash in; 21- Writer Hentoff; 23- ___ Three Lives; 25- Bellowing; 26- Sanctuaries; 27- Untidy condition; 29- Moan; 30- Little green men; 32- China's Zhou ___; 33- River that flows through Paris; 35- One or the other; 37- Sounds of relief; 39- Legume; 40- Evens the score; 43- Throws; 46- Disposed to love; 48- Lord, is ___?; 50- Characteristics; 52- Gather; 54- Tumbles; 55- Name; 57- Langston Hughes poem; 58- Cut of beef; 60- Untruths, tells falsehoods; 61- ___ the season...; 62- CIA predecessor; 63- It may be picked; 65- ___-Foy, Quebec;

Friday's solution crossword grid with words filled in.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-71.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



AD

Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' sections with property details and contact information.

Russian women push back at shaming over World Cup dating

Francesca Ebel, Moscow

HUNDREDS of thousands of foreign men have flooded into Russia for the monthlong World Cup, setting off a fierce debate in the host nation about the roles and rights of women.

Russian women who have dated the football fans have been shamed by some Russian commentators, denounced for allegedly undermining the country's morals and gene pool.

The widespread, vehement criticism has shown the dominance of patriarchal and sexist views in Russia, where the concept of gender equality is a generation behind that of the West's.

Still, the reaction against Russian women's World Cup dalliances has been so strong that some feminists in Russia think it could actually advance their cause by shocking even conservative women who wouldn't identify themselves as feminists.

"Even those women [are saying] 'Enough is enough, you've gone too far!'" feminist writer Snezhana Gribatskaya said.

A 27-year-old Moscow beautician named Mariam was one of those who fell for a foreign visitor, a Mexican football fan named Omar who asked her for directions to Red Square.

"He was so kind and respectful to me," she said. "It's because of this that I fell in love with him."

She did not give her last name because she said the romance was a personal matter.

Yet to many Russians, her actions seem disgraceful.

"This is an era of sluts!" wrote Platon Besedin, a columnist for the Moskovsky Komsomolets newspaper. "Russian women are bringing shame to themselves and their country."

A popular forum on the VKontakte social media service has



posted hundreds of videos of Russian women dancing and kissing foreign football fans, prompting vehement condemnations of those alleged to be "ruining the country's gene pool."

It's crazy that there are no equal rights and that there is such a dangerous attitude toward women.

ALENA POPOVA
FEMINIST BLOGGER

In the first week of the global football tournament, Russian lawmaker Tamara Pletnyova warned Russian women against becoming romantically involved with foreigners, lest they should end up raising their children alone.

She added it was even more of a problem if the men were from a different race.

The next day, her colleague Mikhail Degtyaryov stepped forward to do damage control.

"The more love stories we have connected to the world championship, the more people from different countries fall in love, the more children are born, the better," Degtyaryov said.

Burger King stumbled badly while trying to counter the censorious attitudes in Russia. It ended up being harshly criticized when it offered 3 million rubles (USD48,000) and a lifetime of Whopper burgers to any Russian woman impregnated by a World Cup player.

After the publication of Besedin's column, the staff at Russia's Cosmopolitan Magazine started a petition calling for its removal from the newspaper's website. It has garnered over 53,000 signatures.

"We were outraged by the fact that they decided they can actually control our sex life — who we kiss or go on dates with," said

Gribatskaya, who led the drive.

Although some women have achieved powerful positions in Russia — including the widely respected central bank chief Elvira Nabiullina — their proportions at the top are much lower than in the West. That's especially notable given that the Russian population is about 54 percent female, one of the world's biggest gender imbalances.

"In a country where the majority of the population are women, it's crazy that there are no equal rights and that there is such a dangerous attitude toward women," said feminist blogger Alena Popova.

Gribatskaya traces the attitudes about women to the role of the Russian Orthodox Church in Russian society and the "traditional values" that have become government policy under President Vladimir Putin. Last year, Putin signed a law that decriminalized some forms of domestic violence.

"I think now a great number of women are thinking 'Who is this all for?' and more and more are joining the fight for equality, for

respect," Gribatskaya said.

Mariam, enamored of her Mexican beau, sees the World Cup as a wake-up call for Russia's males, whose average life expectancy is only 66½ years and whose health is often affected by smoking and heavy drinking.

"They had better make sure other girls aren't scooped up," she said. "[Foreigners] have a completely different attitude toward women. They are very well-mannered and cordial."

Yuri Dud, a prominent sports journalist, suggested that she has a point.

"Foreigners are much more attractive than us [...] they keep themselves fit, they smell nice," Dud wrote in a commentary declaring that Russian women should be able to sleep with whomever they want.

A 30-year-old Russian woman named Yulia, sporting a bright yellow Brazilian football shirt, joked about the possible benefits to Russia of such cross-cultural alliances.

"These men are definitely popular here — maybe in 18 years we'll even have decent national football team!" she said, adding that she did not want her last name used out of privacy concerns.

Omar has gone home, although Mariam said they stay in touch, and it remains to be seen whether the foreign suitors will live up to Russian women's expectations in the long run.

FIFA, football's governing body, has acknowledged that sexism is a problem during the World Cup. It recently suggested a few remedies, including making sure that fewer attractive women at football stadiums are shown on TV broadcasts of the matches.

One Russian feminist noted that even FIFA's solution is sexist.

"Publicly dividing women into attractive and unattractive ones is as bad as it can get," Anna Fedorova wrote on Facebook. "In other words, if you are shown on television sitting in the stands, hooray! FIFA has judged you to be unattractive enough." AP

AD

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Graham Dunbar, Moscow

France wins 2nd World Cup title, beats Croatia 4-2

KYLIAN Mbappe and France put on a thrilling show in winning the World Cup title. All Russian President Vladimir Putin might remember is the Pussy Riot protest.

The 19-year-old Mbappe became only the second teenager after Pele to score in a World Cup final, helping France beat Croatia 4-2 today [Macau time].

Mbappe had just shown his electrifying speed in the 52nd minute when play was held up by four protesters who ran onto the field in the second half. Russian punk band Pussy Riot later took credit for the incident — watched from the VIP seats by Putin, whose government once jailed members of the activist group.

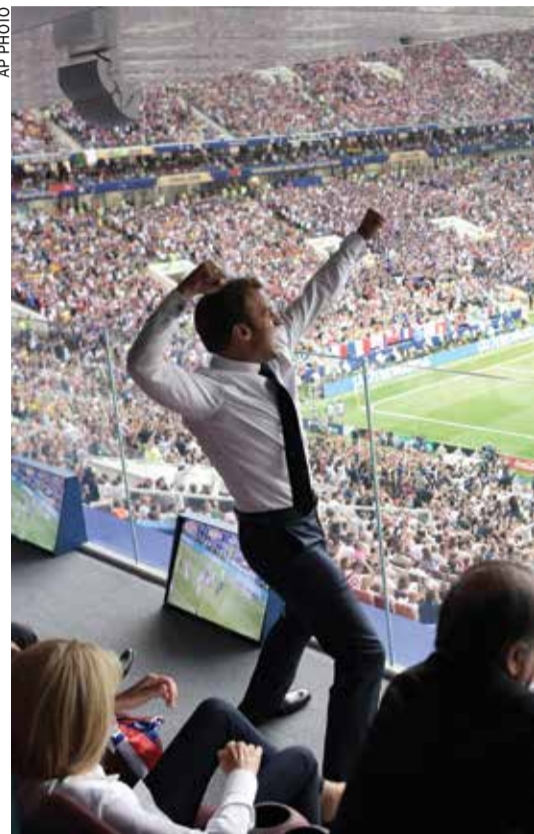
■ **The only other teen to score in final was Pele, who was 17 when Brazil beat Sweden 5-2 in 1958**

About 12 minutes after play resumed, Mbappe sent a right-footed shot past Croatia goalkeeper Danijel Subasic.

The only other teen to score in a World Cup final was Pele, who was 17 when Brazil beat Sweden 5-2 in 1958.

Mbappe, who plays for Paris Saint-Germain in the French league, was born months after France first won its only other World Cup title in 1998.

Putin was later on the field during a downpour to award the World Cup trophy to France



French President Emmanuel Macron celebrates a goal



Kylian Mbappe (right) scores his side's fourth goal during the final match

captain Hugo Lloris.

Paul Pogba and Antoine Griezmann, France's two other key players, also scored at the Luzhniki Stadium.

But it was Mbappe who put the match out of reach with a furious passage of play. In the 59th, a run from Mbappe started a play that ended up with Pogba on the edge of the penalty area. With his second attempt, the midfielder curled his shot beyond Subasic.

Griezmann scored from the penalty spot in the 38th minute after a video review. About four minutes after his corner kick

was knocked out of play, the referee ruled Ivan Perisic had handled the ball on the way.

France took the lead in the 18th when Croatia's tallest outfield player, 1.90-meter forward Mario Mandzukic, rose to meet Griezmann's free kick with the top of his head. He inadvertently sent it past his own goalkeeper.

Perisic and Mandzukic both scored for Croatia, first to equalize in the 28th minute and later as a consolation goal in the 69th, embarrassing Lloris with a flicked shot as the France goalkeeper tried to dribble the ball out of his goalmouth. **AP**

PUSSY RIOT CLAIMS ON-FIELD PROTEST

RUSSIAN PROTEST group Pussy Riot has claimed responsibility for four people who ran onto the field and disrupted the World Cup final. The punk band says in a statement posted on their Twitter feed Sunday that the disruption was a protest. The four people who charged onto the field in the 52nd minute simultaneously in what appeared to be old-fashioned police uniforms were tackled to the ground by stewards. Croatia defender Dejan Lovren pushed a male protester, helping a steward to detain him.



Belgium finishes 3rd, defeats England 2-0

James Ellingworth, St. Petersburg

FOR Belgium and England, the third-place match at the World Cup was more like a dress rehearsal for future finals. At least they hope.

The Belgians earned their best World Cup finish by beating England 2-0 on Saturday in a match both saw as the start of a push for the European Championship title in 2020 or the World Cup in 2022.

"With this winning mentality you can win trophies," said Eden Hazard, who scored Belgium's second goal. "In two years, in four years, we will be



Hazard (left) celebrates with teammates after scoring his side's 2nd goal

better. We have young players. They are very good also in the team. They push all of us."

Thomas Meunier and Hazard both scored at St.

Petersburg Stadium in a match between the two semifinal losers.

The French beat Belgium on Tuesday in the semifinals, while the

Croats defeated England on Wednesday.

England matched its best World Cup result — fourth in 1990 — since winning the tournament for the only time in 1966.

"Today shows there's room for improvement. We're not the finished article. We're still learning. We're still getting better," England striker Harry Kane said. "We don't want to wait another 20-odd years to get into another major semifinal."

Both Belgium and England were playing for the seventh time in 26 days, but the Belgians entered the match with an extra day of rest.

Meunier's goal matched a World Cup record for Belgium by having 10 different players score in a tournament, something only done before by France in 1982 and Italy in 2006.

Meunier scored in the fourth minute, knocking a cross from Nacer Chadli past England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford. Hazard added the other off a pass from Kevin De Bruyne in the 82nd.

Toby Alderweireld denied England's best chance of the game, sliding on the goal line to clear a shot from Eric Dier.

Belgium's previous best finish at the World Cup

was fourth, but the team outplayed England in the midfield to go one better this time.

The Belgians could easily have scored more, with Pickford making a good save to stop a shot from De Bruyne in the 11th and Alderweireld volleying narrowly over the bar in the 35th.

England made set pieces the cornerstone of its run to the World Cup semifinals and created chances for Harry Maguire and Dier in the second half. Neither hit the target with their headers.

It was the second time England and Belgium met in this year's tournament. In the group stage, both teams had already qualified before Belgium's 1-0 win in Kaliningrad. **AP**

opinion

Rear Window

Severo Portela



RUMOR-MONGERS ON THE WATCH LIST

Here we go again heading into normal peak typhoon season! From July all the way to September, people and government departments are keen to prevent the dire consequences of a tropical storm slowly gathering strength in the waters off the Pacific and the South China Sea to hit the coast sometimes hard, sometimes harder before weakening in the Chinese hinterland sometimes softly, sometimes not so softly.

This 2018, the community and the government should be more watchful and at a higher degree of alertness this one year after Hato, the strongest typhoon to have hit Macau in half a century. Hato brought to the MSAR unprecedented loss of life and damage to infrastructure, and more than that, it exposed inadmissible failings in the emergency services and inopportune flaws in fundamental facilities. Definitely not in line with the standards of the international city Macau wants and deserves to be, but perhaps acceptable for a gambling capital.

Besides some regrettable episodes in the blame game, indeed, buck passing, what is truly important to everybody in a civil society is the hope that government and relevant departments work hastily to upgrade its apparatus to answer to a threat of the dimension of a typhoon like Hato. Maybe there is a lot of silent tasking and behind-the-curtains work going on to ready a state of preparedness that can be challenged by a typhoon season, maybe.

However, the common perception is one of an unbalanced importance given in favor of a controversial if not poisonous civil protection law to the detriment of the substantive collection of assets that are necessary to a structure of civil protection.

The introduction of an exceptional measure such as the crime of false social alarm is twice redundant, if we take as good the presumption it will only be applicable to serious stuff: MSAR civil law and in very specific situations, the security law (art. 23).

If the crime of social alarm is void of criteria just so to limit anyone who bona fide spreads information to be then declared rumor, we are in the realm of the rumor-mongers, scuttlebutts. The local Portuguese have a colorful term, Xuxumequa - but forgive us for the light note because this is serious stuff for the journalists working in all kinds of media outlets with the constraint to be correct and precise: They do, they do each day, don't they?

Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak somewhat answers the posed rhetorical question by recommending that private media organizations should defer to the official narrative in times of crisis: Wong describes the information provided by the government as "correct, precise and simple". Anyway, the consultation period on the proposal to draft a Civil Protection Law will be over by 11th August.

On another note we have to say that typhoon season seems to encourage some creativity - no offence intended in the Pearl River Delta, especially in the Macau Special Administrative Region. The mess brought to the political agenda by the sudden report drafted by the Commission against Corruption on IPIM's alleged irregularities regarding the investment residency scheme is amazing... since IPIM does not have the capacity for inspection. Add to that the handling of wanted businessman Malaysian Jho Low who reportedly entered Macau merely to vanish to an undisclosed destination... and you have your share of...simple news.

THE INDUSTRIAL PARK BLAST KILLS 19, HURTS 12 IN SOUTHWEST CHINA

A blast in an industrial park in a southwestern province has killed 19 people and injured 12 others, China's official Xinhua News Agency said Friday.

The blast occurred at the Yibin Hengda Technology Co., a chemical plant in an industrial park in the city of Yibin in Sichuan province at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Xinhua said.

Xinhua cited the Jiang'an county government as saying the fire was put out on Friday morning and the injured were in stable condition.

Efforts have been made to improve work safety standards but deadly industrial accidents remain common in China, where enforcement of safety regulations can sometimes be lax.

BOXING

Pacquiao wins 60th career fight with seventh-round knockout



Manny Pacquiao (right) fights Lucas Matthisse

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

MANNY Pacquiao won for the 60th time with his first stoppage in nine years, and made a proclamation. "This is it. I am back in boxing," the 39-year-old Pacquiao said after his seventh-round knockout of Lucas Matthisse for the World Boxing Association welterweight title on Sunday. "I am not done. I'm still there."

It was Pacquiao's first bout since a contention loss last year to Jeff Horn in Australia, and since parting ways with longtime trainer Freddie Roach to work with Bobby Fernandes.

"It's just a matter of time. You have to rest and get it back and that's what I did."

Pacquiao (60-7-2, 39 KOs) knocked Matthisse down onto one knee in the third and fifth rounds. He knocked the Argentine down again in the seventh, and Matthisse spat out his mouthpiece, causing a frenzy among Pacquiao fans in the stadium.

"I am not boasting but [...] I think he's hurting from my punches," said Pacquiao, who hadn't won by knockout since 2009. "Every punch that I throw, he's hurt. I think he's scared of my punches."

Matthisse, who won 36 out of 39 matches by knockout,

said Pacquiao was a "great fighter, a great legend," adding that he planned to take a break.

Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte and Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad attended the fight, the biggest in the country since the 1975 heavyweight clash between Muhammad Ali and Australian Joe Bugner.

“This is it. I am back in boxing. I am not done. I’m still there.”

PACQUIAO

"I would like to congratulate Senator Manny Pacquiao for giving us pride and bringing the Filipino nation together once more," said Duterte, who flew to Malaysia for the bout ahead of an official visit.

Duterte said in a statement that Pacquiao has proven himself again as "one of the greatest boxers of all time" and that the win will cement his legacy in the sport.

Scores of screaming Filipino fans in the stadium

waved flags and chanted "Manny, Manny" throughout the match. Pacquiao's rise to fame from an impoverished rural childhood to become one of the world's wealthiest sportsmen over his 23-year career has made him a national hero.

Pacquiao said he will return to his work as a senator for now but won't be hanging up the gloves just yet.

"I am addicted to boxing. I really love to fight and bring honor to my country," he said. "That's my heart's desire."

Horn, who lost his WBO welterweight title to Terence Crawford in Las Vegas last month, was quick to respond to Pacquiao's victory.

"Congratulations Manny Pacquiao," Horn posted on Instagram. "Rematch?"

In the other title fights, Filipino Jhock Tepora had a knockout win over Edivaldo Oretga of Mexico for the interim WBA featherweight title. Venezuela's Carlos Canizales defended his WBA world light flyweight title against China's Lu Bin, who had been aiming to become the first boxer to win a major world title in just two career fights. South African Moruti Mthalane got a unanimous decision against Pakistan's Muhammad Waseem to capture the IBF flyweight title. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	10-30 Good
High Density Residential Area	10-30 Good
Ambient	10-30 Good

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



FINLAND Some 1,500 people are protesting in Helsinki to promote human and sexual rights, democracy and environmental issues ahead of today's summit in the Finnish capital between Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin.

GERMANY says it will take 50 of the 450 migrants rescued from a fishing boat in the Mediterranean Sea that's been at the center of a squabble between Italy and Malta.



BRITAIN U.S. President Donald Trump has advised British Prime Minister Theresa May to "sue" the European Union to resolve the tense negotiations over Britain's impending exit from the bloc.

More on p15

SPAIN Health officials say the final bull run of the San Fermin festival in Pamplona has left six people injured in the fastest dash this year in the northern Spanish city.



NICARAGUA More than 200 university students were reunited with their parents after a tense night of armed attacks that left two dead and dozens wounded.

More on p15

HAITI Prime Minister Jack Guy Lafontant resigned Saturday amid calls for him to step down over his handling of a failed plan to raise fuel prices that set off a wave of deadly protests. More on p14