



### WYNN SUED OVER CLAIM IT RIGGED BOSTON CASINO BID

Wynn Resorts and founder were sued by a racetrack operator for allegedly rigging the process to win a Boston casino license

P5



### TRADE WAR: AUSSIE DOLLAR COULD SURGE IN WORST-CASE SCENARIO

P9



### KIM AGREES TO DISMANTLE NUKE SITE IF US DOES TOO

The leaders of North and South Korea announced a range of agreements yesterday which they said were a step toward peace on the Peninsula

P13

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# Times

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

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## WORLD BRIEFS



**JAPAN** A few months ago, Shinzo Abe faced calls to resign as a cronyism scandal sent his popularity tanking. Today he's expected to easily win a party vote that could make him Japan's longest-serving leader.

**THAILAND** Extreme efforts by two Thai female fans to meet their South Korean idol have raised concerns about security procedures at Thailand's main airport. The two women's misadventures were exposed when one posted photos on Instagram detailing how they got into the secure arrival zone at a Bangkok airport.



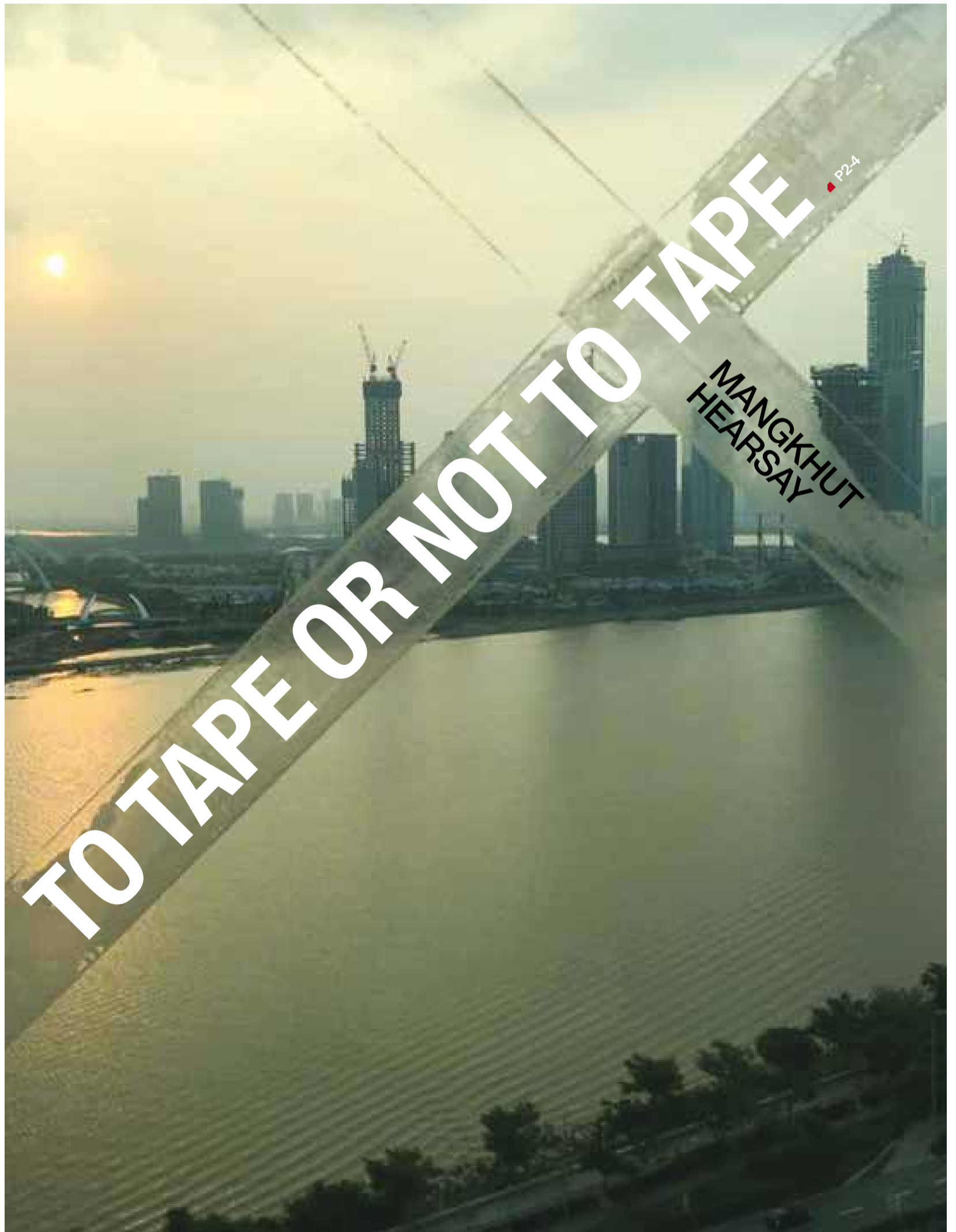
**MYANMAR** The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor announced that she is launching a preliminary investigation into deportations of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar into Bangladesh.

**NEW ZEALAND** plans to increase the number of refugees it takes each year from 1,000 to 1,500, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced yesterday, with the quota taking effect from 2020.



**INDIA**'s government yesterday approved an ordinance to implement a top court ruling striking down the Muslim practice that allows men to instantly divorce.

More on backpage



P24

## MANGKHUT

# PJ to investigate rumor mongering in typhoon

**T**HE Judiciary Police (PJ) has gathered enough evidence to launch a case about the spreading of rumors during Typhoon Mangkhut, PJ Director Sit Chong Meng revealed yesterday at Forum Macao.

According to Sit, the suspect gathered official government information online and modified the information before sharing it via social networks.

The PJ received a total of five reports, including the aforementioned case, involving people who spread rumors during the typhoon. The other four cases are currently still under investigation.

On Sunday, when Typhoon Mangkhut was at its closest to Macau, the civil protection authority issued a statement condemning the "circulation of rumors about alleged serious

shortcomings in the water and power supply."

The authority said that it "condemns these acts vehemently and appeals to the public not to believe or to spread such rumors."

The statement was published shortly after electricity supplier CEM deliberately cut power to parts of the Inner Harbor in order not to endanger the power units in that location.

Unitary Police Service's (SPU) Commissioner-General Ma Io Kun expressed hopes that residents can act prudently when disasters strike, adding that unchecked rumors can potentially cause more damage to society than natural disasters.

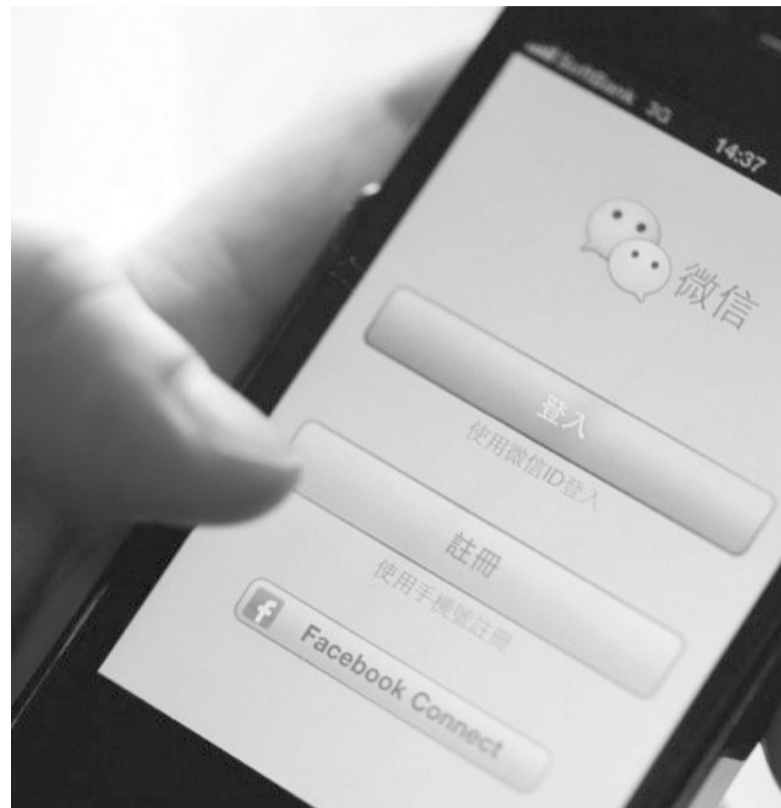
Last year, after Typhoon Hato, the government pro-

posed the establishment of a civil protection law to protect the public from "false social alarm."

Those who spread false rumors during catastrophes, accidents, epidemics or terrorist attacks might be subjected to a new regulation that adds harsher penalties to the ones currently established by the Macau Penal Code.

Under the proposed regulation, the maximum punishment would be increased from six months' imprisonment to three years.

In Macau's first case for spreading rumors related to the aftermath of a natural disaster, two local residents, a 73-year-old man and his 68-year-old sister, were presented to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) last year for



spreading rumors related to Typhoon Hato.

During the investigation, the police found a message on the man's WeChat account falsely alleging that the Macau government had completely blocked information regarding five

dead people found in a parking lot in Fai Chi Kei.

The message alleged that the government was preventing individuals and members of the media from reporting the incident, and urged recipients to spread the word. **JZ**

## GEG volunteers distribute meals, emergency kits

**I**N the aftermath of Typhoon Mangkhut, volunteers from Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) came together to distribute meals and Red Cross Family Kits to affected households.

The General Union of Neighbors' Association of Macao (UGAMM)'s kitchen was heavily damaged by the typhoon and unable to prepare meals for several users of Peng On Tung Tele-assistance Services, as well as many elderly folks living alone and residents of low-lying areas.

The F&B department of GEG's flagship properties prepared meal boxes which GEG volunteers and Peng On Tung Services staff delivered to households in need, together with Red Cross emergency kits.



Buddy Lam, vice president of public relations at GEG, said, "Before the super typhoon arrived, we began coordinating with community organizations and we put out a call to our team members for volunteers to help after the storm."

"The F&B team started at 6 a.m. on Monday to prepare meals,

and the volunteers delivered the hot meals and Red Cross emergency kits to residents in need — people stranded without electricity, many of [whom] were the elderly," he added.

GEG distributed the meal boxes twice a day for affected residents' lunch and dinner. It gave out more than 1,000 meal boxes

over two days.

The volunteers also handed out daily necessities, including 500 Red Cross Family Kits donated by GEG, to residents of São Lourenço and Patane.

"GEG is very proud of our team members and their passion in caring for the community, and we are glad to have seen different organizations and people giving a helping hand," Lam added.

Lam Man Chi, from UGAMM, said, "I appreciate that GEG proactively approached us [ahead of] the arrival of Typhoon Mangkhut [...] without GEG's backup and its volunteers' efforts and contributions in those neighborhoods, our service could not have continued under such conditions."

## Asia League pitches in with Macau cleanup

**J**UST two days before the start of the "Terrific 12" basketball competition in Macau, disaster struck in the form of Typhoon Mangkhut. The teams, which had already gathered in Macau to prepare for the competition, decided to promote the spirit of the league by helping with the cleaning works being carried out across the region by public entities and other volunteers.

Matt Beyer, Head of Asia League, told the South China Morning Post, "Some of my colleagues and I went into the harder hit areas and did volunteer work with the Macau Women's Association to clean up rubble and things like that. We may send some of the teams if there is still work to be done, as sort of a community outreach thing."

Noting the unplanned response when the typhoon occurred, Beyer added that such community activities are in line with the spirit of the Asia League, which aims to "give back to people, on and off the court."

"This year, not only did we do the typhoon thing but we're working with the YMCA and the Bosco Youth Association to have their kids come and play during half-time for the group stages, like three-on-three games. It's fun for little kids to go on to a pro court and play," said Beyer.

He expressed relief that all teams managed to make their way to Macau in time.

"We looked at various backup plans for the weather and if we were going to need to move the games back a day and cancel our rest day. Thank goodness it didn't have to be that way. Yes, it made the teams a little late, but everyone showed up."

The 12 clubs from China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines are in Macau for the "Terrific 12", an extended version of the Super 8 basketball tournament launched last year. It was revived in July and is currently taking place in the Studio City Event Centre, with its final round scheduled for September 23. **RM**

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RENATO MARQUES



# To tape or not to tape windows during typhoons

Renato Marques\*

**A**HEAD of major and potentially harmful tropical storms, it is common in Macau to see people duct-taping the windows of their homes or businesses with large "X"s.

The prevailing wisdom in China is that the tape may hold the glass in larger pieces if windows break under extreme winds. However, some engineering experts and storm advisory bodies advise against the practice, saying it could make it more dangerous for those taking refuge inside.

This old habit has been called into question again recently, with many specialists warning that this particular form of preparation might just do more harm than good.

The idea is that taping windows fortifies them against the wind and prevents them from shattering into tiny pieces. In

reality, it has been argued that taping does nothing to strengthen windows.

While studies have found that it does prevent windows from shattering into tiny shards of glass sent spiralling about in the wind – which might at first glance seem to be a positive conclusion – many believe that it produces something worse: larger shards held together with tape.

A 2011 survey conducted during the buildup to Hurricane Irene in the United States found that 7 in 10 respondents taped their windows in preparation for a hurricane.

The misconception has become so pervasive that it has led to the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes to initiate a campaign titled "Go Tapeless" to warn people about the ineffectiveness and danger of window taping. Instead, the organization recommends the installation of impact-resistant windows or shutters, or even plywood.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center, which is responsible for tracking and predicting weather systems within the tropics, states clearly that taping windows can be very dangerous.

Opinions in China diverge from those abroad. The authorities here, directly or indirectly, do recommend that people tape their windows during a typhoon.

As an example, the Hong Kong Observatory hosts a video on its website showing Professor Lo KK, formerly of the Department of Mechanical Engineering of Hong Kong Polytechnic University, sharing precautions and measures to undertake when facing the threat of a tropical cyclone.

"Taped glass windows are not that easy to break. Even if the window broke, [the glass] will not fly everywhere because it was taped. When we put the tape on the glass window, it is the best to put the tape in an 'X-shape' [due to two main reasons]. First, it

saves tape; second, it is rather light-transmitting. It is a measure rather suitable for Hong Kong's environment," Lo says.

Mainland authorities promote a similar rule. According to a Weibo post by the China Meteorological Administration, "the middle part of the glass is relatively fragile, so putting tape on the glass window

can increase the toughness of the glass and reduce the frequency of the glass vibration." "By doing so, the window can not only resist the rather large wind pressure, but also prevent the glass from rupturing when the window breaks," it adds. The same department also suggests that it is best to use sealing tape crossed on the inside of the window and "preferably attached to the outside of the window frame to give the glass center a better support point."

In Macau, some civil engineers criticized after last year's typhoon Hato that it was not the windows that were the problem, but rather the weak window frames in newer buildings, which are not able to withstand very powerful wind gusts.

Macau's Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) does not issue any kind of advice on whether residents should tape their windows in preparation for a typhoon, informing the Times yesterday that the decision falls to civil protection authorities.

According to a pamphlet released by the Unitary Police Services in June this year as part of the public consultation documents for the new "Civil Protection Basic Law," residents are advised only to "close the doors and windows" in the event of a typhoon. The official guidance does not explicitly answer the question of whether tape should be applied, but an illustration in the pamphlet right under the guidance shows windows plastered with large crosses that are clearly meant to be tape.

To tape or not to tape windows? It depends on who is asked.

\*With additional reporting by Daniel Beitler and Julie Zhu



# Tang Iu Man takes the helm at SMG

**T**HE government has appointed Tang Iu Man as the new acting director of the Macau Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) replacing Raymond Tam, the director of the Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA), who had served as interim director since the deadly

typhoon Hato last year.

The notice of the new appointment was published yesterday in the government's Official Gazette, noting also that the position of acting deputy director, left open by the rise of Tang, will be occupied by Leong Weng Kun.

The dispatch states that

the appointment takes immediate effect from today.

Tam now leaves SMG, having been appointed precisely a year ago following the retirement of former director Fong Soi Kun, who was widely criticized for his handling of the bureau's warnings before and during Hato.

Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosario said yesterday that he was pleased with Tam's work and that the only reason he was being replaced was because this type of interim appointment can only be held for a year at a time.

Tang, a meteorologist,

fills the position after the Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, had been criticized for appointing an acting director who had no academic background in the field, nor any relevant related issues.

At the time the CE replied, "there will be te-

chnicians at the SMG to support him," praising Tam's managerial capabilities.

As of today, it is precisely these technicians to whom Chui referred that are assuming command of the weather bureau, however Rosario warned that the government has not yet decided whether the permanent post will go to a meteorologist or a civil servant manager. **RM**

MANGKHUT

# Rosario satisfied with response to typhoon flooding

**SECRETARY** for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosario said yesterday that he was satisfied with how Macau's infrastructure had resisted typhoon Mangkhut last weekend, adding that mitigating the effects of flooding in low-lying parts of the city was a considerable problem and might never be solved completely.

Speaking on the sidelines of a meeting of the Urban Renewal Council yesterday afternoon, Secretary Rosario admitted that typhoon-induced flooding in certain parts of the city, including the Inner Harbor and Ilha Verde areas, would be unavoidable in the short term.

That's because these areas cannot be elevated to a height that would protect them from the accumulation of seawater during typhoons.

But in the long term, Rosario suggested that projects such as a water pump under

the management of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau or the tidal gate barrier proposed for the Inner Harbor, might prevent flooding altogether.

## The Secretary admitted that flooding in certain parts of the city was unavoidable

Regarding the response last weekend of the bureaus under his command, Rosario said that aside from minor electricity supply issues for a small portion of the population, the city's infrastructure had held out well. Given the intensity of typhoon Mangkhut, he said, the performance was on

the whole satisfactory.

"Human works are never perfect and there is room for improvement," said Rosario, but even the most notable problem to come out of Mangkhut, the severed electricity supply, "was not so bad."

Specifically, Rosario compared the 90 electricity units that this year require repairs to the more than 200 following typhoon Hato in 2017.

He also said that he supported the decision of public electricity company CEM to temporarily suspend the power supply to certain parts of the city to avoid their long-term damage.

In the Secretary's opinion, there is little that can be done in the short-term to prevent electricity supply interruption to low-lying parts of the city, because flooding will inevitably occur until larger public works are constructed. **DB**

RENATO MARQUES



AD

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GAMING

# Wynn Resorts sued over claim it rigged Boston casino bid

Neil Weinberg

WYNN Resorts Ltd. and its former chief executive, Steve Wynn, were sued by a Massachusetts racetrack operator for allegedly rigging the application process to win a license to run the Boston area's only casino.

In the lawsuit, filed this week, Sterling Suffolk Racecourse claims that construction of the casino at its Suffolk Downs location, as proposed by its partner, Mohegan Sun Casino, would've increased the value of the racetrack location. The racetrack operator accused Wynn Resorts of violations of the federal Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organization Act and seeks more than USD1 billion in damages. Under the racketeering law, that number could triple.

In addition to Wynn Resorts and Steve Wynn, the suit names as defendants Chief Executive Officer Matthew Maddox and former General Counsel Kim Sinatra. The suit also names FBT Everett Realty and Paul Lohnes, one of FBT's owners. FBT sold



An American flag flies outside the Wynn Boston Harbor Resort Casino during construction in Everett, Massachusetts

the Boston Harbor casino site in Everett, Massachusetts, to Wynn Resorts.

The suit, the latest in a series involving the casino operator, comes as the Massachusetts Gaming Commission is preparing to announce whether it will permit Wynn Resorts to operate the

\$2.5 billion facility nearing completion in Everett, near Boston.

The company initially won the rights in 2014, but the gaming commission put them on hold after allegations of sexual misconduct against Steve Wynn led to his resignation in February. Wynn has denied the accusa-

tions. After the claims were disclosed, Wynn Resorts took the company's name off the project, renaming it Encore Boston Harbor.

Steve Wynn, FBT Everett Realty and Lohnes didn't immediately respond to requests for comment. The Massachusetts

Gaming Commission, through spokeswoman Elaine Driscoll, declined to comment.

"This lawsuit was brought by Richard Fields, an unsuccessful applicant for the license awarded to Wynn Resorts. His claims are frivolous and clearly without foundation," Wynn Resorts said in a written statement. Fields heads Coastal Development LLC, a major investor in Sterling Suffolk Racecourse.

Sterling Suffolk Racecourse alleges that the proposed casino site had been endorsed by Boston's mayor and that its application was superior to that of Wynn Resorts. But it claims that Wynn Resorts committed several illegal acts to win the rights to build on the contaminated industrial site in Everett that Sterling Suffolk Racecourse says was formerly owned by associates of La Cosa Nostra.

Those acts by Wynn Resorts allegedly included committing extortion to suppress voter turnout for a Suffolk County casino referendum, lying about its knowledge of ties between FBT and organized crime figures and making campaign contributions during the application period, in violation of the state's gaming law.

"The Wynn defendants should have been denied a license for each of those reasons and would have been denied the license but for the misconduct alleged herein," the suit says. **Bloomberg**

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ART

## Group seeks volunteers for film project

**R**ANDOM Collective, a nomadic art collective based in Europe, is calling on local volunteers to participate in an experimental film production, part of a collaborative project.

Two members of Random Collective, Filipe Carvalho and Patrik Thomas, are currently in the region to conduct artistic research, hoping that the team's

project will create an exchange in filmmaking.

In order to make the project more grounded and connected to Macau, the team are also searching for artists who want share their works with them.

"It is a work that combines working gestures, gestures of craftwork, artistic work or dance, together with a kind of futuristic idea of society," said Thomas.

Currently, both members are in contact with nearly ten groups who are willing to volunteer.

The team is scouting volunteers for translation work, location scouting, camera and sound operations, among other jobs.

"It's important for us to meet people of different fields, mainly focusing on dancers and per-

formers. It is also nice to meet an experimental filmmaker or video artist or someone with profound knowledge of the hidden places of Macau," Thomas said.

"There must be more than the surface you always see. That's why we are really looking for locals to collaborate [with]," he added.

Meanwhile, Carvalho explained that the film aims to feature frames that focus on "social sciences and thoughts on future works."

"I guess Macau can provide these frames that we can put in a futuristic approach," he said.

The two members said they will also share their technical knowledge in filmmaking as well as skills in choreography, acting and documentary filmmaking.

The team is hoping to finish the project by next month, and plans to kick off a similar project next year once they have established their contacts.

As cited from its website, Random Collective creates a "growing network of artists, researchers, thinkers and techies all over the place."

"Macau for us is an extraordinary place because it combines this heritage and architecture in its own history in a super multicultural way together with a futuristic approach," Thomas explained. "These heritage places and neon lights, all these combinations are unique and that is why [we chose] Macau."

The team also intends to combine projects from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. **LV**

## Restaurant sales decline but owners remain optimistic

**T**HE performance of restaurants and similar establishments was less satisfactory in July than in June, according to information from the Statistics and Census Bureau (DSEC).

Some thirty-nine percent of the establishments that DSEC interviewed reported year-on-year growth in revenue, down 8 percentage points from the previous month.

On the other hand, one-third of the interviewed establishments recorded a year-on-year decline in revenue, up by 8 percentage points from June.

Those interviewed expected no significant change in their businesses in August, with more than half saying they expected revenue to remain stable year-on-year. Around one-quarter of the interviewed establishments predicted a year-on-year rise in revenue, up by 1 percentage point from July.

Meanwhile, 24 percent of the interviewed establishments anticipated a year-on-year decline in revenue, an increase of around 1 percentage point from July.

The data comes from DSEC's monthly Business Climate Survey on Restaurants & Similar Establishments and Retail Trade, which also interviews businesses in the retail sector.

In July, 63 percent of the interviewed retailers reported year-on-year sales increase, down by 4 percentage points from June, while 27 percent registered a year-on-year sales decline, up by 9 percentage points from June.

On the whole, retailers were more optimistic about their prospects in August, with 39 percent anticipating a year-on-year sales increase, up by 5 percentage points from July. 19 percent of the retailers expected a year-on-year decline in sales, down by 4 percentage points from July.

The sample of the Business Climate Survey was selected based on the revenue of the establishments. It comprised 167 restaurants and similar establishments, accounting for 53 percent of the industry's revenue, and 135 retailers accounting for 70 percent of the industry's revenue respectively.

## IFT holds discussion on Greater Bay Area tourism

**T**HE Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) yesterday launched the Greater Bay Area Tourism Talent Exchange Cooperation, which saw industry representatives gather to discuss the development of tourism in the region. The event ends tomorrow, September 21.

Leaders from the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) joined experts and scholars from IFT and the University of Macau, as well as representatives of TripAdvisor, to attend discussion sessions.

Topics included the promotion of deeper cooperation across the Greater Bay Area's tourism industry, and how to produce strong tourism brands in the region.

IFT President Fanny Vong said there is high demand in the Greater Bay Area for training in hotel

and travel agency services. She added that Macau and IFT will expend more effort to offer such training opportunities in these areas, where Macau already possesses existing advantages.

The event, which was organized by three government departments and nine local tertiary institutions, is a key project under the Framework Agreement on Deepening Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Cooperation in the Development of the Bay Area.

Prior to the event, Macau had already launched several projects targeting the exchange of talent among cities in the Greater Bay Area. These include the Greater Bay Area Macau Youth Internship Program in June 2018, which sent 22 young locals for month-long internships with companies in Guangzhou.

## Applications open for HKZMB taxi services

Macau's Transport Bureau yesterday opened applications for eligible private-hire vehicle operators to offer cross-border transport services between Hong Kong and Macau via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB). The current quota permits a total of 100 such operators in Hong Kong and Macau to use the HKZMB to transport passengers between the two SARs. The deadline for the application is 5 p.m. on September 28 and the results will be announced on October 15.

## Gov't to expand Escola Ilha Verde campus

The Macau government is planning to expand the six-storey campus of Escola Ilha Verde with a new 15-floor building for secondary school students. The new structure will also include two basement levels. The government will also build a drainage system at a non-construction land plot, which is about 220 square meters, next to the campus.

## Zhuhai to extend high-speed train to Hengqin

The Zhuhai government is planning to extend the Guangzhou-Zhuhai high-speed train network to Hengqin, in hopes of connecting it to Macau's Light Rapid Transit (LRT) via Hengqin port. The Zhuhai authorities announced yesterday the integrated development plan of the Hengqin, Hongwan and Wan Zai areas. The total area of the integrated development zone spans about 46.64 square kilometers. Concurrently, Macau and Zhuhai are also building the Qingmao port next to the Gongbei border gate. The port will connect Zhuhai's current train station with Macau's LRT.

AD

# 29<sup>th</sup> MACAO

## International Fireworks Display Contest

**Program (Updated)**

<b>21/9</b> Friday	<b>Shining Voices of Heaven</b>	
21:00	France	Alpha Pyrotechnie
21:40	Portugal	Grupo Luso Pirotecnia

<b>25/9</b> Tuesday	<b>A Sparkling Mid-Autumn Night</b>	
21:00	Germany	Potsdamer Feuerwerk GmbH
21:40	Austria	FIREevent - Die Feuerwerker

<b>1/10</b> Monday	<b>National Day Fireworks Celebration</b>	
21:00	Italy	PANZERA S.A.S.
21:40	China	Liuyang New Year Fireworks Trading Co.,Ltd.

Sea Area in front of the Macau Tower



Organizer



MACAO GOVERNMENT TOURISM OFFICE  
www.macaotourism.gov.mo

International Fireworks Display Contest



Media Partner



澳門廣播電視股份有限公司  
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## Saudis indicate comfort with higher oil prices

**B**RENT oil traded near the highest level in a week after Saudi Arabia was said to be content with the global benchmark crude breaking above USD80 a barrel.

Futures in London were little changed near \$79 a barrel after a 1.3 percent gain Tuesday. The world's biggest crude exporter believes it may no longer be possible to avoid higher prices as U.S. sanctions on Iranian exports crimp supply, according to people familiar with Saudi Arabia's view. Meanwhile, an industry report Tuesday showed U.S. crude stockpiles increased 1.25 million barrels last week, defying expectations for a decline ahead of government data.

Prices have traded mostly below \$80 over the past few months on fears trade tensions between the U.S. and China could damp global demand. Still, concerns remain that supplies could tighten as a November deadline

for American sanctions on Iranian oil approaches. Investors are also turning their focus to Sunday's OPEC meeting with allies for clues on whether the group will boost output again after President Donald Trump called on the cartel to rein in prices.

"Investors are currently assessing the Saudis' mixed message on oil prices versus its earlier pledge to increase output," said Hong Sungki, a commodities trader at NH Investment & Securities Co. in Seoul. "But U.S. pressure will come into play and it's more likely that OPEC producers and allies will decide on a production boost later this week."

Prices in New York and London both rose as much as 2.2 percent in the previous session after Saudi Arabia was said to be comfortable with higher crude prices, at least in the short term, as the market adjusts to the loss of Iranian supplies. Oil exports from the Persian Gulf nation

have plunged about 35 percent since April, the month before Trump exited from the diplomatic deal with Tehran and announced new oil sanctions.

While Iran's exports have moved in Trump's favor, the president faces the predicament of wanting oil prices to come down before U.S. mid-term elections on Nov. 6. Trump sent several tweets stating that prices are too high after Brent rose to a three-year high in May. Saudi Arabia, Russia and other major producers are scheduled to meet in Algiers on Sunday to review their strategy after the group agreed to increase production in June.

Meanwhile, American Petroleum Institute data showed that crude stockpiles increased last week, while those in the storage hub at Cushing in Oklahoma fell. A Bloomberg survey of analysts forecasts a 2.5-million-barrel decline in nationwide inventories. **MDT/Bloomberg**

## Gold continues 'slow dance' around USD1,200

**G**OLD is sticking to a narrow trading range around USD1,200 an ounce even after holdings in bullion-backed exchange-traded funds plunged to their lowest in a year.

Bullion for immediate delivery slid 0.3 percent at \$1,198.41 an ounce as of 2:03 p.m. in New York. In the last month, gold has traded within a range of about \$31, with a high of \$1,214.35 and low of \$1,182.86.

The metal is "continuing its slow dance around \$1,200," Carlo Alberto De Casa, chief analyst at London-based brokerage ActivTrades, said in a daily note.

Earlier this month, hedge funds and other large speculators built up the biggest-ever net-short position in futures and options, according to U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission figures going back to 2006. The most recent data, for the week through

Sept. 11, showed only a small reduction in net-bearing bets.

Gold has struggled to find traction for much of the year, with investors favoring the dollar as a haven asset. The dollar's strength since late April in particular has held back any potential advances in the gold price despite potential triggers ranging from political uncertainty in Europe and the expanding global trade tensions. **MDT/Bloomberg**



TRADE WAR

# Aussie dollar could surge in worst-case scenario, RBA study finds

Michael Heath

**A**USTRALIA'S real exchange rate could surge and gross domestic product drop in the event of an all-out global trade war, Reserve Bank research conducted in March suggested.

The study, released yesterday in response to a Bloomberg Freedom of Information Act request, ran three key scenarios. Under the worst-case third outcome, the U.S. applied a 20 percent tariff on goods imports from all countries, including Australia, and every nation except Australia then retaliated by slapping equivalent fees on their U.S. goods imports.

It found Australia could be less exposed under the worst scenario than economies that rely more on global trade flows for demand and have larger manufacturing sectors. As a result, it said the Australian dollar could in fact appreciate under such events, increasing the downside risks to the economy.

"When we allow the exchange rate to respond to the imposi-

tion of tariffs in the third scenario, it suggests that the real exchange rate would appreciate by 6 percent," according to an analysis dated March 21. "GDP would then fall by an additional 2.5 percent. A lower cash rate could largely offset these effects in the long run."

The Australian dollar has fallen more than 10 percent from this year's high of just over 81 U.S. cents in January as concerns about a U.S.-China trade war mounted. Traders see little prospect of the RBA moving interest rates - which have stood at a record-low 1.5 percent since August 2016 - in the next year.

The potential for the Aussie to appreciate in response to a trade war flies in the face of its historic response to global upheaval. The currency has acted as an economic shock absorber in the event of a crisis - most recently following the collapse of Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. in 2008 when it tumbled to about 60 U.S. cents. Together with scope to cut policy further, this has helped Australia avoid recession for 27 years.

RBA's analysis was based on



three scenarios: U.S. steel and aluminium tariffs only: Tariffs on U.S. imports of steel (25 percent) and aluminium (10 percent), with exemptions for Canada, Mexico and Australia. Wide-ranging U.S. tariffs: Washington applies a 20 percent tariff on all goods imports from all countries except Australia. Retaliation: All countries except Australia retaliate to the wide-ranging U.S. tariffs and impose tariffs of 20 percent on all of their U.S. goods imports.

The study found that under the limited tariff scenario, the effects on Australian GDP "are ne-

gligible." However, since the research was conducted, the U.S.-China dispute has intensified.

President Donald Trump this week ordered his administration to levy 10 percent tariffs on about USD200 billion in Chinese goods on Sept. 24 and to increase the rate in January to 25 percent if Beijing refuses to offer trade concessions. In retaliation, Beijing has announced plans to hit U.S. goods, ranging from wheat to textiles, with 5 percent to 10 percent tariffs.

Australia's link to the trade war between the world's largest eco-

nomies is its status as the most China-dependent economy in the developed world; Australia's economic ties to the U.S. are far smaller, though Washington is Canberra's key defense ally.

On China, the RBA's analysis showed net exports have contributed little to its GDP growth in recent years and that exports from the world's second-largest economy have declined as a share of nominal GDP.

"Nonetheless, rough calculations based on the U.S. trade share and the ratio of exports to GDP suggest that if Chinese export volumes to the US fell by 1/4- 1/2, that would subtract 1-2 percentage points from Chinese GDP growth, which is not insignificant," the RBA documents showed.

The RBA said that while a negative shock to Chinese exports would weigh on commodity demand, "any compensating domestic stimulus - akin to the response to the global financial crisis export shock - could provide an offset, albeit at the cost of exacerbating longer-term structural problems and contributing to financial risk." **Bloomberg**

# Jack Ma warns China to prepare for 20-year trade war

**A**LIBABA Group Holding Ltd. co-founder Jack Ma cautioned China's business and political leaders to prepare for the trade war with the U.S. to last longer and have a bigger impact than most people think.

China's richest man said the dispute could last 20 years and persist beyond the presidency of Donald Trump, as the world's two strongest economic powers battle for global supremacy. China needs to strengthen its economy

to deal with the conflict and shift trade relations from the U.S. to regions like Southeast Asia and Africa, Ma said during a speech at the company's investor day conference in Hangzhou.

"Short term, business

communities in China, U.S., Europe will all be in trouble," Ma said, pacing a stage in an open white dress shirt and punctuating his remarks with forceful jabs. "This thing will last long. If you want a short-term solution, there

is no solution."

His comments came just hours after China vowed to retaliate against U.S. plans to levy tariffs on about USD200 billion in Chinese goods. Ma said Alibaba will also be affected by the rising tensions, given its

wholesale business allows American merchants to source products from China. But he also said the trauma will offer unprecedented opportunities for companies that can take advantage of them. **MDT/Bloomberg**

## corporate bits

### BNU COLLABORATES WITH UNIONPAY



Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU) has collaborated with UnionPay to officially launch the UnionPay QR code payment service, which is compatible with the EMVco QR Code Specification for Payment Systems.

According to BNU CEO Carlos Alvares, the collaboration opens up doorways for UnionPay credit/debit cardholders from Macau, Mainland China and other global destinations to make purchases using a simple scan

-and-go method.

In the first phase, the service will be available to merchants that want to accept transactions from UnionPay QR code users.

Merchants that adopt this payment method are not required to install or arrange extra QR code systems or scanning devices.

In a second phase, BNU UnionPay cardholders will also be able to use this payment service.

Currently, this payment service has a single transaction limit of MOP1,000 and daily transaction limit of MOP5,000.

### CONRAD TO HOLD 'PINK INSPIRED' CHARITY LUNCH



Joyce Samoutou-Wong, a guest speaker at the charity lunch

Conrad Macao, Cotai Central will host its 'Pink Inspired' charity lunch on October 11 to

raise funds for breast cancer awareness.

This is the fifth year the ho-

tel has hosted the event, the hotel notes in a statement.

Ticket prices are MOP480, which includes a direct donation of MOP100 to the Hong Kong Cancer Fund's Pink Revolution campaign and a three-course lunch with a glass of Perrier-Jouët Blason Rose Brut NV Champagne, and gift bag for each guest.

Special guests joining the event this year include the popular Hong Kong television actor and doctor Marcus Kwok acting as emcee, and founding director of the charity New Sight Eye Care, and the 2012 winner of the Excellence in Ophthalmology Vision Award Dr. Joyce Samoutou-Wong as guest speaker.

Conrad Macao will partner with the International Ladies Club of Macao to host the Pink charity lunch.



## TRADE WAR

# US-China dispute could soon pose a serious economic threat

Christopher Rugaber, Washington

**SEEKING** better-skilled workers, Cedar Electronics decided last year to return some of its manufacturing to the United States from the Philippines, only to run smack into a worsening U.S.-China trade war.

Cedar makes radar and laser detection systems. When it shifted the assembly of those machines to Westchester, Ohio, it provided jobs for 30 people. Yet with President Donald Trump escalating his tariffs on Chinese imports, Cedar must now pay hefty taxes on critical imported parts — tariffs it didn't have to pay when that manufacturing was done overseas.

"We're effectively being penalized for bringing back that product manufacturing from the Philippines to the U.S.," said Chris Cowger, the Chicago-based company's chief executive. "If we had known this time last year, we most likely would not have brought those jobs back."

Earlier this week, Trump intensified his trade war with China by announcing tariffs on an additional USD200 billion of Chinese goods, including antennas and other electronic components that Cedar incorporates into dashboard cameras, CB radios and its detection systems. That followed tariffs on \$50 billion in goods that Trump had already imposed on Beijing, which retali-

ated in kind.

Seafood, handbags, baseball gloves and thousands of additional items were also affected by the latest Trump tariffs. China swiftly announced that it would impose tariffs on \$60 billion of U.S. exports. Caught in the crossfire are companies like Cedar that depend on affordable imports and other businesses whose exports may now become prohibitively expensive in China.

The tit-for-tat blows signal that the trade fight will likely escalate further. While most analysts say the latest tariffs will likely have only a minimal effect on the U.S. or Chinese economy for now, they stand to inflict real damage, in the United States and perhaps globally, beginning next year. The latest Trump tariffs will start at 10 percent next week but will jump to 25 percent on Jan. 1.

What's more, Trump has warned that if China retaliates with its own tariffs, he's prepared to tax an additional \$267 billion in Chinese imports. At that point, the Trump administration will have raised tariffs on virtually every good China sells the United States.

Because China said that it would retaliate, Trump is now in a position, some analysts noted, in which he must follow through on his threat or lose credibility. That makes it more likely that the additional tariffs will be taken place. Yet few think Beijing is prepared

to yield.

"President Trump issued an ultimatum to China: Surrender unconditionally or face unprecedented tariffs," said Gregory Daco, chief U.S. economist at Oxford Economics, said. "China won't surrender."

If tariffs on the additional \$267 billion of Chinese imports are put in place, the total hit from the administration's trade fight with Beijing could slow U.S. economic growth by a third, to roughly 2 percent, in 2019, Daco estimates.

Some other economists forecast milder impacts. But most foresee the threat to the U.S. economy rising.

"This is the point where we move from very small effects to something that's more notable," said Lewis Alexander, an economist at Nomura Securities.

The worsening dispute, Alexander said, is taking the United States into unknown economic territory. For the past three decades, the U.S. economy has become increasingly open and more globally connected, with complex supply chains moving

its products and those of its key trading partners across borders with few obstacles.

Now, it's taking a step back.

"We don't have experience with this kind of policy change," Alexander said.

Adding to the uncertainty are other trade disputes that make it harder for companies to make long-term plans, he added. Some multinational companies, for example, that might want to shift production from China to Mexico could delay that move until talks to rewrite the North American Free Trade Agreement conclude. The U.S. has reached an agreement with Mexico on changes to the agreement, but has yet to do so with Canada.

China's economy will likely also absorb a hit from the White House's latest move. Louis Kuijs, an economist also at Oxford Economics, forecasts that all the tariffs now imposed will reduce its growth in 2019 by 0.4 percentage point.

That slowdown could weigh on the broader global economy as well. The economies of developing countries that export farm goods and other commodities to China could weaken.

The Trump tariffs will likely raise U.S. inflation modestly, economists estimate, particularly if all imports from China are taxed. That would raise the cost of many more everyday consumer items — from shoes and toys to

smartphones and home appliances.

The chief executive of the Macy's store chain, Jeff Gennette, said he expects more tariffs will be imposed and to begin hurting department stores and other clothing retailers. But he says it's too early to determine how exactly the tariffs will affect consumers.

Auto industry purchasing managers may have to scramble to find sources outside of China for such parts as tires, belts and gaskets, said David Closs, a professor at Michigan State University. The industry will start looking for factories in Southeast Asia and Latin America, rather than the United States, to make the parts in countries that are not being hit by the same tariffs, he said.

"Every decision that they've made historically to source the components for cars, now they have to re-look at it," Closs said of the industry.

Sean O'Scannlain, the chief executive of Fortune Fish & Gourmet in Chicago, said he recently had seven workers package an order for 36,000 pounds of individually wrapped Chinese tilapia for a meal delivery company.

Once tariffs lift the price of tilapia, "my hunch is that they will not re-order that."

"Those companies are so sensitive on the pricing," O'Scannlain said, "even a 10 percent increase could cause them to move away from that."

O'Scannlain said his profits are too narrow for him to absorb the cost of higher tariffs, and he will have to pass the higher costs on to his restaurant and retail customers.

The chief executive of auto-parts retailer AutoZone, William Rhodes, told investors yesterday that the company has so far passed on higher tariff costs to consumers and would likely keep doing so.

Some smaller companies worry they could go out of business entirely.

Sherill Mosee, founder of MinkeeBlue, which makes travel and work bags made in China, says she might have to close her company by next spring if she doesn't find a new manufacturing partner for her handbags, which are now made in China. Her products for the holiday season have already been made.

"This should have been implemented over time, not in weeks," she said. "You need a whole new supply chain."

Bill Adams, an economist at PNC Financial, said the trade confusion is making the United States a less attractive place for large companies to invest. Foreign investment in the U.S. has fallen by half from 2015 through the first quarter of this year.

"Global companies — the channel spreading the most advanced technological and organizational innovations through the global economy — are looking elsewhere for their long-term growth," Adams said. **AP**

■ **The tit-for-tat blows signal that the trade fight will likely escalate further**



## TRADE WAR

# Li Keqiang appeals for free trade amid tariff battle

Joe McDonald, Beijing

**C**HINA'S No. 2 leader appealed yesterday for support for free trade and promised to improve conditions for foreign companies following tit-for-tat U.S. and Chinese tariff hikes in an escalating battle over Beijing's technology policy.

Premier Li Keqiang's comments add to Beijing's effort to portray itself as a defender of global trade and multilateralism in the face of complaints by Washington and other trading partners about industry policies they say violate its market-opening commitments.

Speaking at a business conference, Li made no direct mention of the dispute but appealed to governments to resolve disputes through negotiation and reject unilateralism.

"It is essential that we uphold the basic principles of multilateralism and free trade," the premier said in a speech at the World Economic Forum in the eastern city of Tianjin.

Disputes "need to be worked out through consultation," Li said. "No unilateralism will offer a viable solution."

China announced a tariff hike on USD60 billion of American imports on Tuesday in response to U.S. President Donald Trump's increa-

se on \$200 billion of Chinese goods.

The Finance Ministry said its tariff increases are aimed at curbing "trade friction" and the "unilateralism and protectionism of the United States."

There was no word on whether China would back out of trade talks it said it was invited to by the U.S., but a Chinese Commerce Ministry statement said the U.S. increase "brings new uncertainty to the consultations."

The two countries have already imposed import taxes on \$50 billion worth of each other's goods. President Donald Trump threatened to add an additional \$267 billion in Chinese imports to the target list if China retaliated for the latest U.S. taxes. That would raise the total affected by U.S. penalties to \$517 billion, covering nearly everything China sells to the United States.

Li indirectly acknowledged complaints about global trade regulation and affirmed Chinese support for reforms.

U.S. officials have criticized the World Trade Organization, the global trade regulator, as antiquated and unable to deal with Chinese-style industrial policies. Beijing agreed this year to join an initiative with the European Union to propose possible reforms.

"We believe we need to uphold the basic internatio-

nal rules and at the same time make improvements to those that need to keep pace with the times," Li said.

Li promised Beijing will refrain from weakening its currency to stimulate exports. China's tightly controlled yuan fell in value against the dollar this year, prompting suggestions Beijing was intentionally depressing its exchange rate, but the central bank has intervened in recent weeks to put a floor under the declined.

"China will never go down the path of stimulating exports by devaluing its currency," Li said. "China will create conditions for keeping the value of the yuan stable."

The premier also promised to "improve the business environment" for foreign companies. He affirmed promises to treat companies equally — a condition to which China committed when it joined the WTO in 2001 but that foreign business groups and governments say it regularly violates.

The EU filed a WTO challenge in June to Chinese rules on technology licensing that it said give local companies an unfair advantage.

"We will make sure that all companies, be they Chinese- or foreign-owned, so long as they are registered in China, will be treated as equals," Li said. **AP**

## BELT &amp; ROAD

# Venezuela doubles down on Chinese money to reverse crisis

**V**ENEZUELAN President Nicolas Maduro said yesterday [Macau time] that new investments from China will help his country dramatically boost its oil production, doubling down on financing from the Asian nation to turn around its crashing economy.

Already a major economic partner, China has agreed to invest USD5 billion more in Venezuela, Maduro said following a recent trip to Beijing, adding that the money would help it nearly double its oil exports to China.

"We are taking the first steps into a new economic era," he said. "We are on track to have a new economy, and the agreements with China will strengthen it."

A once-wealthy oil nation, Venezuela is gripped by a historic crisis deeper than the Great Depression in the United States. Venezuelans struggle to afford scarce food and medicine, many going abroad in search of a better life.

Venezuela's inflation this year could top 1 million percent, economists predict.

After two decades of socialist rule and mismanagement, Venezuela's oil production of 1.2 million barrels a day is a third of what it was two decades ago before the late President Hugo Chavez launched the socialist revolution.

Maduro says under the deal, Venezuela will increase production and the daily export of oil to China to 1 million barrels a day.

However, China is taking a strong role in its new agreements. Over the last decade

China has given Venezuela \$65 billion in loans, cash and investment. Venezuela owes more than \$20 billion.

The head of the National Petroleum Corporation of China will soon travel to Venezuela to finalize plans on increasing oil exports.

Russ Dallen, a Miami-based partner at brokerage Caracas Capital Markets, said the influx of money appears to be investments China will control.

"The Chinese are reluctant to throw good money after bad," Dallen said. "They do want to get paid back. The only way they can get paid back is to get Venezuela's production back up."

Venezuela also agreed to sell 9.9 percent of shares of the joint venture Sinovensa, giving a Chinese oil company a 49 percent stake. The sale will expand exploitation of gas in Venezuela, the president said.

Maduro also recently launched sweeping economic reforms aimed at rescuing the economy that include a creating new currency, boosting the minimum wage more than 3,000 percent and raising taxes.

Economist Asdrubal Oliveros of Caracas-based firm Econalítica said he doubts that Venezuela can reach the aggressive goal to boost oil exports to China to one million barrels a day given problems faced by the state corporation PDVSA.

"Increased production I see as quite limited," Oliveros said. "The Chinese companies alone have neither the muscle nor the size to prop up production." **AP**



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro speaks during a press conference at the Miraflores Presidential Palace in Caracas



In this Oct. 4, 2007, file photo, South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun (left) holds hands with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, in Pyongyang

## KOREAS

# Unfinished business: Moon's summit dreams echo late mentor

Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

**T**HIS week's summit between rivals North and South Korea represents, in part, unfinished business for South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

In pursuing engagement with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to defuse a nuclear crisis, Moon is also looking to bolster the legacy of his late friend and political mentor, former President Roh Moo-hyun, whose ambitious efforts to build trust with North Korea crumbled as it began building its nuclear arsenal a decade ago.

A dovish liberal, Moon said he will use the meetings with Kim in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, which began Tuesday and are to end today, to help revive stalled talks between the U.S. and North Korea and push for "irreversible, permanent peace" between the rivals. Depending on the results, Moon will either be remembered as a skillful statesman who helped fix decades of failed diplomacy or a stubborn idealist who repeated the mistakes of past liberal leaders at a time of much higher military and political stakes.

Moon was enthusiastically greeted by Kim on Tuesday as he became the first South Korean president to visit Pyongyang in 11 years, since Roh made his own trip north. The two leaders tightly embraced at the airport in front of a military honor guard and thousands of people cheering and waving flowers and flags.

It was a much warmer welcome than what Kim's late father, Kim Jong Il, arranged for Roh in October 2007. Kim Jong Il didn't come to the border to greet Roh, who crossed into North Korea by land, and later shook hands with Roh with what looked like less than

complete enthusiasm before a summit that took place amid turbulent nuclear negotiations following the North's first nuclear test explosion in 2006.

But Moon faces much higher stakes in his latest summit with Kim, their third this year, as the South Korean tries to save global diplomatic efforts to resolve the nuclear standoff with the North. Roh's inter-Korean engagement came at a time when the North Korean nuclear threat was relatively weak. Moon is dealing with a North Korea that could already have dozens of bombs and a growing arsenal of ballistic missiles, including intercontinental-range weapons that may be able to reach the U.S. mainland.

**Depending on the results, Moon will either be remembered as a skillful statesman who helped fix decades of failed diplomacy or a stubborn idealist**

Roh's meeting with Kim Jong Il came near the end of the South Korean's single presidential term, and so any results were destined to be short-lived. South Koreans, angry over North Korea's nuclear ambitions and the engagement policies pursued by a succession of liberal governments, voted in a conservative leader in 2007 who upended Roh's policies. Roh leaped to his

death the following year after being investigated for corruption. A grim-faced Moon read out a press statement about his friend's death.

Moon, who had a leading role in building Roh's inter-Korean policies as his chief of staff, didn't go to the 2007 summit. His efforts for engagement have received much stronger support than Roh's. Moon's previous summits with Kim in April and May at the inter-Korean border, which also set up a June summit between Kim and U.S. President Donald Trump, brought a tentative detente following a string of North Korean nuclear and missile tests last year that fanned war fears among South Koreans.

But Moon now faces perhaps the biggest challenge of his diplomacy because talks between Washington and Pyongyang have sputtered since the June summit, raising doubts about Kim's supposed willingness to relinquish his nuclear arsenal and putting pressure on Moon to broker progress once again. This week's inter-Korean summit will likely be a crucial indicator of how the larger nuclear negotiations with the United States will proceed; Moon's chief of staff, Im Jong-seok, has downplayed the possibility of a significant breakthrough.

"When former President Roh Moo-hyun visited North Korea in 2007, the meeting was focused on inter-Korean issues because the nuclear issue was dealt with in the six-party talks," Im said on Monday, referring to now-stalled nuclear negotiations involving the Koreans, the United States, China, Russia and Japan. "But this time, the heavy issue of denuclearization presses down on the summit meeting. This makes us very cautious, and it's hard to make

any optimistic prediction about the summit."

Moon, a son of North Korean war refugees, won a presidential by-election in May last year following the removal of his conservative predecessor over a corruption scandal. He has been a harsh critic of Seoul's previous hard-line policies, which he says did little to stop the North's nuclear advancement while significantly reducing the South's voice in international efforts to deal with the crisis.

Moon has preached engagement even during the height of tensions.

Two days after North Korea flight-tested its first intercontinental ballistic missile in July last year, Moon vowed to build on the legacies of Roh and his liberal predecessor Kim Dae-jung. Roh and Kim's "Sunshine Policy" and economic inducements resulted in two historic summit meetings and a temporary rapprochement between the Koreans in the 2000s. Critics say the policies gave North Korea a lifeline while it pursued its nuclear dreams.

If the inter-Korean summit fails to produce concrete results and U.S.-North Korea talks begin to derail, some experts believe Moon will face a serious political dilemma over whether to continue to engage with the North or join another U.S.-led high-pressure campaign against it.

Moon has so far maintained a coordinated approach with Trump on North Korea, staying mostly firm on sanctions and offering vocal support last year to Trump's pressure campaign during North Korea's weapons tests. While reaching out to North Korea in past months, Moon has credited Trump at every step, even endorsing him for the Nobel Peace Prize.

But for Moon, it would be extremely difficult to accept a return to the animosity of 2017. Moon's popularity has declined sharply in recent months and he can ill afford a setback in inter-Korean relations, his main issue of strength. Pyongyang has already expressed frustration to Seoul about the slow pace of cooperation projects in railways, roads and forestry, which are held back by U.S.-led sanctions against the North.

Some argue that Moon has ample reason to continue engagement and maintain peace and stability because North Korea's nuclear weapons are just one of the many security concerns facing South Korea. There's also fear of the sporadic military tension that has led to occasional bloodshed between the rivals. While showing unease about the North's development of ICBMs, the United States, unlike its ally, doesn't have to worry about a barrage of artillery raining down on its cities.

In recent speeches, Moon has said that relations between the Koreans "are not by-effects of progress in the relationship between North Korea and the United States," and that advancement in inter-Korean ties could bring progress on denuclearization.

Moon's huge entourage in Pyongyang includes CEOs of the country's biggest companies, a possible sign that Seoul is preparing for the resumption of inter-Korean economic cooperation projects if diplomacy eventually yields results.

But other experts say Moon fears a split with Washington because Seoul would be forced from the "driver's seat" in diplomatic efforts to deal with the North. Any leverage South Korea has over North Korea, they say, comes from its relationship with the United States, which holds the keys to what Pyongyang desires most: sanctions relief and security assurances.

"If he's forced to choose, Moon will likely slow the pace of inter-Korean engagement," said Choi Kang, vice president of Seoul's Asan Institute of Policy Studies. "He's not the same leader as Roh Moo-hyun was." **AP**

## KOREAS

# Kim agrees to dismantle main nuke site if US takes steps too

**T**HE leaders of North and South Korea announced a wide range of agreements yesterday which they said were a major step toward peace on the Korean Peninsula. But the premier pledge on denuclearization contained a big condition, with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un stating he'd permanently dismantle his main nuclear complex only if the United States takes unspecified corresponding measures.

Compared to the vague language of their two summits earlier this year, Kim and South Korean President Moon Jae-in agreed in their second day of meetings to an ambitious program meant to tackle soaring tensions last year that had many fearing war as the North tested a string of increasingly powerful weapons.

Kim promised to accept international inspectors to monitor the closing of a key mis-



sile test site and launch pad and to visit Seoul soon, and both leaders vowed to work together to try to host the Summer Olympics in 2032.

But while containing several tantalizing offers, their joint statement appeared to

fall short of the major steps many in Washington have been looking for — such as a commitment by Kim to provide a list of North Korea's nuclear facilities, a solid step-by-step timeline for closing them down, or an agreement

to allow international inspectors to assess progress or discover violations.

It also was unclear what “corresponding steps” North Korea wants from the U.S. to dismantle its nuclear site.

The question is whether it will be enough for U.S. President Donald Trump to pick up where Moon has left off. Trump, tweeting about the Korean leaders' agreements, said, “Very exciting!”

Declaring they had made a major step toward peace, Moon and Kim stood side by side as they announced the joint statement to a group of North and South Korean reporters after a closed-door meeting Wednesday morning. They took no questions.

“We have agreed to make the Korean Peninsula a land of peace that is free from nuclear weapons and nuclear threat,” Kim said at the guesthouse where Moon is staying. “The road to our future will not always be smoo-

th and we may face challenges and trials we can't anticipate. But we aren't afraid of headwinds because our strength will grow as we overcome each trial based on the strength of our nation.”

Kim and Moon earlier smiled and chatted as they walked down a hallway and into a meeting room to finalize the joint statement, which also said that the leaders would push for a Korean Peninsula without nuclear weapons and to “eliminate all the danger of war.” Moon and Kim planned to visit a volcano sacred to the North on Thursday, the last day of Moon's visit.

This week's summit comes as Moon is under increasing pressure from Washington to find a path forward in efforts to get Kim to completely — and unilaterally — abandon his nuclear arsenal.

Trump has maintained that he and Kim have a solid relationship, and both leaders have expressed interest in a follow-up summit to their meeting in June in Singapore. North Korea has been demanding a declaration formally ending the Korean War, which was stopped in 1953 by a cease-fire, but neither leader mentioned it Wednesday as they read the joint statement. **AP**

## Carta de agradecimento a todos os cidadãos, do Chefe do Executivo, Chui Sai On

Caros cidadãos de Macau,

No dia 16 de Setembro, o tufão «Mangkhut», o mais intenso deste ano, assolou Macau, provocando ventos fortes, chuvas intensas e storm surge do nível mais grave, o que causou um grande impacto na ordem normal da vida quotidiana e produtiva dos residentes e de todos aqueles que se encontravam em Macau. Perante o tufão, os residentes de Macau apoiaram o Governo e colaboraram plenamente na implementação das suas acções, e por sua iniciativa própria adoptaram medidas preventivas reforçadas, desenvolveram activamente acções de assistência mútua e de entreeajuda, demonstrando, uma vez mais, o espírito de Macau, o espírito de auto-aperfeiçoamento, de tolerância e de solidariedade, contribuindo, de uma forma única, para, em conjunto, enfrentarmos o tufão e retomarmos a normalidade com a brevidade possível.

Em nome do Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau, e no meu próprio, gostaria de expressar, aqui, os sinceros agradecimentos e as mais elevadas saudações a todos os residentes de Macau, assim como manifestar sinceros agradecimentos a todos quantos se preocuparam, apoiaram e ajudaram Macau a resistir ao tufão!

O trabalho de prevenção e de resposta ao tufão desenvolvido pelo Governo da RAEM decorreu com sucesso. Isso deve-se, também, por um lado, ao Governo Central que tem prestado muita atenção e apoiado vigorosamente a Região Administrativa Especial de Macau nas acções de prevenção e de resposta a tufões, e por outro, ao aumento significativo do grau de consciencialização dos residentes para a importância da prevenção e da redução de desastres, o que se revelou fundamental. Os residentes de Macau mantiveram-se solidários entre si, num espírito de entreeajuda, e sempre atentos às informações meteorológicas. Reforçaram, por sua iniciativa, medidas de prevenção contra os ventos e inundações, abasteceram-se, com antecedência, de mantimentos de emergência nas quantidades adequadas, e rejeitaram em conjunto todo o tipo de rumores falsos, assegurando uma boa ordem social. Os residentes das áreas baixas cooperaram activamente nos esquemas de evacuação, os voluntários das organizações sociais participaram intensamente nos trabalhos de limpeza e todos os sectores sociais colaboraram estreitamente com o Governo, nas suas acções e em todos os aspectos. Em geral, verificou-se uma intensificação do grau de sensibilização das pessoas de todos os sectores de Macau relativamente à prevenção e redução de desastres. Mais, o apoio, a compreensão e a tolerância dos residentes constituíram uma garantia e vieram contribuir para o fortalecimento da confiança do Governo em implementar rápida e eficazmente as várias acções de prevenção e redução de desastres.

Presentemente, contando com o apoio do Governo Central e com a solidariedade e cooperação de todos os sectores, a ordem normal da sociedade de Macau encontra-se praticamente restabelecida. No entanto, devemos manter-nos preparados para enfrentar eventuais perigos futuros, fazer um balanço conjunto desta experiência, melhorar constantemente o sistema de prevenção e de redução de desastres em Macau, fortalecer a construção de infra-estruturas de apoio, otimizar a alocação de recursos e as equipas profissionais, bem como maximizar a eficácia da cooperação entre o governo e a sociedade, em matéria de protecção civil, de modo a prevenir e responder eficazmente a desastres naturais e a garantir o bem-estar de todos os residentes de Macau. Devemos continuar a promover o espírito de Macau, ou seja, o espírito de auto-aperfeiçoamento, de tolerância e de solidariedade, e a trabalhar no desenvolvimento e na construção dos vários empreendimentos da RAEM de uma forma unida, pragmática e empreendedora, a fim de construirmos em conjunto uma Macau mais segura, mais próspera e mais agradável!

O Chefe do Executivo da  
Região Administrativa Especial de Macau  
Chui Sai On

## Carta aberta do Chefe do Executivo, Chui Sai On, aos trabalhadores da Administração Pública

Caros colegas,

No dia 16 de Setembro, o tufão «Mangkhut», o mais intenso deste ano, assolou Macau, o que causou um grande impacto na ordem normal da vida quotidiana e produtiva dos residentes e de todos aqueles que se encontravam em Macau. O Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau considera prioritária a vida e a segurança das pessoas, e através da estrutura de protecção civil elaborou um plano geral, que contou com a mobilização de toda a equipa de trabalhadores da Administração Pública no desenvolvimento de acções de prevenção e de resposta ao tufão. Contando também com uma resposta positiva e com a participação de todos os sectores da sociedade de Macau, conseguimos reduzir, eficazmente e ao mínimo, os prejuízos causados pelo desastre, tendo a ordem social de Macau e a vida quotidiana sido restabelecidas com celeridade após a passagem do tufão.

Ao longo do ano passado, com o forte apoio do Governo Central, todos os departamentos do Governo da RAEM trabalharam e colaboraram de forma dedicada na planificação geral e implementação das operações de prevenção e de redução de desastres, tendo desenvolvido um grande volume de trabalho e alcançado resultados notáveis. E durante este incidente, desde os trabalhos de prevenção antes do tufão, de resgate e de socorro durante o tufão e de rescaldo e de restabelecimento após o tufão, os colegas trabalharam de forma incansável, destemida, leal e coordenada, tendo desenvolvido em tempo oportuno e de forma eficaz um grande volume de acções, demonstrando um alto grau de profissionalismo e uma excelente capacidade profissional. A sua dedicação foi árdua e notória, o que veio contribuir ainda mais para a boa imagem dos trabalhadores da Administração Pública, e lhes granjeou um amplo reconhecimento de todos os sectores da sociedade.

Em nome do Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau, e no meu próprio, gostaria de expressar, aqui, os sinceros agradecimentos e saudações a todos os colegas que trabalharam arduamente durante a passagem do tufão, especialmente aqueles que lutaram heroicamente na linha da frente, assim como endereçar sinceros cumprimentos e agradecimentos às suas famílias.

Neste momento, Macau ainda atravessa uma época de muito vento e chuva. O Governo da RAEM espera que todos os colegas continuem a desempenhar as suas funções em estreita cooperação, e que continuem a desenvolver as acções pós-tufão da forma mais adequada. Será feito um balanço dos trabalhos de prevenção e de defesa deste incidente, retirando ensinamentos que permitam aperfeiçoar os aspectos que se revelaram mais fracos, de modo a elevar continuamente a capacidade e o nível de prevenção e de redução de desastres. Continuaremos a dar a maior atenção à análise, preparação e resposta a situações meteorológicas severas que possam ocorrer no futuro, com vista a garantir uma melhor preparação e a adopção das devidas precauções. Encorajamos todos os trabalhadores da Administração Pública a continuarem a enviar esforços, com sentido de responsabilidade e dedicação, nos trabalhos de prevenção e de redução de desastres na RAEM e a fortalecer a cooperação e a acção conjunta entre o Governo e todos os sectores da sociedade, quer na resposta a situações de emergência, quer no reforço do planeamento de acções a longo prazo, a fim de garantir o bem-estar dos residentes de Macau e a estabilidade a longo prazo da RAEM.

O Chefe do Executivo da  
Região Administrativa Especial de Macau  
Chui Sai On



## MIDDLE EAST

# Putin seeks to defuse downing of Russian plane off Syria

Vladimir Isachenkov

A Russian reconnaissance aircraft was shot down by Syrian forces responding to an Israeli airstrike, killing all 15 people aboard, in what President Vladimir Putin said was “a chain of tragic accidental circumstances.”

The downing of the Il-20 highlighted the dangers posed by the conflicting interests of various powers in the crowded skies over Syria and threatened the close security ties between Russia and Israel.

In an effort to maintain that relationship, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu quickly called Putin to express sorrow over the death of the plane’s crew, blamed the plane’s loss squarely on Syria and offered to send Israel’s air force chief to Moscow to share information about the incident.

The Russian military said the plane was hit 35 kilometers (22 miles) offshore late Monday night as it was returning to the Russian air base in Syria.

The incident triggered testy exchanges of blame between Israel and Russia.

The Israeli military said its fighter jets were targeting a Syrian military facility involved in providing weapons for Iran’s proxy Hezbollah militia, noting that it warned Russia of the coming raid in line with de-confliction agreements. It said the Syrian army launched the missiles that hit the plane when the Israeli jets were already inside Israeli airspace.

But the Russian Defense Ministry said the Israeli warning came less than a minute before the strike, leaving the Rus-

sian aircraft in the line of fire. It pointedly accused the Israeli military of deliberately using the Russian plane as a cover to dodge the Syrian defenses and threatened to retaliate.

“The Israeli pilots were using the Russian aircraft as a shield and pushed it into the line of fire of the Syrian air defense,” said Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu called his Israeli counterpart, Avigdor Lieberman, to declare that “the Israeli side bears full responsibility” for the plane’s downing and to warn that Russia “reserves the right to retaliate.”

But Putin took a more cautious tone, describing the incident as “a chain of tragic accidental circumstances.” At the same time, he said Russia will respond by “taking additional steps to protect our servicemen and assets in Syria.”

“It will be the steps that everyone will notice,” he said without elaboration.

Netanyahu, who has maintained warm personal ties with Putin and frequently traveled to Russia for Syria-focused talks, noted the need for Russia and Israel to continue coordinating their action in Syria. At the same time, he emphasized Israel would not tolerate the Iranian military presence in Syria.

Putin told Netanyahu that the Israeli raid violated Syria’s sovereignty and breached the Russian-Israeli de-confliction agreement. He urged the Israeli side “not to allow such situations to happen again,” according to the Kremlin.

Israel has refrained from

taking sides in the Syrian civil war, but it has carried out scores of airstrikes against archenemy Iran and its Shiite proxy Hezbollah.

Israel has acknowledged attacking Iranian targets some 200 times, and Israel and Russia have maintained a hotline to prevent clashes between their forces in Syria. Israeli military officials have previously praised its effectiveness.

“Until now, Russia’s armed forces have granted Israeli jets the freedom to strike targets in Syria at will, on the condition that a sufficiently early warning is provided to Russia,” said Charles Lister, a Syria expert with the Washington-based Middle East Institute. “The glue binding this gentleman’s agreement — the Putin-Netanyahu personal relationship — will likely tide this issue over for the time being.”

Moscow has played a delicate diplomatic game of maintaining friendly relations with both Israel and Iran. In July, Moscow said that it struck a deal with Tehran to keep its fighters 85 kilometers from the Golan Heights to accommodate Israeli security concerns.

In response to Israeli worries, Russia also has shelved plans to arm Syria with sophisticated air defense assets, such as the long-range S-300 systems that could pose a significant threat to Israeli aircraft.

The downing of the plane could change that.

Sima Shine, a former senior Mossad official and ex-deputy director-general at Israel’s Strategic Affairs Ministry, told Israel Army Radio that the incident could have “strategic implica-

tions” for Israel’s freedom of action in Syria.

“I think it will impose very serious restriction on Israel’s freedom of activity,” she said.

Some Russian lawmakers and retired military officers called for a forceful response, saying Russia should provide Syria with the S-300 air defense systems and other sophisticated weapons to prevent any further strikes.

Shoigu, the defense minister, warned his Israeli counterpart that “we won’t leave such action without response.”

Russia’s dramatic entry into the Syrian civil war in September 2015 to support Syrian President Bashar Assad after a year of airstrikes by the U.S. and its allies against the Islamic State group increased the possibility of dangerous confrontations over Syria.

The downing of a Russian warplane by a Turkish jet in November 2015 put Moscow and Ankara on the verge of military confrontation, but they later negotiated a series of de-escalation agreements for Syria together with Iran.

“The implementation of de-escalation across Syria a year ago introduced a new reality to Syria, in which foreign states are now actively competing to assert their own influence over overlapping territorial space,” Lister said. “Though appropriate measures have been put in place to manage this, the risk of state-on-state conflagrations like we saw overnight has never been higher. With a meaningful political settlement in Syria an increasingly far-fetched objective, this could well be the new reality we

live with for years to come.”

The U.S. also expressed sorrow over the Russian deaths, with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo saying it was a reminder of the need to find “permanent, peaceful, and political resolutions to the many overlapping conflicts in the region and the danger of tragic miscalculation in Syria’s crowded theater of operations.”

President Donald Trump, appearing at a White House news conference with Poland’s president, called it a “very sad thing” and said it was “not a good situation.”

But Trump also said that the United States has done a “tremendous job” battling the Islamic State group in Syria. He went on to suggest that the nation’s mission there was “very close to being finished.”

U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said the shutdown complicates relations between Assad and the Russian government but has “no effect whatever” on the U.S. campaign to defeat Islamic State fighters in Syria.

Before the latest incident, Russia had lost at least seven warplanes and seven combat helicopters in Syria and also had seen dozens of troops killed in ground combat.

And there have been other Syria-related deaths of Russians.

A Russian passenger plane carrying tourists from Egypt’s Sharm el-Sheikh resort crashed over the Sinai in October 2015, killing all 224 people aboard. The Sinai affiliate of the Islamic State group said it blew up the plane with a bomb smuggled on board.

And in December 2016, a passenger jet carrying members of the Red Army Choir to a New Year’s concert at a Russian military base in Syria crashed in the Black Sea minutes after takeoff from Sochi in southern Russia, killing all 92 people aboard. The investigation of that crash is continuing, but officials have indicated that pilot error was the likely cause. **AP**

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## what's ON



**BEGINNING ANEW: WORKS BY VONG SEK KUAN**  
**TIME:** 11am-1pm & 2pm-6pm (closed on Sundays)  
**UNTIL:** September 30, 2018  
**VENUE:** 1844 Macau Photography Art Space  
**ADMISSION:** Free  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 6311 1390

**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

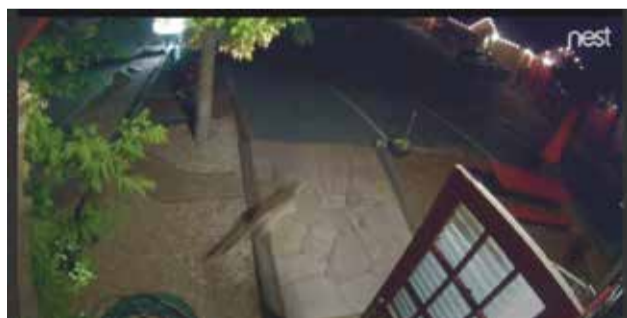
**DISCOVER MACAU: MUSEUM OF TAIPA AND COLOANE HISTORY**  
**TIME:** 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Mondays)  
**ADDRESS:** Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa  
**ADMISSION:** Free  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 8988 4000

**EXHIBITION OF NEW WORKS IN MAM COLLECTION**  
**TIME:** 10am-7pm (last admission 6:30pm; closed on Mondays)  
**UNTIL:** October 26, 2018  
**VENUE:** Macao Museum of Art  
**ADMISSION:** Free admission  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 8791 9814

**FASHION REJUVENATION – EXHIBITION OF ECO-FRIENDLY AND FUNCTIONAL FASHION**  
**TIME:** 10am-8pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)  
**UNTIL:** September 30, 2018  
**VENUE:** Macao Fashion Gallery  
**ADMISSION:** Free admission  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 2835 3341

## Offbeat

## MOUNTAIN LION VISITS COLORADO MOTEL BUT DOESN'T STAY LONG



A mountain lion has been caught on surveillance camera dashing to the doorstep of a Colorado motel office, venturing toward the open doorway and then wandering away.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife spokesman Jason Clay says nobody was hurt in the Sept. 9 encounter.

The Boulder Daily Camera reported yesterday [Macau time] the lion approached the Foot of the Mountain Motel on Boulder's west side. Just after entering the camera's view, the lion pauses, as if startled. Clay says that was when the lion spotted motel guests with a dog on a leash.

Clay says the guests and their dog returned to their room and there was no trouble.

In August, a mountain lion entered a Boulder home and killed a house cat, and another was tranquilized and relocated from under a porch.

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Portuguese Soap Opera
15:50	Cartoons
16:15	Portuguese Comedy
17:40	Portugal Fashion
18:15	Portuguese Soap Opera
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	TDM Talk Show
22:20	Portuguese Serie - Liberty 21
23:15	TDM News
23:50	UEFA Champions League highlights
00:40	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:25	RTPi Live
03:00	European League: Sporting x Qarab (Live)

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

20 SEP - 26 SEP



## THE PREDATOR

ROOM 1

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

Director: Shane Black

Starring: Boyd Holbrook, Trevante Rhodes, Jacob Tremblay

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 107min



## JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN

ROOM 2

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

Director: David Kerr

Starring: Emma Thompson, Olga Kurylenko, Rowan Atkinson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 88min

## GOLDEN JOB

ROOM 3

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

Director: Chin Ka-lok

Starring: Michael Tse, Jerry Lamb, Eric Tsang

Language: Cantonese (Chinese &amp; English)

Duration: 90min



## WHEN I GET HOME, MY WIFE ALWAYS PRETENDS TO BE DEAD

ROOM 3

7:15pm

Director: Toshio Lee

Starring: Nana Eikura, Ken Yasuda, Sumika Nono

Language: Japanese (Chinese &amp; English)

Duration: 115min

## this day in history



## 1999 UN FORCE ARRIVES IN EAST TIMOR

A multinational peacekeeping force has landed in East Timor in an attempt to restore law and order to the territory.

The UN force has been sent to the island to end the violence that has beset the region since its people voted overwhelmingly for independence from Indonesia.

Pro-Jakarta militias are thought to have killed thousands of people since the election on 4 September.

They have been apparently backed by the Indonesian military (TNI), but members of the UN International Force for East Timor (Interfet) said the army was now cooperating fully with the peacekeepers.

The operation began at 0640 local time (0140 BST) when a transport plane carrying British Royal Marines and Australian troops touched down at Komoro airport in the capital, Dili.

Throughout the day a total of 1,190 soldiers - mostly from Australia and New Zealand - landed on the war-torn island.

Fires from recent attacks were still burning, but the troops met little resistance from Indonesian forces or the armed bands that have been terrorising the population.

"The TNI have been quite helpful - we have not seen any militia," said British Brigadier Mark Evans.

Another 1,110 peacekeepers will arrive in East Timor tomorrow and within the next seven days the international force will eventually grow to 8,000 soldiers - drawn from more than 20 countries.

UK Armed Forces Minister John Spellar told the BBC the primary objective of Interfet was to take the militias off the streets.

The next stage would be to re-establish supply lines of food, water and electricity in a capital mostly abandoned by its inhabitants.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 when Portugal withdrew after occupying the island for 450 years.

78.5% of the country voted for independence in the September 1999 elections.

In August 2001 an 88-member Constituent Assembly was elected.

The former rebel leader Xanana Gusmao was voted East Timor's first president on 14 April 2002, and on 20 May 2002 the country became fully independent.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Before the day is through, you'll be taken to the right place and given all the right tools to contemplate your situation and think through your options. There's no such thing as bad answers - just right answers.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Big revelations are coming your way today - and they will probably not all be about you. Don't look now, but you are about to get stuck in the middle of a potentially touchy situation.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 This is the perfect day to tear down the walls you have put up between your inner self and the outside world. Nothing can harm you right now - there is an aura of positive energy and confidence growing inside you.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Maintaining social relationships can be exhausting, and sometimes you may ask yourself if all of the effort is worth it. After all, you've had your share of experiences with people flaking on dinner plans.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You have crossed a threshold of sorts today - there is a place you were in that you are never going to return to again. This could have been a pleasant place or it could have been an unpleasant one.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Today offers an opportunity to shine and an opportunity to prove your dedication, and if you are lucky, you can achieve both of these objectives at one time. You have always been known as a loyal friend...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Are you feeling a bit impatient? There is a powerful momentum coming into your life, but it might be pushing your expectations forward more quickly than reality would warrant.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 If you want things to work out with a new venture or project, then you need to take advantage of all the resources available to you - and that includes people. This is not about using people.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 There will be a lot of rushing going on today - try not to get caught up in the undertow, or else you may take on more than you can handle. You certainly have a lot of things to worry about at the moment...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 It won't be too tough to cut back the more excessive areas of your life. Not only will you reap financial rewards, but you might also just find freedom in needing and wanting to buy less.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Today is one of those rewarding days when your recent problems are in your rearview mirror, slowly (but surely!) fading out of sight. So if you're fretting about this new direction you chose to take, don't.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Now is a good time to reevaluate your public persona. A recent awkward moment left you feeling out of your element, and that could be because you aren't completely aware of how people see you.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather conditions for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

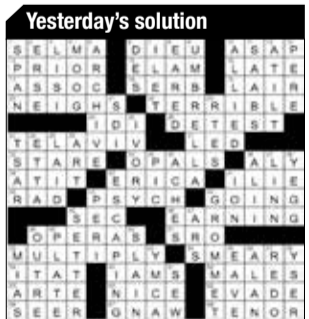
WORLD

Table listing weather conditions for various world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Landlord; 7- Bran source; 10- Crime boss; 14- Expenditure; 15- Spy org.; 16- Riyadh resident; 17- Lubricant; 18- Superlative suffix; 19- Freelancer's encl.; 20- Acuteness of the vision; 23- Ships' officers; 26- U-turn from SSW; 27- Some locks; 28- General Bradley; 29- Snaky curve; 30- Half of D; 31- Two wheel vehicle; 33- Zip; 34- "Fancy that!"; 37- Land in la mer; 38- Exploit; 39- Lord, is \_\_\_?; 40- Hasty escape; 41- Allow; 42- Transgression; 43- Due to the fact that; 45- Bolted down; 46- Bodybuilder's pride; 47- Antlered animal; 48- Minute Maid Park player; 51- City in GA; 52- With reserve; 53- Gimmick; 56- River of Tuscany; 57- Pie-mode link; 58- Recluse; 62- Regrets; 63- Hi-\_\_\_ monitor; 64- Iroquois tribe; 65- Auction site; 66- Needle hole; 67- Talks back to;

DOWN: 1- Limb of a felled tree; 2- Where It's at; 3- Canonized Mlle.; 4- Bondage; 5- Fertile area in a desert; 6- Some whiskeys; 7- Vast seas; 8- Grocery lane; 9- Ciao!; 10- Offhand; 11- Thin as \_\_\_; 12- Stickum; 13- Follows orders; 21- Unobserved; 22- Like the tides or the seasons; 23- It merged with Exxon; 24- Miss by \_\_\_; 25- Be silent, musically; 29- Borden cow; 30- Quotes; 32- Habitual practice; 33- Bite gently; 34- Sticky; 35- Studio stand; 36- Board for nails; 44- Sticks; 45- Large merchant ship; 46- Comfortable; 48- Alert, knowing; 49- Small tree; 50- Fungal infection; 51- Narrow street; 52- City in Tuscany; 54- River in central Switzerland; 55- Pi followers; 59- Fire starter?; 60- Ox tail?; 61- Univ. aides;



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TENNIS

# US Open champion Osaka dominant on return to action in Japan

**N**AOMI Osaka's homecoming couldn't have gone much better. Playing in her first tournament since winning the U.S. Open, third-seeded Osaka impressed her Japanese fans yesterday with a powerful 6-2, 6-1 win over Dominika Cibulkova to reach the quarterfinals of the Pan Pacific Open.



Naomi Osaka of Japan

Osaka was in control of the second-round match from the outset, breaking Cibulkova's serve in the first game at a sold-out Tachikawa Arena in Tokyo.

"It was really difficult and she's such a great player," Osaka said. "I'm just grateful I could play in front of you guys and want to thank everyone for their support."

The local favorite raced out to a 4-0 lead before Cibulkova finally held to win her first game. Osaka hit three aces to close out the first set.

She broke her opponent three more times in the second set to win in just over an hour, hitting 25 winners to just nine unforced errors.

Osaka became the first Japanese player to win a Grand Slam singles title when she upset 23-

time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams on Sept. 8 in New York.

Two years ago Osaka lost in the Pan Pacific final to Caroline Wozniacki, who is the top-seeded player this year.

Osaka was born in Japan to a

Haitian father and Japanese mother. They were both in attendance yesterday.

The shy 20-year-old Osaka, who has spent most of her life in the United States and lives in Florida, has been in the spotlight both on and off the court since returning to Japan last Thursday.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe took to Instagram to praise Osaka's accomplishments and the rising star also appeared at a sumo match.

Osaka signed a three-year contract last week with Japanese carmaker Nissan — no financial details were released — and she is reportedly close to landing a large deal with Adidas, perhaps in the range of USD10 million.

The U.S. Open title was worth USD3.8 million in prize money.

Osaka also has endorsement agreements with Japanese sporting goods company Yonex, noo-

dle maker Nissin Foods, Citizen Watch and satellite broadcaster Wowow.

Cibulkova has been in the midst of a resurgence since reaching the quarterfinals of Wimbledon and upsetting former No.1 Angelique Kerber on the way to the second week of the U.S. Open, but she couldn't make a dent in the Osaka serve.

"It wasn't a match I was proud of," Cibulkova said. "I just couldn't find my rhythm. She was serving so well. I felt I was in control of some rallies, but it was too hectic."

In other matches, American qualifier Alison Riske upset former No. 1 Garbine Muguruza 6-1, 6-2 and Karolina Pliskova defeated Daria Gavrilova 4-6, 6-4, 6-4. Caroline Garcia beat Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-2, 2-6, 7-5.

Osaka will next face the winner of the match between Anett Kontaveit and Barbora Strycova. **AP**

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

# Uber driver suing Bucs' QB Winston over groping incident

**A** female Uber driver in Arizona is suing Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Jameis Winston, accusing him of sexual assault.

Court documents say the woman filed the suit in Arizona yesterday [Macau time] and is seeking more than USD75,000 in damages. She said Winston grabbed her crotch in the drive-thru of a Mexican restaurant in the Phoenix area in March 2016.

After an investigation into the incident, the NFL in June suspended Winston for three games for violating the league's personal conduct policy.

The suit comes as Winston approaches the final game of the suspension, and with the Buccaneers off to a 2-0 start.

He missed the opener at New Orleans and last week's home victory over defending Super Bowl champion Philadelphia.

He is eligible to return on Tuesday, the day after Tampa Bay plays the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The Associated Press does not generally name people who allege they are victims of sexual assault.

The NFL announced the suspension after an eight-month investigation concluded the 2013 Heisman Trophy winner, who was in Arizona for a charity event, violated the league's personal conduct policy by

"touching the driver in an inappropriate and sexual manner without her consent."

The driver did not file a criminal or civil complaint, however she reported the incident to Uber. The NFL learned of the allegation when it was reported publicly last November.

"The league promptly initiated a comprehensive investigation that included interviews with several persons, including



the driver, Winston and others with relevant information," the NFL said in a statement announcing the suspension. "The league also examined an

extensive amount of other evidence, including telephone records, business records, data from electronic devices and other communications." **AP**

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THE OTHER MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL STORIES

Next Monday is the Chinese 八月十五 (fifteenth of the eighth month), better known as the Mid-Autumn Festival, 中秋 (Chong Chao). Last year, I wrote about the story of Chang-o, the beautiful wife of Hao Yi who took the immortal elixir and ascended to the moon, and the story of the eternally regenerating laurel tree. The story of Chang-o and Wu Kong chopping the laurel tree on the moon is the most popular legend about Chong Chao, but there are a couple of other stories that are well known for the festival. To welcome the arrival of Chong Chao, let's revisit some Mid-Autumn Festival stories.

Aside from Chang-o and Wu-Kong, who are trapped on the moon eternally, there is a third being on the moon. This is the Jade Rabbit. Legend has it that the gods in heaven needed someone to brew the immortal elixir. Knowing that human beings are cunning and wanting to prevent the elixir from falling into the hands of mortals, the gods decided to choose an animal to prepare the elixir.

Three immortals went down to earth disguised as poor and hungry old people. A fox, a monkey and a rabbit arrived and took pity on the immortals. The fox and the monkey quickly found some food to offer them. However, the little rabbit was unable to offer any food, so it jumped into the fire and offered itself instead. Seeing the selflessness of the rabbit, the Jade Emperor (or Heavenly King) turned the rabbit into an immortal, after which it ascended to heaven and was given the name of Jade Rabbit.

Jade Rabbit lived in heaven and was responsible for making the immortal elixir. One day, the Heavenly Queen approached the Jade Rabbit to ask for more elixir. Jade Rabbit explained that each immortal can only have one elixir each year. The Queen got angry and bullied the rabbit into giving her more. She took the elixir and gave it to Hao Yi, but it was his wife Chang-o who took the elixir and ascended to the moon. The Jade Emperor was angry at Jade Rabbit for not guarding the elixir well but, knowing his wife's temper, he did not punish the Jade Rabbit severely but allowed the rabbit to choose its punishment.

Knowing that it was responsible for Chang-o being stuck on the moon, Jade Rabbit offered to stay on the moon forever to accompany her. The Jade Emperor thought it was a good idea and that being on the moon would prevent other immortals from approaching Jade Rabbit for more elixir. So that was how Jade Rabbit joined Chang-o on the moon and continued making immortal elixir there.

Aside from appreciating the moon with one's family during Chong Chao, another thing we have to do is eat mooncakes. The tradition of eating mooncakes on Chong Chao started at the end of the Yuan Dynasty. The Han people were against the Mongols' rule, and many rebelled. However, the government prevented communication between the Han people, especially those they suspected of planning an uprising. The strategist of Zhu Yuanzhang (the first emperor of the Ming Dynasty) came up with the idea of hiding a note that said 'eighth month fifteenth' in cakes and had them delivered to different resistance groups. The messages got through, and on the day of the mid-autumn festival, the resistance groups joined forces and attacked the government. The uprising was very successful and started at the end of the Yuan Dynasty, leading to the beginning of the Ming Dynasty. To commemorate the day of the uprising, Zhu Yuanzhang sent mooncakes to all his fellow resistance armies the next year. Since then, it has become a custom to give each other mooncakes and to eat them on Chong Chao.

THE SESAME STREET WANTS TO CLARIFY: BUZZ BERT AND ERNIE AREN'T GAY

The producers of "Sesame Street" want you to know that Bert and Ernie are not, in fact, gay.

Sesame Workshop tweeted yesterday [Macau time] that the characters are best friends and have many human traits but "remain puppets, and do not have a sexual orientation." In a follow-up tweet, it says "Sesame Street has

always stood for inclusion and acceptance."

The tweets came in response to an interview published Sunday by Queerty with Mark Saltzman, an openly gay former writer for "Sesame Street." He says that when he was writing scenes with Bert and Ernie, he "always felt that without a huge agenda" they were lovers.



Station	Air quality
Roadside	80-100 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	50-70 Moderate
Ambient	80-100 Moderate

SOURCE: D5MG

LA Times Beijing bureau chief quits after sex investigation

THE head of the Los Angeles Times' Beijing bureau has resigned four months after the newspaper suspended him following sexual harassment complaints brought by two women.

Jonathan Kaiman has left the newspaper, Los Angeles Times spokeswoman Hillary Manning confirmed yesterday [Macau time].

Kaiman was suspended last May after the Times launched an investigation into the allegations made by a former Wall Street Journal editor and a former roommate of his.

"I can confirm that the Los Angeles Times completed its investigation into the matter and that Jonathan Kaiman resigned," Manning said in an email to The Associated Press. She added she could provide no further information, citing a personnel matter.

Kaiman, who has maintained that his relations with Felicia Sonmez were consensual, vigorously denied the allegations in an email yesterday, adding they had driven him "to the brink of suicide."

"I am saddened and, quite frankly, horrified that a group of professional journalists would unquestioningly take her version of events as absolute truth before



Jonathan Kaiman

hearing [or, in most cases, even asking for] my side of the story," he told The Associated Press.

Sonmez, who worked in China for The Wall Street Journal and Agence France-Presse, said she was giving an intoxicated Kaiman a ride home on her scooter from a Foreign Correspondents' Club of China party when he lifted up her dress and sexually touched her despite her repeated demands that he stop.

Later, she said, they had sex at his home.

"I am devastated by the fact that I was not more sober so that I could say with absolute certainty whether what happened that night was rape," she said when

she brought the allegations last May.

Laura Tucker, a former roommate of Kaiman's, had said in an online post in January that he pressured her to have sex with him in 2013.

Kaiman, who was president of the correspondents club at the time, resigned and apologized.

"I am genuinely sorry that I've caused Laura and Felicia pain — I had considered them very close friends and would never intend to hurt them," Kaiman said Tuesday, adding neither accused him of violence or coercion.

"Yet they have irrevocably destroyed my reputation, my professional network, my nine-year career in journalism, and any hope for a rewarding career in the future," he said.

Sonmez, who now lives in Washington, D.C., said she was grateful the Times had taken her allegations seriously but disappointed the newspaper did not reveal the results of its investigation. She also praised Tucker for coming forward first.

"The voices of women are a crucial part of the equation when it comes to combatting sexual misconduct," she said. "But the response of institutions is another essential part." AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Milan colors. A model wears a creation as part of the Jil Sander women's 2019 Spring-Summer collection, unveiled during the Fashion Week in Milan, Italy, yesterday.

WORLD BRIEFS

**YEMEN** The U.N. food agency said yesterday that time was running out for aid groups working in Yemen to prevent a "devastating" famine in the war-torn country.



**SYRIA** Thousands of people who were recently displaced by violence in northwest Syria have returned home following a Russia-Turkey deal that averted a government offensive on the last major rebel stronghold. More on p14

**TURKEY** A construction workers union says 24 of its members have been detained in the aftermath of protests denouncing poor working conditions at Istanbul's new airport.

**EUROPEAN UNION** EU Brexit envoy Michel Barnier said that his team is studying ways to carry out checks on goods moving into Northern Ireland in an effort to overcome a major obstacle in the negotiations, on the eve of a summit of EU leaders.



**FRANCE** President Emmanuel Macron has pledged to create a memorial museum to honor the victims of terrorism and said a committee will immediately start working on the project.

**BRAZIL** Experts with UNESCO say it could take years to restore Brazil's National Museum and the vast collections that were ravaged by a fire on September 2.

**MEXICO** is commemorating victims of the Sept. 19, 1985, earthquake that left at least 9,500 dead, starting with a solemn ceremony in Mexico City's central plaza.