



ABE'S RE-ELECTION GOOD NEWS FOR GLOBAL CASINO FIRMS

P3 ANALYSIS



'MACAU IS A VERY TRANSIENT PLACE'

Macau's industry characters have given casino town a degree of trust, but deepening it will be hard in a 'transient place,' an HR expert says

P4



US ENVOYS SUMMONED OVER RUSSIA DEAL SANCTIONS
China summoned the US ambassador to protest against sanctions Washington lodged over the purchase of Russian military equipment

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RED INK

Vatican, China agree on bishop appointments

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WORLD BRIEFS



INDIA Supporters of a lawmaker slain by Maoist insurgents in southern India yesterday attacked two police stations in anger over the killing, setting fire to one and vandalizing the other, police said.



JAPAN An unmanned Japanese space capsule is headed to the International Space Station filled with cargo including food, experiments and new batteries. The craft was launched yesterday at 2:52 a.m. from the Tanegashima Space Center in southern Japan. It will take 4 1/2 days to reach the space station.

More on backpage



'THE PERFECT MOMENT'

Capitol Theatre reopens 20 years on

P4

Responsible gambling expert says problem betting is falling

Julie Zhu

NEARLY 100 Sands China team members attended the company's annual Advanced Responsible Gaming Ambassador training program on Thursday and Friday at Conrad Macao, Cotai Central. This program was organized for team members to become responsible gaming ambassadors with enhanced knowledge of gambling problems and awareness of the importance of responsible gaming.

This is the sixth consecutive year Sands China Ltd. has offered the training. It supplements the company's wider responsible gaming training, which is received by each of Sands China's 28,000 plus team members.

The program is part of the company's ongoing commitment to create responsible gaming in Macau, and is the only one in the city done in coordination with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV).

A total of 99 team members received certificates issued by UNLV on Friday, after attending one of two training sessions held on September 20 and 21.

The program is delivered by responsible gaming expert Professor Bo J. Bernhard, executive director of the UNLV International Gaming Institute.

"One of the things we are very excited about is now we are starting to study the results and we are finding very positive effects



Professor Bo J. Bernhard

This is actually very normal in a community where you are seeing the science of problem gambling improve.

BO J. BERNHARD

here in Macau," Bernhard told the Times.

"The problem gambling community – if you will – the company that helps problem gamblers is growing every year. It's a terrible existence to have a gambling problem, [but] never has there been a better day for problem gamblers than today. So as somebody who has been coming to Macau for 20 years and working on these programs between six and 10 years, it's

really exciting for me to come and visit every year and see the positive results."

After completion, the ambassadors are able to provide appropriate assistance to patrons exhibiting signs of problem gambling, and initiate conversations using crisis management and intervention skills.

"I have been coming out here for many years now, going back to the years before Cotai was here, and I've been very impres-

sed. Because when I first started coming there was not a problem gambling community, there were no professional treatment clinics that did this work. We were just starting the research work at the University of Macau. For example, now the University of Macau has a big program. Our [Macau] treatment community is very large, in many ways, this is the best time, if you will, to be a problem gambler in Macau, even as painful as it can be," said Bernhard.

The responsible gaming expert also noted that problem gambling rate in Macau was going down.

"So one of the things that's very encouraging is that Dr. Davis Fong and his colleagues at University of Macau has found is actually the problem gambling rate in Macau is going down. Now this seems perhaps surprising because the gambling opportunities are growing, but this is actually very normal in a community where you are seeing the science of problem gambling improve, the research and our understanding of problem gambling improve, and also the treatment of problem gamblers is getting better and better and better."

"So it's a good thing. It's good news to learn that the rate of problem gambling has actually gone down since the inception of the expansion of casinos here in Macau," the professor said.

Bernhard also remarked that it is important to talk about how Macau is primarily a tourist market.

"In general, tourist-oriented casino economies are healthier or better on the problem gambling front than every day local-oriented jurisdiction and gambling markets," said Bernhard.

Sands China's Advanced Responsible Gaming Ambassador training program is a global initiative launched by parent company Las Vegas Sands Corp. in 2013.

New elements are integrated each year as part of the company's efforts to support measures introduced by Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ).

Nearly 530 team members have completed Responsible Gaming Ambassador training to date, totaling over 3,200 hours of instruction.

ASK THE VET

by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

5 BEST EXERCISES FOR OLD DOGS

OLD dogs can still play like puppies. Don't give up on exercise and games just because you have an older dog. A regimen of regular exercise will keep your dog fit and healthy. Here are five great ways to exercise your older dog.

Light walks great for dogs with arthritis

Walking is always a good choice. Even with arthritis, dogs can walk for a good distance. Be aware of your distance, however, and don't overtire your dog. If possible, spend some time walking on grassy, uneven turf. This provides a lower-impact walk and may improve her balance. If your dog begins to limp or show signs of pain, let her rest. Don't force your dog to walk if she is in obvious pain, but encourage activity as much as possible.

For dogs suffering from paralysis or severe hip dysplasia, dog carts can restore some mobility.

Properly fitted, many dogs are able to continue their daily walks. Other walking aids include a sling-like device that can assist your dog as she goes up and down stairs and ramps that allow easier access to your car or taxi.

Giving your dog something to retrieve

Fetching does not have to involve long throws or fast running. A gently rolling ball can entertain an older dog, and this game can be played indoors. Be sure you use a ball that is large enough to prevent choking. In a Labrador Retriever-sized dog, a tennis ball may be too small. Pet supply stores carry oversized balls for larger dogs.

Tug-O-War instills confidence

Tug-O-War is not recommended for young or aggressive dogs, but in a gentle older pet, this

game can instill confidence and strengthen their teeth, gums and jaw. Do not yank or tug forcefully, and let her win sometimes! Look for a dental-friendly rope toy at pet supply stores. They provide a minor flossing action when your dog chews.

Swimming minimizes pressure on joints

For the pain of hip dysplasia, dogs often find swimming to be very soothing. Water reduces the painful pressure on the joints and allows a freedom of movement that is impossible on dry land. If your dog is not used to swimming, ease her into a shallow area. Often a lake or pond is preferable to a swimming pool. The slippery surface of man-made pools can frighten some dogs. Enter the water with her if possible. Most-but not all-dogs can swim. Some very chest-heavy dogs like Dobermans may not be able to swim safely.

Some vets offer water treadmills

Some veterinary clinics in Macau offer water treadmills. These devices allow your dog to walk naturally while being supported by the natural



buoyancy of water. Originally used for surgical rehabilitation, they are being used more often for exercise in older or arthritic dogs.

Hope this info helps. Till next week
Dr Ruan Bester

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Daniel Beitler

GAMING | ANALYSIS

Abe's re-election is good news for global casino firms

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe was re-elected as head of his ruling Liberal Democratic Party in a landslide election last week, paving the way for up to three more years as the nation's leader and a push for his long-awaited plan to bring recently-approved integrated resorts to Japan.

Abe's reappointment as party head is good news for casino investors.

The prime minister has been a long-time advocate of integrated resorts in the country, believing that they will be a key driver for tourism and employment, but he has had to overcome stiff opposition from his party's junior coalition partner, Buddhist Komeito.

Having finally obtained the green light from the Japanese Diet earlier this year, Abe's re-election will add to investors' confidence that the integrated resort licenses are indeed on their way.

At least one casino investor has already digested the good news.

On Friday, Philippines-based Tiger Resort became the latest casino operator to announce its interest in acquiring a casino license. The company, which operates the Okada Manila casino resort, is currently embroiled in an ownership dispute with Japanese businessman Kazuo Okada.

Tiger Resort now joins a host of other integrated resort developers eyeing Japan, including Las Vegas Sands, MGM Resorts International, Caesars Entertainment, Genting and Hard Rock Cafe.

Macau's own Lawrence Ho, chief executive officer of Melco Resorts & Entertainment, who also wants in on Japan, said that his decision to sell the company's stake in a Vladivostok-based casino last year was mainly to improve his chances of winning a casino license.

Integrated resort openings will be limited to just three locations initially - Tokyo, Osaka and Hokkaido - and they could start opening to the public by 2025.

The Japanese government intends to limit the floor space of gambling areas to just 3 percent of the resort's total floor space, and locals will be required to pay an

entry fee of 6,000 yen and be subject to visitation frequency limits of up to three times a week and 10 times over four weeks.

But those restrictions do not deter investors, who are keen to get involved in the country of 127 million where as many as 8.5 percent say they play recreational arcade game pachinko. The visitor market is equally attractive. Last year, Japan welcomed 28.7 million tourists and the government is aiming for 40 million by 2020.

On Friday, Philippines-based Tiger Resort became the latest firm to gear up for the casino license tender

Some analysts suggest that, even with its very restrictive gambling legislation, the casino market in Japan may soon be worth as much as Macau's.

Abe, who has been prime minister since December 2012, has cemented control of his party and is poised to become Japan's longest-serving leader in August 2021.

He has several policy challenges, including dealing with Japan's aging and declining population, a royal succession in the spring, and a consumption tax hike to 10 percent he has already delayed twice. He also wants to pursue his long-sought amendment to Japan's U.S.-drafted pacifist constitution, although the hurdles remain high and doing so would carry political risks.



Melco deploys employees for typhoon cleanup efforts



MELCO Resorts and Entertainment last week deployed a volunteer team of nearly 100 employees to help clear the city's streets after Signal No.10 typhoon Mangkhut left its mark on the city on September 16.

Employees from Melco's property and construction services department were dispatched during the week to assist with the city's repair efforts and the removal of the accumulation of litter in parts of Macau.

Meanwhile, another group of Melco employees joined the Macau Government Tourism Office's clean-up initiative at Hac Sa, Macau's largest natural beach, to remove the debris that washed up onto the shoreline as a result of typhoon Mangkhut.

"Our thoughts are with those whose properties were damaged in the typhoon," said Lawrence Ho, chairman and chief executive officer of Melco, according to a statement

from the gaming operator.

"At Melco, we pledge to assist the government in helping bring about a swift restoration of order to the city. We will do our best to offer help to those in need in the community as we further coordinate additional relief efforts in the coming days."

Other gaming operators in Macau also conducted relief efforts after Mangkhut, following on from earlier initiatives enacted in the aftermath

of Hato last year.

Typhoon Mangkhut, which was classified by the local weather authority as a "severe typhoon" by the time it approached Macau shores, was one of the strongest storms in recent history, more or less as powerful as Hato.

It left 40 people with injuries (most of them light), caused hundreds of instances of falling scaffolding and small building parts, and felled about 1,500 trees.

MGTO joins gastronomy festival in Turkey

Representing the city of Macau, the director of the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) recently joined other UNESCO Creative Cities of Gastronomy for the 1st Gaziantep International Gastronomy Festival, in Turkey, to learn more about the host city's gastronomic culture and traditions, exchange and attend gastronomy network meetings. In addition, Macau participated in a session during the event to advance on the research project of the 'History of food culture based relations on the Silk Road'. The UNESCO Creative Cities Network will hold meetings again at future events including in Macao early next year.

Guangzhou eases entry barriers for SARs' banks

The Bureau of Financial Affairs of Guangzhou Municipality has announced it will reduce the entry barriers for Hong Kong and Macau banks entering Guangzhou. One of the measures consists of reducing the total assets requirement for a Hong Kong or Macau insurance brokerage company setting up a sole proprietorship insurance company in Guangzhou. The city will continue allowing branches established by Hong Kong or Macau banks in Guangzhou to apply to set up cross-location sub-branches within Guangdong provinces.

IPIM wins travel award in Bangkok

Representatives of the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) went to Bangkok, Thailand, in mid-September to attend the 29th TIG Travel Awards Ceremony, where IPIM was awarded the Best Convention & Exhibition Bureau. This year, at one of the most important Incentive Travel & Conventions trade fair events in Asia, IPIM set-up a 204-square meter Macau Pavilion, to provide display and communication platforms for 22 Macau enterprises. IPIM says the Pavilion helped to facilitate networking, as well as exposure to business matching sessions. The TIG Travel Awards are designed to recognize outstanding performance in the tourism and convention and exhibition industries in the Asia Pacific region.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Macau's high turnover makes corporate trust difficult, says expert

MACAU'S industry characters have given this city an element of basic trust, but establishing a high level of trust across town remains to be seen due to the city's mono-industrial economy, according to Lalita Raman, corporate trainer at Dale Carnegie Training Hong Kong and Macau.

Last week, Raman spoke to a group of around 30 people at Macau Tower during a human resources seminar organized by the France Macau Chamber of Commerce (FMCC).

On the sidelines of the seminar, Raman shared some of her personal thoughts on human resources and building trust, credibility and respect in Macau.

"Industry absolutely matters, and also organization culture. FMCC chose this [the seminar] mainly because Macau is a very transient place. People come and go, and there is always a feeling of 'how can I trust them?' They are here today and maybe they are gone tomorrow. So it's important for both Hong Kong and Macau, because trust is sometimes questionable."

"The topics matter in terms of the type of people who come [to the seminar], the organizations they work for and the organizational culture," said Raman, ex-



Lalita Raman

plaining that her training topics vary, depending on the industries which different participants work for.

In Raman's opinion, there is a lot of volatility in the gaming industry and it may be difficult for Macau to establish a high level of trust.

"I think it's just the nature of the industry itself. There is a degree of skepticism, because it's all about gambling. Yet I think there is already an element of trust, because when you go to a

casino [...] I think you wouldn't enter that place and be willing to bet your money [unless an environment of trust has already been created]. Otherwise, why would I walk into a casino and be willing to gamble?" Raman remarks.

"I would say that in organizations here, possibly, people feel there is a lot of turnover. Not in a bad way, just the nature of the place. Maybe people get a two-year contract [and they leave after the contract ends]. I think

that the element of trust may not be as much as we expect, and yet there is trust. It is a bit ironic. An element of basic trust exists – [although] maybe not be a high level of trust – that's the feeling I am getting sometimes," said Raman.

According to Raman, most of the Dale Carnegie programs are designed for senior leaders, but the programs also receive requests from mid-level management as well.

Participants are from all nationalities, including Chinese, Westerners and Indians. They mostly come from corporations, although some are students.

“Macau is a very transient place. People come and go, and there is always a feeling of 'how can I trust them?'”

LALITA RAMAN
CORPORATE TRAINER

"The majority is probably Chinese. Because again, Hong Kong has seen a change in the past four or five years. It is becoming more and more Chinese-dominated," said Raman, explaining that the ratio of Chinese and non-Chinese program participants is 3 to 1.

The topics offered at Dale Carnegie training programs range from communication to leadership. **JZ**

Capitol Theatre reopens after 20 years

Renato Marques

AFTER closing its doors more than 20 years ago in 1997, the historical Capitol Theatre located at Rua Pedro Nolasco da Silva in Central Macau has finally re-opened in the hope of recapturing its old days of glory.

After extensive refurbishment, the theatre re-opened last weekend with a stage play by local group Dream Theatre Association.

Named "The Perfect Moment", the Cantonese-language play was created to celebrate the group's 10th anniversary. It chronicles the difficulties of two characters trying to fulfill their dream of becoming theatrical artists.

According to records, Capitol Theatre officially opened April 13, 1931 and



played the movie "The Love Parade" starring Maurice Chevalier, and had an original seating capacity of 837.

After the Capitol's first

closure on August 1, 1987, the interior of the theatre building was rebuilt into a shopping center.

In 1991, the theatre re-opened as an entertain-

ment venue but with a reduced capacity of 380 seats on the third floor of the theatre building.

Eventually this room was also closed on Sep-

tember 1, 1997.

At the same time, all the areas of the building were decaying despite continuous use. The building was converted into a "low-end" mixed-use market and game arcade.

The idea to refurbish the theatre came from local property businessman Kuan Vai Lam, who at the time, announced that the theatre would re-open in 2017.

When announcing the Capitol's refurbishment, Kuan said that the plan included the whole building, which he aimed to transform into a performing arts space as well as a venue that would support local cultural and creative industries.

The project has faced several delays, mostly due to conflicts between space owners and the tenants of the small shops and market spaces.

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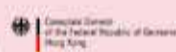
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早前，澳門遭受超強颱風「山竹」正面吹襲，在社會各界攜手下能夠迅速恢復正常生活，我們應引以為榮！不論在颱風前防災準備、颱風中的救災以及風後重整工作，澳門政府部門、社會各界以及每位市民都能各司其職、密切合作，讓澳門能在風災最低損失的前提下，順利渡過此十號颱風。

盛世集團對於客戶的致謝及支持引以為傲，不僅印證了客戶對集團以及全體同事工作的肯定，亦是我們與志同道合的客戶、長期合作的企業及全體同事上下一心的豐碩成果。憑藉同事們的使命感、專業和誠信，集團將繼續確保市民的安全並提升生活質素。

過去30年，盛世集團一直堅守崗位，為本澳公營及私營的重要基礎建設提供服務；服務從未遭受過嚴重中斷，只因集團秉持將心比心的理念，為所有持份者達致共贏！

在此，集團藉此機會祝賀澳門特區政府及相關機構並致以衷心感謝，感謝每一位策劃、後勤支援及前線的政府人員和志願義工的無私奉獻，令澳門社會得以迅速恢復。

最後，我們亦向所有澳門市民表示感謝，風災期間大家都能互相支持、守望相助，充分體現澳門人同舟共濟，共渡難關的精神！

盛世集團將繼續致力為我們的社區不斷奉獻，提供更好的服務以共樹我們的城市！

Super typhoon Mangkhut fustigated Macau days ago and our city should be proud of itself! Private companies, Government authorities and each and every one of us have made an amazing job before, during and after this powerful signal 10 Typhoon.

CESL Asia is particularly proud of the appreciation and supportive messages received from our clients. This is a true and heartfelt incentive for everyone in CESL Asia. A collective triumph of our long-time collaboration with like-minded Clients, business associates and our teams. All with a shared sense of duty, service, professionalism and integrity to ensure everyone's safety and the highest possible quality of life of those we serve.

In 30 years of our commitment to Macau, the city's most critical public and private infrastructures under our care have never suffered a significant disruption of service! Because we all care, everybody wins!

We are also taking this opportunity to sincerely congratulate and thank the Macau Government and local institutions, from the top officials to every single front line worker and volunteers, for their well-planned prevention, reaction and restoring measures.

Finally, we would like to thank all of the Macau population for the amazing values we together have showed in supporting and helping each other at every level.

CESL Asia will keep growing our city because we are committed to our people!



HEALTH

Consumer Council finds all rice samples fit for consumption

THE Consumer Council (CC) and the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) tested 20 rice samples, in order to determine their content and specifically check for heavy metals and other potentially harmful impurities, the CC announced in its newsletter report.

The test results were said to be satisfactory and all the samples were considered acceptable by the analysis according to standards of China, the United Nations and Hong Kong. More specifically, the CC noted that all of the tested samples were fit for consumption, not containing dangerous substances such as arsenic, cadmium, lead or mercury. Nevertheless, the Council advises the public to “purchase rice from licensed shops with good reputations, check the product label, and pay attention to the storage environment of rice products.”

In a separate test, the results of which were also presented in the Consumer Report issue



301, the CC tested the accuracy of fuel meters at petrol stations. In this test, the results were not as positive as on previous occasions, resulting

in the CC concluding that the samples collected in a total of 7 out of 19 fuel stations “did not meet the requirements of national standard JJG443-2015

‘Fuel Dispenser’ due to errors in indication and repeatability.”

In another case, the fuel dispenser showed that the meter

started running even when fuel had not yet been dispensed, resulting in a recommendation for the urgent calibration of the eight fuel meters. Additionally, in the report, the CC issued a consumer alert regarding precautions for applying overseas tertiary educational programs.

Moreover, in the newsletter, consumers were reminded of problems which may lead to financial losses and even lack of certification after completion of an overseas program.

Separately, the Consumer Council conducted its latest ‘supermarket price survey’ on the weekend, surveying 21 locations in the St. António Parish.

With reference to the local seven parishes and the number of supermarkets in each parish, the Council divided around 100 supermarkets into eight areas for price collection. The CC collects prices from these supermarkets for the provision of a more comprehensive database for consumers to check price discrepancies and make price comparisons according to their desired locations.

The latest ‘Supermarket Price Survey’ is now available on Consumer Council’s website (www.consumer.gov.mo), ‘Supermarket Price Information Platform’ iPhone and Android apps, and on the Council’s WeChat account page. **RM**

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Tam guarantees the normal operation of Asilo Vila Madalena



THE Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, replying to questions from the media after a public event, said on Saturday that the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) is keeping in close contact with the elderly home, Asilo Vila Madalena, in Coloane, regarding the concerns aired last week over the temporary lodging of former Canidrome greyhounds close to the institution, the Office of the Secretary informed in a statement.

A group of elderly residents hand-delivered a petition to the government last week to protest the relocation of some 500 greyhounds to their Coloane neighborhood, which they say has brought problems of noise and odor since the first batch arrived.

Led by spokesperson Sister Beatrice Ip, the group resides at Asilo Vila Madalena in Coloane village, home to approximately 80 senior citizens, many of whom are over 90 years old.

According to the statement, Tam noted his awareness of the condition and number of elderly in the senior citizens' home. The Secretary called for continuous communication on their problems with the greyhounds and remarked that he hoped the relocation project would not affect the normal operations of the home.

Tam added that he expects that Asilo Vila Madalena will soon be included in the government provision of medical services to the elderly, calling on the services of the IAS to accelerate the process.

At the same opportunity, Tam was also questioned on the current status of the Islands Health Care Complex, replying, "all the works of the foundations are finished and last year the construction of the building for the Nursing Institute was started." The construction is currently scheduled to conclude by next year, he said. **RM**

Seasonal flu vaccination program starts

STARTING from today, the Health Bureau (SSM) will offer free vaccinations against seasonal influenza for individuals at high risk of contracting the disease.

The SSM has purchased a total of 150,000 doses of the quadrivalent flu vaccine this year, which can protect recipients against the influenza A and B viruses.

The first batch of 35,000 doses has already arrived in Macau, with the remaining batches slated to arrive in the near future.

Groups considered eligible for the program include elderly people aged 50 and above, children aged between six months and 18 years, pregnant women, patients with chronic diseases, and obese individuals (those with a body mass index of at least 30).

Civil servants and employees of non-tertiary schools, nurseries and other institutions such as casinos are also eligible for the vaccine.

The SSM said it will contact relevant organizations regarding other groups in need of vaccination.

The department has issued a reminder that individuals vaccinated between September 2017 and August 2018 still need to be vaccinated with the new vaccine. The updated vaccine has been specially designed for the next bout of seasonal flu, which is expected to occur between February and August next year.

According to the SSM, seasonal influenza is usually more common in Macau from February to March and from June to August.

ADVERTORIAL

SANDS CHINA NEWS

Sands China Provides Pre- and Post-Typhoon Mangkhut Relief Support

Aid includes meal distribution and home repair



Sands Cares Ambassadors visit 16 live-alone elderly and disabled members of the Peng On Tung Tele-Assistance programme Sept. 15 to make preparations for Typhoon Mangkhut, including taping windows shut to minimise storm damage, and providing bottled water and essential food items. The Ambassadors revisited them again Sept. 17 to provide further assistance.

Sands China Ltd. mobilised its resources to assist the Macao community in the immediate aftermath of Typhoon Mangkhut, which slammed into Macao Sept. 16.

The company also provided assistance before the storm made landfall, with Sands Cares Ambassadors visiting 16 live-alone elderly and disabled members of the Peng On Tung Tele-Assistance programme Sept. 15 to make preparations for the typhoon, including taping windows shut to minimise storm damage, and providing bottled water and essential food items. The Ambassadors revisited them again Sept. 17 to provide further assistance. Sands China also sent team members from its facilities department to help with household repairs as needed.



Sands Cares Ambassadors team up with Caritas Macau to help deliver meal boxes prepared by Sands China for residents of the Elderly Centre at Illa Verde.

The company also provided parking spaces for the General Union of Neighbourhood Associations of Macau (UGAMM), Fuhong Society of Macau, Caritas Macau, and Macau Special Olympics to park a total of eight buses at The Parisian Macao prior to Mangkhut's arrival, to prevent damage to the vehicles.

In addition, Sands Cares Ambassadors teamed up with Caritas Macau to help deliver meal boxes prepared by Sands China for residents of the Elderly Centre at Illa Verde.

"Sands China considers it our social responsibility as a Macao corporation to help the city recover after natural disasters like Typhoon Mangkhut," said Winnie Wong, vice president of corporate communications and community affairs for Venetian Macau Limited. "It's our role to do expend our resources to support the community to get back on its feet as quickly as possible."



Sands China provided parking spaces for the General Union of Neighbourhood Associations of Macau (UGAMM), Fuhong Society of Macau, Caritas Macau, and Macau Special Olympics to park a total of eight buses at The Parisian Macao prior to Mangkhut's arrival, to prevent damage to the vehicles.

Sands China's relief efforts, which began immediately after the storm and remain ongoing, are part of Sands Cares, the global corporate citizenship programme of parent company Las Vegas Sands Corp.

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(Ref: 1505507RT)
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Hellene Garden, High Floor Carnation Court

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1,663 sq.ft. HKD 9.8M
Rate: HKD 5,893

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Kam Lai Kuok

(Ref: 17035512)
1689 sq.ft. HKD 7.5M
Rate: HKD 4,440

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Rate: HKD 6,347

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Car park space available for Sale in the Manhattan, Taipa. Great location on the 4th floor. Good size space. Asking price HKD1.63 million



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Fully renovated apartment with a bright street view situated on the edge of the popular Taipa Village. The original two bed layout has been converted into a large one bedroom configuration that can easily turn back into two. The building features a newly renovated lobby and common areas completed in August 2018.



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HONG KONG

What the end of easy money era means for home prices

Tian Chen, Emma Dai

A shock jump in Hong Kong's currency is signaling a decade-long liquidity party is finally coming to an end. That may be bad news for the city's housing market.

The Hong Kong dollar surged as much as 0.6 percent on Friday, its biggest gain in 15 years. While traders gave differing reasons for the move, the common theme was concern that the city's borrowing costs will catch up with those in the U.S. as the

Federal Reserve continues to hike rates.

A currency peg with the U.S., open financial borders and a booming economy meant Hong Kong property was one of the greatest beneficiaries of ultra-low lending costs in the wake of the global financial crisis. Home prices rose more than 170 percent in the past decade making the city the world's least affordable. Citigroup Inc. and CLSA Ltd. are among those warning of a reversal on expectations that mortgage servicing costs will rise.

"The market has underestimated the pace of interest rate increases in Hong Kong," said Kevin Lai, chief economist for Asia ex-Japan at Daiwa Capital Markets Hong Kong Ltd. This "will bring pressure to the property market and leveraged home buyers."

After trading at the weak end of the band for months, prompting repeated interventions by the city's de facto central bank, the Hong Kong dollar rocketed into the stronger half of the spectrum on Friday.

The three-month interbank rate, known as Hibor, was last

at 2.125 percent, its highest level in almost a decade. A narrowing spread with U.S. Libor is making a previously profitable trade of selling Hong Kong dollars to buy higher yielding U.S. assets less appealing.

"The short-Hong Kong dollar carry trade has come to an end," said Ken Peng, an investment strategist at Citi Private Bank in Hong Kong. "Friday's move suggests borrowing costs in Hong Kong have tightened a lot and will tighten further."

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority said in emailed comments

that while it didn't want to comment on Friday's movement in the currency, "market participants generally view the elevated interbank interest rates as a contributing factor."

While residential prices in Hong Kong's secondary market have climbed 16 percent over the past 12 months, according to Centaline Property Agency, developers have begun to offer perks such as free rail tickets to accelerate sales. Some are selling apartments at discounts, and others aren't providing mortgages due to concern that rising borrowing costs may increase defaults. Financial Secretary Paul Chan said this month he sees signs the market is cooling.

■ Home prices rose more than 170 percent in the past decade making the city the world's least affordable

Predicting declines in Hong Kong's property market hasn't been a profitable exercise in the past, with a home-price slump in 2015-2016 quickly followed by new record-highs. But expectations are growing that banks will increase the so-called prime rate, which caps the costs of mortgage repayments for many homeowners, for the first time since 2006.

"We expect banks to hike prime rate twice this year by a total of 50 basis points, as Hibor rises with a shrinking liquidity pool and Fed hikes," said Frank Lee, acting chief investment officer for North Asia at DBS Bank (HK) Ltd. "It will hurt property market sentiment." **Bloomberg**

Europe eyes 'longshot' talks with US to soften trade impasse

THE European Union's trade chief heads to New York this week to continue negotiations with the U.S. and Japan, as the three parties seek a way to end what they see as China's unfair commercial policies and dial down global tensions.

Their plan is to create an agreement to try and force China to end "non market-oriented policies" that lead to overcapacity, create unfair competitive conditions and hinder technological development. The stakes couldn't be higher.

The EU is engaged in a delicate balancing act, working with the U.S. to address common complaints while also trying to convince President Donald Trump to roll back unilateral tariffs he imposed on the 28-country bloc this year and persuade him against instating other, more punitive measures. Cecilia Malmstrom, the EU's trade negotiator, will also seek to stem the American assault on the multilateral system by shoring up the World Trade Organization.

"It's a longshot, and the-

se talks are at a very early stage," said Chad Bown, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Peterson Institute for International Economics. "But this may be the best way both to resolve Trump's escalating trade war with China and to address some of the WTO's key shortcomings."

Malmstrom will meet U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Japanese Trade Minister Hiroshige Seko on Sept. 25 while the U.N. General Assembly is in session. The three will seek to lay the groundwork to deve-

lop stronger rules for industrial subsidies; state-owned enterprises; forced technology transfers; WTO transparency; and e-commerce.

The meeting comes after Trump has already hit China with tariffs on USD50 billion of its imports, announced duties on another \$200 billion of goods coming from the nation that go into effect on Sept. 24, and threatened levies on another \$267 billion if China retaliates - which Beijing has already pledged to do. China canceled trade talks that had been plan-

ned between the two nations.

Overall manufacturing in the euro area grew at the slowest pace in two years in September as the economy feels the pain from the global trade war. The auto industry - which has been targeted by Trump and is particularly sensitive to larger EU nations - is taking the brunt of the slowdown in demand, according to IHS Markit's latest monthly survey.

"If this initiative succeeds, it could provide an 'off-ramp' from the current" tariff escalation, said Scott Miller, a senior adviser at the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies. "That's good, since U.S.-China bilateral talks seem not to be

making progress."

The stakes are high for the EU and Japan as well, who fear the Trump administration could trigger national security tariffs on automobiles and auto parts if they refuse to play ball. In May, the U.S. Commerce department launched an investigation to determine if foreign imports of cars, SUVs, vans, light trucks, and auto parts are having a detrimental impact on U.S. national security.

Though U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said his agency would hold off on any new auto tariffs while the EU and the U.S. negotiate a new trade pact, major car exporters fear Trump could still forge ahead with duties if he believes progress is lacking. **MDT/Bloomberg**



Two Su-35 fighter jets and a H-6K bomber from the People's Liberation Army air force fly in formation during patrol in the South China Sea

Beijing summons US envoys over sanctions linked to Russia deal

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

CHINA summoned the American ambassador and the defense attache and recalled its navy commander from a U.S. trip to deliver a strong protest against economic sanctions Washington lodged over the purchase of Russian fighter jets and surface-to-air missile equipment.

The Defense Ministry said the U.S. had no right to interfere in Chinese military cooperation with Russia.

"We demand that the U.S. immediately correct the mistake and revoke the so-called sanctions, otherwise the U.S. must bear the consequences," the Defense Ministry said in a statement.

The Foreign Ministry said

that it had summoned Ambassador Terry Branstad.

The Central Military Commission, which commands the People's Liberation Army, the world's largest standing military, said that Huang Xueping, the commission's deputy head for international military cooperation, had also summoned the acting U.S. defense attache on Saturday evening, the

official Xinhua News Agency said.

Huang said China would immediately recall Shen Jinlong, a Chinese navy commander currently in the U.S. attending a symposium, and would postpone a meeting scheduled for Sept. 25-27 in Beijing about a communication mechanism.

"The Chinese military reserves the right to take further

countermeasures," Huang was quoted as saying.

Washington says China's purchase of the weapons from Rosoboronexport, Russia's main arms exporter, violated a 2017 law intended to punish the government of Russian President Vladimir Putin for interfering in U.S. elections and other activities.

The action triggers a visa ban on China's Equipment Development Department and director Li Shangfu, forbids conducting transactions with the U.S. financial system and blocks all property and interests in property involving the country within U.S. jurisdiction.

The U.S. State Department said Li's office made a "significant transaction" involving the purchase of Su-35 combat aircraft in 2017 and S-400 surface-to-air missile system-related equipment this year.

The sanctions were enacted "to further impose costs on the Russian government in response to its malign activities," it said. The U.S. will continue to "urge all countries to curtail relationships with Russia's defense and intelligence sectors, both of which are linked to malign activities worldwide," it said.

The Kremlin dismissed the sanctions as an "unfair" move to undercut Russia as a major arms exporter.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Friday that Russia views the new set of sanctions as an attempt to undermine the competitiveness of Russian arms exports and vowed to reciprocate. AP

Chinese navy hospital ship docks in Venezuela amid crisis

A Chinese navy hospital ship docked near Venezuela's capital yesterday [Macau time] as the OPEC nation's deepening economic crisis garners the attention of the U.S. and other world powers.

Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino was on hand to greet the People's Liberation Army Navy's ship, the Peace Ark, on its latest stop as part of the 11-nation "Mission Harmony" tour announced in June.

"This is how you undertake diplomacy in the world," Padrino said, "with concrete actions of cooperation and not stoking the false voices of those who beat the drum of war."

Interest in the goodwill



Chinese ship commander Guan Bai Lin (left corner) speaks with Venezuela's Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino (right corner)

visit has been building since the Pentagon announced in August it was sending its own hospital

ship, the USNS Comfort, to neighboring Colombia to provide free medical treatment for thousands

of Venezuelan migrants fleeing their homes amid widespread food and medicine shortages.

U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, in a visit to Colombia last month, called the ship's deployment a humanitarian mission to deal with the fallout of President Nicolas Maduro's mismanagement of the economy. The United Nations estimates that 2.3 million Venezuelans have fled the crisis-torn country in recent years, mainly to Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Brazil.

But top officials in Venezuela's socialist government saw the Comfort's deployment as a threat, part of an effort by the U.S. to pave the way for a military intervention on humanitarian grounds.

Padrino on Saturday said the Chinese boat's visit was part of the government's "strategic defense operation."

The Peace Ark's humanitarian tours around the world have become a sign of China's outreach efforts and Beijing's ambitions of gradually expan-

ding its military influence abroad.

The ship, which has 300 beds, eight operation rooms and a medical helicopter, has carried out such missions to more than 40 countries provided free medical services for more than 180,000 people since it was commissioned in 2008.

Such goodwill visits have been the mainstay of U.S. diplomacy in Latin America for decades.

The Chinese ship has twice before visited Latin America, in 2011 and 2015, but never has stopped in Venezuela. It will also visit the Caribbean island of Grenada and Ecuador on its current deployment.

Maduro, who came back a week ago from a visit to China where he sought fresh investment and financing from one of Venezuela's top ally, said on Twitter that the boat will stay in Venezuela for about a week. AP

NO SPECIFICS

Vatican, China make breakthrough deal on bishop appointments

Frances D'emilio, Vatican City

THE Vatican and China said yesterday [Macau time] they had signed a “provisional agreement” over the appointment of bishops, a breakthrough on an issue that stymied diplomatic relations for decades and aggravated a split among Chinese Catholics.

The deal resolved one of the major sticking points in recent years, with the Vatican agreeing to accept seven bishops who were previously named by Beijing without the pope's consent.

The development comes nearly seven decades after the Holy See and Beijing severed official relations. Beijing's long-held insistence that it must approve bishop appointments in China had clashed with absolute papal authority to pick bishops.

With the status of the seven bishops now reconciled, the Vatican said all bishops in China are now in communion with Rome — even though the Catholic community in China is still split between Catholics who belong to the official Chinese church and those in the underground church who remain loyal to the pope.

“Pope Francis hopes that, with these decisions, a new process may begin that will allow the wounds of the past to be overcome, leading to the full communion of all Chinese Catholics,” a Vatican statement said.

Some Chinese Catholics have opposed such a deal, notably Hong Kong Cardinal Joseph Zen, who previously called it a sell-out of Chinese Catholics who refused to join the state Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association and who paid the price of remaining faithful to Rome during years of persecution.

Zen didn't reply this weekend to an AP request for comment. But on his blog, the cardinal criticized the lack of specifics in the accord, including no mention of the status of several underground bishops named by the pope.

“What is the message this communicate conveys to the faithful in China? ‘Trust us! Accept the agreement!’,” he wrote. That, he said, was tantamount to the Chinese government telling Catholics to “Obey us! We are in agreement with your pope!”

Vatican spokesman Greg Burke, speaking in Vilnius, Lithuania, where Pope Francis was visiting, indicated the accord would serve as a blueprint for future appointments of bishops, who lead the faithful in their dioceses.



Pope Francis meets a group of faithful from China at the end of his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square, at the Vatican, in April

Burke told reporters the aim of the accord “is not political but pastoral, allowing the faithful to have bishops who are in communion with Rome but at the same time recognized by Chinese authorities.”

On his blog, Cardinal Zen criticized the lack of specifics in the accord, including no mention of the status of several underground bishops named by the pope

The Vatican's No. 2 official indicated that the pope and Chinese authorities would jointly approve new bishop appointments.

“What is required now is unity, is trust, and a new impetus: to have good pastors, recognized by the Successor of Peter [Pope Francis] and by the legitimate civil authorities,” said Cardinal Pietro Parolin.

A Vatican official earlier this year said the deal allows the pope to effectively veto future bishop names proposed by Beijing. That official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because

diplomatic negotiations were involved, had described it as the best arrangement the Holy See could achieve for now.

The deal's provisional nature left open the possibility of improvements down the line.

The Vatican described the provisional agreement as “the fruit of a gradual and reciprocal rapprochement” following a “long process of careful negotiation.”

While the agreement could help pave the way for formal diplomatic ties and possibly an eventual papal trip to China, it was also sure to anger Catholics who vigorously advocated for the Vatican to maintain a hard line on caring for the 12 million faithful in China.

The accord was signed in Beijing during a meeting between China's deputy minister for foreign affairs, Wang Chao, and the Vatican undersecretary for state relations, Monsignor Antoine Camilleri.

In Beijing, the Foreign Ministry said “China and the Vatican will continue to maintain communications and push forward the process of improving relations between the two sides.”

Yet even as China professed the desire for better relations with the Holy See, the deal was signed against a backdrop of a Chinese crackdown on religions.

In one glaring case of pro-Vatican Catholics in China, Bishop Guo Xijin, head of an underground diocese, was whisked away in March by government agents in the southern village of Saiqi. It wasn't immediately clear how the new accord affected him and others opposing Chinese authorities.

“The question now is: What is going to happen to the bishops who are under house arrest?” said the Rev. Bernardo Cervellera, a Vatican-China expert and chief editor of the missionary news agency Asia News.

Cervellera noted that Shanghai's underground bishop and others were under house arrest and some priests were imprisoned. He said about a year ago, about 10 priests were in prison in Hebei province near Beijing, but he didn't know their current situation.

The Vatican “had to start a dialogue from a weak position, because China is very powerful and therefore dictated the rules of this dialogue,” Cervellera told the AP.

Under President Xi Jinping, China's most powerful leader since Mao Zedong, faithful are seeing their freedoms shrink even as the country experiences a religious revival. Experts and activists contend that as Xi is consolidating power, he is waging the most systematic suppression of Christianity since the Chinese constitution allowed for religious freedom in 1982.

Xi is trying to infuse all of the religions in China with “Chinese characteristics” such as loyalty to the Communist Party.

As part of this drive, Islamic crescents and domes have been stripped from mosques and a campaign is underway to “re-educate” tens of thousands of Uighur Muslims. Tibetan children have been moved from Buddhist temples to schools and banned from religious activities during summer holidays, state-run media have reported.

This spring, a 5-year plan regarding Christians was introduced, along with new rules on religious affairs. Over the last few months, local governments across China have shut down hundreds of private Christian “house churches.”

The Vatican spokesman indicated there was still some ways to go for better relations between the Catholic Church and China.

“This is not the end of a process. It's the beginning,” Burke said. “This has been about dialogue, patient listening on both sides even when people come from very different standpoints.”

In Beijing, Zhang Ye, a 31-year-old Catholic leaving church after a Saturday evening Mass, said the Vatican couldn't afford to ignore the importance of China and the growing number of believers in the country.

“My biggest wish is that we can have more communication and interactions with Vatican,” he said.

Bridging different points of view has characterized much of Francis' five-year papacy, and led to the Vatican helping improve relations between another communist nation, Cuba, and the United States.

In Taiwan, the reaction focused on the plight of ordinary Catholics.

“As the world watches China increasingly tightening control over religious practices, Taiwan trusts that the Holy See has made appropriate arrangements to ensure that Catholic adherents in China will receive due protection and not be subject to repression,” Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said. **AP**

THE Maldives is holding its third multiparty presidential election on Sunday [today, Macau time]. The Indian Ocean nation of 400,000 has been rife with political turmoil since democracy was introduced just a decade ago.

Famed for its white sand beaches and luxury resorts, the Maldives under President Yameen Abdul Gayoom, who is seeking re-election, has seen economic growth and longer life expectancy, according to the World Bank. But Yameen's critics say he has systematically rolled back democratic freedoms, jailing rivals and controlling courts. Like elsewhere in South Asia, China has made fast inroads into the Maldives with aid and investment, challenging India's long-held position as the dominant regional power.

A look at the Maldives, and why the election matters:

THREATENED BY RISING SEAS

The Maldives is a low-lying archipelago in South Asia formed from a chain of about 1,200 coral islands grouped in 26 atolls in the Indian Ocean, 430 kilometers southwest of India. The reefs, less than a meter above the sea, attract scuba divers from around the world, but they're also threatened by rising temperatures and sea levels. Former President Moha-

MDT EXPLAINS

Why elections hold key for Maldives' future



med Nasheed held an underwater Cabinet meeting in 2009 to highlight the threat of climate change.

VICIOUS POLITICS

The Maldives was a British protectorate until 1965. The centuries-old sultanate was restored again a year later until 1968. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom came

to power in 1978 through a public referendum, ruling with an iron fist until 2008. That year, Mohamed Nasheed became the country's first freely elected president. But Nasheed was forced to resign and later was sentenced to a 13-year prison term. He was later granted asylum in the United Kingdom when he traveled there for medical treatment,

and continues to live in exile.

Nasheed was succeeded by his running mate, Mohamed Waheed Hasan. Current President Yameen, Gayoom's half brother, won in 2013. His former vice president, Ahmed Adeen, Gayoom, two ex-defense ministers, a prosecutor general and opposition lawmakers are among those who have been jai-

led during Yameen's five-year tenure. All of the trials have been criticized for alleged lack of fairness.

With Nasheed ineligible to run in Sunday's election because of his conviction, the opposition joined forces around longtime lawmaker Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, Yameen's only contender.

IMPLICATIONS

The opposition and outside observers have cautioned that because of Yameen's tight control of government institutions, Sunday's election could be rigged. The European Union canceled plans to send observers after determining that the Maldives had not met the conditions for monitoring. The U.S. has threatened to sanction Maldivian officials if the elections are not free and fair.

Nasheed told reporters in neighboring Sri Lanka on Friday that the elections are critical for stability in the Indian Ocean, where he said a "cold war was brewing" between India and China. Gulbin Sultana, a researcher on the Maldives at the Institute of Defense Studies and Analyses based in New Delhi, said that if Yameen is re-elected, the state of democracy is unlikely to improve. "That will probably mean the media, the people opposing the government will have to suffer more," she said. **MDT/AP**

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Celebração da Lua - Festividade do Bolo Lunar

On the Occasion of the Celebration of the 69th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China
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Por Ocasião da Celebração do 69º Aniversário da República Popular da China

19:00 - 21:30
24 / 09 / 2018

Program

- Chinese calligraphy demonstration
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- Lantern riddle solving "Chai Tang Mai"
- Live music performance
- Bunny balloon twisting
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- Chinese sweet dumpling "Tong Yung" and drinks

* Snack boxes with traditional festive selection (Number tag will be distributed from 17:00, Availability Limited. The tag is limited to one per person)

Snack box collection period: 19:15 - 21:30
Other snack and drinks: 19:30 - 21:30

Free Admission

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ANALYSIS

Some see signs of hope on North Korea as Trump heads to UN

Matthew Pennington, Washington

NORTH Korea's Kim Jong Un is "little rocket man" no more. President Donald Trump isn't a "mentally deranged U.S. dotard."

In the year since Trump's searing, debut U.N. speech fueled fears of nuclear conflict with North Korea, the two leaders have turned from threats to flattery.

And there's fresh hope that the U.S. president's abrupt shift from coercion to negotiation can yield results in getting Kim to halt, if not abandon, his nuclear weapons program.

Trump will address world leaders at the United Nations tomorrow on the back of an upbeat summit between South and North Korea, where Kim promised to dismantle a major rocket launch site and the North's main nuclear complex at Nyongbyon if it gets some incentive from Washington.

North Korea remains a long, long way from relinquishing its nuclear arsenal, and the U.S. has been adding to, not easing, sanctions. Yet the past 12 months have seen a remarkable change in atmosphere between the adversaries that has surprised even the former U.S. envoy on North Korea.

"If someone had told me last year that North Korea will stop nuclear tests, will stop missile tests and that they will release the remaining American prisoners and that they would be



even considering dismantling Nyongbyon, I would have taken that in a heartbeat," said Joseph Yun, who resigned in March and has since left the U.S. foreign service.

Since Trump and Kim held the first summit between U.S. and North Korean leaders in Singapore in June, Trump has missed no chance to praise "Chairman Kim," and Kim has expressed "trust and confidence" in the American president he once branded "senile."

But progress has been slow toward the vague goal they agreed upon — denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, which has eluded U.S. presidents for the past quarter-century. The U.S. wants to achieve that by January 2021, when Trump completes his first term in office.

Although Kim won't be going to New York next week, meetings there could prove critical in deciding whether a second Trump-Kim summit will take place any time soon.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has invited his North Korean counterpart Ri Yong Ho for a meeting in New York, and Trump will be consulting with South Korean President Moon Jae-in, fresh from his third summit with Kim this year. It was at that meeting in Pyongyang that the North Korean leader made his tantalizing offers to close key facilities of his weapons programs that have revived prospects for U.S.-North Korea talks.

Yun, who spoke to reporters Friday at the United States Institute for Peace in Washington, said the U.S. goal of achieving

denuclearization in just two years is unrealistic, but the offer to close Nyongbyon, where the North has plutonium, uranium and nuclear reprocessing facilities, is significant and offers a way forward.

That's a far cry from last September. After Trump's thunderous speech, Yun's first thought was on the need to avoid a war. The president vowed to "totally destroy North Korea" if the U.S. was forced to defend itself or its allies against the North's nukes. "Rocket man is on a suicide mission for himself and his regime," the president said.

His blunt talk triggered an extraordinary, almost surreal, exchange of insults. Kim issued a harshly worded statement from Pyongyang, dubbing the thin-skinned Trump a "mentally de-

ranged U.S. dotard." A day later, the North's top diplomat warned it could test explode a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean.

Tensions have eased hugely since then, and cracks have emerged in the international consensus on pressuring North Korea economically to get it to disarm.

The U.S. accuses Russia of allowing illicit oil sales to North Korea. Trump has also criticized China, which has fraternal ties with the North and is embroiled in a trade war with the U.S., for conducting more trade with its old ally. Sanctions could even become a sore point with South Korea. Moon is eager to restart economic cooperation with North Korea to cement improved relations on the divided peninsula.

All that will increase pressure on Washington to compromise with Pyongyang — providing the incentives Kim seeks, even if the weapons capabilities he's amassed violate international law. He's likely eyeing a declaration on formally ending the Korean War as a marker of reduced U.S. "hostility" and sanctions relief.

That could prove politically unpalatable in Washington just as it looks for Kim to follow through on the denuclearization pledge he made in Singapore.

Frank Aum, a former senior Pentagon adviser on North Korea, warned tensions could spike again if the U.S. does not see progress by year's end, when the U.S. would typically need to start planning large-scale military drills with South Korea that North Korea views as war preparations. Trump decided to cancel drills this summer as a concession to Kim.

"Things can flip pretty quickly," Aum said. "We've seen it going from bad to good and it could fairly quickly go back to the bad again." AP

INDONESIA

Presidential contenders vow peaceful campaign

CAMPAIGNING for Indonesia's presidential election officially began yesterday with the two contenders releasing white doves and vowing a peaceful race as concerns simmer the campaign will sharpen religious and ethnic divides.

The election due in April pits incumbent Joko "Jokowi" Widodo against former general and ultranationalist Prabowo Subianto, who lost to Jokowi in 2014.

Dressed in traditional clothing, the candidates and their running mates paraded through central Jakarta and released doves at a ceremony after reading out a peaceful campaign declaration.



President Joko Widodo (center left) and his running mate Ma'ruf Amin (left)

The 2014 presidential election was marred by dirty campaigning and wild internet rumors that Jokowi was a secret com-

munist and of Chinese background, accusations often used in Indonesia to discredit or intimidate political opponents.

Jokowi, the first Indonesian president from outside the country's political and military elite, has picked conservative

cleric Ma'ruf Amin as his running mate, aiming to neutralize criticism that he is insufficiently Muslim.

He has a big but not unassailable lead over Prabowo in polls and Indonesia's recent hosting of the Asian Games further burnished his image.

With a population of more than 260 million, Muslim majority Indonesia is the world's third-largest democracy after India and the U.S. The country's image as a moderate Muslim nation has been undermined by flaring intolerance in the past several years, from the imprisonment of Jakarta's Christian governor, who was a Jokowi ally, for blasphemy to the ca-

nings of gay men in Aceh, a province that practices Shariah law.

Most of Jokowi's five-year term has been spent balancing the demands of his moderate base, powerful Islamic conservatives, a complicated parliamentary coalition and the military, which has never completely accepted its diminished role following the end of the Suharto dictatorship two decades ago.

Upgrading Indonesia's creaking infrastructure has been his signature policy but progress is uneven and many Indonesians still yearn for the strong-man type leadership represented by Suharto era figures such as Prabowo. AP

Edith M. Lederer, United Nations

TRADE WAR

World leaders gather at UN under threat from unilateralism

WITH rising unilateralism challenging its very existence, the United Nations convenes its annual meeting of world leaders today and will try once more to tackle problems together as a community of nations, addressing threats ranging from Mideast conflicts to the effects of global warming — and also encouraging the glimmer of hope over the nuclear standoff in North Korea.

This year, 133 world leaders have signed up to attend the General Assembly session, a significant increase from last year's 114. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called the expected large turnout "eloquent proof of the confidence of the international community in the United Nations," though other U.N. officials and diplomats said it's in response to growing concerns about an increasingly turbulent world.

The seven-year-old conflict in Syria and the three-year war in Yemen that has sparked the world's worst humanitarian crisis and is now seriously threatening large-scale famine will certainly be in the spotlight, along with meetings on other Mideast and African hot spots. So will Iran, which faces escalating hostile rhetoric from the Trump administration over its activities supporting international terrorism, which Tehran vehemently denies.

Guterres said last week that one of his overriding concerns in an increasingly globalized world is the threat to having the U.N.'s 193 member nations work together, which is the foundation of the United Nations.

"Multilateralism is under attack from many different directions precisely when we need it most," the U.N. chief told reporters last week. "In different areas and for different reasons, the trust of people in their political establishments, the trust of states among each other, the trust of many people in international organizations has been eroded and ... multilateralism has been in the fire."

Guterres challenged diplomats at last week's opening of the 73rd session of the General Assembly by saying: "At a time of fragmentation and polarization, the world needs this assembly to show the value of international cooperation."

Whether it will be able to remain in question.

At this year's gathering of presidents, prime ministers, monarchs and ministers, populist leaders will include U.S. President Donald Trump, President Andrzej Duda of Poland and Premier Giuseppe Conte of Italy along with the foreign ministers of Hungary and Austria.

U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley told reporters that Trump, who champions an "America First" policy, wants to talk about "protecting U.S. sovereignty," and

she reiterated Washington's opposition to the 2015 Paris climate agreement on curbing global warming and a newly agreed international compact aimed at regulating migration.

"We really value sovereignty of the country," Haley said. "It is not saying multilateralism can't work, but it's saying sovereignty is a priority over all of that, and we always have to make sure we're doing that — and there are many countries that agree with us."

Before stepping down as U.N. humanitarian chief Aug. 31, Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein expressed serious concern that populism, intolerance and oppression are "becoming fashionable again."

"It all builds, because once you start down the path of intolerance, it's very difficult to stop it, unless at the end of the day you have conflict," he said.

Multilateralism is under attack from many different directions precisely when we need it most.

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES
UN SECRETARY GENERAL

French President Emmanuel Macron is expected to be a key voice joining Guterres in the coming week in speaking out against this trend and supporting multilateralism as key to promoting peace.

The week's activities kick off with a peace summit Monday morning honoring the 100th birthday this year of South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela. A statue of Mandela will be unveiled at U.N. headquarters and leaders are expected to adopt a declaration recognizing the years 2019-2028 as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace.

Trump is hosting an event Monday on "The World Drug Problem" and Haley said 124 countries have signed a global call to action. Activists on drug policy note it was never negotiated, and one group, the Harm Reduction Coalition, called it "an instance of heavy-handed U.S. 'with us or against us' diplomacy."

The increasingly strident U.S. rhetoric against Iran is expected

to be a feature in U.S. speeches. Haley said that "every dangerous spot in the world — Iran seems to have its fingerprints in it," which Tehran denies.

Trump pulled the United States out of the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement in May and the foreign ministers of the five remaining powers who support the deal — Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany — are expected to meet privately tomorrow [Macau time] with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif.

The General Assembly's "General Debate," as the ministerial session is called, officially opens tomorrow with Guterres' report on the state of the world, to be followed soon after by speeches from Trump, Macron and late in the morning by President Hassan Rouhani of Iran.

The U.S. holds the rotating presidency of the U.N. Security Council in September and has scheduled two ministerial meetings, the first on Wednesday presided over by Trump. It was initially to focus on Iran but has now been broadened to the topic of "nonproliferation" of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

"I'm sure that is going to be the most watched Security Council meeting ever," Haley told reporters.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will preside over the second meeting Thursday on North Korea, an issue the Security Council was united on in imposing increasingly tough sanctions. But that unity now appears to be at risk over enforcement of sanctions and the broader issues of how to achieve denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and when sanctions should be lifted against North Korea.

Guterres welcomed the recent "positive meeting" in Pyongyang between the leaders of North and South Korea but warned that "there will not be success in intra-Korean negotiations if simultaneously there is not success in the American and North Korean" negotiations to rid the Korean Peninsula of nuclear weapons.

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said the United Nations has received 342 requests for meetings during the high-level week.

They includes sessions on conflicts in Syria, Libya, Yemen, Mali and Central African Republic as well as the plight of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar, aid for Palestinians, education for girls, modern slavery, environmental threats, efforts to



Guterres



Trump



Macron

end poverty, and the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

Asked what are the big issues, Russia's U.N. ambassador, Vasily Nebenzia, told The Associated Press: "All of them are big issues — nonproliferation, cooperation, the world peace architecture — it's every year, but this year it's maybe more topical than ever."

Uruguayan Ambassador Elbio

Rosselli said the biggest issue for his country is multilateralism.

"It's a vow that all of us ought to keep reinforcing particularly at this juncture where so many undercurrents and contrary views are surfacing on different scenarios," he told AP. "The validity of this institution is more than ever necessary, and for that we need the recommitment of all states." AP

IRAN

President Rouhani blames US after attack on military parade

IRAN'S president yesterday accused an unnamed U.S.-allied country in the Persian Gulf of being behind a terror attack on a military parade that killed 25 people and wounded 60, further raising regional tensions.

Hassan Rouhani's comments came as Iran's Foreign Ministry also summoned Western diplomats over them allegedly providing havens for the Arab separatists who claimed Saturday's attacks in the southwestern city of Ahvaz.

The Iranian moves, as well as promises of revenge by Iran's elite Revolutionary Guard, come as the country already faces turmoil in the wake of the American withdrawal from Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers. The attack in Ahvaz, which saw women and children flee with uniformed soldiers bloodied, has further shaken the country.

Rouhani's remarks could refer to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates or Bahrain — close U.S. military allies that view Iran as a regional menace over its support



Wounded military personnel are carried into an ambulance after a shooting during a military parade marking the 38th anniversary of Iraq's 1980 invasion of Iran, Saturday

for militant groups across the Middle East.

"All of those small mercenary countries that we see in this region are backed by America. It is Americans who instigate them and provide them with necessary means to commit these crimes," Rouhani said before leaving for the U.N. General Assembly in New York.

Iran meanwhile summoned diplomats from Britain, Denmark and the Netherlands yesterday for allegedly harboring "members of the terrorist group" that launched the attack. Danish Foreign Minister Anders Samuelson condemned the attack and stressed that there would be "consequences" if it turns out that those responsible have con-

nections to Denmark. The ministry later summoned the UAE's envoy as well over what it called the "irresponsible and insulting statements" of an Emirati adviser, according to the semi-official ISNA news agency. The UAE did not immediately acknowledge the summons. Saturday's attack, in which militants disguised as soldiers ope-

ned fire on an annual Iranian military parade in Ahvaz, was the deadliest attack in the country in nearly a decade. Women and children scattered along with once-marching Revolutionary Guard soldiers as heavy gunfire rang out, the chaos captured live on state television.

The region's Arab separatists, once only known for nighttime attacks on unguarded oil pipelines, claimed responsibility for the assault, and Iranian officials appeared to believe the claim. The separatists accuse Iran's Persian-dominated government of discriminating against its ethnic Arab minority. Khuzestan province also has seen recent protests over Iran's nationwide drought, as well as economic protests.

The attack killed at least 25 people and wounded 60, according to the state-run IRNA news agency. It said gunmen wore military uniforms and targeted a riser where military and police commanders were sitting. State TV hours later reported that all four gunmen had been killed.

At least eight of the dead served in the Revolutionary Guard, an elite paramilitary unit that answers only to Iran's supreme leader, according to the semi-official Tasnim news agency. The Guard responded to the attack on Sunday, warning it would seek "deadly and unforgiving revenge in the near future." AP

AD

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what's ON



MONKEY KING

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

Venue: Sands Cotai Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP380, MOP480, MOP680, MOP980, MOP1280

COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818

KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

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

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

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

MACAU'S FIRECRACKER INDUSTRY – NEW WORKS BY LIO MAN CHEONG

TIME: 12pm to 8pm

UNTIL: October 5, 2018

VENUE: Taipa Village Art Space

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2857 6118

SCULPTURE – A JOURNEY, EXHIBITION BY ANTÓNIO 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 / 2852 3205

MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

Offbeat

WALK INTO MY PARLOR: GREEK SPIDERS SPIN GIANT WEB OVER SHORE



It's not quite the World Wide Web — but the spiders of Aitoliko in Greece have made a good start.

Spurred into overdrive by an explosion in the populations of insects they eat, thousands of little spiders in the western Greek town have shrouded coastal trees, bushes and low vegetation in thick webs.

The sticky white lines extend for a few hundred meters along the shoreline of Aitoliko, built on an artificial island in a salt lagoon near Missolonghi, 250 kilometers west of Athens.

Experts told local media that the numbers of lake flies, a non-biting midge, have rocketed amid humid late summer conditions. Spiders, which fancy the flies, reproduced fast to take full advantage of the feast.

Residents say the extensive spider webs have another benefit: keeping down mosquitoes.

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
19:00	Portugal Fashion
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	You, Me & Apocalypse
22:00	Funny Things To Know
22:25	Portuguese Serie - Liberty 21
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Documentary
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:30	RTPi 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 & 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 & English)

Duration: 115min

this day in history



1975 FIRST BRITONS CONQUER EVEREST

Dougal Haston and Doug Scott have become the first Britons to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain.

The men arrived at the top of Mount Everest via the previously unclimbed south-west face, 33 days after establishing their base camp.

The team succeeded on a difficult direct route which has repulsed five other attempts and set a record for the fastest time up the peak.

Expedition leader Chris Bonington reported the pair had reached the 29,028ft (8,848m) summit safely and were now on their way down the mountain.

He also said they were ahead of schedule and hoped more of the 18-strong group would be able to reach the top.

The south-west face of Everest has been regarded as one of the most difficult challenges in mountaineering because of its length and exposure to high-level winds.

Mr Haston, who runs the International School of Mountaineering in Switzerland, and Mr Scott, a mountain lecturer from Nottingham, had failed twice to conquer the route.

The Queen sent a message to the team offering her warmest congratulations on a "magnificent achievement".

Jan Scott, who is planning to fly out to Nepal to meet her husband, said she was overjoyed by his success.

"It's wonderful - I knew Doug would do it one day," she said.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The 1975 south-west face expedition was marred by the disappearance of Mick Burke four days later on his way to the summit.

Doug Scott and Chris Bonington became two of Britain's most well-known mountaineers, making hundreds more difficult ascents and lecturing about the sport to make a living.

Bonington's book about the climb was called Everest the Hard Way - a reference to the fact it was the hardest route up the mountain to date.

Dougal Haston was killed in a skiing accident in the Swiss Alps in 1977.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Your drive and motivation are everything right now...

Taurus April 20-May 20 Try not to worry all that much about your emotional state...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Watch out for new rules - especially those that come from people you know and trust!

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Things are looking up, most likely - but if this seems wrong to you, then that means it's time for a quick adjustment...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Your confidence and righteousness may rub others the wrong way today...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Your romantic energy is heightened today, so if you're single, get out there!

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Your past is not as distant as you would like - someone or something comes back to haunt you today.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Your plans are great - but you need to take action on them! Start today, even if it's just something small.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You are always true to your values - even when you can feel them start to change, as they are today.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You can work all night if you must - but the odds are that you don't really need to.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You feel the walls start to close in on you - and no, you're not going insane.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Life is easy right now - maybe too much so! You need to make sure that you're asking the right questions...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard.

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Bar bills; 5- Female bovine; 8- Indifferent; 12- Counting everything; 14- Later!; 15- German auto; 16- Listlessness; 17- A big fan of; 18- Notable exploit, legal document; 19- Make again; 21- Teaching of the Buddha; 23- Artful; 24- Feeling of being overwhelmed; 25- Beast of burden; 26- House in D.C.; 30- Met highlights; 32- Maine college town; 33- Minute particle; 37- Big East team; 38- Satisfied; 39- Highway; 40- Caused by an earthquake; 42- Hotelier Helmsley; 43- Jerks; 44- Consternation; 45- Canonized mlle.; 48- Spanish eyes; 49- Freight weight; 50- Assignations; 52- Skin of a deer; 57- River in central Switzerland; 58- Fruit-filled pie; 60- Chosen few; 61- One of a matching pair; 62- Jacob's brother; 63- Pub pastime; 64- Hill toy; 65- Flee; 66- Life stories; DOWN: 1- Stadium level; 2- Actress Heche; 3- Judge's seat; 4- Insult; 5- Movie theater; 6- Muesli morsel; 7- Section of an orchestra; 8- Bubbly drink; 9- Wagner work; 10- Appears; 11- ___ the hills; 13- Deceives; 14- Large town; 20- Bass, e.g.; 22- Warmth; 24- Disney mermaid; 26- Soaks (up); 27- Sandusky's lake; 28- Don't look at me!; 29- Restless; 30- Take the role of; 31- Fathers; 33- Fires; 34- Apparatus for weaving; 35- Actress Turner; 36- An apple ____; 38- Ominous; 41- Pole; 42- Joined; 44- ER VIP; 45- Data; 46- Fishing net; 47- Eagle's nest; var.; 49- Ballet skirt; 51- Transmit; 52- Muffin choice; 53- Thick piece; 54- Soprano Te Kanawa; 55- Sock ___ me!; 56- Nitti's nemesis; 59- Sun Devils' sch.;

Friday's solution crossword grid with filled-in letters.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



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

GOAL OF THE CENTURY

Gervinho thriving at Parma with stunning run vs Cagliari

Daniella Matar, Milan

PARMA 2, CAGLIARI 0

GERVINHO received a standing ovation for a stunning goal and another when he was substituted as he helped Parma beat Cagliari 2-0 in Serie A yesterday [Macau time].

Gervinho scored the second two minutes after the break. The 31-year-old Ivory Coast international sprinted from deep inside his own half and beat three defenders before firing in off the near post.

"I don't know if it's my best goal, I have scored so many of them," the former Arsenal and Roma player joked. "I'm happy to be here and to have come back to Italy. I'm happy at Parma and I've been welcomed here really well by the fans even though I don't consider myself the star man. We need everyone."

Following his second goal since he returned to Serie A after



Parma's Gervinho (left) scores his side's 2nd goal during the Serie A soccer match between Parma and Cagliari

2 1/2 years in China, Gervinho was embraced by all of his teammates and given a standing ovation by fans at Stadio Tardini. They gave him another when he was replaced late on.

"I haven't seen a goal like that for years," Parma coach Roberto D'Aversa said. "I'm lucky to have a player like him, who came here with a unique humility and with great availabi-

lity. He is a player who makes the difference. It's right that we put him in the conditions to express himself in the best possible way."

Roberto Inglese scored Parma's opener in the 20th minute after the ball ricocheted off the goalkeeper's chest and Inglese's face.

It was Parma's second straight win after its surprise victory at Inter Milan last week, as it settles back into life in the top-flight following a fairytale rise through the divisions, three years after going bankrupt.

LATE DRAMA

Inter left it late midweek to snatch victory against Tottenham in the Champions League and it left it even later to beat Sampdoria 1-0.

Marcelo Brozovic scored in the fourth minute of stoppage time after three goals were ruled out on video review.

Radja Nainggolan thought he fired Inter in front on the stroke of halftime but it was ruled out

after the VAR spotted Mauro Icardi was offside in the build-up, blocking goalkeeper Emil Audero's view.

Inter had a second goal ruled out three minutes from time as the ball went out of play before Kwadwo Asamoah's strike.

Moments later, Gregoire Defrel's goal was ruled out for offside, with the Sampdoria forward having the added disappointment of being booked for taking his shirt off in celebration.

Brozovic then controlled Ivan Perisic's cross on his chest before firing it in from a tight angle.

Inter coach Luciano Spalletti was sent off for his celebrations. "I turned towards the television camera to shout, 'Goal!' and the fourth official told me I had done so with too much impetus," Spalletti said. "But it was such an important goal, like a sort of liberation."

FAMILY AFFAIR

Federico Chiesa scored Fiorentina's third goal and immediately went over to embrace his brother Lorenzo, who was on the sidelines as a ball boy. They were watched by father Enrico, himself a former Fiorentina and Italy forward.

Fiorentina won 3-0 over Spal, which had conceded only one goal in its four previous matches. **AP**

AD

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BOXING

'We want Wilder': Team Joshua eager to fix unification fight

Steve Douglas, London

NO sooner had Anthony Joshua brutally dispatched another pretender to his heavyweight titles than attention turned to who the British fighter would face next as he seeks to clean up boxing's most glamorous division.

An eagerly anticipated fight on Dec. 1 will go a long way to clearing that up.

Deontay Wilder, the WBC champion, is scheduled to take on Tyson Fury, the former champion before drug and health issues got in the way, somewhere in Las Vegas. It's a fight between two unbeaten heavyweights who represent the biggest threat to Joshua, the WBA, IBF and WBO belt-holder, and could provide his next opponent.

Joshua, now with a 22-0 record after toughing out a victory over Alexander Povetkin in front of 80,000 at Wembley Stadium yesterday [Macau



Russian boxer Alexander Povetkin goes down after taking a series of punches from British boxer Anthony Joshua (right)

time], said he isn't bothered who wins out of Wilder and Fury. In fact, he even suggested he won't even watch it.

His promoter has other ideas, however.

"We want Wilder," Eddie

Hearn said.

For Hearn, Wilder vs. Joshua — pitting the two biggest punchers in boxing together — would be one of the biggest fights in boxing history and would be must-see viewing,

stylistically. There's also the issue of unifying the belts while the opportunity is there.

"We want to be undisputed heavyweight champion of the world," Hearn said, looking across to Joshua.

Hearn also sees Fury, a loudmouth out of the ring and a pragmatic boxer in it, as something of a turn-off.

"I don't want to be disrespectful here, but Tyson Fury is the most unentertaining fighter I've ever seen," Hearn said, dismissively. "He's never been in a good fight in his whole career. Deontay Wilder against Joshua is the biggest fight in world boxing and it's the most exciting matchup you can make."

The Wilder and Joshua camps negotiated last year for a fight — there was talk of USD50 million on the table — but couldn't find a middle ground. Hearn is eager to resume talks and agree to a deal in the coming weeks that can be rubber-stamped as soon as Wilder beats Fury. He said

\$50m would be "peanuts" compared to what could be offered next year.

"I don't want to wait until December for him to finish his fight, get some rest and then start negotiating," said Joshua, who is contractually obliged to return to Wembley on April 13 for his next fight. "I start training for a fight again early January. I want to get my fight fixed as soon as possible this side of the year, so I know what I'm doing next year."

Aside from what will undoubtedly be tough negotiations with Wilder's people, another possible barrier for Hearn will be if Fury wins on Dec. 1. That would make a rematch likely, and also make Wilder a less-appealing prospect.

Joshua would then have to turn to someone like fellow Briton Dillian Whyte for his April 13 fight.

So, it's a case of wait and see for Joshua, who has a seven-month break before getting back in the ring. He'll do so with more experience in the bank after a difficult fight against Povetkin that started with the Briton getting a busted nose in the first round and ended with a devastating flurry of punches that sent the 39-year-old Russian nearly stumbling through the ropes. **AP**

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

opinion

Rear Window
Severo Portela



MACAU AFTER TYPHOON
MANGKHUT

These days we find ourselves turning to recollect a former Portuguese prime-minister who was credited with having said - although he was not exactly a follower of the school of sound-bites - that there is no such thing as luck in politics. Indeed, it was not luck which took him to the top international job as the UN Secretary-General. Luck comes always after careful preparation.

The same thought comes to mind after Super-Typhoon Mangkhut hit Macau hard. Differently, totally differently from last year's Hato tragedy, the announced catastrophe was met with the preparedness of the civil protection apparatus and its preventive measures and a comprehensive pre-disaster set of preparation tools that helped avoid casualties and mitigated material consequences to the city's infrastructure. That is to say, there was no luck blessing MSAR because the government and its more closely related departments and with the full cooperation of utilities and businesses like the six-pack casino-resorts, community organizations and civil society took all measures to face the consequences of a mighty typhoon.

Just a few dozen light casualties, a few thousand residents displaced temporarily, and a few minor electricity and water supply issues. There were 90 power units to be repaired this year compared with more than 200 following Hato.

Chief Executive Chui Sai On and the government Secretaries directly involved in the Mangkhut reception may, with all due credit, claim the complex operation to have been a success... although they are assessing their own performance. But on side of the results, the average resident would agree that in this year of 2018, MSAR faced a super-typhoon as a multi-issue threat, not merely a problem of the forecasting department.

However, and perhaps because it is too early for it to be disclosed, there are some aspects still not available for public scrutiny.

First of all, the financial burden the Macau Special Administrative Region or its Civil Protection combined operations had to bear so as to respond at this level of success to Mangkhut, but also the upgrades to the utilities the concessionaires felt obliged to make to cooperate with disaster prevention preparations and the necessary follow-up, and the overall evaluation of the SAR infrastructure.

Civil society has also the right to know if the government is considering, or is about to reject, the longer-term solutions to the inevitable typhoon-induced flooding of the low-lying areas of the Inner Harbor and Ilha Verde such as a fixed water-pumping system and the construction of a wall or a tidal gate barrier. If not... Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo Rosario seems to accept that flooding of the Inner Harbor is unavoidable in the short term.

Finally, we do have to mention the matter of the spreading of rumors as a part of Civil Protection operation to deal with Typhoon Mangkhut. The Judiciary Police seems to have gathered enough evidence to make a case of the spreading rumors during calamities, and four other situations of the same kind are still under investigation. According to director Sit Chong Meng, the suspect took information from an official government source and modified it before sharing it on social media.

If convicted under the provisions of the Macau Penal Code, the author faces a maximum sentence of six months. If the civil protection law to protect residents from false social alarm is to be green-lighted at the Legislative Assembly the same rumor-monger could face a jail term of three years.

THE VIETNAM'S PRESIDENT TRAN DAI QUANG DIES OF ILLNESS AT 61

Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang, the country's No. 2 after the ruling Communist Party's leader, died Friday after a serious illness, the government said. He was 61.

Quang passed away despite "utmost efforts to treat him by Vietnamese and foreign professors and doctors and care by the party and state leaders," the statement said. It said Quang died at a military hospital in Hanoi but did not elaborate on his illness.

The state-run online newspaper VnExpress quoted the head of a national committee in charge of

leaders' health as saying that Quang had contracted a rare and toxic virus since July last year and had traveled to Japan six times for treatment. He did not specify the virus.

Quang hosted President Donald Trump during his first state visit to the communist country last year, when Trump attended a summit of Pacific Rim leaders.

Vietnam's National Assembly is scheduled to convene a session next month and expected to elect a new president.

STOP BREXIT?

UK's Labour party mulls backing new referendum

BRITAIN'S Labour Party may hold the fate of Brexit in its hands — if only it can decide what to do.

With the U.K. and the European Union at an impasse in divorce talks, many Labour members think the left-of-center opposition party has the power — and a duty — to force a new referendum that could reverse Britain's decision to leave the 28-nation bloc.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has long opposed that idea, and a showdown on the issue looms at the party's annual conference, which starts today [Macau time] in the port city of Liverpool. As delegates gathered, one message was emblazoned on hundreds of T-shirts and tote bags: "Love Corbyn, Hate Brexit."

Ever since Britain voted in 2016 to leave the EU, Labour has said it will respect the result, although it wants a closer relationship with the bloc than the one Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative government is seeking.

Now, with divorce negotia-



Britain's main opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn gives a thumbs up ahead of the annual party conference

tions stuck and Britain due to leave in March, many Labour members think the party must change its course.

"Labour have to come to a decision. The time has gone for sitting on the fence," said Mike Buckley of Labour for a People's Vote, a group campaigning for a new Brexit referendum.

To drive home the message, several thousand People's Vote supporters marched through Liverpool, waving blue-and-yellow EU flags

alongside Union Jacks and holding signs reading "Bin Brexit," "Exit from Brexit" — and a few ruder slogans.

More than 100 local Labour associations have submitted motions to the conference urging a public plebiscite, with a choice between leaving on terms agreed upon by the government or staying in the EU. Party chiefs will decide today which motions will be up for debate and votes at the four-day conference.

Margaret Mills, a delegate from Orpington in southern England, said her local party had passed a motion calling on Labour to "stop Brexit by any means — well, short of physical violence."

"I think the time for vagueness is over," she said.

Corbyn — a veteran socialist who views the EU with suspicion — has long been against holding a second public vote on Brexit, although his opposition appears to be softening.

He said that he would prefer a general election rather than a referendum, but added: "Let's see what comes out of conference." AP

16th century's shipwreck found off Portugal's coast, with late Ming ceramics

ARCHEOLOGISTS have found a centuries-old shipwreck off Portugal's coast near Lisbon, a local mayor's office said yesterday [Macau time], the CNN reported.

Aboard the ship, thought to have sunk between 1575 and 1625, divers found spices, including pepper; Chinese ceramics from the period; and cowries, a type of shell used as currency for the slave trade in some parts of Africa at the time.

The project's science director, Jorge Freire, called it the "discovery of the decade."

"From a conservation perspective, both of the assets as of the ship itself, this discovery is of great patrimonial value," he said as quoted by CNN.

The report says the ship's bronze cannons, engraved with the Portuguese coat of arms and the armillary sphere



Divers found spices, ceramics and shells at the shipwreck

were also found. Judging by what's been found so far, the ship was probably coming into Lisbon from India, Freire said.

The wreck was discovered September 3 as part of an underwater investigation project spearheaded by Cascais, a city near Lisbon, with help from Nova University of Lisbon, the Portuguese government and navy. The ship was found just 12 meters below the surface.

"This is one of the most significant archaeological disco-

veries of the century," Cascais Mayor Carlos Carreiras told CNN. "The recognition from the scientific community that this is the discovery of the decade, the century, in terms of marine archeology, is for us of great satisfaction."

Some objects were removed from the wreck for safekeeping, as they were at risk of permanently being lost.

The Chinese ceramics found are from the Wanli period (1573-1619), a late era in the Ming dynasty. MDT/CNN

Station	Air quality
Roadside	15-35 Good
High Density Residential Area	10-30 Good
Ambient	20-40 Good

WORLD BRIEFS



MALDIVES A raid on the opposition's main campaign office and the specter of U.S. sanctions on government officials were not deterring thousands of people from heading to the polls to vote in the Maldives' presidential election, widely seen as a referendum on the island nation's young democracy. More on p12

PAKISTAN An official said gunmen have attacked the base camp of a pro-government militia, killing four of its members. The attack occurred yesterday in the Dasht-e-Goran area of Baluchistan. The southwestern province is home to a low-level separatist movement and Islamic extremist groups.



IRAN On the same day Arab separatists killed at least 25 people in an attack targeting a military parade in southwestern Iran, President Donald Trump's lawyer mounted a stage in New York to declare that the government would be toppled. More on p15



SWITZERLAND Swiss voters roundly rejected two proposals aimed at protecting Swiss farmers and ensuring that food from both domestic and foreign producers is healthier, more environmentally sound and animal-friendly.



KENYA Burials have started of those who died when a ferry capsized on Lake Victoria as the death toll rose to 224. Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa is leading mourners at the funeral service. On Saturday rescuers found a survivor two days after the tragedy.