



NEED FOR QUALITY OVER QUANTITY
Urban planning needs to focus less on quantity and more on quality, a UN-supported conference in Macau has found

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HAINAN WANTS TO ATTRACT SKILLED WORKERS FROM SARs

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A brisk two days in Argentina saw Trump reach a trade ceasefire with China and sign a three-way trade deal with Mexico and Canada

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XI STARTS VISIT TO PORTUGAL

Sino-Luso relations 'stronger than ever'

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WORLD BRIEFS



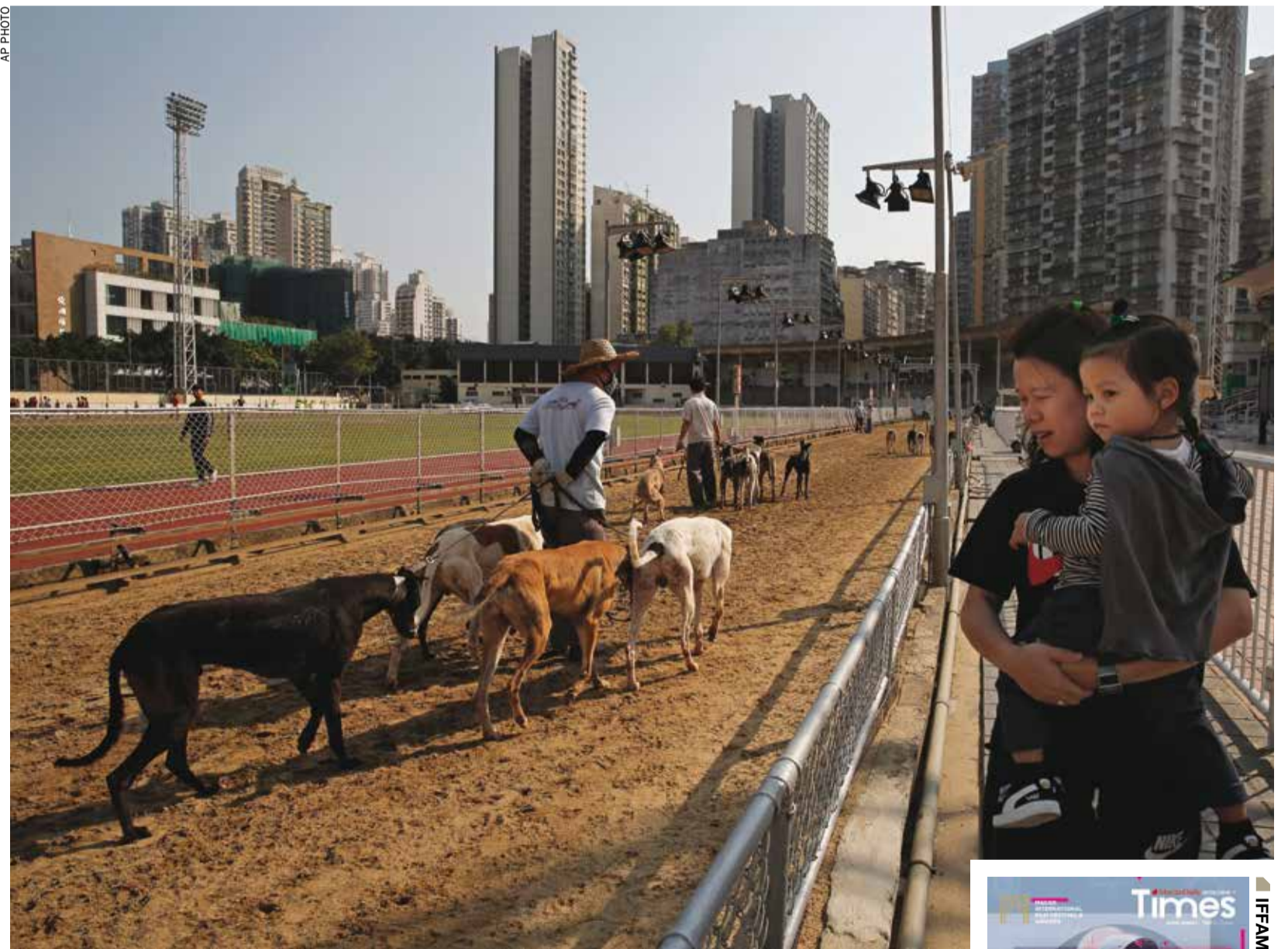
PHILIPPINES President Rodrigo Duterte, whose controversial war on drugs has cost thousands of lives, says he used marijuana to keep awake at a recent regional meeting, but later disavowed his assertion as a joke.

PAKISTAN U.S. President Donald Trump has reached out to Pakistan's prime minister, seeking Islamabad's cooperation in bringing the Taliban to the negotiating table to end the 17-year war in neighboring Afghanistan.



QATAR The tiny, energy-rich Arab nation of Qatar announced yesterday it will withdraw from OPEC in January, mixing its aspirations to increase production outside of the cartel's constraints with the politics of slighting the Saudi-dominated group amid the kingdom's boycott of Doha.

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Alexis Tam announces schools selected for Canidrome land

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THE SEVENTH GENERATION
IFFAM SUPPLEMENT INSIDE

VISIT TO LISBON STARTS TODAY

Xi: 'China-Portugal relations are now stronger than ever before'

XI Jinping commences a two-day visit to Lisbon today. Ahead of his visit, a signed article by the Chinese President, titled "A Friendship across Time and Space, A Partnership for the Future" was published yesterday on Portuguese newspaper *Diário de Notícias*.

The article begins with a quote by poet Luís de Camões ("Here, where the land ends and the sea begins"), which, according to Xi, "vividly depicts the superb location of his motherland."

"Twenty years ago, I made my first visit to Portugal, and in 2014 I had a stopover in the Terceira Island. I am delighted to be coming back to your country for a state visit at the invitation of President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa," Xi wrote.

The Chinese president mentions in the article that there is an "enduring friendship" between the two countries and recalls the Handover of Macau to China: "In 1999, through peaceful consultations, we properly resolved the question of Macau, an issue left over from the past, and ushered in a new



Ahead of Xi's visit, Maria Teresa Cid, co-director of the Confucius Institute of University of Lisbon, speaks at the Sino-Portugal readers' seminar on the book "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China" in Lisbon

era in the development of Macau, and in China-Portugal relations. In 2005, a comprehensive strategic partnership was established between our two countries. With frequent high-level exchanges, deepening political mutual trust, and

fruitful outcomes in all areas, China-Portugal friendship and cooperation have embarked on a fast lane of development," he wrote.

In the article, Xi lists some points of bilateral cooperation, expressing his wish that "Portu-

gal will continue to play a positive role in the EU and contribute to the building of China-EU partnerships for peace, growth, reform and civilization." One of those points is the role of Lisbon in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI): "As Portugal lies at

an important intersection of the land and maritime silk roads, our two countries are naturally positioned to cooperate under the BRI. We should seize the opportunities provided by the BRI to expand and strengthen cooperation on existing projects, make good use of the China International Import Expo and other platforms," he wrote.

We properly resolved the question of Macau, an issue left over from the past, and ushered in a new era in the development of Macau, and in China-Portugal relations.

XI JINPING

"China-Portugal relations are now stronger than ever before, and China-Portugal cooperation promises broad prospects," the president concludes.

URBAN PLANNING

Conference unanimous on need for quality over quantity

URBAN planning needs to focus less on quantity and more on quality, a United Nations-supported conference in Macau has found.

Architect Nuno Soares, organizer of the Macau Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC) conference, which took place last weekend, told the Times yesterday that event participants had reached a consensus regarding the need in Macau for a shift from quantitative views of urban development to those based on quality.

"I was happily surprised with the consensus that emerged, [which was] that we need to move

from a focus on quantity to quality," he said.

"Too much focus in Macau has been put on quantitative analysis – how much the economy grew, how fast the population is growing – but what about the quality of life? We are not doing so well in terms of cultural facilities, healthcare and education," added Soares.

The UTC is an initiative of the UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign, conceived as an open platform for critical debate on how to tackle urbanization challenges and achieve more sustainable urban development. The

conference was one of 27 such events held around the world this year, with the MSAR specifically selected by the United Nations as a participant-host.

Stakeholders, including those from academia and the government, gathered for the one-day event to discuss four principal topics under the overarching theme of "density for the common good" – namely, urban prosperity, innovation and sustainability; climate change and resilience; public spaces; and housing.

Macau is already the most densely populated jurisdiction in the world

at almost 21,400 people per square kilometer (sqkm). According to government forecasts, population density will rise to 24,150 per sqkm by 2030, even after the inclusion of the reclaimed urban land projects.

High urban density is often considered an impediment to a high quality of life, as it usually entails a scarcity of supply. However, Soares says that Macau has a lot to teach the world about the benefits that a high population density city can deliver.

"We want to share the positive side of our urban density with the United



Nations campaign," he told the Times. For example, he said, "we spend less energy in Macau in terms of transport, because we live in close proximity. We also all live close to a hospital and have many universities."

Moreover, Macau is largely without "spatial segregation" in that most districts of the city (with the possible exception of Cotai) are used for both

commercial and residential purposes and house residents of different economic status.

The ideas that came from the one-day conference are currently being compiled in a document that will be delivered to the United Nations as well as the Macau SAR government. Soares expects the document to be ready for circulation in early January. **DB**

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POLICY ADDRESS

Tam announces four schools selected for Canidrome land

Julie Zhu

THE Canidrome land plot will be used for building new campuses for the Concordia School for Special Education, the Workers' Children High School, the Escola Xin Hua, and the Escola de Santa Madalena, Secretary Alexis Tam announced yesterday at the Legislative Assembly, during the policy address presentation for the areas he supervises.

"The SAR government, through a discussion and analysis between the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau [DSEJ] and other entities, has decided that these four schools are more suitable for using the land," said Alexis Tam.

The Secretary explained that the Escola de Santa Madalena must be moved from its current site, as both the Land, Transport and Public Works Bureau (DSSOPT) and the Transport Bureau (DSAT) are conducting road engineering works at said site.

"Since there are road works being carried out over there, this school has to be moved to allow DSSOPT and DSAT to flatten the road and open a new one to the public," Tam explained.

The Workers' Children High School has also been closed due to the aforementioned road project, which gives the government reason to move this school to the Canidrome



land as well.

"I [have] visited these three schools before. Their conditions were rather bad," said Tam, adding that "we should build campuses [for the three schools] which have blue sky."

According to Tam, three of the four schools are within 250 meters of the Canidrome land. The Concordia special school is comparatively far from the Canidrome land compared to the other three.

"We have already discussed. We all very much agree on the selection. The entities are also basically agreeing with the SAR government and DSEJ," said Tam. According

to him, other local schools, which are in need of better campuses, are more interested in moving their premises to the New Urban Zone A than the Canidrome land.

"Within this year, we will announce campus sites for these schools [in need of land], such as the New Urban Zone A. There are also a few [plots of] land saved for the education sector that will be given to schools [in need]," said Tam.

"We have had discussions with the Escola Dos Moradores de Macau [and others schools], but they [the schools] believe that moving the campuses to the New

Urban Zone A is also a good choice," Tam added.

Moreover, Tam said that, within one year, plans for all these schools in urgent need of new campuses will become available.

In addition to new campuses, the Secretary was also asked by Chief Executive (CE) appointed lawmaker Pang Chuan about the enhancement of civil education.

The lawmaker enquired what the Macau SAR government's plan is in terms of ensuring that local students and youth will not be affected by Macau's neighboring region, which shows little national identity.

The lawmaker, citing survey results, highlighted that more than 80 percent of Macau's youth sense a strong national identity. However, he still argued that the sense of national identity among young people needs to be enhanced.

Responding to Pang, Tam noted that the local government will continue the national flag raising ceremony in local schools.

Besides this traditional patriotic education, which is fully adopted in all schools across mainland China and in many schools in Macau, Tam noted that the local government will organize more students to participate in camping activities on the mainland, among others, including military-style student training activities, in order to enhance young people's national identity.

"In the future, we will promote diversified patriotism education," said Tam.

ON THE SECRETARY'S AGENDA

EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION The Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam has claimed that "no place in the world has better early childhood intervention than Macau because they [other countries] ask for payment." The Secretary declared that Macau has the world's number one early childhood intervention services because patients do not need to pay for services and because patients do not need to wait long before receiving the services. "Our medical service takes its place in the front worldwide ranks [regarding vaccines]. Macau has the highest vaccination rates in Asia," said Tam. "Our public hospitals' services are not bad at all; not as bad as what is being said outside," he noted.

ILLEGAL TOUR GUIDES The local government and the Guangdong provincial tourism department, as well as the Zhuhai cultural and tourism department, are discussing a solution for illegal mainland tour guides working in Macau. Lawmakers Si Ka Lon and Sulu Sou drew attention to the recent situation in which mainland tour guides conduct mainland package tours to Macau. The Secretary said that the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) has been following up on the issue. Tam also said that he "pays a lot of attention" to the illegal tour guide situation, and that he has ordered MGTO to follow the case and to protect the interests of the Macau tour guide industry.

EDUCATION SYSTEM Sulu Sou wants Macau to reform its education system, in particular the method of "teaching to the test" and the mechanical training students receive whereby they recite in order to memorize knowledge. "The youngest students in tutoring centers are K2 students. [Some] pupils only leave the tutoring center after 10 p.m. or 11 p.m.. Some kindergartens force students to practice handwriting. More and more parents are criticizing recitation," said Sou. Secretary Alexis Tam did not reply to Sou, nor to many other questions posed by lawmakers, due to the shortage of time.

Festivals blamed for leading youth into misbehavior

LAWMAKER Fong Ka Chio has blamed festivals for creating greater opportunities for young people to behave improperly, for instance consuming drugs, having sex, or participating in online gambling.

"Christmas is coming. Festival atmosphere easily leads to sexual behavior, drug consuming," said Fong, further clarifying that "I'm not discriminating [against] young people, but can the SAR government do more things [to prevent youth misbehavior]?"

"Does the government have specific measures to prevent youth from falling into these temptations?" Fong asked.

"Christmas is almost here. Underage misbehaviors might result in consequences that cannot be ignored," he added.

In addition to blaming festivals, Fong also suggested that Macau should have corridors to connect all casinos in Cotai.

"The corridor, which is under a 24-hour supervision by the Macau government, can be used for local recreational products, local arts,

and M-Pop," said Fong, adding "I hope that the corridor can bring local recreational products to the 30 million tourists who come from different countries, and therefore create a development [opportunity] for these local recreational products."

In response to Fong, Alexis Tam said that the local government places specific focus on children.

"We have also noticed deviations in behaviors. We pay special importance to education on drug consumption, sex and gambling," said Alexis Tam.

"We hope that through the cooperation between the government, the schools, the families, and the community, we can teach the youth to know what is right. We provide preventive education, such as sex education," said Tam.

"We also send SMSs, [...] especially on holidays, and particularly during Christmas. We send messages to the schools in order to remind them [to educate children on misbehavior]," said Tam.

'New World Symphony' concert at St. Dominic's Church

The Macao Orchestra (OM) will present the concert "New World Symphony", on Friday at St. Dominic's Church. In this concert, under the baton of Italian conductor Julian Kovatchev, the works Overture to Nabucco by Verdi and Symphony No. 9 "From the New World" by Dvořák will be performed. Admission to the concert "New World Symphony" is free. Tickets will be distributed at St. Dominic's Church one hour prior to the performance. Distribution is on a first-come, first-served basis and is limited to a maximum of two tickets per person. The concert will also be broadcast live on a screen installed outside St. Dominic's Church.

UM, HKBU co-organize World Business Ethics Forum

The Seventh World Business Ethics Forum, co-organised by the University of Macau's (UM) Faculty of Business Administration and Hong Kong Baptist University's (HKBU) School of Business, with assistance from the Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK), was recently held across Hong Kong and Macau. Titled 'Business Ethics, Leadership and New Economy', the event attracted nearly 100 experts, scholars, and postgraduate students from around the world. In his speech, UM Vice Rector (Global Affairs) Rui Martins said that the event aimed to promote innovative thinking and research in the field of business ethics. He encouraged postgraduates to participate in the forum in order to discuss topics related to business in a new economic era. A total of 21 presentation and discussion sessions were held in Hong Kong and Macau. Participants came from Japan, the United States, Canada, mainland China, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and Hong Kong. Launched in 2006 by UM and HKBU, the World Business Ethics Forum is a biennial event that aims to provide an open platform for experts and scholars from around the world to share their views and latest research findings in the field of business ethics.

Gov't collects opinions about underwater tunnel connecting landfills

The Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) is launching a survey aiming to collect the opinions of the general public as well as associations on the environmental assessment of the underwater tunnel that would connect zone A and B of the new landfills.

According to a statement issued by DSSOPT, the survey comes as part of the Environmental Assessment Plan ordered to the "South China Sea Institute of Oceanology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences" and is an important part of this report, as stated by the rules of the State Environmental Protection Administration in 2006.

The collection of responses is taking place be-



PHOTO ARCHIVE

tween December 3 and 17. The DSSOPT will provide three questionnaire completion and delivery stations in different locations of the region (the Public Administration Building, the Area Preta Service Centre of MSAR and the lobby of the DSSOPT).

According to the provisions, the environmental impact assessment is divided into three phases.

The first phase (consisting of preliminary preparation, research, study, and public consultation on the draft work) has been already completed.

The second stage consists of analyzing, demonstrating, forecasting and assessing the environmental impact, in order to carry out a more in-depth analysis of the work and the in-

vestigation of the conditions of the work site. Results from the questionnaire will be reported upon in this chapter. The third and final phase consists of the completion of the environmental impact report and the holding of a public consultation to gather opinions on the final report.

To recall, the link between zones A and B of the New Urban Landfills will be made through an underwater tunnel about 1,400 meters long that would create a new network of connection links that include the Zhuhai-Macau border checkpoint of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge and the fourth Macau-Taipa bridge through the road network of zone A landfill.

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CRIME

Taxi driver calls PJ for help while under effect of drugs

Renato Marques

A 45-year-old taxi driver is being investigated by the authorities in a drug abuse case reported by the person in question to the Judiciary Police (PJ), the force spokesperson informed yesterday during a press conference.

The case started on Sunday, when the man decided to call the PJ around 8 p.m. to report that his partner, a 38-year-old woman with whom he was living, had taken drugs inside their home.

In the same call, the man also admitted to be under the effect of the same drugs.

Alerted by the call, PJ officers went to the family house located at Rua Central da Areia Preta. At the apartment, the officers found the two suspects as well as paraphernalia for the consumption of the methamphetamine drug known as "ice" and drug residues.

Questioned by the police, the man admitted the consumption of the drugs adding that both of them had taken ice for



four or five years. The man also admitted to have called the PJ intentionally because he felt he needed help to deal with his drug problem, and he was not able to find assistance elsewhere.

He also said that his job as a taxi driver was the only finan-

cial support for his family, which besides the couple includes their two children of three and four years old.

Both the man and woman tested positive for drug consumption and the case was transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office.

In a separate case also reported by the same police force, a local woman in her fifties has been reportedly targeted in a scam undertaken through social media networks. The woman claims to have lost a total of EUR6,000 (around MOP55,000) in a scam by a

man she allegedly met on Facebook and with which she engaged in conversations on several other social network platforms, including WeChat.

The case goes back to August when a man she met claimed to be an Italian engineer working with oil prospecting machinery and sought her help. According to the report, the man said he had a problem with a contract for the supply of machines and needed to borrow some money in order to be able to fulfill the contract.

The woman accepted and transferred the requested 6,000 euros to an account as he solicited.

A few months after, in November, the man contacted the woman again saying that he was on the verge of concluding the delivery and would then be able to repay the debt. At this time, and in order to do so, he sent the woman a link to a supposed Citibank website where she should login in order to receive her money.

As the woman realized that the website was a little suspicious and different from the normal website of Citibank, she contacted the headquarters of the bank in Hong Kong to question it. She was then informed that the link was a fake website that had the purpose of stealing her banking information.

After that she called the PJ to report the case on November 30, claiming the loss of EUR6,000.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Hainan wants to attract skilled personnel from SARs and overseas

FOREIGN students with a master's degree or higher from Chinese universities will be allowed to find jobs and start businesses in Hainan with work permits to be granted, according to a newly released document by the Chinese Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security.

According to the document, the move aims to help Hainan deepen its reform and opening-up in the human resources and social security sector. "The ministry will support Hainan in implementing an active employment and entrepreneurship policy, and encourage the tropical province to carry out pilot reform of international talent management to allow technical and skilled personnel from Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, foreign countries and qualified overseas Chi-



Sanya, Hainan

Wholly foreign-owned human resources service institutions will be allowed to set up headquarters or branches in Hainan

nese to work in Hainan," China Daily reported.

The document will reportedly support Hainan to upgrade development

of its human resources market and build national human resources service industrial parks in Haikou, the capital city

of Hainan province and Sanya, an international tourism resort city at the southern tip of Hainan Island. The central government announced in April that a free trade pilot zone will be built and will gradually explore the building of a free trade port.

Wholly foreign-owned human resources service institutions will be allowed to set up headquarters or branches in Hainan province, according to the ministry's new policy.

The ministry will also support Hainan to open opportunities for public recruitment by government-affiliated institutions to residents from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, and guide Hainan to formulate and promulgate policies and measures for recruiting and managing foreigners in public institutions.

GBA film industrial base established in Huizhou

THE Macau Cultural Affairs Bureau, the Hong Kong Film Development Council, the film bureau of Guangdong province, and the Huizhou government witnessed together, in Huizhou, a cooperation signing ceremony regarding the establishment of the Greater Bay Area (GBA) television and film industrial base.

The industrial base will be established in the city of Huizhou, namely on the Luofu Mountain, in Boluo county. The site corresponds to one of mainland China's so-called 5A tourism attractions, which include the best tourist attractions in China.

The base occupies an area of 680 hectares, carrying a total estimated investment of RMB3 billion.

Inside the industrial base, there will be several centers, including a GBA film and television production center, a GBA film and television creativity center,

a GBA film and television education center, and a GBA film and television service center.

The Huizhou film industrial zone will focus particularly on importing talented people from the film and television industries in Hong Kong.

The industrial base was co-built by Huizhou-based Luo Fu Shan Di Zun company 廣東惠州羅浮山帝尊實業有限公司 and Shenzhen-based Jin Qing Wei radio and television group 深圳金薔薇影視集團.

Besides this cultural GBA industrial base, the three cities have established, thus far, several additional bases for the medical and cultural sectors, among others.

In October of this year, a GBA vaccine industrial base was also established in Guangzhou.

In May of 2017, a GBA youth innovation and science education base was established in Shenzhen.

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“ THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’ ”

Light Festival kicks off presenting new highlights

THE Macau Light Festival 2018, themed "Time Travel in Macau," has kicked off, illuminating routes that connect a string of new locations this year.

The month-long event features projection mapping shows created by local and overseas teams, light installations and interactive games, along with an array of new highlights such as "Food Truck x Light," a Gastronomy Night Market, a virtual reality game and a Cultural and Creative Night Market.

Speaking at the opening ceremony on Sunday, director of the Macau Government Tourism Office Maria Helena Senna Fernandes recalled that before preparations began for the inaugural edition in 2015, MGTO had paid inspection visits to several countries where light festivals had been held.

"We hope that as an international tourist city, Macau can also stage its unique light festival, [which] connects tourist spots in different neighborhoods through projection mapping shows, light installations and interactive games, leading to a



wider choice of nighttime entertainment and longer length of visitors' stay in Macau," said the official.

"For the first time, we invited production teams from Portugal, Belgium and Macau to design and produce three different projection mapping shows at the Ruins of St. Paul's during different periods. It is an entirely new idea to deliver, with the hope of transforming the Light Festival into an international event," Fernandes added.

The opening ceremony of the festival featured a drone show for the first time. In the event, 150 drones lined up to form characters and patterns.

The festival has woven together local elements of gastronomy, humanity, architecture, culture, creativity and other realms, portraying nostalgic stories and childhood memories of local residents.

This year, the festival has three distinctive themed routes covering eleven locations across five districts, connecting a string of new locations and leading visitors into different local districts.

Five projection mapping shows are staged at three locations, in addition to an itinerant projection show at the Taipa Municipal Market.

Three projection-mapping shows have been produced by teams from Portugal, Belgium

and Macau. Another highlight is the "Food Truck x Light," which is being launched for the first time, offering illuminated drinks and souvenirs for redemption.

The public can complete various designated activities in exchange for luminous drinks, cotton candy and souvenirs at food trucks parked at three locations.

The Gastronomy Night Market also unfolds with local signature delights at the square in front of Pak Tai Temple as another new highlight.

The festival also brings together a series of interactive games and light installations, including "Rhythm Time", "Nostalgic Hopscotch", "Macao Cloud", "Fluorescent Staircase" and "Future Mailbox."

A "Fly over Macau - VR Experience" at the Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre is also featured, giving participants a virtual reality experience, where they may enjoy a panoramically scenic flight by putting on the VR goggles and robotic arm.

To be held until December 31, an Outdoor Local Concert will be held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Lord Stow donates to Movember Foundation



The Lord Stow's Bakery has pledged HKD47,265 to The Movember Foundation Hong Kong, a center addressing some of the health issues faced by men including prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention. The Movember Foundation states it is the only charity tackling men's health on a global scale, year-round. For the second year running, to help spread the word about "Movember" in Macau, 30 hirsute members of the Lord Stow's Bakery Teams grew moustaches during the month of November. According to a statement released by the bakery, the company pledged HKD1,000 to the Movember Foundation Hong Kong for each moustache in place at month's end. To this, they have added 50 percent of gross revenue from its cappuccino sales, which totaled to HKD47,265.

AD

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Moxy Ying

Asia stock confidence in trade truce has a number: USD325b

JUST how much is this 90-day truce worth in Asian stock markets? Roughly USD325 billion, yesterday at least.

That's how much market value got added to companies in the MSCI Asia Pacific Index as the gauge rallied 2 percent. Asia stock bulls couldn't have asked for a better start to December. The Shanghai Composite Index and Hang Seng Index both soared about 2.6 percent each, and the Topix closed 1.3 percent higher. Early action in the yuan also pointed to an optimistic response from investors.

In fact, the last time the Asian benchmark reached a jump like this was a month ago, on news that the leaders of the world's two largest economies talked, with Donald Trump saying Xi Jinping wanted to make a deal to end the escalating trade war.

Fast forward to yesterday, and it looks like all's well with global markets again after the U.S. agreed to postpone a planned tariff hike on Chinese goods for three months and China said it will boost purchases of farm and industrial goods to reduce the trade imbalance. Trump also said China has agreed to "reduce and remove" U.S. car import charges, while China's foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang declined to comment on any vehicle tariff changes. Futures contracts on the S&P 500 Index jumped 1.9 percent in the first minutes of trading and have



People walk by an electronic stock board of a securities firm in Tokyo

stayed higher.

So, will investors see a solid rebound with four weeks left to the year? The jury's still out. To some market players, including CMC Markets Singapore analyst Margaret Yang Yan, this temporary cease-fire could set up the year-end rally, given

that emerging markets have been suppressed most of this year. UBS Group AG strategists led by Niall Macleod say China and Korea have the "greatest potential" to re-rate as these two countries previously have been discounted too much on bad news ranging from trade tension

to economic growth.

But others are staying cautious. In an interview with Bloomberg Television, Mark Tinker, head of Framlington Equities Asia at AXA Investment Managers in Hong Kong, said while some short covering is possible in the near term, he's still cautious to

call a Santa rally as the trade war wasn't the only thing on investors' minds this year and the truce is more like the "removal of negatives rather than a huge positive." He pointed to the U.S. dollar as a key factor to whether investors will rush back into the market. **Bloomberg**

Macquarie said to be in final talks for China joint venture

Cathy Chan

MACQUARIE Group Ltd. is in advanced talks to create a majority-owned securities joint-venture firm in China, according to people familiar with the matter, the latest international bank seeking to establish itself in one of the world's biggest markets.

Sydney-based Macquarie is drafting a final agreement with two Chinese conglomerates, said the people, declining to name the companies. It plans to form a three-way venture in Shanghai, and will submit its application in the next couple of months, the people said, asking not to be identified because the plans aren't public. Macquarie would take a 51 percent stake in the JV, the people said.

Allowing majority foreign ownership of securities joint ventures is a key

part of China's financial opening. The closed nature of the country's USD40 trillion financial sector has been a sore point for international firms and politicians, and one that policy makers in Beijing have been slowly working to address. On Friday, they granted UBS Group AG the first approval for overseas majority control of a securities JV. Nomura Holdings Inc. and JP-Morgan Chase & Co. have also applied. A Macquarie spokeswoman declined to comment.

Macquarie officials decided to move ahead with the JV after rule changes earlier this year allowed foreign firms to partner with companies outside the brokerage industry, said the people. The new regulations removed concerns that overseas companies looking for JV partners might be forced to buy stakes from existing brokerages at high prices, one of the people said.

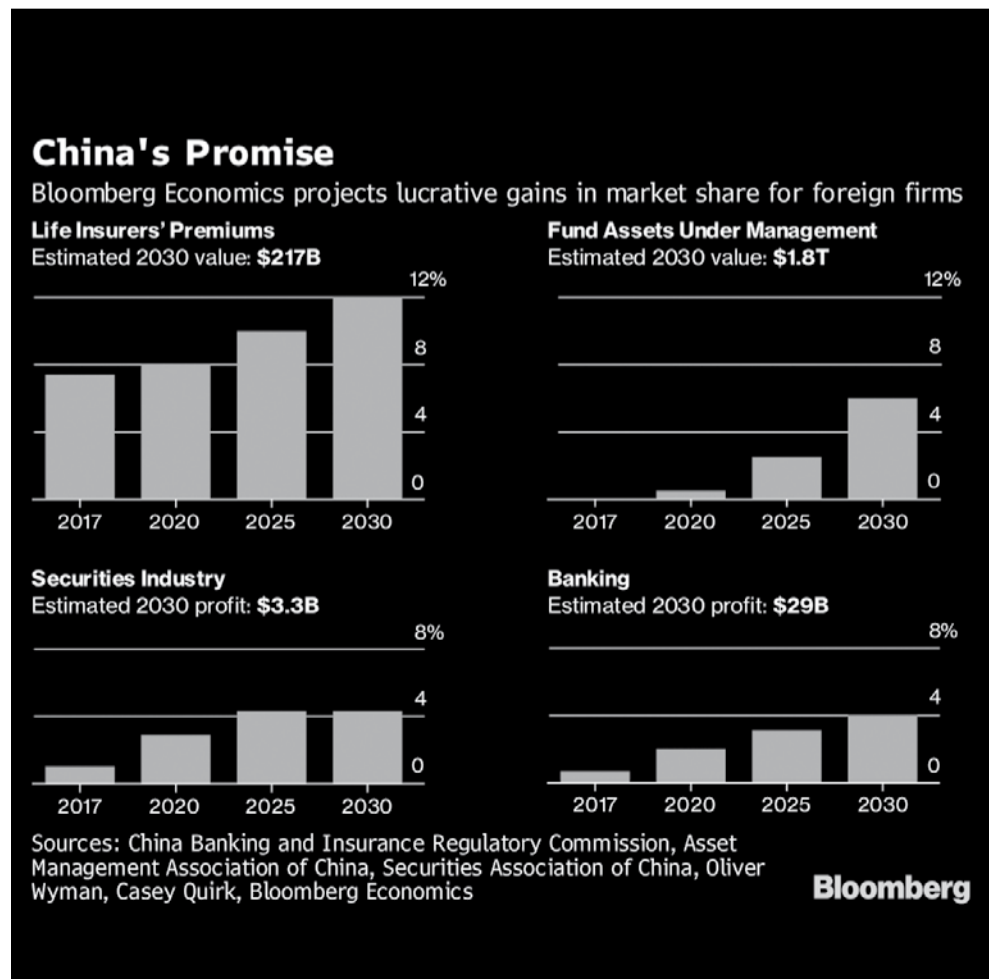
Foreign companies that team up with non-securities firms to start a joint venture need at least two

local partners, according to the rules. Such a setup can make it easier for the foreign entity to exert greater control.

Macquarie operates an asset management business in China, working with local insurance companies and sovereign funds to help them invest offshore. It also works in the infrastructure and real estate sectors and advises on cross-border deals.

If the Australian firm finalizes its plans, it would be the second time it's tried to enter China's securities industry. In 2008, it signed a pact with Hengtai Securities Co. only to cancel the agreement because of concerns over management control and prices, said one of the people familiar with the matter.

Macquarie also created a trust company in 2009, selling its entire 19.9 percent stake six years later. The venture, which had initial capital of 300 million yuan (\$43.5 million), aimed to offer yuan-based products and arrange domestic debt and equity financing. **Bloomberg**



Could anyone have stopped gene-edited babies experiment?

Marilynn Marchione
& Christina Larson, Hong Kong

EARLY last year, a little-known Chinese researcher turned up at an elite meeting in Berkeley, California, where scientists and ethicists were discussing a technology that had shaken the field to its core — an emerging tool for “editing” genes, the strings of DNA that form the blueprint of life.

The young scientist, He Jiankui, saw the power of this tool, called CRISPR, to transform not only genes, but also his own career.

In visits to the United States, he sought out CRISPR pioneers such as Jennifer Doudna of the University of California, Berkeley, and Stanford University’s Dr. Matthew Porteus, and big thinkers on its use, like Stanford ethicist Dr. William Hurlbut.

Last week, those shocked researchers watched as He hijacked an international conference they helped organize with an astonishing claim: He said he helped make the world’s first gene-edited babies, despite clear scientific consensus that making genetic changes that could be passed to future generations should not be attempted at this point.

U.S. National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins called He’s experiment “a misadventure of a major sort” — starring “a scientist who apparently believed that he was a hero. In fact, he crossed every line, scientifically and ethically.”

But nobody stopped him. How can that be?

To be fair, scientists say there’s no certain way to stop someone intent on monkeying with DNA, no matter what laws or standards are in place. CRISPR is cheap and easy to use — which is why scientists began to worry almost as soon as the technology was invented that something like this would happen.

And there is a long history in science and medicine of researchers launching experiments prematurely that were met with scorn or horror — some of which led to what are now common practices, such as in-vitro fertilization.

Gene-editing for reproductive purposes is effectively banned in the U.S. and most of Europe. In China, ministerial guidelines prohibit embryo research that “violates ethical or moral principles.”

It turns out He wasn’t exactly tight-lipped about his goals. He pursued international experts at Stanford and Rice Universities, where he had done graduate studies work, and elsewhere,

AP PHOTO



He Jiankui, a Chinese researcher, speaks during the Human Genome Editing Conference in Hong Kong last week

re, seeking advice before and during the experiment.

Should scientists who knew of He’s plans have spoken up? Could they have dissuaded him?

The answers aren’t clear.

“It doesn’t fall into the category of legal responsibility, but ethical responsibility,” said Collins. He said that not speaking up “doesn’t seem like a scientist taking responsibility.”

China’s National Commission of Health, Chinese Academy of Sciences and He’s own university have said they were in dark and have since condemned him.

But three Stanford scientists — Hurlbut, Porteus and He’s former fellowship adviser, Stephen Quake — had extensive contact with him over the last few years. They and other scientists knew or strongly suspected that He intended to try to make genetically edited babies.

Some confidantes didn’t think He would follow through; others raised concerns that were never heeded.

Stanford has not responded to an interview request.

Quake, a bioengineering professor, was one of the first to know about He’s ambition. Quake said he had met with He through the years whenever his former student was in town, and that He confided his interest a few years ago in editing embryos for live births to try to make them resistant to the AIDS virus.

Quake said he gave He only general advice and encouraged him to talk with mainstream scientists, to choose situations where there’s consensus that the

risks are justified, to meet the highest ethics standards and to publish his results in a peer-reviewed journal.

“My advice was very broad,” Quake said.

Hurlbut thinks he first met He in early 2017, when he and Doudna, co-inventor of CRISPR, held the first of three meetings with leading scientists and ethicists to discuss the technology.

“Somehow, he ended up at our meeting,” Hurlbut said.

Since then, He returned several times to Stanford, and Hurlbut said he “spent many hours” talking with He about situations where gene editing might be appropriate.

Four or five weeks ago, Hurlbut said He came to see him again and discussed embryo gene editing to try to prevent HIV. Hurlbut said he suspected He had tried to implant a modified embryo in a woman’s womb.

“I admonished him,” he said. “I didn’t green-light his work. I challenged him on it. I didn’t approve of what he was doing.”

Porteus said he knew that He had been talking with Hurlbut and assumed Hurlbut discouraged the Chinese scientist. In February, He asked to meet with Porteus and told him he had gotten approval from a hospital ethics board to move forward.

“I think he was expecting me to be more receptive, and I was very negative,” Porteus said. “I was angry at his naivete, I was angry at his recklessness.”

Porteus said he urged He “to go talk to your senior Chinese colleagues.”

After that meeting, “I didn’t

hear from him and assumed he would not proceed,” Porteus said. “In retrospect, I could have raised a hue and cry.”

In a draft article about the gene-edited twin girls, which He planned to submit to journals, he thanked UC Berkeley biophysicist Mark DeWitt for “editing the manuscript.” DeWitt said he tried to dissuade He and disputed that he edited the paper. He said he saw the paper, but the feedback he offered was “pretty general.”

■ The young scientist, He Jiankui, saw the power of this tool, called CRISPR, to transform not only genes, but also his own career

He’s claims, including that his work has resulted in a second pregnancy, cannot be independently confirmed and his work has not been published. He defended his actions last week at a gene editing summit in Hong Kong.

In contrast, another U.S. scientist said he not only encouraged He but played a large role in the project.

Michael Deem, a bioengineering professor at Rice University

and He’s doctoral degree adviser, said he had worked with He since the scientist returned to China around 2012, and that he sits on the advisory boards and holds “a small stake” in He’s two genetics companies in Shenzhen. Deem defended He’s actions, saying the research team did earlier experiments on animals.

“We have multiple generations of animals that were genetically edited and produced viable offspring,” and a lot of research on unintended effects on other genes, Deem said. Deem also said he was present in China when some study participants gave their consent to try embryo gene editing.

Rice said it had no knowledge of Deem’s involvement and is now investigating.

So far most of the attention has focused on regulatory gaps in China.

But that’s not the whole story, said Rosario Isasi, an expert on genomics law in the U.S. and China at the University of Miami.

“Let’s focus on how it happened and why it happened, and the way it happened,” said Isasi. “How can we establish a system that has better transparency?”

There’s no international governing body to enforce bioethics rules, but scientific bodies and universities can use other tools.

“If someone breaks those rules, scientists can ostracize, journals can refuse to publish, employers can refuse to employ, funders can refuse to fund,” said Hank Greely, a professor of law and genetics at Stanford.

Greely expects He’s experiment will have ripple effects in academia, whether or not regulators act. “Universities are going to take a harder look at what’s going on. This incident will put everyone on alert about any related research.”

Of course, sometimes bad beginnings can turn into better endings.

In 1980, University of California, Los Angeles, professor Martin Cline was sanctioned for performing the first gene therapy on two women in Israel and Italy because he hadn’t gotten approval to try it at UCLA.

Cline announced his work rather than publishing it in a scientific journal, and faced criticism for trying “genetic engineering” on people when its safety and effectiveness hadn’t yet been established in animals. Now gene therapy is an established, although still fairly novel, treatment method.

Two years earlier, in 1978, Dr. Robert Edwards was similarly denounced when he announced through the press the world’s first “test tube baby,” Louise Brown. The work later earned a Nobel Prize, and IVF has helped millions to have a child.

And this year, Louise Brown — mother of two sons, conceived in the old-fashioned way — turned 40. **AP**

CHINA'S president signed new trade deals with Argentina yesterday [Macau time] as the Asian giant expands its growing role in Latin American economies.

Presidents Mauricio Macri of Argentina and Xi Jinping of China announced the more than 30 agriculture and investment deals during a state visit following the Group of 20 summit in Buenos Aires. The deals include an agreement to export Argentine cherries to China and an expansion of a currency swap.

China is among Argentina's top export markets, especially for agricultural commodities that are the engine of its economy. It is also one of Argentina's biggest lenders, financing about USD18.2 billion in infrastructure and other projects, according to the Inter-American Dialogue, a Washington-based think tank.

"China's development benefits Argentina, our region and the world," Macri said during a ceremony at the presidential residence in the outskirts of the Argentine capital.

"We have complementary countries. There are few countries in the world that can buy so many of the high-quality products that we're capable of making," Macri said.

The visit comes after U.S. of-

Argentina and China sign deals strengthening ties after G-20



President Xi Jinping receives a polo helmet from Argentina's President Mauricio Macri

ficials said they had reached a 90-day truce in the trade dispute with China that has rattled financial markets and imperiled global economic growth. That announcement followed a Saturday dinner meeting between Xi and

President Donald Trump.

Argentina also granted Xi the top honor awarded to foreign politicians, and the Argentine polo association gave the Chinese leader a polo horse. The South American country is home to the

world's top polo players, and Macri said that he wants the sport to make a comeback in China.

Photos released by Argentina's presidency showed a smiling Xi petting the pony with one hand and holding the reins with the

other. Macri also put a red polo helmet emblazoned with China's flag on Xi's head.

Xi congratulated Macri on a successful summit and said both of their nations believe the G-20 spirit of solidarity must prevail in "the firm defense of multilateralism and free trade to build an open global economy and foment the world's prosperity and stability."

Xi then flew to Panama, which has been negotiating a free-trade deal with China after shifting its diplomatic recognition to Beijing from Taiwan last year, a move that led to complaints from U.S. officials.

Chinese companies operate ports on both ends of the Panama Canal, which for most of the 20th Century was seen as a symbol of U.S. influence.

Xi was met at the airport by Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela, and the two leaders planned a private working meeting today [Macau time]. The Chinese leader also planned to visit the Cocoli locks on the Pacific end of the canal. **AP**

State media praise Bush as 'statesman of vision'

CHINESE state media yesterday praised George H.W. Bush as a "statesman of vision," recalling the late president's role in helping end the Cold War and establishing the foundations of U.S.-China relations.

The China Daily newspaper said Bush, who died over the weekend in Houston at age 94, realized in the 1980s that China was different from the Soviet Union and recognized the potential for cooperation.

"It is fair to say, Bush was a statement of vision, not only for being a co-founder of the U.S. dominancy in the post-Cold War era, but also his insightful observations on China, which were the key for the forming of the U.S.'s China policies in the 1980s and beyond," the paper said in an editorial headlined, "Old friend who helped set the course for ties."

Bush was America's unofficial ambassador to China in 1974-75 as the two countries were moving toward establishing diplomatic relations amid tensions between Moscow and Beijing. Arriving just two years after President Richard Nixon



In this Feb. 25, 1989 file photo, U.S. President George H.W. Bush stands on his car and waves to crowds in Tiananmen Square in Beijing

opened direct contacts with China, Bush was a pivotal figure in building contacts prior to the establishment of full diplomatic relations in 1979. Over his 14 months in Beijing, he and his wife, Barbara Bush, became known for riding their bikes through the city's winding lanes and socializing with other members of the Western diplomatic community.

Bush is also remembered for smoothing over a rough patch in relations while president following the bloody 1989 crackdown on pro-democracy protests centered on Beijing's Tiananmen Square. Despite widespread

condemnation and moves to isolate China in the West, Bush sent his national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft, on a secret mission to reassure the government of former paramount leader Deng Xiaoping that there would be no major rupture in ties.

Chinese President Xi Jinping offered his condolences at a meeting with President Donald Trump, saying Bush's passing left him "greatly saddened" and calling him "someone who had made an important contribution to China-U.S. friendship and relations during his lifetime." **AP**

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JAPAN

Ghoshn's legal woes highlight governance failings



The raft of scandals at many blue chip Japanese companies suggests managers are struggling to meet sometimes overly ambitious profit targets

Yuri Kageyama, Tokyo

ONE of the biggest mysteries surrounding the arrest of Nissan's former chairman Carlos Ghosn is over how he allegedly could have underreported his income by millions of dollars for years and why the company is going after the suspected wrongdoing now.

Ghosn, who headed the Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi Motors auto alliance, was arrested Nov. 19 on suspicion he underreported his income by USD44 million over five years, or about half of what he was really making. Nissan Motor Co. and Mitsubishi have ousted him as chairman; the board of Renault SA of France says it's waiting for more evidence.

Nissan is among a growing list of top-name Japanese companies whose corporate governance has been found lacking in recent years.

"Wait a minute. Who wrote the financial statements? The accountants. Who audited them? The auditors," Christopher Richter, auto analyst for CLSA Securities Japan Co., said of the case. "How do you do this without other people being complicit?"

Japanese prosecutors say Ghosn and another Nissan executive, Greg Kelly, an American suspected of collaborating with him, were arrested because they are considered flight risks. But the timing of the scandal, given the length and scale of the alleged wrongdoing, is raising questions.

Why did Nissan choose to come

forward now, asks Eric Schiffer, chief executive of Reputation Management Consultants in the Los Angeles, California, area.

"If Nissan knew about this all along and decided to pull the trigger, such Machiavellian tactics will significantly backfire on the brand," Schiffer said.

Japanese media have reported that two other company employees contacted authorities as whistleblowers and sought plea deals. Ghosn has not made any public statements about the case.

Kelly's American lawyer Aubrey Harwell said his client, who was dismissed as a Nissan executive director after his arrest, did nothing wrong.

Kelly acted "according to the law and according to company policy," Harwell said. "He had talked to people in the company and to outsiders, and he believed everything he did was done totally legally," he said in a telephone interview from his office in Nashville, Tennessee.

Only Ghosn's attorneys and embassy officials from Lebanon, France and Brazil, where he has citizenship, are allowed to visit him. Yesterday, Imad Ajami, a Lebanese consultant in Tokyo who has spoken with people allowed to visit Ghosn, said he also was asserting his innocence.

Ajami said Ghosn's visitors have bought him a mattress, clothing, cheese and other foods to make his stay under the frugal conditions in the detention center more comfortable. Detainees usually sleep on straw tatami mats and are fed mostly rice,

soup and vegetables.

Prosecutors have released very little information about the case and neither man has been officially charged. In Japan suspects can be held for weeks for questioning without any charges.

A source familiar with an internal investigation by Nissan said the hidden salary was categorized as "deferred income," meaning it was promised for later on, such as after Ghosn's retirement, and the documents promising the money were kept secret from auditors and others. He spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to discuss such details.

One possible motive is that Ghosn was seeking to avoid public criticism over his multi-million dollar paychecks, which are a rarity in Japan even for top executives. Even the underreported amounts, about 1 billion yen (\$9 million) each year, drew unwelcome scrutiny and commentary.

Ghosn was forced to defend his salary at shareholders' meetings beginning in 2010, when Japan started requiring the disclosure of individual executive pay.

Pay packages in the west tend to be higher — Toyota Motor Corp.'s Chief Executive Akio Toyoda earns less than 400 million yen (\$3.5 million) a year. But many Japanese companies lack the sorts of systematic checks required for publicly listed U.S. companies. That includes periodically changing who checks financial statements instead of having the same people do it for many years.

Japan needs independent oversight for executive pay, said corporate governance expert Takuji Saito, who teaches at Keio Business School.

"The problem here was that the pay was significant, in line with global standards, but the way it was decided was still so Japanese," he said of Nissan's lack of transparency. "Nissan deserves criticism for having allowed this to continue unchecked for so long."

Failing to report deferred income is still 'a gray area in criminality' in Japan, but a clear problem in corporate governance

Saito believes that failing to report deferred income is still "a gray area in criminality" in Japan, but a clear problem in corporate governance.

It's certainly turned out to be a big problem for Ghosn, 64. He's being held at a Tokyo detention center pending his indictment or release and has hired Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP to represent him.

Japanese media say, without citing sources, that Ghosn is asserting his innocence, insisting he always wanted his income re-

ports to be legal and denying he signed secret documents. Prosecutors have refused to comment.

Whether a suspect intended to commit a crime or did it unknowingly is important in determining criminality under Japanese law.

Nissan veteran Hiroto Saikawa, who took over from Ghosn as the automaker's chief executive last year, has harshly criticized his former boss and vowed to instill greater transparency and accountability at Nissan. The company is setting up a panel of outsiders to come up with recommendations, including reviewing the company's executive compensation system.

The raft of scandals at many blue chip Japanese companies suggests managers are struggling to meet sometimes overly ambitious profit targets amid slowing demand, labor shortages, rising costs and intensifying competition. But they also highlight a rift between old-guard practices and an increasingly global business world in Japan.

— Major steelmaker Kobe Steel was charged with violating competition laws after massive faking over many years of quality data for products sent to hundreds of companies, including aluminum castings and copper tubes for autos, aircraft, nuclear power plants, appliances and trains. Kobe Steel said a zealous pursuit of profit, unrealistic targets and an insular corporate culture caused the wrongdoing.

— In 2016, Mitsubishi Motors Corp. disclosed it falsified mileage data. That followed a massive cover-up over decades of auto defects thought to have helped cause a fatal accident. In 2004 its president, Katsuhiko Kawasoe, was arrested. He was sentenced to three years in prison, suspended for five years, and did not serve time in jail.

— In 2015, electronics maker Toshiba Corp. said it had doctored its books in a systematic accounting cover-up that began in 2008 or earlier. The company declared bankruptcy, stricken by troubles in its nuclear business after multiple meltdowns in March 2011 at a power plant in Fukushima, northeastern Japan.

— Beginning in 2014, auto parts supplier Takata Corp. recalled more than 100 million defective air-bag inflators linked to 25 deaths and more than 180 injuries worldwide. Last year, Takata pleaded guilty to fraud in a U.S. court and agreed to pay more than \$1 billion (109 billion yen) in penalties.

These scandals and more, from faked data to cutting corners, have driven calls for stricter corporate oversight. Reflecting widespread sentiments, Schiffer, the brand management expert, says he finds it hard to believe Nissan insiders weren't aware of what was going on earlier.

Otherwise, they were "incompetent," he said. **AP**

KOREAS

Ban Ki-moon urges North to take denuclearization steps

Kaori Hitomi & Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

FORMER U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged North Korean leader Kim Jong Un yesterday to take concrete steps toward complete denuclearization and gain the trust of the international community if he wants sanctions lifted.

Ban, a former South Korean foreign minister, said "this is the time" to achieve North Korea's denuclearization after nearly a quarter century of unsuccessful efforts, and that the North and the world should not lose this opportunity.

"I'd like to really advise the North Korean leader that the world is ready" to help his country, Ban told The Associated Press, specifically citing South Korea, the U.S., China, Japan and Russia. He said denuclearization is important for a better future for the two Koreas, including reconciliation and reunification.

"I hope this is the time — please



Ban Ki-moon speaks during an interview with the Associated Press in Tokyo yesterday

do not lose this opportunity," he said.

Kim sharply raised tensions with nuclear and missile tests last year, but suddenly reached out to South Korea and the Uni-

ted States this year with a vague nuclear disarmament pledge.

North Korea is seeking security guarantees from the U.S. and relief from international sanctions.

U.S. President Donald Trump and South Korean President Moon Jae-in say tensions have eased significantly since then, but Ban, who is in Tokyo for an event organized by a busi-

ness group, said the crisis is not over and that North Korea should fully disclose its nuclear weapons inventory to a trusted international organization such as the International Atomic Energy Agency.

"The crisis is still continuing because of North Korea's development of nuclear, missile and weapons program and materials," Ban said. "It is North Korea which should clearly state and show by taking actions, then I am sure that there will be no reason why the Security Council of the United Nations will continue to impose the sanction on North Korea."

Moon has facilitated a series of high-level talks between the U.S. and North Korea, including a summit between Trump and Kim in June, and has met Kim three times this year. After their third meeting in North Korea's capital of Pyongyang in September, Moon said Kim agreed to make a reciprocal visit to Seoul this year. If that happens, he would be the first North Korean leader to do so since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War, though the plan is still unclear.

Trump recently said he is likely to hold a second summit with Kim in January or February. Ban said he hopes the summit will occur at a time when the international community feels confident about North Korea's commitment to denuclearization. **AP**

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ANALYSIS

For Trump, low drama on trip, signs of acceptance



Catherine Lucey
& Zeke Miller, Washington

IF there has been a constant to President Donald Trump's tumultuous first two years in office, it has been that his foreign trips have tended to be drama-filled affairs — the president barreling through international gatherings like a norm-smashing bull, disrupting alliances and upending long-standing U.S. policies. But at this year's Group of 20 summit, Trump appeared to settle in among his global peers.

A brisk two days in Argentina saw Trump reach a trade ceasefire with China and sign a three-way trade deal with Mexico and Canada. With little public spectacle, he joined the leaders of the other member nations on the traditional group statement. He buddied up with traditional allies and largely avoided controversial strongmen. Faced with Russia's spiking aggression in Ukraine, he canceled his sit-down with Vladimir Putin. And when former President George H.W. Bush died, Trump gave respectful remarks and canceled what would likely have been a raucous press conference.

All told, for the often-undisciplined leader, the whirlwind

trip was an unusual moment of Zen.

Trump's election forced the world to reckon with sweeping populist movements and the impact of globalization. In the first two years of his presidency, he has brusquely rejected international engagement for what he views as a single-minded focus on U.S. national interests.

Public and private interactions with world leaders over his 48 hours in Argentina demonstrated Trump does have the capacity for restraint. And other world leaders, for their part, showed grumbling acceptance of Trump's untraditional stylings.

It's hardly as though Trump has suddenly abandoned his "America First" world view. But rather than challenge him at every turn, other leaders appear to be adapting to Trump, mindful that multilateral deals are weaker without the United States. Delegation "sherpas" worked through the night to revamp the joint communique so that it would be amenable to Trump, and allies knew to butter Trump up with over-the-top praise.

"From the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your historic victory in the midterm

election in the United States," declared Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the start of their meeting Saturday [Macau time]. He made no mention of the big electoral gains that Democrats notched in the U.S. House. Abe has long proved to be the world leader most adept at keeping on Trump's good side, but even more challenging relationships appeared to find firmer ground. Trump's meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel was outwardly all smiles, handshakes and praise.

The G-20 joint statement included U.S.-preferred language on reforming the World Trade Organization — something Trump demanded — and made note that the U.S. opposed the Paris climate agreement, which the president has announced plans to exit.

French President Emmanuel Macron called it a victory that the U.S. signed onto the statement at all, given the tensions going into the talks. He said, "With Trump, we reached an agreement. The U.S. accepted a text."

American allies did express mild frustration with Trump at times. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, at the signing of the revised North American

Free Trade Agreement, needled "Donald" over U.S. tariffs on Canadian aluminum and steel.

But Trump, for his part, played the role of gracious victor, proclaiming that he and Trudeau, along with outgoing Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto, were battle-tested friends. The new trade accord was a long-sought win for Trump, who as a candidate had promised to reform NAFTA, and he embraced its arrival as vindication of his abrasive negotiating tactics.

Most notably, Trump largely kept his distance from Putin and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. He made small talk with the two strongmen but toed the line on a Western freeze-out of the pair — the former over Russia's recent seizure of three Ukrainian naval vessels and their crews, and the latter over the murder two months ago of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

In previous global summits, the shock factor invariably came from Trump. There was his speech lecturing NATO allies over defense spending in spring 2017. The surprise tete-a-tete with Putin at a G-20 dinner in Germany that summer. And the G-7 meeting earlier this year in Canada, where Trump agreed to

a group statement on trade, only to withdraw from it on Twitter while flying to Asia, insulting Trudeau in the process.

This time, the viral moment of the weekend came when Putin and the crown prince, the two relative outcasts of the summit, exchanged an enthusiastic handshake.

Trump also showed control when word came during the summit of Bush's death. While Trump has struggled to strike the right tone during moments of national loss, he sought to meet this one with grace. He followed the scripted playbook for the state funeral he wishes for himself when that day comes, swiftly declared a day of national mourning and ordered American flags to be flown at half-staff for 30 days. He lauded Bush as a man of "sound judgment, common sense and unflappable leadership."

■ All told, for the often-undisciplined leader, the whirlwind trip was an unusual moment of Zen

For Trump, the Bush family has been a longtime punching bag. He dubbed Jeb Bush "low energy" when they faced off during the 2016 Republican presidential primary. He has been highly critical of George W. Bush's presidency. And he mocked George H.W. Bush's signature phrase about a "thousand points of light" during his campaign rallies just this year.

Those insults were put aside over the weekend as Trump spoke to reporters about his respect for the late president.

"We'll be spending three days of mourning and three days of celebrating a really great man's life. So we look forward to doing that, and he certainly deserves it. He really does. He was a very special person," Trump said.

The president's decision to cancel the planned news conference in the wake of Bush's death helped keep him on a disciplined track. Those affairs can easily go off the rails, as did Trump's news conference after a July summit with Putin in Helsinki, where Trump drew widespread criticism for failing to publicly denounce Russia's interference in the 2016 U.S. election and appearing to accept Putin's denials of such activity.

The president arrived back in the United States yesterday [Macau time], with a week of mourning for Bush ahead, a government funding fight on the horizon and more to come from the Russia investigation. The question now, as always, is just how long can this moment last? **AP**

SAUDI ARABIA

Friend of Khashoggi sues Israeli surveillance company

A Saudi dissident has filed a lawsuit against an Israeli surveillance company, claiming its sophisticated spyware targeted him and helped lead to the killing of his friend, Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

The suit, filed in a Tel Aviv court, follows others previously filed against the company. But because of the dissident's ties to Khashoggi and his high-profile killing Oct. 2 at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, it is likely to shine a greater spotlight on the Israeli company and the Israeli government, which licenses the export of the surveillance technology.

According to the lawsuit, Omar Abdulaziz, a sharp critic on social media of the Saudi royals and a resident of Canada where he has received asylum, said he was friends with Khashoggi and worked with him on a project meant to rein in pro-monarchy Saudi trolls.



Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (right) shakes hands with Salah Khashoggi, a son of Jamal Khashoggi, in Riyadh

di trolls.

The lawsuit says Abdulaziz received and clicked on a link sent to his phone in June 2018 that he argues exposed his mobile communications

to Saudi authorities. It says Abdulaziz faced increased harassment by Saudi authorities after he clicked on the link, including against his family members in Saudi Arabia.

"The spying that was directed against [Abdulaziz] and the disclosure of the content of the conversations and messages between him and Khashoggi through the system contributed significantly to the decision to assassinate Mr. Khashoggi by the assassins at the consulate," the lawsuit states, citing news reports and other sources claiming that NSO Group sold Saudi Arabia the technology in 2017 for USD55 million.

Abdulaziz is demanding 600,000 shekels — about \$160,000 — in damages from the company, as well as an order preventing it from selling its technology, known as "Pegasus," to Saudi Arabia.

The NSO Group's smartphone-hacking technology has emerged as a favorite for authorities seeking to crush dissent across the Middle East and Latin America. The Israeli firm's software is part of a larger family of malware that allows spies to take re-

mote control of phones from anywhere in the world — turning the devices in targets' pockets into powerful surveillance tools.

In a written statement, NSO Group said the company's technology "enables governments and law enforcement agencies to fight terrorism and crime." It said it takes "an extremely scrupulous" approach to the sale of its products, which also undergo vetting and licensing by Israel's defense ministry.

"We do not tolerate misuse of our products. If there is suspicion of misuse, we investigate it and take the appropriate actions, including suspending or terminating a contract," it said.

There was no immediate comment from Israel's defense ministry.

NSO has been under the spotlight for months after dissidents, journalists and other opposition figures have come forward to claim the company's technology has been used by repressive governments to spy on them. These include Mexican and Qatari journalists who have already filed lawsuits against the company and an Amnesty International employee who was allegedly targeted by the software. AP

AD

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what's ON



ASSEMBLAGE OF TREASURES - EXHIBITION OF THE MACAU MUSEUM COLLECTION FOR CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY
TIME: 10am-6pm (ticket booth closes at 5:30pm; closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: February 24, 2019
VENUE: Macau Museum
ADMISSION: MOP15 (free admission on Tuesdays and on the 15th of every month)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

"STYLE-ENCOUNTER MOMENT"
TIME: 10AM - 8PM
UNTIL: December 30, 2018
VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

SPARKLING GARDEN - GUAN HUI BIN WORKS
TIME: 10am-7pm (last admission 6:30pm; closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: February 24, 2019
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

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

LA PARISIENNE CABARET FRANCAIS
TIME: 8pm (except on Mondays)
 5pm (Sundays)
UNTIL: February 3, 2018
VENUE: The Parisian Theatre
ADMISSION: MOP188, MOP388, MOP488
COTAL TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818
KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

Offbeat

ROYAL MAIL DELIVERS: POSTMAN, CAN YOU TAKE THIS TO HEAVEN?



A 7-year-old Scottish boy who sent a birthday card to his father in heaven has received a heart-warming reply.

A Royal Mail official responded to Jase Hyndman after seeing the card addressed: "Mr. Postman, Can you take this to heaven for my dad's birthday."

The Royal Mail's Sean Milligan wrote back, saying, "This was a difficult challenge avoiding stars and other galactic objects on route to heaven. However, please be assured that this particular important item of mail has been delivered."

Jase's mother, Teri Copland, posted images of the letters on Facebook, which have been shared more than 260,000 times.

Copland says, "I actually cannot state how emotional he is knowing his dad got the card. [...] You've just restored my faith in humanity."

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

29 Nov - 5



THE NUTCRACKER AND THE FOUR REALMS

ROOM 1

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

Director: Lasse Hallstrom & Joe Johnston

Starring: Keira Knightley, Mackenzie Foy, Morgan Freeman

Language: English

Duration: 99min



ROBIN HOOD

ROOM 2

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

Director: Otto Bathurst

Starring: Taron Egerton, Jamie Foxx, Ben Mendelsohn

Language: English

Duration: 130min



MORE THAN BLUE

ROOM 3

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

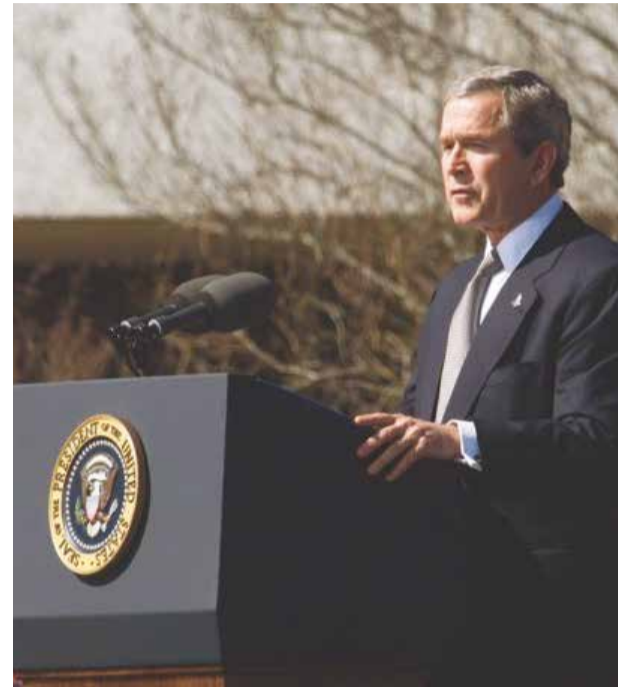
Director: Gavin Lin

Starring: Jasper Liu, Ivy Chen

Language: Putonghua (Chinese & English)

Duration: 105min

this day in history



2003 US PULLS BACK FROM STEEL TRADE WAR

The US President, George W Bush, has withdrawn a punitive tax on imported steel to avoid a damaging trade war between the United States and Europe.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) last month turned down a US appeal against its July ruling that the duties, imposed in March 2002, are illegal.

Mr Bush justified them by saying foreign steel firms were driving US firms out of business with unfair competition and government subsidies.

The EU was planning sanctions worth \$2.2bn in retaliation against the move, but says they will now be dropped.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan, reading a statement on behalf of Mr Bush, said: "These safeguard measures have now achieved their purpose and, as a result of changed economic circumstances, it is time to lift them."

US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick said the tariff decision had been made independently of the EU's threat of retaliation.

At no stage did the US administration admit it had acted illegally in breaching WTO rules.

On hearing the tariffs were being dropped, the EU Trade Minister Pascal Lamy said: "This is good news for us.... The important thing is that this sort of thing should not happen again."

It is believed that pressure from the British Prime Minister Tony Blair during Mr Bush's controversial visit to London last month was instrumental in convincing him to lift the tariffs.

The tariffs, which added up to 30% to the cost of a range of imported steel products, were originally imposed to satisfy an election pledge Mr Bush made to steel bosses and workers.

The US blamed cheap imports for the bankruptcy of 31 steel firms since 1997, with 20,000 job losses.

But the EU - which had also suffered 22,200 job losses over four years at the time - said it had not resorted to such measures while it was forced to restructure.

President Bush may now face a backlash from those workers who said he promised to keep the tariffs in place for three years.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Further trade wars threaten over the import of genetically modified food and crops from the US, despite the fact that EU public opinion is strongly opposed to such products.

The US has launched a trade complaint at the WTO, while the EU has postponed a decision on whether to allow some GM crops to be imported.

In January 2004, China - the world's top steelmaker and user - imposed tariffs of up to 55% on steel imports from five countries which it said were hurting its domestic producers, to an international outcry.

In August 2004 trade talks in Geneva reached a framework agreement on opening up global trade to allow poorer nations better access to world markets. It was hailed as a major breakthrough after three years of wrangling over the issue.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Cool, calm and collected beats frantic, hyper and bombastic any day of the week...

Taurus April 20-May 20 Not everyone is watching your progress as closely as you are right now...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 There's a nice warm place in your heart where you keep special memories and nostalgic ideas...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 If you're feeling under the weather or under the gun, reach out to your friends for some support...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 For a while now, you've been biting your tongue about a controversial topic. Fear of confrontation is a common concern...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Be prepared to give a little bit more than everyone else is giving right now - your willingness to be flexible will be remembered...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 A breakthrough is coming - finally, you get a chance to get rid of whatever (or whomever) has been holding you back...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 As focused like a laser, your vision will be directed solely at one goal; but to make real progress, try the indirect approach...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Keep your eyes peeled for a smoking gun - a missing clue will shed new light on a confusing personal situation...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 This will all be a great lesson on how to prioritize things in the future. Don't be too rough on yourself - you're sharp, but you can't possibly stay on top of every little detail...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 That person will get their just desserts - and you will definitely be able to witness it! Diplomatic, mature behavior is always the better choice...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Delve deeply into the who, what, when and why of everything - even the things you think you understand inside and out...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each puzzle is a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN'. Includes a 'Yesterday's solution' grid showing filled-in words.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

List of useful telephone numbers for emergency calls, fire department, police, customs, hospitals, and other services. Includes an icon of a telephone.

Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' and 'FOR RENT' sections with details for various properties in Macau and Taipa.



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EPL

Ozil problem weighs heavy at new-look Arsenal



Arsenal's Mesut Ozil smiles

Steve Douglas

THE questions came thick and fast, and Arsenal manager Unai Emery had no real answers.

At least he chose not to give any answers. Could Mesut Ozil have played in the north London derby against Tottenham on Sunday?

"He has backache," Emery said after Arsenal's 4-2 win, repeating the club's press release from earlier that afternoon. When did he get that injury? "I don't know," Emery replied. So where was Ozil? "I don't know," he said.

Had he been told he wasn't going to play against Tottenham? "This is a good day to speak about players who played," Emery said with a forced smile, clearly trying to change the subject.

For Emery, the Ozil problem won't be going away any time soon.

The German playmaker is Arsenal's marquee star, and its highest paid player at a reported 350,000 pounds (USD450,000) a week following a contract extension seemingly hastily offered soon after Alexis Sanchez left the club midway through last

season.

On his day, he can do things few others can — his imperious display against Leicester in October was evidence of that.

But that isn't enough for Emery, who isn't indulging Ozil like his predecessor as Arsenal coach, Arsene Wenger, used to.

Emery dropped Ozil for last week's 2-1 win at Bournemouth because he didn't think the player was suited for a "very demanding match with physicality and intensity." That was the third league game Ozil had missed this season, with Arsenal citing illness and a back spasm

as the reasons for his other two absences.

Arsenal isn't missing Ozil when he is not there. In fact, the team is thriving under Emery, fourth

in the standings and unbeaten in 12 league games since opening the season with back-to-back losses against Manchester City and Chelsea. Arsenal's undefeated run in all competitions has stretched to 19 games.

Arsenal has developed a strong and coordinated pressing game under Emery that proved too much for a Tottenham team that was suffocated and ultimately overpowered at Emirates Stadium. It's hard to imagine that pressing game would have been as effective if Ozil, who does his best work on the ball, had been part of the effort.

Alex Iwobi and Henrikh Mkhitaryan don't have the same talent as Ozil, but they are more hard-working and apparently more trustworthy. It would be no surprise if Iwobi and Mkhitaryan started again in Wednesday's Premier League game at Manchester United.

Arsenal's board may have a big decision to make in a few weeks, with the midseason transfer window opening on Jan. 1. Would it be in Arsenal's interest to sell Ozil and maybe get in a replacement that better fits Emery's approach? Would Ozil even want to leave, given the money he earns at the London club?

In the meantime, Emery will just have to get used to the weekly barrage of questions about Ozil. **AP**

RANIERI REUNION

IT'S A week of reunions for Claudio Ranieri following his return to the Premier League with Fulham, and the upcoming one will surely be the most emotional. After taking his new team to former club Chelsea for a 2-0 loss on Sunday, Ranieri is now preparing to come up against Leicester —

the side he led to an unlikely title triumph in the 2015-16 season. Ranieri recently visited Leicester's King Power Stadium to lay a wreath as a mark of respect to the club's late owner, Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha, who died with four others in a helicopter crash in October.

Booed after scoring, Spartak Moscow player faces fan fury

James Ellingworth, Moscow

WHEN Denis Glushakov scores a goal for Spartak Moscow, some fans cheer and some fans jeer. Others take it even further.

Glushakov has become a target for Spartak fans after being accused of undermining popular coach Massimo Carrera, who ended Spartak's 16-year wait for a Russian league title in 2016-17 but was fired in October after a string of poor results.

So when Glushakov scored to give his team a 1-0 lead over Lokomotiv Moscow on Sunday, many Spartak fans didn't quite know how to react. The

hardcore sectors, waving banners with Glushakov's No. 8 crossed out, cheered the goal and then chanted

Glushakov has become a target for Spartak fans after being accused of undermining popular coach Massimo Carrera

that he was a "Judas" and demanded he leave the club.

The feud between the team captain and Spartak's influential fan clubs has dominated Russian soccer talk for months, partly fueled by an Instagram poetry reading.

"He betrayed our club, our colors and all of us, everyone who supports Spartak with all their soul," one major fan group said in a statement. "Denis, in his own selfish interest, instigated the team to undermine the coach, meaning intentionally losing games."

There is no evidence Glushakov played any role in match-fixing, but

he did have a difficult relationship with Carrera. The Italian coach dropped Glushakov and Andrei Yeshchenko to the reserves after they supposedly pressed the "like" button on an Instagram video of an actor reading a poem criticizing Carrera.

Last week, supporters twice ran onto the field toward Glushakov during matches. A fan who confronted the midfielder during Thursday's Europa League loss to Rapid Vienna — leading to a UEFA disciplinary charge against Spartak — told Russian media he wanted the midfielder out. When another ran out during Sunday's 2-1 win over Lokomotiv,



Spartak Moskva's Denis Glushakov (left)

Glushakov asked for leniency, saying the fan had simply wanted to shake his hand in support.

Once a hero to Spartak fans who called him "the funeral" for scoring crucial goals to kill off opposing teams, Glushakov said he just wants the fuss to die down.

"It's not the easiest pe-

riod in my life and everyone who knows me knows how strongly I love Spartak. Whatever happens, you need to put the team first and not think about me, other players or other people," Glushakov wrote on Instagram on Sunday. "Congratulations on the win to all the fans, without exception." **AP**

opinion

Our Desk
 Lynzy Valles



No HINT OF PROGRESS

The fight to establish a minimum wage law for domestic helpers is obviously not coming to an end any time soon.

The decision made by lawmaker Sulu Sou to exclude the group, along with disabled employees, in the proposed minimum wage bill disappointed a significant number of migrant workers.

According to these groups, Sou had been showing support regarding their situation during and after his campaign last year, giving hope to domestic workers that they would actually be heard in the Legislative Assembly.

We can't really blame these vulnerable groups for having their hopes raised high, as the lawmaker's initial support had been shown, and it is very rare for them to be heard in the region.

The city's domestic workers are calling on a law that has long been established in other regions, including Hong Kong.

In September, Hong Kong slightly raised its minimum wage for its foreign domestic workers to HKD4,520 from HKD4,410 – dubbed as a "slave wage increase" by some migrant groups in the neighboring region.

These workers' workload is heavy. Thousands of them multitask; taking care of the elderly, while looking after children, bringing them to school, and undertaking household chores.

Undoubtedly, the meager 2.5 percent increase does not amount to much. It is insulting and shameful for a city like Hong Kong. Yet, that could still be called progress – something that domestic workers in Macau do not see nor foresee.

There is no progress in their calls for a salary increase, protection of rights, or housing allowances; no progress in their calls for stricter working hours – as several of them work over 12 hours a day – and their call for the removal of the six-month ban when workers are fired.

On the stagnant MOP500 housing allowance, which was introduced over a decade ago, these workers say it is too low to provide them with better accommodation.

Leaders of migrant groups say they are pushing to hold dialogues with an official from the Labor Affairs Bureau, noting that they have acquired some 3,000 signatures calling for an improvement in their standard of living in Macau.

These vulnerable groups also lament that they are not included in the public consultation – which makes sense, as they are non-residents, but that does not mean they should be excluded from having their voices heard.

With all the progress that the city has made, one wonders how difficult it is to give attention and time to these migrant groups and give them the platform they deserve as an integral part of the society.

This problem is nothing new, but has been exacerbated by years of inflation outstripping salary increases of domestic workers and their allowances.

The absence of protection rights and the mere establishment of a minimum wage law for these vulnerable groups has always been discussed and yet almost nothing has been done, nor is it making progress. Consulates also play a significant role in these matters, yet they can only open dialogues with relevant government departments.

These vulnerable groups are in need of an effective mechanism that guarantees adequate rest and satisfactory income to cope up with the city's high living standards.

THE BUZZ JAPAN NABS 11 CHINESE FOR ALLEGEDLY WORKING WITHOUT VISAS

Japanese police have arrested 11 Chinese nationals in northern Japan for allegedly working at a construction site without passports or proper visas, and later discovered dozens of fellow workers fled.

Hokkaido police said yesterday the 11 Chinese, aged from 27 to 62, were arrested Nov. 26 near a train station in Kikonai town on the southwestern coast of Japan's northern main island. Police said two were without passports, while nine

others allegedly overstayed their visas.

Japanese media say the workers were mobilized at a solar power plant construction site by a company near Tokyo. Officials were looking for 46 other Chinese who disappeared from the construction site after the arrests.

As fast-aging Japan faces serious labor shortages, the foreign work force has increased, sometimes illegally or under harsh working conditions.

Philippine journalist contesting tax charges freed on bail

AN award-winning Philippine journalist who along with the online news service she heads has been sued for tax evasion has declared her innocence and was freed on bail Monday after turning herself in for arrest.

Maria Ressa, CEO of the Rappler website, said that taxes had been paid properly by her news service and the five tax charges were politically motivated. She was freed on 60,000 pesos (USD1,150) bail on the one charge for which an arrest warrant has so far been issued.

Rappler has been critical of the government of President Rodrigo Duterte, who in turn has accused several independent media groups in the Philippines of biased reporting, including on his crackdown on illegal drugs that has left thousands of mostly urban poor dwellers dead and drawn condemnation by Western governments and U.N. bodies.

"We need to hold government to account, and part of the reason I'm here is precisely that," Ressa said outside a Manila court. "I'm not a criminal, but I've been fingerprinted like a criminal. We feel that we did not get due process."

Ressa, who has worked with CNN, was the winner of two prestigious journalism awards this year, a Press



Maria Ressa, CEO of Rappler who has been critical of the government of President Duterte, shows documents after posting bail at the Pasig Regional Trial Court in metro Manila yesterday

Freedom award from the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, and the International Center for Journalists' Knight International Journalism Award.

"I think the end goal of government is to try to make our team lose focus, affect morale, but in the end the mission of journalism, especially Rappler, has never been stronger," she said. "We know we are doing something right, we know that what we are doing is critically important right now."

Duterte had already banned a Rappler reporter from his news briefings after the government's corporate watchdog found that the organization violated a constitutional prohibition on foreign ownership when it received money

from an international investment firm. Rappler, founded in 2012, rejected the ruling.

The brash-talking Duterte accused Rappler last year of being owned by Americans in violation of the Philippine constitution and said the news outfit was funded by the Central Intelligence Agency. Rappler denied the allegations.

"Arresting Maria will send a clear signal that the country's democracy is fast receding under a feckless administration that cannot abide criticism and free expression and will go to ridiculous lengths to muzzle all those it does not agree with," the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines said when news of the arrest warrant for Ressa was announced last week.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Teenagers take part in yesterday's final of the Asian championship of the VEX robot for teenagers in Macau. Over 2,000 teenagers of 450 teams from nine countries and regions took part in the three-day competition.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	70-100 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate
Ambient	70-100 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

EGYPT opened its first international weapons fair yesterday, an event that organizers hope will project a message to the world that the country is secure and stable.



UKRAINE's president yesterday announced a partial call-up of reservists for training amid tensions with Russia, saying the country needs to beef up its defenses to counter the threat of a Russian invasion.

FRANCE Paramedics joined ongoing anti-government protests as the prime minister met with political rivals yesterday in a bid to ease anger following violent riots that rocked Paris.



SPAIN A regional election in Spain saw a surge of support for a far-right party and dealt a major setback to the ruling Socialists, prompting the prime minister yesterday to vow to defend democracy from fear.

BRITAIN's opposition Labour Party ramped up the pressure on Prime Minister Theresa May, saying it will call a no-confidence vote if Parliament rejects her Brexit deal on Dec. 11.



US The supply chain of food and other goods delivered to the Port of Anchorage from the Lower 48 has not been disrupted by the powerful earthquake that caused widespread damage to roads in the Anchorage area, the mayor said.

URUGUAY has rejected an asylum request by former Peruvian President Alan Garcia, who sought protection in the country's consulate in Peru after a judge retained his passport as part of a corruption probe.