



**G2E ASIA RETURNS WITH BI-LEVEL EXHIBITOR SPACE**  
G2E Asia is returning May 21 to 23 to the Venetian Macao, introducing a bi-level exhibitor space for an expected 18K visitors

P2



**MACAU A POSSIBLE FIX IN CHINA-US TENSIONS**  
Lawyer Alexander Kocsis says Macau, 'philosophically halfway' between China and the U.S., can plug the gap in misunderstanding

P4



**TRUMP, KIM END SUMMIT WITH STANDOFF OVER EASING US SANCTIONS**

P12,13

**FRI.01**  
Mar 2019

T. 19°/ 23° C  
H. 75/ 98%

facebook.com/mdtimes  
+ 13,000

N° 3239  
**MOP 8.00**  
**HKD 10.00**

**MacauDaily** 澳門每日時報®

# Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

Greater Bay Plan

**\$148/3.5GB**

No More Boundaries

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

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

**AD**

衛生局  
Services in Portuguese

Seasonal influenza vaccination is free for all Macao residents

Protect ourselves and others, prevent influenza.

Hotline  
**28 700800**

**MACAU-HK SCAMMERS**

# Mainlanders trash Baidu over bogus travel agency

P7



**WORLD BRIEFS**

**CHINA-US** Security experts say the U.S. government is likely exaggerating the Huawei threat. Not only is the U.S. case short on specifics, they say, it glosses over the fact that the Chinese don't need secret access to Huawei routers to infiltrate global networks that already have notoriously poor security.

**CHINA** A prominent Chinese human rights lawyer Jiang Tianyong disappeared on the day of his scheduled release from prison yesterday and was reportedly taken away by unknown persons. More on p11



**PAKISTAN** A temporary closure of air space over Pakistan snarled air traffic especially between Asia and Europe, though some airlines adjusted by rerouting their flights. In Bangkok, an important and busy hub for transcontinental flights, thousands of travelers were stranded.

More on backpage

**OUT TODAY**

## Gaming revenue posting a stress test

P2

Extra

**OUTBREAK**  
Misinformation causes measles

**Extra** times

Weekend Guide

INSIDE

## One dead, 100 evacuated in fire

A fire at a residential unit on the 23rd floor of Van Sion Son Chun late on Wednesday night resulted in the death of one man. The deceased was an 83-year-old local resident. Besides him, three people were sent to Conde S. Januário Hospital, consisting of two women and one man. Their condition was stable when they were sent to the hospital. Approximately 100 families were evacuated during the accident. The Fire Services spent 40 minutes putting the fire out. One room of the residential unit is severely burnt, and other locations in the unit are burnt to varying degrees. According to the Fire Services, the fire was due to malfunctioning electrical equipment.

## Fake police officer defrauds woman

A 23-year-old Indonesian man (23) has become the suspect in a fraud case, where he reportedly pretended to be a Public Security Police Force (PSP) officer. The victim is a Filipino woman. According to the PSP, the suspect claimed he could help the victim to obtain a blue card to work in Macau. The suspect met with the victim at the Pac On Immigration Building, where she saw the suspect wearing an outfit similar to a police uniform while wearing a working badge that hung over his chest, leading the victim to believe he was working at the building. Later, the PSP confirmed that the suspect was actually a handyman at a spa.

## 115 spaces for domestic violence victims

Four shelters will provide a total of 115 sleeping spaces later this year, according to a report by Macao Daily News. One shelter is for women, one is for men and the last two are to provide transitional residential care to recovered mental health patients. Currently, there are 100 beds at the shelters. The average occupancy rate of the service in 2018 ranged between 18 percent and 61.5 percent. To improve services, an extra 15 beds will be provided this year, bringing the total number of beds to 115.

## GAMING

# Today's revenue posting a stress test for 2019

BLOOMBERG



Daniel Beitler

**T**HE Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau is expected to announce February's gross gaming revenue today, or by Sunday at the latest. The results will afford analysts a more rounded view of how 2019 is responding to

several macro-economic factors, including the China-U.S. trade war, diminishing purchasing power of mainland customers and new policies designed by Beijing to curb money laundering and capital outflows.

Gross gaming revenue in the Macau SAR wobbled last month

to post the first monthly fall in two years and the first year-on-year decline since the gaming slump ended in 2016. Full-month revenue amounted to about MOP24.9 billion, in line with the average monthly take in 2018.

According to some analysts, the posting indicates a period

of market consolidation and the entry into what has been described by government officials as the "new normal" of Macau gaming.

It may also represent a stress test for Macau as the city's highly-exposed economy braces for spillover from the ongoing China-U.S. trade war.

Early analyst predictions for February suggested little in the way of year-on-year growth.

However, according to industry insiders, Macau gross gaming revenue posted strong results in the week following the Chinese Lunar New Year, showing a 32 percent year-on-year rise led by VIP activity. That followed a record-breaking number of tourists in the week before, rising more than 26 percent to 1.2 million.

The mass segment also performed well, with average daily mass revenue per day tracking 5 percent higher during that week than the January 2019 average.

Due to the variable timing of the Chinese Lunar New Year, which falls either in January or February, the first two months of the year are sometimes considered in tandem.

As such, today's posting will offer a more-rounded view of what the gaming industry can expect for 2019.

## G2E Asia returns this May with bi-level exhibitor space

**A**SIA-WIDE gaming exhibition G2E Asia is returning to the Venetian Macao from May 21 to 23, introducing for the first time a bi-level exhibitor space stretching to 34,000 square meters and able to accommodate an anticipated 18,000 visitors.

The 2019 edition of the exhibition is dedicated to showcasing the latest technologies in the casino industry through various products and services.

This year will see the return of the exhibition's trademark aspects, including a conference program, technology-specific segments,

networking events and online business matchmaking services.

According to organizers, there will also be an "Esports Connect Asia" platform, serving to facilitate networking and business engagement in the fast-growing sector, as well as an Asia Lottery Forum led by industry leaders to shed light on current and future lottery trends and solutions for the internet era.

G2E Asia 2019 also sees the return of the exhibition's annual awards ceremony. The nomination period has already opened and will run until April 5.

There are a total of 12 award categories this year, including "Best Integrated Resort", "Best VIP Gaming Promoter", "Best IR Non-gaming Attraction" and "Best Corporate Social Responsibility Contribution".

Last year's event was the largest of its kind to date, attracting over 16,300 visitors, according to organizers, and representing year-on-year growth of about 17 percent. Around one-quarter of last year's visitors were from Macau, while a further 39 percent came from the rest of the greater China region. **DB**

## Galaxy not backing down on Boracay

**T**HE president of the Philippines may not want further casino expansion in the country, but that isn't stopping Galaxy Entertainment Group from moving forward with its plans to launch a resort on Boracay Island, reports Calvin Ayre.

Galaxy had announced a project on Boracay even before Duterte stepped in early last year to shut the gate on new casinos. When the island was ordered shut to be cleaned after years of negligence, the company waited patiently until it was reopened. They received a shock when the curtain was lifted six months later and Duterte dropped the hammer on any new developments.

According to Galaxy's

vice chairman, Francis Lui, the company is ready to move forward on Boracay. It has proposed a USD500-million casino resort on the island, for which the Philippines Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) issued a license early last year.

Lui told Inside Asian Gaming that the project has not yet been totally scrapped. He said, "it's always been one of the top five beach islands of the world and we truly want to be part of it and make sure we would be able to elevate it back to the same position as before."

"People will come to know that this is the type of project that is needed to invigorate the brand Boracay used to have." **DB**

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

+ 4 Million page views  
PER MONTH

Thank You!

+13,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



Times

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Lynzy Valles, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Viviana Segui  
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua  
SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

ECONOMY

# Growth falls short of estimates



The Inner Harbor

**T**HE region's economy grew by 4.7 percent year-on-year in real terms in 2018, but the pace of growth slowed notably, according to data released by the Statistics and Census Service. The growth is lower than

the Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) projected growth, which was 5.8 percent. In 2018, the city's GDP amounted to MOP440.3 billion and per-capita GDP was MOP666,893. The implicit price deflator of GDP, which measures the overall

changes in prices, rose by 3.6 percent in 2018. Economic growth in the first half of the year mostly sustained the 9.1 percent growth in 2017, holding at about 7.6 percent. However, the pace of expansion slowed to just 2 percent in the se-

cond half of the year.

Exports of services and private consumption expenditure continued to be the main drivers of economic growth, according to the government.

In 2018, domestic demand weakened, falling by 1.7 percent year-on-year. Gross fixed capital formation declined by 12.5 percent, owing to a significant decrease in private construction investment.

On the other hand, government expenditure boosted private and government consumption and the import of goods, which offset the impact of declining investment.

External demand showed modest growth. Exports of services, underpinned by increased visitor arrivals and spending, went up by 9.4 percent year-on-year, with exports of gaming services and other tourism services rising by 10.3 percent and 9.4 percent respectively. There was an 11 percent increase in the export of goods.

According to the EIU, the major indicators of the health of Macau's economy, such as inflation, the budget balance and the unemployment rate, are expected to remain unchanged over the next two years. **LV**

## Employment holds stable

**T**HE general unemployment rate for the three months ending January 2019 stood at 1.7 percent, according to the latest data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), while the unemployment rate for local residents and the underemployment rate remained unchanged from the previous period (October-December 2018) at 2.4 percent and 0.4 percent respectively.

The total labor force at the end of January amounted to 398,400, while the labor force participation rate was 71.5 percent. Total employment was 391,500 and the number of employed residents totaled 287,100, up by 3,500 and 3,300 respectively from the previous period.

Analyzed by industry, employment in gaming and junket activities increased while that in the transport, storage and communications sectors decreased.

The number of unemployed persons held stable at 6,900 people, similar to the previous period. Fresh labor force entrants searching for their first job accounted for 13.7 percent of the total unemployed, up by 1.9 percentage points.

In comparison with a year earlier, the labor force participation rate rose by 1.7 percentage points, the unemployment rate dropped by 0.1 percentage points while the underemployment rate held steady. **DB**

AD

Taste the pinnacle of culinary arts at Sands® Resorts Macao.

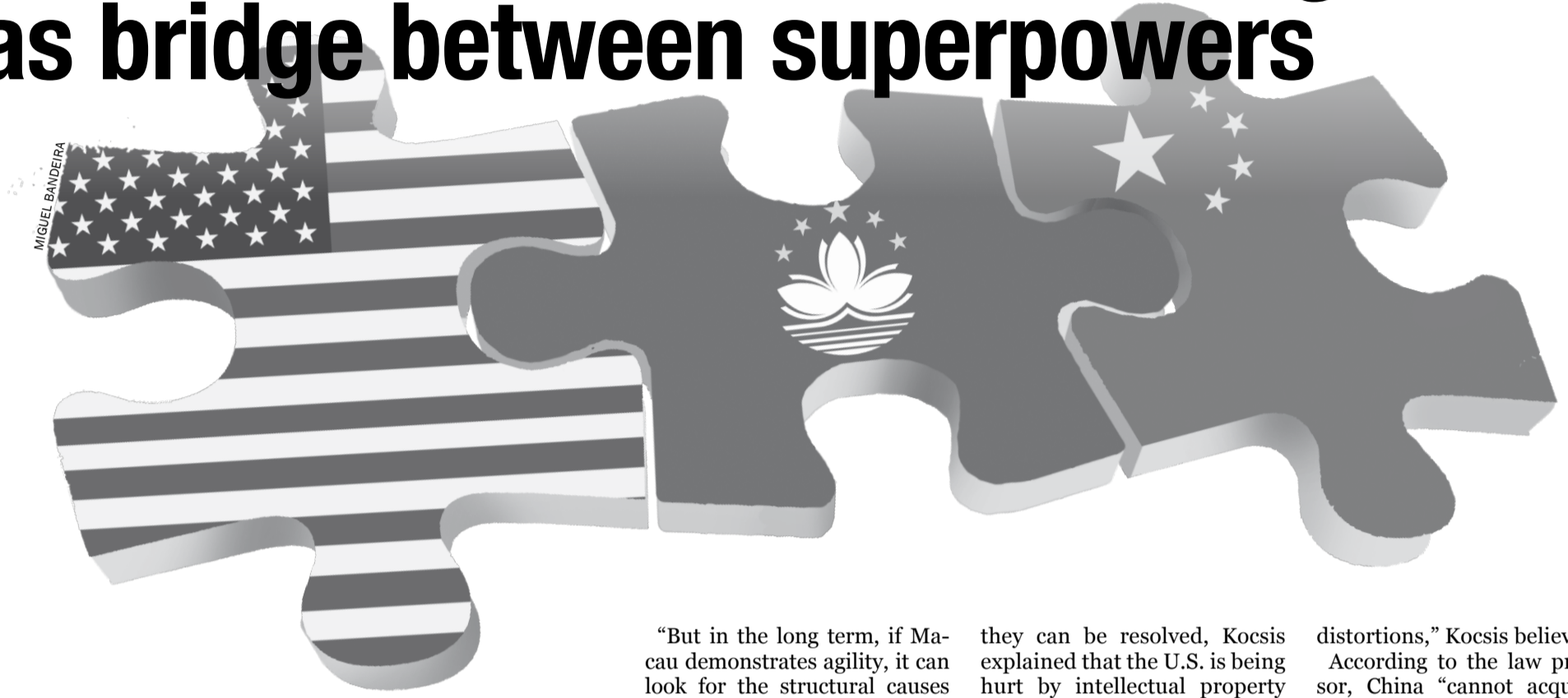
SandsResortsMacao.com/dining

澳門金沙度假區  
**Sands**  
RESORTS MACAO

**十二金廚**  
SANDS GOLDEN CHEFS

CHINA-US TRADE WAR

# Macau could resist fallout acting as bridge between superpowers



Julie Zhu

**M**ACAUI is thought to be able to weather the ongoing China-U.S. trade dispute because of its strategic business connections to the world's two largest economies. This opinion was voiced by Alexander Kocsis, a lawyer and businessman with corporate experience in China and internationally.

"I think for Macau, like the rest of the world, it is very hard to avoid it [the influence of the China-U.S. trade dispute]. It is a question of chasing, how to position and place yourself in order to either capture opportunity or avoid trouble," Kocsis posited, on the sidelines of his China-U.S. trade dispute talk yesterday at the France Macau Chamber of Commerce.

"I think Macau is in a good position because it's sort of philosophically halfway in the world," said Kocsis, adding that Macau "can understand the Americans and it can understand the Chinese."

In the lawyer's opinion, Macau's advantage in the China-U.S. trade dispute is that it can be flexible with both parties. "So, there could be opportunities in terms of trade that way," Kocsis told the Times.

The law professor believes that in the near-term there will be some form of trade agreement between the U.S. and China, or the dispute will eventually go away.

**China will continue to disengage from the US culturally, while the US will disengage economically.**

ALEXANDER KOCSIS

"But in the long term, if Macau demonstrates agility, it can look for the structural causes of the trade dispute and try to take advantage of these structural causes to position Macau to better serve China and the United States as a bridge [between them]," said Kocsis. "They will always need a bridge."

Moreover, the lawyer suggested that China would refrain from utilizing Macau's gaming concessions as a bargaining chip in the trade war.

"I don't think China will do that," he said. "I think they have a lot to gain from the gaming situation as it currently exists. I think they will simply negotiate the concession in a fashion that is good for them."

From the lawyer's perspective, the China-U.S. trade dispute will eventually be resolved as both parties need an agreement.

In his opinion, the agreement will not address the underlying causes of the dispute and, as a result, China and the U.S. will continue to be rivals for years to come.

Regarding the underlying causes of the dispute and how

they can be resolved, Kocsis explained that the U.S. is being hurt by intellectual property theft, the targeting of American industries, and the loss of American jobs and wealth, which is "made worse by China's pronouncement of the Made in China 2025 Plan."

"The Made in China Plan will deepen the state's role in the economy. The worry is that this will magnify global market

distortions," Kocsis believes.

According to the law professor, China "cannot acquiesce to U.S. demands without giving-up its state-led industrial mode and its pursuit of sustainable growth based on high-tech exports."

"As a result, China will continue to disengage from the U.S. culturally, while the U.S. will incrementally disengage from China economically."

## Monetary Authority warning vigilance

**C**ONTRARY to Alexander Kocsis' opinion at yesterday's talk, the Monetary Authority of Macao (AMCM) says it is taking the risk of spillover effects from the China-U.S. trade war very seriously.

In the latest edition of the Monetary and Financial Stability Review, the AMCM noted that Macau's highly exposed and small economy is sensitive to external shocks.

"Taking into account that China-U.S. trade tensions might soften trade growth and worldwide growth momentum, global financial conditions are expected to tighten alongside monetary policy normalization," states the report by the AMCM.

Accordingly, "vigilance is required towards a number of key risk factors in the near and medium term." **DB**

AD

53m pageviews per year  
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

Times **Times App**

New look more features



Times App on App Store & Google Play

MacauDaily

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

**Interest-free Loan** **Building Maintenance Fund** **Inspection Subsidy** **Maintenance Subsidy**

**Seminar for Building Inspection and Maintenance**

Date and Time	Venue	Address
2019/3/3 15:00-16:00	Iao Hon Activity Centre	Rua do Mercado de Iao Hon, Mercado Municipal do Bairro Iao Hon, 3º andar, Macau
2019/4/13 15:00-16:00	S. Lourenço Activity Centre	Rua de João Lecaros, Complexo Municipal do Mercado de S. Lourenço, 4º andar, Macau
2019/5/25 15:00-16:00	S. Domingos Activity Centre	Travessa do Soriano, Complexo Municipal do Mercado de S. Domingos, 4º andar, Macau

Public are welcome to participate in the prize quiz during the seminar. For registration, please call 28594875, or register via Housing Bureau's WeChat.

澳門特別行政區政府  
Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau  
房屋局  
Instituto da Habitação

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

MACAU and Beijing justice authorities have reached a "consensus" regarding the transfer of convicted criminals, the Secretariat for Administration and Justice announced.

Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan led a local delegation to Beijing to discuss the possible extradition of convicts, following a suggestion from Hong Kong authorities that would allow extraditions to Macau, Taiwan and mainland China on a case-by-case basis.

Chan met with Justice Minister of Beijing, Fu Zhenghua.

According to a statement issued by the Secretary's office, the visit was "successful" and had achieved the results that both parties were hoping for. The two parties are set to study the different legal regimes and have said to have already created a contact mechanism for checking on progress.

During the meeting, the two officials exchanged views on the transfer of sentenced convicts between the two regions. Chan's office noted that "mutual efforts will be made to boost and deepen bilateral judicial cooperation."

The office also said that both parties would undertake mutual efforts to deepen judicial

# SAR, Beijing reach 'consensus' on convict extradition

cooperation and legal exchanges.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Chinese Department of International Cooperation and the Correctional Services of the Ministry of Justice also held a meeting with the local delegation regarding the legal arrangements for the transfer of convicted felons.

During the visit, held between February 25 and 28, the delegation studied how to introduce electronic judicial citations and notifications, as well as to create a cooperation platform for the courts of both the mainland and the Macau SAR.

Macau currently has agreements for the transfer of convicted criminals with Hong Kong, Portugal, Mongolia and Nigeria. Plans are already in place to develop similar agreements with Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines. LV



Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan

## CULTURE

# IC to open consultation for intangible heritage

THE Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has drawn up the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in accordance with Article 79 of the Cultural Heritage Protection Law and will launch a 30-day public consultation on the items recommended for inscription, according to a statement released by the bureau yesterday. The IC says it welcomes opinions from all sectors of society.

The 12 items recommended for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage are Yueju Opera (Cantonese Opera), Herbal Tea Brewing, Religious Figure Woodwork Carving, Cantonese Naamyam (narrative songs), Taoist Ritual Music, the Festival of the Drunken Dragon, the Belief and Customs of A-Ma, the Belief and Customs of Na Tcha, Macanese Gastronomy, Pataua Theatre, the Procession of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus and the Procession of Our Lady of Fatima.

The public consultation will run from March 13 until April 11, 2019 and a consultation session will be held at the Macau Cultural Centre, March 23, with Portuguese and sign language translations provided simultaneously. DB

AD

## ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

**Languages:**  
ENGLISH, CHINESE,  
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,  
KOREAN, SPANISH,  
FRENCH, ARABIC,  
RUSSIAN

**Services**  
TRANSLATIONS,  
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,  
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

**We translate +10,000 words a day**



Contact: Ms. Amy Yang  
Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo  
Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edf. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

## More attractive than Beijing for digital talent

**T**HE Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area is one of the most attractive hubs for digital professionals in China, outperforming Beijing and Wuhan in digital talent inflow, according to a joint survey released by Tsinghua University and LinkedIn China.

The survey was based on the company's samples of 439,000 high-level talent and 118,000 talented professionals working in the information and communication technology sector.

Understanding and optimizing the human resources pattern will help propel growth in the region, according to Wang Yanping, head of China Public Policy and Government Affairs at LinkedIn.

The Greater Bay Area has the largest proportion of high-level talents in manufacturing, consumer goods and ICT, with over 10 percent for each of the three industries, the report showed.

The report also observed that the area appeals to global talent but needs to further boost its magnetism. Talent inflow from the United States and Britain outweigh the reverse flows, while inflow from Australia and Singapore lag behind the reverse flows.

Shenzhen is the most appealing city both in terms of domestic and international talent flow. The tech hub is also the most magnetic city within the region.

Hong Kong enjoys a large talent pool, but its talent exchange lags far behind Shenzhen and Guangzhou while Macau lags even further behind, leaving much room for the two special administrative regions to improve. **DB/Xinhua**

## GREATER BAY

# Macau considered for one-hour



This May 23, 2018 photo shows the Hengqin New Area under construction

**Julie Zhu**

**G**UANGDONG will compile an intercity railway construction plan for the Greater Bay Area, according to a report by

Macao Daily News, which will link the major municipalities of the region in a one-hour transportation cycle.

The Director of Guangdong Provincial Development and Reform Commis-

sion, Ge Wei, revealed that the province will implement the plan in order to realize the "one-hour traffic circle" inside the Greater Bay Area. The project will also help to integrate the circle into the national ra-

pid transportation network. The one-hour circle inside the Greater Bay connects to the railway network, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge and the expressway in Guangdong, which shortens traffic time to appro-

AD



C&C LAWYERS & NOTARIES

Since 1996



### 合伙人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha • 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues • 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata • 趙魯 Zhao Lu ••

### 聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:

馬傑安 João N. Marques  
高文軒 Adelino Correia •  
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues  
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha  
杜慧盈 Rita da Costa Andorinho  
馬潔冰 Maria João Marques  
陶義德 António Isóo de Azeredo  
白穎怡 Inília Berenguel  
冼玲鳳 Mariana Afonso Esteves  
薛明恩 Maria Antónia Giestas  
飛嘉華 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira

### 實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

孟民諾 Carlos Mauricio  
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues  
陳祖恩 Joana Chan  
顏曉善 Teresa Xiaorong Yan  
康靜雅 Viviana Hong  
梁淑嵐 Ana Leon  
黃瀚賢 Frederico Vong  
張偉鴻 Cheong Wai Hong

WWW.CCADVOG.COM  
TEL: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623



• 私人公證員 Notary Public • 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer



# travel circle

approximately one hour between some of the Bay cities.

The Macau government has previously stated that the city's Light Rapid Transit network will have an extension to the future Hengqin border gate.

Despite the fact that Macau's neighbor, Hong Kong, already has a railway connection to mainland China, plans to connect Macau to mainland China have not yet been discussed.

However, according to the mainland railway authority, a Hengqin railway station will open later this year. It has been reported that the Hengqin train station will be integrated with the future Zhuhai-Macau border gate in Hengqin, after the Cotai checkpoint's relocation to the island.

According to a report by Sohu, the Hengqin railway station will be located in the same

building as the future Macau Light Rapid Transit Hengqin station. The two stations will be on different floors of the same building, according to the same report.

Previously, the local government announced that mainland and local authorities had reached a preliminary

consensus regarding the Cotai checkpoint relocation. According to this consensus, the Macau Cotai port will be relocated to Hengqin, which means the frontier will be situated on the Zhuhai side.

It is expected that passengers will be able to complete immigration procedures for crossing the border between Zhuhai and Macau without leaving either the Hengqin train station or the Macau LRT Hengqin station.

## The high-speed capital connection

**A**N overnight high-speed train linking Zhuhai with Beijing, which takes 11 hours and 41 minutes to arrive at its destination, is one of the newer transportation infrastructure improvements in the region.

The train operates every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. It is an overnight train that departs Zhuhai at 7:10 p.m. and arrives at Beijing West at 6:51 a.m. the next day.

The train stops at Zhongshan, Guangzhou, Changsha, Shi Jiazhuang, and Zhuozhou before it arrives in Beijing.

Only second class seats and 'still lie' options are available on the train, with fares of RMB779 and RMB1,290 respectively. **JZ**

# Baidu accused of failing to vet 'trusted' travel agency

Julie Zhu

**C**HINA'S most popular search engine, Baidu, has been accused by mainlanders of providing users with untrustworthy results again. This time, Baidu is accused of failing to verify travel agencies. The Baidu credit verification system is specifically in the spotlight.

Recently, the Shenzhen Consumer Council reported that a group of more than 40 mainlanders complained about their poor travel experience after using the services of a Baidu credit verified travel agency.

According to a report by The Paper, a mainland resident, surnamed Xu and over 40 other people paid for a five-day and four-night package tour from a travel agency that Baidu had verified. The package tour included only sightseeing activities without other options, such as shopping.

After arriving in Hong Kong, Xu and the other mainland tourists were informed that their original sightseeing plans had been canceled, and they were forced to go shopping instead.

The tour ended up consisting



of only one day of sightseeing and four days of shopping.

What was even more surprising to the mainland tourists was the fact that their accommodation and food were both largely downgraded too.

The Baidu credit verification system charges advertisers in order to prove the authenticity of their websites in the search engine.

Xu and the other people in the group had searched for a travel agency named China International Travel Services Limited (CITS), a reputable travel agencies in mainland China.

However, the website which Baidu forwarded users to, despite being verified, was a fake page that tricked the tourists into booking from an unlicensed travel agency.

According to the Shenzhen consumer authority, during the Chinese Spring Festival it received a total of 26 complaints regarding Hong Kong

and Macau tours, 50 percent of which were about booking with the Baidu-verified travel agency.

The Shenzhen Consumer Council has already issued a letter to Baidu demanding to know how the company is ensuring accountability when so many consumers' rights have been violated through their "safe visits" on the search engine.

Baidu responded to the accusations, saying, "Baidu attaches great importance to feedback from the Shenzhen Consumer Council, [...] and the information we [Baidu] have obtained is still very limited."

"Baidu [is] a lost cause," one netizen called Qiangzi commented on Chinese social media platform Weibo.

Another Weibo user, Gua Gua De Dai Di, sardonically wrote, "revolutionary pioneer, Li Yanhong." Li Yanhong is the co-founder of Baidu.

## MAKE-UP FOR ALL OCCASIONS

- BRIDAL / WEDDINGS • PHOTO SHOOTS • PARTY •
- GRADUATION • SPECIAL EVENTS •

**MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!**

TEL / WHATSAPP: (853) 6685 3323 | WECHAT: MISSJ\_23  
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JULIANAC.MAKEUPARTIST

## New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.

**Clean Kitchen**      **Grease Box**

**Urgent!! Call Now!! Tel: 28833008**  
**Call: 2883 3008**

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry

**仁德** CENTRO MEDICO PEDDER  
◆ 仁德醫療中心 ◆

*We bring high quality of medical service to Macau*

**General Surgery** : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Kwong Man, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong

**Breast Surgery** : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

**Urology** : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

**Paediatric Surgery** : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

**Paediatrics** : Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

**Obstetrics & Gynaecology** : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

**Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery** : Dr. Lam U Lin

**Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine** : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

**ENT** : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

**Cardiology** : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

**Gastroentero-Hepatology** : Dr. Zhan De Juan

**General Medicine** : Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio

**Dietitian** : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau  
T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com  
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed

## REAL ESTATE MATTERS

## Bruce Lee's best real estate advice pt. 2

Sam Lee is a marketing manager and property consultant at JML Property. JML was established in 1994 and offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

www.JMLProperty.com  
info@JMLProperty.com



SAM LEE

This week, we continue exploring how Bruce Lee's "Be like water, my friend" philosophy applies to capital and real estate. The below shift in paradigm has the potential to dramatically accelerate personal wealth accumulation:

**Access to capital > ownership of capital**

While it can seem counterintuitive at first, this is a principle that separates the wealthy from the middle and lower classes. A simple example will illustrate.

Picture a cash millionaire and a broke man with \$0 to his name. For whatever reason, the millionaire can only spend his own money, but the broke man has unlimited credit, allowing him to borrow as much money as he likes, whenever he likes. Of course, he has to pay market interest and agree to pay the sum back within an agreed period.

**Who is better off?**

At first glance, the cash millionaire seems to have

one-up on the broke man. After all, he has a net worth of a whopping 1 million dollars higher than the broke man's. But the tables turn when they start investing in cash flowing real estate. The millionaire can buy 1 million dollars' worth of real estate, which is obviously a significant amount. The broke man, however, can buy as much real estate as he wants provided that the assets provide a positive rate of return sufficient to pay his debts back (exactly how to do this safely is another article for another time). With access to basically all of the pools of capital in the world, he could even become a billionaire within a few years depending on how many good real estate deals he can find for himself.

As you can see, the key is to gain access to outside pools of capital and link it to a productive asset. After the capital has done its work, you can simply return it back to the original source along with some of the extra returns that it has generated.

When a young couple gets help from their parents to buy their first home, they are technically tapping into an outside pool of capital. However, since the residence is not an investment that produces returns, the assumption in most cases is that the amount borrowed will not be paid back to the parents, at least in the near future.

But what if that money was put into an income generating investment instead? I hope that this article has given you a new perspective on capital. It is not simply the pieces of paper or coins that you keep in your wallet, or bars of gold in some bank vault. Capital is like water and can take any shape it wants. When you pour water in a bottle, it becomes the bottle. When you pour water in a teapot, it becomes the teapot. Water can drip, and it can crash. It's always looking for the next asset to flow to.

Do you have access to it, and know a place for it to go?

# Airbus said to weigh making newest jet in China to win orders

**A**IRBUS SE is looking at assembling its newest A330neo wide-body jet in China as part of a bid to win orders for the plane in one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

Airbus may expand its existing plant in Tianjin to accommodate the model, but a decision has not been made with the business case yet to be established, said the people, who asked not to be named because the discussions are private. The plan may not go ahead, they cautioned. A spokesman for Airbus declined to comment.

Airbus previously offered to build its A380 superjumbo in China in exchange for orders from the country's airlines, but that pitch was rejected amid concerns about the double-decker plane's suitability for the local market,



according to two of the people. The smaller, more fuel-efficient A330neo is potentially a better fit, with more than 200 of the original-generation model already sold in the Asian nation.

The move to extend the Tianjin plant - which currently assembles Airbus' single-aisle A320 workhorse - comes as Rolls-Royce Holdings Plc is said to be offering to establish a Chinese plant to secure an engine deal for the wide-body plane being developed by Commercial Aircraft Corp. of

China Ltd., or Comac. The U.K. company is pitching a derivative of the Trent 7000 turbine for that aircraft, which is also the only option on the A330neo.

China is set to become the world's biggest plane market next decade and will need almost 8,000 aircraft worth USD1.2 trillion over 20 years, according to Boeing Co. estimates. President Xi Jinping has also earmarked aerospace as a priority industry, encouraging Western producers to set up shop in the country. **MDT/Bloomberg**

AD



**villa frangipani**  
CLIFFTOP | LUXURY | PRIVATE

20,000 square feet of privacy

At Villa Frangipani impeccable service means knowing when you want to enjoy a private moment.

Whether that is in the Private Spa, your suite, the garden bale, or any other area, our Villa Staff anticipate your needs at all times.

Please visit [www.privatevillasofbali.com](http://www.privatevillasofbali.com) to get an idea of what we offer.

...wish you could stay forever...

PRIVATE VILLAS  
OF BALI

VILLA TIRTA KENCANA • VILLA FRANGIPANI

info@privatevillasofbali.com  
www.privatevillasofbali.com  
skype ID: privatevillasofbali  
+62 361 8468511



EUROPEAN UNION

# State capitalism returns with a nasty shock for France's Macron

Ben Sills, Geraldine Amiel & Helene Fouquet

**S**TATE intervention is back. But it's an awkward fit for Europe.

At an event in Berlin on Tuesday evening, German Chancellor Angela Merkel outlined how European governments can stand up to the financial muscle of China by offering more support to companies.

Around the time Merkel was making her pitch for a more cooperative form of capitalism, Dutch Finance Minister Wopke Hoekstra was demonstrating what that looks like in practice with a call to his French counterpart. Hoekstra informed Bruno Le Maire that the Netherlands had acquired a 13 percent stake in Air France-KLM, the airline group the two countries had been tussling over for months. French officials were furious.

A by-word for the industrial decline of the 1970s, intervention in the corporate world was practically taboo for a generation of European leaders outside of Paris. Suddenly it's all the rage, but the risk is that the turn to Chinese-style state power leads to fighting between governments and with the anti-trust regulator.

"There is a sense of panic," said Guntram Wolff, a director at the Bruegel research institute in Brussels. "The response seems to be that we should go down the road of becoming Chinese ourselves. I can't see this as a successful response."

Air France-KLM shares fell 12 percent on Wednesday amid concern a protracted power struggle would hamper ma-



A passenger walks through the terminal as Tricolour livery sits on the tail fins of Air France passenger aircraft

agement efforts to make the company more profitable.

Investors might have to get used to such machinations: Germany is looking to orchestrate a merger to keep Deutsche Bank AG out of foreign hands, Italy wants to increase its stakes in Telecom Italia and Alitalia, and the U.K.'s opposition Labour Party has won popular support with plans to re-nationalize rail, energy and water companies.

It all marks a dramatic shift for the European Union, which has had fair competition and restrictions on state aid in its DNA since the Treaty of Rome in 1957. But that regime is coming under pressure as national leaders struggle to deal with the twin threat of competition from China and populism at home.

Margrethe Vestager, the EU's antitrust chief, is in the eye

of the storm after she vetoed government-backed plans by Siemens AG and Alstom SA to form a European rail giant last month.

Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron argue that European companies need to bulk up to tackle Chinese giants such as CRRC Corp. Vestager counters that you can't build European champions by undermining competition or you remove the pressure to keep prices low and improve the quality of products and services.

Vestager and Merkel are due to meet in Berlin to discuss changes to the merger rules. The German leader plans to raise the issue at an EU summit in Brussels next month.

The political weather is moving against Vestager.

Perhaps the biggest shift has come in the U.K., the poster child for privatization in the

1980s under Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. With rising rail fares, chronic train delays, student debt and fears about the state-funded National Health Service, British voters swung behind the Labour Party's socialist campaign at the last election in 2017.

"The political consensus over the idea that competition is a good thing, this consensus is crumbling," Frederic Jenny, an economist at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, said at an event in Paris on Wednesday.

But inevitably, not all interests are unaligned.

The irony for France with Air France-KLM is that the country has been the pioneer of intervention. When Macron was economy minister four years ago, he upset Japan by quietly increasing France's stake in carmaker Renault, strengthe-

ning his country's hand in its alliance with Nissan. Now, it's his government that appears to have been caught out.

One official close to Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said he was furious that both the state holding company and finance executives at the Franco-Dutch airline failed to detect the Dutch move in the stock market. And the prospect of a new generation of political leaders interfering with the operations of major companies is already raising concerns.

Keeping companies alive artificially is the populist government's way to control and limit social unrest. Tax payers will be paying the price for years to come.

PROF. SILVIA CIUCCIOVINO  
ROMA TRE UNIVERSITY

An Italian banker who works with investors from the U.S. and Asia said it would make more sense for the government to support sectors such as construction rather than pouring more money into another Alitalia rescue. His clients are deterred from investing in Italian businesses because of meddling by the government.

"Keeping companies alive artificially is the populist government's way to control and limit social unrest," said Silvia Ciuciovino, a professor at Roma Tre University. "Tax payers will be paying the price for years to come." **Bloomberg**

## corporate bits

### SANDS RESORTS MACAO LAUNCHES SHORT FILM ON CHEFS



Justin Paul



Cheung Chi Choi

Sands Resorts Macao has launched an advertising campaign entitled "Sands Golden Chefs" to promote the range and quality of dining available

across its restaurants. The short film, which parodies classic kung fu movies such as "18 Bronzemen" and "God of Cookery," is a light-hearted take

that showcases The Venetian Macao, The Parisian Macao, Sands Cotai Central and Sands Macao as must-visit culinary destinations.

Produced by creative agency Saatchi & Saatchi Shanghai, "Sands Golden Chefs" shows the journey of 12 renowned Sands Resorts Macao chefs to "The Golden Chef Academy," where they endure arduous training and endurance tests before attaining "Golden Chef" status, the gaming operator noted in a statement.

Artfully drawing comparisons between the skills required for both martial arts and the culinary arts, the short film utilises cinematic effects to show how Sands Resorts Macao chefs combine multiple disciplines to achieve their power over food.

Twelve shorter versions focusing on each individual chef will also be released.

### THE RITZ-CARLTON RECEIVES FORBES AWARDS



The Ritz-Carlton, Macau and ESPA at The Ritz-Carlton, Macau have achieved top marks in the publication's annual Star Awards, receiving five stars for excellence in service and facilities from Forbes Travel Guide for the third conse-

cutive year.

Lai Heen, The Ritz-Carlton, Macau's Chinese restaurant, also made the prestigious list.

Rauf Malik, vice president of operations at JW Marriott Hotel Macau and The Ritz-Carlton, Macau remarked,

"We are delighted that our efforts to deliver such experiences have been recognized once again by a leading authority like the Forbes Travel Guide."

The Ritz-Carlton, Macau was awarded five stars for its "quality facilities, outstanding culinary experiences, world-class spa and unsurpassed views of Macau," the gaming operator said in a statement.

Calling ESPA "a calming retreat amid the lights and liveliness of action-packed Cotai," Forbes Travel Guide cited the spa's unique signature treatments, natural products and luxurious facilities when bestowing its highest rating of five stars.

Forbes Travel Guide gave Lai Heen an impressive four stars for its Cantonese delicacies.

# New securities chief charms investors with public debut

CHINA'S new chief securities regulator is quickly winning over investors, spurring online speculation that his reverence for markets and easy demeanor signal he'll employ a lighter touch than his predecessor.

China Securities Regulatory Commission Chairman Yi Hui-man kicked off his first press conference in Beijing on Wednesday with a call to "revere the market, and respect and follow market patterns." That's a stark contrast with the stance of his predecessor Liu Shiyu, who stressed "regulation according to the law, strict regulation and comprehensive regulation."

Asked if running the CSRC was like "standing at the mouth of a volcano," Yi chuckled and agreed.

China stocks are in a rally so sudden that a bull market has materialized about a month after he took office. That's all the more surprising because they were among the worst performers in the world last year.

One of Yi's major tasks is to professionalize the country's 148 million retail investors, a

BLOOMBERG



challenge highlighted by an inexplicable surge in stocks with the same Chinese character as his surname on the first trading day after his appointment. The Shanghai Composite has gained

about 14 percent during his tenure, as he's lifted trading curbs meant to keep speculators in check and rallied support for a new trading venue in Shanghai for tech companies.

"From Yi's debut, I feel like the regulators want to handle the market with care," a person using the alias "Old Wang's Stock Stories" said on Weibo, China's equivalent of Twitter. "Only

with enthusiasm in the market can the new tech and innovation board be achieved without extra effort."

Yi's accommodating tone reflects in part the hand he was dealt after a bearish year for stocks. Liu became head of the CSRC in 2016, when the market was still recovering from the worst crash in decades, with a mandate to crack down on speculation.

## Stocks are in a rally so sudden that a bull market has materialized

"Yi's prime task is to launch the tech and innovation board, and for that to be successful, the market needs to pivot back to normal and have reinvigorated activity," said Daniel Xu, a fund manager at Beijing Eastern Smart Rock Asset Management Co. "Liu Shiyu's job was to put an end to financial corruption."

Jokingly alluding to Liu's attempts to soothe the market in October last year by saying that "Spring is not far away," another Weibo user remarked, "Now I'm getting a strong whiff of Spring." **Bloomberg**

## MANUFACTURING

# Survey shows factory activity sinks to 3-year low

Joe McDonald

CHINESE manufacturing activity fell to a three-year low in February amid a tariff battle with Washington and weak global demand, a survey showed yesterday.

The monthly purchasing managers' index by the government statistics bureau and an industry group fell 0.3 points to 49.2 on a 100-point scale on which numbers below 50 indicate activity contracting. That was the lowest level since February 2016.

Chinese manufacturers have been hurt by President Donald Trump's punitive tariffs in a fight over Beijing's technology plans and cooling consumer demand at home and abroad.

Trump said weekend talks in Washington made progress but his chief negotiator, Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, indicated Wednesday there are significant differences between the two sides.

"Much still needs to be



done," Lighthizer said during an appearance before a U.S. House of Representatives panel. He mentioned Washington's desire for an enforcement mechanism with penalties if Beijing fails to carry out its commitments but gave no other details.

Companies are wary of making investments and other long-term decisions without a formal settlement, economists say.

"Unless the trade war truly turns into an extended truce, the weakening trend may not end quickly," Irene Pang of ING said in a report.

Any U.S.-Chinese deal is unlikely until at least the end of March, so "another month or two of bad PMI data" are likely, Pang said.

Measures of output and employment declined, according to the National Bureau of Statistics and the Federation of Logistics & Purchasing.

The weakness in trade and manufacturing has increased pressure on the ruling Communist Party to resolve its fight with Washington.

Last year's economic growth declined to a three-decade low of 6.6 percent

and yesterday's report adds to signs activity might be weakening further.

Trump is pressing Beijing to roll back plans for state-led creation of global competitors in robotics and other technology that Washington, Europe, Japan and other trading partners say violate China's market-opening obligations.

China's global exports rebounded in January from a contraction but sales to the United States fell 2.4 percent from a year earlier, reflecting the impact of Trump's tariff hikes.

The trade battle has rattled Chinese consumers, some of whom say they are putting off big purchases until the economic outlook is clearer. That sets back Beijing's campaign to nurture self-sustaining economic growth based on domestic consumption instead of exports and investment.

The government has warned Chinese exporters the global environment is "complicated and severe." **AP**

## Alibaba sees more China-Hollywood deals after 'Green Book' win

AFTER becoming the first Chinese internet company to back a best picture Oscar winner, Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. is eyeing more Hollywood movies. The company also expects that more U.S. goods and services will be imported into China, and that the U.S. trade deficit with China will narrow.

Joe Tsai, Alibaba's executive vice chairman, said in an interview with Bloomberg TV that he was cautiously optimistic that a trade deal between the two countries will be reached. He also said that Chinese domestic consumption has become a bigger part of China's economy, driving imports.

"China is going to be more open for imports, not just in goods, but also in services, including content," Tsai said.

Those imports include movies. Hollywood studios have been hoping for an increase in the

number of American films allowed into China, which is expected to soon overtake the U.S. as the world's biggest box office market, and to increase its share of global ticket revenue.

Sunday's Oscar winner, "Green Book," is an example of the quality of the productions the e-commerce giant wants to be involved with, Tsai said. Alibaba has invested for several years in individual films like installments of the "Mission: Impossible" franchise. Other Chinese companies such as Perfect World Co. have backed portfolios of films.

"Green Book," which faced criticism over the accuracy of its handling of real-world events, will open in China on March 1 with tickets for sale on Alibaba's platforms. "We see the opportunity to bring high-quality content into China," Tsai said. **Bloomberg**



Jiang Tianyong speaks to journalists back in 2012

# Rights lawyer disappears on prison release date

Yanan Wang, Beijing

A prominent Chinese human rights lawyer disappeared on the day of his scheduled release from prison yesterday and was reportedly taken away by unknown persons.

Jiang Tianyong, who defended politically sensitive clients like blind legal activist Chen Guangcheng and followers of the outlawed Falun Gong spiritual group, had completed a two-year sentence handed down for crimes against the state.

But supporters who arrived at the prison in central Henan province were told that unknown individuals had already picked him up and taken him away, said his wife Jin Bianling.

"The Chinese government is so shameless," Jin said in a phone interview from Los Angeles, where she lives with their 16-year-old daughter.

"He's completed his sentence now, so he should be free," she said. "Is Chinese law just a piece of scrap paper?"

Jiang's sister and father have also been missing since Wednesday afternoon, when state security agents were supposed to be escorting them to the prison, Jin said.

Calls to the prison yesterday rang unanswered.

China has increasingly placed those it considers dissidents under various types of extra-legal detention even after they have served their sentences, with no due process or additional charges filed.

Chen, the blind legal activist, was confined for years at his home in a northern Chinese village, guarded around-the-clock by hired thugs until his escape in 2012.

Environmental activist Wu Lihong has been restricted to his home in the eastern city of Wuxi under constant surveillance since his release in 2010 after serving a three-year sentence over allegedly trumped-up charges of financial crimes.

Such restrictions are tightened during politically sensitive occasions, such as next week's start of the annual session of China's rubber-stamp parliament, the National People's Congress.

Jin said Jiang's sister visited him earlier this month and reported that he was in poor health.

His skin tone was darker, he appeared gaunt, and his lips were cracked, Jiang's sister told Jin. He requested that his sister pick him on his release date and bring him to their ancestral home in Henan's Luoshan county.

On Tuesday, however, state security agents visited Jiang's parents and said he would not be permitted to return home, and would instead be sent to Zhengzhou, Henan's capital, where the government would determine his housing and employment.

The next day, state security agents said they would escort Jiang's sister and father to the jailhouse to meet him upon his release. The two have since been unreachable, Jin said, with their cellphones shut off despite

a prior promise to call Jiang's mother when they arrived at the jail.

Prior to Jiang's arrest in 2016, he had worked to publicize the plight of lawyers arrested in a sweeping crackdown on legal advocates that began in July 2015. He was forced to stop practicing law in 2009, after authorities refused to renew his legal license.

Jiang was sentenced in 2017 to two years in prison for inciting subversion of state power, a vague charge often levied against human rights activists. Prosecutors accused Jiang of using social media platforms to denigrate the government and judicial authorities said he incited others to subvert state power, including fabricating claims that another lawyer had allegedly been tortured in custody.

Jin said she worries about her husband's health, as he suffers from high blood pressure.

"Our daughter was looking forward to talking to her father," Jin. "Now what can we do?" AP

## OVER THE BORDER

# Ministry denies speculation of military presence in Afghanistan

CHINA'S defense ministry defended military cooperation with Tajikistan yesterday following a report of a sizeable Chinese troop presence at a base in the Central Asian state.

Ministry spokesman Ren Guoqiang told reporters at a monthly briefing that cooperation between the two was "in line with" international law and related resolutions passed by the United Nations Security Council.

"This cooperation benefits the two countries, their two militaries and regional peace and stability," Ren said.

However, Ren said there was no Chinese presence

in the adjacent Wakhan Corridor belonging to Afghanistan, in line with earlier denials of any plans to deploy troops to the war-torn nation with which it shares a narrow border.

Despite the denials of Chinese military activity in the area, unconfirmed reports have shown what appear to be Chinese military vehicles operating in the corridor, which lies in the shadow of the Hindu Kush mountains with Tajikistan to the north and Pakistan to the south.

China had apparently sought to keep its Tajikistan base manned by members of the paramilitary People's Armed

Police a secret. However, the Washington Post in February reported on the sizeable Chinese military complex first-hand, although it remains unclear what the troops' mission is and Ren provided no details.

The area borders China's restive Xinjiang region, where Beijing has deployed a massive security presence following violent attacks by Muslim separatists in past years. AP

## HANOI SUMMIT

# No deal: Trump, Kim summit collapses over sanctions impasse

Jonathan Lemire, Deb Riechmann & Foster Klug, Hanoi

**T**ALKS between President Donald Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong Un collapsed yesterday after the two sides failed to bridge a standoff over U.S. sanctions, a dispiriting end to high-stakes meetings meant to disarm a global nuclear threat.

Trump blamed the breakdown on North Korea's insistence that all the punishing sanctions the U.S. has imposed on Pyongyang be lifted without the North committing to eliminate its nuclear arsenal.

"Sometimes you have to walk," Trump explained at a closing news conference after the summit was abruptly cut short. He said there had been a proposed agreement that was "ready to be signed."

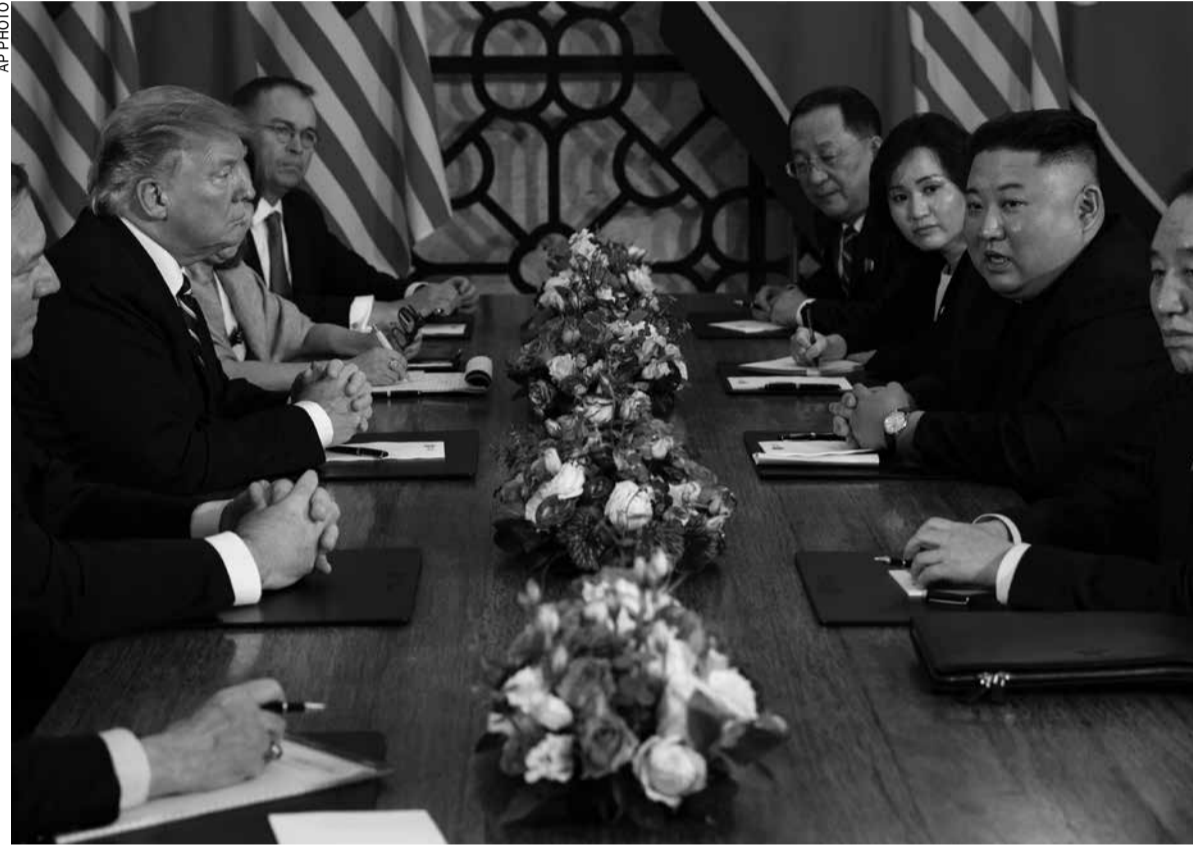
"I'd much rather do it right than do it fast," Trump said. "We're in position to do something very special."

Mere hours after both nations had seemed hopeful of a deal, the two leaders' motorcades roared away from the downtown Hanoi summit site within minutes of each other, their lunch canceled and a signing ceremony scuttled. The president's closing news conference was hurriedly moved up, and he departed for Washington more than two hours ahead of schedule.

The disintegration of talks came after Trump and Kim had appeared to be ready to inch toward normalizing relations between their still technically warring nations and as the American leader dampened expectations that their negotiations would yield an agreement by North Korea to take concrete steps toward ending a nuclear program that Pyongyang likely sees as its strongest security guarantee.

In something of a role reversal, Trump had deliberately ratcheted down some of the pressure on North Korea, abandoning his fiery rhetoric and declaring that he wanted the "right deal" over a rushed agreement. For his part, Kim, when asked whether he was ready to denuclearize, had said, "If I'm not willing to do that I won't be here right now."

The breakdown denied Trump a much-needed triumph amid growing domestic turmoil back home, including congressional testimony this week by his former personal lawyer Michael Cohen, who



called Trump a "racist" and "conman" and claimed prior knowledge of foreign powers' efforts to help Trump win in 2016.

North Korea's state media made no immediate comment on the diplomatic impasse, and Kim remained in his locked-down hotel after leaving the summit venue. The North Korean leader was scheduled to meet with top Vietnamese leaders on Friday and leave Saturday on his armored train for the long return trip, through China, to North Korea.

Trump insisted his relations with Kim remained warm, but he did not commit to having a third summit with the North Korean leader, saying a possible next meeting "may not be for a long time." Though both he and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said significant progress had been made in Hanoi, the two sides appeared to be galaxies apart on an agreement that would live up to U.S. stated goals.

"Basically, they wanted the sanctions lifted in their entirety, and we couldn't do that," Trump told reporters.

Kim, he explained, appeared willing to close his country's main nuclear facility, the Yongbyon Nuclear Scientific Research Center, if the sanctions were lifted. But that would leave him with missiles, warheads and weapon systems, Pompeo said. There are also suspected hidden nuclear fuel production sites around the country.

"We couldn't quite get there today," Pompeo said, mini-

mizing what seemed to be a chasm between the two sides.

Longstanding U.S. policy has insisted that U.S. sanctions on North Korea would not be lifted until that country committed to, if not concluded, complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization. Trump declined to restate that goal yesterday, insisting he wanted flexibility in talks with Kim.

"I don't want to put myself in that position from the standpoint of negotiation," he said.

White House aides stressed that Trump stood strong, and some observers evoked the 1987 Reykjavik summit between Ronald Reagan and the Soviet Union's Mikhail Gorbachev, a meeting over nuclear weapons that ended without a deal but laid the groundwork for a future agreement.

The failure in Hanoi laid bare a risk in Trump's unpredictable negotiating style: Preferring one-on-one meetings with his foreign counterparts, his administration often eschews the staff-level work done in advance to assure a deal and envisions summits more as messaging opportunities than venues for hardline negotiation.

There was disappointment and alarm in South Korea, whose liberal leader has been a leading orchestrator of the nuclear diplomacy and who needs a breakthrough to restart lucrative engagement projects with the impoverished North. Yonhap news agency said that the clock on the Korean Peninsula's security situation has "turned back to

zero" and diplomacy is now "at a crossroads."

The collapse was a dramatic turnaround from the optimism that surrounded the talks after the leaders' dinner Wednesday and that had prompted the White House to list a signing ceremony on Trump's official schedule for Thursday.

The two leaders had seemed to find a point of agreement when Kim, who fielded questions from American journalists for the first time, was asked if the U.S. may open a liaison office in North Korea. Trump declared it "not a bad idea," and Kim called it "welcome." Such an office would mark the first U.S. presence in North Korea and a significant grant to a country that has long been deliberately starved of international recognition.

**There had been a proposed agreement that was 'ready to be signed'**

But questions persisted throughout the summit, including whether Kim was willing to make valuable concessions, what Trump would demand in the face of rising domestic turmoil and whether the meeting could yield far more concrete results than the leaders' first summit, a meeting in Singapore less than a year ago that was

long on dramatic imagery but short on tangible results.

There had long been skepticism that Kim would be willing to give away the weapons his nation had spent decades developing and Pyongyang felt ensured its survival. But even after the summit ended, Trump praised Kim's commitment to continue a moratorium on missile testing.

Trump also said he believed the autocrat's claim that he had nothing to do with the 2017 death of Otto Warmbier, a American college student who died after being held in a North Korean prison.

"I don't believe that he would have allowed that to happen," Trump said. "He felt badly about it."

The declaration immediately called to mind other moments when Trump chose to believe autocrats over his own intelligence agencies, including siding with the Saudi royal family regarding the death of journalist Jamal Khashoggi and supporting Russia's Vladimir Putin's denials that he interfered with the 2016 election.

If the first Trump-Kim summit gave the reclusive nation's leader entree onto the international stage, the second appeared to grant him the legitimacy his family has long desired.

Kim, for the first time, affably parried with the international press without having to account for his government's long history of oppression. He secured Trump's support for the opening of a liaison office in Pyongyang, without offering any concessions of his own. Even without an agreement, Trump's backing for the step toward normalization provided the sort of recognition the international community has long denied Kim's government.

Experts worried that the darker side of Kim's leadership was being brushed aside in the rush to address the North's nuclear weapons program: the charges of massive human rights abuses; the prison camps filled with dissidents; a near complete absence of media, religious and speech freedoms; the famine in the 1990s that killed hundreds of thousands; and the executions of a slew of government and military officials, including his uncle and the alleged assassin of his half-brother in a Malaysian airport.

Trump also has a history of cutting short foreign trips and walking out of meetings when he feels no progress is being made. That includes a notable episode this year when he walked out of a White House meeting with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer over a government shutdown, calling the negotiation "a total waste of time." **AP**

# S. Korea says failure to reach nuclear deal 'unfortunate'

Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

**S**OUTH Korea described the breakdown of nuclear talks between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on yesterday as unfortunate, but expressed hope that the two countries can continue an active dialogue.

The collapse of the Trump-Kim summit in Vietnam is a setback for South Korean President Moon Jae-in, whose desire for closer relations between the Koreas hinges on a nuclear breakthrough between the U.S. and North Korea.

Moon had planned to announce new proposals for inter-Korean engagement, possibly including economic cooperation, in a ceremony today marking the 100th anniversary of a 1919 uprising by Koreans against Japanese colonial rule.

Moon has been held back in his drive for inter-Korean engagement by tough U.S.-led sanctions against North Korea, which prohibit many kinds of



President Moon Jae-in (center) watches the summit

economic ties.

Trump told reporters in Hanoi that his summit with Kim collapsed after North Korea demanded a full removal of the sanctions in return for limited disarmament steps. Washing-

ton sees economic pressure as its main leverage with the North.

North Korea's state media have yet to comment on the summit.

South Korea's presidential

Blue House said in a statement that it believes the U.S. and North Korea deepened their understandings of each other during their "long and deep discussions" in Hanoi. It said Trump's willingness to offer

sanctions relief in exchange for broader nuclear disarmament steps by the North shows that the nuclear negotiations have entered an "elevated level."

"The [South Korean] government will do all it can to ensure that the United States and North Korea can maintain momentum for dialogue while continuing their close communication and cooperation," the Blue House said.

It said Moon spoke with Trump on the phone as the American leader flew out of Vietnam, and that Trump expressed a firm commitment to continue a dialogue with the North.

Moon had hoped to follow the Trump-Kim meeting with his own fourth summit with Kim, preferably in South Korea's capital, Seoul. Some experts say the prospects for such a summit are now murkier after the talks fell through in Hanoi. Moon may find it difficult to sell a Seoul visit by Kim to South Koreans without tangible progress on North Korea's nuclear disarmament.

Kim is also likely to be reluctant to travel to South Korea without having something big to bring home, especially after getting nothing in Vietnam, where he arrived after traveling through China on his private train for more than two days. AP



## Do you know what you are eating?

With Thermomix you always know what you and your family are eating, Macau is a gaming city but do not to gamble with health.

### HEALTHY

Nutritious and additive-free meals are now available at your fingertips. In today's fast paced lifestyle, we cook much less than we used to. It's time to get back to basics and cook with real ingredients just like our grandmothers did. Thermomix makes it quick and easy to make those traditional homemade dishes at a fraction of the time, bringing fresh, wholesome, nutrient-dense food

back into your diet.

Thermomix gives you back control over what goes into your food, making it easier to eliminate artificial colors and flavors and better manage allergies and intolerances.

The multi-layered steaming function locks in flavor and nutrients by cooking food gently and without the need for added fats.

With Thermomix you won't only taste the difference, you'll feel it too.

Please contact us for a free demo:

Tong Jia de Ramirez  
Phone Number : +853 6668 1771.



Michael Cohen becomes emotional as he finishes a day of testimony to the House Oversight and Reform Committee on Capitol Hill, Washington

USA

# Analysis: Cohen hearing stokes touchy topic of impeachment

Lisa Mascaro & Steve Peoples, Washington

**M**ICHAEL Cohen's testimony is just the beginning.

The House oversight hearing with President Donald Trump's former attorney, coming in advance of special counsel Robert Mueller's report, heralds what Democrats in Congress view as the long days ahead providing checks and balances on the Oval Office.

For some, the outcome may — or may not — lead to grounds for impeachment. For others, impeachment cannot come fast enough.

What is certain, though, is the mounting tension. As the hearings and investigations unfold, Democrats, particularly those running for the White House, may be speeding toward a moment when they have no choice but to consider the I-word.

Newly elected Democratic Rep. Rashida Tlaib, among the most outspoken lawmakers on impeachment, says that as the 2020 presidential candidates visit her Detroit-area district, "most residents are going to ask where they stand on this issue."

Voters are less concerned with Mueller's Russia investigation, Tlaib said, than with the day-to-day White House operations

and "whether or not there's a crooked CEO in the Oval Office."

Hours into Cohen's testimony yesterday (Macau time), New Hampshire's statehouse Speaker Steve Shurtleff, a Democrat, said that impeaching the president was becoming a realistic option.

"They're putting a lot of meat on the bone," Shurtleff said in an interview. "It could be a one-two punch," he said of the Cohen hearing and Mueller report. "I think it'll connect a lot of dots."

Trump allies have tried to use the prospect of impeachment as a political weapon. The president's former chief counselor, Steve Bannon, had warned before the 2018 elections that Democrats would impeach the president if they won control of Congress.

Republicans are taking up that mantle. At the start of the Cohen hearing, the top Republican on the panel, Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio, said the only reason for the session was so Democrats could pursue impeachment. Another committee Republican, Rep. Chip Roy of Texas, called the hearing a "circus" not worth Americans' time. And newly elected Republican Rep. Carol Miller of West Virginia said the sole purpose was "discrediting the president."

"If it was not already obvious," Miller said, "there are members here with a singular goal in Congress to impeach President Trump."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has kept calls for impeachment at bay by insisting that Mueller first must be allowed to finish his work, which reports suggest could happen in the coming weeks, and present his findings publicly — though it's unclear whether the White House will allow its full release.

Pelosi says the House shouldn't pursue impeachment for political reasons, nor should it hold back for political reasons. Instead, she says lawmakers need to do their jobs as a co-equal branch of government and go wherever the facts lead.

"The American people expect us to hold the administration accountable," said Rep. David Cicilline, D-R.I., a member of House leadership. "And if during the course of that we come upon sufficient evidence that warrants his removal, I think they expect us to do that."

But Democrats are not there yet, at all.

So far, the Democratic Party's potential 2020 class has tried to avoid the impeachment question altogether, fearful that calling for impeachment before the Mueller report is out could undermine the

process and trigger a voter backlash.

Among them, only former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke has directly called for Trump's impeachment. Others approached the Cohen hearing in more cautious and creative ways.

## ■ Trump allies have tried to use the prospect of impeachment as a political weapon

Sen. Kamala Harris of California, used the hearings as a fundraising opportunity. "Are you watching Michael Cohen testify before Congress today?" campaign manager Juan Rodriguez wrote. "There's a lot to unpack, but it's abundantly clear: if we are finally going to get to the truth, Congress must act to protect Robert Mueller from being fired before his findings in the Russia investigation are made public." He asked for donations of between \$10 and \$250.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Mas-

sachusetts sent an email during the hearing promising, if she becomes president, not to pardon anyone implicated in the Trump investigations. She set down a challenge for others running to do same.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota tweeted that Cohen's testimony "is a big deal." Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey said in a brief chat that he wasn't watching the hearing but was "looking to digest it."

And Howard Schultz, the former Starbucks CEO considering an independent bid, said the testimony is "another stark reminder of President Trump's utter disregard for honesty and decency."

The liberal base is restive, though. A new group, By the People, launched a pledge drive urging members of both parties in Congress to show leadership by extending the legislative branch's oversight to the next step of impeachment.

"We already know Donald Trump has committed impeachable offenses," said Alexandra Flores-QUILTY, a spokesperson for the group. "We can't wait any longer and want our representatives to move forward now."

So far only Tlaib and fellow newly elected Rep. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota have signed on.

Another new Democrat, Rep. Joe Cunningham of South Carolina, said impeachment was not central to his campaign for office. "Our constituents back home sent me up here to do a job and focus on certain issues and that's not something I'm focused on right now," he said.

Surveys show impeachment has merit for some voters. In a January Washington Post-ABC News poll, about as many Americans said Congress should begin impeachment proceedings (40 percent) as said they approved of the job Trump is doing as president (37 percent).

Billionaire liberal activist Tom Steyer, who has poured millions of dollars into a campaign calling for Trump's impeachment, said Cohen's testimony marked a turning point in the debate because it's clear Trump broke the law. His group is launching a TV ad over the next week to highlight that point.

"It ended the argument. It didn't end the fight," Steyer said in an interview.

Steyer says Democrats can only wait on the Mueller report for so long before they have to make their own decisions. His group is hosting town halls in the hometown districts of key House chairmen — including Rep. Elijah Cummings of Maryland, who presided over the Wednesday's hearing.

But as the Oversight Committee chairman exited the hours-long sessions, Cummings told reporters the only people using the I-word were the Republicans.

"Not one person on our side mentioned the word impeachment," the chairman said. **AP**

USA

# Northern California river floods 2,000 buildings

Haven Daley & Olga R. Rodriguez, California

**A** Northern California river flooded 2,000 homes, businesses and other buildings and left two communities virtual islands after days of stormy weather, officials said yesterday.

The towns of Guerneville and Monte Rio were hardest hit by water pouring from the Russian River, which topped 46 feet, said Briana Khan, a Sonoma County spokeswoman.

The river frequently floods in rainy weather but it hadn't reached that level for 25 years and wasn't expected to recede again until late Thursday night.

About 3,500 people in two dozen communities along the river remained under evacuation orders.

Jeff Bridges didn't leave even though he said the water was 8 feet deep in some places. The co-owner of the R3 Hotel in Guerneville, said he and others who stayed behind were well-prepa-

red to ride out the storm. He and employees moved computers, business records and furniture to second-floor room.

"As long as everybody is safe, dry and warm, it's all fine. You just ride it out," said Bridges, noting that this flood was the fourth he's experienced in 33 years.

He added: "People in Florida have hurricanes, people in Maine have blizzards; we have floods," he said. "It's the price we have to pay to live in paradise."

The river was one of several in Northern California that was engorged by days of rain from western U.S. storms that also dumped heavy snow in the Sierra Nevada, throughout the Pacific Northwest and into Montana, where Gov. Steve Bullock signed an emergency order to help keep up the supply of heating fuel amid frigid temperatures.

Two Amtrak trains together carrying nearly 300 passengers stopped and reversed directions because of an avalanche

that closed railroad tracks in the Sierra Nevada.

In Idaho, the mountain town of Stanley became marooned after all three highways leading to the town were closed because of drifting snow, avalanches and the risk of more slides.

## About 3,500 people in two dozen communities along the river remained under evacuation orders

Several areas in California set record-high rainfall totals in recent days, including nearby Santa Rosa, which had nearly 8 inches of rain in one day. The often-waterlogged Venado weather station 5 miles from Guer-



AP PHOTO

neville recorded more than 20 inches of rain in 48 hours.

Elsewhere in Northern California, dozens of people had to be rescued from cars stranded while motorists tried to drive through flooded roads. Nina Sheehan, who is visiting from North Carolina, had to abandon her rental SUV after it got stuck in a flooded hotel parking lot.

"We made a decision to take the rental car through the waist-high water and we got two thirds of the way and then the car stalled," she said. "Do not try to go

through any water over a foot high because you never know what you're going to find."

Firefighters in Monte Rio worked through the night pulling people out of cars stuck in flooded roadways and getting people out of their homes as water approached, Fire Chief Steve Baxman told the Press-Democrat newspaper of Santa Rosa.

"We took 17 people out of cars and houses during the night. Too many people are driving into water," he said.

AD

知得更多  
活得更好  
KNOW MORE  
LIVE BETTER

MACAUCLOSER  
生活藝術雜誌 LIVING & ARTS MAGAZINE

>> Instagram << 歡迎訂閱 FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

SAN JIAO LING  
公关传播 | PR & Marketing

新商机 始握手  
New Business Opportunities  
are Just a Handshake Away  
www.sanjaoling.com

Follow our DB media channel  
www.deltabridges.com

## TV canal macau



## FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Miguel Araújo - Ao Vivo Teatro Cinema de Fafe
15:55	Zig Zag
16:20	Viver é Fácil
16:45	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:40	Arquitectarte
18:05	O Douro nos Caminhos da Literatura - Fim
18:50	TDM Talk Show (Repetição)
19:25	Livros com João Guedes (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Sinais de Vida
22:00	Contentor 13
22:30	Motel Bates Sr.1
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Jorge
01:15	Telejornal (Repetição)
02:05	RTPi Directo

## SATURDAY

10:30	Zig Zag
10:50	Os Ursos Boonie e o Fantástico Outono
11:20	Beo and Peno Sr.2
11:30	Chai Chai
11:50	Visita Guiada Sr.2
13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
14:30	Festival da Canção 2019 - 2ª Semifinal
16:00	Por Onde Andou Carmen Miranda?
16:45	Janela Indiscreta
17:40	Hora dos Portugueses
18:50	Joker
19:35	O Mundo da Dança Sr.1
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Os Condenados
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Cá Por Casa Sr.2
00:55	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:40	RTPi Directo

## SUNDAY

10:30	Animaizinhos Selvagens Exploradores
11:00	Missa Dominical
12:30	Uma Mesa Portuguesa... Com Certeza!
13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
14:30	Top Chef Jr. Sr.1
15:15	Rat-A-Tat Sr.1
16:25	Viva a Música Sr.4
17:10	Brainstorm
18:00	GNR - Afectivamente
19:45	Bem-Vindos a Beirais
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Contraponto
22:20	Coisas Curiosas de Saber
22:45	City Folk - Gente da Cidade
23:15	TDM News
23:50	TDM Reportagem (Repetição)
00:10	Magazine Liga Europa 2018/2019
01:05	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:50	RTPi Directo

## Offbeat

## SWITZERLAND MULLS STUDIES ON LEGAL SALE OF CANNABIS

Switzerland's government is taking steps to allow limited studies on the legal sale of cannabis — though any liberalization appears to be a distant prospect.

The governing Federal Council said yesterday it sent to parliament a proposal to allow municipalities to run pilot projects on "the advantages and disadvantages of alternative forms of regulation," such as the regulated sale of cannabis in pharmacies. The possession and consumption of cannabis with more than 1 percent THC, the main psychoactive constituent of cannabis, are currently illegal.

The government said 200,000 people in the country of 8 million regularly consume cannabis recreationally despite the ban, leading to a flourishing black market and high enforcement costs.

The tightly regulated pilot projects will run for a maximum 10 years, after which studies will be reviewed.

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

28 FEB



## HAPPY DEATH DAY 2U

ROOM 1

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

Director: Christopher Landon

Starring: Jessica Rothe, Israel Broussard, Phi Vu

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 100min



## BEN IS BACK

ROOM 2

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

Director: Peter Hedges

Starring: Julia Roberts, Lucas Hedges, Courtney B. Vance

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 103min



## FATE/STAY NIGHT: HEAVEN'S FEEL II

LOST BUTTERFLY

ROOM 1

7:30pm

Director: Tomonori Sudô

Starring: Yu Asakawa, Mai Kadowaki, Hiroshi Kamiya

Language: Japanese (Chinese &amp; English)

Duration: 117min



## THE WANDERING EARTH

ROOM 3

42:30, 7:15pm

Director: Frant Gwo

Starring: Chuxiao Qu, Jing Wu, Guangjie Li

Language: Chinese (Chinese &amp; English)

Duration: 123min

## DRAGON BALL SUPER BROLI

ROOM 3

4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Tatsuya Nagamine

Starring: Masako Nozawa, Aya Hisakawa, Ryô Horikawa

Language: Japanese (Chinese &amp; English)

Duration: 100min

## this day in history



## 1996 SIEGE OF SARAJEVO IS LIFTED

The siege of Bosnian capital Sarajevo has been declared officially over after almost four years of continuous shelling and sniper attacks.

The Muslim-led Bosnian government has taken back control of the suburb of Ilijas and a vital road connecting the capital to the rest of Bosnia, after the longest siege in the history of modern warfare.

Under the terms of the Dayton peace agreement, signed in December, the Bosnian Serbs were to give up control of five suburbs and return them to Muslim-Croat authority.

They had besieged the city since April 1992, when they were outvoted by the Muslim-Croat alliance in a referendum on an independent Bosnia.

The handover of the five suburbs was one of the most sensitive parts of the Dayton accord and has been the cause of angry protests by Serbian residents who claim they would rather leave their homes than live with Muslims, as they did before the war.

The first suburb to be handed over, Vogosca, was rapidly evacuated in the days preceding the handover last week as Serb residents fled their homes.

As they left, they burned down a children's nursery and several shops.

According to the United Nations, there were 17,000 people living in Ilijas at the end of the war, but only 2,000 of them at the beginning of this week.

The handover is due to be completed by 20 March, by which time it is believed tens of thousands of Serbs will have left their homes.

Most of the Serbs affected are going to towns in eastern Bosnia, where they operated a policy of "ethnic cleansing", expelling Muslims and Croats to create Serb-dominated areas.

Nenad Popovic, a policeman at a Serb checkpoint, told The Independent newspaper: "All the Serbs are aware of the uncertainty we will face in the future and we are aware of the difficulties we will experience. But it is better to leave than to be a second-class citizen."

During the 44-month war, more than 10,000 people are reported to have died in the daily shelling and sniping attacks in Sarajevo. Some 1,800 of the casualties were children.

There have been numerous atrocities - including a single shell fired at Sarajevo's Markale market on 5 February 1994 which killed 68 people and wounded more than 100.

Nato intervened in 1995 after a mortar attack on Sarajevo in which 38 people were killed.

It ordered air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs which finally forced them to return to the negotiating table and sign the Dayton accord.

The war has left Sarajevo deeply scarred. Many buildings have been destroyed and most have suffered some damage.

New cafes are opening, sniper screens are coming down and shops are selling exotic fruits once again, but most people living in the city are unemployed and 70% of the population are wholly or partly dependent on aid supplies of flour, pasta, beans and rice.

Although government employees are being paid in dinars, the only acceptable currency is German Deutschmarks.

The departure of the Serbs has also struck a blow at international efforts to establish Sarajevo as the multi-national capital of a united Bosnia.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The first war crimes trial centring on the siege of Sarajevo ended with a Bosnian Serb general being sentenced to 20 years in jail.

General Stanislav Galic, who commanded the Bosnian Serb forces that besieged the Bosnian capital during the war, was found guilty by the war crimes tribunal.

Bosnian Serb President Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, his army chief, were both indicted for war crimes but continue to evade arrest.

The war left about three million refugees. An agreement signed in Sarajevo in January 2005 pledged to resolve the crisis by the end of 2006.

Refugees have also been given the right to return to their pre-war homes - although in many cases they have returned only long enough to sell off their belongings and move back to where they have settled since the war.

The Sarajevo film festival which started as a cultural stand against the Bosnian war in 1994 has grown in popularity and is now the most important cultural event in the country.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 In your time, you have accomplished some nearly impossible tasks...

Taurus April 20-May 20 During the day, double-check all your emails for typos or sloppy phrasing and do not forget to say 'please'...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 The hardest part of making cool things happen in your life isn't the part where you think them up...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Take your ego out of the equation and let other people in on the fun. Now that your ideas have established a foothold...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Entering some sort of competition today? If you are worried about being outsmarted, you shouldn't be!

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 A quick note or phone call (full of your usual charm, of course) should calm any stormy waters...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Like juice shooting out of a grapefruit half, your creativity is refreshing, bright and a little bit startling today.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 It's perfectly okay to ask for the attention you deserve, and you are well within your rights to find out why they aren't giving it to you.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 If you spend some quiet time sorting through recent events, you will begin to notice a pattern.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Everyday items and common conversations will take on a heavier meaning today. You are entering a phase of life in which you'll possess a great deal of mental discernment;

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Is money on your mind? If it isn't, it should be. Things might be moving beyond your control, and you are in danger of getting lazy about keeping track of expenses.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 The events around you today will have a life of their own, and trying to shape them into a better form is going to be a big waste of your time -- so don't even try.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

ACROSS: 1- Can be used to catch fish or surf!; 4- Elemental unit; 8- Right to enter; 14- Hosp. areas; 15- The Aba \_\_\_ Honeymoon; 16- Burrowing rodent; 17- Scot's refusal; 18- Belinda Carlisle's "Should \_\_\_ You In?"; 19- Tidily; 20- Amusement; 23- Tableland; 24- Mexican moola; 25- Heston's org.; 28- English Channel swimmer Gertrude; 30- Distribute the wrong cards; 33- Approximations; 36- Look forward to; 40- \_\_\_-fi; 41- Totaled, as a bill; 42- Mercenary; 45- Bess's predecessor; 46- Musical dramas; 51- Banned pesticide; 52- Cellist Casals; 55- Wyatt of the West; 56- Completing; 59- Vegas attraction; 62- Muslim prince; 63- TV listings abbr.; 64- Makes up (for); 65- Hook's helper; 66- TV Tarzan Ron; 67- Say again; 68- Sailors; 69- Hi-\_\_\_ graphics; DOWN: 1- Generic; 2- Rubbed out; 3- African fly; 4- Score after deuce; 5- Clubfoot; 6- Like most sumo wrestlers; 7- Course with pluses and minuses; 8- Loss of memory; 9- Capital of Calvados; 10- Pluto's tail?; 11- CPR pro; 12- Scale member; 13- Eye infection, pig house; 21- Crew tool; 22- \_\_\_ Dearest; 25- Light gas; 26- Talk wildly; 27- The Sun \_\_\_ Rises; 29- Pretend; 31- Throat bug; 32- Cinco de Mayo, e.g.; 34- Woman's shoe style; 35- Here, to Henri; 36- Scored 100 on; 37- Elevated tract of open country; 38- Work without \_\_\_; 39- Actress Lupino; 43- Highest; 44- More spacious; 47- Bard's nightfall; 48- Hunting cat; 49- Fit for farming; 50- Spreads out; 53- Hallowed; 54- Helping theorem; 56- Movie theater; 57- Most draftable; 58- "\_\_\_ Tu" ('70s hit); 59- Automobile; 60- Polished off; 61- Drench;

Yesterday's solution crossword grid with filled-in words.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



Real estate advertisement for JML Property, featuring 'FOR SALE' signs and details for various properties like Choi Long Meng Chui, Ocean Garden Elm Court, Sea View Condo, Taipa, Nam Long, Pacifica - Perfect Locality, Taipa, Supreme Flower City, Va Fat, Taipa Village, and Coloane Village.

**DUFFY'S IRISH PUB**  
where everyone gets lucky!

- A GREAT PLACE TO HANG OUT FOR FUN & HAVE GOOD TIMES WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS
- WITH OUTDOOR SEATING & A PRIVATE SNUG FOR INTIMATE GATHERINGS
- HAS A GREAT SELECTION OF WHISKEY, GIN, BEERS, ETC.

DUFFY'S IRISH PUB MACAU BROADWAY FOOD STREET AT GALAXY MACAU TEL.: 2875 2945 OR 63281245

WWW.PUNCHLINECOMEDY.COM

**ALL IRISH STAND UP COMEDY ST PATRICK'S DAY SHOW**

**THE Punchline COMEDY CLUB**

**JOE ROONEY**

**KARL SPAIN** **PATSER MURRAY**

BOOK BY PHONE +853 2875 2945  
BOOK ONLINE NOW! WWW.TICKETFLAP.COM

**Wednesday 13th March @ 8pm**  
**THE ROADHOUSE MACAU**  
Broadway Macau.

Tickets MOP290, inclusive of 2 drinks (glasses of wine or bottles of beer)  
Special dinner menu pre show.  
Doors open 6:30pm for dinner and pre drinks.  
Show starts 8pm.

澳門百老匯 BROADWAY MACAU

**BUNNY NIGHTS**  
EVERY WEDNESDAY

**D2 CLUB**  
www.d2club-macau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edf. New Orleans III  
澳門漁人碼頭新奧麗良館 111  
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

WELCOME TO Playmate's Club  
花心公子俱樂部

**WILD NIGHT OUT**

Come and buy a Standard drink Mop45 only  
You can see a European Striptease Show

Business Hours: 8:00pm-4:00am  
Address: Basement, Hotel Guia, Macau Tel: 28532081 www.macauplaymatesclub.com

Attention No admission under 18

Steve Douglas

FOOTBALL

# Liverpool, City win to set up duel for EPL title

**T**HE Premier League title race looks to be a duel between Liverpool and Manchester City after the top two collected contrasting home wins yesterday [Macau time] and third-place Tottenham lost at Chelsea for a second defeat in five days.

Just when questions were starting to be asked about Liverpool's credentials, the leaders delivered their biggest victory of the season: A 5-0 thrashing of Watford at Anfield.

That's the kind of scoreline City has been producing in recent weeks but, after needing extra time and penalties to win the English League Cup on Sunday, Pep Guardiola said he'd be happy with any kind of win against West Ham three days later.

A second-half penalty from Sergio Aguero secured a 1-0 win for City, which stayed a point back in second place.

Tottenham's title bid is likely over, though, with 10 games remaining. And it disintegrated in quite embarrassing fashion at Stamford Bridge, with Kieran Trippier's own goal — following a mix-up with goalkeeper Hugo Lloris — clinching a 2-0 win for Chelsea.

With Tottenham having also lost at Burnley on Saturday, the team is now nine points off the lead and only four ahead of Arsenal, which beat Bournemouth 5-1 to strengthen its grip on fourth place.

Tottenham and Arsenal meet in the north London derby tomorrow at Spurs' temporary home of Wembley Stadium.

"Tonight makes it impossible to fight Man City and Liverpool," Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino said. "Only they can win the league."

Manchester United is one point further back in fifth after

AP PHOTO



Liverpool's Divock Origi celebrates with teammates after scoring his side's third goal

beating Crystal Palace 3-1 for a club-record eighth straight away win.

**SARRI REASSERTS AUTHORITY**

Chelsea didn't even need the world's most expensive goalkeeper to derail Tottenham.

Kepa Arrizabalaga was dropped to the bench as punishment for refusing to be substituted in the League Cup final loss to City. Reasserting his authority after a star player's high-profile show of insubordination, Chelsea

coach Maurizio Sarri chose instead to start Willy Caballero — and the team's second-choice goalkeeper was barely troubled.

Instead, the focus ended up on the visiting 'keeper.

In a humiliating passage of play in the 84th minute, Tottenham right back Kieran Trippier didn't look up as he attempted a back-pass to goalkeeper Hugo Lloris. The France captain had come out of his goal, though, and saw Trippier's pass go by his left side and trickle into the net. Trippier and Lloris both stared

at the ground.

Pedro Rodriguez put Chelsea ahead in the 57th minute, his shot from an acute angle going through Lloris' legs.

**LIVERPOOL'S RESPONSE**

With Mohamed Salah going through a barren run, Sadio Mane is the forward Liverpool is counting on for goals at the moment.

The Senegal international made it six in his last six league games by scoring the opening two goals against Watford — the

second a delightful back-heel into the net from 12 meters past stunned goalkeeper Ben Foster.

Center back Virgil van Dijk also scored twice, both headers from crosses, after Divock Origi had made it 3-0.

It was a good evening for Liverpool's defenders, with right back Trent Alexander-Arnold setting up three goals and left back Andrew Robertson assisting with the other two.

"Let's enjoy the ride and see how far it takes us," said Klopp, whose side has still only lost one league game all season.

**AGUERO RESCUES CITY**

After recent hat tricks against Arsenal and Chelsea, Aguero was again the match winner for City — this time with a solitary goal.

The Argentine striker tucked away a penalty after substitute Bernardo Silva was fouled on a mazy run into the penalty area.

Aguero is now the top scorer in the league with 18 goals.

**MKHITARYAN STARS**

With three straight wins, Arsenal has found form just at the right time going into the north London derby at the weekend.

Henrikh Mkhitaryan starred against Bournemouth, scoring one goal and setting up two more for Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Laurent Koscielny. Mesut Ozil and Alexandre Lacazette were the other scorers.

That result at Emirates Stadium ensured Man United remained outside the top four despite another impressive performance under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

Romelu Lukaku scored twice and Ashley Young added the third for injury-hit United in its win at Palace.

In the other game yesterday, Southampton climbed out of the relegation zone by beating Fulham 2-0. **AP**

RUGBY

# Top stars voice concerns about planned global league

**T**HE top players in world rugby expressed their concern about a proposed new global competition, saying it is "out of touch" and could damage the "integrity" of the sport at the highest level.

Captains of nine of the world's top 10 nations were among the players speaking on a conference call set up by the International Rugby Players (IRP) council to discuss the likely impact of the planned World Rugby Nations Championship. The competition would see 12 leading countries play each other once per year toward a playoff series that leads to the top

AP PHOTO



England's Owen Farrell

northern and southern hemisphere sides meeting in a final.

Concerns raised by members of the IRP council surrounded player welfare, conflict between club and country, the lack of opportunities for Tier Two nations, and the im-

act on the quality of the international game.

Ireland flyhalf Jonathan Sexton, the 2018 world player of the year, said there had been "little consideration" by governing body World Rugby about the issues raised previously by players.

"The issue of player load has never been so topical, however needs to be properly understood," said Sexton, who is president of the IRP. "To suggest that players can play five incredibly high-level test matches in consecutive weeks in November, is out of touch and shows little understanding of the physical strain this brings."

New Zealand captain Kieran Read described the upcoming period as a "crucial moment for rugby" that players are "generally excited about" but underlined there needed to be a balance between commercial needs, player

welfare, and the integrity of matches.

"Fans want to see meaningful games," Read said. "They don't want to see fatigued players playing a reduced quality of rugby as part of a money-driven, weakened competition that doesn't work for the players or clubs."

Chief executives from the top unions and tournaments attended a meeting in Los Angeles last month about the proposed new global competition. The aim is to provide greater context to the international game, which has test matches in June and November along with the northern hemisphere's

Six Nations tournament in February-March, and the southern hemisphere's Rugby Championship in August to October.

World Rugby said at the time that the meeting was "positive and productive" and it would "continue exploring the viability of potential global competition formats."

Reacting to the latest comments by members of the IRP, World Rugby said yesterday they were "surprising given (the) regular engagement throughout this ongoing process." It added the governing body's commitment to player welfare is "unwavering." **AP**

opinion

**Kapok**  
Eric Sautedé



**WHAT HAS BEEN WILL BE AGAIN**

Not everything is about arithmetic, far from it, as Macao's Chief Executive election clearly shows.

If numbers were all that matters, elections in Macao would seem fairer than in Hong Kong: in the case of our SAR, the CE is elected by an electoral college of 400 electors, that is to say there is one elector for every 776 registered voters (total of 310,400 registered voters at the end of 2018), whereas there is only 1 for 3,178 in Hong Kong (1,200-member strong electoral college for the CE election and 3,814,318 registered voters).

And then, even with only one candidate in Macao against three candidates in 2017 in Hong Kong, our SAR gets the upper-hand, even though the margin is less striking—basically twofold against the Frangrant Harbour. Macao has a non-competitive selection process with a single candidate and still, somehow, the ratio of electors to voters is in Macao's favour.

In a recent piece, I made the assumption that there would be close to no change in the composition of the electoral college that is going to elect our next Chief Executive.

First, I have to admit to a slight mistake as the structure of the college will accommodate two newcomers, in terms of functions: representatives of the newly revamped Municipal Affairs Bureau will replace two Macao delegates to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

And then, there should be new faces among the Macao delegates to both the National People's Congress (NPC) and the CPPCC as both assemblies were "elected" in 2017/2018.

On the side of the NPC, we have 12 Macao representatives, but only four are actually new: Dominic Sio Chi Wai, Ng Sio Lai, Lai Sai Kei and Si Ka Lon. But these people can hardly be characterized as unfamiliar: Sio is a businessman, close associate of the present CE and a former legislator; Ng is the president of the Macao General Union of Neighbourhood Associations (Kai Fong); Lai is a vice-chairman of the Macao Chinese Educators Association; and Si is a Fujian-community leader, close associate of Mr Chan Meng Kam and currently a two-term legislator. And then, the four of them participated in the election of Chui Sai On back in 2014: Sio and Si as legislators, Lai in the education constituency and Ng in the social services constituency. Zero changes after all.

Now, looking at the CPPCC delegates, things get a bit tricky. For sure, Ng Lap Seng who got four years in a US jail for bribing UN officials and Or Wai Shuen, the chairman of Polytec Asset Holdings Limited involved in a trial over a land plot dispute with the Macao government will not be present as they have not been re-appointed to the august assembly. But out of 29 delegates for Macao, 18 are new, including O Lam, the chief of cabinet of the Chief Executive; Cheong U, the former Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture; Vong Hin Fai and Chan Hong, both sitting legislators non-competitively elected in functional constituencies; Wu Zhiliang, the president of the Macao Foundation; Leong Lai, the director of Education and Youth Affairs Bureau and; Ho Ion Sang, a directly elected legislator. A few might actually make the cut to the electoral committee (possibly 4 or 5 among 14 out of 29 in total) even though they were not among the happy few in 2014. But again, none of these people are really novel, to say the least.

The functional constituencies, returning some 350 electors to the election committee, are another game altogether that deserves more detailed scrutiny—to be continued!—especially because some of these electors extend their reach across the Delta. If Pansy Ho, the chairlady of Shun Tak Holding, elects the Macao CE, her sister, Daisy Ho, the chairlady of SJM Holding Limited, elects the Hong Kong one. But nobody can beat Francis Lui Yiu-tung, the deputy chairman of Galaxy Entertainment Group, who himself elects both the CE in Hong Kong (as a delegate to the CPPCC) and the CE of Macao (as one of the 120 electors representing business and industry). Showing the way for further integration?

**THE BUZZ VENEZUELA'S JUAN GUAIDO IN BRAZIL TO MEET WITH BOLSONARO**

Juan Guaido, recognized by many countries as Venezuela's president, is in Brazil to meet with President Jair Bolsonaro.

Juan Guaido arrived early yesterday in the capital of Brasilia. Later in the day, he is scheduled to meet Bolsonaro, who recognizes Guaido and has taken a hard line against Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro.

Guaido is also expected to meet with Foreign Minister Ernesto Araujo, leaders of Congress and

ambassadors of several countries.

On Tuesday, Guaido met in Colombia with regional diplomats and U.S. Vice President Mike Pence.

Guaido has won recognition as Venezuela's rightful leader from more than 50 nations, including the United States, but has been unable to wrest power from Maduro.

Guaido-led attempts over the weekend to bring humanitarian aid into Venezuela via neighboring Brazil and Colombia failed.

**HANOI POSTCARD**

**Vietnam sees upside to media invasion**



**Tran Van Minh, Hanoi**

**F**OR a one-party communist state without a free press, there were bound to be some kinks when Vietnam agreed to welcome more than 2,600 journalists from around the world to its capital for one of the biggest news stories of the year.

But Vietnamese officials also saw an upside to hosting media from around the world: This was a unique chance to polish their country's image and perhaps boost tourism and investment.

They were also keen to show themselves as members in good standing of the global community by hosting the second summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Hanoi was chosen for the summit location roughly two weeks ago, and Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Le Thi Thu Hang said whatever bumps might occur would be the result of having very little time to prepare for the largest number of foreign media to ever descend on Vietnam's capital at one time.

Reporters generally agree security during the summit is tight — maybe a bit too tight for their liking.

When Kim transferred at the China-Vietnam border from his personal train to an armored limousine for the two-and-a-half hour drive to Hanoi, Highway One was closed to traffic

and thousands of police and military personnel were deployed along the route.

Whenever he or Trump ventures out from his Hanoi hotel, barricades ensure the streets along his route are deserted when his motorcade passes through.

While Kim's travel plans and itineraries are routinely kept secret, getting information relating to Kim's activities has been harder in Vietnam than it was in Singapore during the first summit last June, said Peter Wang, who works for Taiwan's Eastern Broadcasting Company.

"You can even follow Kim Jong Un, his personal activities, while he went out middle of the night in Singapore. All reporters when they knew the information, they could rush to the location trying to get a shot to film what Kim Jong Un did," he said. "But here it's very hard. They blocked the road a couple of blocks away and police are very strict."

Some reporters received a rude awakening about their host's priorities just before the leaders arrived in town. The White House press corps was forced to leave its established work space at the Melia Hotel after last-minute word that Kim would be staying there. The White House-based journalists now share space at the International Media Center.

Their ouster reportedly

came at the request of the North Korean delegation. Some members of the elite press group were so irate at being turfed out that they posted their outrage on Twitter.

The White House also restricted press access during the summit, prohibiting four print reporters, including one from The Associated Press, from covering the beginning of Trump's dinner with Kim in Hanoi on Wednesday. That came after two of those reporters asked questions of the president during earlier events at the summit.

Hanoi Mayor Nguyen Duc Chung told city residents to be on their best behavior, noting the presence of foreign journalists.

In a message on the city's website, he urged them to "maintain and sustain Hanoians' code of behavior, heighten the image of civilized, elegant, friendly and hospitable Vietnamese people and Hanoi residents in the eyes of international press and friends."

He also pleaded for businesspeople to "refrain from hiking prices of goods and services during the summit."

"This is the best opportunity to publicize the culture, development and image of Vietnam and capital Hanoi to the international community, maintaining peace and friendship," his statement said.

All his exhortations, though, couldn't tame Hanoi's traffic. **AP**

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

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**ISRAEL**'s attorney general recommended indicting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with bribery and breach of trust in a series of corruption cases, a momentous move that shook up Israel's election campaign and could spell the end of the prime minister's illustrious political career.



**BREXIT** Net migration into Britain from the other 27 EU countries has fallen to near-decade lows, suggesting Brexit uncertainty has made the country a less attractive destination for the bloc's workers. However, net migration from non-EU countries has risen to its highest level since 2004.



**BREXIT** Ireland's deputy prime minister said that the EU wants to work with Britain to ensure there is a Brexit deal, as Irish drivers were warned they will need new paperwork to cross the currently invisible border to Northern Ireland if the U.K. leaves the bloc without an agreement.



**USA** Michael Cohen said during his congressional testimony that Donald Trump grossly overstated his wealth before becoming president, including inflating his assets during a failed bid to buy the Buffalo Bills in 2014. *More on p14*

**USA** Floodwaters that turned two Northern California wine country communities into islands reachable only by boat began receding yesterday after a rain-engorged river finally peaked after swamping thousands of homes and businesses. *More on p15*