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**SULU SOU HAS URGED THE GOV'T NOT TO FORGET PERIPHERY HERITAGE WHEN DESIGNING PROTECTION FOR THE UNESCO-RECOGNIZED CITY CENTER**

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**STUDENT MODIFIES BACKPACK TO TAKE PHOTOS OF WOMEN**

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**THE WEATHER AUTHORITY HAS ISSUED AN WARNING FOR A TROPICAL DEPRESSION BREWING IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA**

▲ P2



**Vietnam** The customs authority has confiscated 125 kilograms of rhino horns worth up to USD4 million in an air shipment. 55 pieces of horns were concealed inside plaster blocks.

**Indonesia** Japanese technology company Softbank and Southeast Asian ride hailing app Grab said yesterday they're investing USD2 billion in Indonesia over the next five years.



**South Korea** Officials said yesterday it's returning three North Koreans who crossed the Korea's sea border aboard a wooden fishing boat over the weekend. Seoul's Unification Ministry said in a statement it decided to let the North Koreans return home in line with their wishes.



**Gulf tensions** In new video released yesterday, an Iranian Revolutionary Guard officer is heard telling a British warship not to interfere or put their "life in danger" as the paramilitary force, using speedboats and a helicopter, seized a U.K.-flagged commercial vessel in the Strait of Hormuz earlier this month.

**Cyprus** President Nicos Anastasiade says Turkey must halt illegal drilling for gas in waters where the east Mediterranean island nation has exclusive economic rights if stalled reunification talks in the ethnically divided nation are to resume.

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# THE JUNKET CONNECTION

**AUSTRALIA'S CROWN RESORTS IS FACING A POSSIBLE PROBE OVER LINKS TO CHINESE TRIADS**

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**CHINA BRINGS OPTIONS BACK ON THE TABLE**

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**DIVISIVE 'RUMOR OFFENCE' ARTICLE DRAWS PUBLIC CONCERN**

New Macau Association has gathered 1,500 signatures calling for an article that will criminalize rumors under some circumstances to be withdrawn. Meanwhile, the government says a similar measure, under an existing but different law, is not enough to deter deliberate acts that cause public panic

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### LEONG SUN IOK ASKS ABOUT GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY FOR LRT

Lawmaker Leong Sun Iok has queried the local government about the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) fares as well as government subsidies to support the fares. Leong urged the local government to announce the plans regarding the fares as only a few months are left until the LRT officially opens, which allegedly will still occur within this year. In addition, Leong called on the government to speed up the completion of the construction of LRT Barra, Seac Pai Van and east line sections to alleviate Macau's transport pressure. Leong questioned, "will the government introduce other payment methods? If there are discounted fares, can they be expanded to other payment methods?"

### LAWMAKERS TAKE LRT TEST RIDE WITH ROSÁRIO

Yesterday, Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo Arrais do Rosário took 22 lawmakers to try the Light Rapid Transit (LRT). The lawmakers visited the operation control center of the LRT depot, the Taipa Ferry Terminal, and were given an introduction of the LRT's operation and dispatch. During the visit, lawmakers raised questions related to the project, specifically connections with other transport infrastructure and arrangements during extreme weather. In response to the lawmakers, Rosário said he is confident that the LRT at the Taipa section will open in 2019. The government is still reviewing the transportation conditions for residents, including arranging connections between buses and the LRT.

### MACAU PLANS TO OPEN A SCHOOL IN HENGQIN

The Macau SAR government has plans to open a public school in Hengqin, Kong Chi Meng, Deputy Director of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) revealed on Sunday. According to Kong, the local government has been negotiating this matter with the Hengqin government for the past six months. Macau government claims that it wants to provide better education services to students in Hengqin. Projected to be a public school opened by the Macau government, the school will have specific classes for Macau residents. Kong claims that the Macau classes should adopt Macau's teaching curriculum. No other details have been revealed yet. "It takes several years to establish a school, and the plans need to coordinate with Hengqin's own development plan," said Kong.

# DEMOCRAT LAWMAKER URGES FOR PENHA HILL CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORTER

**I**N his recent interpellation, lawmaker Sulu Sou questioned the government about its plans to conserve the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Historic Centre of Macau, with particular reference to Penha Hill.

Penha Hill, where the Our Lady of Penha Chapel sits, is located within the buffer zone of the UNESCO World Heritage site. Although the chapel itself is not part of the World Heritage inscription, it is listed as a local heritage site.

It took the Macau government nearly nine years from the World Heritage inscription to enact its first "World Heritage Protection Law", Sou wrote in his interpellation.

He added that 14 years since the inscription, the government has still not compiled a plan for protecting and managing the Historic Centre of Macau (the plan), which is required by the law. Sou accuses the government of dereliction of duty by failing to do so.

In June last year, the government published the plan's public

JULIE ZHU



consultation summary. It presented more than 1,000 public consultations, which accounted for more than half of the comments received requesting certain restrictions to preserve the view from Penha Hill.

According to the "World Heritage Protection Law", the plan should set forth restrictions on constructions. As a result, Sou believes that the government should be more stringent in order to

protect the sites.

UNESCO had earlier expressed its concerns on the planning of the Reclamation Zone B, where any constructions may affect the view from the hill.

As a result, the lawmaker asked the government whether it would set forth restrictions on the height of buildings within the panorama from Penha Hill in order to protect the view from irrevocable damage. "Will the government

publicize the plan before actual legislation?" asked Sou.

The Municipal Affairs Bureau earlier proposed to build a coastal promenade on Sai Van Lake, which would likely affect the view of the coast. The Cultural Affairs Bureau did not object to the proposal in its capacity as a consultative body. The lawmaker asked whether the latter bureau would take tougher stand against similar proposals in future.

## 20 mainland shows to educate on patriotism

**O**N Friday, the National Radio and Television Administration of China gave 20 "excellent mainland TV programs" to TDM for free to educate Macau local residents and deepen their sense of patriotism.

The 20 programs include documentaries on human history, folk culture, and the development of popular science in China.

The programs were gifted to Macau in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of People's Republic of China and the 20th anniversary of the return of Macau to the motherland.

Qi Chengsheng, Deputy Director of the Department of International Cooperation of

the National Administration, endorsed TDM for its efforts in pushing forward Macau's economic and social development, its contribution to reducing the psychological distance between residents of Macau and the mainland, and its excellent performance in promoting Chinese culture around the world.

Qi claimed that these 20 documentaries fully reflect the great achievements, history, culture, and economic and social developments of mainland China in recent years.

Qi hopes that, through TDM and the documentaries, Macau's people can learn more about the motherland and love it more. **JZ**

## ALERT ISSUED FOR TROPICAL DEPRESSION

**T**HE Macau Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) issued a special alert yesterday about possible unstable weather in the coming week due to an incubating low-pressure area in the South China Sea, which is forecasted to develop into a tropical depression.

Weather app Windy.com predicts a possible tropical cyclone forming to the west of northern Philippines in the next few days. The cyclone is forecast to move toward Hainan Province by Thursday evening.

It is expected to pass by Macau tomorrow, possibly bringing rain and strong gusts.

The bureau's forecast expects a low-pressure area developing in the next few

days in the mid-north of the South China Sea. The area is expected to strengthen and will likely bring deteriorating weather conditions to Macau.

As such, the coming days will see more showers and thunderstorms; wind will also strengthen.

Residents living in low lying areas should be prepared for possible flooding due to the overlapping effect from an astronomical tide and the strengthening winds. Floods may occur in the mornings between July 31 and August 4.

As for other weather forecasts, thunderstorms may occur occasionally with showers until Saturday. On Sunday, there is a little chance of thunderstorms.

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CIVIL PROTECTION LAW

# New Macau releases petition results calling for 'rumor offence' withdrawal

STAFF REPORTER

**T**HE New Macau Association (ANM) issued a statement yesterday calling again for the government to withdraw the "rumor offence" provision in the proposed Civil Protection Law, after the democrat group said it had collected a total of nearly 1,500 signatures online.

The signatures call for the concerned legislation to be withdrawn.

ANM said it considered the turnout as a reflection on the general public's expression of "tremendous concern over the new crime."

The proposal, according to the association, will hinder the public from spreading useful information in critical situations and further restrict freedom of speech.

Furthermore, the association believes that the bill was sent to the legislature either without cautious consideration, or with the existence of unstated political motives driving it.

The bill was sent hastily to the legislature, before being amended several times following challenges from a broad section of society, including legal professionals, lawmakers and journalists.

RENATO MARQUES



New Macau Association member Sulu Sou speaks during a Legislative Assembly meeting

Meanwhile, Chief Executive candidate and former Legislative Assembly President Ho Iat Seng has also requested the administration work to reach a resolution.

New Macau points out that there are still a lot of flaws in the "rumor offence" provision, particularly in grey areas that require further elaboration from the government.

"[Even] if the revised text attempts to resolve public doubts

from a technical aspect, there are still many unclear provisions, giving law enforcement officials discretion in terms of interpretation in the future," ANM argued in its statement.

It also remains doubtful whether the public can trust the administration's "meticulousness and self-control while interpreting, applying and enforcing" the so-called rumor offence "throughout the entire process

of prosecution."

The government has constantly reiterated that the provision in the bill can only be used during emergency conditions, "that can cause major casualties, property damage, ecological damage or other serious social harm," according to the government's interpretation.

New Macau said it had noticed that "both the category of 'incident of security in society' that

constitutes 'abrupt incident of public nature' laid in article 5, and stipulations about grading of states and alert set forth in article 6 of the bill, completely lack determining measures and standards."

Another factor that makes the provision dangerous, as argued by the association, is that it is at the Chief Executive's discretion to label which incidents constitute a threat to public security. The association fears that if the legislation goes through, future Chief Executives may deem rallies, protests, labor strikes or social movements as incidents impacting public security.

The current version of the bill leaves no mechanism for objection to the Chief Executive's decision.

The association also fears that the wide use of "security" as an apparatus may empower the law enforcement agencies at the expense of fundamental human rights.

New Macau argues that the public fears being prosecuted more than persecuted. Accordingly, it believes the controversial provision will generate a chilling effect when passed.

The Legislative Assembly is currently discussing the Civil Protection Law in detail, after it was approved in a general sense last month.

## Secretary for Security confirms rumors to be punished by two laws

**T**HE Office of the Secretary for Security has clarified in a statement that the crime of spreading rumors that has alarmed the public in Article 31 of the Law on the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases is different from the one that is being drafted in the Civil Protection Law.

The office argued that although both acts could be a crime, the timing of the application of the two offenses and the degree of harm caused by the behaviors dealt with is different.

The "distribution of rumors causing panic" stipulated in Article 31 of the Law on the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases deals with outbreaks of epidemic diseases in Macau

or the danger of outbreaks and epidemics, and the Civil Protection Law.

According to the statement, the situation outlined would be that Macau is in a "burst public incident" that causes heavy casualties, property damage, ecological damage or other serious social harm.

Although the "public emergencies" here also include "public health events", the law refers to events that mainly include biological sources that cause serious impacts on public health and life safety, and are not limited to infectious diseases.

However, the "emergency public incidents" in the Civil Protection Law include natural disasters, accidents

and social security incidents, which are not covered by the bill stipulated in the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases Law.

The office argued that the applicable background of "public security, order and peace" under "public emergencies" is much broader than "spreading rumors causing panic," including causing more consequences and occurring in more serious emergencies than epidemic outbreaks.

It stated that the application of Article 25 of the Civil Protection Bill is stricter than Article 31 of the Law on the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases.

A maximum two-year imprisonment would be implemented as an offense

for those who violate the controversial Civil Protection Law.

In relation to the two-year penalty, the office said that the sentence is relatively light compared to other countries and regions.

Most countries and regions that have established the crime of preventing and suppressing rumors have set the maximum penalty for such behavior to three years, including mainland China, Taiwan, South Korea and France.

In addition, paragraph 3 of the bill that is being drafted distinguishes between "fabrication and dissemination" and purely intentional "propagation", and considers that the latter is subjectively less vicious, even if the

RENATO MARQUES



Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak

perpetrator knows that they are transmitting false information which could cause public panic.

"However, the restrictions on the applicable conditions of the former are more stringent, and the situation is more critical," said the office in a statement.

"The setting of the maximum penalty of two years does not mean that any act that constitutes the crime will be punished by two years, and the judicial officer will still make accurate judgments and reasonable discretion according to the actual case," it added. LV

CRIME

# STUDENT MODIFIES BACKPACK TO TAKE 15,000 ILLEGAL PHOTOS OF WOMEN

RENATO MARQUES

A local 20-year-old man is being charged by the police for the unlawful collection of photographs and videos that invade the privacy of women in Macau.

According to information provided by the Public Security Police Force (PSP) spokesperson, after being caught red-handed, a subsequent investigation discovered that the man possessed a "private collection" of over 15,000 photographs and video recordings illegally collected without the knowledge or consent of the subjects.

The case, revealed at yesterday's joint press conference held at the PSP facilities, unfolded last Saturday evening when the suspect was caught by a witness who saw his actions in the food court of a hotel in Cotai.

While waiting in line for a food outlet, the male witness, located in line behind the suspect, spotted the man holding a fabric bag bringing it suspiciously close to the woman right in front of him.

Suspecting unlawful actions, the witness then warned the victim and restrained the suspect so he could not get away.

The hotel's head of security was called, and they in turn alerted the police force.

Brought to the police station for questioning, the 20-year-old university student admitted to the unlawful act.

The police determined that the bag that he was holding had been specially made to host a hidden recording camera.

Upon discovering the equipment, the officers realized that there were over 40 photos and videos on it that were of approximately 30 different victims. Only in two



of the cases was it possible to identify the people on the footage since he largely did not record their faces, the spokesperson

said noting that on most of the other photos and films were only of legs and lower angles of unidentifiable women.

One of the victims who it was possible to identify, was the woman he was recording when he was caught, a woman from Hong

Kong in her 20s.

Further investigation led the police to search the suspect's mobile phone and computer. The police collected a total of over 15,000 photos and videos of a similar kind.

The suspect told the police he had begun recording women at the beginning of this year, and he was unable to identify exactly the time and location in which he had done most of the recordings.

Reviewing the digital files on camera, the police managed to identify a second victim but the individual does not apparently intend to press charges against the man.

He is now being accused of breaching the provisions of the Articles 189 and 191 of the Macau Penal Code, related respectively to the "scale of privacy intrusion" and "illegal recordings and photographs."

Both acts fall under a legal framework that provides sentencing of up to two years of imprisonment or a 240-day fine.

For the time being, there is only one victim who is proceeding with a formal complaint but the spokesperson noted that the PSP is still checking the evidence collected from the thousands of other footages, being at this point uncertain if any other people might be identifiable on the material.

## SERIAL SHOPLIFTER FINALLY CAUGHT BY POLICE

THE Public Security Police (PSP) spokesperson informed yesterday that they have caught a local male, also in his twenties, for a series of shoplifting cases in convenience shops.

The case started with complaints of shoplifting filed to the Public Security Police Force (PSP) by three shops located at Avenida da Concordia, Estrada do Repouso and Rua Coelho do Amaral.

All the shops had stolen goods: several cartons of cigarettes and one bottle wine worth MOP2,100. The cases had all occurred between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. on different days.

On July 28, an officer patrolling on Rua Central da Areia Preta, spotted a man behav-

ing suspiciously, passing and stopping near a convenience store on a motorcycle several times.

Finally, the officer spotted the man stopping beside the shop and putting on a facemask, a cap and a jacket.

The officer stopped and questioned him and the man finally revealed that he was behind the series of thefts to these shops.

To the police, he also said that from the 12 cartons of cigarettes he had stolen he had kept two for his own consumption, as well as the bottle of wine, and had sold the other cigarette cartons to a shop located at Avenida Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida.

Questioned on the topic, the PSP spokes-

person said that no charges have been pressed over the shop which accepted and resold the stolen goods as "there was no evidence that they had been so."

Even so, the police revealed that the shop owner had been questioned over the case and had admitted that "sometimes he buys these kinds of products from people that approach him selling them at cheaper prices."

The spokesperson further noted that, "when questioned he said he did not recall this particular case."

The suspect for the robberies is now being charged over the three thefts from convenience stores which caused damage calculated at about MOP7,500. RM

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# Migrant amputee to meet with DSAL today

**T**HE employer of the Filipino migrant worker whose leg was amputated due to an accident at his workplace is set to meet again with the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) today.

According to Reymond Tagacay, he received a call from the bureau yesterday and was instructed to meet with the office at 9 a.m. today.

On Friday, the DSAL reaffirmed that non-resident workers who are victims of work accidents in Macau are fully protected by the local laws.

Tagacay's employer refused to provide him compensation, which has led him to file a court case against his employer. The two parties finally met on Sunday after several occasions of Tagacay trying to contact the carwash firm.

However, according to TDM, the carwash company said that it is willing to negotiate on the migrant workers' expenses while the case is on-



going, such as his travel costs to and from the Philippines.

According to the non-resident worker, the Philippine Consulate General will "try to help" him with his case, particularly in request for a visa extension as his visa will expire

on August 10.

Yesterday, Tagacay said that the consulate had already visited him at his place of residence and had asked him to sign the visa extension form.

Another meeting is scheduled on Sunday between Taga-

cay, the Philippine Consulate General, and his employer to further discuss the matter.

Meanwhile, the DSAL has already opened a case involving the migrant worker's complaint on his compensation situation. LV

## MACAU INT'L AIRPORT CHECK-IN NOW CLOSES ONE HOUR BEFORE FLIGHT

STAFF REPORTER

**T**AIWANESE low-cost carrier, Tigerair Taiwan, issued a notice on its social media page, noting that the company has been required by the Macau International Airport to close its check-in counters 60 minutes before the scheduled time of departure of each flight.

The carrier said that the new arrangement became necessary due to the current refurbishment of the security area of the airport, so as to align with latest Hold Baggage Screening process required by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

As a result, the time needed for each passenger to pass through security checks will be extended.

In the meantime, new procedures will be in place for checked bag screenings, which is likely to take longer for each bag.

Therefore, the airport has required all airlines that operate in Macau have their check-in process closed 60 minutes before flight time. The new time frame will take effect from August 5.

Tigerair Taiwan reminds its passengers to arrive at the airport earlier than normal to leave sufficient time for all required procedures. Nonetheless, the airline has not mentioned whether it will start check-in earlier than before.

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# Crown Resorts facing probe after links to Chinese triads made known

DANIEL BEITLER

**C**ROWN Resorts may be investigated by Australia's parliament after reports that an Asian crime syndicate allegedly laundered money through the Melbourne-based company's casinos.

The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald newspapers, along with the 60 Minutes television program, reported that Crown used junket operators with links to drug traffickers as it sought to bring higher-roller Chinese gamblers to its Australian casinos.

Citing multiple sources, the Australian media outlets concluded that Crown Resorts had partnered with the criminal syndicate to gain access to the Chinese VIP market, notwithstanding the fact that the partnership would bring the casino operator closer to money laundering, the trafficking of both people and drugs, and influential agents of the Chinese government.

Known simply as "The Company", the organized crime conglomerate is run by triad bosses who reportedly use Crown-linked bank accounts and VIP rooms to launder money. The Company's network stretches over at least three Crown-licensed junkets operating in Australia but headquartered in Macau or Hong Kong.

More than a dozen serving and

former regional policing sources told the Australian media outlets that they believed the criminal syndicate has wreaked more harm in the country in the past three decades than any other drug importer.

Crown Resorts is part-owned by Australian businessman James Packer, who earlier this year committed to offloading half of his stake in the company to Macau gaming magnate and former venture partner Lawrence Ho.

Packer still owns 36% of the \$9.6 billion company (about 77 billion patacas), but is selling down to 20% in September. Meanwhile, Lawrence Ho's recent acquisition of his own 20% stake is awaiting approval by Australian regulators who say they are investigating alleged ties to Chinese triads.

Crown, which has casinos in Melbourne, Perth and another under construction in Sydney, said it had a comprehensive anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing program that was subject to supervision by the financial crimes agency, AUSTRAC.

Crown also said it had a "robust process for vetting junket operators" and that the process is regularly reviewed.

Junket operators are agents who specialize in marketing overseas casinos in mainland China, where advertising gambling activities is prohibited.

They also perform several other essential functions for their typically wealthy clients, such as supplying credit lines to circumvent capital controls on the mainland. Later, the junket - or its satellite organizations on the mainland - will attempt to recover the debt. However, gambling debts are not recognized by Chinese courts, making the money difficult to recover via legitimate means if the borrower refuses to pay up.

According to international law enforcement officials, some junkets conduct a legitimate business, but others are controlled by organized crime groups known as triads.

Macau-based junkets have been under pressure since the 2014 gaming contraction wiped more than a third off the SAR's annual revenues at its lowest point. There were just 100 operators at the start of this year, down from 235 operating under license in 2013.

According to the reports, two Australian ministers approached domestic border-control authorities in a bid to speed up immigration clearances for Crown's big-spending overseas customers.

Jacqui Lambie, among the independent lawmakers who collectively hold the balance of power in Australia's Senate, said the reports showed the country now needs a national anti-cor-

ruption body.

Independent lawmaker Andrew Wilkie, a long-time critic of the gambling industry, called on the Australian government to establish a parliamentary committee, which could potentially hold public hearings into the allegations raised in the reports and require witnesses to testify.

"This has reached a point where the Australian government has to pay attention," Wilkie said.

The Gaming and Wagering Commission of Western Australia, which oversees Crown's gaming activities in Perth told the Brisbane Times that it had "comprehensive controls" in place to regulate casinos, including the operation of junkets, and had last year introduced new controls to better manage the specific risks of junkets, which include "strict rules on how casinos operate junkets and who they can engage with."

Individuals that pose a risk of criminal influence on the gaming sector are banned, the regulator added.

"When any issues related to Casino regulation under our act are raised with the regulator they are investigated, as has happened in the past and will continue to do so."

Meanwhile, Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation said it is "continuing to consider the well-publicized

events regarding Crown's international commission-based business."

The Victoria regulator has intervened in Crown's junket relationships twice in the past four years. In one case, it imposed a \$150,000 fine for Crown failing to accurately record the details of a junket, while on another it simply demanded that the business relationship be ended.

But for some, the state-level gaming regulators have not been sufficiently attentive.

"The power of the dollar overrules any concerns [regulators] may have had in terms of issuing a 'carte blanche' for those people to operate here," said Ben Lee, a gambling industry consultant based in Macau, as quoted by The Age.

"Junkets are viewed by regulators as travel agents," an industry source added in conversation with the Brisbane Times. "What the regulator is concerned about is whether the gambling is fair. Money laundering and criminal risks are more of a matter for Border Force, Australian Federal Police and AUSTRAC."

In a statement, AUSTRAC said it is "actively addressing the significant risks of money laundering through casinos, particularly through casino junkets." The agency said it wouldn't comment further on any operational activities.

# AMCHAM URGES ACTION TO QUELL GROWING BUSINESS CONCERNS

IAIN MARLOW

**T**HE American Chamber of Commerce's Hong Kong chapter urged government action to address grievances underlying the city's recent unrest, saying steps must be taken to restore sagging business confidence.

Hong Kong's leaders should appoint an "internationally credible" independent inquiry into all aspects of the protest movement and formally withdraw the now-suspended extradition legislation that prompted the demonstrations, Am-

Cham said. The chamber said its statement represented the views of a "clear majority" of its members surveyed in recent days.

"AmCham urges the government to stem any further damage and show clear leadership in meeting the expectations of Hong Kong people and in restoring the city's international reputation for effective governance under the 'one country, two systems' framework," AmCham President Tara Joseph said, referencing the framework that has guaranteed the city's autonomy since its return to

Chinese rule in 1997.

She later told Bloomberg Television that pessimism is "creeping in after eight weeks of protests and really uncertainty about what is coming next."

Joseph said that in this type of environment, it would be normal for companies to look at backup plans for their Hong Kong operations - but that they aren't moving yet. "The real hope here is that Hong Kong can in the long term restore its credibility and maintain a very strong international finance center," she said.

As sometimes-violent protests continued for the eighth-straight weekend and showed no signs of stopping, the group's international members - which range from financial services firms to logistics companies - suggested the government heed at least some of the protesters' demands.

The call from international business follows a similar statement from the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce last week, which also called for the withdrawal of the extradition bill and the appointment of a commission of inquiry into the

recent unrest. Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam has said the bill allowing the transfer of criminal suspects to mainland China was "dead," but refused to formally withdraw it.

AmCham said members reported that some overseas customers have said Hong Kong "has become less safe and a riskier place in which to conduct business," and that the primary winner of the decline in its reputation was rival Asian financial center Singapore.

"While members made clear Hong Kong's many unique competitive advantages remain largely intact, they voiced concern that a failure to address the instability and worsening perceptions toward the city now may lead to irreparable damage over the long term," AmCham's statement said. **BLOOMBERG**

## Four locals turned away from HK, questioned by Macau police

JULIE ZHU

**F**OUR Macau residents were denied entry to Hong Kong on Sunday, possibly because some of them were wearing black shirts and were believed traveling to join the protests. They were questioned and had their pictures taken by Macau police officers, according to a report by Orange Post.

On Sunday, upon arriving at Sheung Wan ferry terminal, those who were in black clothes were stopped at the identification check terminal in Hong Kong, before being taken to an office for

further investigation and questioning.

Hong Kong's immigration authority asked them about the purpose of their visit and the reason they were dressed in black.

After the questioning, the four were denied entry because they "did not pass the tests."

The Hong Kong immigration authority did not explain what the "tests" consisted of, and, in turn, the HK police authority only repeated "we don't need to explain to you. You didn't pass our tests and you can't enter. Next time you visit Hong Kong, you will be

tested independently, and you must have proof [of the reason for your visit]" according to Carol, who was one of the four visitors.

The four people were held by the Hong Kong immigration authority for approximately two hours before they were deported to Macau.

Later, when they arrived in Macau, they were allegedly stopped by Macau police officers in plain clothes. These officers questioned them with similar queries to the Hong Kong police authority, searching their luggage, and taking pictures of the four locals.

According to Carol, they had no plans to participate in the demonstrations in Hong Kong.

"The government rejected entry based on a certain color [of the clothes]? Wearing white can enter? Even if we are going to Hong Kong to participate in the demonstration, what's wrong with that? Is that a violation of the law?" Carol asked.

The four locals, a teacher, a student, a self-employed person and a clerk in Macau, have never participated in any student activity or demonstration in the past, they said.

## MACAU WRITER INSISTS TOURISTS NEED NOT STAY AWAY

**A**LVIS Sio, a Macau writer working in Hong Kong's media industry, has written an article for Stand News telling "friends from Macau" that "Hong Kong is not dangerous."

"The [Macau government] reminds residents to cautiously make plans for a Hong Kong trip, [...], friends and family members text me 'it is very dangerous, be careful' after they saw the report," Sio wrote. "Is Hong Kong really that dangerous to Macau people?"

Sio's article mentioned the various stances of Macau residents in regard to Hong Kong's current situation.

Sio argues that simply watching a news report on television or reading one in newspapers does not provide a whole view of the exact situation sur-

rounding the demonstrations and Hong Kong.

"Even I, who has been at the scene, can not tell you that I know about the whole situation. Unless you can be cloned, and see and listen to everything at the same time, you should not tell people that you know a lot [about Hong Kong's situation], regardless of how much news you have read [about Hong Kong]," Sio wrote.

"More importantly, [Macau people] should not think that they can use their usual methods to make comments, and to randomly condemn supporters of Hong Kong [protesters] as Hong Kong independence dogs and as a mob," said Sio, adding that "I can assure you that Hong Kong is still that shopping heaven where you can come over to eat and have fun." **JZ**

AD



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Greater Bay project is coming and it will bring both opportunities and challenges to our little-big town. Macau Daily Times wants to hear your voice. We invite our readers to write in with Letters to the Editor on the topic of the Greater Bay Area.

Please email your letters to [gba@macaudailytimes.com](mailto:gba@macaudailytimes.com)

AP PHOTO



# China warns Hong Kong unrest goes 'far beyond' peaceful protest

CHINA warned that Hong Kong's unrest had gone "far beyond" peaceful protest, after a chaotic weekend of tear gas and clashes illustrated the government's struggle to quell a leaderless, unpredictable and widespread movement.

China's top agency overseeing Hong Kong condemned "evil and criminal acts committed by radical elements" in an unprecedented briefing yesterday. While officials reaffirmed support for the city's government and police force, the decision to address foreign media in Beijing signaled growing concern as eight weeks of unprecedented unrest start to shake business confidence in the former British colony.

"The central government is in quite a difficult situation over Hong Kong," Shi Yinhong, a professor of international relations and director of the Center for American Studies at Renmin University. "Today's statements by the Hong Kong affairs office generally is to assure that the central government is supporting the Hong Kong government to take more police action against the violent protesters."

The Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, which answers to China's cabinet, was compelled to respond after three days of protest that saw unauthorized demonstrations across four districts, including the airport and downtown shopping areas. Police on Sunday night fired clouds of tear gas over demonstrators in the normally buzzing area of Sai Ying Pun, which also hosts the main Chinese

government office in Hong Kong.

At least 49 people were arrested Sunday after bricks, glass bottles and paint bombs were hurled at police and traffic signs were removed. The events followed a day of clashes in the northwestern suburb of Yuen Long, where a stick-wielding mob had attacked activists a week earlier.

The developments raised new fears that the violence may continue to escalate, forcing Chinese President Xi Jinping to send in the military or take other actions that undermine the "high degree of autonomy" promised to Hong Kong before its 1997 return. Xi has so far maintained support for the city's embattled leader, Chief Executive Carrie Lam.

China's statements supporting the police and playing down any prospect of military action, appeared to relieve some earlier market anxiety. The MSCI Hong Kong Index closed 1.6% lower on Monday, after slipping as much as 2.2%.

"What has happened in Hong Kong recently has gone far beyond the scope of peaceful march and demonstration, undermined Hong Kong's prosperity and stability, and touched on the bottom line of the principle of 'one country, two systems,'" HKMAO spokesman Yang Guang said.

"No civilized society under the rule of law would ever allow acts of violence to take place."

Yang didn't rule out military action, pointing to a section of law

that gave Hong Kong authorities the power to request support. He outlined three bottom lines for the city: No harm to national security, no challenge to the central government's authority and no using

## Opposition lawmakers accused the government of shifting the blame to radical protesters, Western countries and the foreign media

Hong Kong as a base to undermine China.

Still, opposition lawmakers said the agency did little to resolve a crisis that they trace to the city's inability to elect its own leaders.

In a news conference Monday, lawmakers accused the government of shifting the blame to radical protesters, Western countries and the foreign media.

"Beijing tried to make some feeble attempt to help maintain what they assume are the security problems in Hong Kong," said Claudio Mo, a legislator and high-profile participant in several peaceful marches. "That won't help the governance and political crisis that Hong Kong is facing."

The shifting tactics employed by black-shirted protesters on Sunday seemed to catch the police off guard. First, they marched east through the city's central business district, then west, before spontaneously splitting in two. By evening, the police were firing tear gas and

rubber bullets in battles with brick-throwing protesters in narrow city streets.

Earlier Monday, an edition of the Communist Party's flagship newspaper urged stern action by Hong Kong's police to restore order. "At a time like this, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Government and the police should not hesitate or have any unnecessary 'psychological worries' about taking necessary steps," the piece published in the overseas edition of the People's Daily newspaper said.

Since it began, the protest movement has widened to include calls for Lam's resignation and an investigation into the force used by police as they've dispersed crowds. In recent weeks protesters have focused their anger on China itself, amid fears their freedoms are being increasingly restricted under Beijing's rule.

"Even Carrie Lam's resignation and universal suffrage aren't going to resolve the crisis in Hong Kong," said Oscar Cheung, an office worker in his twenties, as he gathered in a downtown area on Sunday. "The truth is China is having a tighter and tighter grip on Hong Kong and our rights." MDT/BLOOMBERG





## EXTREME WORK CULTS, 15-HOUR WEEKS AND NORDIC CEO VACATION HABITS

HANNA HOIKKALA, NICLAS ROLANDER & LEO LAIKOLA

**B**Y about 2030, people will probably only work 15 hours a week.

It seems clear now that the famous prediction, made by John Maynard Keynes in 1930, is unlikely to come true. But the cult of excessive work may also have had its day.

In Scandinavia, where people are currently enjoying up to four weeks of uninterrupted, legally protected, paid summer vacation, many of the region's biggest companies say they're keen to shield their employees from too much work. Firms contacted by Bloomberg warned of the danger to productivity if staff aren't allowed to switch off, and highlighted the importance of having management teams set the tone

by taking a long break.

Skanska AB, one of Sweden's biggest construction companies, says it tells staff to "disconnect from the job" during their summer break. There's a "strong link" between well-being and performance, spokesman Jacob Birkestrand said. And that's "largely about being able to relax when away from work."

At SEB AB, one of the biggest Nordic banks and top trading hubs for the Swedish krona, managers are expected to play a "key role" in supporting the vacation culture by "setting a good example" in taking the allocated days, spokeswoman Veronika Osmund says.

### DEFINING THE MINIMUM

Sweden, the biggest Scandinavian economy, requires companies to let employees take at

least five paid weeks off a year, though many industries are regulated by collective agreements, which often result in more free time. Similar arrangements exist across the rest of the region. The European average annual holiday allowance is four weeks.

In the U.S., the companies that offer paid vacation tend to follow a progressive format, whereby new hires earn days off the longer they work. A 2018 report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that U.S. private industry workers got an average of 15 paid vacation days a year, after half a decade of service.

Legislators in Scandinavia have decided that 15 days a year just isn't enough to keep the employed population healthy and productive. That attitude dominates across the corporate sphere, and all major companies

contacted by Bloomberg voiced the idea that overwork is harmful to a healthy corporate environment. That's backed by studies showing that employees who feel overworked are less productive.

At Sandvik AB, an engineering group, management doesn't want people to take less than four weeks of paid vacation a year. "We feel that it's important to facilitate a work-life balance for all employees, including senior management," spokesman Martin Blomgren said.

### SIX WEEKS

The top executives and others working at GN Store Nord A/S, a Danish hearing aid maker whose stock has tripled in the last three years, get six weeks off a year, and are encouraged to make sure they take the time, according to spokesman Steen Frenz Laursen.

SSAB AB, which makes steel plates, says that on top of having decent breaks, it's also important to make sure staff don't work too hard. Even taking a long vacation "can't compensate for an unreasonably high workload during the remainder of the year," spokeswoman Mia Widell said.

Most of the top executives Bloomberg tried to contact for comment were unavailable, due to the summer break. And in most cases, companies insisted their top people not be disturbed during their vacations. Veli-Matti Mattila, the chief executive officer of Finnish telecoms company Elisa Oyj, is just one of several CEOs who doesn't answer questions in the middle of his four-week break.

"We think that executives need to take a break as well," said Elisa spokeswoman Katiye Vuorela. "And have holidays in order to relax."

Or as Keynes put it in his 1930 essay titled, Economic Possibilities for Our Grandchildren: "We have been trained too long to strive and not to enjoy." **BLOOMBERG**

## Genting climbs after settling with Disney, Fox on theme park

CHAN TIEN HIN

**C**ASINO operator Genting Malaysia Bhd. will use some 21st Century Fox Inc. intellectual property for a theme park near Kuala Lumpur after resolving a dispute that had helped trigger a record drop in the gambling company's shares. The stock gained Friday, climbing to an eight-month high.

Under a settlement between Genting Malaysia, Fox and Walt Disney Co., the planned Fox World park will be re-named and will use both Fox and non-Fox intellectual property, the Kuala Lumpur-based company said in a statement late Thursday. The parties agreed to dismiss all claims and counterclaims in pending legal action in a U.S. District Court.

The deal follows months of uncertainty over the park after Genting sued Disney and Fox, seeking damages as the U.S. companies withdrew from an agreement to sponsor the Fox World park. News of the Fox pullout helped send Genting shares to their biggest annual plunge on record and prompted the Malaysian casino group to seek more than \$1 billion in damages.

"The full resolution of the Fox saga is a positive development for Genting Malaysia," Cheah King Yoong, an analyst at AllianceDBS Research, said in a note Friday. "The settlement of legal proceedings against Fox removes a major uncertainty for the group."

Genting Malaysia shares jumped 5.5% to 3.87 ringgit as of 12:15 p.m. in Kuala Lumpur, the highest level

since Nov. 2. The stock is up 15% this week, poised for its biggest weekly advance since 2010.

Fox entered into a licensing agreement in 2013 with Genting for the development of what would be the first Fox-branded theme park in the world. In an emailed response to Bloomberg after Genting filed the suit in November, Fox said Genting had failed to meet

agreed-upon deadlines.

Fox World was planned as a key attraction at Genting's casino resort an hour's drive from Kuala Lumpur. It was expected to broaden the destination's appeal to the nation's Muslim residents and achieve a target of 30 million annual visitors by 2020. Gambling is considered unethical and therefore forbidden under Islam. **BLOOMBERG**

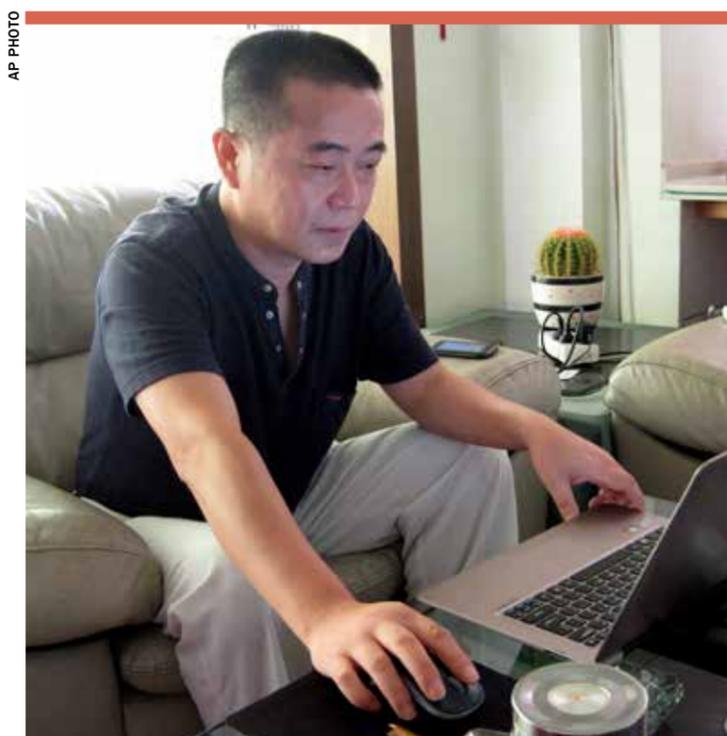
# 12-year sentence for China dissident on state secrets charge

**C**HINESE dissident Huang Qi has been sentenced to 12 years in prison on the charge of leaking secrets to a foreign entity, more than two years after his arrest, a court said yesterday.

Huang, who founded a website documenting alleged rights abuses by officials, has been jailed twice before, including in 2008 after advocating for parents whose children were killed in a massive earthquake in the southwest province of Sichuan.

Thousands of students died when their shoddily built schools collapsed, but the government has never made public the results of any investigation or held anyone accountable.

A brief announcement yesterday on the website of the Mianyang Municipal People's Intermediate Court in Huang's native Sichuan province gave no details on the nature of the



Veteran rights activist Huang Qi

secrets Huang, 56, allegedly leaked or who the recipients were.

In 1998, Huang founded the 64 Tianwang Human Rights Center and its accompanying

website to chronicle the stories of people alleging abuses by authorities. Reporters Without Borders, which calls Huang a "cyberdissident," has awarded him its Cyberfreedom Prize.

Since coming to power in 2012, Chinese President Xi Jinping has overseen tightening restrictions on civil society, jailing human rights activists as well as the lawyers who defend them.

Huang's mother, Pu Wenqing, has urged authorities to transfer him to a hospital to receive treatment for his limited kidney function and severe weight loss, among other ailments.

Numerous Chinese dissidents have fallen gravely ill during their imprisonment. Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo was serving an 11-year sentence for "inciting subversion of state power" when he died of liver cancer two years ago. AP

## GOV'T: US DEMAND OF WTO SHOWS 'ARROGANCE AND SELFISHNESS'

**C**HINA has accused Washington of "arrogance and selfishness" after President Donald Trump added to trade strains with Beijing by pressing for the World Trade Organization to stop allowing some countries to more lenient treatment as developing economies.

A foreign ministry spokeswoman said yesterday that China needs to retain that status to "achieve real trade fairness."

Trump said in a memo Friday he wants the WTO to prevent stronger economies from claiming developing country status.

Developing countries are allowed more time to open their economies under WTO rules. They have more leeway to subsidize exports and procedural advantages in WTO disputes.

The Chinese spokeswoman, Hua Chunying, said the Trump administration's demand "further exposed its wayward arrogance and selfishness." AP

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BLOOMBERG



## JACK MA'S \$290B LOAN MACHINE IS CHANGING CHINESE BANKING

**J**ACK Ma's online bank is leading a quiet revolution in the way China lends to small businesses, taking aim at a credit bottleneck that has held back Asia's largest economy for decades.

Using real-time payments data and a risk-management system that analyzes more than 3,000 variables, Ma's four-year-old MYbank has lent 2 trillion yuan (USD290 billion) to nearly 16 million small companies. Borrowers apply with a few taps on a smartphone and receive cash almost instantly if they're approved. The whole process takes three minutes and involves zero human bankers. The default rate so far: about 1%.

The financial-technology boom that turned China into the world's biggest market for electronic payments is now changing how banks interact with companies that drive most of the nation's economic growth. As MYbank and its peers crunch reams of new data from payment systems, social media and other sources, they're growing more comfortable with smaller borrowers that they previously shunned in favor of state-owned giants.

For China's \$13 trillion economy, which expanded at its weakest pace since at least 1992 last quarter, the implications could be profound. Non-state firms -- mostly small businesses --

account for about 60% of growth, employ 80% of workers, and have been disproportionately squeezed by a more than two-year government crackdown on shadow lenders.

"Small and medium enterprises are really the boiler room of the economy," said Keith Poggson, global assurance leader for banking and capital markets at Ernst & Young based in Hong Kong. "It used to be a segment that banks thought was too difficult and too risky. But now they run their model and work out what the risks are so they feel more comfortable."

China is quickly becoming a world leader in the use of big data and artificial-intelligence technology to make loans, according to Cliff Sheng, co-head of Greater China financial services at Oliver Wyman, a consulting firm. Among the country's biggest advantages: it takes a more relaxed approach toward privacy than many other jurisdictions.

"Our legal framework and regulatory environment -- which raise fewer privacy concerns -- make it easier to generate a huge amount of data and thus provide an unparalleled testing bed," Sheng said.

One uniquely Chinese source of information for banks is

the controversial social credit system, which is being tested in cities across the country as a way to reward good deeds and punish misbehavior. In one potential scenario cited by MYbank President Jin Xiaolong in a recent interview, a small-business owner whose social credit score dropped because he failed to return a borrowed umbrella would find it harder to get a loan.

But the biggest data trove may come from payments providers like the one operated by Ma's Ant Financial, the biggest shareholder of MYbank. After obtaining

### MYbank is looking to raise about 6 billion yuan, which will more than double its capital to 10 billion yuan and allow it to boost lending

authorization from borrowers, MYbank analyzes real-time transactions to gain insights into creditworthiness. For example, a drop in customer payments at a retailer's flagship store might be an early indicator that the company's prospects -- and its ability to repay debt -- are deteriorating.

The upshot of more information is a loan approval rate at

MYbank that's four times higher than at traditional lenders, which typically reject 80% of small-business loan requests and take at least 30 days to process applications, according to Jin, who plans to double MYbank's roster of borrowers in three years. He said the Hangzhou-based firm's operating cost per loan is about 3 yuan, versus 2,000 yuan at traditional rivals.

MYbank, which earned 670 million yuan last year, is far from the only lender using technology to boost small-business lending. Units of Tencent Holdings Ltd. and Ping An Insurance Group Co. both have similar offerings, while state-owned China Construction Bank Corp. is dramatically ramping up its presence in the space.

The nation's second-largest lender unveiled a mobile app in September that can process loan applications for as much as 5 million yuan in two minutes. Construction Bank boosted its small-business lending by 51% last year, more than twice as fast as the industry. The bank charges an average interest rate of 5.3% for one-year loans, slightly above the 4.35% benchmark lending rate, and says

defaults have held at a minuscule 0.3%.

"It's a profitable business as long as you can keep the risks in check," said Zhang Gengsheng, a vice president at Construction Bank in Beijing. "We had suffered huge losses in the past with a bad-loan ratio running at 8%. But now we're back in the game."

While keeping defaults in check may prove more difficult as China's economy slows, all signs point toward continued growth in small-business lending. In February, the banking regulator called on state-owned lenders to boost credit to small companies by at least 30% this year. MYbank is looking to raise about 6 billion yuan, which will more than double its capital to 10 billion yuan and allow it to boost lending, people familiar with the matter said yesterday.

About two-thirds of the country's 80 million small businesses lacked access to loans as of 2018, according to China's National Institution for Finance & Development.

For Zeng Ping'en, who runs a scooter store in Hangzhou with about 1.2 million yuan in annual sales, MYbank's lending app has been a game changer. After allowing the bank to access his store's transaction data, Zeng has been able to take out small loans to cover short-term cash needs. He pays an annualized interest rate of about 15%.

"It was unimaginable a few years ago, when no bank would approve my request," Zeng said. "Now I can borrow whenever I need to." **BLOOMBERG**



Japan's Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko

# Japan-Korea trade spat to intensify with new export limits

MARI YAMAGUCHI  
& ELAINE KURTENBACH, TOKYO

**A**NTAGONISMS between South Korea and Japan are already at the boiling point. They're bound to deepen with Tokyo's plan to expand controls over exports of sensitive materials by dropping its neighbor from a list of 27 countries granted preferential trade status.

The decision, expected soon, will ripple across the high-tech sector, further shaking up supply chains already rattled by trade tensions between the U.S. and China.

As of July 4, Japanese companies need case-by-case approvals to export to South Korea three materials used to make semiconductors and displays used in smartphones and other high-tech devices.

With the loss of South Korea's so-called "white country" status, that requirement will apply to dozens more products on a list of items that potentially could be converted to weapons, according to a Japanese trade ministry document. That's in addition to more than 200 other items requiring individual inspection for exports to all countries.

Japan's trade ministry says Seoul has undermined a "relationship of trust," including export controls, with lax controls on re-exports to other countries. South Korea denies that, as meanwhile tensions have risen with some

South Koreans calling for boycotts of Japanese products.

As a "public comment" period ended Wednesday, Japan's trade minister Hiroshige Seko said Japan plans to go ahead and strip South Korea of its preferred status for export licensing. He said Seoul had failed to provide a convincing explanation to address Japan's doubts that South Korean export controls are strict enough to prevent sensitive materials from potentially being misused.

Officials are studying opinions submitted to the government, but that's largely a formality.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga has not confirmed reports the Cabinet will approve the plan as early as Aug. 2. If it does, the new rules would take effect on Aug. 23, forcing exporters to get licenses to sell a huge array of products ranging from alloys of aluminum to freeze dryers and vacuum pumps.

Approvals of such exports could take up to 90 days, slowing but not halting shipments. But ending South Korea's "white country" status would also mean Japan could limit exports of any product on national security grounds.

Officials say Japan found some sensitive items were shipped to South Korea "with inadequate management by companies" — without giving specific examples or saying which Japan-based companies were at fault.

In at least five cases that were

exposed and penalized, Japanese exports to South Korea have ended up illegally in North Korea since South Korea was added to the white list in 2004, government documents show.

Adding another layer of ambiguity to the diplomatic dispute, Tokyo also has expressed dissatisfaction over demands for compensation for people forced to work for Japanese companies

## Japan plans to go ahead and strip South Korea of its preferred status for export licensing

before and during World War II, an issue Japan says it settled under the 1965 treaty normalizing relations.

Japan and South Korea are both important hosts for U.S. military bases in East Asia. But they've been bickering for years over a territorial dispute and over South Korean demands for more contribution and compensation from Japan for its use of forced labor and sexual abuse of Korean women in military brothels during the Japanese occupation of the Korean peninsula in the early 20th century.

Until recently, such issues had not affected trade between the two countries, both of which depend heavily on exports. Japan has run a perennial trade surplus

with South Korea, at \$20.3 billion in 2018, with parts, chemicals and other materials and equipment accounting for about \$15 billion of its exports last year.

The tighter approvals on the three items newly subject to licensing controls — fluorinated polyimides, photo resists and hydrogen fluoride — have had a limited impact, analysts say, because South Korean companies had at least 3-month stockpiles of the computer chips and displays that would be affected, thanks to slowing demand and worries over trade tensions between the U.S. and China.

But the tightening controls are adding to uncertainty for technology manufacturers: According to IHS Markit, in 2018 Korean firms SK Hynix and Samsung Electronics supplied 61% of memory components used in various electronics, relying heavily on Japanese suppliers.

"If restrictions remain, Korean chipmakers' production lines and therefore global semiconductor supply chains are likely to be disrupted. Korean chipmakers are major actors in global semiconductor supply chains," Fitch Ratings said in a recent report.

"The restrictions threaten not only Korean companies but also companies from many other markets that take part in the global technology ecosystem," it said.

Japanese companies are also already suffering from weaker de-

mand.

Looking at the three sensitive materials already targeted, Japan supplies about 90% of the fluorinated polyimides, 90% of photoresists and 40% of hydrogen fluoride used by South Korean companies, Fitch said, citing the Korean International Trade Association.

For Tokyo Ohka Kogyo Co., a major Japanese semiconductor parts maker, the July 4 export measures have only affected a special type of EUV, or extreme ultraviolet wavelength, photoresists, so the impact has been limited, says company spokesman Takashi Ono.

But Ono said the tighter control on exports of hydrogen fluoride, an etching gas used in most semiconductor production process, is a bigger problem.

"Our concern is if that starts causing delays or halting our clients' production lines," he said. "But what can we do? There is nothing we can do."

"It's very unfortunate that the issue is mixed up with emotions," Ono said. "We hope to keep our business stable, without being affected by the public sentiment between the two countries."

Japan looks unlikely to reverse its plan to drop South Korea from its list.

South Korea's trade ministry has acknowledged that from 2015 to March 2019 the government detected 156 cases of unauthorized exports of sensitive materials that could be used for military purposes. It said the cases show its monitoring system is working and is more transparent than Japan's.

A report by the Japanese network Fuji TV that cited government data said the illegal shipments included thermos-cameras, carbon fibers, zirconium and sodium cyanide, among other items, and went to countries like China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Iran, Syria, Turkey and Sri Lanka. It's unclear if any of those cases involved imports from Japan or if they were the main reason for Japan's decision to impose stricter export controls.

The dispute with Japan, slowing demand and the U.S. trade war with Beijing have hammered South Korea's export sector, with economic growth forecast to drop to 2% this year, the slowest pace in a decade.

South Korea exported \$127 billion of memory chips in 2018, mostly to China and the U.S. But such shipments fell by nearly a quarter from the year before in January-March.

"If the Japanese government decides to remove South Korea from its 'white list,' this could substantially increase the negative impact of trade frictions with Japan on the South Korean economy," Rajiv Biswas, chief economist for at IHS Markit, said in a commentary. AP

RUSSIA

# Opposition leader returned to jail from hospital

NATALIYA VASILYEVA, MOSCOW

**R**USSIAN opposition leader Alexei Navalny was discharged from a hospital yesterday even though his physician raised suspicions of a possible poisoning.

Details about Navalny's condition were scarce after he was rushed to a hospital Sunday with what authorities said was a suspected allergy attack inside a detention facility where he was serving a 30-day sentence for calling an unsanctioned protest. Navalny, 43, was arrested several days before a major opposition rally Saturday that ended with nearly 1,400 people detained.

Tensions are running high in Moscow as dozens of protesters remained in custody and the opposition called for a new rally for next weekend.

Dr. Anastasiya Vasilyeva, who has been Navalny's physician for several years, told reporters that the politician had been discharged from the hospital and sent back to the detention facility before the necessary tests were run on him.

Doctors at the hospital initially said that Navalny was taken in with a severe allergy attack, but

AP PHOTO



Vasilyeva said that the swelling and the rash on his face could be consistent with chemical poisoning. The physician said the incarceration would jeopardize Navalny's health.

"He has not fully recovered. He should have been left under medical supervision," she told reporters outside the hospital, ad-

ding that the doctors didn't even try to determine what caused the swelling and rash. "Who is going to watch over him at the detention facility? They are not qualified to provide him with professional help."

Vasilyeva expressed concern that the chemical agent that caused the outbreak could still be in

his prison cell.

Navalny's attorney, Olga Mikhailova, told reporters earlier the outbreak was caused by "poisoning, by some kind of chemical substance" but that its source wasn't established. She said he has been given anti-inflammatory steroids and that the swelling subsided.

The source of the allergic reaction or poisoning wasn't immediately clear. But Navalny ally Leonid Volkov complained Sunday about "anti-sanitary conditions" at the detention facility where he also had been detained before.

Navalny has been the Kremlin's most formidable foe since 2011, when he led a massive wave of protests of President Vladimir Putin and his party. He has since been convicted on two sets of criminal charges, largely regarded as politically motivated, and spent numerous stints in jail for disturbing public order and leading unsanctioned protests.

He has been attacked several times. In 2017, an assailant doused him with a green antiseptic, and Navalny sustained a chemical burn in one of his eyes, which left to a partial loss of vision. Navalny was able to travel abroad for treatment.

Baton-wielding police on Saturday wrestled with protesters in what might have been the largest unsanctioned protest in Russia in a decade. Opposition activists as well as ordinary Muscovites took to the streets to vent their anger over officials' decision to exclude a dozen independent candidates from the ballot for an upcoming election for the Moscow city legislature.

More than 1,400 people were taken into custody, including several would-be candidates. One of them, Ilya Yashin, was sentenced yesterday to 10 days in jail for calling Saturday's protest. Another, Dmitry Gudkov, is due to appear in court later in the day. **AP**

# Johnson presses EU to give way amid no-deal Brexit warnings

JILL LAWLESS & DANICA KIRKA, LONDON

**P**RIME Minister Boris Johnson pushed Britain closer to a no-deal exit from the European Union yesterday, insisting he will not hold Brexit talks with EU leaders unless the bloc lifts its refusal to reopen the existing divorce deal.

Johnson is trying to pressure the EU to give ground by intensifying preparations for the U.K. to leave the bloc in three months without a deal.

But the pound fell to a two-year low as business groups warned that neither Britain nor the bloc is ready for a no-deal Brexit, and that no amount of preparation can eliminate the economic damage if Britain crashes out of the 28-nation trading bloc without agreement on the terms.

Johnson became prime minister last week after

AP PHOTO



winning a Conservative Party leadership contest by promising the strongly pro-Brexit party membership that the U.K. will leave the EU on the scheduled date of Oct. 31, with or without a divorce deal.

The EU struck a withdrawal agreement with Johnson's predecessor, Theresa May, but it was rejected three times by Britain's Parliament. Johnson is insisting the bloc make major changes to May's spurned deal, including scrapping

an insurance policy for the Irish border that has been rejected by U.K. lawmakers.

"We'll keep straining every sinew if there is a deal to be done, but the EU will need to move and, if they don't, it is incredibly important that we are ready for eventualities," Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said yesterday.

The EU says it won't reopen negotiations on the deal or remove the border "backstop."

Johnson has spoken to

several EU leaders by phone since he took office but has no meetings scheduled. His spokeswoman, Alison Donnelly, said he would not agree to negotiations unless the bloc lifts its refusal to change the withdrawal agreement.

"He remains confident that the EU will stop claiming that the withdrawal agreement can't be changed," she said.

If they don't, she added, "we must assume there will be no deal on the 31st of October."

Before he took office, Johnson said the odds of Britain leaving the EU without a deal were a million to one.

The pound fell to USD1.2287 yesterday, its lowest value since March 2017.

Economists warn that leaving the bloc without an agreement on terms would disrupt trade by imposing

tariffs and customs checks between Britain and the bloc. The British government's financial watchdog says that could send the value of the pound plummeting and push the U.K. into recession.

The Confederation of British Industry, the country's biggest business lobby group, urged both Britain and the EU to accelerate Brexit preparations. It made 200 recommendations, including new laws, new IT systems and agreements to temporarily maintain some common regulations.

But it said "the unprecedented nature of Brexit means some aspects cannot be mitigated."

"It's like putting sandbags down for a flood. Your kitchen's still going to be underwater but maybe we can save the bedrooms upstairs," said the group's head of EU negotiations, Nicole Sykes.

Another warning came from French automaker PSA, which said it could move production of its Vauxhall Astra model out of Britain if Brexit makes it unprofitable. Chief executive Carlos Tavares told the Financial Times that would mean closing Vauxhall's Ellesmere Port plant in Wales, which employs 1,000 people.

Johnson, contradicting the opinion of most experts, has said leaving without a divorce deal will be "vanishingly inexpensive" if Britain is properly prepared.

He says he will "turbo-charge" plans for a no-deal Brexit — including beefed-up border measures and a multimillion-pound (-dollar) information campaign for individuals and businesses — and has set up a high-level Cabinet "exit strategy committee" to oversee preparations. **AP**

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## what's ON



### MACAU. 100 YEARS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: September 21, 2019

VENUE: Casa Garden

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2855 4691

### JAPANESE CULTURE AND PERFORMING ARTS POSTER EXHIBIT - GRAPHIC TRIAL POSTER EXHIBIT MACAU EDITION

TIME: 10am-9pm (Sundays to Thursdays)

UNTIL: September 22, 2019

VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

### GRACE KELLY: FROM HOLLYWOOD TO MONACO

TIME: 10am-10pm (Sundays to Thursdays)

10am -2am (Fridays to Saturdays)

UNTIL: August 28, 2019

VENUE: Galaxy Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8883 3998

### ONENESS: CALLIGRAPHY BY PROFESSOR JAO TSUNG-I

TIME: 10am-6pm (No admission after 5:30pm,  
 closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: September 30, 2019

VENUE: Jao Tsung-I Academy

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRY: (853) 8598 6718

### SANDS PRESENTS: ALL THAT'S GOLD DOES GLITTER - AN EXHIBITION OF GLAMOROUS CERAMICS

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 9, 2019

VENUE: The Venetian Macao, The Parisian Macao,  
 Sands Macao & Four Seasons Hotel Macao

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888

## Offbeat

### GRASSHOPPERS ON THE GO MAKE MIGRATORY STOP IN LAS VEGAS AREA



A migration of mild-mannered grasshoppers sweeping through the Las Vegas area is being attributed to wet weather several months ago.

Nevada state entomologist Jeff Knight told reporters last week the number of adult pallid-winged grasshoppers traveling north to central Nevada is unusual but not unprecedented and they pose no danger.

Knight says the insects don't carry disease, don't bite, and probably won't damage anybody's yard before they're gone in several weeks.

He says they're usually attracted to ultraviolet light sources.

Knight recalls several similar migrations in his more than 30 years at the state Department of Agriculture, including one about six or seven years ago.

This year, the Las Vegas area recorded more rain in six months than the annual average of just under 4.2 inches per year.

## TV canal macau



13:00 TDM News (Repetição)

13:30 Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)

15:00 Agua de Mar

15:45 Zig Zag

16:20 Sim Chef! Sr1

16:50 Quem Quer Ser Milionário

17:45 Amor Maior (Repetição)

18:30 TDM Desporto (Repetição)

19:35 Os Nossos Dias Sr.2

20:30 Telejornal

21:15 Linha da Frente

21:50 Filhos da Nação Sr.3

22:25 Amor Maior

23:15 TDM News

23:50 Motel Bates Sr.2

00:35 Telejornal (Repetição)

01:20 RTPi Directo

## cinema



### CINETEATRO

25 -31 Jul



#### THE LION KING

ROOM 1

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

Language: Cantonese

ROOM 1

9:30pm

Director: J Jon Favreau

Starring: Donald Glover, Beyoncé, Seth Rogen

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 118min

#### TOY STORY 4

ROOM 2

2:15, 4:05, 9:45pm

Director: Josh Cooley

Starring: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 109min

#### THE WHITE STORM 2 DRUG LORDS

ROOM 2

5:55, 9:30pm

Director: Herman Yau

Starring: Andy Lau, Louis Koo, Michael Miu

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 86min

#### CRAYON SHINCHAN 2019

ROOM 3

2:30pm

Director: Masakazu Hashimoto

Starring: Yumiko Kobayashi, Toshiyuki Morikawa, Miki Narahashi

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 100min

#### THE CONFIDENCE MAN JP - THE MOVIE

ROOM 3

4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Ryô Tanaka

Starring: Yôsuke Eguchi, Masahiro Higashide, Michael Keida

Language: Japanese (English & Chinese)

#### CHILDREN OF THE SEA

ROOM 3

7:30pm

Director: Ayumu Watanabe

Starring: Mana Ashida, Hiroyuki Ishibashi, Seishû Uragami

Language: Japanese (English & Chinese)

Duration: 110min

## this day in history



### 1966 FOOTBALL GLORY FOR ENGLAND

England have won football's World Cup for the first time since the tournament began in 1930.

A crowd of 93,000 spectators - including the Queen and Prince Phillip - filled London's Wembley Stadium to watch the host nation play West Germany in the final game of the 1966 championships.

Another 400 million people around the world watched the keenly fought match on television.

In the final moments of extra time Geoff Hurst powered home his third goal to give England a 4-2 victory and to become the first man ever to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final.

After Germany had taken an early lead, Hurst levelled the score for England by half time with a header from a free kick taken by captain Bobby Moore.

England came out with courage and determination after the break and glimpsed glory thirteen minutes from time as Martin Peters took their second goal.

But a free kick to Germany 15 seconds from full time gave Wolfgang Weber a close-range shot into Gordon Banks' goal and took the score to 2-2.

In the crucial minutes before the decisive half hour of extra time England manager Alf Ramsey was heard to rally his team, saying: "All right. You let it slip. Now start again."

A dubious goal by Hurst - glanced off the line by Weber and only given after consultation between the Swiss referee and Soviet linesman - put England ahead in the last 15 minutes, before the striker's third goal put the game out of Germany's reach.

Bobby Moore went up to the royal box to collect the solid gold Jules Rimet trophy from Queen Elizabeth.

In the largest World Cup ever - numbering 70 countries - England were among the favourites and got as far as the semi-final, against newcomers Portugal, before conceding a goal.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Geoff Hurst's second goal and the decision of referee Gottfried Dienst have continued to be controversial. But photographic technology has so far been unable to offer decisive evidence about whether or not the ball crossed the goal-line and Hurst remains the only player to score a hat-trick in the World Cup finals.

England have failed to reach the World Cup final since 1966 and did not even qualify for the last rounds of the tournament in the US in 1994.

Germany went on to compete in five more finals. The nation have won the championships three times, against Hungary in 1954, Holland in 1974 and Argentina in 1990.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**YOUR STARS**



**ARIES**

**Mar. 21-Apr. 19**

Things might not feel like they're moving along as quickly as you would like, which could cause a certain degree of fraying when it comes to your nerves right now. But don't worry...



**TAURUS**

**Apr. 20-May. 20**

Once you do get out into the world, you will get going and get energized. Just be careful not to rush through the day too quickly. In the late afternoon, there will be some sweet moments.



**GEMINI**

**May. 21-Jun. 21**

Do you think someone is not being totally open with you right now? Your instincts are right on. But their tight-lipped status is not due to an inability to trust you.



**CANCER**

**Jun. 22-Jul. 22**

Previously made plans with other people might need to get rescheduled or canceled altogether. What you need to do is very important, and it's something you should do by yourself.



**LEO**

**Jul. 23-Aug. 22**

If you feel your blood pressure mounting today, you should do more than take a deep breath. Take a different attitude towards the situation! There is a funny side to any stressful situation...



**VIRGO**

**Aug. 23-Sep. 22**

For especially incisive insight on your latest problems, turn to one of your friends today. You need to consult someone who either is in the same situation as you are, or has been before.



**LIBRA**

**Sep. 23-Oct. 22**

One of your friendships is starting to feel one-sided - and you are not on the right side. Do you feel like you are giving more than you get? Compromising more than they do?



**SCORPIO**

**Oct. 23-Nov. 21**

If your routine is starting to get boring, resist the urge to create a problem just for the sake of having something to talk about! You need to avoid conflict now more than ever.



**SAGITTARIUS**

**Nov. 22-Dec. 21**

If you are working on starting or strengthening or shoring up a romance today, you had better take it all the way! Have fun with it. Be over the top. Flirt to a ridiculous degree.



**CAPRICORN**

**Dec. 22-Jan. 19**

Plus, all this worry will drain away the positive energy you require to succeed. Toss worry out the window for today, and just do what you want to do - try what you want to try.



**AQUARIUS**

**Jan. 20-Feb. 18**

Don't be surprised if you meet up with a kindred soul who is motivated by altruism, too. They can stimulate your mind and engage your heart on a higher, newer level.



**PISCES**

**Feb. 19-Mar. 20**

People are going to respond a lot better to concrete examples than to ambiguous concepts today, so if you are trying to make a point or sell an idea, you'll have to do it with facts and figures, set down in black and white.

**The Born Loser by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

**EASY**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 |   |   | 6 | 8 | 5 |   |   |   |
|   | 9 |   | 5 | 8 | 7 |   |   |   |
|   |   | 1 |   |   | 6 | 9 |   |   |
|   | 4 |   |   |   |   |   | 6 |   |
| 6 | 5 |   | 2 | 7 |   |   |   |   |
| 2 |   |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |
| 1 | 3 |   |   | 6 |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 7 | 6 | 3 |   | 5 |   |   |
| 5 | 2 |   | 9 |   |   |   |   | 1 |

**EASY+**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 3 | 2 | 8 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 5 | 2 |   |   | 1 |
| 7 |   | 1 | 9 |   |   | 5 |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 3 |   | 6 | 5 |   |
| 8 |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   | 7 |
| 4 | 9 |   | 5 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 6 |   | 3 | 8 |   |   |   | 2 |
| 3 |   | 9 | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   | 8 |   | 9 |   |   | 7 |

**MEDIUM**

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| 9 | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 5 | 4 |   | 9 | 3 | 1 |   |   |
| 1 |   | 8 |   |   |   | 9 | 4 |   |
| 2 | 9 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 3 |   | 7 |   |   | 8 |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 1 | 6 |   |   |
| 8 | 9 |   |   | 4 |   |   |   | 1 |
|   | 7 | 6 | 1 | 5 |   | 4 |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 9 |   |   | 7 |

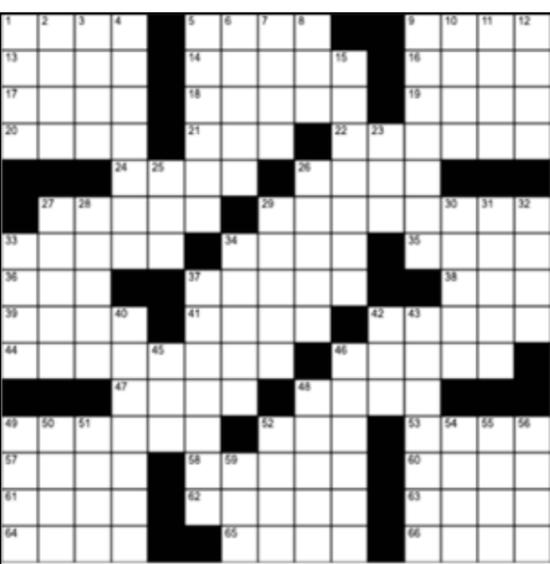
**HARD**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
|   |   | 1 | 6 |   |   |   |   |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | 2 | 5 |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 4 |  |
|   |   |   | 3 | 6 |   |   |   |  |
| 4 |   | 5 |   |   |   |   |   |  |
| 8 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|   |   |   | 6 | 1 | 3 |   |   |  |
| 5 | 4 | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
| 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- I smell \_\_\_\_; 5- Arabian Sea gulf; 9- Metropolis; 13- Ballet skirt; 14- Single piece of information; 16- \_\_\_\_ sow, so shall...; 17- Memo phrase; 18- As before; 19- California wine region; 20- Greek letters; 21- Flamenco cry; 22- Less messy; 24- Declare untrue; 26- Numbered rds.; 27- Repasts; 29- In the \_\_\_\_; interim; 33- Actress Streep; 34- Faculty head; 35- Biol. branch; 36- End for Siam; 37- Miss America topper; 38- Ages; 39- Fabled fliers; 41- Sushi fish; 42- Earth; 44- Completeness; 46- Desert plants; 47- Drunkards; 48- Louisville's river; 49- Missouri feeder; 52- \_\_\_\_ few rounds; 53- Priest of the East; 57- Seine feeder; 58- Chambers; 60- Predictive sign; 61- Letter opener; 62- Slumbered; 63- Golden; 64- IRS IDs; 65- 1968 U.S. Open champ; 66- Abominable snowman;

**DOWN:** 1- End in \_\_\_\_ (draw); 2- Litter's littlest; 3- Gillette product; 4- Third day of the week; 5- Accessories; 6- On Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun; 7- Kitchen addition?; 8- Crackpot; 9- Variety of rummy; 10- The wolf \_\_\_\_ the door; 11- Sort; 12- Calendar span; 15- State in the NW United States; 23- Velvet add-on; 25- Building addition; 26- Brings up; 27- Subatomic particle; 28- Build; 29- Dry and crumbly; 30- Like krypton; 31- New Zealand aboriginal; 32- Sicilian mount; 33- Insignificant; 34- Eats to a plan; 37- Seesaws; 40- Teachers in habits; 42- Mai \_\_\_\_; 43- Branch of biology; 45- Hogwash; 46- Virginal; 48- Zip; 49- Seed containers; 50- Falsehoods; 51- Slippery \_\_\_\_ eel; 52- Departs; 54- Friendly femme; 55- Softer; 56- Con; 59- Pay stub?;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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



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**FOR SALE**

[Coloane] *Hellene Gardens* 3 2 2  
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[Taipa] *One Central (high floor)* 2 2 2  
 1,269 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$13,900,000** (ref: 19070002)

[Coloane] *Beautiful 3 bedroom* 3 2 2  
 1,665 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$8,500,000** (ref: 19070001)

[Taipa] *Nova City* 3 2 2  
 1,494 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$13,980,000** (ref: 17050001RT)

**FOR RENT**

[Taipa] *The Manhattan* 3 2 2  
 1,720 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$23,800/mth** (ref: 18110695RT)

[Taipa] *Ocean Gardens* 4 4 4  
 3,700 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$35,000/mth** (ref: 18040674)

[Coloane] *Cheoc Van House* 3 2 2  
**\$28,000/mth**

[Taipa] *One Grantai car park*  
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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



## MEGHAN GUEST EDITS UK VOGUE, FOCUSING ON TRAILBLAZING WOMEN

**M**EGHAN, the Duchess of Sussex, has guest edited the September issue of British Vogue with the theme "Forces for Change." Royal officials say the issue coming out Aug. 2 features "change-makers united by their fearlessness in breaking barriers" and includes a conversation between Meghan and former U.S. first lady Michelle Obama.

The magazine cover features 15 women including New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda

Ardern, actresses Jane Fonda, Jameela Jamil and Gemma Chan, model Adwoa Aboah and climate change campaigner Greta Thunberg.

Meghan, who is on maternity leave from her royal duties, said she hopes readers will be inspired by the magazine's focus on the "values, causes, and people making impact in the world today."

Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, was featured on the magazine's cover in 2016.

## NO FLOPPY-HAIRED LEADING MAN FOR TV'S 'FOUR WEDDINGS' TAKE



**H**ULU'S "Four Weddings and a Funeral" pays homage to the 1994 film, but don't expect a Hugh Grant copycat in the limited series.

Creator Mindy Kaling says she deliberately avoided duplicating the movie's floppy-haired British guy as the romantic lead.

That character and look were "iconic" for Grant's career and for British comedy, Kaling said, but there are

other ways to be sexy and stake out new ground.

"It makes room for a lot of other fascinating characters," Kaling told a TV critics' meeting last week.

In the 10-episode Hulu series, it's Pakistani-British character Kash who's front and center in the story of four friends and their love interests in London. He's played by Nikesh Patel, a British actor of Indian descent.

## 'LION KING' REIGNS ABOVE BOX OFFICE FOR SECOND WEEK

**T**HE "Lion King" rode its circle of life into a second weekend atop the box office and "Once Upon A Time ... In Hollywood," while not quite doing fairytale numbers, gave director Quentin Tarantino his biggest opening ever.

Disney's photorealistic remake of the Hamlet-themed tale of Mufasa, Simba and Nala, featuring the voices of Donald Glover and Beyoncé, brought in \$75 million in North America, according to studio estimates Sunday. Its domestic total of \$350 million makes it the year's fourth highest-grossing film after just 10 days of release.

"Once Upon A Time ...

In Hollywood" finished a distant second with \$40 million in its opening weekend for Sony, but it bested the 2009 opening of Tarantino's "Inglourious Basterds" by \$2 some million and made a strong showing for an R-rated, nearly-three-hour film that was not a sequel or remake and was aimed solely at adults.

The film with Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt and Margot Robbie as denizens of a 1969 Los Angeles where old Hollywood was fading and the Manson family was rising was more star-powered than Tarantino's previous eight movies.



AD

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## HIGHLIGHTS

### COBURN'S DOMINANCE

Reigning world champion Emma Coburn captured her sixth straight national title in the steeplechase (eighth overall). She finished in 9 minutes, 25.63 seconds to narrowly edge Courtney Frerichs. Colleen Quigley was third. With Coburn getting an automatic bye, fourth-place finisher Allie Ostrander also is going to Doha.

### GONE FISHING

Donavan Brazier is celebrating his berth to worlds by taking a fishing trip to Michigan. "I would've gone either way," he cracked. The 22-year-old Brazier won the 800 in 1:45.62 to beat Clayton Murphy, his training partner at the Nike Oregon Project. University of Kansas runner was Bryce Hoppel was third.

### HOULIHAN'S DOUBLE

Cheered on by a friendly Shelby Houlihan, a Sioux City, Iowa, native, won the 5,000. She also captured the 1,500 crown. "Iowa strong, baby!" Houlihan said.

### NICE 'STACHE

Craig Engels stands out with his mullet even if it may not be the most aerodynamic haircut. He's also rocking a mustache. "I just wanted to be different," said Engels, who won the men's 1,500 over Matthew Centrowitz. "This is what I landed on."

### LOMONG WINS AGAIN

Lopez Lomong won the 5,000 after taking the 10,000 earlier at nationals. He doesn't have the world qualifying standard in the 5,000. "I'm just going to concentrate a little more on the 10,000 meters and see what I could do on the world stage," Lomong said. Lomong fled Sudan to avoid a militia group when he was a kid. He lived in a refugee camp run for 10 years and became an American citizen in 2007.

### MORE WINNERS

Nick Christie (men's race walk), Katie Burnett (women's race walk), Valarie Allman (discus), Erica Bougard (heptathlon), Ajee Wilson (800), Daniel Roberts (110 hurdles), Chase Ealey (shot put), Ja'Mari Ward (long jump), Jeron Robinson (high jump) and Sandi Morris (pole vault) earned titles.

### SHE SAID IT

"It really just gave me more confidence. I can race with every woman, not just in the U.S. but probably in the world," said Athing Mu, who turned 17 and will be a high school senior in New Jersey this fall. She finished fifth in the women's 800 in a personal-best 2:01.17.

AP PHOTO



Dalilah Muhammad smiles as she wins the women's 400-meter hurdles at the U.S. Championships athletics meet

## ATHLETICS

# Muhammad breaks world record in 400 hurdles at nationals

PAT GRAHAM,  
DES MOINES (IOWA)

**T**HE running joke between Dalilah Muhammad and some of her competitors goes like this: She orders the wet conditions.

Because she reigns in the rain.

On a drizzly night, Muhammad broke a 16-year-old world record in the 400-meter hurdles by finishing in 52.20 seconds at the U.S. championships.

"I'm just shocked," Muhammad said. "I broke the world record."

With puddles formed on the track, the defending Olympic champion slogged her way around the track to eclipse the mark of 52.34 set by Yuliya Pechonkina of Russia on Aug. 8, 2003.

Running out of the fourth lane, Muhammad didn't let the rain drops deter her. She looked at her time and was almost taken aback.

No way that can be real, right? It was.

Muhammad smiled, briefly put her hands on her hips and then slumped when her time flashed on the screen at Drake Stadium. Third-place finisher Ashley Spencer emphatically celebrated behind her and teenager Sydney McLaughlin came over to hug Muhammad after finishing second.

It was also lightly raining when Muhammad won the Olympic gold at the 2016 Rio Games. Her competitors might want to start looking at the weather reports for the Tokyo Games, which are a year away.

"Ashley said, 'You're the one that brings the rain,'" the 29-year-old Muhammad cracked. "I don't know what it is."

In workouts, Muhammad has often been on world-record pace. She put it all together for real.

To think, Muhammad fell in a training session two weeks ago and suffered a mild concussion. She missed three days of workouts to heal.

She lost none of her speed. Then again, the level of the competition brought out the best in her.

Muhammad believes it mark may not last too long. It may even fall again at the world championships this fall in Doha, Qatar. Defending world champion Kori Carter didn't even compete at nationals in the event since she has an automatic bye into worlds.

"That 52 is going to get broke," Muhammad said. "If not by me by the other women."

McLaughlin finished in 52.88. "It was a really fast race and I could feel the pace being pushed," said McLaughlin, who turns 20 next month. "I'm happy to be a part of a world-record race."

Muhammad's performance stole the show on a big final night.

Soon after, Dezerea Bryant won the 200 in 22.47 seconds.

"I woke up this morning and I'm like, 'I'm not going to be denied,'" Bryant said. "That was my attitude."

Noah Lyles closed out the competition in style by doing a nifty little dance after taking the men's 200 title in 19.78. He held off Christian Coleman and, after crossing the line, shook his rival's hand before breaking off some dance moves.

The 22-year-old Lyles can certainly celebrate.

"Joy? Tons of joy. This is the hardest team to make," said Lyles, who sprayed his hair silver. "The saying is, once you make the U.S. team, you better come away with a medal."

Things to know on the final day of nationals: AP

OPINION

Our Desk

Lynzy Valles



WHAT AMPUTATION CLAIMS?

The story of the migrant worker whose left leg was amputated is an example of how a number of non-resident workers – particularly non-skilled ones – remain helpless when such an accident or situation occurs.

I asked him last week about why he opted to go to TDM and share his current case, to which he answered, “It was the only option I have left.”

This worker – whose leg was amputated due to an accident at work – is almost left with no option, noting that his visa is set to expire in two weeks.

I also asked him why it took him several months to raise his case regarding acquiring a compensation. He then explained that he was promised that he would not have to worry about anything regarding his financial needs as the company pledged to provide the support he requires.

After staying in the hospital for several months, he found out that he would receive no compensation.

“Where do I go to ask for assistance after being amputated, after being informed that I won’t receive my salary and am going back home to the Philippines without receiving what is right for me?” he asked.

It was not until the accident occurred that he revealed the company rarely gave off days and that the employees were on a “no work, no pay” policy when one decides not to work.

The salary being paid to them was a lot less than what was listed on the contract and there were instances where they would be forced to sign a payslip but would return a certain portion of their money they were given to the company.

All these contract violations have sadly become common in Macau.

I think no matter how hard the city’s labor authorities try to minimize such violations, employers will always see loopholes on how they can better make use of their employees – at a much lower cost.

Although the Labour Affairs Bureau had restated that non-resident workers who have had accidents while at work are fully protected by local laws, the fact that the worker is facing a dilemma while being on his last two weeks of his visa is another challenge.

I also believed that the Philippine Consulate could only do so little, whether or not they are really keen on assisting, as the compensation that is being sought is not under their control.

Although the Philippines has a program that assists such migrant workers, the amputee’s case is still undecided as to whether or not he will receive disability assistance from the program.

According to a TDM report on Sunday, the Philippine consulate has rejected the broadcaster’s request for an interview, and the migrant worker mentioned that the consulate would only “try to help,” adding that the process has been slow.

It is a shame to see a migrant worker going back and forth to different offices just to seek compensation that is rightfully his.

As previously reported, he lamented, “My wife and I do not know what else to do because we’re like a ball being passed from one office to another. I’m only seeking compensation since the accident occurred at work.”

The worker is set to meet again with his employer as if such compensation claim is still needed to be begged for.

All those hours playing video games have paid off for a 16-year-old. Kyle Giersdorf, of Pottsgrove, Pennsylvania, racked up the most points and won \$3 million as the first Fortnite World Cup solo champion. The competition took place yesterday [Macau time] at Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York.

Giersdorf says “words can’t explain it.” He goes by the name “Bugha” when competing.

Some 40 million players competed for a chance to play in the fi-

nals, which was narrowed down to 100 contestants from 30 countries.

The tournament offered \$30 million in cash prizes.

In second place, 24-year-old Harrison Chang, of the United States, won \$1.8 million.

The duo competition was won by 17-year-old David Wang, of Austria, and 16-year-old Emil Pedersen, of Norway. They’ll split the \$3 million prize.



Trump holds up the signed H.R. 1327 bill

TRUMP SIGNS SEPT. 11 VICTIMS’ COMPENSATION FUND EXTENSION

JILL COLVIN & JONATHAN LEMIRE, WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Donald Trump yesterday signed a bill ensuring that a victims’ compensation fund related to the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks never runs out of money, ending years of legislative gridlock as the number of first responders dying of Ground Zero-related illnesses mounted.

Appearing in the Rose Garden with more than 60 first responders from the 2001 terrorist attacks, Trump signed into law an extension of the fund through 2092, essentially making it permanent.

“You inspire all of humanity,” Trump said of the “true American warriors” who rushed to assist victims that day and searched for remains for months after.

The president said that the nation has a “sacred obligation” to care for the responders and their families.

The \$7.4 billion fund had been rapidly depleting, and administrators recently cut benefit payments by up to 70%. The bill passed Congress on a bipartisan basis but only after delays by some Republicans exposed the legislative branch to brutal criticism from activists, including the comedian Jon Stewart.

Dozens of first respon-

ders, many gravely ill, would repeatedly travel to Washington to lobby lawmakers to extend the funding every time it needed to be reauthorized. Though their ranks shrunk, as emergency workers died of cancers and other diseases linked to the toxic fumes from the World Trade Center rubble, the fate of the funding had never been permanently guaranteed.

The \$7.4b fund had been rapidly depleting, and administrators recently cut benefit payments by up to 70%

Luis Alvarez, a NYPD detective, appeared gaunt and ill when he testified before Congress last month, urging lawmakers to pass the measure to help his fellow first responders even if it were too late for him.

“You made me come down here the day before my 69th round of chemo and I’m going to make sure that you never forget to take care of the 9/11 first responders,” Alvarez said.

He died two weeks later.

More than 40,000 people have applied to the fund, which covers illnesses potentially related to being at the World Trade Center site, the Pentagon or Shanksvil-

le, Pennsylvania, after the attacks. Stewart, who made the cause a personal passion project, tore into the lawmakers’ inaction when he testified alongside Alvarez, creating a moment that was frequently replayed on cable news.

“Hundreds died in an instant. Thousands more poured in to continue to fight for their brothers and sisters,” Stewart said before the committee. “They did their jobs with courage, grace, tenacity, humility. Eighteen years later, do yours.”

A pair of Republican senators, Rand Paul of Kentucky and Mike Lee of Arkansas, voted against the measure this month, preventing its adoption from being unanimous. Both cited

the need to eliminate unnecessary spending and offset the measure with budget cuts.

Trump did not dwell on that division when he signed the bill, prompted a round of applause from first responders in the Rose Garden as well as his personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, who was mayor of New York City during the attacks and was widely praised for his leadership in the aftermath of the World Trade Center collapse.

Trump, whose real estate holdings that day included some 20 buildings in Manhattan, played up his own personal connection to the World Trade Center site. AP



Serbia President Aleksandar Vucic yesterday praised Russian President Vladimir Putin for boosting the Balkan nation’s military with battle tanks and armored vehicles, amid Western fears that the arms buildup could threaten fragile peace in the region.



Italy A paramilitary police officer, allegedly slain by two American teens in Rome, has been hailed as a hero at his funeral in his hometown near Naples.

Germany Authorities say they have extradited a Bosnian man to Belgium, where he was sought in connection with the November 2015 terror attacks in Paris. German prosecutors have said the man is suspected of being connected to the Nov. 13, 2015 extremist attack that killed 130 people.

France Police hunted multiple suspects yesterday after a woman on vacation and two local residents were killed in a shooting near a service station in a southern town.



USA A gunman cut through a fence to avoid security and opened fire at Northern California’s popular Gilroy Garlic Festival, killing three and wounding at least 15 before police fatally shot him as terrified people and performers ran for cover. One witness said he heard the shooter say he was “really angry.”