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BILLIONAIRE DEVELOPER NG LAP SENG, CONVICTED OF BRIBING UNITED NATIONS OFFICIALS, SAW HIS APPEAL TURNED DOWN BY A MANHATTAN COURT P2

MACAU, SHANGHAI ROADS: THE STORY OF TWO LATE-QING REFORMERS P6

HONG KONG'S CARRIE LAM SAYS HER PRIORITY IS STOPPING THE VIOLENCE, RATHER THAN MAKING POLITICAL CONCESSIONS P9

Thailand Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha said he is not quitting despite facing mounting criticism for failing to properly take his oath of office. Prayuth omitted a phrase in the oath of office in which he was supposed to pledge to uphold every aspect of the constitution. The omission has raised questions over whether the inauguration was legally valid.

Australia Government leaders agreed to set a timetable for banning exports of waste plastic, which is now shipped to regional neighbors including Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

North Korea said yesterday that leader Kim Jong Un supervised test-firings of an unspecified new weapons system, which extended a streak of launches that are seen as an attempt to build leverage ahead of negotiations with the United States while driving a wedge between the U.S. and South Korea. More on p13



Japan The utility company operating Fukushima's tsunami-devastated nuclear power plant said it will run out of space to store massive amounts of contaminated water in three years, adding pressure on the government and the public to reach a consensus on what to do with it.



India Authorities in Indian-administered Kashmir said they eased restrictions in the region's main city for a third straight day yesterday ahead of a major Islamic festival, following India's move to strip the region of its constitutional autonomy and impose an indefinite curfew.

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HO IAT SENG PROMISES BIG CHANGE

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HKZMB CAN'T KEEP THE TOURISTS IN MACAU

Lawmaker Angela Leong has decried the delta-spanning bridge for failing Macau's tourism development. Visitors can reach Macau quicker, she admitted, but they also leave sooner

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TRADE WAR HINDERING XI'S SUPERPOWER 2050 PLAN

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CHINA CRACKDOWN ON PHILIPPINE CASINOS TO HIT PROPERTY SHARES

CLAIRE JIAO
& ANDREO CALONZO

CHINA urged the Philippines to stop its casinos from hiring Chinese citizens as part of a wider crackdown on cross-border gambling and illegal funds flow, a move seen to hurt the Southeast Asian nation's property companies.

The Chinese embassy in the Philippines said in a statement that overseas gambling by Chinese is illegal, as is opening casinos overseas to attract Chinese citizens. A large number of Chinese citizens have been "illegally recruited and hired" in the Philippines, while "hundreds of millions of Chinese yuan" have illegally flowed to the Philippines, the statement said.

More than 50 Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators or POGOs have received licenses since 2016, and the industry that caters mainly to overseas Chinese punters employs about 138,000 mostly Chinese workers.

Oriental Group, one of the operators licensed by the Philippine Amusement



& Gaming Corp., is building online gaming hubs in Cavite City in the south and in Clark City in the north.

Megaworld Corp., the biggest lessor of office space to offshore gaming operators, had the worst performance in the Philippines' benchmark index last week. Its shares fell 5.9% last Thursday the most since June 2017. Meanwhile, shares of Belle Corp. and SM Prime Holdings Inc. dropped 0.9% and 0.8%, respectively.

"Obviously, the biggest impact will fall on the property sector, especially the big names with a significant portion of their net in-

come derived from POGO leasing," said Rens Cruz, an analyst at Regina Capital in Manila.

The remarks from the embassy are the strongest warning from China against the Philippines' flourishing casino sector that's targeting and also employing tens of thousands of its citizens since President Rodrigo Duterte awarded more gaming licenses under his term.

The flow of Chinese gambling to Southeast Asia has meant slowing growth in Macau. A desertion by high rollers in particular - which account for 55% of Macau's

\$40 billion in annual revenue - has put pressure on casino operators there and forced them to widen their appeal by building theme parks and concert halls for middle-class tourists.

There are signs that the offshore services are penetrating more deeply into China's population than expected. Some online gaming websites offer punters wagers as low as 10 yuan and have round-the-clock live streams, making them easily accessible by lower-income Chinese in rural areas, who do not have the means to go to Macau. **DB/BLOOMBERG**

NG LAP SENG HAS APPEAL TURNED DOWN



A local billionaire convicted of bribing two United Nations ambassadors so he could build a large-scale conference center in Macau has had his appeal turned down by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan.

Real estate developer Ng Lap Seng was sentenced to four years in prison last year for his role in the bribery scheme.

Ng was said to have paid more than \$1 million to former UN General Assembly president John Ashe, as well as other officials, in exchange for their support for a conference center to be built by Ng that would host the United Nations' annual Global South-South Development Expo.

In August last year, Ng's defense lawyers appealed to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals to void his conviction on the basis that

U.S. law had been "misapplied" to cover an intergovernmental organization like the United Nations.

However, according to Reuters, the appeals court found that federal bribery laws covered Ng's payments to the United Nations nonetheless.

The appeals court also found that the trial judge had set its burden of proof requirement for prosecutors higher than required by the law, but this did not necessitate a retrial or overturning as, without the higher requirement, the jury would "certainly" have found the defendant guilty.

Ng was convicted after a five-week trial of two counts of violating the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, one count of paying bribes and gratuities, one count of money laundering and two counts of conspiracy. **DB**

ASK THE VET

by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

WHAT CAUSES ASTHMA IN DOGS?

Asthma in dogs is a condition that affects the respiratory system, especially the bronchi, causing coughing. This condition is an allergic reaction, which is due to different substances inhaled by the dog. Asthma occurs when the dog's immune system responds negatively to these substances, producing serotonin and inflammatory cells, which will constrict the air passages. The causes of asthma may differ from one pet to another, so you need to know what causes asthma in your dog to be able to avoid asthma attacks. Some of the most common triggers of asthma include: pollens, grasses, dust mites, mold, cigarette smoke, chemicals and food.

Pollens
Pollens are the number one cause of asthma in canines. Pollen can come from different plants and trees and the dog may be allergic to one or several types of pollen. If the dog reacts negatively to pollens, the asthma attacks will only be present during pollen seasons (i.e., spring

and fall). The pollens are airborne and may be inhaled by the dog, causing the activation of the inflammatory cells, the coughing and breathing problems. Reducing the dog's time spent outdoors during pollen seasons can benefit and diminish your pet's negative reactions.

Grasses
Just like pollens, grasses can be a common allergen. The dog may have asthma attacks after playing in the grass. There are different types of grass, but the dog is most likely allergic to all. Grass cannot be avoided, so the dog needs to get medication treatment to prevent asthma attacks.

Dust Mites
Dust mites are present in all environments, including homes, and may not always be visible. If dust mites cause asthma attacks in your pet, you will have to pay attention to removing the dust on a daily basis and purchase air cleaners that will reduce the amount of dust mites from your house.

Mold
Mold can be present in a lot of homes or buildings, especially if the rooms are humid and there is not enough ventilation. Mold can be removed from the walls using anti-mold cleaners or apple cider vinegar. Get a dehumidifier and try to get proper ventilation in your home.

Common Chemicals
Chemicals are also top irritants in dogs. The inhalation of chemicals can cause respiratory problems and dry cough. Avoid the dog's exposure to common chemicals such as:

- Perfumes
- Cleaning products
- Paints and varnishes
- Air sprays
- Dog sprays (i.e., flea sprays)
- Cat litter

Cigarette Smoke
Asthma can be caused by cigarette smoke. Dogs can be second hand smokers, and some dogs can develop asthma over time. Don't smoke near your dog, or quit smoking for the sake of your pet. Fireplace smoke can be



equally harmful, so if you have a fireplace, keep your asthmatic dog in a different room.

Food
The ingredients in the dog's food can cause an asthma attack. Try to switch to a different type of food or wet food, which can be better tolerated.

Hope this info helps
Till next week
Dr Ruan Bester

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Unity and Efforts, Change and Innovation



Ho Iat Seng
Candidate for the Fifth Term Chief Executive
Macao Special Administrative Region
People's Republic of China

I am running for the Chief Executive just to do more for Macao

I am fully aware that Macao residents have higher requirements and expectations for career development, good governance, fairness, justice and quality of life.

I am committed to building Macao with clean and efficient government, with diversified and prosperous economy, with peaceful and happy residents, and with social civilization and progress, opening up new prospects for Macao's development.

Consolidate a Steady Momentum of Success and Maintain Overall Harmony

Election Platform

I. Improving Public Governance

We will continue to deepen public administration reform, will strengthen oversight of public finance and public funds, will strengthen the management of the public sector and public servants, will expand channels for residents to participate in social governance, will enhance governance effectiveness and service quality, in order to build a clean, efficient, service-oriented government that is convenient for people and businesses.

- A. Deepening the reform of public administration and improving the efficiency of public administration:** We will address prominent problems such as overlapping institutions, overlapping functions, and disjointed powers and responsibilities, and will reorganize and integrate the department structures.
- B. Strengthening construction of a clean government:** We will improve the property declaration system, will give full play to the supervisory functions of the CCAC (the Commission Against Corruption) and CA (the Commission of Audit), and will actively accept the supervision by the Legislative Assembly and the whole society on the integrity of public servants.
- C. Raising public service awareness, and strengthening official accountability:** We will strengthen public servants training and national affairs study. We will enhance the sense of national identity, improve the evaluation and promotion system for civil servants, we will establish a set of scientific and operational accountability mechanism.
- D. Promoting openness in government affairs and improving government decision-making:** We will build the comprehensive interconnectivity of information across departments, will make public policy-making more scientific and feasible; and we will improve the effectiveness of cross-departmental cooperation.
- E. Making good use of government funds to enhance public financial efficiency:** We will improve the compilation of government budgets, will strengthen oversight of public finance and expenditures from various funds, will improve the legal system for public procurement, and will make good use of the financial surplus.
- F. Promoting the development of the legal system, strengthening the interaction and cooperation between the administration and legislation, and safeguarding judicial independence:** We will improve systems and mechanisms that are compatible with the implementation of the constitution and the basic law, will deepen legal reform, will enhance co-operation and communication between the government and the Legislative Assembly, and will effectively improve judicial efficiency.
- G. Building a civil defense mechanism to strengthen public security:** We will establish and improve early warning and forecasting mechanisms for disaster prevention, and enhance our capacity to prevent and handle crises. We will take a multi-pronged approach to solve the problem of urban flooding. We will strengthen cooperation between the police and the public and enforce laws strictly to crack down on cross-border criminal activities.
- H. Improving the consultation mechanism and promoting democracy and the rule of law:** We will integrate and improve the government consulting system, will promote extensive public participation in social affairs, and will improve the electoral law system in accordance with the law.

II. Promoting diversified economic development

We will give full play to the advantages and unique role of the Macao free port and other systems. Taking the building of the World Centre of Tourism and Leisure and the Service Platform for Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries as the basis, we will promote the appropriate, diversified and rational layout of the industrial structure to increase economic growth momentum and resilience to risks, and to realize the sustainable long-term development of Macao's economy.

- A. Upgrading traditional industries and promoting the development of emerging industries:** We will actively transform and upgrade traditional industries to become intelligent, eco-friendly and internationalized. We will establish a fair and simplified procedures platform for business investment. And we will take substantial steps for promoting the development of emerging industries.
- B. Supporting SMEs (Small and Medium-size Enterprises) and enhancing manpower quality:** We will improve assistance programs for SMEs, and we will explore the establishment of fair, open and transparent professional input mechanism conducive to the development of various industries.
- C. Promoting innovation in the application of science and technology and fostering high-tech industries suitable for Macao's development:** We will strengthen popular

science education and scientific and technological innovation, and increase planning, distribution and resource input.

- D. Improving the quality of gaming operation and expanding comprehensive tourism:** We will improve business development and strengthen supervision in accordance with the law. We will minimize the adverse effects of gaming on young people and the community, we will drive the development of comprehensive tourism related industries, we will further improve the carrying capacity of tourism and strengthen tourism supervision.
- E. Giving full play to the role of China-Portugal platform to boost China's foreign trade and economic development:** We will effectively implement all policies and measures adopted by the state to support Macao as the China-Portugal platform. We will give full play to Macao's fulcrum role in Belt and Road Initiative.
- F. Actively participating in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and integrating into national development:** We will accelerate infrastructure connectivity and accelerate the efficient and convenient flow of resources. We will actively participate in HengQin development and international leisure tourism island construction. We will actively participate in building the quality living circle in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

III. Improving achievements in construction of people's livelihood:

We will build a smart city and create a livable and happy environment. We will optimize the effectiveness of social security and welfare, and ensure that the fruits of economic development benefit all residents in a more equitable and reasonable manner. We will continue to improve the quality of life of Macao residents and better meet their needs and aspirations for a better life.

- A. Good Urban planning and infrastructure improvement:** We will accelerate the compilation of overall urban plans and pragmatic promotion of urban renewal, and will optimize the function layout of the community. We will properly manage the precious land resources of the SAR (Special Administrative Region). And we will gradually implement investment and construction of infrastructure.
- B. Improving the transport system:** We will comprehensively plan land, sea and air traffic, will enhance the quality of public transport services, and will continue to optimize the supporting measures for customs clearance at various ports. We will accelerate the research and decision on the alignment of the "Macao section" of the light rail system.
- C. Accelerating the construction of public housing, and researching and building a reasonable "sandwich class" housing ladder:** We will gradually improve the top-level planning and implementation of housing policies. We will accelerate planning for new reclamation areas and housing construction. And we will respond to the housing needs of residents with different incomes, especially, of the "sandwich class" and young people.
- D. Improving the medical security system and promoting the quality of medical services:** We will accelerate the construction of health care complex on islands and other medical facilities. And we will study and promote the establishment of a specialized medical cooperation mechanism in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.
- E. Protecting labor rights and interests and improving labor legislation:** Pay attention to local residents' priority rights in employment, we will enhance the employment competitiveness of local residents. And we will fully implement and timely review the minimum wage system.
- F. Optimizing social security, promoting social services, and taking care for vulnerable groups:** We will improve the two-tier social security system and continue to improve the social assistance and welfare systems. We will pay more attention to and protect the rights and interests of vulnerable groups. We will strengthen the protection of the rights and interests of women and children and promote family-friendly policy. And we will increase support for the elderly.
- G. Strengthening environmental protection and building a green Macao:** We will improve environmental protection mechanisms, will strengthen publicity and education on garbage classification and recycling, and will improve the regional cooperation of environmental protection.

IV. Strengthening talent cultivation

We will improve the mechanism setting and systematic work of talent cultivation, selection, training and use. We will improve policies for youth development, increase overall planning for youth work and talent fostering, we will actively build platforms, lay a solid foundation and create conditions for the growth, prosperity and success of the younger generation in Macao.

- A. Strengthening youth work and taking care for youth growth:** We will expand targeted, contemporary and diverse youth education, and will improve the comprehensive quality and competitiveness of young people.

- B. Broadening the space for youth development:** We will implement active policies on youth employment and entrepreneurship, will open channels for young people to enter government advisory agencies, and will concern for young civil servants. We will actively encourage young people to participate in the development of the greater bay area.
- C. Actively attracting the return of talents:** We will develop a professional, fair, clear and transparent policy of the return of talents. We will improve supporting services for returning residents to create their businesses, to obtain their employment and to do their business.
- D. Improving the professional system and training young professionals:** We will accelerate the construction of professional certification system in various industries, and will promote mutual recognition of professional qualifications in the greater bay area.

V. Building a cultural cooperation base

We will implement the planning and positioning of "a base for exchange and cooperation where Chinese culture is the mainstream and diverse cultures coexist", will comprehensively develop cultural and educational undertakings, and will actively spread the fine traditional Chinese culture. We will actively promote international cultural exchanges and enhance the cultural taste and competitive soft power of Macao.

- A. Increasing the input of resources to promote innovative development of education:** We will work hard to improve school conditions and deepen educational reform. We will actively build first-class universities and preponderant disciplines. And we will accelerate the construction of an international center for tourism education, training and exchange.
- B. Promoting the prosperity and development of cultural programs and cultural and creative industries:** We will strengthen protection of authors' literary, artistic and other creative achievements and their legitimate rights and interests. We will explore and develop cultural and creative industries such as film, television and performing arts and will encourage local art and literature creation.
- C. Maintaining and developing the cultural diversity of Macao:** We will further protect Macao's historic urban area, a world cultural heritage, and carry forward Macao's intangible cultural heritage. We will continue to protect and respect the rights, customs and cultural traditions of residents of Portuguese descendant in Macao. And we will protect the rights and interests of religious communities and religious freedom.
- D. Developing undertakings of physical culture and sports:** We will promote the holding of sports events at higher levels, will encourage athletes to participate in more international events, and will raise the level of local competitive sports. And we will continue to promote popular sports.
- E. Promoting multicultural exchanges and cooperation:** We will actively spread the fine traditional Chinese culture. We will speed up the building of bilingual talent training bases and promote two-way cultural exchanges between China and Portuguese-speaking countries. We will promote exchanges and cooperation of various forms in culture, education, art, literature, sports and other fields between Macao and other parts of China, especially cities in the greater bay area.

Peroration

I am grateful to my country and Macao for their cultivation. I am grateful to Macao residents and people from all walks of life for their long-term support. I am fully aware that the chief executive has great responsibilities. If elected, I will not be afraid of difficulties, I will spare no effort to fulfill my mission, I will fully and faithfully implement the policy of "one country, two systems", "Macao people governing Macao" and a high degree of autonomy. I will carry out our duties and governance in strict accordance with the constitution and the basic law, and unwaveringly safeguard China's sovereignty, security and development interests. I will uphold the long-term prosperity and stability of the Macao Special Administrative Region and serve the residents, serve Macao and serve the country.

With the full support of the central government and the cooperation of all public servants, relying closely on the Macao residents and people from all walks of life, I am fully confident and determined to put into practice my governance philosophy and concepts, to consolidate a steady momentum of success and maintain overall harmony, to realize better development of Macao and create a better future for Macao.

I would deeply appreciate if the election committee and the general residents give me full trust and firm support! Let us make united efforts for change and innovation to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, continue to advance the cause of "one country, two systems", and strive for the prosperity, stability and long-term stability of the Macao Special Administrative Region.

Ho Iat Seng Campaign Office will be holding a public hearing on August 17 and August 18 respectively so as to listen to the valuable opinions and suggestions on Mr. Ho's election platform, please refer to the below for details. All residents are welcome to participate.

(Mandarin, Portuguese and sign language translation services will be provided at both public hearings)

Date: Aug 17, 2019 (Saturday)	Date: Aug 18, 2019 (Sunday)
Time: 3:00-4:30PM	Time: 3:00-4:30PM
Venue: Ed. ACM, 4 Andar, Rua de Xangai 175, Macau	Venue: Ed. ACM, 4 Andar, Rua de Xangai 175, Macau

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I would like to attend the public hearing on <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 18		

3. Register at www.macaoticket.com.
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 - The winner will be notified by phone to pick up the admission ticket (free seating).
 - Persons aged 16 or above are welcome to participate.

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'GREATER BAY IS HERE,' SAYS MAK SOI KUN

RENATO MARQUES



IN a recent discussion at the Legislative Assembly (AL), lawmaker Mak Soi Kun criticized an idea raised several times by government officials: that the younger generation of Macau should aim for a job or live in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area.

For Mak, Macau is one of the most important cities included in the Greater Bay initiative, so it is contradictory when government officials keep claiming that there are "better opportunities" for youngsters in the Greater Bay Area.

According to Mak, "the Greater Bay is here and instead of pushing your youngsters to go abroad, we should cater ways to help them be competitive locally."

The lawmaker said that government officials lack understanding of the central government's initiative. He called for an optimization of local businesses, encouraging young people to develop other kinds of business, such as high-tech enterprises, and at the same time consolidate their foundations and competitive capabilities in Macau, warning that focusing on incentives for them to leave could lead to an even bigger local human resources problem in the future. **RM**

ELLA LEI CONCERNED WITH WAGE ARREARS OF TNR

RENATO MARQUES



LAWMAKER Ella Lei, known for sometimes accusing non-resident workers (TNR) of taking the jobs of locals, recently made a statement that surprised many and challenged her reputation.

At the Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary, Lei, while calling for added protections from the government for workers with wages in arrears, mentioned the disadvantageous position of many non-locals, who, in the past, were not included in the Labour Creditor's Rights Protection Fund.

Lei made note of previous examples, such as the workers for the Beijing Imperial Palace Hotel, and more recently, the Macau Asia Satellite Television Limited workers who have filed complaints with the Labour Affairs Bureau regarding several months of late salary payments.

The lawmaker called on the government to provide a solution for such cases. She noted that when the bankruptcy of the company is not considered or filled, the workers become "between water and fire" without a way to recover their unpaid salaries other than lengthy legal battles. **RM**

HKZMB CRITICIZED FOR LETTING THE TOURISTS OUT TOO QUICKLY

RENATO MARQUES

AFTER constant praise from almost all sectors in Macau in the initial months after its opening, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB) is now becoming the source of some criticism, namely from several lawmakers in Macau's Legislative Assembly (AL). The 'honeymoon period', since the mega-structure opened to the public in October last year, is now beginning to fall apart.

In several interpellations to the government, lawmakers have been using the period before the agenda of the plenary session of the AL to criticize several aspects of the bridge's operation.

Angela Leong was the first to address the issues, remarking that according to the latest data provided by the Statistics and Census Bureau, the number of visitors to Macau in June exceeded 3 million, a figure that represents a year-on-year increase of 18.9%. Nevertheless, she noticed that the number of same-day visitors increased by 35.4%, resulting in a decline in the average length of stay.

Leong said that the government has noted that such figures come "with the operation of the HKZM Bridge, which has made transportation more convenient, leading to a significant increase in [same-day] stays, increasing the struggle to attract more visitors to stay overnight in Macau." In her opinion, the bridge is bringing tourists into Macau quicker than before, but also letting them out just as fast. She said it contradicted the bridge's goal of increasing visitors' length of the stay as established by the central government in a bid to transform Macau into a "World Tourism and Leisure Center."

The lawmaker has urged the government to take measures to "increase

RENATO MARQUES



Angela Leong said that the bridge has not led to visitors staying longer in Macau

the attractiveness" of Macau as a destination by developing new tourism products as well as upgrading the quality of tourist facilities, sites and services.

The lawmaker also said that the government should carefully review the local calendar of events and ensure that major events are not "excessively concentrated" in one limited season. This is to make sure that there are no long periods without any major event of interest for visitors."

Late last week, lawmaker Lam Lon Wai also criticized the lack of planning and logic used by the authorities when they kept the HKZMB in operation when Typhoon Wipha passed near to Macau. The authorities suspended public transportation locally, forcing inbound visitors to stay in the arrival hall without access to transportation to take them to their destination.

Lam noted that all the bridges in Macau, as well as the border crossing points, were closed with the exception for the HKZM Bridge Port and the Border Gate.

The lawmaker noted that the "lack of planning" resulted in the retention

of a large number of tourists at the two locations, saying, "in these two border posts, there are no conditions like at the airport or the maritime terminal, where there are places to rest and wait."

"A large number of passengers who gathered at the Border Gate and HKZM Bridge Port had to face the wind and heavy rain while waiting for the limited number of buses and taxis," added Lam.

Lam noted that the situation could be improved by a special request from the Transport Bureau to keep one of the bus routes in operation during most of the period when the typhoon hit. This would prevent the accumulation of visitors stranded at the HKZM Bridge Port.

According to the lawmaker, the government has spoken with the company operating the buses on the HKZMB, saying that in the event of another natural disaster of such intensity, the company should suspend the operation of the buses. The last bus coming into Macau should depart 15 minutes before the hoisting of typhoon Signal No.8 or higher.

AL committee condemns suspected copying of 2018 report

THE Follow-up Committee of Public Administration Affairs of the Legislative Assembly (AL) has condemned the Macau SAR government for its laziness in the making of the Administration Investment and Development Expenditure Plan (PIDDA) report.

On Friday, the committee signed three reports submitted by the SAR government.

Mak Soi Kun, chairman of the committee, criticized the fact that, in the go-

vernment's first quarterly investment budget implementation report for 2019, the written explanation of the government's non-executive project was exactly the same as that in the 2018 report.

According to Mak, the committee believes that the government simply copied the 2018 report.

Furthermore, the committee is "extremely dissatisfied" with the government's perfunctory attitude

and has demanded an improvement.

The committee also suggested that the authorities pay attention to the fact that some governmental departments have not used the funds they were granted. The committee deems this to be a waste of public money.

Last Friday, the committee signed the investment progress reports of the Guangdong-Macau cooperation development fund and the Macau investment

cooperation development fund, as well as the public transport subsidy and financial plan report from 2016 to 2019.

In response to whether the committee has followed up on the government's allocation of 60 billion patacas to set up an investment fund, Mak said that the committee has no authority to ask the government to administrate in certain ways and can only supervise the government. **JZ**



Ho Iat Seng (seated, stage left), answers questions raised by members of the Chief Executive Election Committee

Ho Iat Seng open to cash handout 'refinement'

ANTHONY LAM

THE sole candidate for the Chief Executive election, Ho Iat Seng said on Saturday that he was open to a refinement of the decade-old annual Wealth Partaking Scheme, commonly known as the cash handout.

Ho made the comment during a press conference for his manifesto. Before the conference, the government held a question-and-answer session with electoral college members at the same location.

He was asked about the cash handouts because there was no mention of the popular scheme in his manifesto. Ho explained that it was not in his manifesto because it is an administrative action that should be addressed in each year's policy address.

Currently, any Macau ID card holder is entitled to the annual handout. Location of frequent residence is not a decisive factor for eligibility. Ho said he had heard comments regarding the mechanism and he is open to refinement of the scheme.

For instance, if a person is required to stay in Macau for at least 183 days per year in order to be eligible for the handout, the scheme is not beneficial to the integration of the Greater Bay Area. Ho added that it discourages the elderly from moving to the mainland.

Additionally, the administra-

tive cost of determining the location of frequent residence will also be high, he said, citing Hong Kong's handout of HKD4,000 as an example. The Hong Kong government has spent more on administrative costs than on the handout in some cases.

Ho also compared the two SARs' annual budgets. He stated that there are 650,000 people in Macau, versus 7.5 million in Hong Kong. The annual budget for Macau is MOP133 billion, while it is HKD560 billion for Hong Kong.

Given these facts, Ho said that social welfare in Macau is not bad, therefore, he is aiming to "refine," instead of improve, the city's quality of life factors. He pledged to review the welfare scheme and determine whether there has been any waste or resource misallocation that he could correct.

ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

"Why are residents not happy when the government is spending so much money?" Ho posed during Saturday's press conference, ultimately attributing the displeasure of residents to governance in need of improvement.

Ho believes that governance should be refined to make way for a "service-oriented government" and an environment convenient for both people and businesses. This, according to him, will attract investment and safeguard the public's welfare.

Administrative efficiency is also part of Ho's plan. In the pre-

vious two decades, the government has expanded on a significant scale, despite each administration's pledge to streamline public services.

The candidate said the structure of the government will no longer expand. Ho said that while there are 38,000 civil servants in Macau, the human resources have not been evenly distributed, with some departments short of staff and other overstuffed.

Emphasizing his 19 years of experience at a national level, Ho thinks there are too many bureaus in Macau. During his work as a Standing Committee member of the National People's Congress, Ho said he witnessed and worked on the shrinking of the government structure. There are only 26 ministries in the national government, compared with over 60 bureaus here.

"Stand, and then remove. Adjustment should follow clarification of [each bureau's] function, legal position and authority," Ho said, stressing that reform should not cause a disturbance to public services.

Despite his pledge, Ho suggested that young people should rest assured. Not expanding the government does not mean that there would not be new people hired. "Every year, there are a lot of civil servants [that are] retiring," meaning that there would still be vacancies for jobseekers.

Ho also promised greater transparency in governance.

ON SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

Ho also brought up the notion of a "sandwich-class housing staircase" during the press conference. It is a scheme to attract the younger generations, the newlyweds and new parents with two-bedroom apartments. He pledged to expedite the construction of 28,000 subsidized housing units on Reclamation Zone A, so that demand can be ascertained and satisfied.

The first 4,000 subsidized housing units in Zone A will mostly likely be reserved for one-bedroom apartments. Ho thinks this does not fit the demand and development of the younger generations.

Sandwich-class housing is a stage between economic housing and private development. Ho believes it is an attractive proposal. "If there are chances that young people can have less expensive housing, they can have more resources to start their own businesses. We are lacking entrepreneurs now," said Ho.

ON POLITICAL REFORM

Ho also pledged to restart constitutional reform in the Macau SAR, but stressed his respect for the existing electoral college mechanism.

China is a centralized country, he explained, and the right of initiation stays with the central government. "We will fight for it from the central government, but we cannot make any promise," he said, adding that he understands Beijing's stance on political reform.

Elector Stanley Au, who ran for Chief Executive in a failed bid in 1999, said on Saturday he agreed that the central government should seriously consider opening up the election system.

AIPIM TO DISTRIBUTE SAFETY PACKS TO MEMBERS

The Macau Portuguese and English Press Association (AIPIM) is going to make safety packs available to its members who are required to cover news on the protests in Hong Kong, the association announced on Saturday. This was agreed in light of recent events occurring in Hong Kong. The association thinks it is appropriate to help protect its members. The kit to be distributed will include a helmet, vest, goggles and respirators. The group did not indicate the total number of packs that will be distributed. It stated in the announcement that there is a limited amount of kits, and each member is entitled to one kit only. Several local media outlets that publish in English or Portuguese have sent journalists to cover the protests in Hong Kong.

HK DISTRICT COUNCILLOR DENIED ENTRY INTO MACAU

Chan Wai-tat, a district councillor in Hong Kong, was refused entry into Macau yesterday. Chan intended to enter Macau for a family day trip, as posted on his social media. The councillor explained in the post that he had brought his spouse and son to Macau for a day trip. He supported the statement with a photo of the itinerary and a photo of his family taken at the gate of the Hong Kong checkpoint. The alleged "entry refusal notification" given to him by Macau's Public Security Police Force (PSP) indicated: "There are strong references that you [Chan] intend to enter the Macau SAR to participate in certain activities which may jeopardize public security or public order."

PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ACT MAY NEED UPGRADE

The Office for Personal Data Protection admitted that Macau's personal data protection law needs to keep pace with the times, indicating that the law needs to be amended in order to adapt itself to social changes. In its reply to lawmaker Song Pek Kei's written inquiry, the office initially stated that the personal data protection act has been implemented for 10 years and that its implementation is in good condition. However, the office acknowledged that information technology is developing rapidly today, and that the use of personal data at an information technology level is becoming increasingly popular, which means that adapting to new situations is a problem and a challenge that must be faced.

RESTORATION WORKS BEGIN ON DOM PEDRO V THEATRE

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) will be conducting restoration works on Dom Pedro V Theatre and the retention walls of Calçada do Teatro starting today. The IC will repair the theatre building and the surrounding walls, as well as prune and maintain nearby trees. The restoration works are estimated to be completed by the end of September. During the restoration period, scaffolding will be installed outside the building and in the area of the retention walls, occupying part of the roadway of Calçada do Teatro on August 23 and 24. According to the IC, the theatre will remain open to the public and the opening hours will remain unchanged.

VISA-FREE ACCESS TO IRAN FOR SAR PASSPORT HOLDERS

The Macau government has been officially informed by the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hong Kong that holders of Macau SAR passports have been granted visa-free access to enter the country for a maximum stay of 21 days. In a separate matter, the local government was informed by the New Zealand Consulate General in Hong Kong that in order to enhance border security and improve visitor experiences, from October 1, some international visitors and transit passengers who are eligible for a visa waiver - including Macau SAR passport holders - will need to hold a New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) before travelling to New Zealand.

MACAU MID-YEAR POPULATION REACHES 672,000

Macau's population reached 672,000 at the end of the second quarter, increasing by about 1,100 compared to the first quarter of the year, according to the latest data released by the Statistics and Census Bureau. Women accounted for 53.2% of the city's population. Some 1,400 live births occurred in the second quarter of the year, 75 fewer than in the previous quarter. Meanwhile, mortalities increased by 73 quarter-to-quarter to 542, with the top three causes of death being neoplasms, diseases of the circulatory system and diseases of the respiratory system. In the second quarter of 2019, mainland Chinese immigrants decreased by 630 quarter-to-quarter to 647, whereas individuals granted right of abode (285) and non-resident workers at end-period (190,367) increased by 119 and 852 respectively.

MUST RESEARCH

THE GUANGDONG RIVALS AND FRIENDS WHO ROAMED MACAU AND SHANGHAI

JULIE ZHU

GUANGDONG natives Zheng Guanying, who made Macau's Mandarin's House well-known by residing in it, and Chinese reformer Tong King-sing were active supporters and important practitioners in the so-called Westernization Movement of the late-Qing Dynasty.

The duo became friends and colleagues after they both coincidentally arrived in Shanghai in 1858. Tong and Zheng would go on to play important roles during the turbulent closing chapters of the late Qing Dynasty, and ultimately contribute to China's development into a modern country.

Research conducted by the Research Office of Tong King-sing at the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) is shedding new light on the relationship between these two reformers, who took different paths to reach similar destinations in Macau and Shanghai. Both are remembered today in the SAR for their connections to the city's history.

PARALLEL EDUCATIONS

Born in Zhuhai in 1832, Tong had a deep connection with Macau. Tong's father, who was then a worker in Macau, seized the opportunity to send Tong and his brothers to the Morrison School in Macau. Tong studied there for six years, receiving a Western education and learning English.

After finishing his studies at the Morrison School, Tong worked as an interpreter in Hong Kong and Shanghai. Later in life, he worked as a comprador at Jardine Matheson in Shanghai, and was placed at an important position in 1873 by Li Hongzhang, a Chinese politician and diplomat in the late Qing Dynasty. Tong also served in the China Merchant Steam Navigation Company and the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company.

Meanwhile, Zheng Guanying went through the traditional Chinese education system. After Zheng arrived in Shanghai, he studied English and took up work as a comprador in British merchant firms based in the eastern Chinese city, including Dent & Co.

Later, he invested in a partnership with Union Steam Navigation Co., where Tang King-sing was a board member. Zheng participated in the establishment of the China Navigation Company, a subsidiary of the British Swire Group.

When they were compradors for different corporations in Shanghai, Tong and Zheng's steamship companies (Jardine Matheson,



China Merchants Group (top) and photos of Li Hongzhang (bottom left) and Zheng Guanying

China Merchant Steam Navigation Company and Union Steam Navigation Co.) were involved in intense competition, with the three companies suffering heavy losses in the subsequent price war.

Under the coordination of Tong and Zheng, in 1878, the three companies signed an agreement to adopt the same prices, which resulted in them recovering some of the losses.

Soon, Li invited Zheng to join the China Merchant Steam Navigation Company. With the persuasion of Tong and others, Zheng accepted Li's invitation and joined the company in 1882, where he became Tong's colleague.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MODERNITY

With the changes to the political and economic situation in Shanghai and the power games inside the China Merchant Steam Navigation Company,

in 1883 Li promoted Zheng to general comprador of the company. However, in 1884 Zheng left the company due to China's domestic political situation and the Sino-French war. In 1885, Tong was also forced to leave the company.

After leaving the company, Tong became the head of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, while Zheng retired to Macau and focused on writing.

It was the Chinese businessman Tong, who in the late 19th century visited Macau's cement factory to test the quality of the cement. He returned to the mainland to set up the mainland's first such factory in what is today Hebei Province.

Tong and Zheng were both integral parts of Chinese history during the 1860s and 1870s. They participated in the Westernization Movement, making outstanding contributions to the

modernization of China.

In addition to their connections through work, Tong and Zheng were also bonded through the marriage of Tong's second son and Zheng's cousin.

When Tong passed away in 1892, Zheng wrote with sorrow to mourn his fellow countryman.

Zheng left an influence on Macau and is best known for residing in the Mandarin's House, near the A-Ma Temple, where he did much of his writings. Escola Oficial Zheng Guanying, a school in Macau near the Border Gate, is also named after him.

The information in this article was provided by the Research Office of Tong King-sing at the Macau University of Science and Technology. MUST's Research Office of Tong King-sing was established in November 2018, becoming the first academic research institution named after Tong King-sing at home and abroad.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

HOUSING TOPS MACAU'S LIVELIHOOD CONCERNS

THE Think Tank of United Citizens and the City University of Macau's joint report on livelihood issues for the past 20 years has indicated that Macau residents are most dissatisfied with the housing situation of today.

On Friday, the two groups released a research report on Macau's livelihood index since the handover in 1999, hoping to objectively present the development of the Macau SAR in the past 20 years.

Combining results from 1,108 questionnaires (including 202 online questionnaires) conducted over eight months and official government statistics, the report

gave 175.98 points to Macau's livelihood in 2018, calculated from the base period of 1999, when the index was 100 points.

The research studied a total of 11 livelihood topics, including housing, employment and income, culture and education, medical care and hygiene, transport, social security, public safety, water quality and air quality.

In total, respondents gave 5.92 points to Macau's overall livelihood conditions. There were huge differences in respondents' answers when compared with government statistics on residents' feelings towards transportation,

healthcare and housing.

Satisfaction with housing was the worst, only getting 3.8 points. Respondents were most unhappy with private housing prices and the waiting time for public housing, as well as the urban renewal progress. The second lowest ranking was given to transport, with respondents expressing dissatisfaction with parking and traffic jams. The third lowest rank was given to hospitals, with the respondents mainly unhappy about waiting times when receiving treatment. Respondents were most satisfied with social security, followed by education. **JZ**

1.36 million credit cards in use in first half-year

THE total number of personal credit cards issued by banks in Macau stood at 1.36 million at the end of June 2019, an increase of 2% over the previous quarter or 9.6% from a year ago.

According to statistics issued by the Monetary Authority of Macao, the number of pataca (957,100), Hong Kong dollar (95,200) and renminbi (310,900) cards advanced year-on-year by 8.9%, 5.5% and 13.2% respectively.

At end-June 2019, the credit limit for credit cards granted by banks reached MOP38.1 billion, up 2.3% from end-March 2019 or 26.3% from end-June 2018.

Credit card receivables amounted to MOP2.8 billion, of which the rollover amount totaled MOP849.9 million, representing 30.8% of credit

card receivables.

The delinquency ratio, which is the ratio of the amount overdue for over three months to total credit card receivables, dropped by 0.04% to 1.61% when compared with the previous reporting period.

For the second quarter of 2019, the credit card turnover totaled MOP5.8 billion, equivalent to a rise of 2.5% quarter-to-quarter or 6.4% year-on-year.

The cash advance turnover was MOP219.9 million, accounting for 3.8% of total credit card turnover.

Credit card repayments, which include payments for interest and fees, dropped 5.9% compared to the previous quarter but rose 5.7% compared to the same period last year to MOP5.7 billion. **LV**

IFT LAUNCHES CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION

THE Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) has launched the exhibition "Reunion" at its Educational Restaurant as part of the SAR's mega art project, Art Macao. Curated by Deng Binbin, an art connoisseur in China, the exhibition features a total of 17 art pieces.

The group exhibition of contemporary art presents the works of six artists from different backgrounds including Wu Li, Xie Qi, Song Gewen, Denis Murrell, Cai Guo Jie and Lai Siu Kit, the only local artist in the exhibition.

According to Deng, Lai has "more delicate feelings for Macau than ordinary people," explaining that the grey and geometric floor tiles of large size in his work demonstrate signs of the passage of time and reflect the micro scenery of Macau.



Artworks on display at the IFT's "Reunion" exhibition

Meanwhile, discussing his experience in Macau, Deng said, "my relationship with Macau began in Mong-Ha Hill, starting at IFT. [...] I have developed a

greater sense of closeness with Macau."

The curator was previously invited by the institute to teach a class for a year.

Explaining the backgrounds of the artists, the curator said that the six artists have "long lived and engaged in artistic creation under the background of

different cultures."

"Starting from their original cultures and being influenced by diverse cultures of the external world, they finally return to themselves

and yield visual experiences different from previous workers," he added.

As part of Art Macao, IFT is organizing a series of activities named "Art Mingle@IFT," intended to gather and showcase the features of Chinese and Western culture and art.

The series kicked off with a "Collective Exhibition of Chinese Painting and Calligraphy" back in June.

The curator also hosted a seminar on "data interpretation of the 2018 global art auction market" yesterday after the official opening ceremony as part of the series.

Next month, the institute will invite the University of Education of Hong Kong to exhibit the art pieces of their teachers and students.

According to the institute, the series aims to "provide more artistic appreciation activities to visitors and offer an exchange opportunity for local and mainland Chinese artists." **LV**

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

HSBC'S TOP CHINA EXECUTIVE RESIGNS, CAPPING WEEK OF TURMOIL

ALFRED LIU

THE head of HSBC Holdings Plc's key China business resigned, the latest senior management change in a week that saw Europe's largest lender oust its top executive.

Helen Wong announced her departure as head of Greater China in July to pursue another opportunity, and this is her last day at the bank, spokeswoman Maggie Cheung said Friday. Wong, one of the bank's most senior women, had been in the role for about four years and worked at HSBC since 1992.

Wong won't be replaced, and the four regional chiefs that worked under her - Diana Cesar for Hong Kong, P.H. Lau for Macau, David Liao for mainland China, and Adam Chen for Taiwan - will continue to collaborate.

Her departure caps a week that started with the ouster of former Chief Executive Officer John Flint after just 18 months in the



role, with the bank saying an "increasingly complex" environment of geopolitical tensions and risks to growth demanded new leadership. He was replaced with interim chief Noel Quinn. HSBC also unveiled a round of job cuts that could eliminate 4,000 roles.

HSBC has been getting increasingly aggressive on

costs as investors mull why earnings growth has been sluggish at a sprawling global bank exposed to some of the world's fastest-growing economies. Chairman Mark Tucker was increasingly at odds with Flint over the CEO's focus on expanding in China, people familiar with the matter said earlier this week.

"This was somewhat of a duplicate role," said Joseph Dickerson, an analyst at Jefferies. "I don't see any significant impact on HSBC's China strategy as a result of this."

HSBC, born as the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp. in 1865, relies on Asia for about 80% of its earnings. Hong Kong alone provides the bank with about half of its pretax profit.

Wong, a 58-year-old graduate of the University of Hong Kong, had been CEO for China before her promotion in 2015. Cheung said Wong announced her resignation before Flint's departure, and that her exit was not linked to any issue involving Huawei Technologies Co.

Earlier this week, HSBC also named Barry O'Byrne interim chief of global commercial banking, replacing Quinn, and tapped Nicolas Moreau to be its new head of global asset management. **BLOOMBERG**

CHINA TO INSPECT PROPERTY LOAN POLICIES IN SHENZHEN

CHINA will launch a targeted inspection on banks' property-related businesses in 32 cities including Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen, to see whether their credit policies are in line with government regulations.

The China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC) has issued a circular specifying major tasks for the inspection, including examining how bank's real estate credit policies were implemented, the China Securities Journal reported.

The regulator will also scrutinize banks' financing services for property and land development to prevent loans to ineligible companies or projects, as well as the implementation of differentiated credit policies for individual housing.

The move came as the People's Bank of China, the country's central bank, earlier this month called for banks to keep their loans in the property sector at a reasonable level while increasing credit support for key areas and weak links.

Banks should adhere to the principle of "houses are for living in, not for speculation," adjust and optimize their credit structures and implement long-term mechanisms to maintain the sound development of the real estate market, the central bank stressed, according to state media Xinhua.

Earlier data showed China's loans to the real estate sector grew at a slower pace in the first half of this year as government purchase restrictions remain in place in major cities. **XINHUA**

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As HK protesters scatter, residents take their place

YANAN WANG, HONG KONG

AFTER the protesters evacuated, residents took their place.

In one Hong Kong neighborhood on Saturday, riot police fired multiple rounds of tear gas, prompting demonstrators to flee after they started a fire outside a police station and threw eggs at its exterior. But while the pro-democracy protesters left to occupy yet another district, the residents who were watching from the sidelines descended by the hundreds.

They watched as officers grabbed a woman who was wearing neither a black shirt nor a mask — the telltale attire of a protes-

ter. The crowd surrounded the police and yelled: "Let her go! Let her go!"

More than two months of mass demonstrations in Hong Kong have given way to routine clashes between protesters and police. As protesters lead police from neighborhood to neighborhood, leaving hastily constructed roadblocks in their wake, residents across the districts have increasingly been caught in the fray.

Not all are supportive of the movement, which began in June against an extradition bill that would have allowed Hong Kong residents to be sent to the mainland to stand trial. It has since morphed into calls for broader

democratic reforms and violent acts of defiance against police, who in turn have been accused of excessive force and deliberate negligence.

"I support them, though I don't agree with all their methods," Annie Chan, an accountant, said at a shopping plaza that protesters briefly occupied. "Most of us middle-aged people understand that the younger generation feels helpless."

Police used tear gas to disperse protesters who blocked roads and one major cross-harbor tunnel and arrested 16 people for unlawful assembly, possession of offensive weapons and assaulting and obstructing officers.

Following a pattern established in past weekends, the demonstrations continued into the night despite police refusal to grant permission for the gatherings.

Tear gas was fired at a crowd of some 1,000 people in a brief evening standoff at a commuter rail station in Tai Wai. In a separate incident, police lobbed tear gas at protesters who surrounded a precinct in the Tsim Sha Tsui district on the northern side of Hong Kong's harbor, opposite Hong Kong Island.

Earlier marches went ahead in two areas despite a police refusal of permission.

A former British colony, Hong Kong was returned to China in 1997 under the principle of "one country, two systems," which promises the city certain democratic rights not afforded to people on the mainland. But in recent years, some have accused the Communist Party-ruled central government of steadily chipping away at their freedoms.

"I miss the British colony," said protester Alexandra Wong, who carried two British flags and wore a T-shirt that said, "Establish a Democratic China."

"After 1997, young people don't see a future," she said.

Wong, 73, was among protesters carrying British, Taiwanese or U.S. flags. Some chide them for playing into Beijing's claim that hostile foreign forces are behind the demonstrations.

Of those accusations, Wong said: "I don't care what the government says. They will say anything."

Demonstrators say they no longer trust authorities after 44 civilians were injured in a mob attack at a commuter rail station last month. The assailants were all dressed in white in an apparent rebuttal to the protesters' trademark black.

Police have arrested more than 500 protesters since early June on charges such as unlawful assembly, carrying weapons and rioting, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in jail. On a shopping street Saturday, hundreds of people who appeared to be local residents and passers-by surrounded police officers who arrested a woman. They did not respond to the crowd's questions about why she was being arrested.

The angered residents booed and shouted one of the movement's catchphrases: "Hong Kong police know the law and break the law!"

Earlier in the day, a Hong Kong-based association of people from southern Fujian province gathered around police stations to show their support for law enforcement. They held up large in Chinese flags and signs that read, "Support the Police Line, Firmly Enforce the Law."

Also on Saturday, several thousand people continued the second day of protests at Hong Kong's busy international airport. They chanted slogans, set up TV sets to show video of recent protests and handed out leaflets explaining the controversy over the proposed extradition law and demands for universal voting rights.

In another district, a group of parents staged a separate march that was approved by police. They called for better protection for children following incidents in which ordinary people have been caught in clashes between police and protesters.

"It's dangerous to bring my child to participate in any protest," said Natalie Lee, who was with her 2-year-old daughter. "Today's march provides a good opportunity for us to bring our children to voice our demands and I hope more peaceful protesters will come out too." AP

HONG Kong leader Carrie Lam said Friday her priority is to "stop the violence" rather than make political concessions as the city's two-month-long protest movement pressed on with a three-day demonstration at the airport.

Lam said traffic disruptions and confrontations between police and protesters have hurt the economy, particularly the retail and food and beverage sectors.

A Hong Kong government statement referring to travel safety warnings issued by 22 countries and regions appeared to acknowledge the potential for the protests to devastate the territory's crucial travel industry. It said the government and travel industry were working to minimize

HONG KONG

Carrie Lam says priority is to stop violence

disruptions and "all stand ready to welcome and assist visitors to Hong Kong any time."

The government said tourist arrivals dropped 26% at the end of last month compared to a year earlier and were continuing to fall in August. The travel industry accounts for 4.5% of the financial hub's economy and employs about 250,000 people, or about 7% of the total working population.

The impact could be as bad or worse than occurred during the 2003 outbreak of severe acute respiratory

syndrome, Travel Industry Council Chairman Jason Wong Chun-tat was quoted as saying by the South China Morning Post. Wong said cancellations could result in hotel revenues in August dropping by 40% against the same period last year.

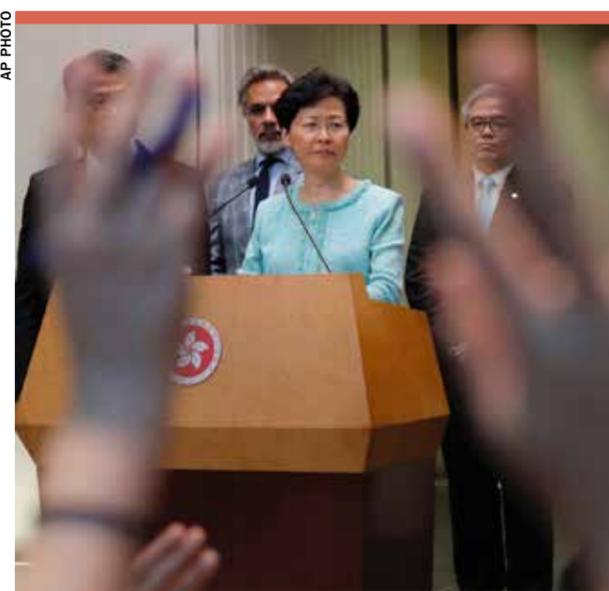
At the same time, protesters occupied the arrival hall at the city's international airport.

While the airport appeared to be operating normally, extra identification checks were in place for both travelers and employees, and airlines were advising passengers to ar-

rive earlier than usual for check-in.

Carrie Lam said Friday an inquiry into police actions would not be appropriate while they are still carrying out operations in response to the demonstrations.

Hong Kong police say 592 people have been arrested since June 9, ranging in age from 13 to 76. They face charges including rioting, which allows for prison terms of up to 10 years, along with interfering with police duties and taking part in unauthorized gatherings. MDT/AP



TECHNOLOGY

HUAWEI UNVEILS PHONE SYSTEM THAT COULD REPLACE ANDROID

HUAWEI Technologies Co. took the wraps off its "HarmonyOS" operating system Friday, offering the first glimpses of in-house software that may someday replace Google's Android and reduce its reliance on American technology.

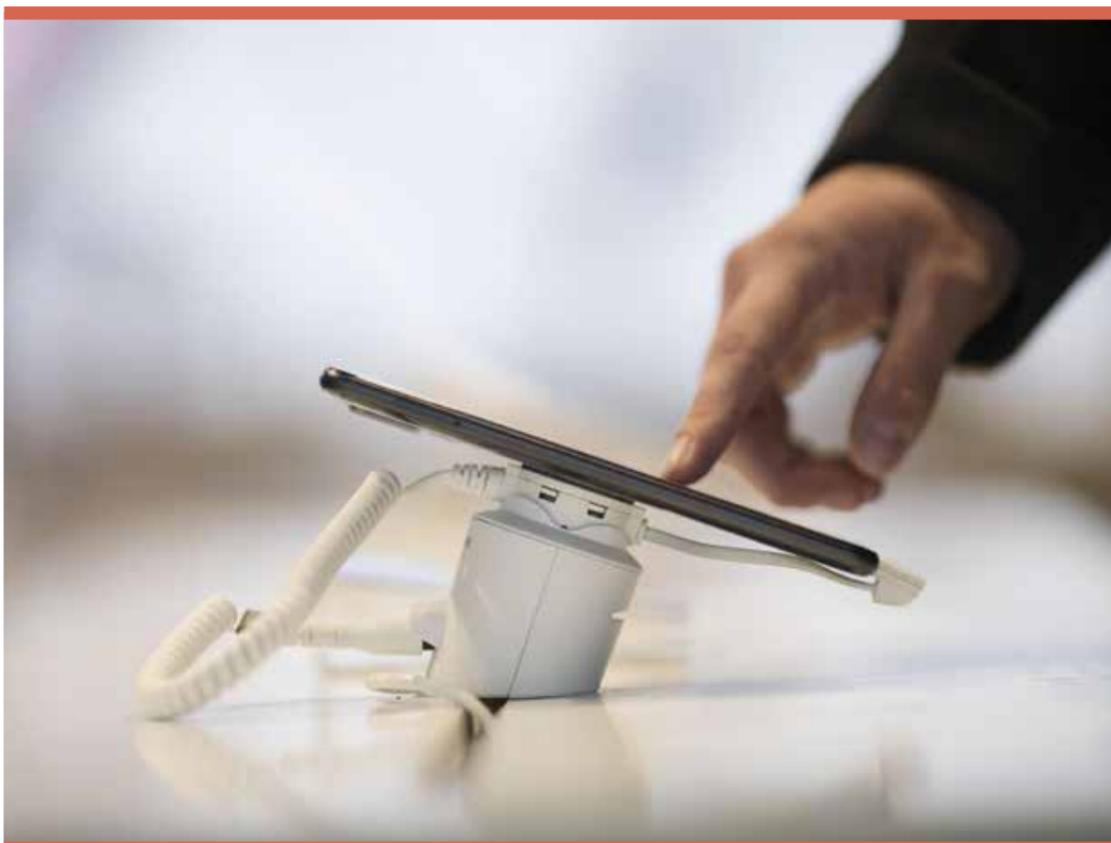
To begin with, the open-source software will skip smartphones and instead find its way into everything from cars and watches to personal computers by 2020, Richard Yu, chief executive of the consumer business said during a launch event. Earbuds and virtual reality goggles will follow. Huawei is considering running the OS on its upcoming flagship Mate 30, he told reporters.

"Because we support Google's Android ecosystem, we will prioritize Android for smartphones. If we can't use Android, we can install HarmonyOS quickly," Yu said at Huawei's developers conference in Dongguan. "We had a great chance to become the world's biggest vendor by shipment - if not for the trade war."

HarmonyOS, previously code-named "Hongmeng" or "Ark," is an important part of Huawei's effort to develop alternatives in response to sanctions on American technology it needs to make its gear. Underscoring the unpredictability of supply, Bloomberg News reported the White House is delaying a decision about licenses for U.S. companies to resume selling to Huawei.

China's largest technology company has found itself at the center of sensitive trade negotiations between Beijing and Washington, with the latter accusing its geopolitical rival of stealing technology and posing a

BLOOMBERG



risk to U.S. national security. Irrespective of how the talks play out, Trump administrative curbs have all but smothered Huawei's goal of overtaking Samsung Electronics Co. to become the world's largest maker of smartphones.

While Huawei's operating system may serve it well in its domestic market, any plans to dethrone Google's Android globally will be misplaced, according to Neil Shah, research director at Counterpoint Research.

"Huawei with deep pockets and scale in China can pull this off in the domestic market, but to reach Google Android level service integration and app quality

outside China is going to be less trivial and a mammoth task," he said.

Huawei seems confident it can do it. "Our HarmonyOS is more powerful and secure than Android, and it has greater distributed capability and is future-facing," Yu said. "Can HarmonyOS be installed on smartphones? Of course."

For HarmonyOS to work, Huawei will need developers to build apps for its ecosystem - a major question mark around its fledgling software. "It took Android a decade to reach here with deep integration of Google Mobile Services, and it now has a well

curated and relatively secure App Store with millions of apps, advanced AI capabilities," Shah added.

Last year, Huawei spent at least 500 million yuan (\$70 million) to lure developers to work on its homegrown OS, and the company may invest more this year, said Yu. "The biggest attraction is our profit-sharing scheme. We may only keep 10% of the app profits and leave the rest to developers," he said.

The efficacy of HarmonyOS is something Huawei still has to prove. Yu went into back-end technical details but refrained from describing consumer-facing features,

suggesting it may not yet be ready for prime-time.

To help with app migration, HarmonyOS will be built on the Linux and Huawei's own LiteOS kernels for now, Yu said, which will change in future generations of the OS.

Two months into a Trump administration ban that cut off Huawei from American suppliers, Huawei is starting to feel the pinch. It warned of a tougher performance in the second half of 2019 and has been internally preparing for a drop in overseas smartphone shipments of a staggering 60 million units. Yu said Friday that sanctions imposed in May had already reduced smartphone shipments by more than 10 million units in the second quarter.

Huawei is delaying the release of its first foldable smartphone Mate X because of "production volume issues". Yu warned buyers may have to wait until November for the long-awaited product. The postponement is a major blow for the Chinese company, which is battling Samsung and Apple in the global smartphone market.

Huawei has looked to its home turf to offset international headwinds. The company has assigned as many as 10,000 engineers, working across three shifts a day, to develop alternatives to American software and components. Huawei already designs its own HiSilicon Kirin processors, though it retains a reliance on U.S. firms such as Qualcomm Inc. and Broadcom Inc. for additional wireless chips.

And it's focusing on domestic sales: the company commanded 37% of the Chinese smartphone market in the second quarter, according to IDC, giving it roughly the same share as the second and third largest vendors combined. Strong home-market sales boosted Huawei's shipments by 24% to 118 million units in the first half, the company said earlier. **BLOOMBERG**

CORPORATE BITS

CEM and Women's Association hold seminar on energy saving



Companhia de Electricidade de Macau (CEM) and the Women's General Association of Macau (AGMM) held a seminar on "Energy Saving and Safety" yesterday, attracting over 160 participants.

The seminar aimed to share knowledge on energy saving and safety, raising awareness about the importance of regular maintenance and repair of buildings' electrical installations.

The event was part of a series CEM has been organizing since 2009 on such topics, together with the Office for the Development of the Energy Sector. CEM aims to encourage residents and the hotel industry to save energy and contribute to the government's initiative of "building a low-carbon Macau, creating green living together."

The seminar covered topics such as household energy safety and saving tips, the responsibilities of building communal electrical installations, as well as the importance of regular maintenance.

At the seminar, the AGMM shared their hope that attendees would be able to share the tips learnt with their family and friends and incorporate green concepts into their daily lives.

MGM distributes typhoon kits to the community



MGM has worked with three different local associations in preparing for typhoon season. More than 400 emergency kits have been handed out to small-and-medium-size enterprises in low-lying areas, plus elderly people through The Neighborhood Association (UGAMM), the Women's General Association of Macau and Caritas Macau.

Each of these kits contained first-aid supplies, a poncho, a whistle, a flashlight and a leaflet containing useful information.

Jiang Xuchun, Director of Seac Pai Van Family Support and Community Service Complex of UGAMM said, "The emergency kits are very considerate for including a comprehensive range of supplies

to prepare elderly [people] for the upcoming typhoons and to raise their awareness of disaster prevention."

Meanwhile, on a user's perspective, an elderly person from UGAMM, Chan Sui Fu, said upon receiving a kit, "I find this kit very helpful, and I will store it somewhere accessible."

Cheang Yat Hong, owner of Luen Heng Grocery expressed his gratitude. "Right after Typhoon Hato back in 2017, MGM offered a cloud data backup service to us, and they have been keeping in touch with us during the typhoon season to ensure our safety. I am truly thankful for all these caring acts, especially for the latest hand-delivered emergency kit."



Trump is making Xi's superpower 2050 plan tougher by the day

EVEN before the trade war, Xi Jinping's plan to turn China into one of the world's most advanced economies by 2050 was ambitious.

His grand vision is now looking more aspirational by the day. As mounting pressure from Donald Trump adds to a slew of structural challenges facing China's \$14 trillion economy - including record debt levels, rampant pollution, and an aging population - the risk is that the country gets stuck in a "middle-income trap," stagnating before it reaches rich-world levels of development.

Economists say Xi's government can avoid that fate by boosting domestic consumption, liberalizing markets and increasing the country's technological prowess. But it won't be easy. Only five developing countries have made the transition to advanced-nation status while maintaining high levels of growth since 1960, according to Nobel laureate Michael Spence, a professor at New York University's Stern School of Business.

"China trying to do this with active opposition from the U.S. makes the hurdle that much higher to jump over," said Andrew Polk, co-founder of research firm Trivium China in Beijing. "But the U.S. has clearly lit a fire under China. If it ultimately does succeed we may look back at this moment as the catalyst that really kicked their efforts into high gear."

SOFTER LONG-TERM OUTLOOK

The International Monetary Fund highlighted President Xi's challenge on Friday, saying in its annual report on China's economy that if a comprehensive trade agreement isn't reached, it would damage the nation's long-term outlook. "China's access to foreign markets and technology may be significantly reduced," the IMF said.

Odds of a near-term trade deal appear low. After President Trump issued a surprise threat to apply new tariffs on \$300 billion of Chinese goods two weeks ago, Beijing responded by halting purchases of U.S. crops and allowing the yuan to fall to the weakest level since 2008 on August 5.

Trump's administration fired back within hours, formally labeling China a currency manipulator. The White House is also holding off on a decision about granting exemptions to U.S. companies that want to do business with Huawei Technologies Co., the Chinese tech giant that Trump placed on a blacklist in May, people familiar with the matter said.

Any concessions from China are unlikely until October at the earliest, said Jeff Moon, a former assistant U.S. trade representative for China affairs. Xi faces growing internal pressure to project strength as anti-government protests in Hong Kong intensify and China prepares to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the

People's Republic on Oct. 1.

"Any sign of weakness is unacceptable to Chinese leaders," Moon said.

In one sign of how rapidly the Sino-U.S. relationship has deteriorated, some state media in China have raised the prospect that Beijing may consider cutting off engagement on trade entirely. Communist Party-run publications have stoked nationalism in recent weeks while exuding confidence in China's economic system and its flexibility to cope with external challenges.

"Chinese enterprises are speeding up adjustment, creating new export markets," Hu Xijin, the editor-in-chief of China's state-run Global Times, tweeted on Thursday, after data showing overseas shipments beat expectations in July.

In the short run, China's government has ample firepower to prevent economic growth from falling below the 6% lower bound of its annual target range. Bloomberg Economics predicts the central bank will cut interest rates this year, while Standard Chartered Plc expects fiscal stimulus to drive a moderate recovery in the second half of 2019.

DEBT AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Xi has also made some progress in tackling China's long-term challenges. A more than two-year deleveraging campaign has helped wring some of the worst ex-

cesses out of the country's debt markets, while regulators have taken a much harder line on high-polluting industries in recent years. The services sector now accounts for more than half of gross domestic product.

China has also poured billions into developing a homegrown high-tech industry, going head-to-head with the West in areas like artificial intelligence and electric vehicles. In an October 2017 speech that laid out his long-term vision for the Chinese economy, Xi vowed to join the most innovative countries by 2035 on the way to great-power status by 2050.

Yet the trade war has laid bare just how far China remains from some of Xi's targets. The most striking example: America's blacklisting of Huawei, which threatens to cripple the Chinese national champion because local chip designs aren't yet sophisticated enough to replace those from the U.S.

"For China it will be harder to access state-of-the-art technology," said Bert Hofman, director of the East Asian Institute at the National University of Singapore. "This will make it harder for China to catch up, but at the same time it will set stronger incentives to develop their own technology ecosystem. How China does this will determine how fast they will grow."

Debt and demographics are two other big challenges. China's

debt burden has continued to rise despite the deleveraging campaign, climbing to about 303% of GDP in the first quarter, one of the highest ratios among developing nations, according to the Institute of International Finance. The country's working-age population is forecast to shrink by more than 20% to 718 million by 2050, according to data compiled by the United Nations.

While China's per-capita GDP has jumped tenfold since 2000 to an estimated \$10,000 this year, it's still far below readings of about \$65,000 in the U.S. and Singapore - one of the five economies highlighted by Spence as having achieved advanced-country status since 1960.

China's economy is still expanding faster than its rich-world counterparts for now, but its advantage is shrinking.

Growth slowed to 6.2% in the second quarter, the weakest pace in at least 27 years, and Standard Chartered estimates that if Trump's threatened tariffs come into effect on Sept. 1, they could slice 0.3 percentage point off China's annual rate of expansion. Xi has tried to diversify the country's stable of overseas customers via his signature Belt & Road initiative and other trading pacts, but the U.S. still accounts for about 20% of China's exports.

"The U.S.-China trade tensions certainly make the transition harder," said Michelle Lam, greater China economist at Societe Generale SA in Hong Kong. "China will lose some export market share and the technology spillover from the U.S. to China will slow. But the current tensions also provide the opportunity for policy makers to press harder with reform." **MDT/BLOOMBERG**



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Property of the Week



The Manhattan – Luxury Residence In Central Taipa

HK\$13,600,000 1,720 ft² 3 2

One of the best buildings and locations throughout Macau, The Manhattan has a great reputation for quality. Managed by Savills, the property has a Clubhouse, Gym, Swimming Pool, Massage Room, Function Rooms, a Cinema and a childrens play area making it the idea family dwelling.

The apartment has 3 bedrooms, the Master Bedroom is en-suite and the 2 further bedrooms share one bathroom. It is in great condition and comes with furnishings included. It is currently rented until Dec 2019 and can be sold with an ongoing tenancy agreement for any investors.

OPEN TO ALL OFFERS!



Man Fai, Taipa

\$8,580,000
1,390 ft²
3 2



Wa Bao, Taipa

\$7,995,000
1,071 ft²
2 2



Property Hotlist



Keng Ou Office space, Macau

\$17,500,000
\$38,000/mth
2,352 ft² 3



La Marina Studio Apartment, Macau

\$11,800/mth
1



More Listings

For Sale

- [Coloane] Coloane apartment 3 2 1,665 ft² **\$8,500,000** (ref: 19070001)
- [Taipa] One Central 2 2 1,269 ft² **\$13,900,000** (ref: 19070002)
- [Cotai] One Grantai 4 2 2,556 ft² **\$25,600,000**
- [Taipa] Manhattan Carpark **\$1,530,000** (ref: 19045003)
- [Taipa] Pearl on the Lough Carpark **\$2,300,000** (ref: 19065012ST)

For Rent

- [Macau] Duplex 1 1 **\$9,800/mth**
- [Taipa] One Grantai 3 3 2,122 ft² **\$23,000/mth** (ref: 19030001RT)
- [Taipa] Manhattan 3 2 1,720 ft² **\$23,800/mth** (ref: 18110695RT)
- [Taipa] Nova Grand 2 1 986 ft² **\$16,000/mth** (ref: 19055007RT)
- [Taipa] One Grantai Carpark **\$2,500/mth** (ref: 19030001RT)

Recent Movements

Rented Cheoc Van House, Coloane, 3 beds

Rented Nova Park, Taipa, 1 bed

Rented Soi Cheung, Taipa, 1 bed



JML in the Community



Cradle of Hope



Caritas Macau



Macau Bats Junior Rugby Team



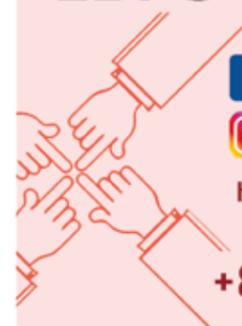
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AP PHOTO



Left: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un sitting and surrounded by military staff. Top right: the launch of a short-range ballistic missile from the east coast of North Korea. Bottom right: Visitors use binoculars to see the North Korean side from the unification observatory in Paju, South Korea

Pyongyang says Kim supervised weapons tests, criticizes Seoul

KIM TONG-HYUNG, SEOUL

NORTH Korea said yesterday that leader Kim Jong Un supervised test firings of an unspecified new weapons system, which extended a streak of launches that are seen as an attempt to build leverage ahead of negotiations with the United States while driving a wedge between the U.S. and South Korea.

The report by North Korean state media came hours after President Donald Trump said that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un expressed a desire to meet again to start nuclear negotiations after the end of ongoing joint U.S.-South Korea military exercises, and that he apologized for the flurry of recent short-range ballistic launches that rattled U.S. allies in the region.

In a separate statement yesterday, North Korea's Foreign Ministry blasted South Korea for continuing to host military drills with the United States, and said that future dialogue will be held strictly between Pyongyang and Washington and not between the Koreans.

South Korea's military said the North on Saturday fired what appeared to be two short-range

ballistic missiles. It said they flew about 400 kilometers before landing in waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

Kim expressed "great satisfaction" over the launches, which the North's official Korean Central News Agency, or KCNA, said verified that the new weapons system is able to perform as designed. North Korea's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper published several photos that showed Kim watching from an observation post and what appeared to be a missile soaring from a mobile launcher.

KCNA didn't specify whether the weapons were ballistic missiles or rocket artillery, but said they were developed to suit the North's "terrain condition" and provide "advantageous tactical character different from existing weapons systems."

Kim Dong-yub, an analyst at Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies, said North Korea's photos and South Korea's flight data of the launches suggest that the North tested a new weapons system that is different from the short-range ballistic missiles it repeatedly fired in recent weeks.

South Korea's military had des-

cribed the previous missiles as similar to the Russian-made Iskander, a solid-fuel, nuclear-capable missile that is highly maneuverable and travels on low trajectories, improving its chances of evading missile defense systems.

North Korea's fifth round of weapons launches in less than three weeks was seen as a protest of the slow pace of nuclear negotiations and continuance of the U.S.-South Korea military drills the North claims are an invasion rehearsal.

Future dialogue will be held strictly between Pyongyang and Washington and not between the Koreas, according to the North

Experts say Trump's downplaying of the North's launches allowed the country more room to intensify its testing activity while it seeks to build leverage ahead of a possible resumption of negotiations. Talks have stalled since the collapse of Trump's

second summit with Kim in Vietnam in February over disagreements on exchanging sanctions relief and disarmament.

By launching a slew of weapons that directly threaten South Korea but not the U.S. mainland or its Pacific territories, North Korea also appears to be dialing up pressure on Seoul to make stronger efforts to coax major concessions from the United States on Pyongyang's behalf.

North Korea in recent months has ignored the South's calls for dialogue while demanding that Seoul turn away from Washington and resume inter-Korean economic cooperation held back by U.S.-led sanctions against the North.

In a statement released through KCNA, Kwon Jong Gun, director of the U.S. affairs department at Pyongyang's Foreign Ministry, criticized South Korea for raising concerns over the North's recent testing activity while continuing the drills with the U.S.

The North also on Saturday lashed out at South Korea's recent acquisition of U.S.-made F-35 fighter jets and other plans to expand its military capabilities,

saying that the South will gain "nothing but destruction" if it pursues a contest of strength with the North.

"Though we are to enter into a dialogue in future as the currents flow in favor of dialogue, (the South) had better keep in mind that this dialogue would be held strictly between the D.P.R.K and the U.S., not between the North and the South," Kwon said, referring to North Korea by its formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"Given that the military exercise clearly puts us as an enemy in its concept, (the South) should think that an inter-Korean contact itself will be difficult to be made unless they put an end to such a military exercise or before they make a plausible excuse or an explanation in a sincere manner for conducting the military exercise," Kwon said.

South Korea has said North Korea's recent launches could hurt efforts to stabilize peace on the Korean Peninsula and called for the North to uphold an agreement to form a joint military committee to discuss reducing tensions, which was part of an inter-Korean military agreement reached last year.

Hours after the North's latest launches, Trump tweeted that Kim spent much of a letter he wrote to the president complaining about "the ridiculous and expensive" U.S.-South Korea military exercises. He said that Kim offered him "a small apology" for the recent flurry of missile tests, and that he assured him they would stop when the exercises end. AP

UAE-BACKED SEPARATISTS PULL OUT OF YEMEN'S ADEN

Yemeni separatists backed by the United Arab Emirates began withdrawing yesterday from positions they seized from the internationally-recognized government in the southern port city of Aden. The Southern Transitional Council had wrested control of the city from government forces after four days of fighting that killed more than 70 people and exposed a major rift in the Saudi-led coalition, which has been battling Iran-aligned Houthi rebels in northern Yemen since 2015. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates lead the coalition, which is ostensibly fighting the rebels on behalf of the government. But the UAE is the dominate force in the south, where it has an estimated 90,000 allied militiamen, and has long been at odds with the government, which is largely based in Saudi Arabia.

CAR BOMB KILLS 3 UN STAFF OUTSIDE MALL IN LIBYA

A bomb-laden vehicle exploded outside a shopping mall in Libya's eastern city of Benghazi, killing at least three U.N. staff members, a spokesman for the United Nations secretary-general said. The attack came even as the country's warring sides said they accepted a cease-fire proposed by the U.N. aimed at halting combat in the capital Tripoli during an upcoming Muslim holiday. Health officials said the blast took place outside Arkan Mall in the Hawari neighborhood, where people were gathering for shopping a day before the Eid al-Adha holiday begins. The Benghazi municipal council said the attack targeted a convoy for the U.N. Support Mission in Libya. The site of the attack is close to offices of the mission in Libya. Two of the dead hailed from Libya and Fuji, and the blast wounded nine people, according to health officials.

GROUPS URGE PROBE OF JAIL CONDITIONS OF US CITIZEN IN EGYPT

Two leading rights groups are demanding an independent probe into detention conditions of an Egyptian-American citizen held in Egypt on terrorism charges. Human Rights Watch and The Freedom Initiative said in a joint statement on Friday that Khaled Hassan had attempted to take his own life while in detention. They say conditions under which he's being held are deplorable. Hassan has been jailed since January 2018 on charges of belonging to the Islamic State group but has not been brought to trial. The rights groups say Hassan had previously alleged he was being tortured and raped while in custody. HRW's Michael Page, deputy director for Mideast and North Africa, says the "Egyptian authorities have sadly earned their miserable reputation for mistreating prisoners, including denying them safe and sanitary prison conditions."

AP PHOTO



MUSLIMS CLASH WITH ISRAELI POLICE AT JERUSALEM HOLY SITE

ILAN BEN ZION, JERUSALEM

Muslim worshippers and Israeli police clashed yesterday at a major Jerusalem holy site during prayers marking the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha.

Palestinian medics said at least 14 people were wounded, one seriously, in the skirmishes with police at the site, which Muslims refer to as the Al-Aqsa mosque compound and Jews refer to as the Temple Mount. Police said at least four officers were wounded. Witnesses said at least two people were arrested.

Clouds of tear gas swirled and stun grenades thundered across the stone-paved esplanade as masses of worshippers skirmished with police in the worst bout of fighting at the contested holy site in months.

The clashes came amid heightened tensions between Israel and the Palestinians, just days after an Israeli soldier was killed south of Jerusalem. On Saturday, Israeli troops killed four Palestinian militants who attempted to cross the Gaza border fence.

Tens of thousands of Muslims had flocked to the site in Jerusalem's Old City early Sunday for holiday prayers, police said. Jews are also observing on Sunday the Ninth of Av, a day of fasting and mourning for the destruction of the two Biblical temples which stood at the site in antiquity.

The site is the holiest for Jews and the third holiest for Muslims, after Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia, and has long been a flashpoint at the epicenter of

the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Jordan, which serves as the custodian of the holy site, said in a statement that it had sent a formal complaint to Israel and condemned what it called Israel's "irresponsible provocations." Sufian al-Qudah, a spokesman for the Jordanian Foreign Ministry, said Amman holds Israel completely responsible for the violence.

Large numbers of Palestinians had gathered at the gates of the compound early Sunday after rumors circulated that police would allow Jewish visitors to enter the site. The protesters chanted "Allahu Akbar" (God is greatest) and threw stones at police, who then charged into the compound while firing stun grenades and rubber-coated bullets.

Israeli police had initially barred entry to Jewish visitors, but reversed their decision after the clashes broke out and allowed them to enter. Several dozen entered the site under close police escort and Muslim worshippers began throwing chairs and other objects at the group. The Jewish visitors left the compound shortly thereafter.

Jerusalem District police commander Doron Yedid told Israeli media that the decision to allow Jewish visitors to enter the site was made "with the backing of the top political officials." Police spokesmen could not be reached for comment.

The reversal came after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu's religious nationalist allies called for the site to be opened to Jewish visitors. Israelis are headed to unprecedented repeat elections next month after Netanyahu failed to form a government following April's elections.

Jews are barred from praying at the compound under a longstanding arrangement between Israel and Muslim authorities. Jewish tradition also maintains that Jews should avoid entering the holy site.

But in recent years Israeli religious nationalists have stepped up visits to the site to challenge the arrangement. Jewish extremists have called for destroying the mosque and rebuilding the Biblical temple.

The Palestinians view such visits as provocations, and have long feared that Israel intends to take over the site or partition it. The Israeli government has repeatedly said it has no intention of changing the status quo.

Hanan Ashrawi, a senior leader in the Palestine Liberation Organization, said Israel was "fueling religious tensions in Jerusalem," adding that Israeli officials are "fully responsible for its grave consequences."

The compound is in east Jerusalem, which Israel captured in the 1967 war along with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, territories the Palestinians seek as part of a future state. Israel views all of Jerusalem as its unified capital, while the Palestinians want east Jerusalem as the capital of their future state.

Israeli-Palestinian tensions have spiked following President Donald Trump's decision in 2017 to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and move the U.S. Embassy there. The Israeli-Palestinian peace process has been moribund for at least a decade, and the Palestinians have cut ties with the Trump administration over what they see as its unfair bias toward Israel.

In a separate incident on Sunday, Israeli troops killed a Palestinian gunman after he opened fire on them from across the perimeter fence around the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli military said an "armed terrorist" approached the frontier early Sunday and opened fire toward troops on the other side, who responded by shooting at the attacker. The army said a tank also targeted a nearby military post operated by the Islamic militant group Hamas.

The Palestinian Health Ministry in Gaza identified the deceased as 26-year-old Marwan Nasser. It was not clear if he was a member of an armed group, and no one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

On Saturday, Israeli troops killed four Palestinian militants who the army said had tried to carry out a cross-border attack. Hamas, which has ruled Gaza since 2007, said the attack was an "individual act" carried out by youths frustrated at the Israeli-Egyptian blockade on Gaza and was not planned by the group. AP

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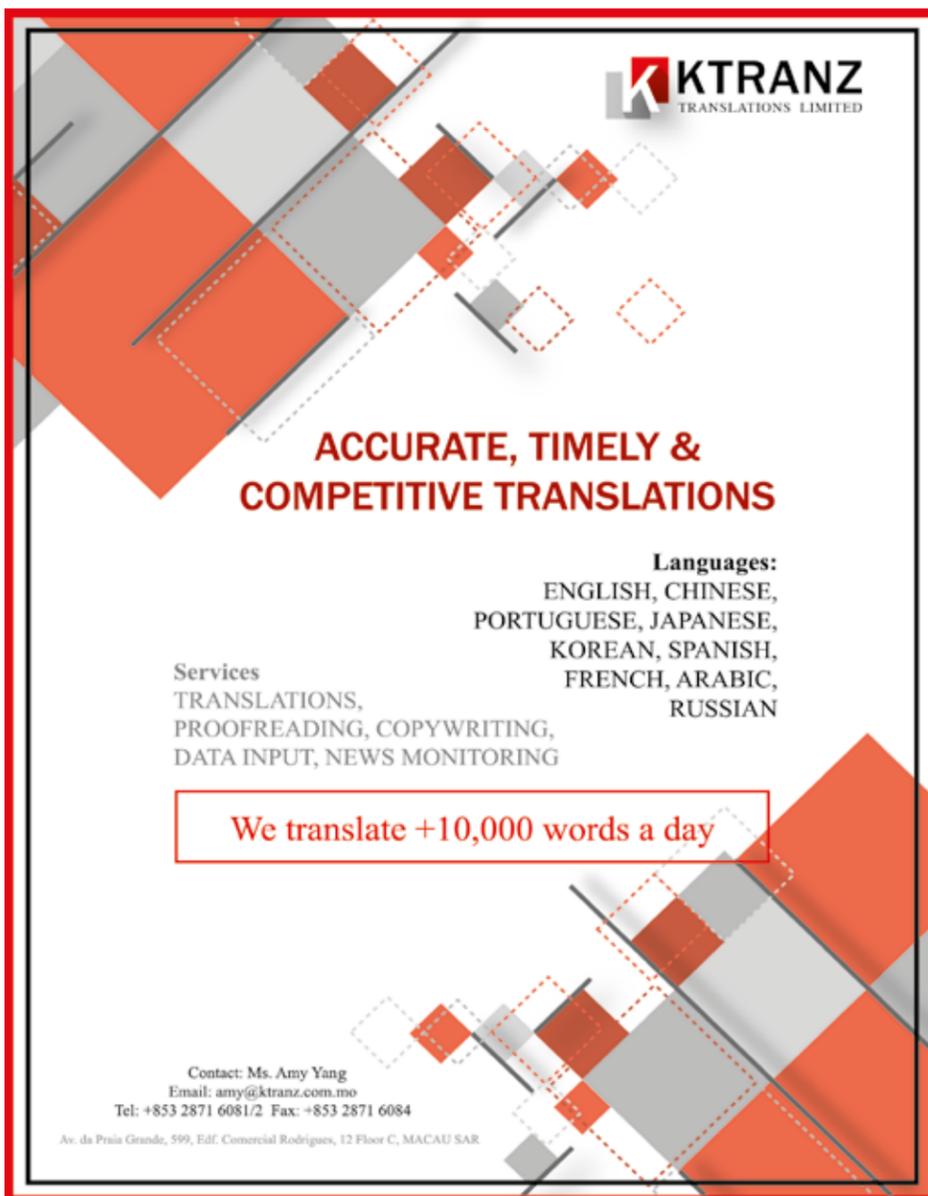
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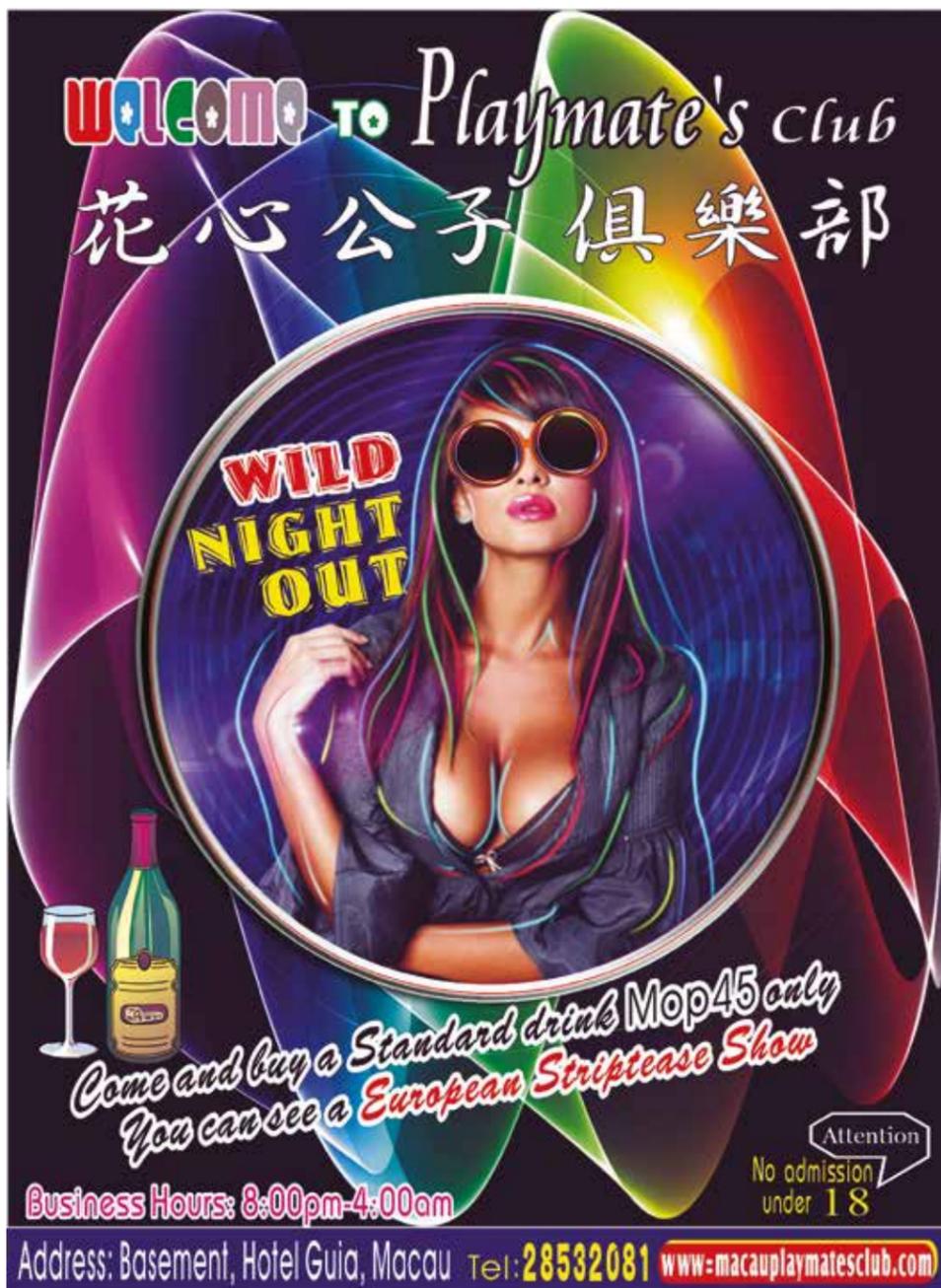
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what's ON



UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTERS

TIME: 12pm-6pm

UNTIL: October 31, 2019

VENUE: Access to Level 23 via lifts behind

Morpheus check-in counters

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

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

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except on Thursdays; open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Science Center

ADMISSION: MOP25 (Exhibition Centre)

MOP60 (Planetarium 2D dome or 2D sky

shows)

MOP80 (Planetarium 3D dome or 3D sky

shows)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

MANDARIN'S HOUSE

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

ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

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

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

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

WYNN PRESENTS: GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS

TIME: 10am-10pm

UNTIL: October 6, 2019

VENUE: Wynn Macao and Wynn Palace

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6882 2839

Offbeat

BEAR FALLS ON NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PATROL CAR

They probably don't train people for this at the Sheriff's Academy.

A patrol car was struck by a falling bear in Northern California last weekend.

Authorities say a Humboldt County sheriff's deputy was driving on State Route 96 on Aug. 3, answering a report of a drug overdose in the community of Orleans, when the bear fell or jumped onto the car, apparently from a steep embankment.

The bear smashed the hood and windshield. The patrol car hit an embankment, rolled onto its side and burst into flames.

The deputy managed to escape without serious injury.

The fire was contained to about half an acre but the car was gutted.

However, the California Department of Transportation stated: "Don't worry, the bear also fled the scene."

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	Moda Portugal Sr.4
18:15	Amor Maior (Repetição)
19:00	Volta ao Mundo
19:30	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Banco Asiático De Investimento em Infra-Estruturas
21:50	Livros com João Guedes
22:00	Todas as Palavras
22:25	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Os Portugueses no Reino de Siam - A Glória De Ayutthaya
00:45	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:30	RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

08 - 14 Aug

CRAYON SHINCHAN 2019

ROOM1

2:15pm

Director: Masakazu Hashimoto

Starring: Yumiko Kobayashi, Toshiyuki Morikawa, Miki Narahashi

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 100min



TOY STORY 4

ROOM1

4:00pm

Director: Josh Cooley

Starring: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 109min

LINE WALKER 2

ROOM1

4:30pm

Director: Jazz Boon

Starring: Nick Cheung, Peiyao Jiang, Louis Koo

Language: Cantonese (English & Chinese)

Duration: 110min

THE FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW

ROOM 2

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

Director: David Leitch

Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Jason Statham, Idris Elba

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 135min

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:

NOBITA'S CHRONICLE OF THE MOON EXPLORATION

ROOM 3

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

Director: Jeong-beom Lee, Shinnosuke Yakuwa

Starring: Wasabi Mizuta, Sang Hyun Uhm, Jung-jae Lee

Language: Cantonese (English & Chinese)

THE LION KING

ROOM3

9:30pm

Director: J Jon Favreau

Starring: Donald Glover, Beyoncé, Seth Rogen

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 118min

this day in history



2003 GILLIGAN: LANGUAGE 'WASN'T PERFECT'

The journalist at the centre of the controversy surrounding the death of weapons expert Dr David Kelly has admitted that his language "wasn't perfect" when he reported the government had "sexed up" its weapons dossier on Iraq.

Andrew Gilligan, defence correspondent for the BBC Radio 4's Today programme, was giving evidence to the Hutton Inquiry on its second day.

He stood by the main thrust of his report - that the government had exaggerated Iraq's weapons capability to make the case for war.

But it emerged during four hours of questioning by Lord Hutton that his reporting had been criticised in an internal BBC email as "flawed".

The inquiry is looking into the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr Kelly, who apparently committed suicide in July after being named as the possible source for Mr Gilligan's report.

A transcript of the notes Mr Gilligan made from his last meeting with Dr Kelly on 22 May said the government's dossier was "transformed a week before publication to make it sexier... a classic was the 45 minutes" [referring to a claim that Iraq could launch weapons of mass destruction within 45 minutes.]

It went on, "Most people in intelligence weren't happy with it, because it didn't reflect the considered view they were putting forward."

The transcript then showed a single word, "Campbell".

The prime minister's director of communications, Alastair Campbell, has vigorously denied ordering the dossier to be changed.

Andrew Gilligan was then asked about the controversial live report for the Today programme, broadcast at 0607 on 29 May.

In it, he said a "senior official" had told him that the government had "sexed up" its dossier with a claim which it "probably knew was wrong".

Mr Gilligan admitted he had not used exactly the right language.

The inquiry was then shown an internal BBC email from Mr Gilligan's editor on the Today programme, Kevin Marsh, a month after the controversial report was broadcast.

It said: "The story was a good piece of investigative journalism marred by flawed reporting. Our biggest millstone has been his [Andrew Gilligan's] loose use of language and lack of judgement in some of the phraseology."

Just before Mr Gilligan left the inquiry he was asked whether he had exaggerated or embellished what Dr Kelly had said.

"No," he replied.

The hearings continue.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Lord Hutton published his report on 28 January 2004. It was highly critical of the BBC, saying the key allegations reported by Andrew Gilligan were "unfounded", and criticising "defective" BBC editorial processes. Lord Hutton absolved the government of any kind of "dishonourable, underhand or duplicitous strategy" in the leaking of Dr Kelly's name to the press. But he said the Ministry of Defence was "at fault" for failing to tell Dr Kelly that his identity as the suspected source would be confirmed to journalists who suggested it.

Shortly after the report was published, BBC chairman Gavyn Davis and the corporation's Director General Greg Dyke resigned.

Andrew Gilligan handed in his resignation on 30 January, describing the BBC as the victim of a "grave injustice".

He joined the Evening Standard newspaper before returning to broadcasting, presenting a documentary for Channel Four.

Mark Thompson, the former Chief Executive of Channel Four, took over as Director General in June 2004.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Things are heating up in one of your relationships—and not in a good way. Instead of getting all hot and bothered, you are going to be getting hot under the collar.

TAURUS Apr. 20-May. 20
 Are you feeling pressured to be active right now when you really don't want to be? Listen to yourself and follow your mood, despite what other people may say.

GEMINI May. 21-Jun. 21
 You have a very admirable sense of personal accountability for what you're doing right now, but is it completely warranted? There is a lot to be said for delegating some of your tasks.

CANCER Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 There are many different ways to burn off the extra calories you're worried about—all you have to do is think of one or two. Getting active can be fun; it doesn't have to feel like punishment.

LEO Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 It's time to focus more of your energy on your social life. Too many opportunities to see great plays, bands, or dear friends have passed you by.

VIRGO Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 Just because you have one deep and meaningful conversation with someone doesn't mean that a romance is in the works—of course, you know this, but the other person doesn't.

LIBRA Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 You know that expression, "Stop and smell the roses"? Well, today you should not only stop and smell them, but meditate on them and breathe deep!

SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 Your charm is legendary, but it might not be enough to light up the eyes of a certain introverted person today—do not let this get to you! Focus on the people who do appreciate you.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Sometimes, people choose to show their affection for you in odd ways that you might not fully appreciate right away. So today you need to let a disconcerting statement settle in for a while before you react to it.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Today you'll be dealing with many different small projects that don't have looming deadlines. So you shouldn't focus your energy on achieving some sort of a dramatic finish.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 A person can't be selfless and kind all the time! Take a break from good deeds today and make time for some self-serving acts. Put yourself first a few times when you usually wouldn't.

PISCES Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 It seems that you were not fully aware of all the responsibilities that one of your newer partnerships would entail. This fact might hit you all too hard today when a deadline gets pushed up.

The Born Loser by Chip Sanson



SUDOKU

EASY					EASY+				
4	3			1		8		9	
	5	2		3	6	7	3		2
			6	4			2	3	8
5	7		8	9	2	6	8	5	
2	8	6	7				2	9	
1		4	8		1	6	4		3
			9		2		3	6	1
	7			5	9	8		4	

MEDIUM					HARD					
				5	6	9				
3		2							5	4
	7									
	1		4							
			7	2						
	8			3						
		8	3							
6										
1										

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	24	32	cloudy
Harbin	20	25	heavy rain
Tianjin	24	33	cloudy
Urumqi	24	36	clear
Xi'an	22	33	overcast
Lhasa	9	21	drizzle
Chengdu	24	33	shower
Chongqing	25	33	cloudy
Kunming	17	25	shower
Nanjing	26	34	cloudy
Shanghai	27	33	drizzle
Wuhan	27	36	cloudy
Hangzhou	26	33	drizzle
Taipei	26	30	heavy rain
Guangzhou	28	37	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	34	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	18	25	drizzle
Frankfurt	15	25	drizzle
Paris	17	26	drizzle
London	15	24	cloudy
New York	23	32	moderate rain

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Kill; 5- What ___ mind reader?; 9- Moist; 13- Miller offering; 14- Spicy sauce; 16- Toledo's lake; 17- Stable staple; 18- Ill-suited; 19- Believe; 20- Mine car; 21- Susan of "The Partridge Family"; 22- Oppressor; 24- Greek god of war; 26- Black-and-white treat; 27- Approves; 29- Collecting; 33- Disgrace; 34- Kim's ex; 35- Threesome; 36- Opening; 37- Bias; 38- Year abroad; 39- Loyal; 41- ___ d'oeuvre; 42- Destined; 44- Devil worship; 46- Weeps; 47- Juniors, perhaps; 48- Rude dude; 49- At the rear of; 52- Shade maker; 53- Make it to the end; 57- Waiting for the Robert ___; 58- Muslim religion; 60- "The Time Machine" race; 61- Televises; 62- Muslim soldier; 63- Spider-Man creator Lee; 64- Depilatory brand; 65- Work without ___; 66- Fifth Avenue retailer;

DOWN: 1- Job opening; 2- Person who is liable to tell untruths; 3- ___ boy; 4- Polite agreement; 5- Parenthetical comments; 6- Lions' locks; 7- Now ___ me down...; 8- Viper; 9- Thaw; 10- Tract; 11- Way of carrying oneself; 12- Animal skin; 15- Allure; 23- May I help you?; 25- Deli bread; 26- Harbingers; 27- Mitchell heroine; 28- Done for; 29- What you put on snooze; 30- Hopping mad; 31- Dressed to the ___; 32- Well-behaved; 33- Cpls.' superiors; 34- At ___ for words; 37- Elaborate dance party; 40- Least difficult; 42- To and ___; 43- Lacking oxygen; 45- Smoking or ___?; 46- Consign; 48- Burn brightly; 49- Frijole; 50- "Night" author Wiesel; 51- In this place; 52- Spirit; 54- Neighbor of Sask.; 55- Saturate; 56- Sardine containers; 59- Doo-wop syllable;

Friday's solution

S	C	A	R	B	S	S	M	U	T			
A	H	M	E	O	R	A	L	S	H	E	R	E
P	I	E	R	A	N	A	N	S	T	N	A	
S	C	R	E	W	D	R	I	V	E	R	S	T
E	A	T	E	R	Y	T	R	O	O	P	S	
O	R	B	E	E	R	S	T	O	L	E		
R	I	L	E	O	A	U	N	T	A	L	O	T
O	C	E	A	N	S	T	O	I	C	I	T	A
A	B	R	U	P	T	R	E	L	I	S	H	
S	A	D	L	E	G	I	O	N	N	A	I	R
E	R	I	E	T	A	C	I	T	O	N	A	R
S	E	S	S	E	R	E	N	O	T	O	N	S
S	A	D	E	A	S	K						

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- 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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AP PHOTO



CYRUS AND HEMSWORTH SPLIT AFTER LESS THAN YEAR OF MARRIAGE

MILEY Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth have separated after less than a year of marriage.

A representative for the singer said Saturday the pair decided a break was best while they focus on "themselves and careers."

Cyrus and Hemsworth, who starred in "The Hunger Games" films, have been an on-and-off again couple for more

than a decade.

They married in December.

The representative said the pair will remain "dedicated parents to all of their animals they share." They requested privacy.

The entertainers both starred in the 2010 romantic drama "The Last Song."

The split was first reported Saturday by People magazine.

RAPPER MYSTIKAL FALLS DURING FLORIDA CONCERT

AP PHOTO



A video shows the rapper Mystikal falling off the stage 30 seconds into his first performance during a concert in Florida, cutting the show short.

Michael "Mystikal" Tyler, a rapper and actor from New Orleans, was about to perform his first set at the Ritz Ybor, in Tampa, on Thursday night when he slipped and fell.

Xanny Ramirez shot the video when Mystikal came on at

1 a.m. and fell offstage into the crowd.

He says that Mystikal tried performing for another 45 minutes, sitting down, but expressed that the pain was too much and was escorted off stage.

In an Instagram video posted the next day, Mystikal had a cast around his right leg and said that his tour continues. He is performing in Pittsburgh on Friday.

RICHARD GERE VISITS MIGRANTS STUCK IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

CARRYING boxes of fruit, Richard Gere visited rescued migrants Friday on a humanitarian ship that has been stuck in the Mediterranean Sea for over a week, landing smack in the middle of a debate over immigration that European nations have not been able to resolve. The American film star took food and supplies by boat to 121 people aboard the Open Arms, a rescue ship floating in international waters near the Italian island of

Lampedusa after being blocked from entering ports in Italy and Malta.

The actor, 69, spoke to several migrants who had fled war-torn Libya on unseaworthy smuggling boats before being rescued, among them a man and his baby.

Gere has a long history of human rights activism and often campaigns for environmental issues and AIDS research. He has been banned from China for advocating for human rights in Tibet.

AP PHOTO



AD



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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

FOOTBALL | EPL

Late Kane drama follows Man City's Sterling show

AFTER having watched Manchester City and Liverpool begin the Premier League with emphatic wins, Tottenham provided extra excitement on Saturday with two late Harry Kane goals bagging a 3-1 victory over promoted Aston Villa.

Spurs' record signing Tanguy Ndombele also netted on his debut as Mauricio Pochettino's side was forced to dig deep after conceding an early goal in the late match.

Manchester City delivered its own statement earlier by routing West Ham 5-0 at the London Stadium, a day after Liverpool's campaign began with a 4-1 win over Norwich.

"They set the standard from minute go," Kane said of the two pre-season favorites. "We kept with them for a while last year and then fell off towards the second half of the season. It is important we don't fall too far behind too early. We have got to keep up with them."

Despite missing a good chance before the break, Kane looked sharp in his first game of the season.

"We talk very highly about him. I think he's been on a nice holiday," Pochettino said of the England captain.

The Spurs manager was delighted to see his side fight back after falling behind to John McGinn's

AP PHOTO



ninth-minute strike, with Ndombele finally leveling in the 73rd.

Kane finished coolly to put Spurs ahead in the 86th, four minutes before the forward sealed the win.

"We knew it would be a tough baptism," Villa coach Dean Smith said.

Raheem Sterling scored a hat trick and there were three incidents involving VAR as Manchester City started its bid for a third straight title by stretching its winning league run to 15 games.

West Ham might have pulled one back but Ederson was there to make a double-save from

Javier Hernandez and Manuel Lanzini.

Gabriel Jesus opened the scoring in the 25th, and Kevin de Bruyne set up Sterling in the 51st, before Jesus had a well-worked team effort ruled out by VAR for offside.

Sterling's second in the 75th

was cleared by VAR before technology intervened again when Sergio Aguero had a penalty saved. Declan Rice was penalized for encroaching in the area and Aguero duly scored at the second attempt in the 86th.

Sterling wrapped it up in injury time to become the first player since Chelsea's Didier Drogba in 2010-11 to start with a hat trick on the league's opening weekend.

Brighton beat Watford 3-0 in a dream debut for new manager Graham Potter.

In the 64th minute, Potter sent on two forwards — new signing Neal Maupay and Romanian striker Florin Andone — with Brighton leading 1-0. Both then went on to score.

Potter enjoyed considerable success with Swedish side Osersunds FK before taking over Championship club Swansea last season.

In the other games, Crystal Palace was held to a goalless draw by 10-man Everton. Ashley Barnes scored twice as Burnley launched its campaign with a 3-0 victory against Southampton, and substitute Billy Sharp scored a late equalizer to help promoted Sheffield United draw 1-1 at Bournemouth.

On Sunday, Manchester United hosts Chelsea, Arsenal visits Newcastle and Wolverhampton travels to Leicester. **AP**

AD

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OPINION

Tax Matters

Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa



**FIGHTING EROSION
 IN TAXABLE BASE
 AND PROFIT SHIFTING**

The RAEM government has recently discussed some amendments to the Corporate Income Tax Regulations (CITR, or Regulamento do Imposto Complementar de Rendimentos) and to the Regime of Exchange of Information on Tax Matters (REIT, or Regime Jurídico da Troca de Informações em Matéria Fiscal), and has sent a draft law with amendments to the Legislative Assembly for approval. The main aim of the draft law is to follow the principles and guidelines of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on international collaboration to fight tax avoidance resulting from base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS). Multinational economic groups are persistently tempted to shift the profits they make in some countries with high corporate tax rates to low tax rate countries, using complex schemes with the enterprises that compose their groups. The practice may be legal usually, but it represents a loss of revenue to some countries, usually the ones where the income is produced. The BEPS project is an OECD project to combat the use of such schemes and the BEPS action plan is now being implemented by many countries and territories.

In the draft law, the RAEM government has also taken the opportunity to (i) update a threshold that is already outdated – the amount of profit that will subject taxpayers to Group A of the CITR will be increased to MOP1,000,000.00 as an average of the last three years, instead of the current MOP500,000.00; and (ii) make exemptions for interest tax obtained from debt securities issued in the RAEM by the Chinese state and local governments, and central companies of the People's Republic of China, as well as all income obtained from the purchase and sale, redemption, or otherwise, of such debt securities.

With respect to the BEPS, the draft law has inserted some new legal provisions in the CITR. Article 1-A contains a number of legal definitions, of which the definition of "Ultimate Parent Entity" (UPE) is worth mentioning. A UPE is an entity that is part of a multinational group of enterprises that (i) directly or indirectly holds a sufficient interest in one or more entities of the same group that requires the preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting standard principles applicable in the jurisdiction of its tax residence, or requires such preparation in case the shares held are negotiated in a stock exchange market; and (ii) has no other entity of the same multinational group of enterprises that directly or indirectly holds the same interest. The requirements are cumulative, but the definition is so vague and so broad that, in my opinion, there will be a lot of cases where the fulfilment of the requirements for an entity to be considered a UPE will fall under the absolute discretion of the authorities. The draft law also contains a definition for permanent establishment, a definition that exists in most tax jurisdictions around the world but, until now in Macau, only existed in the few tax treaties for the avoidance of double taxation that the RAEM entered.

When the total income of the UPE, reflected in the consolidated financial statements, is equal to or higher than MOP7,000,000,000.00 (MOP7 billion), the UPE is required to prepare and present documents to the Financial Services Bureau (DSF) (i) disclosing the activities of the enterprises composing the multinational group, (ii) present the financial and tax statements per country or tax jurisdiction, and (iii) the documentation and information of which are to be kept for a period of seven years. Additionally, the DSF will be entitled to exchange financial and banking information about the UPE automatically with other jurisdictions, pursuant to the REIT.

At first glance, the actual application of the new provisions, should the amendments to the CITR and the REIT be approved by the Legislative Assembly, do not seem easy due to the broadness of the new legal concepts. However, since a lot of matters are still to be treated in more detail by administrative regulation, let's wait and see.

The British government says a major United Nations climate conference will be held in Glasgow next year if the U.K.'s bid to host the event is successful.

The 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is due to be held in late 2020 in either the U.K. — with a preliminary meeting in Italy — or Turkey.

A decision is expected later this year.

The British government said Friday that the two-week event would be held at the Scottish Events Campus beside the River Clyde. It's expected to attract 30,000 delegates, including scores of world leaders.

The meeting will assess progress five years after a 2015 Paris conference where nations reached a landmark agreement on reducing carbon emissions and limiting global temperature increases.

**LEKIMA LEAVES 32
 DEAD IN EAST CHINA**



A man records waves crashing ashore in Wenling City, Zhejiang Province

TYPHOON Lekima killed 32 people and left 16 missing in coastal Zhejiang province, China's state broadcaster reported.

More than 1 million people in Shanghai and neighboring Zhejiang province have been evacuated due to the storm, which has damaged more than 3,000 homes, China Central Television said. Lekima, which made landfall in Zhejiang early Saturday morning, has weakened to a strong tropical storm, according to the National Meteorological Center.

The center has downgraded Lekima to yellow from orange, and has issued an orange rainstorm alert. China has a four-tier color-coded system for severe weather, with red being the most serious, followed by orange, yellow and blue.

Lekima forced Shanghai to suspend services on several metro lines, according to the local government's official WeChat account. Air China Ltd.,

China Eastern Airlines Corp. and China Southern Airlines Co. were among those that announced flight cancellations, and high-speed rail services were affected in multiple cities, according to local media. Shanghai and Hangzhou airports are restoring operations gradually, according to Ctrip's flight tracking data and the local government.

Taiwanese airlines canceled about 520 international and domestic flights, according to local aviation authorities.

Emergency units are working to repair roads, water and electricity, Global Times, a tabloid published by the Communist Party's People's Daily, reported on its Weibo account. The storm caused a direct economic loss of 15.8 billion yuan (\$2.2 billion), CCTV reported.

Mainland China's main financial hub had braced for Lekima after the typhoon ravaged Taiwan and affected Japan. Go-

vernment offices, schools and businesses, including financial markets, were shut across northern Taiwan Friday. More than 50,000 homes lost power overnight Thursday, though electricity was mostly restored by Friday morning.

Taiwan's Central Emergency Operation Center reported at least one death and four injuries in the wake of the storm.

At least four people were hurt in Okinawa, while flights and ferries across the southern Japanese islands experienced widespread disruptions, according to a report by the Deutsche Presse-Agentur.

Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau said Lekima had sustained wind speeds of 184 kilometers per hour, with gusts of 227 kilometers an hour Friday morning. Scott Hsieh, a senior meteorologist at CWB, said it was the strongest typhoon in the western Pacific so far this year. **BLOOMBERG**

**GERMANY TO FREEZE SUPPORT FOR
 BRAZIL FOREST PROJECTS**

A newspaper is reporting that the German government plans to stop supporting forest and biodiversity projects in Brazil because of what it sees as evidence of the South American country's lack of commitment to curbing deforestation in the Amazon region.

German daily Tagesspiegel reported Saturday that the Environment Ministry was planning to initially freeze some 35 million euros (320 million patacas).

The newspaper quoted Environment Minister Svenja Schulze as saying that "the policies of the Brazilian government are raising doubt on whether a consequential reduction of deforestation rates is still being pursued."

According to Tagesspiegel, Schulze said Germany would continue its support only if it has clarity about the situation from Brazil.

The ministry's press office could not immediately be reached for confirmation on Saturday night.



Israel Muslim worshippers and Israeli police clashed yesterday at a major Jerusalem holy site during prayers marking the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha. Palestinian medics said at least 14 people were wounded, one seriously, in the skirmishes with police at the site. **More on p14**



Russia's media oversight agency is demanding that Google take actions to stop its YouTube subsidiary from allowing users to send information about unsanctioned demonstrations, after weeks of demonstrations in Moscow over the exclusion of some opposition and independent politicians from the Russian capital's city council ballot.



Norway Police in Moscow say the shooting at a mosque that wounded one person is being investigated as an attempted terrorist attack and that the alleged perpetrator is also a murder suspect in a separate case.



UK The government announced plans yesterday to create 10,000 more prison places to ease overcrowding and said it would allow police to stop and search people without reasonable suspicion "if serious violence is anticipated."



Mediterranean A Spanish humanitarian ship has been stuck in the Mediterranean Sea for more than a week because no European government will offer safe harbor to the 121 migrants on board, and the vessel faces a fine of up to 1 million euros if it enters Italian waters.