



SANDS CHINA AND GALAXY ENTERTAINMENT GROUP DEFENDED THEIR LEAD MARKET SHARE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2019 P3

IFT DUO STRIKE AT SCHOOL IN APPARENT HONG KONG SOLIDARITY P7

CARRIE LAM DENIED EVER ASKING CHINA FOR PERMISSION TO RESIGN, CONDEMNING THE RELEASE OF A RECORDING SUGGESTING OTHERWISE P8

ACCORDING TO THE LAW

Wong says a Senado Square sweep last month was all above board P6,7



Bangladesh The telecommunications regulatory body has asked operators to shut down cellphone services in sprawling camps in the southeast where hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar live, citing a security threat and illegal phone use, an official said yesterday.

Japan Tokyo's newly appointed chief prosecutor defended his office's handling of the case against former Nissan Chairman Carlos Ghosn yesterday, saying everything is being carried out properly under Japanese law, including a court-ordered ban on Ghosn's contact with his wife.

Afghanistan The Taliban yesterday defended their suicide bombing against an international compound in the Afghan capital that killed at least 16 civilians and wounded 119 people, just hours after a U.S. envoy said he and the militant group had reached a deal "in principle" to end America's longest war.

Persian Gulf As the U.S. tries a new way to protect shipping across the Persian Gulf amid tensions with Iran, it finds itself sailing into uncertain waters.

South Africa The president condemned days of widespread looting and arson attacks on foreign-owned businesses across Johannesburg and the capital Pretoria, calling the violence "totally unacceptable." More on p14



COMMISSION OF AUDIT SHAMES RECRUITMENT FOR GOV'T WORKERS P2



PETTY CRIME DOWN AS VIOLENT CASES SURGE P5

COMMISSION OF AUDIT FINDS PROBLEMS IN PUBLIC RECRUITMENT

JULIE ZHU

A report published yesterday by the Commission of Audit condemned failures and malpractices in the recruitment system of the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP).

The commission accused the SAFP of poorly enforcing the 2011 recruitment system, adding that "the progress of filling vacancies was not ideal."

"At that time, SAFP had already grasped the problems existing in the two forms of examinations [...], however, the recruitment system launched in 2011 did not formulate corresponding solutions, which led to the central recruitment examination of the 2011 recruitment system repeating the mistakes of the 1989 recruitment system," the Commission of Audit wrote in a statement.

"Together [with other measures], it leads to more serious staff mismatches and longer test times," the statement added.

Since the establishment of the Macau SAR, the staff re-

crutment and selection model has been modified several times, according to studies carried out by the relevant departments. The changes were continually discussed and optimized with the hope of designing a corruption-free system of recruitment for government workers.

A statement from the government states that the authorities have endeavored to devise ways to improve public administration in recent years, among which the effective selection of personnel, aimed at building a body of quality employees, stands out.

In 2016, the SAFP launched its new recruitment system, which aimed to solve the problem created in 2011, but this new system was accused by the commission of "only increasing the number of applicants for exams, but not increasing the number of candidates to be selected by government departments," resulting in overlapping examination resources, time and materials invested. In total, the 2016 recruitment examination cost over 31.6 million patacas.

"The examinations cost a lot of public money, but the average attendance rate [...] was lower than that of the previous examinations, having wasted resources," said the Commission of Audit.

For 2016's recruitment, the SAFP allowed one-click full selection on the e-application platform, resulting in more than 100,000 applications for professional qualification examinations for senior technicians. However, more than half of the applicants were not eligible after the qualification examinations, wasting the time of the relevant departments.

"The audit report concluded that the efficiency of the recruitment and coordination of the SAFP is unreasonably low," the Commission wrote. "The process also shows that there is an insufficient understanding at the SAFP in terms of personal requirements of all departments."

"The audit report showed that SAFP ignored the overall development of the SAR government and the urgency and importance of a stable and viable recruitment sys-

tem to attract real talented people to government services," the report reads.

In response to the Commission's accusation, the SAFP issued a statement without admitting to its mistakes, but instead saying that the bureau spotted problems in its 2011 recruitment system and still claimed that it made effective improvements.

Also in response to the report, Chief Executive Chui Sai On has instructed the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, and her secretariat to thoroughly study the audit report on the recruitment of public servants, according to a statement from the government. Chan was told to adopt the suggestions indicated in the report and conduct a comprehensive investigation into the existing problems with the regime.

A statement from the government spokesperson also said that, following the Audit Commission report, the relevant departments should seriously assess the key issues of the current recruitment and selection regime.

WONG WON'T SPECULATE ON SECRETARY JOB IN NEXT GOV'T

THE Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, has declined to confirm the possibility of his taking over the position of Secretary of Administration and Justice, currently held by Sonia Chan. However, asked about the rumor yesterday, Wong would also not refute the possibility.

"As a [current] Secretary, I think that my main task is to perform my job well," answered Wong. "I am not thinking of what post I will take in the future but, instead, I will continue to dedicate all my efforts to this current position and to perform my job well."

"What will happen in the coming term is a matter for the government, so I cannot confirm that at this moment."

The question of Wong's position in a future administration was raised after Ho Iat Seng was formally elected to be the next Chief Executive.

Rumors started circulating in the media as well as on social media about who could be part of the new government. Wong was raised as a potential candidate to take over the Secretariat for Administration and Justice, a position currently held by Chan.

Chief Executive-elect Ho has said he is not yet ready to inform the public of his preference for secretaries, but that any candidate would need to be diligent and corruption-free. RM

MEMORY LANE

Isabel Canhota and Júlio Bucho

MDT/Renato Marques



Built back in the 1920s, the Octagonal Pavilion Library was the first Chinese library in Macau, and also the first public library. It was built with funds raised by the community to help promote literacy among the Chinese community. Its formal name is the Reading Room of the Macau Chamber of Commerce, but it is more commonly known as the "Octagonal Library." Over the years, the library has served a variety of purposes besides its original function, including as a canteen and snooker room. It was purchased in 1947 by Ho Yin, the vice president of the Macau Chamber of Commerce at the time, and handed over to the Chamber, which transformed it into the library that we see today. RM

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GAMING

Sands China, Galaxy retain lead in market share

DANIEL BEITLER

SANDS China and Galaxy Entertainment Group defended their top-tier positions in gaming market share during the first half of 2019, with the two retaining control of a combined 45.5% of the sector.

According to estimates released by Deutsche Bank and cited by Jornal Tribuna de Macau, Sands China continues to lead the pack with 24.1% of the total market, followed by Galaxy at 21.4%.

Melco Resorts & Entertainment, Wynn Macau and Sociedade de Jogos de Macau (SJM) controlled 15.8%, 15.3% and 14.3% of the market respectively, while MGM China trailed at 9.1%.

Sands China was also the strongest in the faster-growing mass market where it controlled 29.5% during the first half of 2019, compared to Galaxy's 18.7%. SJM (15.3%), Melco (14.6%), Wynn (12.2%) and MGM (9.7%) followed



behind in that order.

Conversely, Galaxy led the pack in the VIP segment, accounting for just over a quarter of the market (25.2%), followed by Wynn (19.9%), Melco (17.4%), Sands China (16.2%), SJM (12.8%) and MGM (8.5%).

Despite holding at the back of the pack, MGM China achieved significant growth in the first half of the year, picking up business in the mass

market through the opening of its Cotai resort in 2018. Bucking the Macau trend, the casino operator has even seen growth in the VIP segment, where its market share grew 1.8 percentage points from a year earlier.

Gross gaming revenue in the first half of the year topped 149.5 billion patacas, down marginally by 0.5% year-on-year. In the first six months of 2019, the mass market over-

took VIP as the bigger share, rising to about 52% of total gross gaming revenue.

Macau gaming appears to be resisting major headwinds from a slowing Chinese economy and the ongoing China-U.S. trade war. With Macau's economy reliant on mainland tourism and its currency indirectly pegged to the U.S. dollar, the special administrative region is particularly vulnerable to shocks to the world's two largest economies.

However, government-led strategies to reduce the sector's reliance on the VIP market, as well as develop non-gaming offerings for tourists are beginning to pay off.

While gaming revenue tumbled 0.5% in the first half of the year, the growth in tourist arrivals surpassed 20% year-on-year. That suggests that either the tourists are staying away from the casinos, or that they are betting and the VIP segment is just falling that much faster.

THREE PEOPLE CAUGHT SMUGGLING PHONES TO MACAU

Three Hong Kong residents have been caught smuggling mobile phones to Macau, according to a statement released yesterday by the Macao Customs Service. In the afternoon of the August 29, a female Hong Kong resident was caught carrying 54 undeclared smartphones while crossing the border to Macau. The phones were worth HKD50,000 in total. In the evening of the same day, a second woman was caught smuggling 50 smartphones to Macau. She told the customs authority that she was assisting other people in transferring the devices to Macau, and that she was unaware of their value. On August 31, a man was caught transporting 70 smartphones to Macau. These phones were worth HKD70,000 in total. According to Macau's law, once convicted, these individuals may be subjected to a fine between MOP1,000 and MOP50,000.

24-HOUR CONSTRUCTION PERMITTED FOR QINGMAO PORT

Qingmao port will be under 24-hour construction until December 19, according to a dispatch published in the Official Gazette. In June, the contractor responsible for the project was permitted to extend construction hours to 10 p.m., including weekends and public holidays. This was the first exceptional case approved by the Chief Executive after the city's amendment to the noise law came into effect. According to the latest exception given to the contractor, the 24-hour construction schedule started on Monday. On weekends and public holidays, parts of the construction have also been allowed to operate non-stop. The Infrastructure Development Office said that all the concerned works are of low noise level.

SENIORS CAN APPLY TODAY FOR FSS PENSION FUNDS

Starting today, eligible seniors between the ages of 65 and 74 can apply to the Social Security Fund (FSS) for withdrawal of funds for this year's special allocation from the budget surplus for individual accounts of the non-mandatory central provident fund system. Since last month, the FSS has been accepting the fund withdrawal applications from eligible individual account owners in stages by age. So far, a total of 35,556 application forms have been received. Among those who have had their applications approved are seniors who are aged 75 years or older and individuals who have been receiving disability pension from the FSS for more than one year. They will receive their money on October 23 by bank transfer, according to the FSS.

Over 1,400 people sign petition to save street animals

A petition urging the Macau SAR government to stop euthanizing street dogs and cats has been signed by more than 1,400 people, according to Change.org.

Started by Fátima Galvão and supported by 10 local animal caring associations, the petition is called "Stop

the Cruel Catch and Kill Policy! Make Macau an Animal Friendly City!"

The initiator condemned the Macau government's measures in handling stray animals.

"Macau is densely populated by humans – so, to control the population of

stray animals, the Government catches dogs and cats and takes them to the municipal kennel. They are given 10 working days before a few are put up for adoption on a time limit – if they are not adopted or classed as 'unadoptable' (which is most of them), they can be

euthanized," the petition reads.

"It's time to find a better way to control the population other than just catching and killing while the dogs and cats continue to breed," Galvão wrote.

"Macau must implement a TNR scheme to control the population of stray dogs and cats, [and] stop the import of dogs and cats for selling in pet shops," the initiator proposes, referring to the Trap-Neuter-Release program in other jurisdictions. **JZ**

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SCHOLAR PROPOSES PRE-1949 LITERATURE FOR STUDY

JULIE ZHU

THE history of Macau literature dating from before 1949 has been proposed as a subject for further research in view of its importance to local culture.

Chang Tang-Chi, professor from the Department of Chinese Literature at Taiwan's National Chengchi University, has suggested that Macau should have more materials related to literature created before 1949.

During yesterday's Conference on Research of Macau Literature over the past 30 years, which took place at the University of Macau, Chang, who is a professor specializing in Macau's literature and in history of contemporary Chinese literature, said that the periods between 1930 and 1940, between 1980 and 1999, and after 1999 are three turning points in the development of Macau literature.

Regarding the lack of research on pre-1949 Macau literatu-

re, Chang explained that "the main reason lies in the difficulty to preserve and access historical materials."

According to Chang, pre-1949 Macau literature was mostly written in ancient Chinese, in other words as poems, and because of that less attention was given to materials related to literatures of that period.

The Taiwanese professor further explained that before 1949, Macau's literature was still majorly focusing on Chinese poems, whereas neighboring regions were being influenced by new styles of literature.

"In 1919, the May Fourth Movement had a great impact in both Taiwan and mainland China, as well as in Hong Kong, but it seems that Macau was not influenced. Before 1949, Macau's literature sector was majorly related to classic Chinese literature," said Chang.

In addition to the turning point between 1930 and 1940, Chang also regards 1999 as an

important watershed of Macau literature.

"Due to the handover, mainland publications started paying attention to Macau literature," Chang said, noting that the handover prompted mainland publications to realize the necessity of publishing Macau literature in order to let mainland readers learn about the former Portuguese enclave.

After 1999, more opportunities for publication were given to Macau writers, with writing themes also changing, according to Chang.

"The handover provided writers with new ideas and additional materials," said Chang, adding that "before 1999, many Macau people had a problem with their sense of identity. The handover basically solved the problem."

Besides Chinese literature in Macau, the professor considers that the city has given enough attention to its unique forms of literature from the Macanese community.

SEPTEMBER MACAU INC. FEATURES YOUTH LEADER



MACAU Inc. has published its September issue featuring Mok Chi Wai, leader of the local youth community and president of the Macau Youth Federation.

In the issue, Mok reviews and reflects on the paths he has walked along the course of the development of his home country, China, as well as his hometown, the Macau SAR.

He expressed his feelings of bliss at seeing the prosperity and stability of Macau since the handover. Mok also shares his vision of Macau's role in the Greater Bay Area and the Belt and Road Initiative.

Art Macao, the first integrated art gala in the city, is also featured

in the issue. The extensive report covers a series of central events, including orchestra concerts, a Japanese anime exhibition, and a contemporary art exhibition, among others.

Meanwhile, Sands China was the first foreign investor to operate a gambling facility in Macau following the opening of the market. The issue features an interview with the company COO, Wilfred Wong, as well as a couple of the company's employees who have spent the last 15 years of their careers with the company.

Last but not least, opportunities within the Greater Bay Area are also covered in the issue.

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Petty crime cut in first half of 2019, but violent crimes hike

RENATO MARQUES

GENERAL criminal activity in Macau declined 2.8% in the first six months of 2019, the security authorities announced in a report released yesterday.

However, the same report shows growth in some types of crimes, including "violent crimes" that grew 8.4% year-on-year, as well as rape crimes, which hiked 77% when compared with the same period of last year.

In the same category, crimes involving kidnapping also registered an increase of 17% and those of theft involving violence increased by as much as 12%. Homicides also doubled, having two cases registered this year compared to one in 2018.

Regarding rape cases, the Secretary noted that in the 23 cases reported, almost half of the victims were residents of Macau that claimed to have met the suspects via the internet, while the other half were cases related to non-re-



sidents that met the suspects in casinos.

This was cited by the authorities as a reason to reinforce their patrols of gaming areas and their surroundings, as well as to strengthen its collaboration with schools on raising awareness of public and personal safety measures.

Trending in the opposite direction were cases of sexual abuse of children, which dropped by almost 55%.

Regarding crimes against property, the most significant highlights are the cases of scams and extortion, up by 16% and 17% year-on-year respectively.

Also growing significantly were

the cases regarding the unlawful use of other peoples' identity documents, which registered in the first six months of 2019 an increase from 23 to 33 cases when compared year-on-year, representing a growth of 44%.

Other types of crimes also showed growth in the first half of this year, including cybercrime

(up 43%), drug consumption (up 48%) and the provision of help to illegal immigration (up 7%).

In general, the Secretary for Security mentioned that there were 196 fewer cases during the first half of 2019 than in the same period of 2018, although the criminal activities that are declining the most are cases of petty crime.

Wong also commented on offenses committed by taxi drivers, revealing that there were 524 fewer cases in the first half of 2019, a reduction of about 16%. The Secretary noted that the biggest difference was registered in the last month of the analysis (June), in which the number of cases pertaining to offenses committed by taxi drivers dropped by 79% month-on-month when compared with May. The authorities attributed this result to the enforcement of the new taxi law from June 3, noting that they would continue to evaluate the effects of the new law.

In the report, Wong also noted that currency exchange scams and the exploitation of prostitution had been causes of major concern and had formed the basis of the most severe of the violent crimes reported during the first semester of this year, and promised to pay particular attention to these types of cases.

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Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak (second from right)

SECRETARY WONG SIO CHAK

'Police did not breach the law' in Senado Square crackdown

RENATO MARQUES

THERE may be many views on the events of the night of August 19, but Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak said he is certain about one thing: "The police did not breach the law" during their Senado Square operation.

Dozens of police officers were deployed in Senado Square and the surrounding streets that night to prevent an illegal protest from taking place. Officers briefly detained about 20 to 30 people to be searched in a nearby car park on Rua da Sé, but none were arrested.

During a press conference held yesterday to present the crime report for the first half of the year, the Secretary provided a full explanation of his views on the case as well as the justification that the Public Security Police Force (PSP) had provided for declining to approve the public gathering requested for that evening.

"According to the law, the police can request any person to present identification and also can request the person to go to a police station for an inquiry," Wong said in response to media questions, adding "of course the person can contact his family or

his lawyer but if the person does not want [to do so], we cannot force them."

The Secretary added that the police also have internal instructions regarding this process, refuting the accusations that the police failed to provide information to at least some of the seven people that were taken in for further questioning on the evening of August 19 in Senado Square.

Wong noted that all seven of the people taken in for questioning were released from the police within the six-hour period as stated in the law.

"So there was no breach of the law. All was done according to the law," he said, noting that the president of the Macau Lawyers Association, Jorge Neto Valente, with whom the Secretary admitted to being a close friend, had expressed the same opinion. According to Wong, Valente had concluded that the police's actions were "handled in a normal way."

The Secretary took the opportunity yesterday to justify the joint operation held on August 19. "The right of public gathering and demonstrating is enshrined in the Basic Law as well as in the Law 2/93/M. In 2018, this law was amended but was only in what

concerns to institution changes and not on content."

Wong noted that although the right of gathering and demonstration is enshrined in the laws of Macau, such laws also establish several restrictions to such activities, namely the fact that "demonstrations cannot be authorized for purposes that are against the law."

In such cases, the authorities can refuse to grant permission to demonstrations, "because we have the duty to protect public security and tranquility."

The Secretary also cited Portuguese scholars who acknowledged that the evaluation of which demonstrations should or should not be authorized need to take into account "the aims and purposes of such activities as well as which kind of messages are transmitted during such event, times and places of the events, and a forecast on the influence of the events to public order."

During the same press conference, Assistant Commissioner of the PSP, Lao Wan Seong, clarified that the demonstration at Senado Square was not authorized because of several aspects, including the date and location.

"The fact that they requested

August 19 and Senado Square [caused complications] as we know that August is a peak month for tourists and the Square has many people. Adding to that, it coincided with the works of decoration for the mid-autumn festival."

These facts led to the decision to consider the location as inappropriate.

Lao also added that the purposes expressed in the request were regarding a connection with the Hong Kong protests, some of which are considered illegal in the neighboring region, and therefore violates the requirement of demonstration purposes being lawful.

Commenting on the same topic, Wong noted that in their request the organizers said that they wanted to protest against "illegal police actions" in Hong Kong. He claimed that there was no evidence for this assertion.

"In fact, there were several court decisions in Hong Kong that state otherwise, which creates the assumption that the demonstration's motive is potentially defamatory, therefore being considered illegal by its nature," Wong said.

The Secretary was at odds with the fact that, according to him,

the demonstration's "purpose was to 'legalize' the actions of the protesters in Hong Kong, which have been considered illegal."

Wong also said that police forces were concerned with the fact that in Macau the population might hold a "different point view from Hong Kong people," and that counter-protests could form leading to a risk of confrontation and even physical conflict. It was because of this risk, he said, that the security forces had deployed a large number of police officers to Senado Square that evening.

"We had information that some people had expressed an interest in gathering in the Square, even though the demonstration was not authorized, and we also knew that there was a group of people that were preparing to go to that same location to counter-protest, and this is why PSP decided to bring the police operation forward in order to guarantee the security of the population," he said.

The Secretary also referred on several occasions to the police procedures and laws on the matter that have been unchanged for several decades, and that come from the Portuguese administration before the handover.

Replying to questions regarding the way people were dressed, particularly on how the color of their garments was used as a reason to search them, Wong refuted the idea that there was a correlation. He said that, of the seven people taken in for questioning, not all of them were wearing clothes of the same color.

ANTHONY LAM

IFT DUO STRIKE AT SCHOOL, ATTRACT POLICE ATTENTION

TWO students from the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) who stood at the Taipa campus with placards in support of Hong Kong's recent protests withdrew from the activity after the intervention of campus guards and police, the law enforcement authority confirmed yesterday.

According to a social media post from Monday, two students from the tourism institute were displaying placards at the entrance of IFT's Taipa campus, in an apparent parallel to student protests in Hong Kong on the same day.

The duo moved to the sidewalk outside after being escorted away by the security guards, who said such activity was not allowed on the campus.

Five minutes after they had been moved, a police vehicle arrived at the scene, causing the two students to decide to terminate the activity.

As written in the same social media post, the two IFT students were in support of a Hong Kong school strike and wanted to hold a similar activity in Macau.

Monday saw the beginning of a new academic year for most education institutions in the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau. Strikes were called in Hong Kong to coincide with the first day of school.



Students walk along with their formal white school uniforms outside the St. Paul's College during a protest in Hong Kong

The social media post questioned why the students were deprived of their legal right to protest. Some citizens were curious about what would have happened if the students had held placards supporting the diligence of study.

In response to both online and offline questions, Assistant Commissioner Lao Wan Seong of the Public Security Police Force (PSP) confirmed yesterday the existence of the activity.

Lao explained that the people

concerned "dressed like students, wore face masks and held placards." She stressed that holding placards at public locations may constitute a breach of the law governing protests and demonstrations.

In addition, Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak denied an accusation that his team is spreading political censorship across the city.

He explained that the appropriateness of a location for a protest is evaluated by the Municipal Affairs Bureau, while evaluations of other factors are conducted by the PSP. This has been, as he said, unchanged before and after review of the law.

"If there's no such provision in the law and [the police] do the evaluation, that's political censorship," he said. "But now I'm working according to the law, it's completely legal."

It is not the first time that police have been called to investigate minor incidents in Macau that sought to mimic parallel events in Hong Kong.

On August 25, police were called to Nam Van Lake Plaza to investigate a "Lennon Wall" of messages sprawled on post-it notes. Approximately 53 notes were attached on the wall, with messages such as "all five demands must be fulfilled", "Go Macau People, Go Hong Kong People," and "no small-circle election."

Several police officers were dispatched to the scene and the Lennon Wall was removed later on that same day, according to a report by online media All About Macau.

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CARRIE LAM SAYS SHE HAS NEVER ASKED BEIJING'S PERMISSION TO RESIGN

HONG Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam said she never asked China for permission to resign over the historic unrest rocking the city, while acknowledging that she discussed her struggles in a closed-door meeting.

Lam yesterday denounced as "unacceptable" the leak of taped remarks she made last week to a gathering of business people. Lam told a news briefing that she was committed to steering the city through the unrest, and only attempted to explain privately that it would be "an easy choice" for anyone in her position to leave.

"I have never tendered a resignation to the central people's government," Lam told reporters. "I have not even contemplated to discuss a resignation with the central people's government. The choice of not resigning is my own choice."

Lam told the gathering last week that she had caused "huge havoc," and would quit "if I had a choice," according to audio excerpts released by Reuters late

Monday. She explained at the time that her "political room for maneuvering is very, very, very limited" under a system that requires her to answer to both local residents and Chinese leaders in Beijing.

Hong Kong is cleaning up after a fresh wave of pro-democracy protests, including clashes in which demonstrators hurled scores of petrol bombs and police responded with tear gas, water cannons and rubber bullets. The unrest began almost three months ago, when hundreds of thousands of people turned out to oppose Lam's now-suspended proposal to allow extraditions to mainland China.

Yesterday, Lam again refused to rule out invoking sweeping emergency powers not used in more than half a century to contain the protests before China celebrates the 70th anniversary

of Communist Party rule on Oct. 1. "If violence gradually subsides or gone, there is no need to think about such laws," Lam said.

The news conference came ahead of a planned briefing by the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, China's top body governing the city, scheduled for the afternoon. At a previous briefing, the office's spokesman warned protesters that "Those who play with fire will perish by it."

Lam's administration has been criticized for fueling the unrest by refusing to formally withdraw the extradition bill, despite saying repeatedly the legislation was "dead." She continues to refuse the protesters' other demands, as well, including an independent inquiry into the unrest, an amnesty for those arrested and calls for greater democratic freedoms.

Although Lam has promised to engage in dialogue, it's not clear

how that will include protesters from a movement that has been devoid of leaders, even as police make sweeping arrests of the city's pro-democracy figures.

Last week, Lam's approval rating fell to a historic low of 17%, according to a survey by the Hong Kong Public Opinion Research Institute. When asked yesterday if she or her supporters released the tape to generate sympathy, she denied the assertion and said she was "very disappointed" by the leak.

"In a private session, I just attempted to explain that as an individual, given the very difficult circumstances, maybe it was an easy choice to leave," Lam told reporters.

As protests drag on, Lam - a career bureaucrat appointed by Beijing to lead the city two years ago - has found herself under increasingly intense pressure.

Hong Kong's leader is squeezed between raucous local protesters pushing for universal suffrage and President Xi Jinping's one-party government, which is trying to quell the protests while managing a trade war with the U.S.

Beijing has reiterated its support for Lam's administration throughout the unrest, which has included economically harmful transit disruptions and an airport shutdown, said Wang Huiyao, a Beijing-based adviser to China's cabinet and the founder of the Center for China and Globalization.

"The central government is really behind the Hong Kong administration," Wang said on Bloomberg TV. "If it's violent, there are riots going on, stopping public transportation, stopping the airport, it's not tolerable in any other country." **BLOOMBERG**

CHINA has dispatched regional state-run media organizations to Hong Kong in an effort to better control the narrative, a shift from the widespread censorship employed during the Occupy Protests in 2014.

Local governments in late August ordered some domestic media groups to send reporters to cover the protests with first-hand accounts, according to people familiar with the matter who asked not to be named discussing confidential information. The publications included several from Guangdong

China sends local media to cover Hong Kong in shift from 2014

province, which borders Hong Kong, as well as Jiefang Daily from Shanghai, Zhejiang News from Zhejiang province and The Cover from Sichuan province.

The reporting from these local publications on Hong Kong so far has focused largely on interviews with pro-China officials and business leaders, as well as the

commitment of local police to restoring law and order and the frustrations of residents whose lives have been disrupted by the protests. The protests began in early June to oppose a bill allowing extraditions to China, and have since morphed into a broader pro-democracy movement.

China has long relied mainly on major state-run

media outlets like Xinhua News Agency, the People's Daily and the Global Times to report on sensitive issues, with heavier censorship on regional publications. The State Council Information Office didn't immediately reply to a fax seeking comment.

The change in strategy is partly because China wants to reinforce publicity targeting citi-

zens in coastal provinces who have family or connections in Hong Kong, according to Willy Lam, adjunct professor at the Center for China Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

"The shift shows Beijing considers the challenge far more serious than 2014," he said. "Beijing is trying to convince the domestic audience about

what is happening there from its point of view."

Besides sending regional journalists to cover the unrest, China has also sought to appeal to Hong Kong citizens and isolate the protesters with other media campaigns. On Sunday, the largest commercial news websites in China - including sina.com, 163.com, qq.com and sohu.com - put out stories featuring the slogan "Heart to heart, Loving Hong Kong" as the government attempts to minimize hostilities between the mainland and Hong Kong. **BLOOMBERG**

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



AVIATION

China probes Cathay's empty oxygen bottles to add to scrutiny

KYUNGHEE PARK & DOMINIC LAU

CATHAY Pacific Airways Ltd. is under investigation by Chinese regulators after emergency oxygen bottles on three flights were found depleted or completely empty, compounding pressure on the Hong Kong airline from mainland authorities.

Cabin crew from the flights have been grounded so they can help with the probe, Cathay told staff in a memo on Monday. As well as the Civil Aviation Administration of China, Hong Kong authorities and local police are also investigating, the note said.

Pre-flight inspections discovered 13 oxygen canisters - designed to be used by crew in an emergency depressurization of the ca-

bin - that were partially or fully discharged, Cathay said last week. The inquiry is another headache for the airline's new chief executive officer, Augustus Tang, weeks after Chinese regulators threatened to bar Cathay from the mainland because some staff supported the Hong Kong protests.

Cathay's note to employees didn't apportion blame for the depleted bottles, but said the probe is also drawing in ground staff, caterers, cleaners and engineers. It's almost unheard of for a single airline to find so many canisters empty in such a short space of time.

"This is quite unusual," said Shukor Yusof, founder of aviation consulting firm Endau Analytics. "It's hurting Cathay's brand."

It's the latest blow to Cathay as it struggles throu-

gh months of anti-Beijing demonstrations that have at times shut down Hong Kong's airport, Asia's busiest hub for international traffic.

The increasingly violent nature of the protests has also weighed on demand for travel to the city.

Cathay immediately introduced stricter security checks, according to the memo.

"Cabin crew are required to carry out checks in the cabin, lavatories and crew rest compartment at least every 60 minutes between services, ensuring no suspicious activity," it said. "Crew should be extra vigilant to emergency equipment stowage areas."

The bottles found empty were immediately recharged and safety wasn't compromised, according to Cathay. **BLOOMBERG**

FASHION

ZARA DENIES RUMORS STORES CLOSED DUE TO PROTESTS

FAST-FASHION giant Zara denied speculation on Chinese social media that the retailer's employees were supporting anti-Beijing protests that disrupted some of its store operations on Monday.

"Zara has never made any comments or undertaken any actions related to a strike in Hong Kong," the company said in a post on its Weibo account. "Zara does not back a strike and supports 'one country, two systems,'" the post said, referring to a general strike called by unions as part of the pro-

tests, and China's policy for governing Hong Kong.

Multinational businesses are becoming increasingly ensnared in the volatile conflict that's morphed from a protest against an extradition law into a broader challenge to Beijing's authority in the city. Cathay Pacific Airways, Hong Kong's biggest carrier, faced heavy pushback from China after its staff joined the demonstrations, while companies ranging from HSBC Holdings Plc to PwC have been the subject of online speculation over their positions on the protests, which have rocked

the former British colony for almost three months.

Zara, owned by Spanish fashion conglomerate Inditex SA, seems to have been targeted after Chinese social media users noticed several of its Hong Kong stores were closed on Monday. Speculation spread that it was because staffers were taking part in the general strike.

All 14 Zara stores in Hong Kong opened that day, the company said in an emailed comment, though four sites did so later than usual because transport disruptions delayed employees' journeys to work. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

AD

30TH MACAO INTERNATIONAL FIREWORKS DISPLAY CONTEST

Duo Celebrations for Macao

Sea Area in front of the Macau Tower

Organizer: 澳門特別行政區政府旅遊局 / DIRECCAO DOS SERVICOS DE TURISMO / MACAO GOVERNMENT TOURISM OFFICE

Media Partner: 澳門廣播電視股份有限公司 / ICM - TELEVISAO DE MACAU S.A.

Telcom Partner: CTM

Sponsor: MACAU CRUISE

PROGRAM					
7/9 SAT	13/9 FRI	21/9 SAT	28/9 SAT	1/10 TUE	5/10 SAT
21:00	21:00	21:00	21:00	21:00	21:00
Malaysia Blasmaster 5dn Sdn Bhd	Portugal Pirotecnia Minhota Lda	United Kingdom MLE Pyrotechnics Limited	South Africa Fireworks for Africa	France SAS BREZAC Artifices	Japan Manutemaya Ogatsu Fireworks Co., Ltd.
21:40	21:40	21:40	21:40	21:40	21:40
Philippines Platinum Fireworks, Inc.	Korea Daebun Fireworks Company	Romania Pyro-Technic Transilvania Srl	Canada Feu d'artifice Orion	China Liyang New Year Fireworks Trading Co., Ltd.	Australia Cardie International Fireworks Pty Ltd

BLOOMBERG



MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES REVEAL GENDER BIAS IN JOB ADS

FEW multinational companies would publicly advertise some U.S.-based jobs to women and others to men. In Mexico, though, some have listed gender preference right alongside qualifications like “education” and “experience.”

Discrimination on the basis of sex is illegal in both countries, but in Mexico, it remains a regular—and open—practice. According to a Bloomberg analysis of more than 10,300 job ads posted during one week in August on the popular Mexican job site OCCMundial, more than 800 specified male or female applicants.

Most were for local firms, but not all. Staffing giants Kelly Services, Adecco and Manpower designated some of their Mexico-based postings for men or for women. Home Depot Inc. was recruiting male sales associates. VF Outdoor Services sought a woman with “excellent presentation” and “emotional intelligence” for an executive assistant role. Several local car dealerships did the same, along with Hyundai Glovis, a logistics subsidiary of the Korean car company.

The data examined by Bloomberg showed that, overall, ads targeted men for more senior or managerial positions. Women were recruited for secretarial and customer service roles. Job ads seeking men also offered higher salaries than openings for the same position but a preference for women.

Those companies say the ads Bloomberg found aren't consistent with their policies or practice and have been fixed.

Nonetheless, they illustrate the challenge of connecting company rhetoric with on-the-ground operations around the world. In August, Home Depot joined nearly 200 companies in signing a letter from the Business Roundtable that promised to foster “dignity and inclusion” in their operations. On its website, VF Corporation touts its “Global Women's Advisory Council” and its promise to achieve gender parity in its senior leadership by 2030.

“This was an oversight for several job postings by stores in Mexico,” a Home Depot spokesperson said in an email. “The job postings have been corrected and this has been addressed with the stores that posted them. Home Depot does not discriminate in hiring practice and is always looking for the best talent for the specific position.”

Hyundai Glovis said the job ads reflected an error made by a new employee. “The part about gender was deleted immediately, the HR staff will be trained in company policy and law, and HR hiring processes will be strengthened,” the company said in a statement. “Hyundai GLOVIS Mexico does not discriminate on gender-related acts when hiring employees.”

“Unfortunately, a small percentage of job postings in Mexico that did not reflect our commitment to diversity and inclusion were brought to our attention and we have taken immediate action to correct these,” a spokesman for Manpower said in an email. “We

continue to review job posts on an ongoing basis to ensure they reflect our position on diversity and our commitment to equal employment opportunities.”

Kelly Services said its recruiters in Mexico are trained and informed on compliant and ethical employment practices in the regions where they operate, and that the company “now will place postings to recruit individuals who are most qualified for the job duties at hand, without regard to immutable personal attributes.” Adecco said that in Mexico, it has policies to prevent any mention of gender in a job posting “unless there is a legitimate reason,” and that it was looking into the job

find out and they'll be held to account.”

OCCMundial is owned by SEEK Ltd., a \$4.8 billion tech company based in Melbourne, Australia, that owns and operates job sites around the world. Sergio Porrugas Moreno, OCCMundial's Chief Operating Officer, said the site's terms and conditions forbid discrimination in job postings, and the site retains the right to remove any post deemed “illegal or abusive” following a formal investigation.

“It's a form of gender discrimination that's unfortunately very common in the country,” said Gonzalo Sanchez de Tagle, a constitutional lawyer and author of the new book, “The Political Constitution of Mexico City.” “It's 100% illegal, but a lot of labor rights violations go unnoticed or unreported.”

Using data captured by a Queretaro, Mexico, firm, Bloomberg analyzed 10,334 job ads in the country's main economic hubs over about a week in August. The data captured openings in some of the country's biggest and fastest growing industries: logistics, sales, administration, engineering and manufacturing.

More than 800 postings specified a gender preference, more often for men than for women. Administrative jobs, mostly for receptionists, secretaries and assistants, accounted for almost half of all the openings seeking women. Sales jobs, including customer service representatives and cashiers, represented 38%.

By contrast, nearly one-third of the listings seeking men were for drivers, forklift operators, storekeepers or other logistics positions. Another 28% were for manufacturing jobs, including supervisors, technicians and inspectors.

Sales accounted for just 12% of the openings seeking men, but unlike the sales positions seeking women, they were more likely to be for management jobs or other, more senior titles.

Among open engineering jobs, 82% were gender neutral. But 15% specified a preference for male applicants; just 3% targeted women.

“There's growing awareness over these issues, but there's still a lot of discrimination in the work culture in Mexico,” said Alexandra Haas, president of Mexico's National Council to Prevent Discrimination, or Conapred.

More than 40 countries still allow gender discrimination in hiring. Another 50 place at least some restrictions on women's work, according to the World Bank. Where discrimination is illegal across the board—in Mexico, the U.S. and elsewhere—it's still common, just more subtle, Haas said. In several languages, including Spanish, job titles can be specifically masculine or feminine—receptionista, for example, or as Deloitte specified in a March ad, asistente ejecutiva. Employers in Mexico can request a photo with a job application, another way to screen for gender, race or simply appearance.

In most industries, there's a deep imbalance, with fields dominated by men or by women; so-called women's work also pays a lot less, said Rita Ramalho, researcher for a World Bank study on women's rights across 187 countries. This dynamic reinforces the gender pay gap, she said. “It's not only that less women are actually working, but when they do work, they are more likely to earn less than men.”

The gender pay gap and discrimination in hiring have become hot-button issues among the global economic elite in recent years, in part because the full economic enfranchisement of women is good for overall productivity. Closing the global gender pay gap would add \$32 trillion to global GDP, according to the most recent estimate from the World Economic Forum.

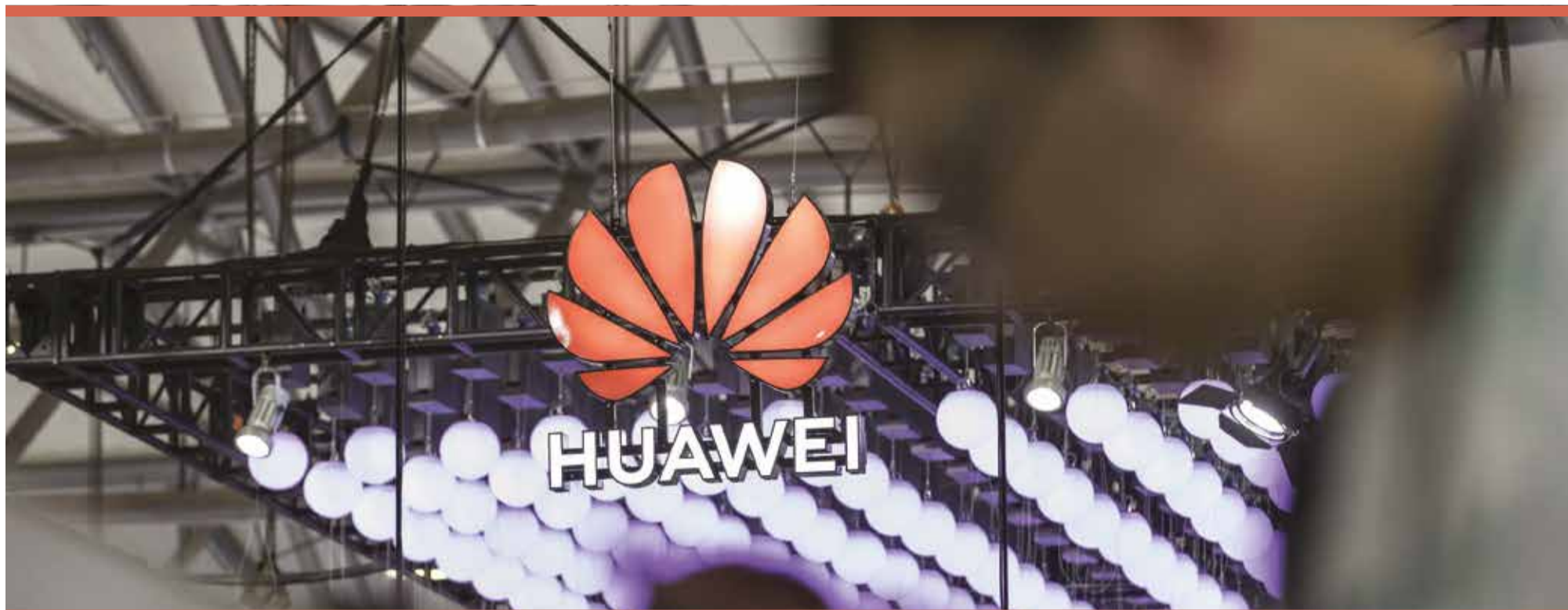
Even in countries where discrimination is legal or even tolerated, U.S. companies are ethically responsible for following their own best practices on gender equality, said Kabrina Chang, business ethics and law professor at Boston University. The job ads in Mexico are “an example of using an outdated, unsubstantiated stereotype to deny women equal opportunity,” she said. “No matter where that happens, it's not good for women.” **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

Where discrimination is illegal across the board, it's still common, just more subtle

ads flagged by Bloomberg.

VF Corp., parent of VF Outdoor Services, along with brands like Vans, The North Face and JanSport, didn't return several emails and phone calls seeking comment.

“Global companies should make sure that any standards they say they're holding themselves to are observed the world over,” said John Paul Rollert, a behavioral science professor at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and “in-house ethicist” at the Chicago Booth Review. “If they're not, people will



EDWIN CHAN

HUAWEI Technologies Co. lashed out at the U.S. government yesterday, accusing Washington of orchestrating a campaign to intimidate its employees and launching cyber-attacks to infiltrate its internal network.

China's largest technology company claimed the American government had instructed law enforcement agencies to threaten and attempt to manipulate its employees. Huawei also accused the U.S. of launching attacks against its networks, the company said in a statement without saying how it obtained that information.

The accusations ratchet up tensions between Huawei and the Trump administration, which has accused the networking giant of aiding Beijing in espionage and labeled it a national security risk.

Huawei accuses US of harassing workers, attacking network

Washington has blacklisted the Chinese company, curbing the sales of the technology Huawei needs to make phones and telecommunications equipment.

"It has been using every tool at its disposal – including both judicial and administrative powers, as well as a host of other unscrupulous means – to disrupt the normal business operations of Huawei and its partners," the company said. Other measures included "instructing law enforcement to threaten, menace, coerce, entice, and incite both current and former Huawei employees to turn against the company and work for them."

Representatives for the U.S. National Security Council didn't immediately respond to requests for comment outside of normal hours.

Huawei has become a focal point for U.S.-Chinese tensions, regarded by some as a bargaining chip in sensitive trade negotiations. The company is grappling with an existential threat after Washington blocked it from purchasing American technology, cutting off vital supplies from Qualcomm Inc. chipsets to Google's Android operating software. The U.S. has also urged countries and companies to reject Huawei technology in their next

generation of wireless networks, telling allies it could put their citizens' data at risk of espionage.

Those efforts squeezed a company that had been on the cusp of dominating fifth-generation networking, the technology that will underpin future modern economies. Billionaire founder Ren Zhengfei warned in an internal memo in August his company faced a "live or die moment."

The smartphone maker's statement came in response to an Aug. 30 Wall Street Journal report, which cited unidentified sources as saying the Justice Department was investigating the alleged theft of patents by Huawei.

The company again denied it had ever stolen technology, then launched into a litany of accusations against the Trump administration itself. Among the claims it listed: that the U.S. was detaining shipments, denying visas, sending federal agents to employees' homes and even impersonating Huawei staff to entrap legitimate workers.

"We strongly condemn the malign, concerted effort by the U.S. government to discredit Huawei and curb its leadership position in the industry," the company said. "No company becomes a global leader in their field through theft." **BLOOMBERG**

Gov't says Trump's claims about fentanyl origin are false

YANAN WANG
& FU TING

CHINA said yesterday that it's not the source of the fentanyl that's killing Americans, contrary to President Donald Trump's recent tweets blaming China for the drug deaths.

At a briefing for the National Narcotics Control Commission, China reiterated that it is making extensive efforts toward controlling the synthetic opioid and should not be labeled the main origin of fentanyl to the U.S.

The drug often comes through the mail or across the Mexico border. It can be stronger and more lethal than heroin and is res-

ponsible for tens of thousands of American drug deaths each year.

Amid the latest round of tariff increases between the two countries last month, Trump blasted China in a Twitter thread in which he vowed to order all postal carriers to "SEARCH FOR & REFUSE all deliveries of fentanyl from China (or anywhere else!)." "President Xi said this would stop — it didn't," Trump added, referring to Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

"What Trump said is completely groundless and untrue," Liu Yuejin, the narcotics commission's vice commissioner, told reporters yesterday.

In a sweeping change in May, China began regulating all fentanyl-related drugs as a class of controlled substances with the aim of curbing illegal drug trafficking. No fentanyl smuggling cases have been discovered between the U.S. and China since the new measures were implemented, Liu said.

Yet law enforcement officials in Virginia said last week that China was linked to a seizure of enough cheap fentanyl to kill 14 million people. One of the 39 people charged in the multi-state drug ring is accused of ordering fentanyl from a vendor in Shanghai.

"The illicit fentanyl



that's coming in, the vast majority is from China and a lot of it is coming in through the mails," G. Zachary Terwilliger, the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, said at a news conference.

Liu noted that U.S. fentanyl deaths continue to rise despite increasingly strict controls on the Chinese side, which he said was an indication that the drugs were not coming from China.

Liu also accused "a few politicians" in the U.S. of misleading the American public on China's work to help the U.S. with its opioid crisis. Chinese and U.S. authorities are working together to handle drug crimes, he said, adding that cooperation on fentanyl has no bearing on ongoing trade negotiations between the two countries.

Trump complained about China's alleged inaction on fentanyl as part of a four-tweet thread last month accusing China of stealing U.S. intellectual property and ordering U.S. companies to "immediately start looking for an alternative to China." **AP**

CHINA, US STRUGGLE TO SET MEETING AS TARIFFS ERODE TRUST

JENNY LEONARD, JEFFREY BLACK, SHAWN DONNAN & SALEHA MOHSIN

CHINESE and U.S. officials are struggling to agree on the schedule for a planned meeting this month to continue trade talks after Washington rejected Beijing's request to delay tariffs that took effect over the weekend, according to people familiar with the discussions.

Despite efforts by President Donald Trump to soothe financial markets and portray the talks as making progress, the world's two biggest economic powers have yet to agree on basic terms of re-engagement, with mistrust on both sides.

The date for a visit of Chinese officials to the U.S. capital hasn't been set, though that's not necessarily a sign it still won't happen, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the discussions are private. U.S. equity futures fell on the news, touching their lows for the day.

In conversations over the past

AP PHOTO



week, the two sides have failed to agree on at least two requests -- an American appeal to set some parameters for the next round of talks and a Chinese call to delay new tariffs, two of the people said. Trump went ahead anyway with tariffs on Sunday, doubling down on a strategy that seems to be having the opposite of the desired effect.

Chinese state media reacted by signaling the government is ready to weather the economic

turbulence. Beijing then said it planned to file a complaint at the World Trade Organization against the U.S. tariffs under the dispute settlement process, according to a Ministry of Commerce statement late Monday.

"If the U.S. truly wants to reach a mutually-benefiting and win-win deal with China, some people in the U.S. must honor the consensus, work in concert with the Chinese side and return to the right track with sincerity,"

the state-run People's Daily wrote in a commentary yesterday.

"It is time the U.S. administration reconsidered its poorly thought out China-bashing moves," an editorial in the China Daily argued on Monday. "Working to secure a trade deal would be a more fruitful approach."

China's commerce ministry didn't immediately respond to a request for comment about a meeting date.

Some Trump administration officials are trying to keep talks from breaking down because global financial markets are moving with every positive and negative twist in a trade war that looks likely to extend into Trump's 2020 reelection campaign. The S&P 500 Index dropped 1.8% last month and U.S. Treasury yields have plunged amid uncertainty that's hurting American companies and starting to chip away at consumer confidence.

"China is moving along, we're doing very well," Trump told reporters over the weekend. "We are talking to China, the meeting is still on as you know, in September. That hasn't changed -- they haven't changed it, we haven't. We'll see what happens. But we can't allow China to rip us off anymore as a country."

The U.S. Trade Representative's office didn't immediately respond to requests for comment on the discussions.

Trump has expressed frustration that the talks haven't brought the sides closer to a deal, even threatening last week that if he can't deliver a better agreement in the U.S.'s economic relationship with China, then "let's not do business together. I don't want to do business." **BLOOMBERG**

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

THAI OFFICIALS DISCOVER REMAINS OF MISSING KAREN ACTIVIST

THAI law enforcement officials say they have found the remains of an ethnic Karen community activist who disappeared five years ago in suspicious circumstances.

Porlajee Rakchongcharoen, known as Billy, was last seen in the custody of Kaeng Krachan National Park officials in western Thailand on April 17, 2014.

Thailand's Department of Special Investigation announced yesterday it had discovered an oil drum sunk in a reservoir at the park with a bone fragment near it that matched the DNA of Porlajee's mother. Both the drum and the bone had been burnt.

Porlajee had been leading the Karen community in a lawsuit against park chief Chaiwat Limlikitaksorn over his efforts to evict them. Chaiwat acknowledged that Porlajee was arrested for illegally collecting wild honey, but said he had been released before disappearing. **AP**

KIM TONG-HYUNG, SEOUL

SOUTH Korean reporters have grilled President Moon Jae-in's nominee for justice minister for 11 hours over suspected ethical lapses surrounding his family that have triggered an intense political row and cut into Moon's popularity ratings.

At a news conference that continued until the early hours of yesterday, Cho Kuk, a law professor and Moon's former secretary for civil affairs, denied allegations that his daughter received special treatment in her admissions to a top university in Seoul and a medical school in Busan.

Cho, who for years built an image as a reform-minded anti-elitist, also denied wrongdoing over claims that his family attempted to evade taxes while transferring wealth to his children and made dubious investments in a private equity fund while he served in the presidential office.

Cho's news conference at the National Assembly in Seoul was abruptly arranged after his parliamentary confirmation hearing set for Monday and yesterday fell through amid political bickering between ruling and opposition parties.



SOUTH KOREA

Reporters grill minister nominee for 11 hours

"Regardless of legal matters, I want to apologize to young students and people of South Korea," Cho said while addressing the allegations surrounding his daughter, which struck a nerve in a country where teenagers toil in a hyper-competitive school environment because graduating from elite universities is seen as crucial in career prospects.

Cho touted himself as able to reform South Korea's justice system, including curbing the powers of state prosecutors, who have exclusive authori-

ty to indict and seek warrants for criminal suspects and have broad control over police investigative activities.

His comments came as prosecutors continued to push an investigation into the allegations surrounding him and his family, raiding some 20 sites including universities and offices that Cho's relatives used to manage their investments.

The controversy surrounding his close political ally has stained Moon's reformist image and caused a slide in approval ratings in recent polls.

Moon, who is currently on a trip to Southeast Asia, asked the National Assembly to submit a hearing report on Cho by Friday, his office said yesterday, indicating he is leaning toward appointing Cho despite the controversy.

While South Korean lawmakers can submit confirmation hearing reports to express support or disapproval of ministerial candidates, the president doesn't necessarily need parliamentary approval to appoint nominees other than the prime minister. **AP**

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FMCC Firework Dinner
Celebration of 70th China National Day with Firework Show!

China vs France

Introduction:
Celebrate with us the 70th National Day of the People's Republic of China and this also marked the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between France and China.

Enjoy the stunning front view with the gorgeous and spectacular firework performance presented by the French and Chinese representatives along with delicious barbecue dinner buffet and free flow of wine for adults.

Date: Tuesday, 1st October, 2019
Time: 7:00p.m. - 10:00p.m. (Reception: 6:45p.m.)
Venue: Macau Tower Convention & Entertainment Centre
Outer Plaza

RSVP before 2 p.m. on 25th September
info@francemacau.com or Tel: (853) 8798 9699

- 2019 FMCC members join @ MOP480*
- Guests and non-members @ MOP580*
- Minors between 6-11 @ MOP280
- Minors under 6 join free of charge

* Price includes BBQ Buffet with free flow of wine for adults.
Strict No-Show/ Late Cancellation policy applies for this event

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XENOPHOBIC ATTACKS SHAME SOUTH AFRICA AS REGIONAL LEADERS MEET

ANTHONY SGUAZZIN &
ANTHONY OSAE-BROWN

SOUTH Africa has been hit by an outbreak of xenophobic violence in its biggest city, attracting criticism from other African nations in the week political and business leaders from at least 28 countries gather in Cape Town.

A spate of violence that broke out in suburbs south of Johannesburg's city center on Sunday and spread to the central business district on Monday saw the destruction of more than 50 mainly foreign-owned shops and business premises. Cars and properties were torched and widespread looting took place.

The attacks come ahead of the beginning of the African edition

of the World Economic Forum in Cape Town on Sept. 4 and before a state visit to South Africa by President Muhammadu Buhari of Nigeria, a country whose nationals have been affected, next month.

"The continuing attacks on Nigerian nationals and businesses in South Africa are unacceptable," the government of Nigeria said on Twitter. "Enough is enough. Nigeria will take definitive measures to ensure safety and protection of her citizens."

The violence echoes sporadic outbreaks of attacks mainly targeting migrants from other African countries in some of South Africa's poorest areas. In 2008 about 60 people were killed and over 50,000 forced from their ho-

mes and in 2015 seven people died in violence. Migrants are seen as competition for scarce jobs and government services.

Other Nigerian politicians, including former presidential election candidate Oby Ezekwesili called for stronger intervention by the government.

In separate development South African truckers yesterday started a wildcat strike, protesting against foreign truck drivers. More than 20 people were arrested in connection with attacks on trucks, possession of firearms and other weapons and blocking of roads in Richards Bay, a key port, and other parts of the southeastern KwaZulu-Natal province, police said.

Zambia warned its truck dri-

vers, many of whom drive goods south to the South African port of Durban, to stay out of the country. Newsday, a Zimbabwean newspaper, reported that trucks were queuing on the Zimbabwean side of the border with South Africa at Beitbridge, with drivers reluctant to cross. Newspapers also reported that truck drivers were waiting for calm in eSwatini and Botswana.

South African politicians condemned the violence, in which one person was shot dead, according to eNCA, a local television station. At least 110 people were arrested.

Looting spread to Alexandra, an impoverished area in northern Johannesburg, overnight and there was unrest in Mara-

bastad in Pretoria, 702 Talk Radio reported.

There was a police presence in central Johannesburg yesterday with some shops and schools closed. Major companies including Anglo American Plc, Absa Group Ltd. and AngloGold Ashanti Ltd. either closed their offices in the city center or reduced staffing.

Still, politicians from the ruling African National Congress have in the past made anti-immigrant comments and Johannesburg's mayor, Herman Mashaba, has attracted criticism from human rights groups for his frequent attacks on undocumented migrants. Mashaba is a member of the opposition Democratic Alliance.

The violence is "unacceptable," Ace Magashule, the secretary-general of the ANC, said in remarks broadcast on television.

"We condemn this violence which is taking place, irrespective of whatever reasons people want to give," he said. **BLOOMBERG**

MH17 investigators want to speak to Ukrainian prisoner

MIKE CORDER,
THE HAGUE

DUTCH prosecutors investigating the downing five years ago of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 over eastern Ukraine want to speak to a man being held by Ukrainian authorities, calling him a "person of interest" in their probe, a spokeswoman said yesterday.

The fate of Volodymyr Tsemakh could be a factor in the stalled prisoner swap between Russia and Ukraine as Dutch prosecutors want him to remain in Ukraine.

Unconfirmed reports

have suggested that Tsemakh is on the list of prisoners that Moscow wants exchanged in return for freeing prisoners including 24 sailors captured off Crimea in November.

Brechtje van de Moosdijk, a spokeswoman for the Joint Investigation Team looking at the downing by a surface-to-air Buk missile of the Malaysian flight on July 17, 2014, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview that Tsemakh is currently in a Ukrainian jail, "but if he's being swapped then, well, of course it's hard to say that we can speak to him when he would be in Russia."

The international investigation team is seeking to prosecute those responsible for the downing of the flight known as MH17 and the murder of all 298 people on board when the Boeing 777 heading from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur was blown out of the sky over conflict-hit eastern Ukraine.

The team has indicted four people so far, three Russians and a Ukrainian, but Tsemakh is not among the four.

"The Dutch public prosecutor would like to have Mr. Tsemakh in Ukraine so he's available for the investigation and we can ask

him further questions," Van de Moosdijk said.

The trial for the four suspects is set to begin next March in the Netherlands, though it appears unlikely any of them would be brought before the court, since Russia and Ukraine forbid the extradition of their citizens.

Russia's Foreign Ministry called the charges against the country's citizens "absolutely unfounded" and accused the investigators of using "dubious sources of information" and ignoring evidence provided by Moscow in order to discredit Russia. **AP**



UK Parliament takes on pivotal day on Brexit

DANICA KIRKA, LONDON

PARLIAMENT was re-convening yesterday for a pivotal day in British politics as lawmakers challenged Prime Minister Boris Johnson's insistence that the U.K. will leave the European Union on Oct. 31 even without a deal.

Amid loud cries from protesters on the streets surrounding the House of Commons, lawmakers returned from their summer recess with a key piece of legislation on their agenda that would prevent an immediate no-deal exit. If it passes this week, Johnson's Downing Street office says he'll call an early election.

Johnson has tried to crack down on members of his Conservative Party who oppose his Brexit plans, warning them they would be expelled from the party if they supported the parliamentary efforts to block or delay Brexit.

Former Treasury chief Philip Hammond — one of the Conservative rebels — said that he expected there would be votes to take control of business in the

House of Commons on Tuesday. If those pass, the legislation to block no-deal would be considered the following day.

"Many colleagues have been incensed by some of the actions over the past week or so, and I think there is a group of Conservatives who feel very strongly that now is the time to put the national interest ahead of any threats to us personally or to our careers," Hammond told the BBC. "I think there will be enough people for us to get this over the line today."

As Brexit faces crucial days, international investors are showing concern. The pound sterling fell as low as USD1.1960, down about a cent on the day before, stabilizing around \$1.1990.

That was its lowest level since a "flash crash" in October 2016, when uncertainty after the Brexit vote was particularly high.

A no-deal Brexit is considered dangerous because it will sever decades of seamless trade with the single market of 500 million. But Johnson insists the potential for leaving without a deal must remain as a bargaining chip in ne-

AP PHOTO



gotiations with the EU.

The bloc is adamant it will not renegotiate the agreement struck with former Prime Minister Theresa May, which Johnson considers unacceptable.

Johnson's supporters said lawmakers were weakening the

government's negotiating position with the EU.

"The one thing that has helped focus minds in the EU is that we're leaving come what may and we've got a very focused task of what a good deal would look like," Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab

told ITV. "But the lingering doubt they've got is: Will the shenanigans in Parliament somehow lead to the cancellation or the delay of Brexit?"

"That's encouraging them, and weakening our position to actually get the deal we all want." AP

AD

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what's ON



PROSPEROUS YEARS

TIME: 10am-8pm (Closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: September 25, 2019

VENUE: Old Court Building

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

QUIETNESS AND CLARITY: WORKS OF CHEN ZHIFU FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE NANJING MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-7pm (No admittance after 18:30; closed on Monday)

UNTIL: November 17, 2019

VENUE: MGM Cotai

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 3333

ONENESS: CALLIGRAPHY BY PROFESSOR JAO TSUNG-I

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

UNTIL: September 30, 2019

VENUE: Jao Tsung-I Academy

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRY: (853) 8598 6718

THE GOLDEN AGE OF ARABIC SCIENCE: EXHIBITION FROM 1001 INVENTIONS

TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Thursdays)

UNTIL: October 27, 2019

VENUE: Gallery 2, Exhibition Center, Macau Science Center

ADMISSION: MOP25 (several discounts available)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

AQUATIC BEAUTIES - FLORAL ART EXHIBITION ON ORIENTAL LOTUS FLOWERS

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: September 6, 2019

VENUE: Macau Tea Culture House

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0087

LYRIC POETRY - WORKS OF ARTISTS IN MACAU AND PORTUGAL FROM THE MAM COLLECTION

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admittance after 6:30pm; closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: November 4, 2019

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

Offbeat

BAT APPRECIATION DAY TO BE HELD AT FORMER CONNECTICUT PRISON

The nation's oldest prison will be the backdrop for a day devoted to the importance of conserving bats in Connecticut.

The underground tunnels at the former prison, Old New-Gate Prison and Copper Mine in East Granby, are the winter home of several state-endangered bat species.

On Saturday, the public can catch a glimpse of endangered bats in the "bat cave." Other family-friendly activities are planned as well.

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and Department of Economic and Community Development are planning "Bat Appreciation Day" to highlight the site's importance to conserving the bat population.

Bats at the historic site are considered "cave bats," in part because they hibernate underground in caves and mines.

Connecticut purchased the copper mine in 1773 and operated it as a prison for more than 50 years.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Agua de Mar
15:45	Os Ursos Boonie e o Fantástico Outono
16:00	Sim Chef! Sr2 - Fim
16:35	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:40	A Minha Tese
18:10	Amor Maior (Repetição)
18:55	Outras Histórias
19:30	Ouro Verde Sr.1
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Tesouro Pirata nas Caraíbas Sr.1 - Estreia
21:40	Todas as Palavras
22:25	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	O Último Reino Sr.1
00:35	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:20	RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

29 Aug



ANGEL HAS FALLEN

ROOM1

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

Director: Ric Roman Waugh

Starring: Gerard Butler, Frederick Schmidt, Danny Huston

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 121min

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:

NOBITA'S CHRONICLE OF THE MOON EXPLORATION

ROOM1

4:45pm

Director: Jeong-beom Lee, Shinnosuke Yakuwa

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

Language: Cantonese (English & Chinese)

CRAWL

ROOM2

2:15, 4:00, 5:45, 9:30pm

Director: Alexandre Aja

Starring: Kaya Scodelario, Barry Pepper, Morfydd Clark

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 87min

LITTLE Q

ROOM2

7:30pm

Director: Wing-Cheong Law

Starring: Allie Chan, Ming Hu, J.J. Jia

Language: Cantonese (English & Chinese)

Duration: 107min

THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE 2

ROOM3

2:30pm

Director: Thurop Van Orman

Starring: Jason Sudeikis, Josh Gad, Leslie Jones

Language: Cantonese (English & Chinese)

Duration: 96min

RIDE YOUR WAVE

ROOM3

4:30, 7:30pm

Director: Masaaki Yuasa

Starring: Ryōta Katayose, Rina Kawaei, Honoka Matsumoto

Language: Japanese (English & Chinese)

Duration: 94min

ONE PIECE STAMPEDE

ROOM1

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

Director: Takashi Otsuka

Starring: Chō, Hiroaki Hirata, Katsuhisa Hōki

Language: Japanese (Chinese)

this day in history



1957 HOMOSEXUALITY 'SHOULD NOT BE A CRIME'

A report sponsored by the government has suggested homosexual behaviour between consenting adults should no longer be a criminal offence.

The proposal is the principal and most controversial recommendation put forward by the 13-member committee chaired by Sir John Wolfenden, Vice-Chancellor of Reading University, investigating the current law on homosexuality and prostitution.

The first print of 5,000 copies of the 155-page "Report on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution" - known as the Wolfenden report - sold out within hours of publication.

After its three-year long inquiry, the Committee on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution in Great Britain came to the conclusion that outlawing homosexuality impinged upon civil liberties.

It said society and the law should respect "individual freedom of actions in matters of private morality" and stressed it was neither condoning nor condemning homosexual acts.

Ultimately, private morality or immorality was "not the law's business".

It defined "adult" as being a person over the age of 21 and that such acts should be decriminalised only if they took place "in private" and with consent.

Under current law, various homosexual offences can incur anything from a £5 fine to life imprisonment.

The committee also made recommendations to "clean up the streets" of London and other major cities of prostitutes by introducing much higher penalties for soliciting.

But the report did acknowledge that by forcing prostitutes off the streets there could be a rise in the number of "call girls" and small ads in newspapers referring to "masseuses," "models" or "companions".

The Wolfenden committee included three women, judges, doctors, MPs, lawyers and ministers of religion.

Only one expressed his reservation on relaxing the law on homosexuality - James Adair, formerly Procurator-General at Glasgow. He believed it would be regarded by many homosexuals as "condoning or licensing licentiousness".

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Goeffrey Fisher, supported the Wolfenden report's recommendation to decriminalise male homosexuality. (There was never a law against sex between women, so never one to repeal.) He was joined by the British Medical Association, the Howard League for Penal Reform and the National Association of Probation Officers.

But the government rejected the proposal. Homosexual men would have to wait another ten years before the law permitted sexual relations between adults over the age of 21 - "in private" and not at all among members of the Merchant Navy or Armed Forces.

In Scotland sex between two men was not decriminalised until 1980.

The age of consent for gay men was lowered to 18 in 1994.

A law equalising the age of consent for gay men in line with that for heterosexual adults to 16 was forced through parliament in February 2000.

Sir John Wolfenden became director of the British Museum (1969-1973) and was made a life peer in 1974. He died in 1985.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS



ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You may not even be looking for a new romance, but that won't matter to someone who's trying to turn your head. So you'll have to stay consistent in how you react to this person's flattery today.



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

You are a strong person, stronger even than you know. Have confidence that although you haven't completely put recent hard times behind you, you soon will.



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

This day will start off slowly but will gain momentum - so much momentum that by the end of the day you'll marvel at everything that has happened. Time is funny like that.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

If you are working on developing a romantic relationship, you should definitely avoid over-the-top gestures. They could send the wrong message and turn that special someone off.



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

After the first five minutes, your nerves will stop jangling, and you'll even start to feel a sense of accomplishment. Take a deep breath, and then step out of your comfort zone - and relish that 'Wow!'



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

The personalities of the people you encounter might be more than a little bit overbearing today, so it would be very wise for you to build in some alone time in the middle of the day.



LIBRA

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

Ask some of your smart friends what they would do in your shoes. In the afternoon, drawing, dancing, singing or creating any other kind of art will help you clear your mind and will bring you joy.



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

A boss or another authority figure could cause you some big problems today, and you may have to put your personal life on hold for a few days to deal with them.



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Your luck is changing today - which could be either good or bad. If you've recently felt as though the entire universe has been conspiring to give you delightful surprises, your well of good fortune is going to get a bit drier.



CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Your social circle is doing some significant rotating and revolving right now, and you may be feeling a bit off-balance. There are some friends who seem to make your life so effortless and easy.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Changing your mind might initially feel uncomfortably like admitting a mistake, but if you look at the big picture (and you should), you'll see that revising your outlook is a smart and responsible thing to do.



PISCES

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Daydreaming is a very effective way to entertain yourself, especially when things get a bit boring today (and they will). Amuse yourself with images of how things would be in you were in charge.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY

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

EASY+

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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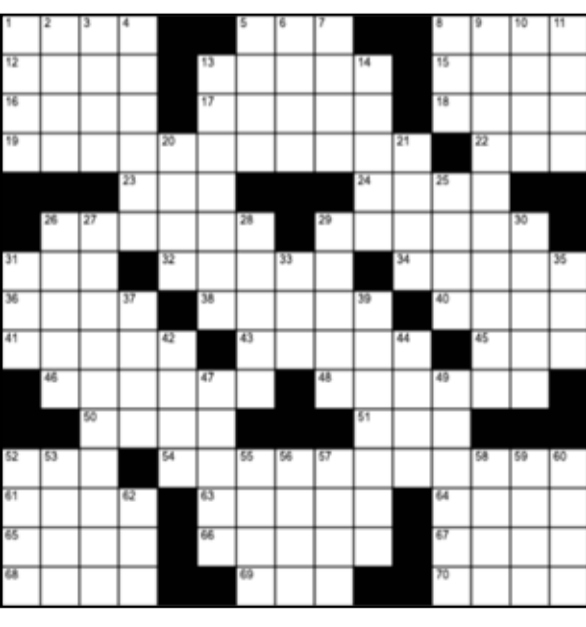
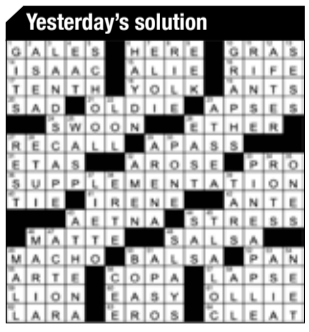
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	20	30	cloudy
Harbin	15	21	moderate rain
Tianjin	20	30	clear
Urumqi	22	34	clear
Xi'an	18	31	clear
Lhasa	11	23	cloudy
Chengdu	22	30	clear
Chongqing	26	30	overcast
Kunming	18	26	shower
Nanjing	22	27	cloudy
Shanghai	23	27	heavy rain
Wuhan	24	33	cloudy
Hangzhou	22	28	drizzle
Taipei	26	30	drizzle
Guangzhou	26	33	thundershower
Hong Kong	28	32	shower
WORLD			
Moscow	12	21	clear
Frankfurt	17	30	drizzle
Paris	14	30	drizzle
London	11	27	cloudy
New York	15	23	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Up to the task; 5- Grads-to-be; 8- Returned; 12- Cut of meat; 13- Florida's ___ National Forest; 15- Barbarous person; 16- H.S. exam; 17- Charged toward; 18- Old; 19- Hand tool; 22- Hi-___; 23- Actress Charlotte; 24- Able was ___; 26- Danish, e.g.; 29- Except if; 31- Not emp.; 32- Ages between 13 and 19; 34- Kind of question; 36- Riga resident; 38- Challenged; 40- Zoologist Fossey; 41- Barber's sharpener; 43- Less common or less cooked; 45- Itinerary word; 46- Diners; 48- Scoop; 50- ___ Nostra; 51- ___ little teapot...; 52- Model Carol; 54- Innocent; 61- Trompe l'___; 63- Tending to a definite end; 64- Stressed type; Abbr.; 65- Actress Campbell; 66- Stagnant; 67- Encourage; 68- ___ saw Elba; 69- Hydrocarbon suffix; 70- Alcoholic drink of fermented honey;

DOWN: 1- Swiss peaks; 2- Anjou alternative; 3- Person who is liable to tell untruths; 4- Goes in; 5- Battle memento; 6- Title bestowed upon the wife of a raja; 7- Eastern European; 8- Anaconda; 9- Boldly assertive; 10- Saskatchewan tribe; 11- Sneakers brand; 13- Commanded; 14- Dined at home; 20- Unit of power; 21- Depend; 25- Hollow grass; 26- Golfer Calvin; 27- Charming; 28- A long time; 29- Consumers; 30- Slow mover; 31- "Treasure Island" monogram; 33- Powerful D.C. lobby; 35- ___ roll; 37- Baum barker; 39- Burst open; 42- Cancun coin; 44- City of the Caesars; 47- Floating platforms; 49- Brand of diazepam; 52- Top of the line; 53- Lecherous look; 55- Greek cheese; 56- Oomph; 57- Lake Nasser feeder; 58- To be, in Toulouse; 59- Tale; 60- Dog-powered snow vehicle; 62- Wreath of flowers;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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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\$27,800/mth 2,305 ft² 4 1/2 2 1/2

FOR SALE

[Macau] One Central 2 1/2 2 1/2
1,269 ft² \$13,575,000 (ref: 19070002)

[Macau] One Central 2 1/2 2 1/2
1,269 ft² \$13,950,000 (ref: 19070000)

[Taipa] Manhattan 2 1/2 4 1/2
2,305 ft² \$17,980,000 (ref: 18075558)

[Coloane] Hellene Gardens 4 1/2 2 1/2
2,530 ft² \$20,000,000 (ref: 18035546)

FOR RENT

[Macau] 1 Bed Duplex 1 1/2 1 1/2
\$9,800/mth 3,700 ft² (ref: n/a)

[Macau] La Marina Studio 1 1/2
\$11,200/mth 2,352 ft² (ref: n/a)

[Taipa] Nova Grand 2 1/2 1 1/2
\$16,000/mth 986 ft² (ref: 19055007RT)

[Taipa] Ocean Gardens 4 1/2 4 1/2
\$35,000/mth 3,700 ft² (ref: 18040674)

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TRIBUTE CONCERT OF AVICII'S MUSIC TO BENEFIT MENTAL HEALTH



A benefit concert for suicide prevention featuring the music of the late star Avicii is being planned for Dec. 5 in Stockholm, Sweden.

Proceeds will support the work of the new Tim Bergling Foundation, named for the musician who killed himself in April 2018. His songs "Wake Me Up!", "Addicted to You" and the posthumous "SOS" topped the dance

music charts.

The concert will feature many of the singers, including Adam Lambert and Rita Ora, who were on Avicii's recordings and will be the first time many of them have been performed live.

David Guetta and Kygo are among the electronic dance music stars that will perform opening sets.

Organizers said tickets go on sale tomorrow.



WIFE SAYS HART 'GOING TO BE FINE' AFTER CAR CRASH

Comic actor Kevin Hart's wife says he's "going to be just fine" following a weekend car crash that left him with a major back injury.

Eniko Hart was questioned by a TMZ reporter while visiting him at the hospital yesterday [Macau time]. She gave no details beyond that assurance, and the actor's press representatives did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Hart was a passenger in

a 1970 Plymouth Barracuda that went off a highway above Malibu in the early morning hours of Sunday. It rolled down an embankment, after police said the driver lost control while turning from a canyon road onto Mulholland Highway.

The 40-year-old Hart and the car's driver, Jared Black, both had back injuries. Another passenger, 31-year-old Rebecca Broxterman, only complained of pain.

RAPPER ARRESTED AFTER ALLEGED ASSAULT OF EMPLOYEE

Police in Las Vegas say rapper Fetty Wap was arrested after allegedly assaulting three employees at a hotel.

Police say the 28-year-old whose real name is Willie Maxwell was arrested Sunday on three counts of battery.

Local news reports say he hit a parking attendant after getting into an ar-

gument. Police originally said Wap hit an employee but later said he "committed a battery" on three.

Fetty Wap performed at the MTV Video Music Awards last week. He was arrested in November 2017 and charged with DUI after police say he was caught drag racing another car on a New York City highway.



AD

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STEPHEN WADE

BASKETBALL

AUSTRALIA showed it can do damage by ending the Americans' 78-game winning streak in a warm-up game just over a week ago.

Yesterday in Group H, the Boomers defeated Senegal 81-68 in Dongguan in the far south of China to improve to 2-0 and move a step closer to making the second round. Senegal is 0-2.

Patty Mills of the San Antonio Spurs led Australia with 22 points, but Joe Ingles of the Utah Jazz was the game's top player with 17 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists.

Ingles was one assist away from a triple-double, which a FIBA official told him would have been a first in the World Cup.

"I didn't know that, but even though I do know it now it still doesn't bother me," he said. "The only goal today was to win the game and that's all our focus."

It was not that easy despite Ingles' big numbers.

Australia led 36-33 at the half and struggled with the tall African team. Senegal has nine players at least 2.02 meters (6-foot-8) or taller. And four at 2.08 (6-

Ingles 1 assist short of triple-double as Australia rolls



Australia's Andrew Bogut attempts a shot during a group H match against Senegal in the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 in Dongguan

10) or taller.

"That could be the tallest overall team that we've played against in my time as coach," Australia coach

Andrej Lemanis said.

Added Ingles: "That first half, they kind of had us on our back foot a little bit. We had to come in at halftime

and address a few things."

Xane Dalmeida led Senegal with 14 points in a game the Africans kept surprisingly close. AP

MATCHES

NEW ZEALAND 93, MONTENEGRO 83

At Nanjing, New Zealand downed Montenegro to move to 1-1 in Group F. Montenegro is 0-2. Corey Webster led the Kiwis with 25 points and teammate Isaac Fotu added 20. Nikola Ivanovic had 18 to lead Montenegro, and Nikola Vucevic added 15.

CZECH REPUBLIC 89, JAPAN 76

At Shanghai, Blake Schilb and Jaromira Bohacik each scored 22 points and the Czech Republic kept Japan winless in Group E. Tomas Satoransky had 15 points, seven assists and six rebounds for the Czechs (1-1). Rui Hachimura led Japan (0-2) with 21 points, while Nick Fazekas had 12 points and 10 rebounds.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 70, GERMANY 68

At Shenzhen, the Dominican Republic improved to 2-0 and Germany fell to 0-2 in Group G. Victor Liz led the Dominicans with 17 points and Eloy Vargas added 16 as the Caribbean team prepares to head to the second round. Dennis Schroder was Germany's top scorer with 20, and Daniel Theis added 12.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Group A: Ivory Coast (0-2) vs. Poland (2-0); Venezuela (1-1) vs. China (1-1).
Group B: South Korea (0-2) vs. Nigeria (0-2); Russia (2-0) vs. Argentina (2-0).
Group C: Puerto Rico (1-1) vs. Tunisia (1-1); Spain (2-0) vs. Iran (0-2).
Group D: Angola (0-2) vs. Philippines (0-2); Italy (2-0) vs. Serbia (2-0).

AD



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OPINION

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



CASHLESS MACAU REVISITED

In January and December of 2016 I wrote a couple of articles about how Macau should be proactively going cashless. Unfortunately, not much seems to have happened since then, which is a pity. Macau is losing a great opportunity to lead the moves towards cashless societies in the region and to become a source of technical and other expertise for implementing such systems in other places.

Different countries are eliminating cash at different rates, and largely replacing it by swiping credit cards or tapping smartphone Apps. In Sweden the number of retail cash transactions per person has dropped by 80% in the last 10 years, and cash now accounts for just 6% of purchases in Norway. America is probably 10 years behind Scandinavia. Digital payments in China are catching up quick, accounting for only 4% of payments in 2012, but 34% of all payments in 2017.

However, friends in Hong Kong complain about the difficulties of smartphone payments there because they cannot handle multiple currencies and legal jurisdictions. Macau is even further behind, eg even high end food and beverage outlets cannot easily split bills between several credit cards and many smartphone payment systems do not work here. Also, "no brainer" cashless systems do not work here, eg the new ticketless carparks still require you to go to the Shroff office, tell them your car number plate and pay by cash or credit card – surely your car number plate could be linked to a credit card for automatic payment?

As well as direct cash payments there are also lots of electronic money transfers. For years I have been going online to easily transfer money between my bank accounts at different banks and to other people's accounts to make payments in Australia, but this is still largely impossible in Macau. Online, I can also easily transfer money from my Australian bank accounts to my Macau bank account, but I have to go to my Macau bank branch and fill in a paper form to initiate a transfer from Macau to Australia.

In Australia, over many years the financial regulator and banks have invested in a reasonably modern inter-bank transfer system and there are even better systems in several other countries. For example, an electronic funds transfer system in America called TCH, which is owned and operated by 25 large banks there, transfers money between accounts at different banks almost instantaneously and charges the participating banks a flat fee of \$US0.045/transaction to send money and nothing to receive money. This is much more reasonable than the percentage fees currently charged for many money transfers and credit card transactions. Unfortunately, the financial regulator and the banks in Macau do not seem to have invested in any such system here.

There are several major benefits driving the shift to cashless societies, including the desire for seamless integration with digital lives, the cost savings from eliminating cash handling infrastructure, reducing opportunities for theft and tax avoidance, and easy data collection and analysis of shopping habits. Many of these benefits will lead to big problems if the transition from cash is rushed and poorly managed. We need the Macau Monetary Authority to take a strong lead in this area to ensure that proper regulations to ensure data privacy and the security of electronic money are set up and that the transition to a cashless society is made gradually, fairly and inclusively. Unfortunately, at present, they seem to be doing nothing much.

The pound dropped yesterday to its lowest level against the dollar since 1985, excluding a brief "flash crash" in 2016 that may have been caused by technical glitches, as international investors fret over a political showdown over Brexit this week. The British currency fell as low as \$1.1960, down almost a cent on the day before stabilizing around \$1.1990. Not counting the brief plunge in the autumn of 2016, in which the currency fell to \$1.1789 for about two minutes before recovering,

the pound is now at its lowest level in 34 years. Brexit is facing a crucial few days as lawmakers challenge Prime Minister Boris Johnson's insistence that the U.K. will leave the European Union on Oct. 31 even without a deal. "Markets are extremely negative about the consequences of a no-deal scenario," said Alex Kuptsikevich, analyst at online brokerage FxPro. "The pound will have a hard time if the [lawmakers'] initiatives fail."

PRINCE HARRY ANNOUNCES MASSIVE TRAVEL SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

LEANNE ITALIE, NEW YORK

THE eco-minded Prince Harry is embarking on a massive travel sustainability initiative in partnership with key travel providers that's aimed at bettering the practices of the global industry amid an ever-increasing number of travelers.

The Duke of Sussex picked Amsterdam, a city hit hard by over-tourism, to announce Travalyst at a news conference Tuesday with his partners, Booking.com, TripAdvisor, Visa, China's largest travel company, Ctrip, and the Ctrip-owned fare aggregator Skyscanner.

The long-term initiative is focused on tackling the travel industry's impact on climate change, improving wildlife conservation and finding ways to better protect the environment in top tourist spots around the world, along with boosting the tourism dollars used to assist local communities and seeking answers to the increasing problem of over-tourism.

"Travel has the unparalleled power to open people's minds to different cultures, new experiences and to have a profound appreciation for what our world has to offer," the duke said in a statement shared with The Associated Press ahead of the formal announcement.

"As tourism inevitably grows, it is critically important to accelerate the adoption of sustainable practices worldwide, and to balance this growth with the needs of the environment and the local population. Bringing companies, consumers and communities together is our best chance to protect destinations and ecosystems for future generations," he added.

Harry is perhaps most passionate about increasing the amount of industry money that goes to local communities, especially in top destinations. Among the things the coalition will fo-



cus on is improving on-the-ground travel and tourism entrepreneurship.

Last year, the number of international trips taken globally reached 1.4 billion, a number that was reached two years faster than original projections by the United Nations' tourism agency, the World Tourism Organization. According to

"Travel has the unparalleled power to open people's minds to different cultures."

PRINCE HARRY

the World Bank, the number of trips taken annually by people around the globe has more than doubled since 2000.

Travel and tourism fed \$8.8 trillion into the global economy in 2018, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council. In 10 years, the number of tourists visiting countries in emerging markets will reach 1 billion annually, comprising 57 percent of all international trips, the UN agency said.

Gathering service providers into one coalition is a feat onto itself in a competitive industry with piles of profit on the table. Such things as cleaner aviation fuel, more travel experiences focused on sustainability and better educating tourists on the footprints they make and the waste they leave behind will be among other areas explored.

"The commitment from these different brands to work together and help build a global network of like-minded social entrepreneurs, NGOs and policymakers is truly inspiring," said Gillian Tans, chairwoman of Booking.com. "Collaboration is the only path forward if we want to create a real paradigm shift in travel."

Bryan Dove, chief executive for Skyscanner, said the time is now in the travel industry.

"We have an obligation to preserve our

world for future generations to explore and enjoy — but to do this we need to act now as change won't happen overnight," he said.

Consumers are hungry for change, with 71 percent of global travelers telling Booking.com they think travel companies should offer more sustainable travel choices, and 68 percent saying it was important that their travel dollars support local communities.

At Skyscanner over the last 12 months, 10 million travelers selected the lowest carbon emission flight option, for instance.

Travalyst will be the first initiative to fall under the Sussex Royal charitable foundation of Harry and Meghan after they spun off from the joint trust established by his brother, Prince William, and duchess Kate. AP

Yemen Experts backed by the U.N.'s top human rights body yesterday flagged allegations of rape, sexual assault and gender-based violence committed by all sides in Yemen's civil war, now in its fifth year.



Bahamas Practically parking itself over the Bahamas for over a day and a half, Hurricane Dorian pounded away at the islands yesterday in a watery onslaught that devastated thousands of homes, trapped people in attics and chased others from one shelter to another. At least five deaths were reported.



Russia Investigators said yesterday they have dropped charges against five protesters who were arrested and charged with rioting connected to recent anti-government rallies. Separately, two protesters who accepted a plea bargain were given jail sentences in an expedited trial.



Vatican City Pope Francis heads this week to the southern African nations of Mozambique, Madagascar and Mauritius, visiting some of the world's poorest countries in a region hard hit by some of his biggest concerns: conflict, corruption and climate change.

Spain Socialist leader Pedro Sánchez yesterday proposed policies including pension hikes and rent controls in a bid to win a new term as Spain's prime minister, but rejected a coalition with a far-left ally whose support he needs to prevent a new general election.



USA Joe Biden entered the Democratic primary promising "from day one" to reject campaign cash from lobbyists. "I work for you — not any industry," he tweeted.