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LIU CHAK WAN AND MA IAO LAI HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE GOLDEN LOTUS, THE SECOND HIGHEST DECORATION OF THE MACAU SAR

P4

RAYMOND TAGACAY BACK HOME SAFE IN THE PHILIPPINES

P6

SECRETARY ALEXIS TAM DISPUTES A RECENT REPORT THAT FOUND ACADEMIC FREEDOMS IN MACAU WERE WANING

P10

China warned the U.S. against trying to limit investment ties between the two countries, even as the Trump administration contradicted a report that Washington might be considering removing Chinese companies from American stock exchanges.



AP PHOTO

Taiwan Fast-moving Typhoon Mitag was bearing down on northern Taiwan yesterday, bringing high winds and heavy rain and forcing scores of flight cancellations.



AP PHOTO

India Heavy rains have killed more than 100 people in central Uttar Pradesh and Bihar states over the past three days, Indian officials said yesterday, as floodwaters submerged major cities, bringing them to a grinding halt.

Sri Lanka A court said yesterday that it would hear a petition challenging presidential hopeful Gotabaya Rajapaksa's citizenship.



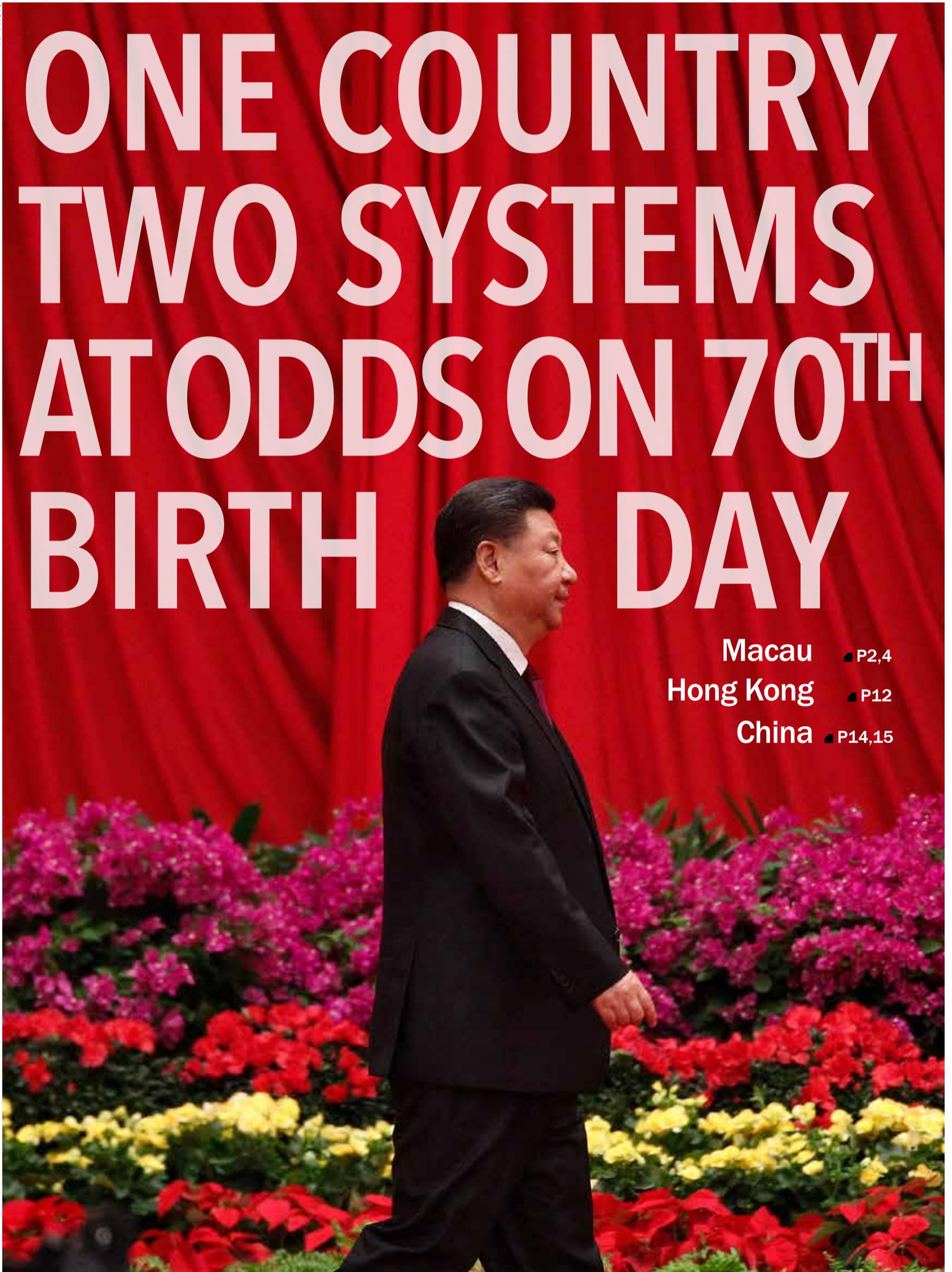
AP PHOTO

Indonesia Thousands of Indonesian students resumed protests yesterday against a new law they say has crippled the country's anti-corruption agency, with some clashing with police.

More on backpage

ONE COUNTRY TWO SYSTEMS AT ODDS ON 70TH BIRTH DAY

Macau P2,4
 Hong Kong P12
 China P14,15



AP PHOTO



Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) speaks to high-ranking officials as they arrive for a dinner marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing

70 years: Macau in the big picture of China's development

DANIEL BEITLER & ANTHONY LAM

ON the cusp of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic of China (PRC), and as Macau prepares to mark its own milestone of 20 years since its sovereignty was transferred back to the mainland, the Times asked several local commentators about Macau's contribution to the development of modern China. The commentators remarked that the city has served as a "window to the mainland" throughout the short history of the PRC, helping to bridge China with the outside world.

Macau has been positioned, naturally or purposefully, as the mainland's window, said commentators Paul Chan Wai Chi, a history teacher and former lawmaker, social commentator Larry So and journalism studies academic Camões Tam.

According to Chan, when the PRC was formed, Macau's role was similar to that of Hong Kong's - to be a window for the mainland and

an incubator for national unity.

Tam added that the fates of Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan were interwoven, and what applied to one needed to be considered with reference to the other two. This is perhaps most evident in the one country, two systems policy framework, under which the two Special Administrative Regions enjoy a large degree of autonomy, while recognizing Chinese sovereignty.

On the other hand, So views Macau's role during the inception of the modern Chinese state differently. He saw Macau as a transit room. "A lot of people from the mainland - refugees or immigrants, you name it - moved to Macau at that time," he said, referring to the early days of the PRC. "Some of them stayed briefly before moving to other places, while others started to reside here permanently."

As history moved forward, So and Chan's opinions regarding the role of Macau gradually converge. "During the Korean and Vietnam Wars, an embargo was levied on the mainland. Under this, Macau

became a window for commodities and necessities to [be smuggled] northwards into China," explained So.

Orchestrated by the United States, the international embargo on China lasted throughout the 1950s and 1960s, banning exports to the PRC and preventing the import of goods. The embargo was lifted by U.S. President Richard Nixon in 1971 to permit the export of non-strategic items.

The older generations in Macau may remember bringing such goods to the mainland themselves, as it was reportedly a common occurrence for families with ties across the border.

Later, when the mainland opened its doors to global investment under former Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, Macau businesspeople were among the first to invest in mainland China. Most of them invested in manufacturing and contributed to the development of China as the world's "factory floor." For So, this moment represents the most prominent contribution of Macau to the 70-year-old story of modern China.

CHINESE LAND UNDER PORTUGUESE MANAGEMENT

Long before the 1999 handover, it had been broadly agreed by the People's Republic of China and the inhabitants of Macau that, at that time, the mainland was not yet ready to reclaim the then-Portuguese enclave. Besides, not immediately retrieving the city offered advantages to the mainland under a system that would eventually become the one country, two systems framework.

The 1974 Carnation Revolution had disassembled the Portuguese empire and transformed its holdings into a republic. The new administration in Lisbon decided all overseas territories, including Angola, Cape Verde and Macau, would be decolonized.

Two years before the Carnation Revolution, the United Nations General Assembly had voted to exclude both Macau and Hong Kong from the list of colonies in response to a proposal from the PRC.

The Portuguese knocked on Beijing's door, informing them of their intentions to return the enclave, but Beijing decided the time

was not right for them to retake control of Macau, specifically stating that the return should occur at a symbolic moment. The mainland administration declined Portugal's proposal and insisted that the Macau question should be resolved only after the handover of Hong Kong.

A directive regarding Macau was issued in Beijing: "Plan extensively and use fully." According to Tam, this moment was the basis for both the one country, two systems principle and the Basic Law.

This left Macau in limbo between the two administrations. The administration in Lisbon no longer considered Macau a colony or overseas province of the Portuguese Republic. As a result, the Portuguese decided to designate Macau as "Chinese land under Portuguese management."

A TRADE ROLE ONCE MORE

Since its establishment as a Special Administrative Region of China, the role of Macau vis-à-vis the mainland has changed significantly. The rapid economic development of China has diminished the country's reliance on the trade links of Hong Kong and Macau, and yet the two territories are envisioned to continue serving a role in major trade directives designed by Beijing.

Chan and So see Macau's new role in economic and geographic terms, focusing on the Greater Bay Area and the Belt and Road Initiative.

"Macau is positioned by the central government as the Center, the Platform and the Base in the Greater Bay Area strategy," noted Chan. According to him, this means that Macau should work toward becoming a world center of tourism and leisure, a platform connecting China and Lusophone countries and a base for cultural exchange.

So said that Macau's contribution in future will remain predominantly in the gambling sector, banned on the mainland, while also expanding to other related fields in leisure and the MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) business.

"Of course, it looks narrow to talk only about gambling and leisure, but MICE needs the support of other industries, [such as] hospitality and dining," said So. "This is the strength of Macau, which can benefit the Greater Bay Area as a whole."

Macau's role in 2019, according to Tam, is to continue the effective implementation of the one country, two systems framework in order to set an example for Taiwan.

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CHUI DENIES PLENTIFUL FLAGS IN VIOLATION OF LAW

JULIE ZHU

ACCORDING to some reports, displaying the Chinese national flag at various locations across the city may violate Macau's national flag regulations. However, Chief Executive Chui Sai On disagrees, believing that the widespread use of Chinese national flags is in accordance with the law.

In order to celebrate this milestone birthday of China, the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) has decorated several of Macau's roundabouts, including Praça de Ferreira do Amaral, with not just plain red flags but also Chinese national flags.

According to the relevant administrative regulation, 10 locations in the city have been listed as demonstration and Chinese national flag raising sites. The city's regulation also suggests that the Chief Executive's approval must be given if national flags are sought to decorate government buildings, offices or other loca-



tions. The relevant regulation also stipulates that the IAM can display national flags in plazas, gardens and other public places during important holidays.

Questioned on whether displaying national flags randomly all over the city was disrespectful to the national flag, Chui said that relevant government department has already reviewed the laws and concluded that the arrangements do not violate legal

regulations. However, he promised to send any different opinions to the government.

"Actually, there are more [flags] than previously because we are celebrating the 70th birthday of the great motherland," Chui said, according to a report by Cheng Pou.

Under the leadership of former Chief Executive Edmund Ho, the local government was also questioned over their display of the national flags at various locations.

Ho's government corrected this by replacing some national flags with red or colorful flags, according to the report.

According to local laws related to the Chinese national flag, the Chief Executive may, by means of supplementary administration regulations, restrict or prohibit the display or use of Chinese national flags for other occasions or places that are detrimental to the solemnity and seriousness of the national flag or its designs.

SEVEN AWARDED GOLDEN LOTUS AND SILVER LOTUS

SEVEN individuals and one entity have been awarded medals and honorary titles, the SAR government announced yesterday.

The government announced the Decorations, Medals and Certificates of Merit awarded for 2019 by the Macau SAR. They are being given to 44 individuals and organizations in recognition of their achievements, outstanding contributions and distinguished service respectively.

The two individuals who were awarded the Decoration of Honour – Golden Lotus are Liu Chak Wan, member of the Executive Council and of the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), and chancellor of the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST); and Ma Iao Lai, a politician, member of the CPPCC and of the Executive Council, and vice president of the Macao Chamber of Commerce.

Executive Council members Leonel Alves, Cheang Chi Keong, Ho Sut Heng, Eddie Wong Yue Kai, and Chan Chak Mo were the five people awarded a Decoration of Honour – Silver Lotus.

Besides these seven individuals, central enterprise Nam Kwong Group, which was established in August 1949, was also awarded a Silver Lotus medal of honor.

The awards for Decorations of Honour include the Decoration of Honour – Grand Lotus; the Decoration of Honour – Golden Lotus; and the Decoration of Honour – Silver Lotus. These awards are for individuals or entities that have made outstanding contributions to the image and reputation of the Macau SAR. JZ

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MIGRANT WORKER SAYS 'WORTH FIGHTING FOR RIGHTS' AFTER SMALL VICTORY

LYNZY VALLES

THE Filipino migrant worker seeking compensation after a work accident that resulted in the amputation of his leg has won the civil case and is awaiting the outcome of the ongoing criminal case.

Since early this year, Raymond Tagacay, who was run over by a car driven by his co-worker while he was washing another car, has been seeking compensation. He was one of six people hit by the car, but the only one who suffered major injuries.

Over the weekend, Tagacay permanently returned to the Philippines after receiving some compensation, but according to him this amount is not the full amount he believes he should receive.

"The criminal case is still ongoing [so the] compensation that I've received, some amount of that is still incomplete," he said.

Tagacay's lawyer, Miguel Quental, who assisted him in all the court processes has reportedly not charged the migrant worker for the fees incurred.

Although he did not mention



the amount he had received from his insurance and employer, Tagacay said that he is grateful to have won the civil case.

Tagacay was reportedly forced to sign Chinese documents to close the case. This irregularity and others were filed in the criminal court.

For now, he said that with the compensation he has received,

his family is planning to open a small restaurant and a stationery supply store near a school in their town.

"I think it's really worth fighting for your own rights and to not give up," he said. The migrant worker's visa was originally valid until August 10, but was extended by immigration authorities due to his case.

The insurance company had initially paid his employer for almost the full amount of his hospital and therapy expenses.

Tagacay previously said that he only sought legal advice as his co-worker, who was driving the car that injured him, was not fined as per the initial mutual agreement.

After being discharged from hospital, Tagacay found that he

would be sent back home with no financial support whatsoever. The ongoing criminal case was subsequently filed against his employer and his colleague who ran over him.

He is also yet to claim his disability benefits from the Philippine Overseas Labor Office.

Furthermore, Tagacay said that he was willing to come back to Macau for future court appearances, and expressed his hopes that his case would serve as a wake-up call for authorities to provide support to migrant workers experiencing similar situations.

Tagacay also reportedly experienced other violations at work, including the incomplete payment of salaries.

He said that he did not receive an employment contract until after the accident occurred, and he only recently learned that his basic salary was supposed to be MOP6,100 per month. There were months where he received less than MOP4,000, depending on the operation of the car wash.

Additionally, he and his colleagues allegedly had no days off and were on a "no work, no pay" policy.

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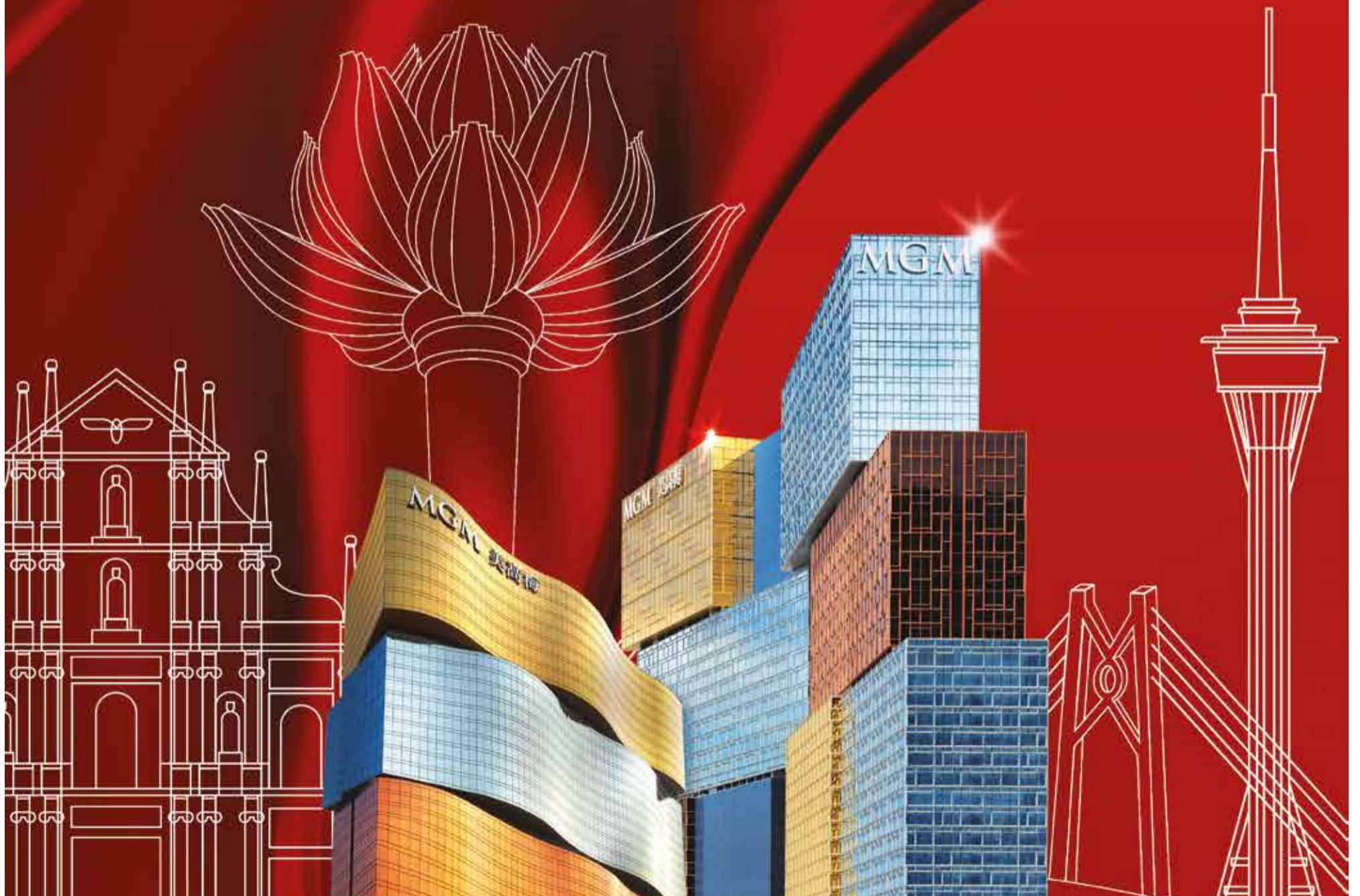
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CRIME

LOSSES CLIMB AS SCAMS CONTINUE TO CLAIM NEW VICTIMS

RENATO MARQUES

YESTERDAY, during the joint press conference by the police forces held at the Judiciary Police (PJ) Headquarters, the PJ spokesperson Lei Hon Nei revealed two separate cases in which the victims lost the equivalent of over HKD860,000.

In the first case, a 29-year-old woman from the mainland filed a complaint with the PJ against a 34-year-old mainland male over a high-return investment plan scam.

According to the victim's report, she met the suspect in August through a friend on the mainland. The suspect then invited the victim and the friend to Macau.

During the visit, she said that the suspect presented them with an investment opportunity without many details, aside from the promise that it had a no-risk high return rate of 5% per day, but would require a minimum investment of HKD100,000. It was said the investment could be withdrawn at any time without penalty.

Although her friend decided to



BLOOMBERG

invest right away, the victim waited until the next day, when she saw that her friend had received the interest promised.

The victim was sent to a hotel room, where she saw a large group of people to whom the alleged organizers were paying interest.

She then invested two separate times on August 11 and 13, paying HKD100,000 each time. However,

two days later when she wanted to return to the mainland, she asked to withdraw her investment.

The suspect, using several excuses, did not return the money. Feeling that she had been scammed, the victim filed the complaint to the PJ.

On September 26 when the suspect was trying to leaving Macau through the Border Gate che-

ckpoint, he was intercepted by police and questioned.

He admitted to the crime, saying that the investment money would be used to invest in several schemes such as acquiring virtual currency.

Further investigation by the PJ found that another four or five people had been duped by the scheme, but they have not yet

presented any complaints to the police authorities. For this reason, the PJ could not calculate the full sum lost in the scam. Meanwhile, the suspect was delivered to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) where he is being charged for scamming.

In the second case, which occurred in late August, two local women aged 31 and 52 were involved in a scam while trying to acquire car license plates so they could drive their private cars on the mainland.

They told the PJ they met a 26-year-old Macau man who told them he could make this arrangement for RMB500,000 each.

To start creating the necessary documents, he requested a downpayment of RMB300,000 each, and the remaining RMB200,000 could be given to him when the work was completed.

The victims transferred RMB600,000 into a mainland bank account. However, after that they lost contact with the suspect, who did not provide the license plates or return the money.

The PJ managed to identify the suspect and on September 26 he was intercepted while trying to leave Macau through the Border Gate.

He did not admit to the crime and refuse to cooperate with the PJ, but the police believe they have gathered enough evidence to forward the accusations to the MP.

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MELCO



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

SECRETARY WONG SIO CHAK INSISTS IMMIGRATION HAS NO 'BLACKLIST'

SECRETARY for Security Wong Sio Chak has again insisted that the local authority does not have an entry ban blacklist. His comment came after Macau's rejection of entry to Albert Ho, lawyer and former president of the Hong Kong Democratic Party.

On Friday afternoon, Ho's entry to Macau was rejected, while two other people, who he claimed to be his clients, were admitted to the city.

Macau immigration rejected his entry on the grounds that Ho "poses a danger to Macau's public safety," a reason the local security authority has invoked in previous cases related to high-profile people from Hong Kong.

Ho claimed he was visiting Macau with his clients to handle a law case related to the will of Winnie Ho, Stanley Ho's sister, who died in August at the age of 95.

"I have been handling this case for over 10 years. I represent her son in continuing to handle her will in Macau, including her shares in SJM Holdings Limited," said Ho.

After a round of questioning, Ho, who had originally planned to return to Hong Kong on the same day, was eventually rejected from



entering Macau.

"I thought I could enter because it was clear that it [my visit] was a business-related meeting," said Ho, who had successfully entered Macau in May for the same reasons.

"I am not entirely clear about the real reason. Is it related to the National Day? [But] last time I went there, it was just a few days before

the Tiananmen massacre on June 4," said Ho.

Ho suspects that the Macau government is tightening its policies in order to "scare Hong Kong people."

"Are they tightening the policy against Hong Kong people to create pressure on young people, making them feel that if they participate in

these political activities, then, in the future, they won't be able to go to the mainland or to Macau?" asked Ho.

"I thought they would search my bag or my documents, or check my phone, but they did not," said Ho.

Macau's Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak has on previous occasions said that the decision

to deny the entry of certain Hong Kong residents bears no relation to their profession. He has also denied the existence of a blacklist and said that such decisions are "normal practice" for every country worldwide.

Asked about this most recent case, Wong also argued that no criminal would admit to be coming to Macau to commit a crime.

When asked whether he would recommend that Hong Kong residents who had previously participated in demonstrations to not come to Macau, Wong said that "we will not make such suggestion" and that Macau would not use participation in a demonstration or assembly as criteria to ban entry.

It is not the first case of Macau immigration officers barring Hong Kong-based journalists or pro-democracy activists from entering the SAR.

Last year, several writers dropped out of the Macau Literary Festival after authorities allegedly instructed event organizers that they might not be permitted to enter.

In the aftermath of Typhoon Hato and during the 2017 Legislative Assembly election, Macau authorities prevented 15 journalists from entering the SAR, as well as a number of lawmakers and activists. According to immigration authorities, these individuals constituted a threat to the city's stability and security. JZ

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TAM REFUTES REPORTS OF SHRINKING ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN MACAU

SECRETARY for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam says he disagrees with a recent report that found academic freedoms in Macau and Hong Kong were waning.

According to Tam, who was speaking on the sidelines of a government event on Sunday, his office disputes the report issued by Scholars at Risk, an international network of academic institutions based in the United States.

"I don't think this is true. Everyone knows that in Macau higher education institutions have freedom of expression and the freedom to conduct studies. You can ask this to all the deans, but as for me, I don't agree with the report," said Tam.

"I have never interfered with the freedom of the press," he added on a related note. "You can rest assured."

In a report published last week titled "Obstacles to Excellence: Academic Freedom and China's Quest for World-Class Universities," Scholars at Risk noted that both Hong Kong and Macau's academic freedom



were confronted with "a shrinking space for ideas."

Despite Macau and Hong Kong having differing levels of institutional autonomy compared to their counterparts in mainland China, the report cited the fact that higher education communities in both special administrative regions had been subjected to the same pressures intended to restrain academic activity and expression following their return to China.

Although the association believes that violations of

academic freedom in Hong Kong and Macau have not reached the level of severity seen in mainland China, the overt threats targeting scholars and students indicate that space for inquiry and expression is increasingly under attack.

"These challenges threaten quality higher education institutions nurtured in Hong Kong and Macau over the years, and suggest an increasingly fragile environment for free inquiry and expression in the SARs," the report stated. LV

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Hong Kong braces for National Day protests after weekend of violence

NATALIE LUNG
& PETER MARTIN

CHINESE President Xi Jinping stressed national unity and said relations between Hong Kong and the mainland would improve, even as pro-democracy protesters planned several rallies to coincide with anniversary of Communist rule.

"Hong Kong and Macau will be able to develop together with the motherland's interior," Xi said in a brief speech to a banquet in Beijing ahead of tomorrow's holiday marking 70 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China. "Tomorrow will be even better."

Xi said the "one country, two systems" principle under which Hong Kong has been governed since its return from British rule in 1997 must be upheld. The president's remarks - his most extensive comments on Hong Kong since unrest began in June - came as the city braced for another wave of protests during the National Day holiday.

Demonstrators on Sunday set a subway station entrance ablaze and threw petrol bombs at police as tens of thousands tried to march on Hong Kong's central government offices ahead of the National Day holiday. They were met by officers who deployed rounds of tear gas and a water cannon to disperse them for a second straight day.



Protesters wave a black version of the Hong Kong flag

The unrest disrupted some services in Hong Kong's city center, with rail operator MTR Corp. temporarily closing some downtown stations. Hong Kong police said they arrested 146 people and fired off 328 rounds of tear gas on Sunday. Forty-eight people were sent to the hospital, authorities said.

The violence has threatened to mar Xi's Oct. 1 celebrations in Beijing, which will be marked by "mass pageantry" in which

at least 100,000 people will take part. The festivities will include a military parade and an evening gala in Tiananmen Square.

Xi and other party leaders visited the remains of former leader Mao Zedong and attended a ceremony to pay tribute to deceased national heroes in the square on Monday morning, according to the official Xinhua News Agency.

Chief Executive Carrie Lam will lead a delegation to Beijing

to participate in celebrations, meaning she'll be out of the city during the holiday. She will return to Hong Kong in the evening via the border city of Shenzhen, and the city's No. 2 official, Matthew Cheung, will be its acting leader in her absence.

Hong Kong's government canceled the city's annual National Day fireworks on the waterfront, citing safety concerns, and banned a planned rally by major pro-democracy organizer,

the Civil Human Rights Front. The group's appeal was denied by authorities on Monday, its co-convenor Jimmy Sham said.

Demonstrations have rocked the Asian financial hub since early June, triggered by proposed legislation allowing extraditions to China and since morphing into a broader push back against Beijing's grip.

Lam, who had tried to push the bill through before protests erupted, assumed responsibility for the "entire unrest" as she held her first community dialogue event last week - a bid to assuage demonstrators ahead of Oct. 1.

Tomorrow's rallies have been planned in six districts that have seen some of the most violent protests of recent months, with most set to start in the afternoon. Spectators for a morning flag-raising ceremony in the city center will be moved indoors.

Activist and protest organizer Ventus Lau was arrested Monday morning for alleged offenses including criminal damage and trespassing in the city's Legislative Council chamber -- which was broken into by protesters on July 1 - a friend told Lau's media WhatsApp group. Local actor Gregory Wong was also arrested on similar charges, activist Nathan Law wrote on his Facebook page.

At one point during scuffles outside a subway station in the Wan Chai area Sunday, an officer fired a warning shot into the sky.

"Some police officers were surrounded and attacked by a large group of violent protesters," the Hong Kong police said. "With their lives under serious threat, an officer fired one warning shot into the sky to protect their own safety." **BLOOMBERG**

HONG KONG

Flight attendants urge Cathay to explain layoffs

KYUNGHEE PARK
& SHIRLEY ZHAO

FLIGHT attendants in Hong Kong urged Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. to explain the reasons behind dozens of dismissals, accusing the airline of "political cleansing" amid the unrest that's ensnared the city's flagship carrier.

In a joint statement yesterday, flight-attendant unions from Cathay Pacific and its unit Cathay Dragon accused the airline of monitoring employees' social-media accounts and obtaining "dubious" information from whistle-blowers as anti-China protests con-

tinued to convulse the city. The Hong Kong Cabin Crew Federation put the number of Cathay dismissals at 32, including pilots, since mid-August.

Cathay has been caught in the middle of the unrest that's rocked Hong Kong for nearly four months. The Chinese government cracked down on the airline last month because some of its staff took part in protests, and disruptions to the airport and the city's tourist trade have also spurred a slump in passengers. The airline ceded to some of Beijing's demands and replaced its CEO, triggering criticism from demonstra-

tors who have also raised concerns that the company is suppressing free speech.

"While some of the crew were first shown posts or updates from their private social-media accounts and required to provide an explanation without evidence, others were just handed a termination letter without any accusations," the unions said. "None of them were given valid grounds for dismissal."

The unions said allegations leading to job terminations have sometimes been based on unverified material, such as alleged Facebook screenshots pro-

vided by anonymous third parties.

"A culture of fear has arisen," the unions said, calling on Cathay to reveal the process of its investigations and explain the rationale for dismissals. The company should stop firing cabin crew based on activities on their private social media accounts, it said.

In a statement yesterday, Cathay reiterated that it must fully comply with regulations. "Quite simply, this is our license to operate; there is no ground for compromise," it said.

Cathay Dragon said last week it fired two crew members during an investigation

into why several depleted emergency oxygen bottles were found on flights in the past month. That followed the discovery of a bottle with low levels of oxygen on a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Hong Kong on Sept. 21. All cabin crew on that flight were suspended.

In the unions' briefing in Hong Kong yesterday, one of the dismissed Cathay Dragon flight attendants, who refused to disclose her name due to the sensitivity of the issue, said she discovered an oxygen bottle suspected to be leaking on the Sept. 21 flight and reported the incident. She said she was fired a few days later

without any explanation.

She said Cathay had asked her if she suspected anybody had tampered with the tank. The attendant said she thought that the company fired her for being unwilling to tell on others.

Two other former Cathay Pacific flight attendants who also insisted on anonymity said they were both fired without explanation after the company asked them if some social-media posts involving political comments were made by them. One said the posts were not made by her but by an account that used her profile photo without her knowing, but the company dismissed her despite her explanations.

Cathay said it can't comment on individual cases of dismissals. **BLOOMBERG**

**CONGRATULATIONS
ON THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

**WITH COMPLIMENTS OF
SJM HOLDINGS LIMITED**



澳門博彩控股有限公司
SJM HOLDINGS LIMITED



People sit outside the London Stock Exchange in London

HKEX SEEKS \$9.8 BILLION IN LOANS TO FUND LONDON OFFER

MANUEL BAIGORRI,
 ANNIE LEE
 & VIREN VAGHELA

HONG Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. is in talks with banks for a loan to back its proposed takeover bid for London Stock Exchange Group Plc, people familiar with the matter said.

The bourse has been discussing borrowing between 7 billion pounds and 8 billion pounds (\$9.8 billion), according to the people, who asked not to be identified because the information is private. It's seeking to form a syndicate of several lenders, the people said.

Under U.K. takeover rules, HKEX must submit a formal offer by Oct. 9 unless LSE

grants an extension. Executives from the Hong Kong exchange are in London last week, meeting with LSE shareholders to convince them of the merits of the deal, which is known internally at HKEX as "Project Lima," according to the people.

As part of its proposal, the Hong Kong bourse is demanding LSE walk away from its own \$27 billion deal for data provider Refinitiv. A total of 18 banks signed a \$13.5 billion bridge loan this month for that acquisition.

Shares of HKEX rose as much as 2.3% during Monday morning trading in Hong Kong, while the benchmark Hang Seng Index was little changed.

LSE earlier this month

rejected HKEX's 29.6 billion-pound takeover proposal, citing complications ranging from Hong Kong's unrest to potential problems with regulators. HKEX is countering with a charm offensive, bringing in UBS Group AG and HSBC Holdings Plc to convince shareholders of the merits of its own proposal, Bloomberg News reported last week.

In a note last week, a Sandler O'Neill & Partners analyst said his firm hosted an investor meeting with HKEX Chief Executive Officer Charles Li and co-President Romnesh Lamba this week. The executives emphasized the merits of combining an Asian exchange with a European counterpart, given little

overlap in their respective capabilities, the note said.

HKEX is concerned that LSE will try to "run out the clock" before the Oct. 9 deadline, given the target's lack of cooperation so far, the Sandler O'Neill note said.

Some of the Hong Kong firm's pitches to the U.K. company's investors have been met with ambivalence so far, the people familiar with the matter said, as some fund managers told HKEX that they like LSE's Refinitiv deal and HKEX's bid isn't high enough.

No final agreements have been reached, and details of the financing could still change, the people said. A representative for HKEX declined to comment. **BLOOMBERG**

China approves first dual-class IPO in bid to lure tech firms

CHINA is set to see the first dual-class listing in the domestic market, as the nation aims to stem an exodus of technology firms seeking listings overseas.

Chinese cloud storage provider UCloud Technology last Friday obtained approval from the Shanghai Stock Exchange for an initial public offering on the Star market, according to an exchange filing. It is the first company with unequal voting rights to get approval from the exchange for such listing, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

According to the filing, three of UCloud's shareholders currently own a combined 98 million A-class shares of the company, or about 27% of the firm's total issued shares. These three represent a combined voting rights of 65%. The company aims to raise about 4.7 billion yuan (\$660 million) via the IPO, according to a separate exchange filing.

The approval came hours before Bloomberg News reported that the Trump administration is considering various measures to

limit U.S. investors' exposure to Chinese assets, including possible delisting of Chinese firms from U.S. exchanges.

Although a U.S. Treasury official said there are no current plans to stop Chinese companies from listing on U.S. bourses, Citigroup Inc. analysts including Alicia Yap wrote in a research note that U.S.-listed Chinese firms may see negative overhang to last for a while and those with ADRs may consider a dual listing in Hong Kong and eventually listing

back in China.

"UCloud's IPO approval is a milestone for China's domestic capital market," said Fu Lichun, analyst at Northeast Securities Co. "More and more tech firms with dual-class share structure may be encouraged to list domestically and the move may also attract overseas-listed Chinese companies to list back home," said Fu.

China launched the NASDAQ-style Star market in the middle of this year, a new trading venue that is the only one currently allowing companies with dual-class share structure to go public. UCloud still needs to register with the China Securities Regulatory Commission for its offering. **BLOOMBERG**

TENCENT'S CHINA HOMAGE TOPS CHARTS ON EVE OF NATION'S BIRTHDAY

TENCENT Holdings Ltd.'s homage to modern China has topped the gaming charts days after its debut, riding a groundswell of patriotism as the Communist Party prepares to celebrate 70 years in power.

"Homeland Dream," the world-building title akin to the iconic SimCity of yesteryear, has become the most downloaded free game on the Chinese Apple iOS store since its Sept. 24 launch, beating out money-spinners like Tencent's own mainstay Honour of Kings. The title -- developed in partnership with the state-run People's Daily -- lets players build a virtual metropolis from scratch while collecting cartoonish images of Communist slogans, national landmarks and politically tinged buzzwords such as "One Country, Two Systems."

To whip up nationalistic fervor, the country plans to screen a string of patriotic films and televise a parade of military might through the heart of Beijing.

Homeland Dream was Tencent's latest attempt to cozy up to a government increasingly intolerant of its bread-and-butter business of gaming. The title was unveiled last month at the country's largest gaming expo along with another patriotic offering in partnership with the government of Guangdong province, its home base. Following a bruising 2018 crackdown, Tencent in May swapped its popular Battle Royale shooter PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds with a gore-free version that lionized the Chinese military. The revamp, Peacekeeper Elite, could generate \$1 billion of gross revenue by the end of this year, Niko Partners estimated in June.

As of yesterday, Homeland Dream had garnered an App Store rating of 4.6 stars out of 5 from nearly 5,000 reviews. But it's not uncommon for game studios to benefit from fake downloads and ratings: Homeland Dream has dozens of nearly identical or irrelevant reviews giving it five stars.

Players get to be in charge of transforming an undeveloped piece of land with eight slots, where they can place facilities from farmers' markets to libraries and power plants. While leveling up their construction and harvesting gold coins, players also rack up scores for elevating their real-life hometowns. Tencent has yet to offer in-app purchases.

Tencent isn't the only Chinese internet giant to mark Oct. 1. ByteDance Inc., the world's largest startup, is giving away cash prizes to influencers who post videos of themselves making heart-signs to the motherland. Tencent also rolled out a mini-game that lets millions of users of its WeChat social-media superapp decorate their headshots with the national flag.





70TH ANNIVERSARY

Xi pays respect to Mao ahead of celebrations

CHRISTOPHER BODEEN,
BEIJING

CHINESE Communist Party leader and President Xi Jinping led other top officials yesterday in paying respects to the founder of the Communist state, Mao Zedong, ahead of a massive celebration of the People's Republic's 70th anniversary that will emphasize its rise to global prominence.

The unusual move saw Xi bow three times to Mao's statue at his mausoleum in the center of Beijing's Tiananmen Square and pay his respects to Mao's embalmed corpse, which has lain in state in the hulking chamber since soon

after his death in 1976. It was believed to be the first visit to the mausoleum by Xi and other officials since 2013, the 120th anniversary of Mao's birth.

Xi also ascended the nearby Monument to the People's Heroes to pay further tribute on what has been designated Martyr's Day, just ahead of today's National Day festivities, which will be marked by a massive military parade through the center of the city of 20 million people.

Along with other top party officials, more than 4,000 Chinese including elderly military veterans and retired senior officials, "relatives of martyrs, honorees of national medals and honorary titles,"

and members of the party's youth organization visited the monument to lay flowers and wreathes.

Sept. 30 was designated Martyr's Day by China's legislature in 2014, a year after Xi became president and began redoubling propaganda efforts to promote patriotism and glorify the party, as well as to cultivate a cult of personality surrounding himself unseen since the time of Mao.

The nationwide celebrations seek to highlight China's enormous transformation from an impoverished state ravaged by Japan's World War II invasion and a following civil war into the world's second-largest economy. China now sits on the cutting edge of

breakthrough technologies such as artificial intelligence and 5G communications and its growing military and diplomatic clout increasingly challenges U.S. leadership.

Xi is expected to preside from atop iconic Tiananmen Gate over a parade that will display China's rapidly developing arsenal, possibly including the nuclear-capable Dongfeng 41 missile that could reach the United States in 30 minutes. Plans call for 15,000 troops, more than 160 aircraft and 580 pieces of military equipment to take part in the event.

The display of military prowess is seen as a way to underscore Beijing's ambition to enforce claims to self-governing Taiwan, virtually the entire South China Sea and territory held by Japan.

The anniversary comes as China appears more stable than ever, 30 years after the party used its military to crush a pro-democracy movement centered on Tiananmen Square. Xi has revived theatrical expressions of love of party

and state that were popular under Mao and has rallied the nation to his call for the attainment of a "Chinese Dream" of global prominence, all while cracking down ruthlessly on any sign of political dissent.

Xi faces no serious political rivals and has brought the party to heel through a wide-ranging anti-corruption drive. Last year, he cemented his role as China's most powerful ruler of the modern era by amending the constitution to remove presidential term limits, sweeping away years of efforts to systematize leadership transitions and prevent the concentration of power in any one individual.

At the same time, Xi faces a slowing economy, aging population and an ongoing dispute over trade and technology with the U.S. that has restricted China's access to American technology and hit its imports with tariffs. Beijing has responded with duties on American products, and the escalating trade war threatens the global economy.

Xi also faces persistent anti-government protests in the semi-autonomous region of Hong Kong, where demonstrators and police clashed for a second straight day on Sunday. That sparked further chaos in the city's business and shopping belt and drew fears of more ugly scenes during the weeklong National Day holiday.

Protesters are planning to march again today despite a police ban, posing a possible embarrassment to Xi.

The protracted unrest, approaching four months, has battered Hong Kong's economy, with tourism plunging.

Many people view China as chipping away at the autonomy and freedoms Hong Kong was promised when the former British colony returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

Beijing has accused the U.S. and other foreign powers of fomenting the unrest in a bid to smear its reputation and weaken its control. AP

Cinemas screens patriotic movies to whip up nationalistic fervor

CHINA is reeling out a string of patriotic films as the Communist Party prepares to celebrate 70 years in power amid challenges to its authority from the unrest in Hong Kong and an economy weakened by the trade war.

At least three movies featuring the accomplishments of ordinary Chinese opened in mainland theaters yesterday, the eve of the 70th anniversary of the

founding of the People's Republic of China.

"My People, My Country," directed by seven of China's best-known filmmakers, is a collection of stories of citizens in proud moments of the nation's history. "The Climbers" chronicles the first Chinese team that scaled Mount Everest in 1960, and "The Captain" is the story of pilots who used their skills to save a passenger aircraft

from disaster.

While China has historically used movies to instill ideology and patriotism, the goal of the latest releases is to reinforce nationalism, Chinese pride and aid President Xi Jinping's drive to bring the party, and the country, in line. The campaign comes at a time when Beijing is looking for ways to resolve Hong Kong's protests, as well as shore up economic growth.

"Definitely there's an importance, and they are definitely going to push" these movies, said Sean Tierney, a Hong Kong-based film critic. The three movies are "too red to fail" at China's box office, he said.

Months of protests, triggered by a controversial extradition bill, have turned into the biggest crisis for Beijing's rule over the former British colony since it returned to China in

1997. The rallies against the now-withdrawn legislation have gradually morphed into a pro-democracy, anti-Beijing movement, with universal suffrage among the key protester demands.

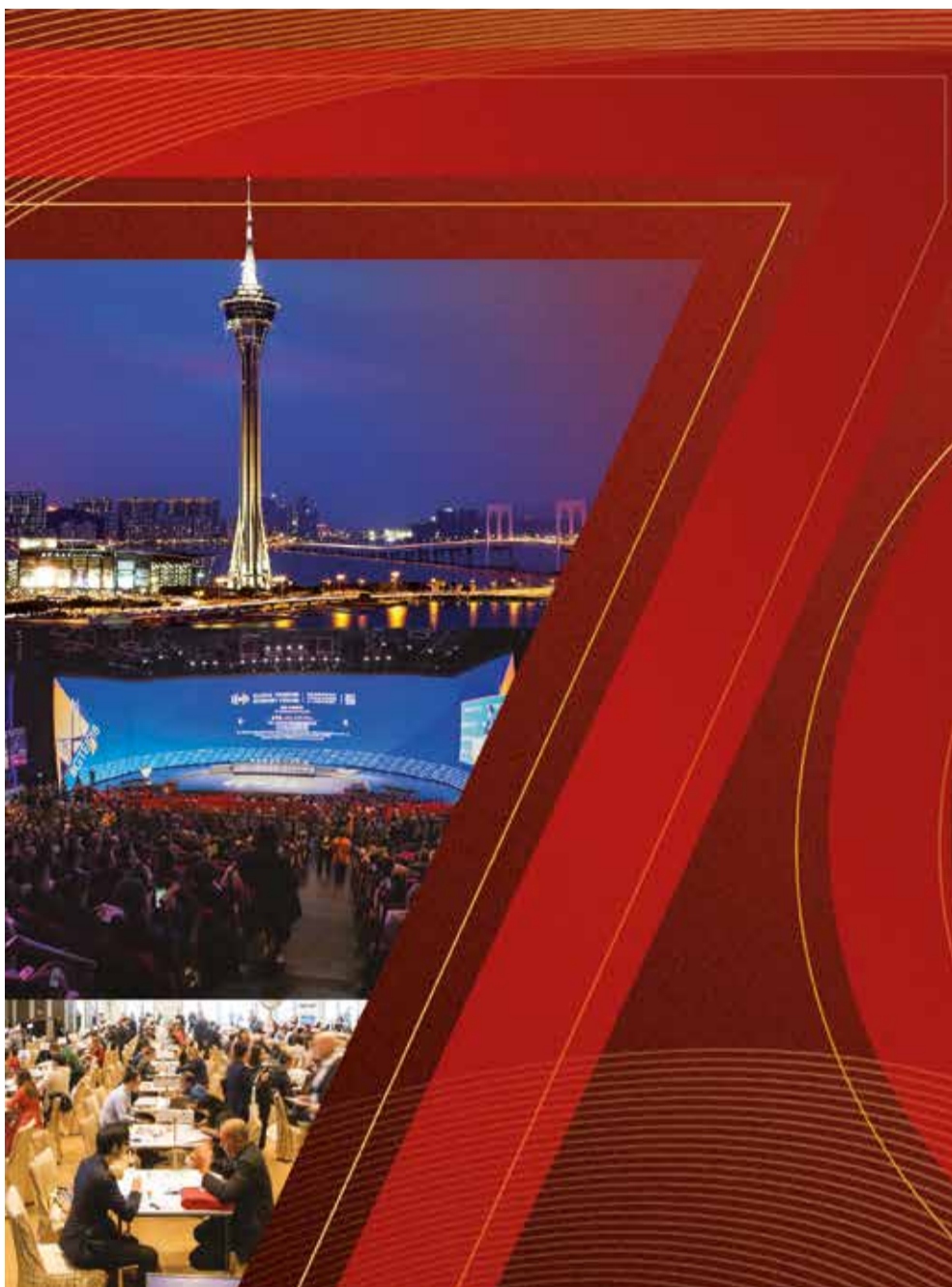
Highlighting the link between the Communist Party and its use of movies to further its ideology, an official at the then-State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television told industry representatives in December 2017 that movies should serve the purpose of "promoting the prosperity of socialist culture and realizing the Chinese dream" as defined by Xi's thought.

Several patriotic movies have seen commercial success.

In 2017, "Wolf Warrior 2" -- a movie about a renegade officer in China's special operations force who single-handedly rescues hundreds of Chinese nationals from a war-torn country in Africa -- racked up about USD800 million in ticket sales, making it the country's top grossing film ever. "Operation Red Sea," out the following year about a military squad saving compatriots from terrorist attacks in a fictitious Arab country, was the fifth-highest. BLOOMBERG



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Tokyo Olympic organizers: 6,900 tickets bought through fraud

STEPHEN WADE, TOKYO

TOKYO Olympic organizers are investigating the fraudulent purchase of 6,900 tickets worth 180 million yen (USD1.67 million) that were obtained in an online lottery for Japan residents.

"We are consulting with the police on this matter, and if there are other cases where unauthorized purchases are suspected, we will deal with those as needed," Tokyo organizers said in a statement Monday.

Organizers were in the process of voiding the tickets but did not suggest who was involved. They said they were bought using fraudulent IDs.

Ticket interest in next year's Tokyo Olympic is unprecedented with demand at least 10 times above supply, and probably much greater.

Earlier this year Japan passed a law that prohibits ticket scalping, with a 1 million yen

AP PHOTO



(\$9,100) fine and a one-year jail term — or both.

However, the law has large loopholes and does not apply to tickets distributed for free or given away as gifts, or tickets without a purchaser's name. This

applies to many tickets coming from the International Olympic Committee, the 206 national Olympic committees, or major sponsors.

In a separate matter, organizers have announced the results

of their latest ticket lottery for Japan residents.

The outcome is much like the first lottery in May: tickets are very tough to get, and many in Japan will be left out.

Organizers say 1.4 million

people applied in the August phase, and only 120,000 were successful landing 350,000 tickets.

Tokyo organizers say they have now sold 3.57 million tickets to Japan residents in both lotteries. The Japanese general public is slated to get between 70-80% of the estimated 7.8 million tickets that are listed as available.

The rest are for sale outside Japan through Authorized Ticket Resellers — the Olympic agents contracted to sell tickets outside Japan — or go to sponsors, national Olympic committees, sports federations, and dignitaries.

Organizers are planning another lottery this fall for Japan residents but have declined to say how many tickets will be available.

Tokyo is a reversal from recent Olympics in Rio de Janeiro and Pyeongchang, South Korea, when tickets were unsold and many events were poorly attended. That won't be the case with 35 million people in Greater Tokyo looking to attend.

The demand is widely reported to be driving up hotel prices.

Tickets sales are projected to raise about \$800 million for the organizing committee's operating budget of \$5.6 billion. **AP**

AD

Congratulations on the

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THE FOUNDING OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

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HUNGARY, ROMANIA NOMINEES REJECTED FOR EU TOP JOBS AGAIN

LORNE COOK, BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN Union lawmakers flexed their political muscle yesterday, rejecting for a second time Hungary and Romania's nominees for two of the bloc's top posts amid concerns over possible conflicts of interest.

The EU parliament's legal committee refused last week to recommend that Rovana Plumb of Romania and Laszlo Trocsanyi of Hungary be allowed to face official hearings that would determine whether they are fit to take up new commission portfolios in the EU's powerful executive arm when it takes office in November.

Plumb was in line to become the EU's top transport official. Trocsanyi was slated to become the commissioner in charge of future EU expansion, leading negotiations with candidate member countries. Attention focused on Plumb over some loans she had taken out, while Trocsanyi was questioned about a legal firm he founded in 1991. Both have denied any wrongdoing or conflicts of interest.

In a move that surprised some legal committee lawmakers, a new vote on the nominees was put on the agenda yesterday. After it was taken, EU Parliament spokesman Jaume Duch Guillot tweeted that the two "are unable to exercise his or her functions in accordance with the (EU)

AP PHOTO



European Commissioner Laszlo Trocsanyi (left) and European Parliament President David Sassoli

treaties and the code of conduct."

But French lawmaker Manon Aubry — a member of the committee — complained that the parliamentarians "were forced

into a second vote.

"In what democracies are deputies forced to vote until the desired result is obtained?" she asked.

"This anti-democratic prece-

dent is scandalous," she tweeted. "We held our positions: the two candidates are rejected, but the attack on democracy and the weaknesses of this procedure remain."

The committee's vice president, Sergey Lagodinsky, tweeted that the vote "is a victory for parliamentary democracy."

In a statement, Trocsanyi said he had learned of the committee's decision "with great consternation" and suggested he would take legal action.

"The decision in question is indeed a collection of lies, wrong shortcuts and tendentious amalgam," said the former Hungarian justice minister, who is also a lawyer.

The commission, the EU's massive bureaucracy with around 33,000 staff, proposes laws for the 28 EU nations and makes sure they're enforced. It runs everything from trade talks to consumer protection to privacy and anti-trust policies, as well as supervising national budgets and farm subsidies.

It's the first time that commission candidates have faced conflict of interest hearings. It will now be up to incoming commission president Ursula von der Leyen to decide, together with the Hungarian and Romanian governments which put forward the two, what actions to take.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has been a harsh critic of the current EU commission, led by Jean-Claude Juncker, notably concerning its criticism of what Brussels sees as his government's moves to undermine the rule of law in Hungary. Trocsanyi is a member of the Orban's ruling Fidesz party.

The current EU parliament was elected in May. Around 60% of the 751 lawmakers in the transnational assembly are new to the job. AP

Saudi crown prince takes responsibility for journalist death

SAUDI Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said in a television interview that he takes "full responsibility" for the grisly killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, but he denied allegations that he ordered it.

"This was a heinous crime," Prince Mohammed, 34, told "60 Minutes" in an interview that aired Sunday. "But I take full responsibility as a leader in Saudi Arabia, especially since it was committed by individuals working for the Saudi government."

Asked if he ordered the killing of Khashoggi, who had criticized him in columns for The Washington Post, Prince Mohammed replied: "Absolutely not."

The slaying was "a mistake," he said.

Khashoggi entered the Saudi consulate in Turkey

AP PHOTO



on Oct. 2, 2018, to collect a document that he needed to marry his Turkish fiancée. Agents of the Saudi government killed

Khashoggi inside the consulate and apparently dismembered his body, which has never been found. Saudi Arabia has charged

11 people in the slaying and put them on trial, which has been held in secret. As of yet, no one has been convicted.

A U.N. report asserted that Saudi Arabia bore responsibility for the killing and said Prince Mohammed's possible role in it should be investigated. In Washington, Congress has said it believes Prince Mohammed is "responsible for the murder." Saudi Arabia has long insisted the crown prince had no involvement in an operation that included agents who reported directly to him.

"Some think that I should know what 3 million people working for the Saudi government do daily," the powerful heir told "60 Minutes." "It's impossible that the 3 million would send their daily reports to the leader or the second-highest person in the Saudi government."

In an interview Thursday in New York, Khashoggi's fiancée, Hatice Cen-

giz, told The Associated Press that responsibility for Khashoggi's slaying "was not limited to the perpetrators" and said she wanted Prince Mohammed to tell her: "Why was Jamal killed? Where is his body? What was the motive for this murder?"

Prince Mohammed also addressed the Sept. 14 missile and drone attack on Saudi oil facilities. While Yemen's Iranian-allied Houthi rebels claimed the assault, Saudi Arabia has said it was "unquestionably sponsored by Iran."

"There is no strategic goal," Prince Mohammed said of the attack. "Only a fool would attack 5% of global supplies. The only strategic goal is to prove that they are stupid and that is what they did."

He urged "strong and firm action to deter Iran." AP


MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



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what's ON



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

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

WYNN PRESENTS: GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS

TIME: 10am-10pm

UNTIL: October 6, 2019

VENUE: Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6882 2839

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

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 9, 2019

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

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888

UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTERS

TIME: 12pm-6pm

UNTIL: October 31, 2019

VENUE: Access to Level 23 via lifts behind Morpheus check-in counters

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MANDARIN'S HOUSE

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

ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

Offbeat

FLIGHT DIVERTED TO DENVER AFTER PASSENGER STUCK IN BATHROOM

Officials say a United Airlines flight from Washington D.C. to San Francisco was diverted to Denver after a passenger got stuck inside the jet's bathroom.

KUSA-TV reported that Denver International Airport spokeswoman Emily Williams says the door to one of the airplane's bathrooms would not open, but could not confirm why.

Williams says the flight crew called for assistance and the Denver firefighters helped open the door.

Williams says there were no calls for medical assistance.

KUSA-TV says United Airlines confirmed that someone was in the bathroom.

TV canal macau



07:56	Dia da Implantação da R. P. China - Cerimónia do Hastear da Bandeira (Directo)
08:30	RTPi Directo
10:00	Comemorações do 70º Aniversário da República Popular da China (Directo)
13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Um Ritmo Perfeito 2
16:50	Dr. Sun Yat Sen e Macau
17:40	Amor Maior (Repetição)
18:25	TDM Desporto (Repetição)
19:30	Ouro Verde Sr.1
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	China Vermelha
21:50	Culinária na Ásia
22:15	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Motel Bates Sr.3
00:35	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:20	RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

26 Sep - 2 Oct



AD ASTRA

ROOM 1

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

Director: James Gray

Starring: Brad Pitt, Tommy Lee Jones, Ruth Negga

Language: English

Duration: 169min

THE FATAL RAID

ROOM 2

2:30, 7:15pm

Director: Jacky Lee

Starring: Patrick Tam, Michael Tong, Jade Leung

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 169min



IT CHAPTER TWO

ROOM 2

4:15, 9:00pm

Director: Andy Muschietti

Starring: Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy, Bill Hader

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 169min

BLINDED BY THE LIGHT

ROOM 3

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

Director: Gurinder Chadha

Starring: Vivick Kalra, Kulvinder Ghir, Meera Ganatra

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 169min

this day in history



1957 BRITISH PUBLIC GETS 'ASIAN FLU' VACCINE

A vaccine against the strain of influenza currently sweeping around the world has been made available to the British public.

The so-called Asian Flu pandemic has already killed thousands of people around the globe - many of them in the United States.

The virus is believed to have originated in North China in February before spreading worldwide.

It reached the UK three months ago.

The vaccine, which is being produced at the Wright-Fleming Institute of Microbiology in west London, will be distributed free on the National Health Service.

To give the fullest protection against the flu strain two injections are needed at an interval of not less than three weeks.

Tens of thousands of units of the vaccine have been produced during the last two months, however, there is still not enough at present for everyone to be vaccinated.

Doctors, nurses and other medical staff are being given priority.

Yesterday the Registrar-General's latest bulletin showed the influenza mortality rate rose sharply last week with 121 deaths registered in England and Wales compared with 47 the previous week.

The latest deaths brought the total to 472 since the beginning of the year.

But that figure is well down on the 1,073 influenza deaths registered in the same period last year.

However, what is causing the concern is the rate at which the deaths due to Asian Flu are increasing.

The elderly and young children and those with heart or lung disease, are influenza's chief victims with many dying of secondary problems, such as bronchial pneumonia.

The killing power of influenza comes from the ability of the virus to mutate easily and rapidly meaning a new vaccine must be produced to deal with each strain.

But it is rare for an epidemic to be transmitted beyond national boundaries and become a pandemic - the last was the Spanish Flu outbreak of 1918-1920.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

By December 3,550 people had died from influenza in England and Wales - three times as many flu fatalities as in the corresponding period of 1956.

After the vaccine was made available deaths fell but a second wave of the virus in November saw fatalities rise again. One hundred thousand deaths worldwide were attributed to Asian Flu - nearly 70,000 of them in the United States. However, the 1957 influenza outbreak was by no means as severe as the other two main pandemics of the 20th century.

During 1918-1920 Spanish Flu resulted in up to 40 million deaths worldwide while in 1968 Hong Kong Flu claimed 700,000 victims.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER


YOUR STARS

ARIES  **Mar. 21-Apr. 19**
 You've got to speak the truth today - and loudly! Do not stay quiet if you see someone acting improperly or telling a self-serving lie. This is not the time to suppress your concerns, suspicions, or fears.

TAURUS  **Apr. 20-May. 20**
 Someone is waiting for you to say something or do something that gives her or him an opportunity to get to know you better. Put yourself in the middle of the action.

GEMINI  **May. 21-Jun. 21**
 'In for a penny, in for a pound' is an excellent philosophy, but you do have to respect the boundaries of other people. Talk to the person who's holding things up and see whether a compromise can be reached.

CANCER  **Jun. 22-Jul. 22**
 Like a stained-glass window in a Gothic cathedral, the many colors and components of who you are right now have combined to create something quite breathtaking. You are completing a growth phase;


LEO  **Jul. 23-Aug. 22**
 If you can stick to yourself or stay close to home, do so. But if a solo day isn't possible, just try to take things slowly and speak up when you're uncomfortable.


VIRGO  **Aug. 23-Sep. 22**
 Human relationships are very unpredictable, which is why you should rely more on family members for help. They can give you the insight you need in order to understand a recent breakup or a fight with a friend.


LIBRA  **Sep. 23-Oct. 22**
 The stars favor time spent at home, so think of a fun all-day activity you can do. How about starting a board game marathon, baking some cookies, or playing a game of touch football in the back yard?

SCORPIO  **Oct. 23-Nov. 21**
 Having a good day is inevitable today, so all you have to do is sit back and enjoy it! The only wrinkle may come in the afternoon, when a dear friend needs your advice about a confusing situation.

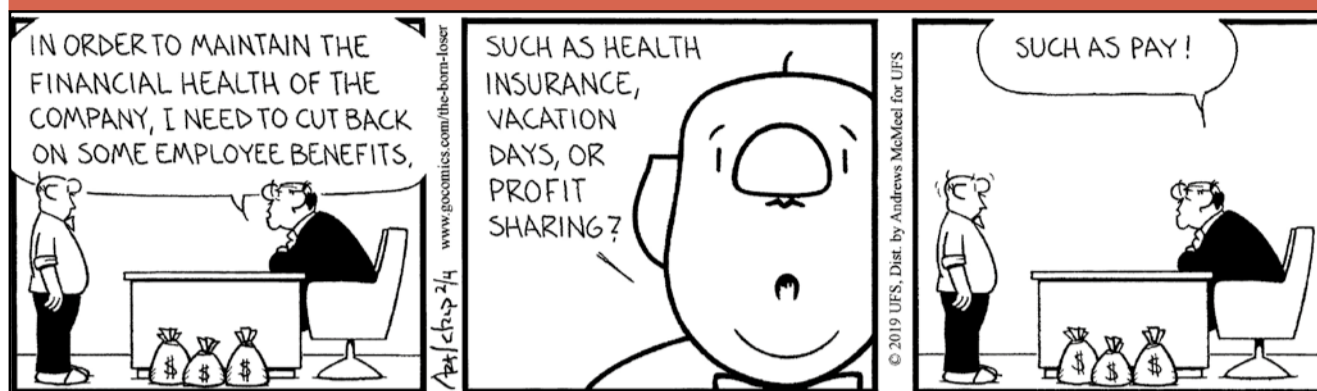
SAGITTARIUS  **Nov. 22-Dec. 21**
 If you sense that something is wrong in one of your relationships, don't let it slide or pretend that there's nothing wrong. Today you need to try to get to the bottom of things.

CAPRICORN  **Dec. 22-Jan. 19**
 You wouldn't want to start a new relationship off on the wrong foot, now would you? It won't take long to regain your equilibrium and return to your more peaceful, centered self.

AQUARIUS  **Jan. 20-Feb. 18**
 When you get a flat tire, do you take hours to examine the tire, debate what to do and then review what you did? Of course not! You know what needs to be done, and you deal with the situation right away!

PISCES  **Feb. 19-Mar. 20**
 First and foremost, a romance should be fun, right? So if you're not having fun with your sweetheart, today it's time to admit that and figure out what you're going to do about it.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	27	35	cloudy
Harbin	20	25	thundershower
Tianjin	27	35	thundershower
Urumqi	21	28	shower
Xi'an	24	35	cloudy
Lhasa	11	24	shower
Chengdu	24	34	shower
Chongqing	26	34	cloudy
Kunming	18	24	shower
Nanjing	29	36	cloudy
Shanghai	29	36	cloudy
Wuhan	28	37	clear
Hangzhou	28	38	cloudy
Taipei	26	30	overcast
Guangzhou	26	35	thundershower
Hong Kong	28	33	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	17	22	moderate rain
Frankfurt	21	33	clear
Paris	22	32	clear
London	16	24	clear
New York	18	27	clear

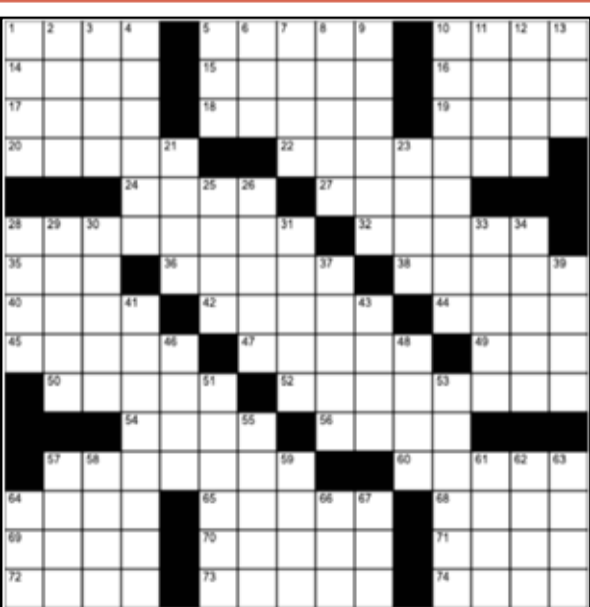
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Pops; 5- Stuffed savory vine leaf; 10- That's a laugh!; 14- Heroic; 15- Lots; 16- Spoken; 17- Computer operator; 18- One-twelfth of a year; 19- Elevator man; 20- Four-door; 22- Adhesive label; 24- Magic stick; 27- Tree of Life location; 28- Large hall for dancing; 32- Be a busybody; 35- Chihuahua cheer; 36- Capital of Crete; 38- Autocratic Russian rulers; 40- Norwegian saint; 42- Tropical plant used in cosmetics; 44- 007's alma mater; 45- Assumed attitudes; 47- First name in cosmetics; 49- That, in Toledo; 50- Bakery supply; 52- Propeller; 54- Numbered rds.; 56- Ex-frosh; 57- Throb; 60- Kind of question; 64- Part of a bird's beak; 65- ___ bleu!; 68- City west of Tulsa; 69- Crones; 70- Spanish hero; 71- City on the Truckee; 72- Greek god of war; 73- Luges; 74- Calendar span;

DOWN: 1- ___ ex machina; 2- Church niche; 3- Conked out; 4- Illegible handwriting; 5- Block up; 6- I know what you're up to!; 7- Optical device; 8- Dull finish; 9- Plant pests; 10- Plastic surgeon's target; 11- Comic Johnson; 12- 'Aquarius' musical; 13- Gore and more; 21- DEA agent; 23- Red coin?; 25- Ark builder; 26- Recipient; 28- Betty of cartoons; 29- Metallic mixture; 30- Lend for money; 31- The brainy bunch; 33- Shoot-'em-up; 34- Plain writing; 37- The opposition; 39- Reason to cancel school; 41- Intrepid; 43- Flying start?; 46- Grounded fleet; 48- Catch a glimpse of; 51- Rides; 53- Enlivening; 55- Play for time; 57- Bartlett, for one; 58- Itch; 59- Behold, to Brutus; 61- Cut, old-style; 62- Pinta's sister ship; 63- Dumpster emanation; 64- Half a dance; 66- Free; 67- Mag. staffers;

Yesterday's solution

DOER	TROSS	SSE
INRI	ARSON	OLIN
SNIP	LATTE	CINE
CONTROL	SWEPPER	
ATIONS	STA	
ATODDS	DEBONAIR	
TEPPER	TOTO	SIRE
SEE	AMITY	RAN
ENNE	RENE	GRETA
ASSUMING	CHISEL	
AREO	AHAS	
ADDONTO	HATRAN	
CROP	ISLES	OROE
RUDE	GREAT	NEON
EMO	AIDE	SENS



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



<p>FOR SALE</p>  <p>Big car park space, Tjoi Long Meng Chu HK\$3,000,000 2 </p>	<p>FOR RENT</p>  <p>Tai Nin, Macau \$9,200/mth 1  1 </p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>[Taipa] Kinglight Garden Loft 1  1  \$6,980,000 800 ft² (ref: 19055005ST)</p> <p>[Macau] One Central 2  2  \$13,575,000 1,269 ft² (ref: 19070002)</p> <p>[Coloane] Large apartment 3  2  \$13,800,000 2,530 ft² (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Cotai] One Grantai 4  2  \$25,600,000 2,556 ft² (ref: n/a)</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>[Macau] La Marina Studio 1  \$11,200/mth 2,352 ft² (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Taipa] Nova Grand 2  1  \$16,000/mth 986 ft² (ref: 19055007RT)</p> <p>[Cotai] One Grantai 3  3  \$23,000/mth 2,122 ft² (ref: 19030001RT)</p> <p>[Taipa] Manhattan 4  2  \$27,800/mth 2,305 ft² (ref: n/a)</p>	<p>jml 卓雅物業 property 1994</p> <p>(853) 2835 2699 hello@jmlproperty.com www.jmlproperty.com</p> <p> jmlmacau  jmlproperty</p>
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AP PHOTO



New Zealand's All Blacks perform their haka

RUGBY

All Blacks ready for World Cup spotlight after 11-day break

FOSTER NIUMATA

Wednesday, 15:45pm
France v USA
H 1.05, D 67, A 19

Wednesday, 18:15pm
New Zealand v Canada
H 1, D 301, A201

Thursday, 13:15pm
Georgia v Fiji
H 3.7, D 34, A 1.4

Thursday, 18:15pm
Ireland v Russia
H 1, D 201, A201

ODDSCHECKER.COM

REMEMBER the All Blacks? Black jerseys, black shorts, black socks, black mood on a rugby field? The Rugby World Cup holders?

It's been easy to forget them because since they last had the spotlight — that opening weekend blockbuster against archrival South Africa — so much has happened: Poolmates Italy and Namibia have played twice, the Springboks have played a second game, Uruguay has

upset Fiji and Japan has humbled Ireland, Wales and Australia thrilled, and there's been a slew of player suspensions.

By the time New Zealand face Canada tomorrow in Oita, it will have been 11 days since they topped South Africa 23-13 in Yokohama.

The All Blacks don't begrudge having the equal longest break — with France — in the pool stage. They were grateful after the battering from the Springboks to decompress and head to Beppu, a hot springs resort on the southern island of Kyushu.

It didn't take them long to get back into gear for the first of two games in five days; after Canada there's Namibia on Sunday back in Tokyo.

With the short turnaround in mind, New Zealand made 11 changes to the starting XV. If anything, the 11-day gap has served only to build up the anticipation of a first World Cup appearance for six of the 23, and whet the appetite of the rest.

They are expected to win well. They've never

lost to Canada in five previous meetings, three at the World Cup. And they're meeting for the first time since the 2011 World Cup, where New Zealand won a home match 79-15. But the team is determined to impress, because they and their fans demand nothing less.

"We've always been demanding of ourselves when it comes to continued improvement," coach Steve Hansen says. "By doing so, it allows us to have the right attitude, intent, and execution.

"When it comes to our preparation, it should never be about who we are playing, but how we are preparing individually and as a team, both mentally and physically. By doing this, it means you always respect your opponent and the jersey."

Aside from winning, Hansen has a list of boxes he wants ticked off.

He's given Richie Mo'unga and Beauden Barrett a fifth outing together to hone their dual playmaker roles, told out-of-form wing Rieko Ioane, he of 23 tries in 26 tests, to

do "the small things well and the big things will come for him," given center Jack Goodhue a first run in six weeks following injury, and told winger Jordie Barrett to slow down.

"It's not his confidence that he needs to get right, it's his understanding. He wants to do everything at 100 miles an hour," Hansen says.

Jordie, Beauden, and Scott Barrett will become the second trio of brothers to play together in the Rugby World Cup, after the Vunipola brothers for Tonga in 1995.

Captain Keiran Read, Sam Whitelock and Sonny Bill Williams are the only All Blacks from the 2011 match to repeat.

Canada also has three survivors: DTH van der Merwe, who will equal the national record of 14 World Cup appearances, center Conor Trainor, who scored two tries in the 2011 game, and prop Hubert Buydens.

The Canadians made six changes after losing to Italy 48-7 in their opener last Thursday in Fukuoka, bringing in a lot of experience. AP

GREAT TIMES

Experience an innovative twist on dim sum

WHO doesn't love dim sum? Dining on the bite-sized delicacies has been popular since it first originated over 2,500 years ago in Guangdong province. But this culinary art of little dishes has changed over time thanks to shifting palates and creative chefs. And now at MGM, you can experience dim sum on a whole new culinary level.



The contemporary Chinese restaurant Chún, is one of the ultimate destinations for creative Cantonese cuisine and their newest invention is a modern interpretation of dim sum. While typically dim sum is always shared, Chún has created individual sets that'll guarantee everyone gets a generous portion that'll leave you fully satisfied and satiated.

The chefs at Chún have pushed the boundaries of dim sum cuisine, all while remaining true to the original essence of each dish. Each set consists of 9 dim sum dishes hand-picked by the master chef. Steamed, fried or baked each dish covers a wide range of iconic dim sums that are refined with premium ingredients and expert craftsmanship. From scallop dumplings with beetroot and green brassica to barbecued pork pastries with apple and cinnamon, you'll discover a fusion of exotic elements that create an explosion of exquisite flavours with each and every bite.

Don't miss out on a unique dim sum experience that brings complexity to this Cantonese culinary gem. For only \$168 per set, invite a group of friends and enjoy a decadent meal of innovative yum cha dishes at Chún!

OPINION

Our Desk

Renato Marques



WHO NEEDS AIR ANYWAY?

Considered less important than the melting of the icecaps, Greta's "stolen childhood" or the tiny plastic particles in your fish is the air. Yes, the air. That invisible thing used by humans, animals and plants just to breathe.

The air, or better said, the quality of the air we breathe has recently been disregarded when compared to other problems, such as plastic pollution and how much CO2 a cow produces in her (poor) lifetime.

This topic has come up precisely during a week when the air quality in Macau has registered as very poor and is edging on pollution scores seen more often in Beijing.

Maybe it is a sign of the times, but is it because we getting closer and closer to Beijing or because we have done absolutely nothing to address this problem?

I am perfectly aware that unlike other forms of pollution, like emissions, which are possible to address in a more direct manner, air pollution is more complex, comes from everywhere, and is caused by basically everything we do in our daily lives. Contrary to other forms of pollution that can be "easily" reduced or recycled, air pollution is "harder to catch."

My point here is simple: since air quality (or the lack of it) influences all other forms of pollution and the quality of life, we should put it at the top of our priority list as conscientious adults. But are we?

No, I do not think so. We tend to act in a manner that some may say is typically lazy of humankind, and we tend to push the easiest problems to solve to the top and leave the difficult ones for "someone else to solve."

Others may think that I am completely wrong and that there are other problems more important than the air, for instance, water pollution.

I know how important is to "clean" or avoid extreme pollution in our rivers and seas. I know that as humans we cannot live long without water. But how long can you live without air?

Let's try it. Let's do a simple exercise. Cover your mouth and nose, and try to read the rest of this column without breathing a single time and then, when you reach the end of it, let me know how it feels.

Honestly, for me, I felt like I immediately forgot how many billions of pieces of microplastic are released into your brew by using a single tea bag, though I accept that others might think differently.

Allow me to simply establish a different list of priorities which is topped by the air we breathe.

If the air is toxic, the rain will be toxic and our water supply tanks will become toxic. Then we will irrigate the fields that produce our food and cook with this toxic water that will then enter our system through our food. Let us not forget that both animals and plants will "drink" it or live in it, so no matter what you eat or drink, it will get to you anyway.

Are there any ways to address the air pollution? I would start with a simple one: stop lying to people about it. Just tell them the truth. Tell people that the air is bad. Tell them to protect themselves. Because if "tweaking" figures on some economic fields is "just" dishonest, doing the same thing when it comes to something which is so vital to life should be a crime.

Russia says transcripts of calls between U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin can only be published on mutual accord.

The White House has severely restricted the distribution of memos detailing Trump's calls with foreign leaders, including Putin.

Asked about Congress' push for the publication of Putin-Trump calls, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said yesterday [Macau time] that "the publication is possible only on mutual accord."

Peskov noted that "diplomatic practice doesn't envisage such publications," but added "if we receive some signals from the U.S., we will consider it."

The rough transcript of Trump's call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, which was released by the White House, is now the focus of a U.S. impeachment probe. It showed Trump urging Ukraine to "look into" his Democratic political rival Joe Biden.

SUHO ANNOUNCED AS IFFAM TALENT AMBASSADOR

KIM Junmyeon (Suho), member of the K-pop group EXO, was announced as Talent Ambassador for the Fourth International Film Festival & Awards - Macao (IFFAM) yesterday by festival organizers.

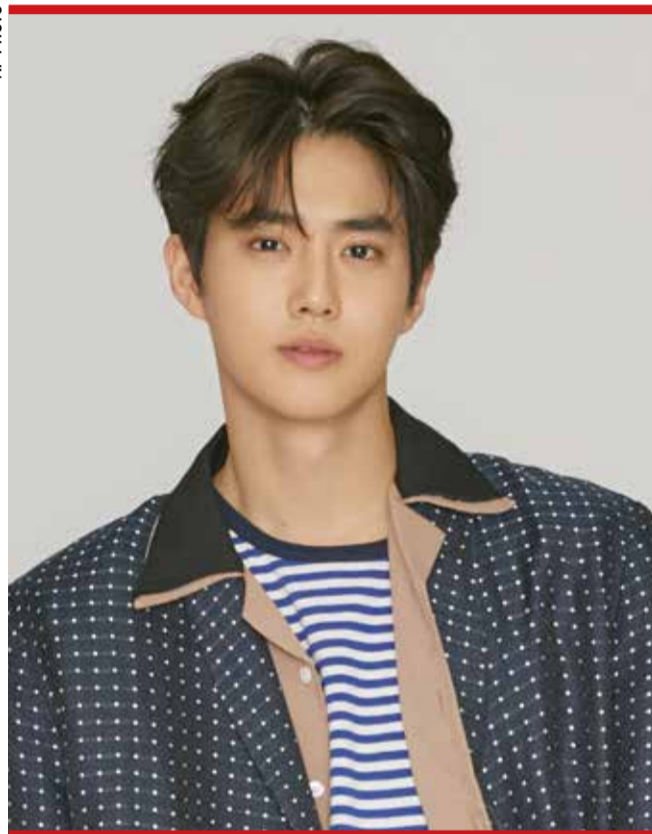
In a press statement, the organizers note that Suho will join previously announced Hong Kong star Carina Lau as Talent Ambassador for the festival this year.

The two stars will also join writer and director Kim Yong-Hwa, Indian director and producer Karan Johar, and mainland Chinese director Wang Xiaoshuai as IFFAM Ambassadors, in a bid said to reflect the festival's ambitions to approach local and international industry professionals, highlighting Macau's East-meets-West culture.

Suho, who will be present at the IFFAM Opening Ceremony on December 5, is a member of record-breaking boyband EXO, internationally renowned for their hit songs Growl, Call Me Baby, Ko Ko Bop and Tempo.

In addition to EXO, Suho's talents have also been recognized through his participation in musicals, dramas and movies.

He has played leading roles in several feature films, such as "One Way Trip" and "Middle School Girl A," and he also won the "Discovery of The Year" award at the 15th Jecheon International Music & Film Festival this year.



AP PHOTO

Suho said of his invitation, "I'm honored to be an ambassador for the International Film Festival & Awards - Macao. I will work hard to encourage individuals to relate to and be inspired by great movies."

The Fourth International Film Festival and Awards - Macao is an event organized by the Macao Government Tourism Office and the Macau Films & Television Productions and Culture Association, and will be held from December 5 to 10 at the Macao Cultural Centre. During last year's festival, Oscar-winning actor Nicolas Cage was invited, together with Asian film star Aaron Kwok and rising Korean film star Lim Yoon-A as Talent Ambassadors. In 2018, the festival also invited and featured several of the best films of the year, such as The Green Book by Peter Farrelly (Best Film at the Oscars), Roma by Alfonso Cuarón (Best Director at the Oscars and winner of the Golden Lion award for Best Film at the Venice Film Festival), and The Sisters Brothers by Jacques Audiard (Silver Lion award winner for Best Director at the Venice Film Festival). **RM**

Pakistan Police say a suicide bombing has killed a policeman and wounded three others in the country's restive southwest.



AP PHOTO

Iran said yesterday that the missile-and-drone attack on major Saudi oil sites was an act of "legitimate defense" by Yemen's Iran-allied Houthi rebels.

Slovenia-based carrier Adria Airways yesterday filed for receivership after having to suspend most of its flights over the past week amid financial woes.

Morocco Local authorities say they have recovered five more bodies after a rubber boat carrying Moroccan migrants capsized off the country's Atlantic coast, raising the death toll to 12.



AP PHOTO

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson battled to fend off allegations of improper patronage and groping a woman as he prepared a final push yesterday to fulfill his pledge to lead Britain out of the European Union in just over a month.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Liu Bin



Martyrs of Tian'anmen. A ceremony presenting flower baskets to deceased national heroes on the Martyrs' Day is held at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing yesterday.



AP PHOTO

USA Former national security adviser John Bolton gave a characteristically pessimistic outlook on the prospects for getting North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons as he made his first public appearance since he was ousted from his post by President Donald Trump.