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Indonesia's most volatile volcano yesterday spewed ash and hot gas in a massive column as high as 6 kilometers into the sky. Mount Merapi's clouds of ash, accompanied by a rumbling sound heard kilometers away, blanketed several villages on the main island of Java.

South Korea has reported 48 new cases of COVID-19 as health authorities struggle to contain a resurgence that's erasing some of the country's hard-won gains against the virus. Health authorities said 24 of the new cases came from the densely populated Seoul metropolitan area, which have been the center of the country's outbreak since late May.



India-Pakistan Indian troops backed by artillery and long-range guns fired on villages along the border in the Pakistani-administered side of the Kashmir region, killing a 13-year-old-girl and wounding her mother and brother, local officials and Pakistan's military said yesterday.

Afghanistan The United Nations has released a special report expressing concerns over what it called recent "deliberate attacks" against health care workers and facilities in Afghanistan during the coronavirus pandemic.

Russia A Siberian town with the world's widest temperature range has recorded a new high amid a heat wave that is contributing to severe forest fires. The temperature in Verkhoyansk hit 38 degrees Celsius on Saturday.

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CHINA NATIONAL SECURITY LAW TO OVERRIDE HONG KONG LEGAL SYSTEM P6-7

QUARANTINE EXEMPTION QUOTA TO REMAIN FOR NOW

JULIE ZHU

THE Macau government will maintain its current daily quota of 1,000 people exempted from quarantine restrictions in Zhuhai only if the exemptions do not compromise public health measures, said Lo Iek Long, a clinical director at the Conde de São Januário Hospital.

The comment was made on Friday during the regular press conference organized by the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center.

Since June 16, the local government has been receiving applications from Macau residents hoping to travel to Zhuhai without quarantine restrictions. In the first two days, more than 7,611 applications had been registered. Due to the large demand, the registration system was temporarily suspended.



On Thursday, the second day after the system reopened, registrations for the 1,000 allocations were full within three minutes. The local government rejected 570 applications.

Talking to the media, Lo disclosed that the local government has already realized that the current system is unsatisfactory as crowds fill up all allocated exemptions shortly after the system opens, and people with considerable needs for the exemption may not

get a chance to register.

From Saturday, the system has been amended to open twice a day, once at 10 a.m. and once at 6 p.m.

Evaluators previously took up to two days to process a batch of applications. With the new arrangement, the reviewers will be required to examine all applications on the same day. The morning applications are expected to be processed before 6 p.m. and available allocations will be released for the after-

noon opening. First time applicants will be given priority.

Talking about the exemption measure, Lo acknowledged that the policy may not permanently exist and may change based on the development of the Covid-19 situation in both places and on the behavior of successful applicants.

The exemption policy allows successful applicants to enter Zhuhai without having to undergo quarantine.

However, as of press time, some approved Macau residents were still encountering difficulties entering Zhuhai. In one instance, a few difficulties were experienced due to the inconsistencies in and ambiguity of mainland policies.

According to Lo, some exempted Macau residents were rejected entry to Zhuhai. The Zhuhai authority explained to the Macau government that there had been "a technical failure" on the Zhuhai side but that "problems were immediately solved."

In addition to the exemption policy, the local government also provided other updates on Friday.

Macau's current policies still require all flight passengers to be tested negative in the Covid-19 test.

On top of that, individuals are required to undergo medical observation should they fly in from Beijing, where a recent outbreak has been recorded. Two people are under medical observation in Macau due to travel to Beijing within the past 14 days.

Yesterday was the 73rd consecutive day with no new Covid-19 cases recorded in Macau.

Touted as new GCS head, Inês Chan picked for press conference work

ANTHONY LAM

THE Times has learned that Inês Chan's suspected promotion to the position of director of the Government Information Bureau (GCS) is "very likely" because of her performance at the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center's press conferences. Requesting anonymity, a source with knowledge on the matter told the Times that the Chief Executive had been impressed with Chan's work.

Currently the head of the Licensing and Inspection Department of the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO), her appointment as the director of the GCS is still unconfirmed. Last week, when she was asked to verify the news, she only said that she "will wait for centralized announcement, if any." She added that whichever position she is

in, she would be happy to work with the media.

Directly under the Chief Executive, the GCS is the government's team of media relations practitioners. The bureau is also responsible for disseminating government news releases.

Given the bureau's delicate responsibilities, the director of the GCS must be appointed by and report to the Chief Executive. The source told the Times that Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng has been impressed by Chan's performance at the regular press conferences to update the public on Covid-19 matters.

According to Agnes Lam, lawmaker and academic in media studies, the incumbent MGTO official has "performed fairly" in the past three months at the press conference series.

However, the academic hinted that more time is required to evaluate whether

she would be suitable for the rumored role. "Now she's in the limelight, but frankly I have not much knowledge of her current responsibilities," said Lam.

Although only in his first mandate, the Chief Executive has surprised the public several times with his appointments of officials. Ho promoted incumbent Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Elsie Ao Ieong U, from her directorship at the Identification Bureau, which handles nationality and ID document applications.

Ho has never explained in detail why those choices were made. Lam hypothesizes that the Chief Executive may be trying to turn from specialist governance to generalist governance.

"The appointment of [Ao Ieong U] is a very good example," the academic said. "Ao Ieong's previous responsibilities had nearly nothing to do with social

affairs and culture."

Despite this speculation, the academic thinks the government should explain more thoroughly. "The government should explain its criteria for those choices," she explained. "Is the government trying to adopt generalist governance?"

Macau has been practicing specialist governance, with civil servants requiring certain education backgrounds to be considered for specific roles. "The generalist governance style is advantageous for horizontal movement within the government, which many civil servants prefer," Lam explained.

Asked to offer some suggestions to the new GCS director, Lam recommended that the official look into how the GCS can provide better support to the media industry, such as gathering opinions from journalists about whether the time for press confe-

COURTS

GLÓRIA BATALHA UNG SAYS IPIM ONLY MEANT TO SECURE TALENT

JULIE ZHU

GLÓRIA Batalha Ung, one of the major defendants in the corruption case at the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), said that she had only helped immigration applicants in order to simplify government administrative procedure. The former IPIM deputy leader said that her actions were purely to recruit talented people for Macau government.

On Friday, the trial of the case of IPIM former president Jackson Chang began at the Court of First Instance (TJB).

Ung, who was the defendant of the day, is a former member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of IPIM.

The prosecutor noted that Ung provided "door to door service" for two immigration applicants. The two applicants were

university professors.

Ung was accused of leaking the examination criteria to the two applicants, and helping one of them learn about how to pass them. This specific applicant is a professor in Chinese medicine, named Yan Peiyu. The applicant provided supplementary documents for his immigration application five times. The judge questioned the legitimacy of these supplements.

In her personal mobile messages to another party, Ung also recommended that the concerned applicant be more connected with Macau's local Chinese medicine sector. Following Ung's suggestion, Yan joined many Macau local Chinese medicine clubs. Ung said that because government policies back then requested that administrative procedures be simplified, she provided her assistance to those applicants ahead of their applications.

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First dragon boat race day ends with conflicting advice on Covid-19

ANTHONY LAM

THE first race day of this year's Macao International Dragon Boat Races was held yesterday with standard body temperature detection installed, but no space allocated for social distancing in the athlete preparation area. Athletes and onlookers told the Times that the first major event of the year had energized the public after months of reduced social activity.

The Nam Van Lake Nautical Center was divided into several sections, namely the business area, the spectator stands and the athlete area. Each area has only one entrance. Upon passing an entrance, all athletes and spectators had to present their Green Macau Health Code and have their body temperature measured.

Previously, the Sports Bureau (ID), citing advice from the Health Bureau, announced that all people attending the event, including spectators and athletes, must wear a facemask at all times, except for athletes who are racing.

However, viewing the event yesterday, which took place all afternoon, under a baking sun that eclipsed for about an hour, the Times observed that only a few people were following the ID's request.

The number of seats has been reduced to about 2,000, half the number from last year. Although spectators were encouraged to keep an arm's distance apart, the social distancing was only lightly enforced.

The ID seemed to care more about the wellbeing of journalists, as every other seat in the media area was cordoned off, enforcing social distancing for journalists.

The ID has also stated that this year fewer teams would be able to participate in the races due to a capping as part of the health measures. The athletes' waiting area, however, did not reflect that requirement because the same amount of space was allotted to host waiting athletes. Although less packed

ANTHONY LAM



than last year, the area was still crowded.

Furthermore, at the preparation area, athletes were required to sit shoulder to shoulder as if they were already on the boat.

Yesterday, the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center issued a statement to remind the general public to avoid gathering in groups even when conducting sporting events.

Despite the conditions, athletes, spectators and stall operators said they were satisfied with the hosting of the dragon boat races despite the Covid-19 pandemic still being severe in many places. Many have described the reduced social activity of the past four months as demoralizing. Members of the public told the Times yesterday that seeing the races going ahead had energized the city.

Linda Chen, Vice Chairperson and Chief Operating Officer of Wynn Macau Ltd., who was present at the athlete rest area to show support to the company's team, shares this view.

She said that it was only due to many people's efforts that this year can see the races go ahead as in previous years, despite the Covid-19 pandemic. "It is an unprecedented period," the executive stressed.

Discussing the performance of the team, she said she was satisfied

with the members' diligence amid all the hardship faced. "There has been limited time for practice," Chen said. The lake has been cordoned off for months in order to contain Covid-19, so they could not practice hands-on.

"Despite the challenges, our team members have kept practicing at home," Chen revealed. "Some of them have even sacrifici-

ced time with their children to do training at home."

The same strategy was also used by the University of Macau team, which won the title in the University Group. The team's coach Lei said that members were reminded to practice at home.

The Marine and Water Bureau, the Municipal Affairs Bureau and the Macau Red Cross won the top

three positions in the Public Entity Group.

The Association of Macao Youth Development beat SJM Lotus - A in the Woman's 200m Category and Baía do Mar - Amizade ended third place.

Finally, Suncity - Legend, SJM Golden Jubilee - B and A took the top three places in 200m Open Category, respectively.

HEALTH AUTHORITIES CALL ON ACTIVITY ORGANIZERS TO FOLLOW GUIDELINES

RENATO MARQUES

THE Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center has issued a statement urging the organizers of "festivals, leisure, cultural, and sports activities" to strictly comply with the guidelines issued by the Health Bureau regarding Covid-19.

In the statement, without referring to any particular activity, the health authorities noted that "people gathering and direct contact (between people) are factors that contribute significantly to the spread of the new type of coronavirus."

Addressing the fact that recommendations are not being followed, according to the authorities, the center advised that organizers "should not let your guard down, and should continue to maintain preventive and control measures such as adequate distance, use of a facemask and washing hands frequently."

The center noted that although it had not

registered any community outbreak of the disease, "[it] is not assured that there is no one infected in the community."

Among the recommendations and guidelines issued, the center called for a reduction of the number of participants to 50% or less than the number that would normally fit in each venue; the measurement of the temperature of all who enter an event venue, and the mandatory presentation of the Macau Health Code.

The authorities noted that in cases such as sports and performative events, where the participants cannot wear facemasks and cannot maintain a distance of at least two meters from each other during the entire event, "a nucleic acid test must be carried out before the group training session or rehearsal."

Although the authorities have not stated which activity is being targeted or which triggered the issuing of the warnings, the statement came right after the first day of this year's Macao International Dragon Boat Races.

16TH ROUND OF MASK DISTRIBUTION STARTED YESTERDAY

RENATO MARQUES

THE 16th round of the government's facemask distribution scheme began yesterday and will continue until the end of this month.

This is the fourth round since the government adjusted the mask distribu-

tion scheme to allow the acquisition of more child-sized masks, taking into account children returning to schools.

While the number of masks that can be acquired continues to be 10 per round, parents with children aged five to eight years old

can opt to acquire 10 child-sized facemasks, five child-sized and five adult-sized masks, or 10 masks of adult size, according to their needs and preferences.

As in the previous round, the children's facemasks will be provided exclusively by the health care centers, and

are not available at other sale points. To acquire them, parents or guardians need to provide the children's original identification document.

The Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center also noted that there is a sufficient stock of face masks to attend to the needs

of the population, although it urged residents to acquire them according to their real needs and the quantity of masks that they possess in their stock.

On the same note, the Center also reminded people not to gather in large crowds at the sales points, reiterating

that guidelines for social distancing are still being enforced.

For the time being, the government has only guaranteed the supply of face masks to the population until the end of this month, with any announcements on the continuation of the program expected one or two days before the 16th distribution round ends.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



NEPALESE NATIONALS TO BE REPATRIATED BY END OF JUNE

LYNZY VALLES

THE Consulate General of Nepal will hold a chartered flight to repatriate stranded nationals who have been laid off due to the pandemic outbreak.

The Non Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) told local broadcaster TDM that it is coordinating at least 80 people in the city who are set to leave at the end of the month.

Early last month, in response to a Times inquiry, the Consu-

late-General stated that it was aware of the group of about 60 Nepalese nationals who are currently stranded in Macau, adding that they are in contact with a local association that is coordinating the provision of assistance and collecting information.

A representative for Nepalese workers who have lost their jobs said that all the stranded people were working in the security sector, with most of them at two local gaming operators. At the

moment, the vast majority of them are sharing a single apartment.

The chartered flight, scheduled to leave by the end of this month, will depart from the Hong Kong International Airport, given that these nationals present a medical certificate proving that they have tested negative for Covid-19.

The deadline for registering for the chartered flight on the association's Facebook page was on Saturday.

Meanwhile, president of NRNA Macau, Sudarshan Thapa Magar, said that Nepalese nationals who are in need of financial help to purchase tickets could be assisted by the association.

Once their names have been submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nepal, as well as Hong Kong and Macau immigration, and have been approved, they can purchase tickets from an agency handled by NRNA.

Nepalese passport holders are required to hold a valid Hong Kong visa when visiting or in transit. However, Magar said that these nationals would be exempt from the visa requirements.

This weekend, on June 27 and 29, Sands China Ltd and Menzies Macau will charter flights back to the Philippines for their workers who have mostly been laid off.

CRIME

CIVIL SERVANT CHARGED WITH RAPE NOW ACCUSED OF ASSAULTING WIFE

JULIE ZHU

THE civil servant from the Health Bureau (SSM) who has been charged with raping his wife has now been accused of another instance of domestic violence.

The suspect, surnamed Tam, is 38 years old and is a Macau local resident. The victim in this case is Tam's wife. The two married in 2009 and have two children. The family lives under the same roof in an apartment in Taipa.

On June 9, the Judiciary Police (PJ) reported that Tam was in the process of being prosecuted after allegedly assaulting and raping his wife. Previously, the victim had asked Tam for a divorce. Believing that his wife was cheating on him, Tam beat her.

Since Tam's attack, the couple's relationship has deteriorated. However, the woman did not report the physical abuse to the police immediately after the incident. After the assault, Tam for-

ced sexual intercourse upon his wife. The victim subsequently reported the case to the PJ.

On June 5, Tam was handed over to the prosecution authority under the charge of rape.

Since the aforementioned case, the couple has continued living together. However, the wife has also insisted on the divorce.

At midnight on June 18, while under the effect of alcohol, the man woke his sleeping wife, hoping to save his marriage and discuss the guardianship of their children.

The woman refused to talk and got into an argument with the man. He then dragged the victim from the room, injuring the woman.

Their neighbors heard the fight and reported it to the police authority.

According to the coroner's report, the woman sustained injuries on multiple parts on her body, including her face, neck and shoulders.

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Migrant workers likely suffered from heatstroke before fainting

Three Filipino non-resident workers may have suffered from a heatstroke on Saturday which resulted in them fainting while resting at noon.

According to reports, the workers were on duty when they suddenly collapsed during their lunch break along the driveway opposite the laundry room of the public hospital.

The three were sent to the Conde S. Januário Hospital immediately after the hospital security guard found them.

The migrant workers, aged between 25 and 30, were cleaners at the public hospital.

Authorities have not ruled out the possibility of heatstroke.

One of them required an emergency rescue, while the other two were in a stable condition.

On Saturday, Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau registered a maximum temperature of 33.3 degrees Celsius.

Whether the incident can really be attributed to heatstroke is still under investigation.

Some people may find it slightly more difficult to breathe while wearing a mask, especially during this time.

However, health authorities have previously addressed this fact, noting that it does not think that it would be life-threatening. "Members of the public should not be worried about wearing masks in the summer," Lo Iek Long, medical director of the public hospital said. "Suffering heat stroke due to mask wearing should also be unlikely." LV

SMG hopes public can understand inaccuracies of weather forecasting

JULIE ZHU

THE Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) says that a variety of factors are considered when deciding whether to issue a rainstorm warning. The bureau hopes public will understand that weather forecasting is not a precise science.

On Friday, the SMG held a press conference to introduce the city's newest rainstorm alarm signals. In June, the local government publicized an administrative regulation announcing the new system, which consists of three tiers.

During his explanation, SMG director Leong Weng Kun remarked that the department does not issue a rainstorm signal solely based on the weather. Consideration for the public is also taken into account.

Previously, the public has complained about the SMG's unsatisfactory rainstorm warnings, especially concerning those issued during school days, when students and parents can become confused about school scheduling arrangements.

In some cases, the SMG issues a rainstorm signal in the morning, only slightly before school begins, suggesting the suspension of classes for that



DANIEL BEITLER

day. The local community has complained about the ensuing chaos and confusion.

On Friday, Leong explained that the SMG issues rainstorm warnings after considering the weather's impact on society and the residents. He hopes that the public can understand that, in some cases, in view of said impact, the SMG issues a serious signal in order to reduce the effect, despite the fact that these warnings may turn out to be exaggerated.

"[With] weather forecasts, it is difficult to be 100% accurate," said Leong, who added that there are certain to be inaccuracies involved some of the time.

The new rainstorm stan-

dards will come into effect on September 1, 2020.

The first level is the yellow rainstorm warning signal, meaning that heavy rain has fallen or is expected to fall generally over Macau, exceeding 20 millimeters in an hour and is likely to continue.

The second level is the red rainstorm warning signal, indicating heavy rain has fallen or is expected to fall generally over Macau, exceeding 50 millimeters in an hour and is likely to continue.

The last level is the black rainstorm warning signal. Whenever this signal is hoisted, it means heavy rain has already fallen or is expected to fall generally over Macau, exceeding 80

millimeters in an hour.

According to the SMG, by classifying rainstorms recorded between 2015 and 2019 with the new standards, there would have been 148 yellow signals (29.6 times per year), 12 red signals (2.4 per year), and one black signal (0.2 times per year). Over 75% of heavy rainstorms lasted less than 80 minutes.

On average, nine yellow signals occurred annually between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. During the same period, an average of 0.8 red signals were hoisted and no black signals were raised.

The SMG said it is unable to predict whether the new standards will lead to more or fewer school suspensions.

MACAU LEGEND DRAFTING REDESIGN PLAN FOR LEGENDALE HOTEL

LYNZY VALLES

MACAU Legend Development is in the process of redesigning its non-gaming project at the Macau Fisherman's Wharf called Legendale Hotel.

Melinda Chan, President of Macau Fisherman's Wharf International, told GGRAsia that she hopes for the redesign plan to be ready soon.

"We hope that the plan can be viewed by the [local] media first, and I can explain all the technical aspects involved [...] before we submit it to the government [for approval]," said Chan.

"Of course we would want to have it designed in

such a way that our shareholders' profits could be maximized," she added.

Initially, the group proposed the Legendale Hotel to be 90 meters tall. However, back in 2018, the proposed height stirred public discussion, as it would block the view of the waterside area.

Chan reassured during the interview that the project was "legally compliant."

Therefore, Chan said that they had agreed to reduce the height to no higher than 60 meters in a bid "to relieve people's concerns over how the project affects the city's vista."

The group president has formerly expressed hopes

that the Legendale Hotel would be allowed to house gaming facilities, noting that gaming is the foundation for Macau Fisherman's Wharf.

Babylon Casino and Legend Palace are under the same group, which has a total of 112 gaming tables as of December 31.

However, when speaking to the media outlet, Chan said that the company is maintaining the existing gaming inventory of the company.

"In future, whether or not we should have more gaming elements, I'll seek our shareholders' thoughts on this issue."

Meanwhile, there are still no updates on how many



rooms the Legendale Hotel will offer once the redesigned plan is complete.

The three hotels currently at Macau Fisherman's Wharf, including Rocks Hotel, Harbourview

Hotel and Legend Palace, offer a total of 700 rooms.

Last year Chan said that it would be at least three to five years before the project is completed – including the submission of the cons-

truction plan.

Meanwhile, Chan also commented that the group has not seen any shops leaving its complex at the Macau Fisherman's Wharf, except for those whose leases have expired.

She added that there are hopes to add retail and catering elements to Legend Palace and "a covered outdoor walkway at Macau Fisherman's Wharf – called Legend Boulevard – in order to increase the site's appeal once visitors return to Macau."

Macau Fisherman's Wharf is also currently on the process of revamping its conference and exhibition center, which may be ready by next month.



Pro-democracy lawyer Martin Lee gestures during an interview

INTERVIEW

MARTIN LEE SEES END OF THE HONG KONG HE KNOWS

ZEN SOO, HONG KONG

THE man nicknamed Hong Kong's "Father of Democracy" said that Beijing is trying to take control of the semi-autonomous city with an impending national security law, but that violent protest is not the answer.

"This is clearly a pretext for Beijing to assert comprehensive control over Hong Kong, as they said they would six years ago," longtime activist and former lawmaker Martin Lee said in an interview on Friday.

The national security law, which could be approved in Beijing this weekend, is aimed at curbing secessionist, subversive, terrorist and foreign interference that Beijing says fueled the monthslong anti-government protests in Hong Kong. The law would be enacted by the central government, bypassing the city's legislature.

"The end of Hong Kong as we know it, as an international city, as a free port and with all our freedoms protected by our independent court — this could well disappear," Lee said.

He said he hoped that Beijing will keep to its promise and abide by the so-called "one country, two systems" framework, where "Hong Kong people will rule Hong Kong with a high degree of autonomy."

A former British colony, Hong Kong was assured that it would be allowed to maintain its freedoms, many not found on the mainland, when it was handed over to China in 1997. Last year's protests were sparked by opposition to a proposed extradition bill that would have allowed suspects to be sent for trial on the mainland, something many saw as a violation of that commitment.

The 82-year-old Lee was arrested for the first time in April together with 14 other pro-democracy figures. They were charged with participating in and organizing several of last year's protests.

"It's selective prosecution," he said, calling the charges politically motivated. "But if they want to charge 15 of us over this series of demonstrations, then so be it."

He said they had a strong defense and expressed confidence they would be acquitted.

Lee urged Hong Kongers to protest peacefully against the national security law, even after it is enacted. The protests last year were the most violent Hong Kong has seen since the handover to China.

"I hope there's no violence in these public demonstrations because you cannot win. Once you use weapons, how can you defeat the Hong Kong policemen, who are so well-armed?" he asked.

The controversial national security law has drawn sharp rebuke from the pro-democracy camp in Hong Kong, with activists like Lee and others saying that it erodes the "one country, two systems" framework.

Lee was part of the committee that helped draft the Basic Law, Hong Kong's constitution, although he later resigned in protest over Beijing's bloody crackdown on the 1989 pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square.

In 1990, he founded Hong Kong's first pro-democracy party, and has been a champion of democracy and human rights for the past four decades. **AP**

HO IAT SENG OFFERS LESSONS ON NATIONAL SECURITY LAW FROM MACAU

RENATO MARQUES

THE Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng met with the Secretary for Security of the neighboring region of Hong Kong last week to exchange views on several matters, the Government Information Bureau revealed in a statement.

Among those, special importance was paid to the topic of the national security regime and its enforcement mechanism, the same statement notes.

Ho presented Macau's legal regime on national security, stating that since the National Security Law entered into force, the government has had no requirement to use it. Ho stressed at the same time that its implementation had a positive effect in promoting national security and general order in Macau.

The Chief Executive also emphasized the effectiveness of the law the government created back in 2018, in a commission for national security he currently chairs.

Ho also remarked that although the laws of Macau and Hong Kong are different, the two territories still have many aspects in common, a fact that facilitates more exchange of opinions and views on the legal regime for the defense of na-



Macau Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng (right) and Hong Kong's Security Chief, John Lee

tional security and its enforcement mechanism, reinforcing communication and liaison between the two regions.

In his turn, Hong Kong's security chief John Lee stated that the neighboring SAR is currently preparing to act on the topic, noting the example of Macau, where the law has been already enforced for 10 years with positive effects on stability and prosperity, saying that Macau is "a success story" to be used as a reference.

During the talk, at which the local Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, and other po-

lice officials were present, the authorities of both regions also discussed ideas regarding pandemic prevention.

Ho took this opportunity to thank the neighboring authorities for their help in facilitating the return of residents from abroad to Macau through the creation of the road link to Hong Kong international airport in March, and the recently resumed ferry service that allows not only the return of residents but also the departure of people stranded in Macau who wish to return to their countries.

Beijing's new special bureau to investigate threats in HK

CHINA plans to establish a special bureau in Hong Kong to investigate and prosecute crimes considered threatening to national security, according to details of a controversial new national security law Beijing is imposing on the semi-autonomous territory.

In addition, bodies in all Hong Kong government departments, from finance to immigration, will be directly answerable to the central government in Beijing, the official Xinhua News Agency said Saturday.

The announcement increases concerns that China's communist go-

vernment will continue to tighten its grip on Hong Kong. Beijing has said it is determined to press ahead with the national security legislation — which has been strongly criticized as undermining the Asian financial hub's legal and political institutions — despite heavy criticism from within Hong Kong and abroad.

The details of the proposed national security law emerged as the body that handles most lawmaking for China's legislature closed its latest meeting. The bill was raised for discussion at the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Na-

tional People's Congress but there was no further word on its fate, Xinhua said.

Legal experts say Beijing's justifications for the law are debatable.

The Hong Kong Bar Association on Friday called on the city's government to reveal details of the bill and warned that the law's enforcement in Hong Kong risked setting up a system of conflicting parallel legal standards dominated by Beijing.

"It raises the question whether individuals will be tried within the criminal justice system in [Hong Kong] by the Hong

Kong courts or sent to the Mainland for trial and serve any terms of imprisonment in Mainland prisons," the bar association said in a statement.

China has sought to assuage concerns by saying the new legislation would only target "acts and activities that severely undermine national security," according to Xinhua.

Earlier this month, Hong Kong's legislature approved a contentious bill making it illegal to insult the Chinese national anthem after pro-democracy lawmakers boycotted the vote out of protest. **MDT/AP**



An adult and child stand at the waterfront of the Victoria Harbor of Hong Kong

China national security law to override Hong Kong legal system

IAIN MARLOW, APPLE LAM & NATALIE LUNG

CHINA confirmed that a proposed national security law would allow Beijing to override Hong Kong's independent legal system, shedding new light on a move that has stoked tensions with the U.S. and threatens the city's status as a top financial center.

The proposal said the central government will have jurisdiction over an "extremely small" number of national security cases under "specific circumstances," according to draft language released on Saturday by the official Xinhua News Agency. It added that China will establish a new bureau in Hong Kong to analyze the security situation, collect intelligence and "lawfully handle national security cases."

The draft bill also calls for Hong Kong to establish a new committee to protect national security, which will be supervised and accountable to Beijing. The chief executive will oversee the committee, as well as appoint judges to handle criminal cases brought under the law. Authorities in Beijing will have the final say on interpreting the law.

Details of the measures to pu-

nish acts of secession, subversion, terrorism and collusion with foreign forces in the former British colony had been secret since the broader National People's Congress approved their drafting on May 28. The NPC Standing Committee began deliberations on the legislation Thursday, after a last-minute announcement that it had been added to the agenda.

The laws will shape the future of Hong Kong, raising questions about the autonomy of a city whose global status is underpinned by its legal distinction from the mainland. President Xi Jinping's government decided to bypass the elected local legislature and impose the security laws after a wave of historically large and sometimes violent protests gripped the city last year. Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam expressed her "gratitude" for the measure and said in a statement that her government will give its "full support" for the bill.

The NPC Standing Committee will meet again from June 28-30 in Beijing, Xinhua reported. The proposed agenda reported by Xinhua doesn't include the Hong Kong security legislation. Still, it could be added later as was the case last week.

The laws have fueled resur-

gent pro-democracy protests and led the U.S. to threaten to revoke Hong Kong's special trade status, which has helped maintain the city's role as a vital financial crossroads between China and the West. Opposition politicians have said China's move would mark the end of the "one country, two systems" principle that has governed the city since its return to Chinese rule in 1997.

The fresh details generated alarm among some pro-democracy politicians. Lawmaker Fernando Cheung said the details made clear the Communist Party "has the power to pick whoever they want" and bring them to the mainland to face criminal charges.

"No doubt, this law has immediately turned Hong Kong into a mainland city," he said. "I don't see how the international community would feel secure under this law. And I'm sure that there will be an exodus of young professionals in the near future."

Prominent pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong warned that the draft bill undermined Hong Kong's legal system and essentially allowed the Communist Party to intervene at will.

"Being one of the prime targets, I will probably be subject to

secret trial, black jails, televised confession and tortures," he said in a string of tweets. "Therefore, I call upon the world to stand with Hong Kong and urge China to withdraw this evil law."

Some key technical details had yet to be released, such as whether the law will be retroactive. Prison sentences for the four types of crimes would range between three to 10 years and would be largely in line with Hong Kong's criminal laws, Radio Television Hong Kong reported, citing Tam Yiu-chung, the city's sole delegate to the Chinese legislative body.

The chief executive would make a call on the "specific circumstances" that would enable China to have jurisdiction, the report also said, citing Tam. Those would be extreme situations beyond the control of the Hong Kong government, or when the city is near a state of war, the report said.

The new bureau set up by the central government in Hong Kong will have a similar status to other agencies in the city that answer to Beijing, said Tian Feilong, associate professor with the Law School of Beihang University. National legislators may solicit opinions on the details released from specific groups such as the Hong Kong Bar Association as part of the con-

sultation process, he said, adding that the law is unlikely to be retroactive.

Hong Kong's future has become a proxy fight in the battle for dominance between the U.S. and a rising China, with local protesters waving American flags and Beijing officials accusing Washington of acting as a "black hand" behind the unrest. China agreed to preserve the city's liberal political structure and capitalist economy for at least 50 years in a treaty with the U.K.

Beijing has pressed ahead despite a statement by the Group of Seven foreign ministers warning the legislation "would jeopardize the system which has allowed Hong Kong to flourish and made it a success over many years." Scores of civil society organizations, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, urged NPC Chairman Li Zhanshu, the ruling Communist Party's No. 3 leader, to abandon what they said was a "devastating assault on human rights."

"China is firmly determined to advance this national security legislation in Hong Kong," Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told reporters last week, saying foreign governments should "stop meddling in Hong Kong affairs and China's internal affairs."

The move means more disruption for a city already facing its deepest recession on record after protests and coronavirus lockdowns kept people in their homes and scared tourists away. Unemployment has risen to a 15-year high, while investors are putting money elsewhere and some expatriates and Hong Kong residents are considering leaving the city.

China's surprise decision to impose the legislation has left Hong Kong's pro-democracy camp reeling, with little power to stop its enactment by a local government loyal to Beijing. Opposition lawmakers have expressed concern that the law - and particularly the requirement of a loyalty oath - will be used to bar China's critics from seeking office as they seek to win a majority in Legislative Council elections set for September.

Lam, who was chosen by a selection committee of 1,200 political insiders and appointed by Beijing, endorsed the legislation early, despite acknowledging she didn't know what was in it. A poll released by the Hong Kong Public Opinion Program on May 29 showed a majority of residents and 96% of democracy supporters opposed the measure.

Allowing the chief executive to "cherry pick judges" for certain cases "is unprecedented in Hong Kong and unheard of across the Common Law world," said Alvin Yeung, head of the city's opposition Civic Party and a barrister. "What are the criteria for the chief executive to choose these judges? We don't know." **BLOOMBERG**

AP PHOTO



The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile river in Ethiopia

Ethiopia to fill disputed dam, deal or no deal

ELIAS MESERET,
ADDIS ABABA

IT'S a clash over water usage that Egypt calls an existential threat and Ethiopia calls a lifeline for millions out of poverty. Just weeks remain before the filling of Africa's most powerful hydroelectric dam might begin, and tense talks between the countries on its operation have yet to reach a deal.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Ethiopian Foreign Minister Gedu Andargachew on Friday declared that his country will go ahead and start filling the \$4.6 billion Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam next month, even without an agreement. "For us it is not mandatory to reach an agreement before starting filling the dam, hence we will commence the filling process in the coming rainy season," he said.

"We are working hard to reach a deal, but still we will go ahead with our schedule whatever the outcome is. If we have to wait for others' blessing, then the dam may remain idle for years, which we won't allow to happen," he said. He added that "we want to make it clear that Ethiopia will not beg Egypt and Sudan to use its own water resource for its development," pointing out that Ethiopia is paying for the

dam's construction itself.

He spoke after the latest round of talks with Egypt and Sudan on the dam, the first since discussions broke down in February, failed to reach agreement.

No date has been set for talks to resume, and the foreign minister said Ethiopia doesn't believe it's time to take them to a head of state level.

The years-long dispute pits Ethiopia's desire to become a major power exporter and development engine against Egypt's concern that the dam will significantly curtail its water supply if filled too quickly. Sudan has long been caught between the competing interests.

The arrival of the rainy season is bringing more water to the Blue Nile, the main branch of the Nile, and Ethiopia sees an ideal time to begin filling the dam's reservoir next month.

Both Egypt and Ethiopia have hinted at military steps to protect their interests, and experts fear a breakdown in talks could lead to conflict.

Ethiopia's foreign minister would not say whether his country would use military action to defend the dam and its operations.

"This dam should have been a reason for cooperation and regional integration, not a cause for con-

troversies and warmongering," he said. "Egyptians are exaggerating their propaganda on the dam issue and playing a political gamble. Some of them seem as if they are longing for a war to break out."

Gedu added: "Our reading is that the Egyptian side wants to dictate and control even future developments on our river. We won't ask for permission to carry out development projects on our own water resources. This is both legally and morally unacceptable."

He said Ethiopia has offered to fill the dam in four to seven years, taking possible low rainfall into account.

Sticking points in the talks have been how much water Ethiopia will release downstream from the dam during a multi-year drought and how Ethiopia, Egypt and Sudan will resolve any future disputes.

The United States earlier this year tried to broker a deal, but Ethiopia did not attend the signing meeting and accused the Trump administration of siding with Egypt. This week some Ethiopians felt vindicated when the U.S. National Security Council tweeted that "257 million people in east Africa are relying on Ethiopia to show strong leadership, which means striking a fair deal."

In reply to that, Ethiopia's foreign minister said: "Statements issued from governments and other institutions on the dam should be crafted carefully not to take sides and impair the fragile talks, especially at this delicate time. They should issue fair statements or just issue no statements at all."

He also rejected the idea that the issue should be taken to the United Nations Security Council, as Egypt wants. Egypt's foreign ministry issued a statement Friday saying Egypt has urged the Security Council to intervene in the dispute to help the parties reach a "fair and balanced solution" and prevent Ethiopia from "taking any unilateral actions."

Sudan's Irrigation Minister Yasser Abbas told reporters after talks ended Wednesday that the three countries' irrigation leaders have agreed on "90% or 95%" of the technical issues but the dispute over the "legal points" in the deal remains dissolved.

The Sudanese minister said his country and Egypt rejected Ethiopia's attempts to include articles on water sharing and old Nile treaties in the dam deal. Egypt has received the lion's share of the Nile's waters under decades-old agreements dating back to the British colonial era. **AP**

this day in history



1941 HITLER INVADES THE SOVIET UNION

German forces have invaded the Soviet Union.

In a pre-dawn offensive, German troops pushed into the USSR from the south and west, with a third force making their way from the north towards Leningrad.

At 0500 GMT, an hour after the invasion began, the Nazi Minister for Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, went on national radio to read a proclamation by Adolf Hitler promising that the mobilisation of the German army would be the "greatest the world has ever seen".

The invasion breaks the non-aggression pact signed by Germany and the Soviet Union in 1939.

The pact has since been described by the German leader, Adolf Hitler, as a stain on Germany's record.

Initial reports suggest that the German troops have made rapid progress.

A correspondent with the German Army on the northern front reported the Soviet Army opened fire immediately at the German advance, but German soldiers overran the first of the Soviet positions and within a few minutes had captured the frontier posts.

Germany is thought to have committed a massive force of more than three million men, supported by more than 3,000 tanks, 7,000 guns and nearly 3,000 aircraft.

They are nonetheless vastly outnumbered by the Red Army which has about nine million men under arms with another 500,000 in reserve.

Soviet arms and ability, however, are considered vastly inferior to the Germans.

The Soviet leader, Joseph Stalin, appears to have been taken completely by surprise.

Despite warnings from Britain and secret intelligence reports that war was imminent, Stalin has refused to prepare for an invasion, insisting that it would not happen until next summer.

In London the War Cabinet met early this morning to discuss the implications.

The Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, condemned the invasion in a broadcast on BBC radio, in which he said it marked a turning point in the war.

Calling Hitler a "bloodthirsty guttersnipe", he said his own outspoken opposition to communism had "faded away" in the light of today's events, and pledged Britain's help for the Soviet Union in any way possible.

"The Russian danger is... our danger," he said, "and the danger of the United States, just as the cause of any Russian fighting for his hearth and home is the cause of free men and free peoples in every quarter of the globe."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In the next six months of Operation Barbarossa, as the invasion was known, Germany occupied what is now Belarus and most of Ukraine, and surrounded Leningrad (now St Petersburg).

The German Army, though vastly superior to the Red Army, met a courageous resistance which made its advance far slower than expected.

At the same time, the retreating Soviet troops destroyed crops and burnt entire villages under Stalin's "scorched earth" policy to prevent supplies falling into German hands. Hitler had counted on taking Moscow before Russia's punishing winter set in, but the half-starved German army didn't even arrive on the outskirts until September.

They were finally driven back by a surprise counterattack by the Red Army on 6 December 1941.

In 1942, a second major push, this time in the south, ended in the surrender of the German Sixth Army at the bloody Battle of Stalingrad in early 1943.

The siege of Leningrad to the north also ended in German defeat in 1944, after 900 terrible days of starvation and bombardment in which about one million people died.

The failure of Operation Barbarossa was Hitler's first major defeat on land, and marked the beginning of the end for Nazi Germany.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Perseverance takes patience, but it rewards you with more than you can ever imagine. Right now, you need to just keep going. Stick with things long enough and eventually they'll start to make sense.

TAURUS
 Apr. 20-May. 20
 You may have a little bit of extra money in your account right now, but don't spend it. It needs to stay there! Don't overspend today. It's much wiser to play it cool and keep your finances for that rainy day.

GEMINI
 May. 21-Jun. 21
 You can't let silly little spats blow out of proportion today. Peace must be maintained, no matter how much you have to compromise to make it happen.

CANCER
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Sure, being diplomatic is wonderful and all, but today you shouldn't feel like you have to mince your words, especially with the people who are jerking you around.

LEO
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 No matter how unlikely success might seem from where you're standing right now, amazing things can happen. You can't give up hope! Think positively and keep going.

VIRGO
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 If you're feeling confused right now, distracting yourself from all the conflicting emotions you're working through would be a wise idea. Have a good time doing something silly.

LIBRA
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 It's not that you aren't worthy of being treated well; it's just that some people see you as a ticket to get them where they want to be. But what they don't know is that you're smarter than the average person.

SCORPIO
 Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 Wear your thick skin today, because you could get some criticism that isn't very constructive. But none of what you're told will get deep enough to really sting.

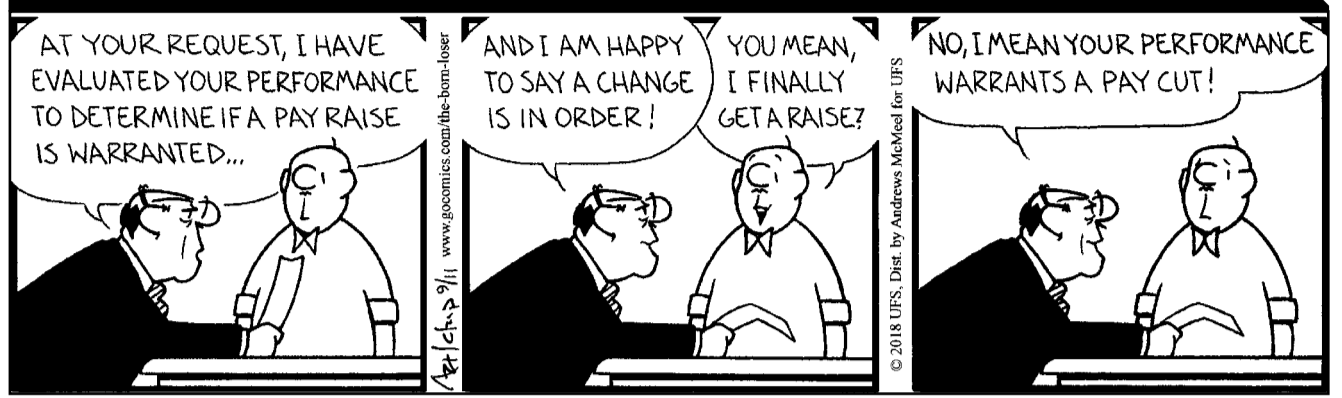
SAGITTARIUS
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Given the mental state you're in right now, you won't have much patience for flighty folks who are all about feelings and creativity. You won't be willing to bend to the will of people.

CAPRICORN
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Take this day off from heavy-duty thinking. It's time to slow down the pace and put your family and friends first. Send some messages to the people you care about most.

AQUARIUS
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 It can be hard to find contentedness in your own life, but right now you should at least try. Look around you today and count your blessings. There are many.

PISCES
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 You could find it very rewarding to explore some aspect of culture today, whether it's art, music, or fiction, you'll be sucked into the experience immediately.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	18	30	cloudy
Harbin	12	23	thundershower
Tianjin	20	28	cloudy
Urumqi	22	33	cloudy
Xi'an	22	37	clear
Lhasa	10	20	drizzle
Chengdu	19	34	cloudy
Chongqing	21	33	clear
Kunming	15	29	shower
Nanjing	22	28	moderate rain
Shanghai	22	26	heavy rain
Wuhan	23	31	drizzle
Hangzhou	22	25	heavy rain
Taipei	25	30	drizzle
Guangzhou	25	31	moderate rain
Hong Kong	28	32	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	13	18	drizzle
Frankfurt	9	18	drizzle
Paris	11	18	drizzle
London	9	19	drizzle
New York	21	31	moderate rain

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Island greeting; 6- Two-footer; 11- Letters on a Cardinal's cap; 14- Melon, e.g.; 15- Compensate; 16- ___ kwon do; 17- Western; 18- Clogs, e.g.; 19- Greek H; 20- Bendable twig, usually of a willow tree; 22- Collection of maps; 24- Mode; 28- Stick; 29- Entirely; 30- More bizarre; 32- Hero; 33- Part of TNT; 35- Corrida cries; 39- Actress Sommer; 40- Runner Sebastian; 41- New Ager John; 42- Goes out with; 43- Listens; 45- Ciao!; 46- Former Russian rulers; 48- Owner; 50- Served soup; 53- Skill; 54- Follows orders; 55- Form of oxygen; 57- Japanese sash; 58- Harass; 60- Big fiddle?; 65- Dry, as wine; 66- New Brunswick neighbor; 67- Collect; 68- Storm center; 69- Go into; 70- Scoundrel;

DOWN: 1- Gone by; 2- Mauna ___; 3- Not in; 4- Charlemagne's realm; Abbr.; 5- Nimble; 6- Circular water container; 7- Spillane's "___ Jury"; 8- Wanting; 9- Hydrocarbon suffix; 10- Marquis ___; 11- Inscribed pillar; 12- Golden Horde member; 13- Flat contract; 21- Before long; 23- Strangle; 24- Rasping instruments; 25- Old-womanish; 26- Tend a fire; 27- Truly; 28- Foofaraw; 30- Siouan speakers; 31- Historic Scott; 34- Bakery worker; 36- Guides; 37- Politico Kefauver; 38- Apportion; 43- Owned; 44- Type of guard; 47- Opening word; 49- Kind of garage; 50- Unfettered; 51- Monastery; 52- Thaw before takeoff; 53- Lobby of a theater; 55- Put a lid ___; 56- Sector; 59- Photographer Goldin; 61- Comedian Phillips; 62- Trail; 63- Baton Rouge sch.; 64- Sweet suffix;

Friday's solution

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

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>Fragrant Court, Ocean Gardens HK\$24,000,000 3,500 ft² 4 1/2 3 1/2</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>Nova City, Taipa Great family home \$22,000/mth 2,503 ft² 4 1/2 3 1/2 1 1/2</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>[Macau] Retail space, Areia Preta 170 ft² \$3,200,000 (ref: 19096003)</p> <p>[Taipa] Hoi Wan Garden 2 1/2 1 1/2 900 ft² \$4,900,000 (ref: 19106003)</p> <p>[Taipa] Taipa Village (2 units) 4 1/2 2 1/2 1,404 ft² \$8,380,000 (ref: 19096006)</p> <p>[Coloane] Large 3/4 bedroom 2 1/2 3 1/2 2 1/2 2,530 ft² \$12,980,000 (ref: 19096000)</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>[Macau] Lakeview Mansion Car Park 1 \$3,800/mth (ref: 20041001)</p> <p>[Coloane] Grand Coloane Resort 1 1/2 1 1/2 710 ft² \$13,200/mth (ref: 20021002)</p> <p>[Taipa] Great View Apartment 4 1/2 2 1/2 2,060 ft² \$28,000/mth (ref: 20031001)</p> <p>[Taipa] Private house 2 1/2 3 1/2 3 1/2 4,266 ft² \$45,000/mth (ref: 19055006ST)</p>
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Property of the Week




FOR SALE

Ocean Gardens Fragrant Court, Taipa
HK\$24,000,000 3,500 ft² 4 3

SCAN ME

A rare opportunity to purchase one of Macau's original premier apartments. These are apartments have a fabulous layout with wonderful balconies at the front and rear of the property, allowing a fresh breeze to blow through the apartment all year round. Four bedrooms, all doubles with 3 bathrooms. Large kitchen with adjacent balcony for laundry as well as housekeepers quarters and separate entrance. Viewing by appointment only.


Property Hotlist



FOR SALE

Jade Garden, Taipa
Spacious Family Home
\$18,000,000
3,180 ft²
4 3


SCAN ME



FOR SALE

Lakeview Tower, Central Macau
Lovely 3 bedroom apartment
\$11,000,000
1,344 ft²
3 2


SCAN ME



FOR RENT

Nova City, Taipa
Great family home
\$22,000/mth
2,503 ft²
4 3 1

SCAN ME



FOR RENT

Manhattan E unit, Taipa
\$19,800/mth
1,626 ft²
3 2

SCAN ME

More Listings

For Sale			For Rent		
[Macau]	Retail space, Areia Preta	170 ft ² \$3,200,000 (ref: 19096003)	[Macau]	Lakeview Mansion Car Park	1 \$3,800/mth (ref: 20041001)
[Taipa]	Hoi Wan Garden	2 1 900 ft ² \$4,900,000 (ref: 19106003)	[Coloane]	Grand Coloane Resort	1 1 710 ft ² \$13,200/mth (ref: 20021002)
[Taipa]	Taipa Village (2 units)	4 2 1,404 ft ² \$8,380,000 (ref: 19096006)	[Taipa]	Great View Apartment	4 2 2,060 ft ² \$28,000/mth (ref: 20031001)
[Macau]	Seaview Garden	3 2 1,420 ft ² \$10,900,000 (ref: 20016004)	[Taipa]	Private house	2 3 3 4,266 ft ² \$45,000/mth (ref: 19055006ST)
[Coloane]	Large 3 bedroom	2 3 2 2,530 ft ² \$12,980,000 (ref: 19096000)	[Macau]	Retail Shop, Barra area	1,968 ft ² \$48,000/mth (ref: n/a)

Recent Movements

Sold

Hellene Gardens, Carnation Court,
3 bed, 2 bath

Sold

Nova City, 3 bed, 2 bath

Rented

Vai Fung Triplex, 2 bed, 2 bath

JML Events



Cradle of Hope



Caritas Macau




Macau Bats Junior Rugby Team



Macau Golf Masters

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FOOTBALL

Another loss, another injury: Arsenal struggles on Premier League return

STEVE DOUGLAS

ANOTHER loss. Another big injury. Things are going from bad to worse for Arsenal in the early days of the Premier League's resumption.

A 2-1 defeat at Brighton on Saturday came only three days after a 3-0 beating by Manchester City, with the demoralizing results robbing Arsenal of the momentum it had before the suspension of the league three months ago because of the coronavirus outbreak.

Qualification for the Champions League looks a long shot now — Arsenal is in 10th place, six points off Manchester United in fifth — and manager Mikel Arteta also has a growing injury list to deal with in this congested period of matches.

Bernd Leno, one of Arsenal's best players this season, joined that list after landing awkwardly on his right knee after being given a nudge by Brighton striker Neal Maupay in an aerial challenge. Leno's howls of pain were audible in the empty Amex Stadium and the goalkeeper remonstrated angrily with Maupay while being carried off on a stretcher.

Sure enough, it was the French striker who scored the winning goal in the fifth minute of stoppage time. Arsenal's players took out their frustrations on Maupay as he celebrated a huge win for Brighton after the final whistle, with fellow Frenchman Matteo Guendouzi grabbing him by the throat in an action that sent Maupay to the ground.

"Some of their players need to learn what is humility, especially one of them," Maupay said, without mentioning Guendouzi by name. "He was talking all game, he was saying bad things.

"I don't want to say because I could be in trouble. I just said

AP PHOTO



that this is what happens when you talk too much on the pitch."

Maupay said, though, he had apologized to Leno and Arteta.

Arsenal's most likely route into European competition next season might now be through winning the FA Cup, which resumes at the quarterfinal stage next weekend.

Yet Arteta is thinking much longer term after inheriting in December a team that has lost its place among English soccer's elite in recent years.

"This is the challenge we all have at the football club, to rebuild to something that is worth the club we are representing," Arteta said.

Leno has a suspected twisted knee, potentially ruling him out of the rest of this pandemic-extended campaign. Arteta lost midfielder Granit Xhaka and defender Pablo Mari to injury against City, with Mari unlikely to return before next season.

Three injuries, two losses, one goal and no points.

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

It was the third day of games in Project Restart, and it seems the league's players have already forgotten some of the guidelines put in place to allow soccer to return in England, one of the hardest-hit countries in the outbreak and still a nation reporting dozens if not hundreds of deaths per day.

It must be hard to stick to the advised socially distanced celebrations when your team has scored an important late goal. Brighton's players swarmed over Maupay after his winner, and the same happened with Watford and Leicester players after their goals in a 1-1 draw at Vicarage Road.

Ben Chilwell was mobbed by his Leicester teammates after smashing home a rising, angled shot off the inside of the post in the 90th minute for what looked like the winning goal.

However, there was more late drama as Watford center back Craig Dawson executed a bicycle kick for a brilliant equalizer in the third minute of stoppage

time for his relegation-threatened team. Dawson was also hugged by teammates after a goal that moved Watford a point above the relegation zone.

Leicester restored its eight-point advantage over Man United, which is occupying fifth place — potentially the last Champions League qualification spot this season because of second-place Manchester City's two-year European ban that is currently under appeal.

BACK OF THE NET-O

Wolverhampton's goals in a 2-0 win at West Ham weren't quite so late, but did come in the second half.

After Raul Jimenez headed home the opening goal in the 73rd for his 14th league goal of the season — a record for Wolves in a single Premier League season — substitute Pedro Neto met a deep cross with a thunderous volley high into the net in the 84th.

Wolves moved tied for points with Man United, with both just

two behind fourth-place Chelsea.

West Ham is only out of the relegation zone on goal difference ahead of third-to-last Bournemouth, which lost 2-0 to Crystal Palace after goals by Luka Milivojevic and Jordan Ayew.

BREWSTER BACKS BLM

Support for the Black Lives Matter movement continued Saturday, with all players from the Premier League teams in action taking a knee after the first whistle of the match. All player names on the back of shirts were again replaced by "Black Lives Matter."

In the second-tier Championship, which was playing its first games since the restart, Swansea striker Rhian Brewster celebrated the first of his goals in a 3-0 win at Middlesbrough by holding up a shirt with the words "Our Colour Is Not A Crime" written on it.

The shirt was handed to Brewster, a Black striker on loan from Liverpool, by a member of Swansea's backroom staff after he ran to the dug-out. AP

Russian teenagers beaten 10-1 as league restarts

A team of teenagers took the field for a club hit by the coronavirus pandemic and lost 10-1 as football in Russia restarted Friday.

FC Rostov was forced to send a squad with an average age of barely 17 to play against Sochi, two days after its entire first team was

put into isolation over a suspected virus outbreak among six players.

Sochi refused to postpone the game, leaving Rostov a choice between fielding academy graduates or accepting defeat by default.

A fairytale result was briefly on the cards as Roman Romanov gave Rostov

the lead after 52 seconds with a low shot from the edge of the penalty area. Sochi soon hit back and finished with 10 goals, the most in league history, mostly scored by players with Russian national-team experience.

Rostov's 17-year-old goalkeeper Denis Popov

won widespread praise and was named man of the match. Despite conceding a record number of goals, he stopped a penalty and also set a new league record for most saves in a game with 15.

It was "sad that we lost by such a big score, but we got a lot of experience," Po-

pov said on his club's website.

Hours later, Rostov's fans welcomed the team bus home with flags and flares at the roadside.

"Well done to our kids, they're real beauties. The rest isn't important. These lads are champions of the future," club president Ar-

tashes Arutyunyan said.

Still, the defeat is a blow to Rostov's hopes of reaching the Champions League next season. It is fourth in the table, with the top three qualifying.

The Russian Premier League resumed Friday after more than three months, with a limited number of fans in stadiums. Supporters were allowed in up to 10 percent of capacity and asked to sit apart. AP

OPINION

World Views

Faye Flam, Bloomberg

WHEN TO WEAR A MASK AND WHEN YOU CAN SKIP IT

Science has a lot to say about the effectiveness of wearing a mask to stop the spread of the coronavirus, but the communication of that science has been corrupted by a combination of partisan divides, sensationalist media stories, distrust, false dichotomies, and letting the perfect be the enemy of the good.

The studies on masks aren't perfectly definitive, but that's typical of many issues involving health risks — from mercury contamination to cancer screenings. It's still better to make decisions based on an incomplete body of evidence than to ignore evidence altogether. In this case, it helps to add a dose of situational awareness and common sense.

The public health community got off on the wrong foot with masks by advising against wearing them and then making a sudden flip-flop and telling us not to leave home without them. Further complicating the picture is a mix of people's individual attitudes. Some members of the public still fear the virus and want to remain safe, and others are at peace with their risk but want some guidance on how to be a good citizen — or at least be perceived as one.

There have been reasonably convincing studies showing that masks stop some of the particles that might carry the virus out of people's mouths. That suggests masks' potential to protect others. Then there are observational studies, which look at mask use in the real world.

Physician and infectious disease specialist Muge Cevik, who has been a prescient guide to relative risks, pointed out to me that mask-wearing should be informed by other studies on how the virus spreads. A consensus is finally starting to form that there's a negligible risk outdoors away from other people, and that very brief encounters pose very little risk, such as people walking, running or cycling past you.

Common sense would suggest that if an activity poses negligible risk, then wearing a mask offers only a negligible benefit, and should be optional.

On the other extreme are potential super-spreading events — anywhere many people are confined indoors, especially if there's close contact. Trump's planned Oklahoma rally is a good example. There, common sense would dictate that such events should not take place at all.

Then there's the middle ground. Mask wearing is likely to do the most good in settings where people have little choice but to interact in enclosed spaces — grocery shopping, riding public transportation, ride-sharing, getting a haircut, or seeing a doctor.

Also in this middle category is gathering outdoors in large groups — such as at a protest. If most protestors wear a mask at all times, this will likely reduce transmissions.

Cevik, who works at the University of St. Andrews in the U.K., pointed out that the six-foot rule applies best outdoors, while in badly ventilated indoor settings, aerosol particles might accumulate and put people at risk even if they never get that close to others. And length of exposure matters a lot, so bus drivers, haircutters and store clerks face a much higher risk than their customers. Their risk very likely goes down if customers wear masks.

Then there's a problematic category of activities, such as eating in restaurants, where masks can't be worn consistently. Would diners be stuck trying to pull masks on and off with every bite? Some experts say such "fiddling" with masks is only going to spread any viruses the mask has captured. As a compromise, many restaurants are seating people outdoors and allowing them to keep masks off while eating. Gyms and yoga studios pose a similar challenge.

The risks associated with close contact and crowds seem obvious and intuitive. And yet Americans have been fixated on the unlikely possibility that infectious doses of virus would fly off cyclists or creep in on packages. In response, some have adopted irrational mask-wearing practices, such as keeping one on while riding or driving, but pulling it down to congregate and chat with groups of people.

And it's no surprise that politics would infuse the issue, given the moral tone of the mask debate and different messages on mainstream and conservative media. In the U.S., we have some fraction of people wearing a mask all the time, and some fraction never wearing one. It would be better if everyone wore one when it was likely to help. [Abridged]

Chinese authorities have indicted two Canadians on spying allegations, pressing ahead with a case diplomatically entwined with U.S. efforts to extradite a top Huawei Technologies Co. executive from Canada.

The formal charges against Michael Kovrig, a Hong Kong-based International Crisis Group analyst and a former Canadian diplomat, and Michael Spavor, who organized trips to North Korea, suggest they'll soon face trial after more than 18 months of detention.

Kovrig was charged with spying on state secrets while Spavor was accused of stealing and illegally providing state secrets to other countries, according to statements released Friday by prosecutors

in Beijing and the northeastern border city of Dandong.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called the decision "disappointing."

The cases have been closely linked with the U.S. push to extradite Huawei executive Meng Wangzhou from Canada. The men were taken into custody in December 2018, days after Meng's arrest in Vancouver, and their cases were formally transferred to prosecutors a year later.

Those convicted of serious violations of the section of law cited by Chinese authorities Friday face sentences of between 10 years and life in prison.

BEIJING CLAIMS VALLEY WHERE INDIAN, CHINESE SOLDIERS BRAWLED

AP PHOTO



An Indian army convoy moves on the Srinagar-Ladakh highway at Gagangeer, northeast of Srinagar

EMILY SCHMALL, NEW DELHI

CHINA said the Galwan Valley high up in the Himalayan border region where Chinese and Indian troops engaged in a deadly brawl this week falls entirely within China, boldly renewing claims on the disputed area as the Asian giants continued using military and diplomatic channels to try to reduce tensions on Saturday.

The confrontation in the Galwan Valley, part of the disputed Ladakh region along the Himalayan frontier, was the deadliest between the two countries in 45 years. India blames China for instigating the fight by developing infrastructure in the valley, which it said was a breach of the agreement of what area remained in dispute.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said in a statement Friday that "the Galwan Valley is located on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control in the west section of the China-India boundary."

He blamed incursions by Indian troops in the area from early May for a midnight clash on Monday that left 20 Indian soldiers dead. China has not said whether it suffered any casualties.

Soldiers brawled with clubs, rocks and their fists in the thin air at 4,270 meters above sea level, but no shots were fired, Indian officials have said. The soldiers carry firearms but are not allowed

to use them under a previous agreement in the border dispute.

Indian security officials have said the fatalities were caused by severe injuries and exposure to subfreezing temperatures.

The valley falls within a remote stretch of the 3,380-kilometer Line of Actual Control — the border established following a war between India and China in 1962 that resulted in an uneasy truce.

Indian Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Anurag Srivastava repeated on Saturday that China's claims to the valley were "exaggerated and untenable."

"They are not in accordance with China's own position in the past. Indian troops are fully familiar with the alignment of the (Line of Actual Control) in all sectors of the India-China border areas, including in the Galwan Valley. They abide by it scrupulously here, as they do elsewhere," Srivastava

said in a statement.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a meeting with political opposition leaders on Friday that no one "has intruded into our territory, nor taken over any post."

Modi said India was "hurt and angry" about the deaths of its troops. He said India wanted peace and friendship, but had the "capability that no one can even dare look toward an inch of our land."

Also on Friday, Zhao, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, said that China was not holding any Indian soldiers, without addressing media reports that China had released 10 of them late Thursday.

"My information is that at present there are no Indian personnel detained on the Chinese side," Zhao said, according to an English version of his daily briefing posted on the ministry's website.

Indian officials have denied that any soldiers were in Chinese custody. AP

Yemen Separatists funded by the United Arab Emirates on Saturday took control of military and police camps in Yemen's Socotra archipelago, a UNESCO World Heritage site, security officials said.

AP PHOTO



Libya Egypt's president warned that an attempt by Turkey-backed forces in Libya to attack the strategic city of Sirte would cross a "red line" and trigger a direct Egyptian military intervention into the conflict.

AP PHOTO



Spain yesterday ended a national state of emergency after three months of lockdown, allowing its 47 million residents to freely travel around the country for the first time since March 14. Spain also dropped a 14-day quarantine for visitors from Britain and countries in Europe's visa-free Schengen travel zone to boost its vital tourism sector.

AP PHOTO



Britain A stabbing rampage that killed three people as they sat in a British park on a summer evening is being considered a terrorist attack, police said yesterday. A 25-year-old man who is believed to be the lone attacker was in custody. Authorities said they were not looking for any other suspects and they did not raise Britain's official terrorism threat level from "substantial."

US A shooting in a popular Minneapolis nightlife area early Sunday left one man dead and 11 people wounded in a chaotic scene that sent people ducking into restaurants and other businesses for cover.

AP PHOTO



Exile Tibetans and local Indians protest against the Chinese government, in Dharmasala, India