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**THE GALAXY ENTERTAINMENT
MACAO INTERNATIONAL MARATHON
IS GOING AHEAD ON DECEMBER 6,
WITH SPACES FOR 12,000 RUNNERS** P2

**NOTHING TO COME BETWEEN
PARTY AND PEOPLE, SAYS
PRESIDENT XI JINPING** P7

**THE BODY OF ANOTHER CHINESE
WHITE DOLPHIN HAS BEEN FOUND
ASHORE IN COLOANE, THE SIXTH
SPECIMEN IN 14 MONTHS** P3

China As a monthslong military standoff between India and China along their disputed mountain border protracts, experts warn that the nuclear-armed countries — which already have engaged in their bloodiest clash in decades — could unintentionally slide into war. [More on p6](#)



Hong Kong At least 90 people were arrested yesterday at protests against the government's decision to postpone elections for Hong Kong's legislature, police and a news report said. The elections were to have taken place yesterday but Chief Executive Carrie Lam on July 31 postponed them for one year. Lam blamed an upsurge in coronavirus cases, but critics said her government worried the opposition would gain seats if voting went ahead on schedule.

Japan Carlos Ghosn escaped financial misconduct charges by fleeing the country, but another former Nissan executive is still awaiting trial in Japan: Greg Kelly. Kelly's trial in Tokyo District Court is to open Sept. 15, nearly two years after his arrest, and the same day he turns 64. If convicted on charges related to underreporting Ghosn's income, Kelly could face up to a decade in prison.



Sri Lanka A team of experts is joining efforts to salvage a large oil tanker that has been burning for the fourth day yesterday off Sri Lanka, the country's navy said. Four tug boats, three Sri Lankan navy ships and six Indian ships have been battling the fire on the MT New Diamond since Thursday. An additional five Sri Lankan coast guard ships and gun boats are supplying the others vessels.

More on backpage

MIGRANT DISTRESS

Foreign worker associations say the gov't has overlooked many of their concerns about employment agencies P3



LAW EXCLUDES PROFESSIONS IN BID TO SAVE JOBS

P4-5



TALE OF TWO DOCTORS
MACAU COUSINS BATTLE COVID-19 ABROAD

P4-5

70-YEAR-OLD INDECENTLY EXPOSES SELF TO CHILD

A 70-year-old Macau man is facing charges for indecently exposing himself to a little girl. The Public Security Force (PSP) apprehended the elderly man after he exposed himself to the minor in public. On the afternoon of September 1, the suspect encountered the victim in a public garden. When the girl was near him, the suspect exposed his penis and then left the scene on his motorbike. The PSP found the man in his apartment. The suspect admitted to the crime and said that his behavior was triggered by an argument with his wife. According to the PSP, this is the suspect's third episode of indecent exposure. The other two incidents were recorded in 2010 and 2016. In 2010, PSP issued the man a warning and he was not prosecuted. The 2016 incident, when he exposed his penis to a man, is still awaiting court trial.

FISHING VESSEL CATCHES FIRE IN WATER NEAR AIRPORT

A fishing vessel caught on fire while it was in the water across from the runway at the Macau International Airport. The Marine and Water Bureau received the incident report on Friday morning at approximately 9 a.m. and immediately informed the customs authority to initiate a rescue. There were four crew members onboard. The four were rescued and safely transferred onto a mainland fishing authority vessel. The boat that caught fire eventually sank. The sunken vessel is a mainland registered fishing boat and it was two nautical miles to the southeastern side of the airport runway when the accident happened.

OVER 1,600 TAXIS HAVE NOT INSTALLED MONITOR SYSTEMS

As of the end of August, there are still over 1,600 taxis which have not installed smart terminal systems, according to a statement released by the Transport Bureau (DSAT). The Macau SAR government has set a deadline of December 3 for all taxis to install the multi-purpose device for navigation and recording, among other uses. A taxi driver must possess an e-taxi driving license when operating the vehicle. By the end of August, 5,572 taxi drivers had obtained their e-taxi driving licenses. Only drivers with an e-license can operate taxis with a smart terminal system. Drivers operating a taxi without an effective terminal system may have their vehicle seized and license annulled.

MACAU MARATHON TO BE HELD WITH INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES

LYNZY VALLES

THE Galaxy Entertainment Macao International Marathon will be held on December 6, opening with a total of 12,000 spots available for participants, the Sports Bureau (ID) announced in a press conference.

Registration for the marathon and half marathon will open to the public on September 12. Registration for the mini marathon will open on September 13.

The 38th iteration of the event will have 1,400 spots available for the marathon, 4,800 for the half marathon and 5,800 for the mini marathon.

The full marathon and half marathon courses will start at Governor Nobre de Carvalho Bridge, pass World Heritage site A-Ma Temple and run along the Sai Van Bridge.

The marathon and half marathon races will start at 6 a.m., while the mini-marathon will kick off at 6:15 a.m.

Registrants who opt for on-site registration may go to the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on September 12



and 13. They should bring the completed registration form, a copy of their identification document, membership card from the General Association of Athletics of Macau for the current year and the registration fee.

Galaxy Entertainment Group will sponsor the event until 2021, following the renewal of their title sponsorship for the event last year.

The marathon is one of the few events in the city that will occur despite the ongoing pandemic. Macau has not seen a new locally-transmitted case of Covid-19 for several months.

The ID said that it will "pay close attention to the Covid-19 pandemic and will adopt preventive measures according to the guidelines by the Health Bureau."

Meanwhile, there was no information given about what will happen to foreign athletes who are keen on participating in the marathon.

If foreigners and non-resident workers are still not allowed to enter the city prior to the date of the marathon, the event will likely be held with athletes from mainland China and Hong Kong only.

EDUCATION BUREAU MEETS WITH NURSERIES TO DISCUSS SCHOOL BAN FOR INFANTS

A meeting was held between the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) and educational associations to discuss the issue of children under the age of 3 being banned from returning to schools.

The meeting was held last Saturday to discuss the commencement of the new school year for children under 3 years old. Representatives from local education associations recommended allowing the children to return to school under conditions that do not violate the principles of health assurance.

In response, the DSEJ agreed to collect opinions on the topic from schools in the next few days.

The new school year commenced the first week of September. The DSEJ, however, only announced this on August 27. The bureau was criticized for leaving parents and students just days to prepare.

In addition, the ban on the resumption of school for children under 3 has left parents puzzled, partly because of its justification regarding recommendations for wearing face masks.

Returning students are instructed to wear face masks. However, young children are not recommended to wear face masks. Hence it is understood that they have been excluded from the school resumption. **AL**

LAWMAKERS APPROVE OF MERGING AUDITOR, ACCOUNTANT PROTOCOLS

THE Third Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly (AL) has agreed with the government's proposal of merging the protocols for auditors and accountants.

On Friday, the committee signed an opinion report on the merge during a meeting for discussion on the Accountant Registration and Operation Regime.

This regime mainly merges the current two systems for registered auditors and certified public accountants.

As the two systems are merged, the old protocols for the accountants and the auditors will be annulled and these two types of professionals will be collectively referred to as "accountants."

However, the Portuguese version of the law will continue use the term "auditors."

Once the regime comes into effect, there will be two types of accountants: certified public accountants and licensed accountants.

According to the law, the current committee of accountants and auditors will be renamed the professional committee of certified accountants.

From a legal perspective, the committee will have considerable power and is a public monitoring entity.

The committee's form and operation will be regulated by administrative regulations introduced by the Chief Executive. **JZ**

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Migrant groups disappointed over unheeded petition

LYNZY VALLES

MIGRANT associations in the Macau SAR have expressed their distress regarding the recently approved bill on regulating employment agencies, noting that the legislature overlooked their suggestions which were submitted 10 months ago.

In April 2019, organizations of non-resident workers submitted a joint petition to the Legislative Assembly (AL) arguing that non-resident workers lack information and are being ignored in the drafting and consultation process of the Act of Employment Agency Activity.

In the petition, the migrant groups outlined a total of seven concerns.

The petition called for a removal of agency fees for workers, as they go against the standards set by the International Labour Organization, a United Nations agency.

"[The] agency fee is always an issue which leaves non-resident workers in debt bondage and forced labor situations. The setting of an amount for agency fees, 50% of the first month of basic remuneration to be collected from workers after 60 days of employment, will still end up [causing] debt bondage faced by workers," the group wrote in the petition.

However, according to the justifications the government gave to the committee, these conventions do not apply to Macau.

MACAU PHOTO AGENCY



The group's opinion was dismissed as the new bill clearly defines jobs that are subject to the payment of such fees, in addition to defining a ceiling of collecting 50% of the basic salary of the first month they are employed.

Speaking to the Times, the president of the Progressive Union of Domestic Workers of Macau, Jassy Santos, lamented that after 10 months of waiting, the government has only looked at one out of seven concerns.

"We are dismayed by the result because we waited 10 months for this, only to be given a letter we cannot understand. We were at least expecting to be given a chance to have another dialogue

with them," Santos said.

"They could have at least considered the seven suggestions we made [since the] public consultation did not include us."

These migrant groups have called on the government to ensure that the public and non-resident workers have access to information about their legal rights, a list of licensed employment agencies and Employment Service Advisors, and other information which should be translated into a language that non-resident workers can understand.

According to Santos, part of aforementioned request was the only assurance the government had given them.

"They said they would give workers access to the list agencies of Macau. For now, we only know of a few legal employment agencies, so maybe one day they will publicized all agencies of such," Santos said.

The group also called on the government to ensure that non-resident workers do not bear any costs, debt bondage and or participate in forced labor during the recruitment and employment process. No response was also given.

The government did give a 118-page copy of the new bill to the representative of the migrant groups. However, the group said that it was in a language they cou-

ld not understand.

"It's so ridiculous that they gave us copies in Chinese and Portuguese but not English, and had not given us chance to have a dialogue with them again," said Nedie Taberdo, president of the Green Philippines Migrant Workers Union in Macau.

The document included a letter addressed to her and signed by the president of AL, Kou Hoi In.

The letter, which is written in Chinese, states, "the Third Standing Committee of the AL has taken up your petition and [made its] analysis. The Third Standing Committee has completed the review of your petition and prepared the report No. 1/VI/2020. Based on the Article 14 of Law No. 5/94/M and the recommendations put forward by the aforementioned report."

The language barrier remains a challenge for these migrant groups as they can neither read Chinese or understand Portuguese proficiently, two of the city's official languages.

"One of our petitions included having access to government documents, but they said they cannot offer it in English as it isn't an official language," explained Santos.

The president of the group said that migrant workers in the city are always confused about new laws and could only depend on English media for information.

"It's very sad because there are matters that concern non-residents. If we have access to these [at least those that affect the blue card holders], we can know better and have clear ideas about the government's policies," she said.

The Act of Employment Agency Activity was approved on September 3 and will enter into force March 15 next year.

Sixth dead dolphin found in 14 months



THE body of a humpback dolphin was found Saturday morning off the coast of Tam Kong Temple, Coloane. This is the sixth dolphin from the species commonly known as the Chinese white dolphins found dead over the last 14 months.

Officers from the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) were on site to handle the body of the animal. The preliminary post-mortem did not find any external wounds, besides some minor skin peeling. The IAM officers hypothesized that the body had been carried by the current after the dolphin had died. The body was cremated immediately as it was decomposing.

In mid-May, several videos went viral on social media, showing humpback dolphins splashing in waters near the Kun Iam Statue in NAPE. At the time, analysts thought this was due to the suspension of regional ferry services amid intensified Covid-19 restrictions, making the waters less disturbing for the dolphins.

In his recent written inquiry to the government, Lawmaker Sulu Sou reiterated that the species had been categorized as endangered both nationally and internationally. He referenced Hong Kong authorities, who estimated that at least 2,500 of the dolphins were residing in the Pearl River

Delta vicinity.

Meanwhile, a 2014 study conducted by Sun Yat Sen University in Guangzhou predicted that the species would lose 74% of its population over the next 60 years.

The Macau government has been legally bound to conserve aquatic ecology in the new waters given to Macau by the central government in 2018. Sou pointed out that two years have passed and the government has done nothing in this regard.

Local environmental advocate Joe Chan has submitted a letter to the government, urging the administration to create oceanic reserves, as well as

improve coastal water quality, restrain the cruising speed of ships, monitor aquatic ecology, and study what caused the deaths of the dolphins.

Chan also blamed the Sewage Treatment Plant for constantly operating beyond its processing limit and failing to follow set procedures, meaning it releases 20% untreated wastewater into the sea. He has also suggested that the Environmental Protection Bureau study the local water ecology and publicize the results each year.

Lawmaker Agnes Lam wrote on her social media page about losing another humpback dolphin. She urged the government to study its cause of death and work on changing the living conditions of the dolphins. **AL**

A TALE OF TWO DOCTORS

RAQUEL DIAS

THE Covid-19 pandemic has been raging on for more than six months now and when it will all be over is anyone's guess. Macau has fought a successful battle against the virus, however many European countries have not been so lucky. And that includes Portugal, which, as we went to print, had more than 60,000 confirmed cases and had experienced more than 1,800 deaths. Life has been tough on the frontlines for the nation's medical staff.

Two cousins who are originally from Macau are among those thousands of medical personnel on Portugal's frontlines. Dr Tânia Évora and Dr Sara Évora have been battling the virus in medical zones in and around Lisbon since the first cases were recorded in the country on 2 March.

Dr Tânia, based at a Family Healthcare Unity centre in the Costa do Estoril, a coastal area to the west of Lisbon, and Dr Sara, based at an FHU centre in the parish of Matriz in the district of Évora, which is about an hour to the east of Lisbon and shares the cousins' family name, have not had it as tough as many medical professionals in the big hospitals but it's nevertheless been a challenging time for them.

Due to the Portuguese government's restrictions on social gatherings as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the cousins meet us in Poets Park on the outskirts of Lisbon and describe their lives on the frontlines over the past five months. In the hospitals, doctors have been dealing with the severe cases and the deaths. But the Évoras only deal with "patients with light to moderate symptoms who don't need to be admitted to hospital," says Dr Sara, who adds that these patients "make up about 80 to 85 percent of all the cases in Portugal."

"In this country," she says, "we have around 1,900 patients per family doctor. We need to care for the positive and suspected Covid-19 patients – who we deal with every day – but we also need to continue our care for the other patients too. It's a challenging time for all of us."

Dr Tânia says that "thanks to an intricate system put together quickly and efficiently on the part of the authorities," the cousins have been able to deal with the virus patients as well as the regular ones out in the field.

"We are routinely assigned to a Covid Dedicated Area [CDA] for a week, depending on our district," she says, adding that these zones are in isolated locations and are often set up in



temporary military-grade tents. She says that any member of the public who suspects they have caught the virus – either because they are showing symptoms or because they've been in contact with someone who's tested positive – will be directed by their doctor or by personnel on Portugal's 24-hour Covid hotline to visit a CDA.

Inside the CDA, says Dr Sara, the patient is tested and, if the results come back positive, professionals like the two doctors

must follow up – meaning they need to "make daily individual phone calls" to them, taking notes of their temperatures and the "overall state of their symptoms."

"In some cases," adds Dr Tânia, "we might need to do house calls, although those are exceptions to the rule." The cousins both agree that the job, under the circumstances, is anything but easy but it's become a necessary part of life on the frontline.

"I felt real fear in the beginning," admits Dr Tânia, who

has a four-year-old daughter, "but it was not for myself. It was for my family – especially for my father and grandmother in Portugal because they are older and could be vulnerable to the virus. At home, my partner and I decided, after much consideration, that we were not ready to give up family life, so I have been extra careful when I get home to ensure that I do not bring anything back from my job. Some doctors opt to not go home when they're working in the CDAs."

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Law excludes some healthcare

JULIE ZHU

THE Macau SAR government has decided to include 15 types of healthcare professionals in their registration and operation-licensing regime in order to regulate high-risk medical interactions and protect the jobs of practitioners without qualifications.

According to information revealed by lawmaker Chan Chak Mo during Friday's Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary meeting, the SAR government has excluded other healthcare-related professionals from the regime over concerns that these individuals may no longer be able to practice and therefore lose their source of income.

On Friday, the Legislative Assembly (AL) passed the law on the registration of healthcare professionals. These 15 medical personnel types are now required to be registered with the Macau SAR government.

Lawmakers and government representatives ex-

changed opinions about the bill, which was eventually passed article by article, despite concerns about professionals outside of these 15 types.

The law, named the Healthcare Personnel Professional Qualification and Operation Registration Regime, regulates medical practitioners, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, medical laboratory technicians, occupational therapists, radiographers, physiotherapists, chiropractors, nutritionists, psychiatrists, speech therapists, Chinese medicine practitioners and Chinese medicine pharmacists.

More than eight lawmakers, including Agnes Lam, Chan Chak Mo and Chan Wa Keong, voiced their opinions on the 15 types of healthcare professionals.

Overall, Sulu Sou, Agnes Lam, Chan Iek Lap and others believe that the regime should include more healthcare professionals, such as optometrists.

Ella Lei asked how the go-

vernment would regulate the other healthcare professionals when there was a violation of regulations.

Sulu Sou then commented that professionals not included in the regime still regarded themselves as healthcare professionals providing a medical service, and that these individuals should be regulated because many members of the public use their services.

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Elsie Ao Ieong U said that the SAR government had decided on the types of regulated professionals based on the popularity of the service and the associated risks.

The director of the Health Bureau (SSM), Lei Chin Ion, responded, saying that the government would study whether to establish laws to regulate parties selling healthcare-related services to people under the label of medical treatment.

However, Lei indicated that the SAR government currently has no intention of



Cousins Dr. Tânia and Dr. Sara Évora during a break from the frontlines

For Dr Sara, there has been less pressure on her home life during the pandemic. "I live alone in Évora and my partner is staying in Lisbon," she says. "I try to come to Lisbon every weekend, when possible. It has helped a lot that my father, who is still in Macau, has been relatively relaxed when it comes to this ordeal. The first time I spoke to him on the phone about this, he calmed me down. My main worry is our grandmother in Portugal, so I haven't seen her since the lockdown started in March."

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Long before the pandemic began, both women chose to specialise in general and family medicine as they felt it gave them the best tools to help make a difference. "As family doctors," says Dr Tânia, "we get to accompany patients during their lifetime. We are their first encounter with healthcare."

Medicine is in the cousins' family. Dr Tânia's father, Dr Humberto Évora, specialises in sports medicine and Dr Sara's dad, Dr Mário Évora, is a cardiologist. Their

family connection to Macau goes back to the 1940s when their maternal grandparents first arrived in the city from Cabo Verde, a Portuguese-speaking country in Africa. A few years later, the grandparents' daughter and her husband joined them, bringing their first-born, Dr Humberto, with them. Dr Mário was born in the city shortly afterwards. Dr Tânia was born in Macao in 1985, however Dr Sara was born in Portugal and moved to the territory three years later, aged just six months old, as her side of the

family had briefly relocated to Europe. Both women consider themselves to be 'Macau-Portuguese'.

The doctors moved to Portugal to complete their medical degrees a few years ago. While Dr Tânia opted to live in the capital, Dr Sara moved to Évora. Both women undertook four-year residencies in Portugal, although Dr Sara spent a part of hers in Macau, finishing earlier this year. With medicine in their blood, it is not surprising that they both felt drawn to the subject from an early age.

Dr Tânia says she "wanted to be a doctor since she was a child, always asking her parents for books on health and the human body." It was "slightly later" when Dr Sara became interested in human medicine but she does admit she had "wanted to be a veterinarian since she was a little girl."

LEARNING FROM MACAU

Both cousins are thankful for their close connection to Macau as they claim they became "better informed during the initial phase of the pandemic."

"We felt we were two months ahead in terms of information," says Dr Tânia. "This is not only because events developed earlier in Asia but the fact that we had lived through the SARS pandemic in 2002 also helped us calm down and face the problem head on." The 35-year-old, at the start of the pandemic, went to the supermarket wearing a mask. She says people were afraid of her. "They thought I had the virus," she says. "In their minds, why else would I be wearing a mask? This was about a month before the usage of masks indoors became mandatory in Portugal. I felt a bit like an alien."

For Dr Sara, who is 32 years old, her close ties with Macau helped her feel more secure. "I remember that everyone at work was in a state of panic," she says. "People who knew I had family in Macau often came to me for advice. Macau has dealt so effectively with Covid-19."

Both women were also pleased about another connection with Macao: when they were short of personal protective equipment (PPE), their families sent items like facemasks to them. In fact, Dr Mário Évora, who is the president of the Macau Cardiology Association's board of directors, sent PPE like surgical masks, gloves and thermometers to the FHU in Matriz at one point. "We distributed them not only to staff," says Dr Sara, "but also to kindergartens and elderly homes."

"It's been a scary time for people across the world," says Dr Tânia. "It's no different in Portugal. But there are signs of hope that the first part of the battle is being won and we all hope we will learn from it in the future. I'm just happy to have played my part."

"And so am I," agrees Dr Sara. "We are thankful we became doctors and have been able to help save lives." **MDT/MACAUHUB**

GAMBLING REGULATOR DENIES APPROVING MACAU MARK SIX

The Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) has clarified that it has not approved the operations of the so-called lottery, the Macau Mark Six, by any person or entity. The name resembles the lottery operated in Hong Kong by the neighboring city's Jockey Club, which has been suspended since an earlier Covid-19 outbreak in Hong Kong. There are at least 10 online platforms claiming to be operating the "Macau lottery." Apart from the DICJ's clarification, the Judiciary Police has also intervened and commenced investigation of the false claim. Should anybody believe that they have fallen victim to the lottery scam, they should report to the police immediately, authorities said.

AV. COL. MESQUITA NEW TRAFFIC LIGHTS ENTER OPERATION

A new pair of traffic lights began operating last Saturday. One of the lights was installed at the intersection of the main road and Rua de Pedro Coutinho, while the other one was at the intersection with Rua de São João Bosco. The Transport Bureau explained the new signals were installed to improve road safety. During the early hours of operation, the new signals caused congestion on Rua de Pedro Coutinho and Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida. The section of the latter in front of Pak Vai Plaza Shopping Centre was packed with cars.

POLICE ASK FOR WITNESSES AFTER MAN KILLED IN CAR CRASH

A car accident recently occurred on Rua do Tarrafeiro, opposite the gas station in the Inner Harbor area, claiming the life of a 60-year-old man. The man was on the sidewalk by the street pushing his cart when a car, driven by a 38-year-old woman, made a turn and knocked him down. The man suffered severe head injuries and was sent to the public hospital for treatment before being pronounced dead. The Public Security Police Force is requesting witness testimony or video footage to help with its investigation. Any information can be passed on to police on 2837 4214.

personnel with goal of protecting jobs



establishing another registration regime for other healthcare professionals.

After these lawmakers' long interrogation of government representatives, Chan Wa Keong and Chan Chak Mo voiced their support for the law.

Chan Wa Keong defended the government's proposed law by saying that no law can include everybody.

"There is no absolute good nor absolute bad," Chan Wa Keong

said, adding that more professions can be included in the bill at any time.

Following Chan Wa Keong, lawmaker Chan Chak Mo revealed another consideration of the government. According to Chan Chak Mo, the SAR government had a massive discussion about the types of professionals to be included in this law. The government took three aspects into account when considering the them, including the health risks

of the service and the employment situation of the professionals.

"If we include [other types], many people may lose their jobs because they don't meet the requirements. Many types are not included because people who are currently offering the service have not reached a professional level and many people will be unable to take exams and internships. They may lose their source of income," said Chan.

CHINA JAILS TWO PEOPLE FOR HIDING TRIP TO WUHAN

Two people who returned to their hometown after contracting the coronavirus in the Chinese city at the center of the outbreak in January have been sentenced to prison for failing to quarantine themselves or report the visit. After returning from Wuhan, the pair visited supermarkets and other public places in the western city of Yibin in Sichuan province for more than a week before showing symptoms, the People's Court of Cuping District in Yibin said Saturday on its social media account. It said one defendant, identified only by the surname Deng, concealed the Wuhan trip when questioned by health workers. Deng was sentenced to 11 months on charges of obstructing disease control, the court said. The other, identified by the surname Tian, was sentenced to nine months. Both sentences were postponed for 18 months.

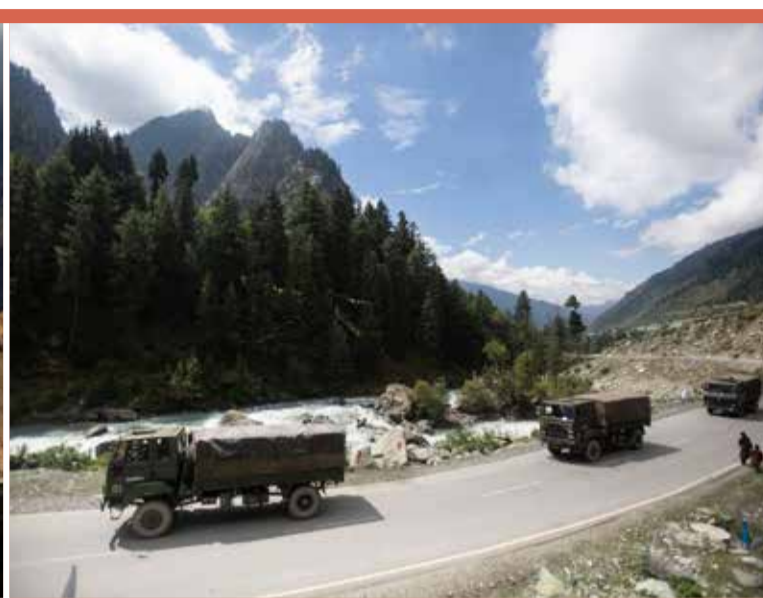
BEIJING RECEIVING FIRST INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS SINCE MARCH

Beijing's main international airport has begun receiving international flights again from a limited number of countries considered at low risk of coronavirus infection. Passengers flying in from Cambodia, Greece, Denmark, Thailand, Pakistan, Austria, Canada and Sweden must have first shown a negative coronavirus test before boarding, city government spokesperson Xu Hejian told reporters. Passenger arrivals will be limited to roughly 500 per day during a trial period and all will need to undergo additional testing for the virus on arrival, followed by two weeks of quarantine. The first flight under the arrangement, Air China Flight 746, arrived from Pnom Penh, Cambodia, just before 7 a.m. last Thursday. China has gone weeks without new cases of local infection.

CHINA'S FIRST REUSABLE SPACECRAFT LANDS AFTER TWO-DAY FLIGHT

China's first reusable spacecraft landed yesterday after two days in orbit, a possible step toward lower-cost space flight, the government announced. The secretive, military-run space program has released few details of the craft, which was launched Friday aboard a Long March 2F rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in China's desert northwest. The craft landed as planned at Jiuquan, the official Xinhua News Agency said. The flight "marks an important breakthrough in our country's research on reusable spacecraft" that promise a "more convenient and inexpensive way" to reach space, Xinhua said. China fired its first astronaut into orbit in 2003 and has launched a space station. Last year, it became the first country to land a robot rover on the moon's little-seen far side. A probe carrying another robot rover is en route to Mars.

AP PHOTO



Left: Border Roads Organization workers rest near Pangong Lake in Ladakh region. Right: An Indian army convoy moves on the Srinagar-Ladakh highway at Gagangeer

EXPERTS WARN CHINA-INDIA STANDOFF RISKS UNINTENTIONAL WAR

AIJAZ HUSSAIN, SRINAGAR

As a monthslong military standoff between India and China along their disputed mountain border protracts, experts warn that the nuclear-armed countries — which already have engaged in their bloodiest clash in decades — could unintentionally slide into war.

For 45 years, a series of agreements, written and unwritten, maintained an uneasy truce along the border on the eastern edge of the Himalayan region of Kashmir. But moves and clashes over the past few months have made the situation unpredictable, raising the risk that a miscalculation from either side could have serious consequences that resonate beyond the cold-desert region.

"The situation is very dangerous on the ground and can spiral out of control," said Lt. Gen. D.S. Hooda, who was head of the Indian military's Northern Command from 2014 to 2016. "A lot will depend on whether the two sides are able to control the volatile situation and make sure it doesn't spread to other areas."

The two Asian giants have held several rounds of talks, mainly involving military commanders, without success. In a sign that the talks are now shifting to the political level, their defense ministers met in the Russian capital on Friday to try end the impasse. It was the first high-level direct contact between the sides since the standoff erupted in the Ladakh region four months ago.

Last week, the world's two most populous nations, which share thousands of kilometers of disputed border, accused each another of fresh provocations, including allegations of soldiers crossing into each other's territory.

India said its soldiers thwarted "provocative" movements

by China's military twice last week. In turn, China's Defense Ministry accused Indian troops of crossing established lines of control and creating provocations along the border.

Tensions first erupted in early May with a brawl between soldiers from the two sides. The situation escalated dramatically in June when they fought with clubs, stones and fists, leaving 20 Indian soldiers dead and dozens wounded. China did not report any casualties.

The standoff is over disputed portions of a pristine landscape in a region that boasts the world's highest landing strip and a glacier that feeds one of the largest irrigation systems in the world.

Hooda said that while he doesn't think either side is looking for full-scale war, the "real calamity" is the breakdown of existing agreements and protocols.

Wang Lian, a professor of international relations at Peking University in Beijing, said the possibility of open warfare is unlikely because both sides have shown restraint in recent encounters. But he also said that New Delhi is under pressure from domestic anti-China sentiment and has been emboldened by tougher U.S. measures against Beijing.

"I don't think [India] would go so far as to escalate military conflict of a larger scale, but I believe both sides are making some preparations," Wang said.

India and China share a disputed and undemarcated 3,500-kilometer border, known as the Line of Actual Control, that stretches from the Ladakh region in the north to the Indian state of Sikkim.

The two nations fought a border war in 1962 that also spilled into Ladakh and ended in a fragile truce. Since then, troops from both sides have patrolled and guarded the undefined border area, according to protocols worked out by the two countries that included not using firearms against each other.

But defense analyst Rahul Bedi said that India changed the rules of engagement along the border following the deadly June clash. He said local commanders have been given "freedom to initiate adequate and proportionate responses to any hostile acts" by Chinese troops.

Members of India's strategic community, including defense analysts and retired generals, say China's army is opening new fronts, deepening mistrust and delaying immediate disengagement before winter, when temperatures in the region can fall to minus 50 degrees Celsius. They argue that the cost of deployments through the winter would be punishing for an Indian economy already decimated by the coronavirus pandemic.

Last week, the two Asian giants accused each other of fresh provocations, including allegations of soldiers crossing into each other's territory

Another area of concern for India's military is the country's decades-old territorial dispute over Kashmir with archrival Pakistan, a key ally of China. Indian military policymakers say that if a full-scale conflict erupts between India and China, Islamabad could throw its support behind Beijing, creating an even

more dangerous situation for New Delhi.

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan. Its eastern edge, the cold, high-altitude desert region of Ladakh, borders China on one side and Pakistan on the other, and is home to the world's only three-way nuclear-armed junction. Most Kashmiri Muslims on the Indian side support an armed movement that demands the territory be united either under Pakistani rule or as an independent country.

Gen. Bipin Rawat, India's chief of Defense Staff, warned Pakistan last week not to exploit the crisis with China.

"Pakistan could take advantage of any threat developing along northern borders [from China] and create trouble for us," Rawat said, warning that Islamabad "may suffer heavy losses should they attempt any misadventure."

India unilaterally declared Ladakh a federal territory and separated it from Kashmir in August 2019, ending its semi-autonomous status and straining the already prickly relationship between New Delhi and Beijing. China was among the countries to strongly condemn the move, raising it at international forums including the U.N. Security Council.

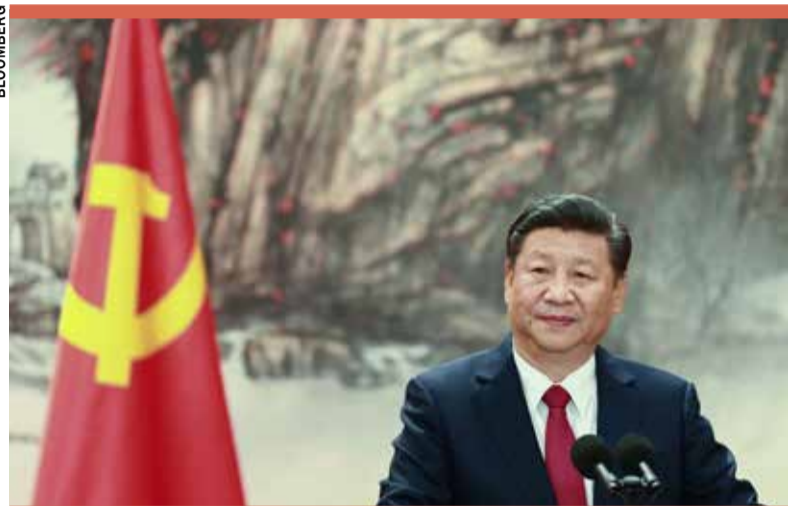
According to some Indian and Chinese strategic experts, India's move exacerbated existing tensions with China, leading to the June border clash.

"We are entering into a very difficult phase," said Pravin Sawhney, a defense analyst and China expert. "Disengagement is a criticality to avoid war, which the two nations don't want. But if any war breaks out, Pakistan will pitch in, and so would Kashmiris. It will be a three-front conflict." AP

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Xi Jinping says Party can't be split from masses

BLOOMBERG



CHINESE President Xi Jinping said nothing will come between the Chinese people and the Communist Party that has governed them for more than 70 years, setting a defiant tone in the face of criticism from the U.S.

Speaking at an event marking the 75th anniversary of Japan's formal surrender at the end of World War Two, Xi outlined areas where China would "never" accept foreign interference. He took aim in particular at threats to the Chinese Communist Party's continued one-party rule.

"The Chinese people will never allow any individual or any force to separate the CCP and Chinese people, and to pitch them against each other," Xi said. "The Chinese people will never allow any individual or any force to distort the CCP's history, and to vilify the CCP's character and purpose."

While Xi didn't specifically mention the U.S. in the public excerpts of his remarks, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told reporters Friday that U.S. officials including Secretary of State Michael Pompeo should study them.

"I would suggest Pompeo and other American politicians read President Xi's speech," Hua said, citing the five elements China would never allow. "For the extreme anti-

-China forces in the U.S. who are viciously trying to smear the CPC, and trying to sow discord between CPC and the Chinese people, these are the best answer to them."

The combative tone of Xi's speech highlights how seriously China's leaders take the threat of external challenges to their rule. Pompeo has repeatedly sought to differentiate between the Communist Party and the Chinese people in critical remarks of the regime, including a speech in July at the Richard Nixon Presidential library in California.

"General Secretary Xi is not destined to tyrannize inside and outside of China forever, unless we allow it," Pompeo said at the time.

Chinese officials have attacked Pompeo daily in recent months, with Hua calling him a "habitual liar". Chinese diplomats have also accused the U.S. and its supporters of attempting to deepen the political divides between Beijing and places like Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Chinese leaders have stressed the Communist Party's ability to stand up to foreign aggression since they won control after World War II. As Xi has sought to strengthen his grip at home and confront a more hostile U.S., he has frequently turned to similar nationalist themes. **BLOOMBERG**

CHINA PROMISES MORE MARKET OPENING AT TRADE FAIR

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping pledged to open China's service industries wider to foreign competitors as its first in-person trade fair since the coronavirus outbreak opened under intensive anti-disease controls.

Xi gave no details in his speech Friday night, but Chinese leaders are emphasizing development of tourism, retailing and other servi-

ces. They are part of a campaign to nurture economic growth driven by consumer spending instead of exports and investment.

China will "relax market access for service industries" and "actively expand imports of high-quality services," Xi said at the China International Fair for Trade in Services. **MDT/AP**

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MGM and Macao Orchestra Present Out-of-the-ordinary Rendition of Beethoven's Symphony of Nature

MGM is dedicated to infusing new elements into cultural performance to attract the interest of the public. Recently it partnered with Macao Orchestra to present the "Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day: A Tribute to Nature" at MGM COTAI, taking classical music out of solemn concert halls for the first time in Macau. An occasion to mark the 250th anniversary of music maestro Ludwig van Beethoven's birth and the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day, the two-day event saw the Orchestra perform Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68 "Pastoral" at Spectacle, an atrium abounds with elements of nature. The two-day concert attracted an audience of 1000 in which they were thrilled at this opportunity of indulging in classical melodies and experiencing the harmonious co-existence of mankind and Mother Earth.



Commune with Nature at Spectacle

Featuring an expansive glass canopy which achieved a GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title, the Spectacle at MGM COTAI is bathed in daylight which cheers up the 100,000-plus plants of its indoor garden Nature's Art. This, together with its advanced technology, makes Spectacle an ideal stage for a 360-degree storytelling of "Pastoral" and amplifying the message of Earth Day. Composed by Beethoven in 1808, "Pastoral" illustrates a scene at a restful countryside which is blessed with serenity after a tempest. The final movement embodies the joy and gratitude for the tranquility, which also demonstrates Beethoven's deep affinity with nature.

Macao Orchestra's brilliant rendition of "Pastoral" drew rounds of applause from the audience. Macao Orchestra Assistant Conductor Francis Kan said, "The sounds of Mother Earth create the most wonderful symphony. Beethoven's Pastoral resembles sunshine after the rain, which can truly cleanse our spirit. I'm grateful that we can perform at the imposing Spectacle, which allows the audience to pamper their ears with pleasing melodies and appreciate the variability of nature with total ease. This experience is so fantastic that everyone shouldn't miss out."

Green Tours and Workshops

To further promote the message of nature conservation and connecting with nature through art, MGM organized the "Guided Tour for Earth Day X Nature's Art". The tour exposed 160 participants to the architectural wonders of Spectacle, the property's art collection as well as its green facilities and measures.

During the two-day Earth Day event, MGM hosted two Moss Ball Planting workshops at 'M Art, where participants learned to make a bonsai for a touch of green to their home, as well as a peaceful escape from the hustle and bustle of city life.



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Germany is re-engineering Europe's most important river

ELISA MIEBACH

TWO shipping brothers on Germany's Rhine faced a dilemma that has become increasingly common on Europe's most important river.

With the waters precariously low, Stephen and Torsten Mnich fretted over whether to haul 1,000 tons of potassium salt to a BASF SE chemical plant upriver — a lucrative assignment for the family business. If the level dropped further during the multi-day voyage in mid-August, they risked running aground. It was a toss up, and in the end, they called their mom.

"She has a feeling for the weather," said 28-year-old Stephen, whose mother spent 27 years on a boat, raising him and his eight siblings. "She feels it's going to rain, so we'll be alright."

But not all businesses reliant on the Rhine have a wily river oracle at their side, so Germany is pushing to secure commerce on this critical artery. The multi-pronged effort involves an elaborate model of the trickiest stretch, re-engineering boats and even mulling once-taboo new locks. After low waters forced shipping on stretches to all but cease two years ago, there's a sense of urgency.

"2018 was a wake-up call," said Jelle Vreeman, a shipbroker at the Rhine's mouth in Rotterdam. "It will happen again. The German authorities don't have a choice but to do something about it for the long term."

Dotted with medieval fortresses and enshrined in German legend, the Rhine is an intrinsic part of the country's mystique and a key part of its modern-day competitiveness. Around 30% of Germany's coal, iron ore and natural gas is transported along the river, where factories are set up to take deliveries for just-in-time manufacturing. The disruption in 2018 contributed to a contraction in the German economy.

The Rhine provides cheap transport for Europe's industrial heartland, snaking 800 miles through industrial zones in Switzerland, Germany and the Ne-



therlands before emptying into the North Sea. There's no real viable alternative. An average barge is capable of carrying 2,500 tons, while more than 110 trucks would be needed to carry the same load, clogging up Germany's congested road and rail network.

Maintaining a reliable flow of goods and supplies is critical, especially as China targets Germany's position as a leader in advanced manufacturing. The giant inland port of Duisburg on the Ruhr river, which connects to the Rhine, is the terminus of the Asian country's massive Belt and Road infrastructure initiative.

Volker Wissing, transport minister for BASF's home state of Rhineland-Palatinate, eyes construction of new factories in China and India with suspicion, worrying that Germany's industrial strength could ebb if Rhine shipping suffers. Climate change threatens to make summers drier and reduce melt water from alpine glaciers, making river levels more volatile.

"We have to make sure that we maintain Germany as an important industrial location," said Wissing, noting that barge transport is more environmentally friendly than trucks or trains.

His state is the site of the romantic mid-Rhine valley, where the Lorelei cliffs tower over passing vessels. It's the toughest stretch for captains like the Mnich brothers. When they took turns

steering their boat through the rocks last month, the depth gage at times showed less than one meter of water beneath the keel.

In this area of the Rhine, the German government wants to scrape off some of the jutting rocks and change the current so that ships can load an extra 200 or more tons. But the plan isn't easy.

Engineers have to balance high- and low-water situations, shipping needs and environmental concerns. Because of the complex currents and topography of the river bed, German authorities constructed a scale model that's nearly as big as a basketball court.

"I think no one has ever built something like this before," said Christoph Heinzelmann, director of Germany's Federal Waterways Engineering and Research Institute, showing a 90-degree curve in the Rhine and each detail of the riverbed.

Water streams into the model and takes red and white particles along that symbolize sand and gravel. One of the issues becomes quickly apparent: the sediment accumulates in the corner, blocking one side while sharp rocks limit the passage on the other.

"Finding a solution for this part of the Rhine is the Olympics of water engineering," said Heinzelmann. "We know we'll get there in the end, but can't say which way yet is the best."

Dredging out the sand wouldn't be a long-term fix because the river would

promptly fill it back, while regular digging would block the waterway, defeating the entire purpose of the effort. So engineers are thinking of changing the current below the surface so less sediment accumulates.

Retooling the fleet is another part of the plan. The German government wants to subsidize a retrofit of old barges to optimize them for lower water levels by 2021 — aid which is currently being reviewed by the European Union. Another project involves equipping barges with sensors to localize bumps in the riverbed.

That's the preferred course for environmentalists. Their worst-case scenario is interrupting the flow of the river with new locks, an idea revived by German Transport Minister Andreas Scheuer. It's highly controversial, and his colleagues in the Environment Ministry have rejected the plan.

But for those that ply the river like the Mnich brothers, any measure is worth considering to avoid a repeat of the situation in 2018.

As they made their way up river, they pushed their aging barge, which is better suited for low water because it's small compared to more modern boats, as fast as they could to arrive at the rocky parts before the levels could fall again.

When they got there, some rocks were sticking out of the water at the sides, but their mother was right. The river was just high enough to let them pass. AP

this day in history

1992 TROOPS KILL 24 AT ANC RALLY



At least 24 people have been killed and 150 injured when soldiers fired on an African National Congress demonstration on the border of Ciskei in South Africa.

The march was organised to demand an end to the Ciskeian military government of Brigadier Joshua Gqozo and the re-absorption of the so-called black homeland into South Africa.

The protest - led by ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa and attended by 50,000 people - began at a stadium in King William's Town, and then headed towards the Ciskeian capital of Bisho.

Brigadier Gqozo had warned he would meet force with even greater force, and his troops and police were on standby at the border.

When the demonstrators tried to cross into Ciskei, soldiers opened fire and continued firing indiscriminately into the crowd for about five minutes.

After two volleys of machine gun fire, the troops also fired rifle grenades into the gathering, spreading fear and panic among the protestors.

It has been reported that four young men were shot in the back as they attempted to run away from the firing.

A statement from Brigadier Gqozo said that his soldiers had been fired upon first and their action was in self-defence.

But a statement from the ANC denied the claims, saying the first shots were fired by the troops.

"At no time were the lives of the Ciskeian troops in danger... No warning was issued, and no attempts were made to disperse the crowd using non-lethal means," it said.

The South African foreign minister, Pik Botha, said that the ANC knew the march would end in violence.

"They knew people would be shot - they wanted people to be shot," he said in a TV interview.

The massacre seems certain to damage the negotiating process in the development of a new multi-racial and democratic constitution for South Africa.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Ciskei was one of 10 "tribal homelands" to which all blacks were to be assigned so they could not claim to be citizens of South Africa.

They were a product of apartheid and only Pretoria recognised them as independent states.

Their removal was one of the ANC's key demands before a new democratic constitution could be created in South Africa.

Negotiations between President de Klerk and the ANC did continue after the massacre, and in April 1994 Nelson Mandela, the head of the ANC, became the first black President of South Africa.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Find an outlet for any mounting frustration. You may want to tell someone how you really feel. Travel will be on your mind; however, be careful and proceed with caution as minor accidents will cause delays.

TAURUS
 Apr. 20-May. 20
 Lovers may prove unworthy of your affection. Socially, you need a fast paced form of entertainment. You may find that family members may not be too easy to get along with.

GEMINI
 May. 21-Jun. 21
 Time to deal with institutional environments, government agencies, and matters of a private nature today. Be creative in your pursuits. Romance will come through involvement with fundraising organizations.

CANCER
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Deception regarding joint finances or investments will cause upsets between family members. Losses could occur if you haven't been careful when dealing with joint financial ventures.

LEO
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 Things are looking up. Get ready to do some fancy footwork when it comes to taking care of your financial situation. You will have a great day if you just say what you feel.

VIRGO
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 Expect temper tantrums on the home front if you haven't been letting someone have their way. Try to think things through. Don't jump too quickly regarding an investment that appears to be good.

LIBRA
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 You may want to pull out some of those unfinished project you've got tucked away. Opportunities for travel and socializing are evident. Emotionally you won't see things accurately.

SCORPIO
 Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 Do not yield to children or relatives when they really don't deserve it. It's hard to stay mad if the object of the anger refuses to react. Don't divulge secret information.

SAGITTARIUS
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Don't even bother trying to get their approval on the things you want to do. Residential changes, renovations, or moves are likely to disrupt your routine. Go over your finances and figure out a solid budget.

CAPRICORN
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Have some fun, but draw the line if someone tries to fast talk their way into your heart. Don't vacillate about asking for assistance if you need it. A lot can be accomplished if you organize your time.

AQUARIUS
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 You must take care of health problems that have been lingering. You can make changes that will enhance your appearance. Unexpected events may be upsetting.

PISCES
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Get busy on those home improvement projects that you've been procrastinating about. Take part in stimulating debates that will allow you to show off your intelligence.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

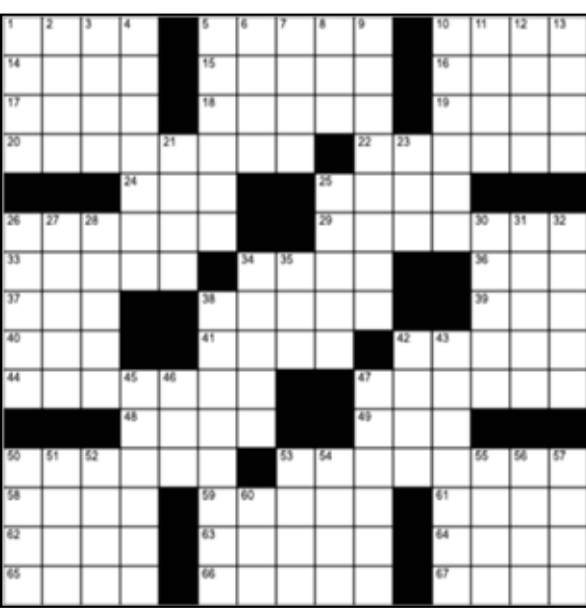
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	20	30	thundershower
Harbin	15	25	cloudy
Tianjin	22	31	thundershower
Urumqi	11	27	moderate rain
Xi'an	19	34	clear
Lhasa	12	23	cloudy
Chengdu	21	32	clear
Chongqing	22	31	cloudy
Kunming	16	23	shower
Nanjing	23	34	clear
Shanghai	24	33	clear
Wuhan	21	34	clear
Hangzhou	23	34	clear
Taipei	23	31	clear
Guangzhou	26	33	thundershower
Hong Kong	27	31	thundershower
WORLD			
Moscow	15	25	cloudy
Frankfurt	8	19	cloudy
Paris	10	20	clear
London	10	20	cloudy
New York	19	29	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Are you ___ out?; 5- Rap sheet info; 10- Chooses; 14- Filmmaker Riefenstahl; 15- Pig out; 16- Slender missile; 17- Retain; 18- Proposal; 19- Fencing sword; 20- Rapid-fire; 22- Compositions; 24- Eight-time Norris Trophy winner; 25- Grandson of Adam; 26- Twinned; 29- Purchasing option; 33- Battery terminal; 34- Desertlike; 36- Jurist Fortas; 37- Modern; 38- Chew the scenery; 39- Junior; 40- Baseball stat; 41- Cast a ballot; 42- Minor, in law; 44- Taller and thinner; 47- Bassett or Lansbury; 48- Memo opener; 49- ___ Grande; 50- Lacking skill; 53- Evening; 58- Prefix with -drome; 59- Eight singers; 61- This ___ outrage!; 62- Faculty head; 63- False; 64- Spanish muralist; 65- WWII battle site; 66- Sister of Thalia; 67- Driving aids;

DOWN: 1- Sorts; 2- Nair rival; 3- Fit for service; 4- It opens your parachute; 5- On deck, perhaps; 6- Hoist; 7- Poop; 8- What Dorian Gray didn't do; 9- Sing for; 10- Potemkin setting; 11- Father; 12- Low card; 13- Canonized Fr. women; 21- Manitoba native; 23- Non-dairy milk; 25- Best of a group; 26- Discussion group; 27- The end of ___; 28- Herbert Hoover, for one; 30- Trash; 31- Bubbling; 32- Gossipmonger; 34- Love, Italian-style; 35- Spoil; 38- Each person; 42- Nabokov novel; 43- Boastful person; 45- Japanese robe; 46- Social connections; 47- Playground retort; 50- Heels; 51- Internet writing system that popularized "pwn3d" and "n00b"; 52- Orsk's river; 53- Blues singer James; 54- Sleeveless garment; 55- Of course!; 56- Challenge to complete a task; 57- Tolkien tree creatures; 60- ___ anglais (English horn);



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>Renovated Duplex, Macau with Amazing View HK\$4,200,000 817 ft² 2 1/2 2 1/2</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>Traditional Apartment Old Taipa Village \$9,900/mth 600 ft² 2 1/2 1 1/2</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>[Macau] Retail space, Aerea Preta 170 ft² \$3,200,000 (ref: 19096003)</p> <p>[Taipa] Taipa Village (2 units) 4 1/2 2 1/2 1,404 ft² \$8,380,000 (ref: 19096006)</p> <p>[Taipa] Chun Fok apartment 2 1/2 2 1/2 834 ft² \$8,998,000 (ref: 20036002)</p> <p>[Macau] Lakeview Tower 3 1/2 2 1/2 1,344 ft² \$11,000,000 (ref: 19126001)</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>[Taipa] Studio apartment 1 1/2 1 1/2 650 ft² \$9,000/mth (ref: 20061003)</p> <p>[Coloane] Grand Coloane Resort 1 1/2 1 1/2 710 ft² \$20,460/mth (ref: 20021002)</p> <p>[Macau] One Central 2 1/2 2 1/2 1,269 ft² \$25,000/mth (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Taipa] Great View Apartment 4 1/2 2 1/2 2,060 ft² \$28,000/mth (ref: 20031001)</p>
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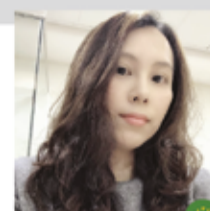
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Property of the Week



Renovated Duplex, Macau with Amazing View
HK\$4,200,000 817 ft² 2 2



A spectacular 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom duplex apartment with an unobstructed view of the Pearl River and China. On the first floor an open plan designer kitchen, a living and dining area and one toilet. On the second floor, 2 bedrooms and a bathroom. The unit has access to a private rooftop with an open view.

Find out more on www.jmlproperty.com

Property Hotlist



One Oasis, Coloane
Modern studio

\$6,357,000
691 ft²
1



Unique Ground Floor Loft
Central Macau

\$9,990,000
2,200 ft²
2 2



Traditional Apartment
Old Taipa Village

\$9,900/mth
600 ft²
2 1



Houston Court, Coloane Village

\$11,000/mth
980 ft²
1 1



More Listings

For Sale

- [Macau] Retail space, Areia Preta 170 ft² **\$3,200,000** (ref: 19096003)
- [Taipa] Taipa Village (2 connected) 4 2 1,404 ft² **\$8,380,000** (ref: 19096006)
- [Taipa] Chun Fok apartment 2 2 834 ft² **\$8,998,000** (ref: 20036002)
- [Macau] Lakeview Tower 3 2 1,344 ft² **\$11,000,000** (ref: 19126001)
- [Macau] One Central Stylish 2 2 1,349 ft² **\$14,839,000** (ref: 19096004)

For Rent

- [Taipa] Studio apartment 1 1 650 ft² **\$9,000/mth** (ref: 20061003)
- [Coloane] Grand Coloane Resort 1 1 710 ft² **\$20,460/mth** (ref: 20021002)
- [Macau] One Central 2 2 1,269 ft² **\$25,000/mth** (ref: n/a)
- [Taipa] Great View Apartment 4 2 2,060 ft² **\$28,000/mth** (ref: 20031001)
- [Taipa] Ocean Garden 4 4 3,700 ft² **\$35,000/mth** (ref: 18040674)

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Coloane house,
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Activists call for 'Mulan' boycott over star's HK stance

SYDNEY MAKI

ACTIVISTS are calling for a boycott of Disney's live-action "Mulan" remake, citing a social media post from the lead actress in support of Hong Kong police.

Pro-Democracy activists from Hong Kong to Thailand highlighted a 2019 social media post by Liu Yifei, who stars as the title character, that voiced support for the police. They're urging people to avoid the film, which launched on the Disney+ streaming platform on Friday.

"Because Disney kowtows to Beijing, and because Liu Yifei openly and proudly endorses police brutality in Hong Kong, I urge everyone who believes in human rights to #BoycottMulan," Hong Kong activist Joshua Wong tweeted on Friday.

Spokespersons for Disney didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

Liu reportedly shared a social



This image released by Disney shows Yifei Liu in the title role

media post in August 2019 amid widespread protests in the former British territory, with the caption, "I support the Hong Kong police.

You can all attack me now. What a shame for Hong Kong."

Liu, a native of China and with U.S. citizenship, toned down the

rhetoric in a February interview with The Hollywood Reporter.

"It's obviously a very complicated situation and I'm not an expert,"

she said.

The post came as police clashed with thousands of demonstrators who opposed a controversial bill that would have allowed criminal suspects to be extradited to mainland China from Hong Kong.

While protesters have since had to shift tactics due to a sweeping national security law imposed by China in June and Covid-19 restrictions, tension remains elevated. Last week, pro-democracy demonstrators gathered at a shopping mall in Hong Kong to chant slogans ahead of the one-year anniversary of a violent confrontation with police.

The film was originally slated to be released in theaters earlier this year, but was postponed amid the pandemic. Instead, Disney opted to launch it for \$30 on its streaming platform in a crucial test for the \$11 billion movie-theater business.

"A premium video-on-demand success for Disney will squeeze the traditional cinema model, forcing other studios to follow suit," according to Bloomberg Intelligence analysts Geetha Ranganathan and Amine Bensaid. They say the movie needs to be purchased 10 million times just to break even. **BLOOMBERG**

Indictment accuses 12 of illegally trading shark fins

FEDERAL authorities in the U.S. said late last week that they have charged 12 people and seized nearly \$8 million in cash, jewels and precious metals after disrupting a criminal enterprise that dealt drugs and sold illegally harvested shark fins to buyers overseas.

U.S. Attorney Bobby Christine of Georgia's Southern District said that what began five years ago as a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service investigation into ille-

gal shark fin trading led to authorities "dismantling a major conspiracy" also involved in illegal marijuana trafficking and money laundering.

"This operation is about much more than disrupting the despicable practice of hacking the fins off of sharks and leaving them to drown in the sea to create a bowl of soup," Christine told a news conference in Savannah.

An indictment in U.S. District Court says that Terry Xing Zhao Wu ran a

company called Serendipity Business Solutions in Burlingame, California, that smuggled shark fins into the U.S. from Mexico and shipped them to Hong Kong.

Soups made from shark fins are considered a delicacy in some Asian countries, and that demand has fueled an illegal practice of catching sharks at sea, removing their fins and then dumping the maimed animals back into the water to die.

The indictment says Wu used a front company in Florida to ship at least 12,500 pounds (5,670 kilograms) of dried shark fins to Hong Kong through the Port of Savannah in 2016 and 2017. Prosecutors said Phoenix Fisheries of Panama City, Florida, used fake paperwork to exploit a Florida law that allows licensed dealers to sell fins from sharks that are legally caught and brought to land whole.

Wu was also involved in illegally shipping marijuana from California to Georgia and other parts of the U.S., according to the indictment.

Using third-party accounts, some of the profits were converted to precious metals and jewels to hide their illegal origins, Christine said. While making arrests in the case, he said, authorities seized more than \$3.9 million in cash, about \$3 million in gold, silver, and other metals, as

well as \$1 million in diamonds.

Court records did not list defense attorneys for Wu or any of the other 11 defendants indicted on conspiracy charges involving wire and mail fraud, drug possession and money laundering. Christine said the investigation hasn't wrapped up and there could be more arrests.

"Make no mistake: We've hit them where it hurts and we have them on the ropes," Christine said. **AP**

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OPINION

World views

Marcus Ashworth, Bloomberg

TRUMP OR BIDEN, WHO'S BEST FOR DOLLAR VS. EURO?

Strategists at JPMorgan Chase & Co. wrote this week about the odds narrowing on a Donald Trump win in the U.S. presidential election. His opponent, Joe Biden, is still comfortably ahead in the polls, but the bank's commentary got me thinking about what impact the result might have on Europe's markets, not least on the euro. What would four more years of Trump mean for the single currency, and would a Biden presidency mean anything different?

The dollar's weakness has become a cause of angst for the European Central Bank, which doesn't have an official mandate to manage the euro but always has the currency pretty high up in its thoughts. As I've written before, a stronger euro reflects in part Europe's better performance — so far — in managing the pandemic. Having a robust currency isn't always a bad sign. The problem for the euro zone is that its economy, and Germany's in particular, is dominated by exports. A highly valued euro is potentially bad news for the region's manufacturers.

Although the euro has fallen a little this week, after reaching about \$1.20, it has still appreciated by 6% this year.

Now, Trump is no fan of a strong dollar. Indeed, the ECB's comments this week on the dollar's weakness has evoked some fears of a global currency war, as policy makers start to make minor verbal interventions on the FX markets to try to redress the balance. Nevertheless, the U.S. stock market has just had a stonking August and has hit all-time highs, so it's tempting to assume that a Trump win would be a bigger positive for equities and the greenback. Plenty of investors have done well out of this presidency.

At the same time, a Biden administration with a leftist economic agenda would ordinarily be troubling to the financial markets. While there isn't much policy detail to fret over yet, nor any clear sign of a Biden pick for Treasury Secretary, investors will be alive to the risk of a big-spending, tax-hiking Democrat government.

A progressive shift toward modern monetary theory could even spook market confidence globally, especially if there is pressure on the U.S. Federal Reserve to cross the Rubicon of monetary financing for government spending. All of this would appear to suggest that Biden might mean a weaker dollar than Trump.

However, this is to dismiss Trump's own prediction for a weaker greenback to support America's manufacturers. It also probably overestimates the market's regard for the current occupant of the White House, and the political chaos that he sometimes inflicts on the world. A Biden "sanity premium," where investors start to favor the dollar again, cannot be discounted. Equities have soared even with the Democratic challenger's healthy poll lead.

There are bigger forces than the candidates at play here, too. The clear advantage that the U.S. has enjoyed over Europe for decades in terms of economic growth and higher interest rates has diminished. So it follows that the dollar premium may well reduce regardless of who's president. It's the monster stimulus from the Fed that's the overwhelming factor driving currency markets. The world is awash in dollar liquidity; would anyone change that right now?

It's also clear that (barring a few exceptions) Europe's political leaders will far prefer the stability of a Biden regime to the diplomatic agonies of Trump, regardless of FX matters. About 15% of euro area exports head stateside, and an end to the recent spate of tariff disputes would be warmly welcomed. And even if the dollar stays low, the chances of a U.S.-euro zone currency war would be far lower with Biden in charge.

The second powerful typhoon to slam Japan in a week unleashed fierce winds and rain on southern islands yesterday, blowing off rooftops and leaving homes without power as it edged northward into an area vulnerable to flooding and mudslides.

Weather officials warned that the rainfall from what could be a record storm would be fierce. Warnings were issued days in advance for people to be ready to take shelter and stock up on food and water.

Several rivers on the main southwestern island of Kyushu were at risk of overflowing, officials said. Public broadcaster NHK TV said evacuation warnings were issued for more than 50,000 people in Okinawa and Kyushu, including Kagoshima

and Nagasaki prefectures.

The Japan Meteorological Agency said Typhoon Haishen, which means "sea god" in Chinese, was packing sustained winds of up to 162 kilometers per hour after battering Okinawa early yesterday.

Haishen was not only powerful — equivalent to a Category 2 hurricane — but also large in its reach, according to the meteorological agency.

Haishen's projected course has it hitting the Korean Peninsula later in the week. Its course is similar to Typhoon Maysak, which lashed southern Japan last week, injuring dozens of people and cutting power to thousands of homes.

BRAZIL LEADER RAPPED FOR STIRRING DOUBT ON COVID-19 VACCINE



A woman reads the results of her quick Covid-19 test in Rio de Janeiro

CRITICS of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro are again speaking out against the leader's stance on the coronavirus pandemic, this time rejecting his view that vaccination for the virus shouldn't be mandatory.

Bolsonaro's first such comments came Monday last week, when he told a supporter, "no one can force anyone to get a vaccine." He repeated it Thursday night during a live broadcast on Facebook, adding his opposition to administering vaccines that are yet to be proven on Brazilian soil.

"It has been proven in other countries, but not here in Brazil," he said, without specifying to which potential vaccine he was referring. "We cannot be irresponsible and put a vaccine into people's bodies. As I said, nobody can oblige someone to take a vaccine."

The comments were swiftly rebuked by opponents on social media.

Sao Paulo state Gov. João Doria, a former Bolsonaro ally turned foe, said on Friday that immunization cannot be viewed as a personal decision. Sao Paulo, with 46 million residents, is the pandemic's epicenter in Brazil, with its more than 30,000 dead from Covid-19 accounting for about a fourth of the country's death toll from the illness.

"It is sad that once again

Brazil's president is setting a denialist example," Doria said in a video call. "It should be obligatory, except in special cases or under health circumstances that justify not taking a vaccine. An infected person infects others, and makes possible the death of others."

Brazil's Workers' Party, an adversary of both Bolsonaro and Doria, said in a statement that the president's efforts to create an air of doubt about a future vaccine "ignores the importance of the shots to protect the health of the entire population."

The national health council, which is a branch of Bolsonaro's own health ministry, said in a statement that the government should not be talking about vaccination against Covid-19 not being mandatory.

"The right to individual liberty is not absolute to the point of being above the collective well-being," the council said.

Since the onset of the crisis, Bolsonaro has set himself against lockdowns and other broad restrictions on activity imposed by governors at the recommendation of health experts. The president called Covid-19 "a little flu," and warned that shutting down the economy would inflict a greater hardship on the millions who live hand to mouth.

Brazil's health minis-

try to date has confirmed more than 4 million cases of the disease and 125,000 deaths. Both numbers trail only the United States, according to the tally kept by Johns Hopkins University.

Because Brazil's case-load is so high, and it has a large, dispersed population of 210 million people, several vaccine developers selected the nation to conduct human trials of their products.

Bolsonaro's federal government struck an initial deal with AstraZeneca for 30 million doses of its vaccine, which could later rise to 100 million in total.

Sao Paulo's state government, meanwhile, forged an agreement with Chinese vaccine developer Sinovac for 60 million shots, if it is proven effective. But Bolsonaro supporters frequently call Covid-19 a "Chinese virus" and reject working with companies from China.

Doria said Bolsonaro's move to stir skepticism about foreign-made vaccines is a mistake.

"With one vaccine we cannot immunize the entire Brazilian population. We need two, three, maybe four, produced in large scale," the governor said. "As long as it is proven to be efficient, it doesn't matter if it is Chinese, Russian, French, American or British. What matters is that it saves lives." MDT/AP

Germany yesterday increased pressure on Russia over the poisoning of Russian opposition politician Alexei Navalny, warning that a lack of support by Moscow in the investigation could "force" Germany to rethink the fate of a German-Russian gas pipeline project.



Germany Hundreds of demonstrators protesting against gentrification clashed with police in the eastern German city of Leipzig for a third night in a row, injuring 11 officers, police said yesterday. The protests, which started Thursday night, began after police ended the squatting of two buildings in the city last week, the German news agency dpa reported.



UK WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange is set to fight for his freedom in a British court after a decade of legal drama, as he challenges American authorities' attempt to extradite him on spying charges over the site's publication of secret U.S. military documents. Lawyers for Assange and the U.S. government are scheduled to face off in London tomorrow at an extradition hearing that was delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.



Vatican Pope Francis said yesterday that gossiping is a "plague worse than COVID" that is seeking to divide the Catholic Church. Francis strayed from his prepared text to double down on his frequent complaint about gossiping within church communities and even within the Vatican bureaucracy. Francis didn't give specifics during his weekly blessing, but went on at some length to say the devil is the "biggest gossip" who is seeking to divide the church with his lies.