

The Macao SAR Government urges:

Implement regular epidemic prevention measures;
Do our best to persist;
Wash hands frequently and wear a mask;
Keep a distance and avoid crowd gathering;
Perseverance leads to success.

Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre

www.rcr-macau.com

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N.º 3645 **TUESDAY** T. 22°/28° Air Quality Good
27 Oct 2020

“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

MOP 8.00 HKD 10.00 2305 4271

A 17-YEAR-OLD TUTOR WAS ARRESTED ON ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL OFFENCES AGAINST MINORS AT A PRIMARY SCHOOL P2

JAMES PACKER'S LANDMARK CASINO OPENS WITH HIS EMPIRE IN TURMOIL P4

A COUNCIL ADVISOR IS CALLING FOR A BETTER BARBECUE APPOINTMENT SYSTEM TO PENALIZE ABSENTEES P2

China's government said yesterday it will impose sanctions on U.S. military contractors including Boeing Co.'s defense unit and Lockheed Martin Corp. for supplying weapons to rival Taiwan, stepping up a feud with Washington over security and Beijing's strategic ambitions. Raytheon Technologies Corp. and "relevant American individuals" associated with the sales also will be affected, said a foreign ministry spokesman, Zhao Lijian. He gave no details of what penalties might be imposed or when. *More on p10*



Taiwan Hundreds of people marched in Taiwan's capital this weekend to demand the release of 12 Hong Kong anti-government protesters who were arrested by mainland Chinese authorities in August. The 12 were allegedly traveling illegally by boat to Taiwan when Chinese authorities detained them. They are now facing formal charges for illegal border crossings in Shenzhen.



Thailand's Parliament began a special session yesterday that was called to address political tensions amid near daily pro-democracy protests demanding the prime minister's resignation, constitutional changes and reforms to the monarchy. Even as lawmakers debated, the student-led rallies were set to continue with a march through central Bangkok to the German Embassy, apparently to bring attention to the time King Maha Vajiralongkorn spends in Germany.

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BREAK EVEN

Analyst hints Sands China could be approaching break even in Macau this month on more volume of 'high-quality, high-frequency customers' P5



BLOOMBERG



LYNZY VALLES

MIF
JOINT EXHIBITIONS CLOSE DEALS FOR OVER 100 PROJECTS P2



AP PHOTO

HEALTH OFFICIALS ASSURE FLU SHOT STILL SAFE P3

MANY TOUR GUIDES CLAIM DISMISSAL PRIOR TO NEW WAGE LAW

Some of the city's tour guides claim they have been dismissed because of the new minimum wage law which will come into effect next month, according to a report by public broadcaster TDM. Wu Keng Kuong, president of the Travel Industry Council of Macau, said that as of today, approximately 200 tour guides have been dismissed due to the effect of the future minimum wage law. It was reported that, because the new law set the city's minimum wage at 6,656 patacas, concerned companies felt they were under more financial pressure when paying the basic wage of a tour guide. According to Wu, during the past 12 months, tour guides, tourism bus drivers and outbound travel guides have received between 2,000 and 3,000 patacas in basic salary per month. Wu expects the tourism sector to dismiss approximately 1,000 people in the upcoming months. The same report cited another senior official within the tourism sector, Wu Wai Fong, president of the Macau Tourist Guide Association. According to Wu, 90% of tour guides are freelancers. She has not heard any news on dismissals related to the remaining 10%, who are contracted with a travel agency.

LAWMAKER CONCERNED OVER PROPOSED LOCATIONS FOR HAZARDOUS STORAGE

Lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong has once again written an interpellation to the local government asking about the proposed locations for the storage of hazardous items. In his interpellation, Ng asked questions regarding the locations of several proposed facilities, including a logistic station, fuel storage, and hazardous item storage. In Ng's opinion, the government's previous responses have not been certain on the proposed selection of these locations. The lawmaker urges the government to complete the plans for and design of the locations, as well as to arrange a construction schedule for these projects.

COMPLETION OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT STUDY EXPECTED IN 2020

The Macau SAR government is planning to complete a study on Macau's marine ecological environment, the city's marine authority stated in a reply to lawmaker Sulu Sou's interpellation. Previously, Sou asked about the multiple discoveries of deceased Indo-Pacific humpbacked dolphins along Macau's coastal area. The Marine and Water Bureau said that the dead dolphins were believed to have died months before they were washed into Macau's beach. The animal remains are normally heavily decayed, which makes it difficult to confirm their cause of death. The same department also explained that dolphins appearing near Macau's waters normally do so because they socialize or hunt for food in this area, rather than because their habitat is in Macau's waters.

Joint exhibitions close deals for over 100 projects

LYNZY VALLES

THREE government exhibitions have arranged the signing of over 100 projects across a three-day event, which attracted some 30,000 visitors.

The number of attendees, provided by the organizer, Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute, is about half of the visitors to last year's exhibition, which totaled around 70,000.

Figures provided by the organizer show that over 670 negotiation sessions took place both online and offline at the 25th Macao International Trade and Investment

Fair (MIF), the Macao Franchise Expo 2020, and the 2020 Portuguese Speaking Countries Products and Services Exhibition (Macao), which were held jointly this year.

The 100 projects that were signed involved the introduction of made-in-Macau products and Portuguese-speaking countries' products to the sales channel of local e-commerce platforms, among other scientific research collaboration projects.

The MIF saw an increase in participation this year from local small and medium-sized enterprises

(SMEs) as it focused on local SMEs to create business opportunities.

With a budget of 50 million patacas, the event held more than 50 activities including forums, conferences, and promotional seminars.

Also this year, the three exhibitions set up an online platform where more than 1,100 exhibitors presented in excess of 4,300 exhibits.

In addition to on-site matching sessions, this year's exhibitions also offered online business matching and online protocol signing services.

Themed matching activities for targeted users were

also arranged.

Meanwhile, the 2020 International Trade and Investment Forum and Forum on Chain and Franchise Business Opportunities of International Brands was held. Under the theme of "Co-creation of Beneficial and Brand-New Business Opportunity with Exploration of the Digital Economy", professionals in digital marketing services, famous brand designers and brand operation directors shared insights into how to make use of digital tools for marketing purposes.

IPIM has announced that the Macao Franchise Expo 2021 will be held from July 30 to August 1 2021, while the 26th MIF, titled the 2021 Portuguese Speaking Countries Products and Services Exhibition (Macao) is scheduled for October 21-23, 2021.

TEENAGE TUTOR ARRESTED FOR SEXUAL OFFENCES AGAINST MINORS

A 17-year-old part-time tutor at an education center in the northern district was arrested by the Judiciary Police (PJ) on allegations of having committed sexual offences against four underage girls.

According to police, the alleged perpetrator is a local resident studying at a secondary school in the same district, who had only started tutoring at the education center about a month ago.

On October 22, one of the girls reported to the administrator of the education center, saying that she had been inappropriately touched by the tutor.

In response to this report, the administrator first suspended the tutor. The administrator then notified the girl's parents and advised them to report the matter to the police. Following an investigation, the PJ discovered three additional victims.

The Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), which has authority over education centers, condemned

the act and stated that it was taking the matter seriously.

In response to questions from the DSEJ, the administrator of the center admitted that the employment of the tutor had not been filed with the authority, although the suspect was dismissed after the incident came to light.

The DSEJ has ordered the center suspend its operations and make plans to ensure students' safety in the future. It has also made arrangements for students affected by the center's suspended operations.

According to the DSEJ, mental healthcare support has been arranged for the four students and their parents. The student who reported the case was commended by the authority for coming forward so that the authorities could quickly respond to the allegations.

The education regulator added that the center had been spot checked seven times this year, but in none of those spot checks was the suspect seen. **AL**

ADVISOR CALLS FOR BETTER BARBECUE APPOINTMENT SYSTEM

JULIE ZHU

A member of the Advisory Council of the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM), Chan Ka Leong, has urged the local government to improve its appointment mechanisms for the city's barbecue areas.

Chan's proposal specifically concerns the capacity and utilization of the barbecue facility.

Earlier this month, the IAM introduced new rules to govern the reopening of BBQ facilities at the Hac Sá Beach Park in Coloane.

The IAM required all interested parties to make an online appointment before being able to use the grillers, but the booking system only accepted local resident identification cards. This provoked backlash from many in Macau who turned to social media to vent their anger.

IAM subsequently overturned the policy and made the barbecue areas available for non-resident workers as well.

Chan complained that the

appointments are frequently booked out, but some people did not show up to use the grillers. Chan suggested that people should be charged for this waste of resources.

Chan suggested the local government create a waiting list so that when users cancel a reservation, the vacancy can be made available for those in the waiting list.

In addition, Chan believes that the government should also enable applicants to cancel or change a reservation through the appointment system.

It is Chan's opinion that the government should also reopen the barbecue area at Dr. Sun Yat Seng Municipal Park, as well as other public recreational and leisure facilities.

The barbecue areas at Cheoc Van Barbecue Park and Ká Hó Height Barbecue Park are still temporarily closed as well.

According to Chan, the IAM is currently working to improve the barbecue appointment system.

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Times

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A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

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Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

Health officials assure flu shot still safe

ANTHONY LAM

DR Alvis Lo and Dr Leong Iek Hou, officials from the government's Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center, said at yesterday's weekly press briefing that despite recent incidents concerning influenza shots in Korea, it is still safe to get vaccinated in Macau.

Recently, in South Korea, 59 people died after getting vaccinated for influenza. Although the country has chosen to carry on with the nationwide vaccination plan, Singapore has announced that it would suspend two vaccines from being administered in the country for the time being.

One of the vaccines in question, manufactured by French company Sanofi, is also used in Macau. When questioned whether Macau will follow Singapore's decision on halting the vaccination, Leong said there is not enough evidence to prove that the deaths are causally related to the flu shots in question.

The Sanofi-branded shots make up half of the world's flu shot market, and "suspending the use in Macau may cause a great problem," Leong said.

Moreover, the medical doctor explained that although Macau is using this particular type of vaccine, those in Macau have different batch numbers from those used in Korea.

According to Leong, the deceased were administered vaccines from 37 different batches, made by seven different ma-



AP PHOTO

nufacturers. No specific commonality pointing to specific medical facilities has been discovered. Therefore, "the Korean [investigation] found the probability of quality problems or procedural mistakes [that caused the deaths to be] quite low," Leong added.

She went on to encourage people to get the flu shot. "The vaccine can prevent risks of side complications or death if flu is contracted," Leong said. Mem-

bers of the population in an elevated risk category, "specifically senior and junior residents, the overweight, and the pregnant, should get the shot as early as possible."

Lo said that the risks associated with not getting the shot may be even higher for at-risk groups of people. "Due to their weaker immune systems," Lo explained, "their risks of flu-related complications may be even higher."

Leong explained that the Korean authorities have analyzed 46 out of the 59 deaths. A history of chronic illness, such as cardiovascular or cerebrovascular diseases, were present in many of the cases. They have also concluded the cause of death for the 46 deceased included arrhythmia, chronic lung disease, liver cirrhosis and tumors. As a result, Leong believes that it is difficult to draw a line between the flu shot and the deaths.

GOV'T MASK SALE ENTERS 23RD ROUND

The Coronavirus Response Center has announced that the centralized mask sale will enter its 23rd round this coming Thursday. This round of sales will end on November 27.

In this round, the arrangements will be mostly unchanged, although the office in San Kio District of the General Union of Neighborhood Associations of Macau will be dropping out. A total of 84 points of sale will remain in this round.

The Women's General Association of Macau will implement adjustments to their operation hours. The Government Health Center at São Lourenço will cease operation on October 31 and be replaced by the new facility near the São Lourenço Market on November 3.

Children's masks will only be available at government health centers.

Following Qingdao in Shandong Province, Kashgar of Xinjiang Province has been included on the Health Bureau's list of risky areas. People who have been to these two places in the preceding two weeks will now be required, upon arrival in Macau, to undergo quarantine at the designated hotels.

Due to still uncertain conditions, the health authorities have no plans to ease restrictions concerning entrants from Hong Kong for the time being, despite the city's low infection rate in recent days.

Jetfoil conservation group makes 3 proposals to save first ship of its kind

ANTHONY LAM

THE Jetfoil Conservation Concern Group has recently provided three proposals to stakeholders in attempt to save the world's first Jetfoil from being disassembled, the group announced in a recent statement.

Macau and Hong Kong residents should be familiar with the name Jetfoil, as it has run on the sea between the two cities for 45 years. The type of vessel was invented and manufactured by aircraft manufacturer Boeing as a result of a commercialization plan of military hydrofoils in 1972.

The first Jetfoil in the world, known as Jetfoil One, or Flores in Macau and Hong Kong, was launched in 1974. After its showcase mission, Jetfoil One served briefly in Hawaii in America, before being acquired by the late Dr Stanley Ho in 1978 as part of his Far East Hydrofoils Co., Ltd., the predecessor of TurboJet. Flores was retired in 2008 and has been stored in a Hong Kong shipyard since then.

The three proposals are named the Macau Barra Plan, the Macau Lai Chi Vun Plan and the Hong Kong Central and Western District Plan.

The first plan aims to integrate the ship with the Macau Maritime Museum and the A-Ma Temple in order to create a more developed tourism offering in the area. "We believe that if Flores [is placed near Barra], it will [...] connect A-Ma Temple, the museum and the art centers as an integrated tourist attraction," the group explained in a statement.

The second plan aims to make use of the vision the government outlined in the Master Urban Plan and the Cultural Affairs Bureau, to transform the Lai Chi Vun old shipbuilding facilities

into a cultural district.

The group recommends the government place Flores at the site of the old Macau Palace Casino alongside Patane, to enrich the relics displayed at the future cultural district.

On this, at an Executive Council Press Conference last week, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, André Cheong, disclosed that he had no clear answer to the public on the matter. However, he added that to his knowledge, the Marine and Water Bureau, which is not within his authority, has been taking the matter seriously and following up



COURTESY JETFOIL CONSERVATION CONCERN GROUP

the proposal.

The third proposal that the group made suggests authorities in Hong Kong place the ship in the Central and Western District Promenade between Sheung Wan and Kennedy Town.

On October 15, the Central and Western District Council of Hong Kong passed a motion to request that

the Hong Kong government coordinate with other entities for the preservation of the hydrofoil.

Weeks ago, concerns over the suspected disassembly of the ship were raised. The group called on the public to protest to TurboJet and managed to call off the suspected disassembly.

GAMING

BILLIONAIRE'S LANDMARK CASINO OPENS WITH HIS EMPIRE IN TURMOIL



Crown Resorts' Barangaroo casino and hotel in Sydney

THE landmark waterfront tower soaring high above Sydney's glistening harbor was meant to be the unmistakable legacy of one of Australia's most storied dynasties. Instead, the \$1.5 billion casino and hotel is opening just as billionaire James Packer's control of his gaming empire fades.

The twisting skyscraper, which is the city's tallest building, is hostage to an anti-money laundering probe that's embroiled Crown Resorts Ltd. - the company that for years has been synonymous with its largest shareholder, Packer.

The public inquiry, which is determining whether Crown is even fit to run the casino, has exposed broad dysfunction and governance failings that may force the 53-year-old billionaire to further distance himself from his biggest asset.

Crown's controversial ties to casino investors and gambling promoters in Macau are being investigated as part of the probe. Investigators have questioned Crown on its links to Suncity's Alvin Chau and the late Stanley Ho of SJM Holdings, among other industry personalities.

Crown was formerly in a joint venture with Lawrence Ho's Melco as one of Macau's six casino concessionaires. The Australian company completed its phased withdrawal from the Chinese gambling enclave in mid-2017.

Facing an investor backlash at Thursday's annual meeting, the casino operator this week ended a controversial agreement that

gave Packer confidential information about the company's performance not available to ordinary shareholders. His influence over the board also took a blow, with the departure of longtime loyalist John Alexander, and the resignation of Crown's deputy chairman, John Horvath, a former physician to Packer's late father.

"There needs to be an injection of new perspectives," Chairman Helen Coonan told shareholders Thursday.

"You'd hope this is a watershed moment for Packer's involvement with Crown and its governance," said Warren Staples, a senior lecturer in management at RMIT University in Melbourne who specializes in ethics and governance. "I don't know if it's the last rites of Packer, but it's a potential loss of control."

Packer didn't reply to a request for comment, sent through his private investment company, about the extent of his control over Crown, and his future association with the company.

MEDIA DYNASTY

Packer was born into a media dynasty that started amassing wealth in the early 1900s through newspapers and publishing. His father Kerry swelled the family fortune through investments in

commercial television, and built a domestic media empire that vied for influence and power with Rupert Murdoch.

Within three years of Kerry's death in 2005, James Packer sold most of the family's broadcasting and publishing stakes, as well as its cattle ranches, for more than \$5 billion and funneled much of it into the casino industry. He was Crown's chairman from 2007 to 2015.

The company's Sydney resort, on a stretch of redeveloped foreshore called Barangaroo, is due

time. The license is for 100 years and I'm hoping it will be there for a long time after that."

In direct competition with Sydney's existing casino, which is just a few hundred meters across the water and owned by Star Entertainment Group Ltd., Crown aims to draw wealthy gamblers from China and other Asian nations to its members-only tables.

CROWN'S SWOES

That strategy suffered a blow in 2016, when Chinese authorities rounded up Crown staff on the mainland and a court later convicted 19 current and former employees of illegally promoting gambling.

In mid-2019, a string of media reports alleged that criminal gangs laundered cash at Crown's casinos, and that the company used Asian junket operators with links to drug traffickers. Those reports triggered the ongoing inquiry in Sydney that has laid bare Crown's shortcomings.

Late last month, Chief Executive Officer Ken Barton testified that Crown hadn't yet analyzed the accounts that were allegedly used by money launderers. Barton said he was also unaware for years that a major junket operator had a cash desk at Crown's Melbourne casino, even though the setup posed a money-laundering risk.

The twisting skyscraper, which is the city's tallest building, is hostage to an anti-money laundering probe that's embroiled Crown Resorts

to open in December and features more than 80 luxury apartments above a six-star hotel and casino.

The intensely private Packer, who now rarely spends time in Australia, described the personal importance of the venture in the 2018 biography, "The Price of Fortune: The Untold Story of Being James Packer," for which he gave extended interviews to author Damon Kitney.

"It's a Packer family legacy," Packer said in the book. "Crown Sydney is going to be there for a long

Earlier this week as Coonan gave evidence, Patricia Bergin, the retired judge heading the inquiry, asked whether it was reasonable to conclude that Crown had "facilitated money laundering" by a "conglomerate of ineptitude, lack of attention and failing to intervene."

"Yes," Coonan replied.

'TERRIBLY PAINFUL'

In his own testimony, delivered via video link from his yacht, Packer indicated it was inevitable that the close influence he has over Crown would be diluted. When asked how Crown might be restructured, he suggested placing caps on shareholdings.

Then he said: "This has been a terribly painful and terribly shocking experience for the board, as it has been for me. I think the board will be more independent than it was in the past."

Crown's Turbulent Years

Despite his passion for the Sydney casino venture, Packer has been winding back his involvement with Crown and in 2018 announced he would step back from all commitments due to poor mental health.

His attempt last year to exit Crown entirely through a \$10 billion (\$7 billion) takeover by Wynn Resorts Ltd. fell apart. In February this year, Melco Resorts & Entertainment Ltd. scrapped a deal to buy 20% of Crown from Packer, stopping at just half that amount.

Packer still owns about 36% of Crown - worth about \$2 billion - through his private investment company, Consolidated Press Holdings.

Crown stock is down 29% this year - a casualty of the coronavirus pandemic that's triggered lockdowns and closed Australia's borders. It's also been hit by the revelations from Bergin's inquiry and the announcement this week that the financial-crimes regulator is separately investigating a potential breach of anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing rules at Crown.

It's too early to expect the company's Sydney license to be in jeopardy, Bryan Raymond, a Citigroup Inc. analyst, said in a report this week.

Still, Bergin has been tasked with assessing if Crown is suitable to run the new casino, and what changes the company would need to make if it has fallen short. If she follows Packer's own advice and recommends ownership limits, he might be forced to sell Crown shares and largely decouple himself from the company. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

LVS betting on Macau operations in business recovery

LYNZY VALLES

CASINO operator Las Vegas Sands Corp. (LVS) has recorded October as its strongest month since August, highlighting the return of its patrons to Macau who are "high-quality, high-frequency customers."

According to Sheldon Adelson, chairman and chief executive officer of the company, operating losses reduced sequentially over the second quarter in its Macau operations. However, the third quarter results are not representative of its current business trajectory, he said in a call with investors last week.

Macau subsidiary Sands China reported a net loss of \$562 million in the third quarter of this year, an increase from the \$549 million loss recorded in the second quarter.

"As the resumption of visa issuance across all provinces in China only commenced toward the end of September, the initial stages of recovery since then have been very encouraging. During the Golden Week, we saw meaningful recovery across the different seg-

BLOOMBERG



ments of our Macau operations," he said.

Business volumes in the premium mass segment enjoyed the most significant resurgences.

The chairman noted that business volumes in the premium mass segment in its Macau operations have been leading revenue generation at this stage of the recovery.

At current gambling levels, Sands Macau is slightly profitable so far in October, reported Bloomberg, citing analyst David Katz.

"The indications that the company could be approaching break-even in Macau, coupled with the continued confidence the market access should progress in the coming months, should be taken positively by the market," David Katz, an analyst at Jefferies LLC, said in a report.

The company managed to narrow its loss in the third quarter from the preceding three months. Las Vegas Sands reported a loss of 67 cents a share for the period, ex-

cluding some items, a smaller deficit than the 74 cents analysts were predicting.

Shares in Sands gained as much as 8.3% in New York on Thursday, the biggest increase since August 10, and continued to rise into Friday.

On the same call, Grant Chum, CEO of Sands China Ltd. said that, principally based on the premium mass recovery, for the month of October to date, the gaming operator's non-rolling drop per day is just

over \$20 million – which is about 30% of last year's level.

"After Golden Week, we had the expected lull in the second week of October, but then we saw a very notable rebound in the third week. In fact, in the third week, we are actually still averaging around or just under a \$20 million drop per day as well," he added.

The executive said that they have seen a resurgence in the retail mall sales, most particularly in the Four Seasons in the luxury segment, adding that the retail recovery actually began in September and has continued into October.

Chum also commented that base mass is relatively low in terms of traffic, as the overall visitation in the SAR remains low.

"We're confident that the base mass will follow as visitation recovers. As for the VIP segment, obviously, that's been slower in terms of the recovery. That's expected."

Robert Goldstein, president and chief executive officer of LVS, has also expressed confidence about the future prospects in Macau, noting that China has had a sustainable recovery that could be transferred to Macau in the future.

"But if I'm to make a bet, I'd bet on Macau [making] much quicker of a recovery than Las Vegas. Vegas has some challenges, whereas Macau just has to have that barrier come down and let people come in. That's all there is," said the executive.

AD

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João Guedes will transport us back to Macao Society two centuries ago, through the eyes of Harriet Low a young socialite and diarist, who lived in Macao between 1829 & 1833. This is not an evening to miss!

As the only young unmarried foreign woman in the colony, Harriet Low found herself quite the Society Sweetheart. She befriended employees of the East India Company; dined in the company of Robert Morrison; and was painted by George Chinnery. At that time, women were not allowed into China, but she and her aunt dressed as boys sailed to Canton, becoming the first western women to enter the Mainland.

João Guedes is an author of several books and presenter of TV documentaries on the history of Macau. He is also a correspondent to various Portuguese and international TV stations, newspapers, magazines and news agencies such a Portuguese RTP, American CNN and French "Agence France Presse".

MFE 澳門國際品牌連鎖加盟展
Exposição de Franquia de Macao
Macao Franchise Expo

MIF 第二十五屆澳門國際貿易投資展覽會
25ª FEIRA INTERNACIONAL DE MACAU
25ª MACAO INTERNATIONAL TRADE & INVESTMENT FAIR

PLPEX 葡語國家產品及服務展(澳門)
EXPOSIÇÃO DE PRODUTOS E SERVIÇOS DOS PAÍSES DE LÍNGUA PORTUGUESA (MACAU)
Portuguese Speaking Countries Products and Services Exhibition (Macau)

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OPINION

China Daily

Xinhua Editors

FORMING CLIQUE AND FLEXING MUSCLES ONLY TO SHAKE REGIONAL PEACE, STABILITY

Australia's decision this week to rejoin the military Exercise Malabar 2020 set for November was highlighted as a clique flexing muscles in the Asian-Pacific region.

The decision, announced after the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (the Quad) held in Tokyo, has pulled Australia militarily back into the Quad, an informal strategic forum originally formed by the United States, Japan, Australia and India in 2007.

Some Western media, joined by the Indian ones, have reported that this year's Malabar drill "is expected to irk China" or in provocative words of the kind, making the Quad seemed more like an "anti-China bloc."

There is no reason for China to be messed around with such baseless speculations as China, though having taken note of the latest development, has made it clear that military cooperation between countries should be conducive to regional peace and stability.

Thus, regional situation should be taken into account when a drill is schemed and the motivation behind it explored.

After a long-time hiatus, the Quad reconvened in 2017 when the United States proposed the so-called Indo-Pacific strategy on the East Asia cooperation, which, based on an obsolete Cold War mentality, is aimed at stoking geopolitical competition and confrontation so as to contain the region's development.

As the Asia-Pacific region remains embroiled in myriad challenges at various levels brought by the ravaging COVID-19 pandemic, what the region needs the most is solidarity, peace and stability.

Highly-sensitive actions or disruptive attempts such as a motivated massive drill will only create tension and confrontation and act counter to the will of the people in the region.

Against this backdrop, the upcoming military drill, the first to include all four Quad members since 2017, seems more like, at least judging from the Quad countries' mainstream media reports, a sign that the bloc is mulling military and security cooperation for self-serving political interests.

The Cold War mentality is as poisonous as history has proven. Asia-Pacific countries should jointly resist such a detrimental mentality and team up to promote peace and development for their own good.

Meanwhile, the Quad members need to realize that attempting to stir up rivalry in the region goes against the trend of the times and will definitely not be accepted by major countries worldwide.

As COVID-19 is still raging, it is imperative that all Asia-Pacific countries join hands to battle the pandemic and facilitate economic recovery. Some countries' attempts to advocate a Cold War mentality and create chaos in the region will only shoot themselves in the foot.

Peace and cooperation remain as the dominant trend in the Asia-Pacific region as well as in the rest of world. However, uncertainties have also multiplied due to the deliberate manipulation by some powers. Therefore, it is more urgent that countries in the region solve disputes through dialogue and negotiation and enhance mutual trust so as to promote regional peace and stability.

AP PHOTO



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (left) and Defense Secretary Mark Esper

POMPEO, ESPER TO PUSH TRUMP'S ANTI-CHINA MESSAGE IN INDIA

MATTHEW LEE & ASHOK SHARMA, WASHINGTON

JUST a week before November's election, two of President Donald Trump's top national security aides will visit India for meetings focused largely on countering China's growing global influence. As the bitter race between Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden winds down, the talks this week in New Delhi aim to reinforce the president's anti-China campaign message.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defense Secretary Mark Esper will meet their Indian counterparts for strategic and security talks today, after which Pompeo will travel on to Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Indonesia. All of them are contending with a tug-of-war between Washington and Beijing that has intensified as Trump seeks to paint Biden as weak on China.

Trump has played up his friendship with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his re-election bid but may have set his case back with an off-the-cuff remark about climate change at his Thursday debate with Biden. "Look at China, how filthy it is. Look at Russia. Look at India, it's filthy. The air is filthy." he said, defending his decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord.

Whether offense will be taken by the Indians or whether it will affect Pompeo and Esper's mission is not clear. Yet, regardless of election considerations, it is a critical time in the U.S.-India relationship as China looms large over what Washington has labeled the Indo-Pacific region.

Heightened border tensions between New Delhi and Beijing have only added to Chinese-American animosity that has been fueled by disputes over the coronavirus, trade, technology, Taiwan, Tibet, Hong Kong, human rights and disputes between China and its smaller neighbors in the South China Sea. Those competing maritime and territorial claims will figure prominently at Pompeo's last stop in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, India is looking to emerge from a shell of internal issues, including unrest in the Himalayan region of Kashmir, as it faces twin threats from China and Pakistan.

Tuesday's meetings come amid a recent flareup in military tensions between India and China over disputed mountainous border with tens of thousands of their soldiers in a standoff since May. Trump has offered to help defuse tensions but has yet to receive any indication of interest from either side. India and China fought

a month-long war over the region at the height of the Cuban Missile Crisis in the fall of 1962 and some fear a similar confrontation before this winter sets in.

Pompeo has made no secret of the Trump administration's desire to isolate China. Asked about his trip, Pompeo said last week: "I'm sure that my meetings will also include discussions on how free nations can work together to thwart threats posed by the Chinese Communist Party."

Ahead of Pompeo and Esper's visit, Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun visited New Delhi last week and called China "an elephant in the room," stressing that Washington is keen to advance India's interests in the region, build a free and open Indo-Pacific, and counter risks posed by Chinese high-tech telecommunication networks that the U.S. sees as central to China's predatory economic activity.

"We will take every opportunity to really advocate for a strong digital economy and partnership in the countries where we're going and seek support of the Clean Networks, which we think works to every country's advantage," said Dean Thompson, the top U.S. diplomat for South Asia.

Since Trump became president, the U.S. and India

have steadily ramped up their military relationship. When Trump visited India in February, the two sides concluded defense deals worth over \$3 billion. Bilateral defense trade has increased from near zero in 2008 to \$15 billion in 2019.

Still India is wary of being drawn into the fight between the world's two largest economies. G. Parthasarthy, a retired Indian diplomat, said India was not interested in becoming a front-line state against China. "It is a move to balance the growing Chinese power in this area. The India-China border issue is not going to go away with the Chinese claims increasing," he said.

The talks in New Delhi today follow a meeting that Pompeo had earlier this month in Tokyo with his counterparts from India, Japan and Australia, which together make up the four Indo-Pacific nations known as "the Quad." The Quad is seen as a counterweight to China, who critics say is flexing its military muscle throughout the region.

Pompeo will head back to Washington by way of Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Indonesia during which he plans to press each nation to push back in Chinese assertiveness. He's also expected to raise human rights issues at each stop. AP

ADVERTORIAL

SANDS CHINA NEWS

Sands Cares Ambassador Programme Celebrates 11 Years and Inaugurates New Working Committee

The Sands Cares Ambassador programme celebrated its 11th anniversary with a ceremony at The Venetian Macao Sept. 16, featuring the inauguration of the new Sands Cares Ambassador Working Committee.

Over 100 team members and guests attended the event, including representatives from the China Liaison Office, the Macao SAR government, and local community partners, as well as Sands China executives.

"Sands China is very proud of our Sands Cares Ambassadors, who have been giving up their free time to do volunteer work to help others, particularly society's more vulnerable groups," said Dr. Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd. "As we celebrate 11 successful years of the programme, we are excited to use this occasion to officially inaugurate its working committee, so that we can organise various community activities for our ever-expanding team of 3,300 volunteers in a more effective and efficient manner. We will continue to contribute and give back to society, while injecting more positive energy into the community."

To better cope with the expansion of Sands China's volunteer service and the growth of its volunteer team, a Sands Cares Ambassador Working Committee has been set up. The new committee recognises talented Ambassadors and offers them opportunities for personal development, such as taking on project leadership roles for Sands Cares events. It also aims to organise more community activities with the overall goal of serving more people in the community.

The inauguration of the committee included an oath-taking ceremony for the new committee members, administered by representatives from the Liaison Office of the Central People's government in the Macao SAR, the Social Welfare Bureau, and Sands China.

The Sands Cares Ambassador programme is part of Sands Cares, the global corporate citizenship programme of Las Vegas Sands Corp.



Chinese leaders focus on tech as they make 5-year plan

JOE McDONALD, BEIJING

CHINESE leaders met yesterday to formulate an economic blueprint for the next five years that is expected to emphasize development of semiconductors and other technology at a time when Washington is cutting off access to U.S. technology.

President Xi Jinping's government is working to promote self-sustaining growth supported by domestic consumer spending and technology development as tensions with trading partners hamper access to export markets and technology.

The ruling Communist Party wants Chinese industry to rely on domestic suppliers and consumers, a strategy it calls "dual circulation." Economists warn that while this might help to reduce disruption of trade disputes with the United States and other partners, it will raise costs and hurt productivity.

The Five-Year Plan, the 14th in a series issued since the 1950s, is the foundation for government industrial plans in the heavily regulated economy. Its broad outlines are due to be announced after the meeting ends Thursday but the full plan won't be released until March. Legal and regulatory changes and plans for individual industries will follow.

Innovation will "drive China's manufacturing industry and push it up the global value chain while strategically ensuring domestic supply," the official Global Times newspaper said. "Achieving independence in key areas, such as scientific research and finance, is expected to be a focus."

The latest plan is expected to emphasize domestic development of semiconductors for computers and smartphones — China's biggest single import by value — next-generation telecoms, artificial intelligence and other fields.

The ruling party has promoted semiconductor development for two decades but Chinese makers of smartphones and other products still rely on the U.S., Europe and Japan for processor chips. Beijing feels increased pressure after the Trump administration cut off access to most American supplies for Huawei Technologies Ltd., a global maker of smartphones and switching equipment, in a feud over technology and security.

"While the biggest challenge for Beijing five years ago was a weak economy, the one today is a potential decoupling with the U.S.," Macquarie economists Larry Hu and Xinyu Ji said in a report.

Decoupling is a concept that has gained attention as the Trump administration has pushed American companies to return manufacturing to the U.S. and rely less heavily on production in China.

Likewise, Beijing's plan is likely to emphasize "lower reliance on foreign suppliers for strategic products such as food, energy, semiconductor and other key technologies," Hu and Ji wrote.

China, where the pandemic began in December, became the first major economy to begin the struggle of economic recovery after the ruling party declared victory over the disease in March.

Automakers and other major industries are back to normal production. Consumer spending edged back above pre-virus levels in the quarter ending in September.

The push for self-sufficiency might hamper economic growth by diverting resources away from more productive uses, Julian Evans-Pritchard and Sheana Yue of Capital Economics said in a report.

"Pursuing self-sufficiency may still be rational as a form of insurance against aggressive decoupling by the U.S. and its allies," they wrote. "But China's economy would be better off if such insurance weren't needed in the first place." AP

POST-ABE AGENDA

Suga says Japan to go carbon-free by 2050

MARI YAMAGUCHI,
TOKYO

JAPAN will achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga declared yesterday, outlining an ambitious agenda as the country struggles to balance economic and pandemic concerns.

The policy speech at the outset of the parliamentary session was Suga's first since he took office on Sept. 16 after his boss Shinzo Abe resigned over health reasons. It reflects Suga's pragmatic approach to getting things done, though it's unclear he will have the political heft needed to overcome vested interests in weaning this resource-scarce nation from its reliance on imports of oil and gas.

Suga just returned from a trip last week to Vietnam and Indonesia, where he pushed ahead with Abe's efforts to build closer ties and promote a regional vision for countering growing Chinese influence.

Now out of Abe's shadow, back home Suga has been pumping out consumer-friendly policies. He has earned a reputation as a cost cutter.

He said he intends to make a sustainable economy a pillar of his growth strategy and "put maximum effort into achieving a green society." That includes achieving a carbon-free society by 2050.

The European Union and Britain have already set similar targets for net-zero greenhouse gas emissions, and China recently announced it would become carbon-free by 2060. Japan previously targeted a 80% reduction by 2050.

Suga portrayed the need to shift away from fossil fuels to counter climate change as an opportunity rather than a burden.

"Global warming measures are no longer obstacles for economic growth, but would lead to industrial and socio-economic reforms and a major growth," he said. "We need to change our mindset."

Japan's current energy plan, set in 2018, calls for 22-24% of its energy to



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga

come from renewables, 20-22% from nuclear power and 56% from fossil fuels such as oil, coal and gas.

Progress toward reducing reliance on fossil fuels has been hindered due to the prolonged closures of most of Japan's nuclear plants after the meltdown of the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant due to the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in the northeastern Tohoku region.

Energy experts are now discussing revisions to Japan's basic energy plan for 2030 and 2050. The 2050 emissions-free target would require drastic changes and likely prompt calls for more nuclear plant restarts.

About 40% of Japan's carbon emissions come from power companies, and they must use more renewable sources of energy while stepping up development of technologies using hydrogen, ammonia and other carbon-free resources, experts say.

Suga said he will speed up research and development of key technologies such as next generation solar batteries and carbon recycling. He also promised to reduce Japan's reliance on coal-fired energy by promoting conservation and maximizing renewables, while promoting nuclear energy.

Environmental groups welcomed his announcement. "Carbon neutrality is no longer a lofty, faraway dream, but a necessary commitment," in line with international climate chan-

ge agreements, Jennifer Morgan, Executive Director of Greenpeace International, said in a statement.

In the short term, Japan's top priority is to curb the pandemic while reviving the economy, Suga said.

Turning to Japan's biggest long-term problem, a low birthrate and shrinking population, Suga reiterated a pledge to provide insurance coverage for infertility treatments. He also said he would promote paternity leaves for working fathers to ease the burden of child-rearing and home-making on working mothers. He promised more help for single-parent households, more than half of which are living in poverty.

Among other highlights, Suga said:

—The Japan-U.S. alliance, a cornerstone of Japanese diplomacy and security, is key to achieving a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" regional economic and security framework to counter China's sway.

—Japan, meanwhile, seeks to have stable ties and cooperate with China.

—Japan is open to meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to resolve conflicts over abductions of Japanese citizens years ago and wartime compensation and to normalize diplomacy with Pyongyang.

—South Korea is "an extremely important neighbor," but it should drop its demands for compensation over Korean wartime forced laborers to restore "healthy" bilateral rela-

tions.

Since taking office Suga has crafted a populist and pragmatic image, winning public support for his relatively modest background and low-profile, hardworking style.

He has ordered his Cabinet to step up implementation of pet projects such as lowering cellphone rates and accelerating use of on-line government, business and medical services.

"I will break administrative divisions, vested interests and bad precedents to push for reforms," Suga said.

But he also said Japanese should try to help themselves before looking to the government for assistance, in line with what experts say is a conservative stance that is unsympathetic to the disadvantaged.

Suga is best known for his effectiveness in corralling powerful bureaucrats to force through Abe's policies.

His hardline approach has sometimes drawn criticism. Earlier this month, he was accused of seeking to muzzle dissent by choosing not to appoint six professors out of a slate of 105 to the state-funded Science Council of Japan.

The flap triggered massive protests from academics and took the public support rating for his Cabinet down about 10 points to just above 50%.

Opposition lawmakers are expected to raise the issue during the 41-day session through Dec. 5. AP

this day in history

1968 POLICE CLASH WITH ANTI-WAR PROTESTERS



Trouble has flared in Grosvenor Square, London, after an estimated 6,000 marchers faced up to police outside the United States Embassy.

The protesters had broken away from another, bigger, march against US involvement in Vietnam but were confronted by a wall of police.

The breakaway group, led by the Maoist Britain-Vietnam Solidarity Front was almost thwarted by the march organisers who were aware of the plan and feared violence would erupt.

Once in Grosvenor Square the protesters formed a human chain and charged at the police wall but failed to break through and, after three hours of stalemate, they all dispersed.

In the streets surrounding the square fireworks and other missiles were thrown but no injuries were caused and police considered them to be isolated incidents.

The rest of the march, organised by the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign (VSC), continued peacefully to Hyde Park.

At Downing Street, Tariq Ali of the VSC, handed in a petition, signed by 75,000 to ask the government to stop supporting the US in its war against Vietnam.

The Home Secretary, James Callaghan, praised the demonstration saying "self-control was shown by the mass of the demonstrators".

He also praised the discipline and restraint shown by police.

"I doubt if this kind of demonstration could have taken place so peacefully in any other part of the world," he said.

Security for the march was high. A thousand-strong team of police was stationed outside the US Embassy and policemen lined the route of the march with back-up following in coaches.

The turnout for the march was around 25,000, half the number predicted by police and organisers.

But, far from being disappointed at the low turnout Mr Ali said: "This is not the end. This is the beginning of the campaign."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Security for the march was high after police were criticised for failing to contain a similar demonstration at the US Embassy in March which ended with over 300 arrests. The last American troops left Vietnam on 29 March 1973. The following year there were frequent violations of the peace treaty. In 1975, fullscale warfare resumed between North and South Vietnam -without American intervention. In 1976 the first elections were held to a National Assembly, finally reuniting North and South.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Start thinking more specifically about your future plans, too. Sure, you want all the perks, but what should your responsibilities be? Picture your success and you'll get one step closer to it.

TAURUS
 Apr. 20-May. 20
 You're especially open-minded about trying new foods right now because your sense of adventure is strong. This is a wonderful time to explore even if it has to be virtually for now.

GEMINI
 May. 21-Jun. 21
 When a mistake happens today, you need to be the voice of authority. Help people focus on what needs to be fixed rather than trying to figure out who to blame.

CANCER
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 There will have to be a certain amount of give and take in your world today. And despite your usual generous disposition, it's going to be you who has to do most of the taking.

LEO
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 The connection you're developing with someone doesn't have to be just about romance. It could be about personal growth, too. Try not to sell this thing short!

VIRGO
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 The title isn't worth the stress it requires. If you want to keep harmony in your life, you need to adjust the expectations you have for yourself. Requiring a little bit less enables you to succeed a little bit more.

LIBRA
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 You two will work well together, and you should think about future endeavors, too. They will know how to challenge you in a way that brings out the best in your creativity and your critical thinking.

SCORPIO
 Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 It's possible to join in on some fun and still get all of your work done, but it will require excellent time-management skills. As long as you know your limits and stick to them, you should be fine.

SAGITTARIUS
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 First, be confident about who you are, and stop trying to assume a role of the person you think people want you to be. Just be the person you are. People are attracted to genuineness.

CAPRICORN
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Going faster doesn't mean you will get to the good stuff more quickly. It just means that you'll abandon the good stuff you already have more quickly.

AQUARIUS
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 Your plans don't need to be kept secret in order to succeed, so feel free to spread the word! Let everyone who cares about you know what is up your sleeve.

PISCES
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Nip this thing in the bud and remind them that you have just as much power as they do but don't boss them around. You're not about to do what they tell you to do just because they say so.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

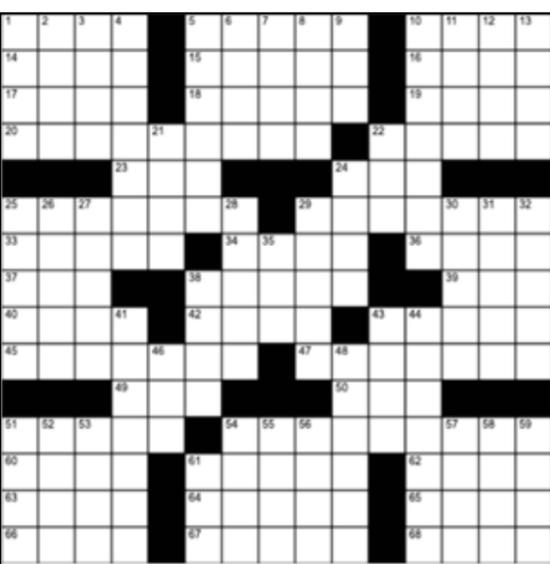
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	7	17	clear
Harbin	2	9	cloudy
Tianjin	9	16	clear
Urumqi	2	13	clear
Xi'an	12	17	drizzle
Lhasa	3	17	cloudy
Chengdu	16	19	overcast
Chongqing	17	19	drizzle
Kunming	12	23	cloudy
Nanjing	13	22	cloudy
Shanghai	16	22	overcast
Wuhan	13	22	cloudy
Hangzhou	15	24	cloudy
Taipei	22	26	cloudy
Guangzhou	19	30	clear
Hong Kong	23	28	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	7	9	overcast
Frankfurt	6	9	overcast
Paris	8	11	cloudy
London	7	10	clear
New York	13	16	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Encourage in wrongdoing; 5- Trivial objection; 10- Canines; 14- Mother of Ares; 15- Cover story; 16- Skeptic's scoff; 17- Acquire through work; 18- Summarize; 19- Actress Singer; 20- Precursor to the rifleman; 22- Conger catcher; 23- Before; 24- Sleep stage; 25- Soon; 29- Illness; 33- Clear the boards; 34- Intentions; 36- Rent-___; 37- Not neg.; 38- Journalist Pyle; 39- Falsehood; 40- Ratio words; 42- Hitch; 43- Tropical fruit; 45- Declares positively; 47- Left out; 49- Performed; 50- Body shop fig.; 51- Violently intense; 54- Not changed; 60- For one; 61- Tend; 62- Capital of Italy; 63- Course list?; 64- Gnu cousin; 65- Writer Bombeck; 66- NASA launch vehicle; 67- Indian soldier in British service; 68- Actress Cannon;

DOWN: 1- Attention getter; 2- Bridges of Hollywood; 3- Goes wrong; 4- Large ships; 5- Bloc; 6- Sheltered, nautically; 7- Immoral habit; 8- Girder type; 9- Guff; 10- Quandary; 11- Ancient Greek coin; 12- Richard of "Chicago"; 13- Agitate; 21- Romain de Tiroff, familiarly; 22- Serpentine swimmer; 24- Stand; 25- Brown pigment; 26- ___ Perot; 27- Brewery kilns; 28- Tall tales; 29- Buddy; 30- Dazzling display; 31- Ingenuous; 32- Walk; 35- ___ fix; 38- Cornerstone abbr.; 41- Legendary king of Thebes; 43- Essence; 44- Spoke; 46- Free; 48- Aria; 51- Hindu hero; 52- Parrot; 53- Mother Hubbard's quest; 54- River to the Ubangi; 55- Type of tide; 56- ___ extra cost; 57- Actor Calhoun; 58- Austen novel; 59- Faculty head; 61- Paris possessive;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



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HK\$8,380,000 1,404 ft² 4 2 2

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Villa da Taipa, Taipa
\$13,000/mth 1,450 ft² 3 2 2

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

FOR SALE/ RENT

- [Taipa] *Unique Studio* 1 1 1
650 ft² **\$3,780,000** (ref: 20076001)
- [Taipa] *Hoi Wan Garden* 2 1 1
900 ft² **\$4,900,000** (ref: 19106003)
- [Taipa] *Houston Court* 1 1 1
980 ft² **\$10,800/mth** (ref: 20091001)
- [Coloane] *Grand Coloane Resort* 1 1 1
710 ft² **\$16,500/mth** (ref: 20021002)

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

CHINA TO SANCTION BOEING, RAYTHEON OVER ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN

CHINA will impose unspecified sanctions on the defense unit of Boeing Co., Lockheed Martin Corp., and Raytheon Technologies Corp. after the U.S. approved \$1.8 billion in arms sales to Taiwan last week.

The sanctions will be imposed "in order to uphold national interests," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told reporters yesterday in Beijing. "Boeing Defense" would be among those sanctioned, he said.

The State Department last week approved \$1.8 billion in new weapons for Taiwan and submitted the package to Congress for a final review. The submission comes two months after the U.S. and Taiwan completed the sale of 66 new model F-16 Block 70 aircraft from Lockheed, and as tensions between the two superpowers continue to escalate ahead of the American election.

Boeing Defense is one of the broader company's three business units, according to its website. Shares in Boeing, down almost 50% this year, dropped as much as 2.2% in U.S. pre-market trading.

A spokesperson for Boeing em-

BLOOMBERG



phasized the firm's relationship with China in the aviation space. Boeing has "worked together successfully with the aviation community in China for almost 50 years to support Chinese efforts to ensure a safe, efficient and profitable aviation system to keep pace with the country's rapid economic growth."

"It's been a partnership with

long-term benefits and one that Boeing remains committed to," the spokesperson said in the emailed statement.

Representatives from Raytheon weren't immediately available for comment outside of normal U.S. business hours.

Zhao condemned Lockheed's F-16 Block 70 sale at the time, saying it violates the One China

principle, interferes in China's internal affairs and will have a "major impact" on U.S.-China relations. Taiwan's presidential office thanked the U.S for the sale. In July, China - which considers Taiwan part of its territory and resists any recognition of its de facto independence - had announced sanctions on Lockheed Martin for a previous arms sale to the island.

U.S. arms manufacturers face strict limitations on what kind of business they can do with countries deemed by Washington to be strategic rivals, such as China. Lockheed generated 9.7% of its revenue in the Asia-Pacific region last year, according to data compiled by Bloomberg, though that's not broken down by individual countries.

China has previously threatened to sanction U.S. companies, including General Dynamics Corp. and Honeywell International Inc., on numerous occasions over arms sales to Taiwan. It also warned it could blacklist FedEx Corp., while Ford Motor Co.'s main joint venture partner in China was fined 162.8 million yuan (\$24.3 million) last year, days after the U.S. put a ban on doing business with Huawei Technologies Co.

While China has often invoked the threat of putting U.S. companies on a blacklist - or list of "unreliable entities" - in response to various actions by U.S. President Donald Trump's administration over the past year, it has yet to name any, at least publicly. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

AD

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Hamilton stands alone in Formula One after 92nd victory

JEROME PUGMIRE

AFTER growing up watching Michael Schumacher's triumphs on television, Lewis Hamilton now stands above him and alone in Formula One history with 92 victories.

Hamilton's comprehensive win at the Portuguese Grand Prix on Sunday also edged him closer to a seventh F1 title, the last of Schumacher's major records left for Hamilton.

"I could only ever have dreamed of being where I am today," Hamilton said. "It's going to take some time to fully sink in. I can't find the words at the moment."

On a rainy track in Portugal, he finished nearly 25.6 seconds ahead of Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas and 34.5 clear of Red Bull's Max Verstappen for his eighth win of another dominant season. He also took an extra point for the fastest lap to extend his huge championship lead to 77 points over Bottas with just five races left.

In fact, the only person to get close to him was his father, with



whom he shared a long hug after the race.

Hamilton won his first race in 2007 and first title the following year. But his career really took off when he replaced the retired Schumacher at Mercedes in 2013. Hamilton added five more F1 titles.

"I didn't have a magic (crystal) ball when I chose to come to this team," Hamilton said.

His dad, Anthony Hamilton, then filmed the scene on his i-pad

as Hamilton stood on the podium while the crowd cheered him loudly.

"My dad is here which is amazing, my step-mum Linda is here," an emotional Hamilton said. "I feel very blessed."

Then it was time for the traditional Champagne spraying, although Verstappen and Bottas had the last word this time, as Verstappen poured the bottle over Hamilton's head and Bottas sprayed him goo-

d-naturedly in the face with his.

Hamilton took a record-extending 97th career pole position, starting ahead of Bottas and Verstappen on a track being used for the first time in F1.

McLaren's Carlos Sainz Jr. briefly held the race lead and then Bottas led until Hamilton passed him on Lap 20.

After that Hamilton coasted to the finish line and into the record books.

The only thing that did trouble him was a bout of cramp in his right calf muscle.

"Pretty painful, but I had to somehow get through it," Hamilton said.

Plenty of mask-wearing fans sat in the stands around the undulating 4.6-kilometer circuit in Portimao. The track has frequent elevation changes and notably caused drivers problems with grip — among them Charles Leclerc but the Ferrari driver did well to finish fourth in an uncompetitive car. AlphaTauri's Pierre Gasly made a great late overtake on Racing Point's Sergio Perez to take fifth place.

Hamilton made a hesitant start while Bottas was overtaken by Verstappen only to gain the position back and then overtake a surprisingly cautious Hamilton as rain started falling.

"I had a huge oversteer," Hamilton said. "I backed off massively."

Perez had a lucky escape at the start when he made contact with Verstappen and flew sideways off the track, without getting hit by another car. Kimi Raikkonen went from 16th to sixth with some typically daring moves but the 41-year-old Finn started to drift back while, up ahead, Bottas led until Hamilton overtook him.

The day belonged to Hamilton, and it appears inevitable that title No. 7 will follow suit. **AP**

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2020 WOMEN ARTISTS INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF MACAU
國際女藝術家澳門雙年展
MULHERES ARTISTAS BIENAL INTERNACIONAL DE MACAU

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Opening Hours:
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Except Monday, from 03:00pm to 08:00pm

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2020 WOMEN ARTISTS INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF MACAU
國際女藝術家澳門雙年展
MULHERES ARTISTAS BIENAL INTERNACIONAL DE MACAU

Liao Wen
China
A Slice of Human flesh Good Morning Sadness

Galeria Lisboa
Avenida da Amizade e Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, Macau
Macau Fisherman's Wharf Rossio Square, Lisbon II

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Opening Hours:
Tuesday to Saturday, from 11:00am to 01:00pm & 02:00pm to 07:00pm
Closed on Sunday and Monday

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OPINION

World Views

Lionel Laurent, Bloomberg



CURB THE BREXIT ENTHUSIASM. THE HURDLES ARE STILL HIGH

Brexit optimism is in the air. The U.K. and the European Union have resumed trade talks after a highly theatrical fallout, promising to ramp up the speed and intensity of negotiations with a view to settling on a draft deal by next month. "An agreement is within reach," EU negotiator Michel Barnier said last week, boosting the pound to its highest level against the dollar since August.

The mood is good, but the reality is complicated. What any agreement will contain is still a bit of a mystery, and that's largely because the biggest obstacles have yet to be overcome, and they're very political and very emotional ones.

It's one thing to quibble over how much of a car's components can be sourced from abroad to count as "European" for tariff purposes; it's quite another to get both sides to agree on new rules for business subsidies and social and environmental standards after 40 years of free trade. What the Brits see as their sovereign, post-Brexit right — maximum access to EU markets, minimum regulatory oversight — the EU understandably sees as an existential competitive threat. Even economically small issues such as fishing quotas are politically huge for both sides. While concessions are necessary (Reuters reports one on fisheries is looming) they're hard-won.

For a sense of how little progress has been made, look to parliamentary politics. Even as technocrats talk about tariff barriers and quotas, a draft law is working its way through the U.K. parliament that would aim to tear up the Brexit Withdrawal Agreement signed with the EU last year. That bill has prompted a rebuke from the House of Lords and the Scottish Parliament, and triggered a legal challenge from the EU. If it became law, it would likely kill all chances of a trade deal. While dismissed by some as a negotiating tactic, it does seem to chime with Prime Minister Boris Johnson's own personal indecision over what kind of deal, if any, he could sell to his domestic support base.

Over in Brussels, the EU's own parliament is also cracking the whip. In June it adopted a report on Brexit with "strict" demands on a level playing field for regulatory standards and subsidies. It has threatened to reject any treaty that doesn't respect the last point. "We will not ratify a deal at any cost," Christophe Hansen, a Christian Democrat from Luxembourg who sits in the same center-right bloc as German Chancellor Angela Merkel's party, tells me. (We don't even know yet whether all 27 EU members will have to ratify this treaty, too.)

The pressure to approve any deal will be immense for both parliaments. Time is running out before the transition period ends on Dec. 31. With so many other priorities piling up, from Covid-19 to more joint borrowing, patience will run out. The EU's member states are good at nudging their European deputies in certain directions when their interests are at stake.

But that's why the European Parliament is flexing its muscles now, rather than after a draft treaty lands in everyone's inbox. Its members meet regularly with Barnier and aren't shy about expressing concerns over their red lines. That includes fishing, with several deputies warning against giving the Brits too many concessions on single-market access to maintain quotas. "The European Parliament is really there at the negotiating table," according to Valentin Kreiling of the Jacques Delors Institute, a Paris-based think tank.

Given the importance of getting a deal that's acceptable to both sides — and considering the economic chaos a no-deal Brexit would probably unleash — political buy-in will become crucial as the clock ticks down. In an ideal world, the Brits would back down from using their parliament to overturn previously agreed treaties, while the EU's parliament would help find acceptable compromises that could be sold to constituents as better than the alternative. Now, that would call for intense negotiations.

The world's largest fintech company, China's Ant Group, will try to raise nearly \$35 billion in a massive public offering of stock that would shatter records.

Alibaba-affiliated Ant Group, which operates a suite of financial products including the widely-used Alipay digital wallet in China and one of the world's largest money market funds, will hold dual listings in Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Its Shanghai stock was priced at 68.8 yuan (\$10.26) each,

while its Hong Kong stock is priced at 80 Hong Kong dollars apiece (\$10.32), according to filings yesterday.

The company will raise about \$34.5 billion from the share offering, which is expected to surpass oil company Saudi Aramco's \$29 billion share sale last year, making Ant Group's offering the biggest in the world.

Ant Group will list on the Hong Kong stock exchange on Nov. 5, according to an exchange filing. A trading date for Shanghai has not been fixed.

PHILIPPINES: TYPHOON LEAVES 13 MISSING, DISPLACES THOUSANDS

AARON FAVILA, MANILA

A fast-moving typhoon Ablew away from the Philippines yesterday after leaving at least 13 people missing, forcing thousands of villagers to flee to safety and flooding rural villages, disaster-response officials said.

The 13 people missing from Typhoon Molave included a dozen fishermen who ventured out to sea over the weekend despite a no-sail restriction due to very rough seas. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The typhoon was blowing west toward the South China Sea with sustained winds of 125 kilometers per hour and gusts of up to 150 kph. It roared overnight through island provinces south of the capital, Manila, which was lashed by strong winds but escaped major damage.

At least 25,000 villagers were displaced, with about 20,000 taking shelter in schools and government buildings that were turned into evacuation centers, the Office of Civil Defense said, but officials added that some have returned home in regions where the weather has cleared.

"Villagers are now asking to be rescued because of the sudden wind which blew away roofs," Humerlito Dolor, governor of Oriental Mindoro province, told



The remains of a house is surrounded by floods in Pola town on the island of Mindoro, central Philippines, yesterday

DZMM radio.

Dolor said pounding rains overnight swamped farming villages in his province then fierce winds toppled trees and power posts early on Monday, knocking out power. Authorities were clearing roads of fallen trees and debris in some towns after the typhoon passed, he said.

In the eastern province of Catanduanes, the 12 fishermen were reported missing after they failed to return home from a weekend fishing expedition, officials said.

A yacht sank off Batangas province, south of Manila, and the coast guard said it managed to rescue seven crewmen but was still searching for another crewmember.

A passenger and cargo

vessel also ran aground on Bonito island off Batangas as the region was pounded by fierce wind and rain early yesterday. The coast guard said its personnel were on the way to the island to pick up five crewmembers and tow the vessel back to coast.

More than 1,800 cargo truck drivers, workers and passengers were stranded in ports after the coast guard barred ships and ferry boats from venturing into rough seas, officials said. Some of the ports were later reopened as the weather cleared.

About 20 typhoons and storms annually batter the Philippines, and the Southeast Asian archipelago is seismically active, with earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries. AP

Malaysia's prime minister faced calls to resign from both sides of the political aisle yesterday after the king rebuffed his proposal for a coronavirus emergency that critics saw as an undemocratic attempt to hold onto power. Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin's proposal for the king to declare a state of emergency over a new COVID-19 outbreak would have suspended Parliament and let him dodge an imminent test of his support.

Syria An airstrike on a rebel training camp yesterday killed more than 50 fighters and wounded nearly as many, a Syrian opposition spokesman and a war monitor said. The airstrike in the northwestern part of Idlib province, the last rebel enclave in Syria, targeted a military training camp for Failaq al-Sham, one of the largest Turkey-backed opposition groups in Syria.



Iraq Thousands of people took to the streets this weekend to mark one year since mass anti-government demonstrations swept the country, with police firing tear gas in central Baghdad to stop protesters from crossing strategic bridges and both sides reporting injuries. Protesters marched in the capital and several southern cities to renew demands for an end to corruption by Iraq's political establishment.

United Nations announced that 50 countries have ratified a U.N. treaty to ban nuclear weapons triggering its entry into force in 90 days, a move hailed by anti-nuclear activists but strongly opposed by the United States and the other major nuclear powers. As of Friday, the treaty had 49 signatories, and the United Nations said the 50th ratification from Honduras had been received.

Finland's interior minister summoned key Cabinet members into an emergency meeting after hundreds, possibly thousands, of patient records at a private Finnish psychotherapy center were accessed by a hacker or hackers now demanding ransoms. Finnish Interior Minister Maria Ohisalo tweeted that authorities would "provide speedy crisis help to victims" of the security breach.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Andy Wong



Bike hype. Users of bike-sharing companies parked outside a subway station during the morning rush hour in Beijing yesterday.