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.

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FRIDAY 13 **Nov** 2020 T. 19º/ 26º Air Quality Good

THE UNITARY POLICE LAW REMAINS IN PLACE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION BY THE FIRST STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

LAWMAKERS PROBE **GOVERNMENT ON BUDGET** DEFIANCE TO BASIC LAW

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

THE EMERGENCE OF THREE SIMULTANEOUS PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS IS LEAVING RESIDENTS WITH A SENSE OF BOTH CONFUSION AND FATIGUE



Philippines A typhoon swelled rivers and flooded low-lying areas as it passed over the storm-battered northeast Philippines, where rescuers were deployed early yesterday to help people flee the rising waters. The typhoon passed north of Manila between Bulacan and Pampanga provinces, toppling trees and knocking out power. Officials had said previously that nearly 200,000 people had been evacuated, some of them forcibly, from vulnerable coastal and low-lying areas.

Singaporean authorities have arrested 21 people who are thought to be connected to a secretive South Korean religious sect that was widely blamed for thousands of virus infections in that country. The 12 women and nine men were arrested for "allegedly being members of an unlawful society," Singapore's home affairs ministry said.



Vietnam's prime minister highlighted challenges Southeast Asian nations and others faced this year as he opened a regional summit yesterday that is again largely being held online due to the pandemic. The biannual summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, chaired by Vietnam this year, is expected to focus on a wide range of topics, including South China Sea disputes, the coronavirus and trade

India A top insurgent leader and four of his fighters operating along India's border with Bangladesh and Myanmar have surrendered to the Indian army in the country's troubled northeast, the army said yesterday. Drishti Rajkhowa, who now is in the Indian army's custody, is considered the No. 2 leader in the United Liberation Front of Asom. He and four others also gave up a huge quantity of arms, the statement said, without giving any details.

More on backpage

THE MAGNIFICENT 27

Education authorities are under fire from teachers after a dispatch reveals the hiring of 27 educators from mainland China; Secretary Ao leong says nothing to worry about AP3

教育暨青年局

批示摘錄

摘錄自社會文化司司長二零二零年八月十七日批示:

陳芸・富曉穎・關微・何湘娟、黄婕、連旭萍、羅翔・覃宇 農、邱振華、石玉鳳、孫景周、王剛、王紅梅、王天照、王小蘭、吳 海燕、徐娟、許亮、楊亞伶、張麗娟、張香娜、張妍、趙斌、趙李 三、趙啟東、鄭朝彬及朱萍——以個人勞動合同方式聘用為本 局專業技術人員,自二零二零年十月二十日起至二零二一年八月 三十一日止。

DIRECÇÃO DOS SERVIÇOS DE EDUCAÇÃO **E JUVENTUDE**

Extractos de despachos

Por despachos da Ex.ma Senhora Secretária para os Assuntos Sociais e Cultura, de 17 de Agosto de 2020:

Chen Yun, Fu Xiaoying, Guan Wei, He Xiangjuan, Huang Jie. Lian Xuping, Luo Xiang, Qin Yunong, Qiu Zhenhua, Shi Yufeng, Sun Jingzhou, Wang Gang, Wang Hongmei, Wang Tianzhao, Wang Xiaolan, Wu Haiyan, Xu Juan, Xu Liang, Yang Yaling, Zhang Lijuan, Zhang Xiangna, Zhang Yan, Zhao Bin, Zhao Lisan, Zhao Qidong, Zheng Chaobin e Zhu Ping - contratados por contratos individuais de trabalho, como técnicos especializados, nestes Serviços, a partir de 20 de Outubro de 2020 e termo em 31 de Agosto de 2021.

SCAMMED IN HENGQIN, **LOCAL BUYERS** SEEK HELP **FROM COUTINHO**





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LAWMAKERS PROBE GOV'T ON BUDGET DEFIANCE TO BASIC LAW

RENATO MARQUES

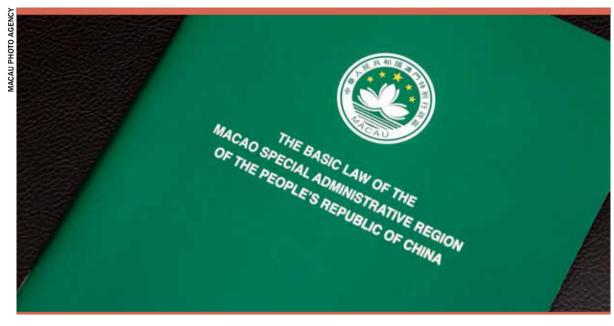
AWMAKERS of the First Stan-Liding Committee of the Legislative Assembly (AL) have questioned the government regarding the 2021 budget bill, which presents a deficit due to greater expenditure than revenue forecast for next

This is despite the bill being approved without any opposition upon its first reading last week.

In the bill, the government has proposed to allocate 26.6 billion patacas from the financial reserve to address the public administration deficit.

The lawmakers in question realized that this does not comply with Article 105 of the Macau Basic Law, which states that the SAR government, "shall follow the principle of keeping expenditure within the limits of the revenues in drawing up its budget, and strive to achieve a fiscal balance, avoid deficits and keep the budget commensurate with the growth rate of its gross domestic product," Chairman of the Committee, Ho Ion Sang noted during a press briefing after yesterday's meeting on the topic.

To the media, Ho said, "This is



a deficit budget and according to the justification note from the government, they only said that they are aiming to keep expenditure as low as possible but they do not justify the reasons why this is a deficit budget [and why it is not possible to present one that is not]. We hope that in the next meeting, the government can further explain the reasons and clarify what they are doing to balance the accounts and keep the expenditure as low as possible," he said. This would require the government

"to move a lot of money from the reserve and they should also better explain how this is going to be done," he said.

Compliance with the Basic Law has not been questioned before, despite this not being the first time that the government presented a budget deficit to the AL. Ho told the media, citing 2020 as an example, that the situation is different now.

"When it was drawn up, the budget for 2020 was not expecting a deficit; this only happened

later and due to [...] the Covid-19 pandemic. This is why we had to [make] two amendments to the original version of that budget, to justify the allocation of money from the [financial] reserve," he explained, stating that for next year, the deficit is presented from the start. "So we need to pay more attention to this matter and ensure that the government is doing everything possible to achieve the balance [between expenditure and revenue]," Ho added.

But this is not the only issue

with the 2021 budget bill, as the committee chairman explained during yesterday's session. Lawmakers presented a list of questions and requests for clarification to the government on several matters and regarding the figures presented by the executive, including the expected shrinking of the collection of Professional Tax by 24%.

"We need to ask how they reached this reduction and also what kind of companies and people are being held accountable for such a reduction," Ho remarked, noting once more that the first version approved upon first reading was unclear and lacked justifications or explanations for most of the figures presented.

Ho also noted that the gross gaming revenue figure presented was 130 billion patacas, a forecast that, at the time of the first reading, was considered by many to be overly optimistic.

According to Ho, a meeting with the government should take place late next week, when the committee expects to see replies to the list of questions raised.

"We are meeting with the government late next week after the Policy Address presentation by the Chief Executive. We hope they can reply to the list of questions we [presented] today, as we need to have this work concluded by mid-December, as it happens every year. This is always our goal," Ho said.

RENATO MARQUES

THE education sector **⊥** will face a 1 billion pataca cut in 2021, as per the 2021 Budget bill presented by the government.

The bill, currently under analysis by the First Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly (AL), is being questioned

Education suffers MOP1 billion cut in 2021

by lawmakers, as they say nal committee meeting.

it lacks clarity and justification for most of the figures stated, including for education. Chairman of the Committee Ho Ion Sang raised these points yesterday after an inter-

GOV'T REVENUE DECLINES 67PCT IN JANUARY-OCTOBER PERIOD

REVENUE from the government has fallen 66.7% in the first 10 months of this year, as per the figures released by the Financial Services Bureau (DSF). According to the release, between the period of January and October, revenue, including gaming revenue, reached 36.2 billion patacas. In the same period last year, the government had collected 108 billion patacas.

Expenditure grew from 62 billion patacas last year to around 69 billion in 2020, a figure that represents a hike of 11.3%

Ho said that the committee members have raised many questions regarding the cuts by the government, which is aiming to balance the accounts in the budget, which is presenting a deficit.

"On Education (for instance), the government states that it is going to reduce the expenses and present a budget with 1 billion patacas less [expenditure, when compared to that presented last year]. At the same time, the government promised not to cut from areas of the budget that are directly related to the wellbeing of the population, so we need to ask in what [Education-related] ex-



aims to make this cut," ging of the bureau with Ho said.

The Chairman also noted that other topics appear confusing to the lawmakers and further explanation is required, such as, the budgeting of 110 million patacas for Higher Education Bureau's (DSES) expenses

penses the government for 2021, when the merthe Education and Youth Affairs Bureau from February 1 next year has already been announced.

Due to this, the lawmakers are not able to comprehend why the almost-extinct DSES needs a budget of 110 million patacas to operate for the

period of just one month.

It is also difficult to explain the spending containment when, despite the announced reduction of the number of Civil Servants from around 38,000 in 2020 to 36,600 in 2021, there are at least six public entities and services that are growing their staff number to more than 50 in 2021.

According to the calculations of the lawmakers the six entities, which include several entities from the Security Forces as well as the University of Macau, the Environmental Protection Bureau, and the Health Bureau, are accountable for the hiring of more than 640 new Civil Servants.

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Ao leong dispels public worries over recruitment of mainland teachers

STAFF REPORTER

HE recruitment of 27 teachers from mainland China to offer local teachers tutelage on assistance and counseling by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) has ignited worries in the local community, speculating that the move would undermine employment opportunities for locals.

The public disquiet came after the DSEJ published a dispatch through the Official Gazette on Wednesday, stating that the department has hired a total of 27 teachers from China under individual service contracts – which span from October 20 this year to August 31 next year.

When asked about this matter by the media at a Macau Grand Prix event yesterday, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Ao Ieong U rebutted the negative suggestions, saying the hiring is part of a longestablished teacher exchange program between Macau and China.

Ao Ieong explained that the employed mainland teachers have predominantly been in charge of works regarding class preparation and observation, with a focus on three subjects — Chinese, History and Geography.

The 27 mainland teachers would not be teaching local students, as they were employed only to give guidance on local teaching programs, and advance the city's teaching standards by using their expertise in education, she added.

The Secretary stressed that they would return to China after the completion of each round of the program, which typically lasts around one to three years.

Some locals, infuriated by the scheme, expressed disagreement on a social media platform, arguing that the move is "redundant," as Macau is home to many competent teachers who are as well-versed in Chinese and History. Hiring teachers from China may deprive locals of work, they claimed.

On the other side, some claimed the program prompted rage in the community as the lives of grassroots have been upended by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The city's overall unemployment rate between July and September reached 2.9%, with residents' unemployment rate standing at 4.1%, each up 0.1 percentage point from the previous surveyed period of June to August, according to the Statistics and

Census Service.

The scheme was rolled out in the 2008/09 academic year, with the support of the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (MOE).

The program operates a voluntary basis whereby local schools may sign up if interested. Every year, the MOE issues recruitment notices for country-wide educational administrative units, based on the yearly demand requested by the DSEJ.

According to another official announcement published on the same day following Ao Ieong's remarks, the number of mainland teachers who engaged in undertakings in Macau's local schools averaged 20 or so each year. Their workplaces ranged from kindergartens to secondary schools, and their teaching touched on a wide range of subjects.

In the academic year of 2020/2021, a total of 40 local schools participated in the program, up from some 20 recorded in the debut year.

The scheme was "welcomed by local education institutes", with the official announcement citing that 70% of them had joined the scheme.

The teachers from mainland China will be paid by the DSEJ.

AD



澳門特別行政區政府 Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macai 體育局 Instituto do Desporto

Barrier Gates Installation Schedule for Macau Grand Prix

"The 67th Macau Grand Prix" will be held from 20th to 22nd of November. To coordinate with the event arrangement, barrier gates will be installed at the following locations along the circuit progressively starting from 17th November and the roads will be suspended of traffic on the occasion. The below locations will be successively reopened from 22nd Nov upon the conclusion of the event till the morning of 23rd Nov. The Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee would like to seek the understanding of motorists and to advise all road users to pay attention to the installation time of the barrier gates and respect the temporary traffic signage and instructions from the Traffic Authorities.

Date	Barrier Gates Installation Time	Road	Location		
		Est. de Cacilhas	Depósito de Pólvora (Ramp)		
17 th November (Tuesday)	15:00	Est. D. Maria II	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Communications Museum		
		Rua dos Pescadores	Entrance and Exit of Macao Water		
	16:00	Av. da Amizade	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Jubilee Court Building (Next to petrol station)		
		Est. de Cacilhas	Entrance and Exit of the garage at Cheng Pak Kok Building		
18 th November (Wednesday)		Est. dos Parses	Exit of the garage at the Monetary Authority of Macao		
(veunesung)		Av. da Amizade	Junction of the crossing point from Rua de Nagasaki to Av. da Amizade (Next to Jardim San On Building)		
		Est. D. Maria II	Entrance and Exit of Car Workshop (Next to Communications Museum)		
19 th November (Thursday)	10:00	Av. da Amizade	Junction of the crossing point from Amizade Bridge to Av. da Amizade		



Unitary police law remains in place

JULIE ZHU

THE unitary police law re-**⊥** mains in place following yesterday's discussion by the First Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly (AL).

Yesterday, members of the committee met at the AL building to discuss the generally passed amendment of the unitary police law.

During the discussion, no lawmakers raised questions or doubts concerning any prescription, according to Ho Ion Sang, Chairman of the First Standing Committee of AL.

This means that after this meeting, the amendment made to the prescriptive remained unchanged, compared to the version passed during a previous AL plenary meeting.

The generally approved law amendment mainly concerns the Unitary Police Service's function with regards to civil protection matters.

The amendment officially suggests that the unitary police authority will also serve as the civil protection authority, and that, as result, the bureau is expected to have an additional 75 tenured employees.

As of today, the local government has already obtained lawmakers' preliminary approval for the amendment of the internal security protocol law. Recently, the civil protection law also came into effect.

According to Ho, the local government hopes to use the unitary police law amendment, the civil protection law



and the new internal security protocols as measures to reform its current civil protection administration.

Currently, the Second Standing Committee of the AL is also discussing the amendment of the internal security protocol.

The security authority expects that the internal security protocol will come into effect at the same time as the unitary police law. The security authority has not yet decided on the date. Meanwhile, on September 15, the civil protection law came into effect.

Although yesterday's AL standing committee did not involve substantial changes to the content of the unitary police law, the lawmakers and legal advisors of the AL have

still made improvements to the wording and translation of the text of the law. For example, the title of Article 2 was changed from "Function" to "Function and Authorization," a change the government accepted.

The civil protection law prescribes that concerned governments should share intelligence with one another. As a result, the unitary police law will also include a prescription regarding this topic.

Commenting on how the civil protection law amendment and the unitary police law amendment will protect the personal data of members of the public, Ho said that the civil protection law has regulations in regards to said pro-

Local racers deny document forgery accusations in court

Foundation's accusations of document forgery in the Court of First Instance, according to a report by Macao Daily News.

The two racers are Liu, a police officer of the Public Security Police Force (PSP) and the Io, a car salesman.

The plaintiff has accused Liu of two incidents in which Liu is suspected of tricking the Macao Foundation into granting him subsidies to participate in car races outside of Macau. After Liu had received part of did not go to mainland China to race. According to the plaintiff, Liu eventually applied for the balance of the subsidy using his teammate's race records, as the teammate had participated in the races. The Macao Foundation accused Liu of carrying out this plan on two occasions, firstly in 2012 and then in 2013.

The Macao Foundation also accused Io of using the same plan to get subsidies.

Both Liu and Io's teammates participa-

TWO local car racers the subsidy from the ted in the races and as have denied the Macao Foundation, he a result, both Liu and Io had points for the concerned races.

> Both defendants denied the accusations. Liu claimed that he had been sick so he could not attend the races, whereas Io said that his vehicles had problems, resulting in him not completing the races. However, the Macao Foundation discovered that Io never participated in the races at all.

> Applicants must participate in the races in order to receive departmental sponsorship. JZ

STAFF REPORTER

THE SAR government has reaped MOP24.3 billion in gaming taxes from January to October, a sharp drop of 74% from the same period last year, the Financial Services Bureau (DSF) revealed in its up-to-date figures.

Earlier, the authorities had expected about MOP50 billion in gaming taxes for the same reporting period.

In the first 10 months, the receipts from gaming taxes contributed around 67% of the government's total current revenue of MOP36.1 billion, representing a year-on-year (y-o-y) decline of 66.5%.

The government taxes casinos in Macau for 39% of gaming revenue, including a direct tax of 35% and other types of taxes for social and welfare purposes.

Gaming tax drops 74% IN JAN-OCT PERIOD

Ever since the resumption of the Individual Visit Scheme for the mainland, gross gaming revenue (GGR) in October exhibited a growth trajectory, picking up 229% from September, according to the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau.

But the recovery did not suffice to offset the overall impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the city's casino sector. The aggregate GGR from January to October in 2020 shrank by 81.4% v-o-v to MOP45.8 billion.

During the same period, the total public expenditure totalled MOP69.6 billion, up 11.5% y-o-y — in which the expenses

spent on transfer, funding and subsidies amount to the largest share, or MOP45.3 billion. Such a climb was attributed to a series of stimuli rolled out by the government to boost the faltering economy in the wake of the pandemic.

Earlier, the Legislative Assembly approved the 2021 government budget, which is set to inject an extra MOP26.6 billion from the financial reserve to fill the void in the context of the public administration deficit.

In next year's budget bill, authorities have anticipated that the gaming sector would rake in an annual GGR of MOP130 billion.



Wynn Promotes Traditional Chinese Culture

Resorts (Macau) and the National Conditions Education (Macau) Association co-organized the fourth 'Wynn Cup—Macau Primary School Student National Education Drawing Competition' under the theme 'My Greater Bay Area Dream—Drawing the future in my heart'. The competition encouraged local students to fully unleash their innocent and romantic imaginations through their paintbrushes to depict their vision for future of the Greater Bay Area. The competition was joined by 42 local schools with approximately 10,000 primary school students and youngsters participating from cities across the Greater Bay Area.

The annual 'Wynn Cup-Primary School Macau Student National Education Drawing Competition' has been held since 2016. More than 40,000 local primary students have participated in the competition since its launch and the organizer hopes that these students can further develop a sense of aesthetic; cultivate their perception and intuition; express, appreciate and create beauty; and strengthen noble moral sentiments, national pride and a sense of belonging.

FASHION SHOW FEATURING "9+2" URBAN CHARACTERISTICS

To complement the drawing competition award ceremony, Wynn once again collaborated with the Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Center (CPTTM) to organize a fashion show under the same theme. Local designers were invited to submit their unique parent-child travel outfit designs, which were then presented by 11 talented





students from Premier School Affiliated to Hou Kong Middle School. The parent-child travel outfits were all based on the concept of the "9+2" urban characteristics and featured attractions from the 11 Greater Bay Area cities.

LITTLE SPEAKER WORKSHOP EXPRESSES DREAMS FOR GREATER BAY AREA

In continuation of its community outreach program, Wynn entered into an inaugural collaboration with the I am Speaker Association of Macau to co-organize a 'Little Speaker Workshop'. The participating children jointly expressed their dreams for the Greater Bay Area through the combination of drawing and speech, and those who exhibited particular potential were also selected to take part in a 7-week training course to further develop their talents.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES ENHANCE A SENSE OF NATIONAL PRIDE

In order to promote the transmission of China's rich traditional culture, assist Macao teenagers to develop a healthy outlook on life with a focus moral and personal values, and cultivate their national self-confidence and patriotic spirit, the Wynn Care

Foundation and the National Conditions Education (Macau) Association united with different sectors of Macao's society to launch a series of 'Promoting Traditional Chinese Culture' programs.

Professor Li Guanding, consultant to the editorial board and the Macao Cultural Affairs Bureau, was invited to the opening ceremony to deliver a lecture on the beauty of traditional Chinese culture. In support of this, Wynn Care and the National Conditions Education (Macau) Association jointly published an illustrated Chinese history book and donated copies to the libraries of all Macao secondary schools. The book details the long history of the Chinese nation and hopes to raise teenagers' awareness and help them gain deeper insight into the historical development and origin of the Chinese civilization.

SHARING SESSION HOSTED ON THE SPIRIT OF NPC AND CPPCC

As a means to enable team members to build a deeper understanding of the trajectory of the country's future development and post-pandemic plans, integrate with the country's development plan and seize the developmental opportunities brought by the Greater Bay Area, Wynn hosted a sharing session

on the National People's Congress (NPC) and Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) in June.

Over one hundred of Wynn team members were honored to receive four guest speakers, who are deputies in the NPC and members of the CPPCC, to provide an overview of the prevailing spirit that drives the Congress and Conference, as well as give a summary of the current direction of national policies. The event also underlined Wynn's commitment to spreading a sense of solidarity to all corners of society and their dedication to uniting the strengths of each social sector to build a harmonious community and country.





WISDOM POLICY URGES TOURISM RECOVERY

Local think tank Wisdom Policy's president Ho Ion Sang recently proposed that the local government continue its discussion with the mainland's relevant government department to try to regain the city's tourism business. During a Wisdom Policy forum, Ho remarked that the impact of Covid-19 on the city's economy is still unclear and that Ho believes the SAR government should continue to implement its current policies, which focus on protecting local employment, stabilizing the economy and caring for the livelihoods of citizens.

CPTTM PROMOTES SMES DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Center (CPTTM) is promoting the digital transformation of local SMEs in order to improve their competitiveness. On November 18 and December 9, the center will organize two symposium sessions on the theme of SMEs' digital transformation. The center will invite digital marketing experts to share their experiences as part of online shop operations.

3RD MACAU WINTER CARNIVAL OFFICIALLY KICKS OFF

The 3rd Macau Winter Carnival has officially launched at the plaza next to the Macau Tower. This year's carnival is themed "Let's Guide A Healthy City and Present The Dynamic Of Tourism." The carnival provides the largest outdoor snow court in Macau, and has stalls titled Christmas Stacking, Snowman Slam, Amazing Throw, among many others. President of the Macau Carnival Association, Kevin Ho, revealed during his speech that the previous two editions of the winter carnival hosted over 100,000 visitors.

INELIGIBLE FOR COURT, BUYERS OF MAINLAND RESIDENCES SEEK HELP FROM LAWMAKER

Several hundred Macau buyers purchasing units in Wanzai District of China's southern city of Zhuhai have seen the type of properties mysteriously altered, making them legally uninhabitable, lawmaker Jose Pereira Coutinho has disclosed on his social media account.

The apartment buyers have, according to the lawmaker, each spent at least 4 million yuan on the residences, which were later altered to pure commercial use, meaning that even if they obtain title to the development in the future, they will not be able to live in the units.

Defects have also been found in the units in question, such as severe leakage, cracks in walls, damaged windows and doorframes, as well as bent floor tiles.

Furthermore, the buyers cannot even file a law suit at a mainland court because they have not received their contracts of purchase, which



have not even been signed. The contracts will only be signed when they settle the entire payment.

To make things worse, the lawmaker said, there is a tricky provision which deprives the buyers of their rights to seek legal appeal even when they have the contracts in hand.

Conflicts regarding real estate property transactions

are not new globally, let alone in mainland China. By tracing records as far back as two years, another local lawmaker, Si Ka Lon, who is also a Macau Representative at the National People's Congress, disclosed that the number of such cases in Zhuhai and Zhongshan was estimated to have reached 10,000.

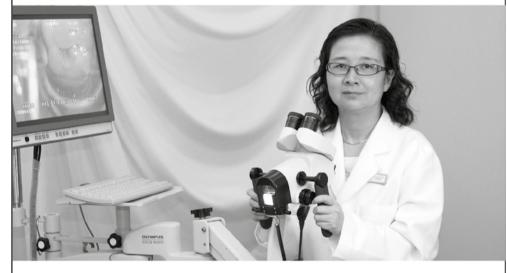
He did suggest that pros-

pective buyers obtain legal advice from reliable lawyers.

In August, a legal service circle was established in the Greater Bay Area, enabling Macau and Hong Kong lawyers to practice on the mainland. As such, in the future, Macau buyers of mainland real estate may be able to consult with Macau lawyers on their prospective purchases. AL

AD 🖺





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4. Location for Submission of Proposals:	CAM – Macau International Airport Co. Ltd. Av. de Wai Long CAM Office Building, 4 th Floor Reception Taipa, Macau Attention: Mr. Chu Tan Neng – Executive Director
5. Tender closing time and date:	At 12:00 PM on 30 Nov 2020 (Macau Local Time)
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ANTHONY LAM

HE recent emergence of three public consultations in two months is not giving the general public a clear idea of each, leaving members of the public quite confused, said local commentators.

In September, the government commenced the public consultation for the Master Urban Plan, which will decide what Macau will be like in the future and where each type of constructions will be located in the city.

Then, the government commenced the public consultation for the Sandwich-class Housing Scheme, which is trying to define sandwich-class and the features of such housing estates.

Yesterday saw the commencement of the public consultation for the Youth Policy Framework for the next decade, which will affect the population aged between 13 and 35 years.

The serial consultations are breeding a "consultation fatigue" – as described by social commentator Johnson Ian – among the general public. This year was not the first time the government ran public consultations in this manner.

The public has been criticizing the government for running public consultation for the sake of running, Ian recalled. He added that the government is currently stepping

CONSULTATION FATIGUE

Simultaneously held public consultations 'quite improper'

up to "squeeze in several public consultations."

"It is giving the society the perception of being perfunctory," Ian described.

Former lawmaker Paul Chan was less criticizing, noting that the arrangement was "quite improper." Chan remarked, "In-

serting a gap between each consultation is better in terms of both

effects and feeling."
Squeezing several public consultations within a short period of time is giving the public a sense of complications, according to academic-commentator Leung Kai

"Maybe the government thought the three consultations concerned different people," Leung speculated.

As for the reason of the overlapping, Chan and Ian estimated that it was because the government is trying to rush policies or bills before the end of the year, which is also the conclusion of the first year of the mandate of the incumbent Chief Executive, Ho Iat Seng. Ho took office in December last

"The works in question have been piled up for long, so they need to be rushed [before the end of the first year of the Chief Executive]," Chan estimated.

For Ian, it has become so-

The government is trying to rush policies or bills before the end of the year, which is also the conclusion of the first year of the mandate of Ho lat Seng

mewhat a habit to rush bills out before the government head gives a new Policy Address.

On the other hand, Leung thought there has been no coordination between the five secretaries. "Whenever a piece of work is cross-secretarial, each secretary has no idea what their counterparts are working on," Leung added. It is part of the CE's election platform that

he will work on cross-departmental collaborations when he takes office.

Leung thinks that up until now, each secretary is only focused on their area when making policies or public consultations.

However, Leung believes

the government may not have been deliberate. Rather, it was coincidental that those public consultations overlapped each other. "Some works have been there for long and they have to catch the year-end threshold," Leung said.

Chan shared the same view. "Each secretary is only concerned with their own areas, while the administration and justice sector did not coordinate well," He explained.

Furthermore, in Ian's opinion, the government is more focused on kicking off a lawmaking process than on actually achieving "some positive impacts."

On top of Ian's opinion,

Chan suspected that the government is trying to rush bills out so as to show the public that it is delivering work. Meanwhile, rushing bills into the parliament will also get its hands clean.

Ian also described that many recent public consultations have had "poorly written consultation or introductory texts," forcing members of the public to spend extensive time to understand the texts.

"It is time consuming, let alone the texts' poor quality.
[...] When the texts have insufficient supporting data, even if people want to make opinions, they won't be making in-depth ones," he explained.

Ian also criticized the government for not offering sufficient support to members of the public who are willing to participate in the public consultations. "It hasn't given any explanation on technical terms in public consultations on, for instance, the Master Urban Plan, which was full of technical terms," Ian explained.

"I don't know what the government wants to achieve," Ian said.

■ MacauDaily 澳門每日時報。

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

ZEN SOO, HONG KONG

ONG Kong's pro-democracy legislators began resigning in protest yesterday, one day after the government ousted four members of their camp.

The 15 remaining members of the bloc have said they will resign en masse in a show of solidarity after China's central government in Beijing passed a resolution this week that led to the four lawmakers' disqualification.

Most of the 15 did not attend a regular session of the legislature yesterday, and some later handed in resignation letters at the Legislative Council's secretariat.

China sharply criticized the move. Its Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office called the mass resignation "an open challenge" against the authority of the central government and the Basic Law, Hong Kong's constitution.

"If these lawmakers hope to use their resignation to provoke opposition and beg for foreign interference, they have miscalculated," it said in a statement.

Wu Chi-wai, the head of the pro-democracy bloc, said the Chinese and Hong Kong governments were trying to take away the separation of powers in the city, since the ousting of the four lawmakers bypassed the courts.

"We lost our check-and-balance power, and all the constitutional power in Hong Kong rests in the chief executive's hands," Wu said.

He said it was the end of the city's 'one country, two systems' framework under which Hong Kong has enjoyed autonomy and freedoms not found in the mainland since the former British colony's return to China in 1997.

Claudia Mo, a pro-democracy lawmaker who also handed in **LEGCO CRISIS**

Hong Kong pro-democracy legislate



her resignation, added: "We are quitting the legislature only at this juncture. We're not quitting Hong Kong's democracy fight."

Earlier in the day, one of the pro-democracy lawmakers, Lam Cheuk-ting, unfurled a banner from a balcony inside the Legislative Council building saying city leader Carrie Lam had brought disaster to Hong Kong and its people, and that her infamy would last ten thousand years.

The mass departure will leave Hong Kong's legislature with just 43 legislators, 41 of whom belong to the pro-Beijing bloc. This means that the legislature could pass bills favored by Beijing with little opposition.

The lawmakers announced their decision to resign hours after the Hong Kong government said it was disqualifying the four legislators — Alvin Yeung, Dennis Kwok, Kwok Ka-ki and Kenneth Leung.

The four had urged foreign governments to sanction China and Hong Kong as China cracked down on dissent in the semi-autonomous Chinese city. Beijing accused them of violating their oaths of office.

A resolution passed this week by the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress said that any lawmaker who supports Hong Kong's independence, refuses to acknowledge China's sovereignty over the city, threatens national security, or asks external forces to interfere in the city's affairs should be disqualified.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin yesterday reiterated Beijing's support for Hong Kong's government in "fulfilling its duty according to the NPC Standing Committee's decision."

"No country will turn a blind eve to acts of betrayal of the country by public officials, including members of the Legislative Council, who break their oaths of office," Wang said at a daily news briefing.

Britain, the United States and Australia have denounced the

The U.K. summoned China's ambassador in London to re-

COVID-19

Brazil resumes trials of Chinese vaccine candidate

RAZIL'S health regulator Dyesterday (Macau time) authorized the resumption of large-scale clinical trials on a potential coronavirus vaccine developed by a Chinese company just over a day after shutting the test down.

The initial decision by Anvisa led to a storm of complaints that the action was more political than scientific.

The agency had cited an "adverse, serious event" that occurred on Oct. 29 as the reason for halting the trials on Monday night, but said it now "has sufficient elements to allow vaccination to resume."

vaccine is being developed by Chinese biopharmaceutical firm Sinovac and in Brazil would be mostly produced by Sao Paulo's state--run Butantan Institute.

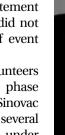
Adversaries of President Jair Bolsonaro said they suspected the suspension was motivated by the president's oft-stated wariness of China and his political rivalry with Sao Paulo's governor, though Anvisa officials insisted the decision was based purely on technical issues and complained they hadn't been given sufficient initial information about the case.

Anvisa "continues to monitor the investigation of

The potential CoronaVac the outcome of the case in order to define the possible causal relationship between the unexpected event and the vaccine," its statement added yesterday. It did not specify what sort of event had occurred.

About 10,000 volunteers are taking part in phase three testing of the Sinovac candidate, one of several potential vaccines under trial in one of the nations hardest hit by COVID-19.

Temporary halts of drug and vaccine trials are relatively common; in research involving thousands of participants, some are likely to fall ill. Pausing a study allows researchers to inves-



tigate whether an illness is a side effect or a coincidence. Last month, two drugmakers resumed testing of their prospective coronavirus vaccines in the U.S. after they were halted earlier.

Bolsonaro has repeatedly cast doubt on CoronaVac's prospective effectiveness, and last month rejected it, saying Brazilians would not be used as guinea pigs. He celebrated Anvisa's suspen-

sion on Tuesday, saying it showed that "Jair Bolsonaro wins again."

Bolsonaro didn't immediately comment following Anvisa's decision to restart the trial. AP

ors hand in resignations

gister "deep concern at this latest action by his government," Foreign Office minister Nigel Adams told lawmakers yesterday.

Adams said it was "another sad day for the people of Hong Kong" and that the British government has declared it the third breach of the Sino-British Joint Declaration on the territory's handover since it came into force in 1997 and the second time in the last six months.

He said China's actions are "designed to harass and stifle all voices critical of China's policies."

Hong Kong's people, he added, are left now with a "neutered legislature."

President Donald Trump's national security adviser, Robert O'Brien, said the Chinese Communist Party has violated its international commitment to the people of Hong Kong.

"'One country, two systems' is now merely a fig leaf covering for the CCP's expanding one-party dictatorship in Hong Kong," he said.

Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne said in a statement that the disqualification of the four lawmakers "seriously undermined" Hong Kong's democratic processes and institutions.

HKMAO called the mass resignation 'an open challenge' against the authority of the central government

In recent months, Beijing has increasingly clamped down on Hong Kong, despite promising when it took control in 1997 to leave the territory's more open legal and economic systems intact for 50 years until 2047.

Beijing imposed a national security law in June that some have labeled draconian after anti-government protests rocked the city for months last year, and it has used it to crack down on opposition voices.

In response, the U.S. leveled sanctions on several officials, including Lam. Several Western countries have suspended their

extradition treaties with the territory, and Australia and Britain have offered Hong Kongers easier paths to settle in those countries.

Earlier in the year, the four lawmakers were barred from seeking reelec-

tion in a vote originally scheduled for September.

The government eventually postponed the planned September election by a year, citing the coronavirus. The pro-democracy camp criticized the move as an attempt to block them from taking a majority of seats in the legislature — which was a possibility in the election. **AP**

SOCIAL MEDIA

TIKTOK ASKS COURT TO INTERVENE AS TRUMP ORDER LOOMS

The popular video-sharing app TikTok, its future in limbo since President Donald Trump tried to shut it down earlier this fall, is asking a federal court to intervene.

TikTok's Chinese owner, ByteDance, has until yesterday to sell off its U.S. operations under an executive order that Trump signed in August.

Trump in September gave his tentative blessing to a ByteDance proposal meant to resolve U.S. national security concerns by placing TikTok under the oversight of American companies Oracle and Walmart, each of which would also have a financial stake in the company. But TikTok said this week it's received "no clarity" from the U.S. government about whether its proposals have been accepted.

The deal has been under a national-security review by the interagency Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, or CFIUS, which is led by the Treasury Department. The department "remains focused" on resolving the alleged national security risks posed by TikTok, a Treasury spokeswoman said in a statement yesterday [Macau time].

"With the November 12 CFIUS deadline imminent and without an extension in hand, we have no choice but to file a petition in court to defend our rights and those of our more than 1,500 employees in the US," TikTok said in a written statement Tuesday.

Trump has cited concerns that the Chinese government could spy on TikTok users if the app remains under Chinese ownership. TikTok has denied it's a security threat but said it's still trying to work with the administration to resolve its concerns.

The legal challenge is "a protection to ensure these discussions can take place," the company said. MDT/AP



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PHILIPPINES

Typhoon-ravaged northeastern PROVINCES PUMMELED BY NEW STORM

JIM GOMEZ, MANILA

typhoon swelled rivers and Aflooded low-lying areas as it passed over the storm-battered northeastern Philippines, where rescuers worked yesterday to help people flee the rising waters.

Rescue officials said at least three people had been killed two in Camarines Norte province and another in the town of Tanay in Rizal province.

Typhoon Vamco passed north of Manila between Bulacan and Pampanga provinces, toppling trees and knocking out power. Officials said earlier that nearly 200,000 people had been evacuated, some forcibly, from vulnerable coastal and low-lying areas.

Officials said about 1.9 million households were without power in Metro Manila and nearby provinces. Many electrical poles were toppled, power lines were knocked down and power transformers were damaged.

President Rodrigo Duterte took a break from an online summit of Southeast Asian leaders to



A man walks on top of a roof of a submerged house as floods inundate villages in Rizal province yesterday

fly by helicopter over the affected

"As president I guarantee you that your government will do its best to provide assistance in the form of shelters, relief goods, financial aid and post-disaster counseling. Rest assured, the government will not leave anybody behind. We will get through this crisis," Duterte said in a televised address.

Rescue teams were deployed to flooded areas in Rizal province, coast guard chief Adm. George Ursabia told DZBB radio.

Marikina city Mayor Marcie Teodoro said fierce winds knocked down power lines overnight, leaving many areas without power and internet service. Heavy rains also flooded many areas and the Marikina River was swollen. Many people in Marikina city were waiting to be rescued from roofs.

"There are many areas that historically don't get flooded but now they are swamped, like city hall," he told DZBB radio.

Mark Timbal, spokesman for the government's disaster response agency, said 363 rescue teams had been deployed consisting of 1,000 rescuers with at least 40 ru-

The typhoon had maximum

sustained winds of 130 kilometers per hour with stronger gusts yesterday morning. It was moving west-northwest at 30 kph and was headed for the South

The government's main disaster-response agency had pleaded to the media to relay typhoon alerts in northeastern areas devastated by an earlier typhoon, Goni, saying the agency's messages could not be sent by cellphones due to damaged telecommunications systems.

Goni, one of the strongest typhoons in the world this year, left more than 30 people dead or missing and damaged or destroyed more than 270,000 houses, many in coastal villages. Tens of thousands of people remain displaced.

The Philippines is hit by about 20 typhoons and tropical storms each year. It is located on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," where earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are common, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries. AP

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DEB RIECHMANN, WASHINGTON

HE presidential race was hovering in limbo in 2000 when outgoing President Bill Clinton decided to let then-Gov. George W. Bush read the ultra-secret daily brief of the nation's most sensitive intelligence.

Clinton was a Democrat and his vice president, Al Gore, was running against Republican Bush. Gore had been reading the so-called President's Daily Brief for eight years; Clinton decided to bring Bush into the fold in case he won — and he did.

President Donald Trump has not followed Clinton's lead. As he contests this year's election results, Trump has not authorized President-elect Joe Biden to lay eyes on the brief.

National security and intelligence experts hope Trump changes his mind, citing the need for an incoming president to be fully prepared to confront any national security issues on Day One.

"Our adversaries aren't waiting for the transition to take place," says former Michigan Republican Rep. Mike Rogers, who was chairman of the House intelligence committee. "Joe Biden should receive the President's Daily Brief starting today. He needs to know what the latest threats are and begin to plan accordingly. This isn't about politics; this is about national security."

U.S. adversaries can take advantage of the country during an American presidential transition and key foreign issues will be bearing down on Biden the moment he steps into the Oval Office.

Among them: Unless Trump extends or negotiates a new nuclear arms accord with Russia before Inauguration Day, Biden will have only 16 days to act before the expiration of the last remaining treaty reining in the world's two largest nuclear arsenals. Perhaps U.S. spies have picked up tidbits about the Russians' redlines in the negotiations, or about weapons it really wants to keep out of the treaty.

That's the type of information that might be in the PDB, a daily summary of high-level, classified information and analysis on national security issues that's been offered to presidents since 1946. It is coordinated and delivered by the Office of the National Intelligence Director with input from the CIA and other agencies. It is tailored for each president, depending on whether they prefer oral or written briefs or both, short summaries or long reports on paper or electronically.

Having access to the PDB also could help Biden craft a possible response to North Korea, which has a history of firing off missiles or conducting nuclear tests shortly before or after new presidents take office.

Biden has decades of experience in foreign affairs and national



President-elect Joe Biden stands with his hand over his heart, after placing a wreath at the Philadelphia Korean War Memorial at Penn's Landing, on Veterans Day

USA

Biden moves forward without help from Trump's intel team

security, but he likely has not been privy to the latest details about how Iran is back to enriching uranium, or the active cyber attack operations of Russia, China and Iran. China's crackdown on Hong Kong is heating up. And the threat from Islamic extremists, although curbed, still remains.

Biden is trying to play down the significance of the delay in getting access to the PDB.

"Obviously the PDB would be useful but, it's not necessary. I'm not the sitting president now," Biden said. He didn't answer a question about whether he'd tried to reach out to Trump himself on this or any other issue, saying only, "Mr. Pre-

He was also asked about needing access to classified information as soon as possible if Trump doesn't concede the race.

sident, I look forward to

speaking with you."

"Look, access to classified information is useful. But I'm not in a position to make any decisions on those issues anyway," Biden said. "As I said, one president at a time. He will be president until Jan. 20. It would be nice to have it, but it's not critical."

Biden is familiar with the PDB, having read it during his eight years as vice president. But threats are ever-changing and as Inauguration Day nears, his need for Trump to let him get eyes on the intelligence brief will become more critical.

Sen. James Lankford, R-Okla., predicted that the issue of whether Biden will get access to the intelligence brief will be resolved soon.

"I've already started engaging in this area. ... And if that's not occurring by Friday, I will step in and push and say this needs to occur so that regardless of the outcome of the election, whichever way that it goes, people can be ready for that actual task," Lankford told KRMG in Tulsa, Oklahoma, yester-

Joe Biden should receive the President's Daily Brief starting today.

MIKE ROGERS FORMER REPUBLICAN REP.

day [Macau time].

He said Vice President-elect Kamala Harris also should be getting the briefings, which should not be a problem because she already has security clearances as a member of the Senate intelligence committee.

While the Bush team had access to the intelligence brief in 2000, an election recount delayed the Bush team's access to government agencies and resources for more than five weeks. Biden is missing out on all counts: More than a week into his transition, Biden doesn't have access to the PDB, the agencies or government resources to help him get ready to take charge.

"President-elect Joe Biden and his transition team should not suffer a similar delay," John Podesta, who served as White House chief of staff under Clinton, and Bush's chief of staff Andrew Card wrote in a joint op-ed published this week in The Washington Post.

"We have since learned the serious costs of a delayed transition," they wrote. "Less than eight months after Bush's inauguration, two planes flew into the World Trade Center, killing nearly 3,000 Americans."

The 9/11 Commission

Report on the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks warns of the danger in slow-walking presidential transition work in general, not just the intelligence piece. The Bush administration didn't have its deputy Cabinet officers in place until the spring of 2001 and critical subcabinet positions were not confirmed until that summer — if then, the report said.

For now, the office of National Intelligence Director John Ratcliffe says it can't begin talking with the Biden transition team until a federal agency starts the process of transition, which the Trump administration is delaying.

The office, which oversees more than a dozen U.S. intelligence agencies, said it must follow the Presidential Transition Act, which requires the General Services Administration to first ascertain the winner of the election, which Trump is contesting. GSA administrator Emily Murphy, who was appointed by Trump, has not yet officially designated Biden as the president-elect.

Intelligence agencies have given generalized intelligence briefings — minus information on covert operations and sources and methods — for presidential nominees since 1952. President Harry S. Truman authorized them for both parties' candidates because he was upset about not learning about the U.S. effort to develop an atomic bomb until 12 days into his presidency.

"It's an important and meaningful tradition, and I'm concerned that it's not being continued," said Denis McDonough, a former White House chief of staff during the Obama administration who oversaw the 2017 transition.

Biden started receiving these more general security briefings after he became the Democratic presidential nominee, but it's unclear if he is still getting those. A spokesman for Biden's transition team declined to comment. AP



ANALYSIS

Why Trump fears leaving the White House

TIMOTHY L. O'BRIEN, MDT/BLOOMBERG

onald Trump is the luckiest man alive. Unlike almost, well, everyone, he's been protected from the consequences of his own mistakes his entire life.

Born into a wealthy family, he was insulated from lukewarm academic prospects and serial business crack-ups by his father's money. ("I often say that I'm a member of the lucky sperm club," is how he put it in one of his books.) Emerging as a reality-TV star in the early 2000s, Trump discovered that fame allowed him to be as predatory as he pleased without repercussions. ("When you're a star, they let you do it.") And his 2016 ascent to the White House opened his eyes to the presidency's legal armor — which he interpreted broadly and often inaccurately. ("I have an Article II, where I have the right to do whatever I want as president.")

Although Trump has over the years juggled, among other difficulties, ho-hum grades, the threat of personal bankruptcy, sexual assault accusations, an intensive federal investigation and an impeachment, he has plowed ahead relatively unwounded and unencumbered by regret. Wealth, celebrity and the presidency have kept him buoyant. All that insulation has also meant that he hasn't learned from his mistakes. Every personal and public reckoning has been postponed or shunted aside.

Now, however, Trump is staring at two threats that loom after he leaves the White House in January. One is financial, the other legal. Neither is entirely under his control. And both may help explain, along with his perennial inability to accept losing, why Trump won't acknowledge that President-elect Joe Biden is going to succeed him and why he has enlisted the Republican Party to help him gaslight Americans about the outcome of the presidential elec-

Trump and the pat-



chwork of businesses he houses inside the Trump Organization are saddled with more than \$1 billion in debt, which Dan Alexander of Forbes has helpfully tallied. A portion of that total has been divulged over the past few years in the president's personal financial disclosures, on file with the Office of Government Ethics. The New York Times recently revealed that Trump has personally guaranteed at least \$421 million of the debt, with more than \$300 million coming due within four

In other words, Trump is on the hook for a lot of money that he may have to scramble to repay in a Covid-19-battered economy in which his industries hotels, leisure, urban real estate — have been particularly pummeled. Forbes estimates his assets are worth \$3.7 billion; Bloomberg News pegs them at about \$3.2 billion. He's not going broke. But if the economy continues to struggle in coming months, those valuations will be tested. And much of what Trump holds isn't liquid, meaning he may be hard-pressed to sell assets quickly if he needs to raise funds. Among Trump's most valuable holdings, for example, are minority stakes in two properties controlled by Vornado Realty Trust. Rumors of fire sales might further depress the value of his portfolio.

Another thing that would weaken Trump's ability to negotiate sweetheart financial deals or forgiveness: leaving the presidency.

On the legal side of the ledger, Trump, his children and their company face aggressive investigations into their finances, accounting practices and tax payments.

The Manhattan District Attorney's Office is investigating Trump for possible tax fraud and falsification of business records, according to appellate court filings. In this probe, which is also examining the president's payment of hush money to two women who allegedly had sexual encounters with him, the DA's office is seeking eight years of Trump's tax returns. It is also taking a look at whether Trump inflated the value of his properties and other assets in order to secure funds from lenders and investors.

New York Attorney General Letitia James has launched another investigation, also focused on whether the Trump Organization and the Trump family manipulated valuations to secure funding or engineer tax benefits. James's probe is a civil case, which could bring hefty financial penalties against Trump but no prison time (unless she finds reasons to recast it as criminal case). Vance's investigation is a criminal matter, however, and if the Trump crew is found guilty of felonies, prison time is on the table.

Trump's team has fought back hard against the Vance investigation, including arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court that a sitting president is immune from state criminal prosecutions. While the court rejected that notion in a landmark ruling over the summer, it would become a moot argument in any venue once Trump is no longer president.

A Trump pushed outside the legal moat that surrounds the White House becomes, for the most part, a Trump who can be sued and penalized just as any other American can. That could also give fresh traction to the sexual assault cases against him.

It's unclear how aggressive law enforcement officials in the Biden administration will be toward Trump. They could resurrect some of the obstruction charges that have gone fallow since former Special Counsel Robert Mueller ended his probe. On the other hand, the political firestorm that could ignite might persuade Biden to hold back.

What's clear is that Trump's money and freedom are in play. As he comes to grips with losing the 2020 election, he will continue responding ferociously and unpredictably, like a man who for 74 years has been accustomed to getting away with almost anything.

this day in history



1979 TIMES RETURNS AFTER YEAR-LONG DISPUTE



The Times newspaper has been published for the first time in nearly a year.

The paper's disappearance from news stands followed a dispute between management and unions over manning levels and the introduction of new technology.

After talks broke down, the Times' Canadian owners, the Thomson Organisation, suspended publication last November pending an agreement.

Production of the four other publications in the Times group, including its sister paper the Sunday Times, was also suspended.

It was the first break in the production of the Times, known affectionately to its readers as "the Thunderer", since it was founded in 1788.

The dispute is estimated to have cost the Thomson Organisation more than £30m.

A settlement reached late last month paved the way for today's publication.

The Sunday Times is also expected to appear again this weekend.

Prime Minster Margaret Thatcher has welcomed the Times reappearance "with enthusiasm".

Mrs Thatcher said: "The absence of the Times has

been tragic and over-long."

About 500,000 copies of the paper were produ-

ced for the Times' first edition on Tuesday - an extra 200,000 on its pre-suspension print run.

The personal columns carried a long string of wel-

come-back messages from advertisers while readers announced births and deaths spanning the period of the Times' absence.

Three special obituary supplements are also planned as well as a news review covering the months the Times was out of print.

Courtesy BBC News

In context

The 1978 dispute was the forerunner of an inexorable move towards automation and the abandonment of old-fashioned printing methods.

Matters came to a head in 1986 when Australian media tycoon, Rupert Murdoch - who had bought the Times and the Sunday Times in 1981 - moved his publications and staff from Fleet Street to Wapping in east London. New technology introduced at Wapping resulted in 4,000 print workers losing their jobs.

In spite of months of vociferous picketing of the Wapping plant by print unions Rupert Murdoch was able to produce and distribute his papers at a vastly reduced cost

Mr Murdoch's success encouraged other newspapers to adopt new technology and leave Fleet Street for cheaper premises in east London.

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page 13



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS



ARIES



Your love life is starting to generate some real heat! Make sure that while you're conversing with all those prospects that you keep things diverse. Save as much time for culture as you save for intellectual pursuits.



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

There is a new, fresh, and light kind of energy coming into your life. It will be just what you need to get through a few heavy days. Sunshine outside won't be any match for the sunshine in your heart.



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You've been working hard and you deserve some time off. You might not be able to take a fullblown vacation, or even leave town, but that doesn't mean you can't give your brain a break.



LIBRA

Sep.23-Oct. 22

There is no such thing as being too hopeful right now. Even if the worst-case scenario comes to fruition, you'll still be better off for having let yourself believe in



Nov. 22-Dec. 21

The conflict that has been brewing between you and another is going to start to fade and today, so you can breathe a sigh of relief and enjoy being friends again.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

ou have a lot more control over today's events than you think you do, and it's time to flex your muscle a bit. It will help you to victory in an entertaining power



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

One person probably sacrificing too much for the sake of keeping things peaceful. But the resentment is there, and it is growing. It's time to get it all out in the open. Work out a compromise.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Don't let others swollen pride be an excuse for you not to recognize just how well they've done. Be sure to let them know that you're proud of them. It won't cost you anything, and it will mean a lot to them.



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

You are feeling more flexible than ever in your mind and your body! This is a great day to explore a new physical exercise, like Pilates or tae kwan do or even salsa dancing!



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

You could benefit more from conflict and challenge than you do from collaboration and agreement today. Don't worry if you feel like making some



CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Sharing isn't necessarily a good thing after all, at least not right now. If you share your resources in your typically generous way, you're going to end up with the short end of the stick.

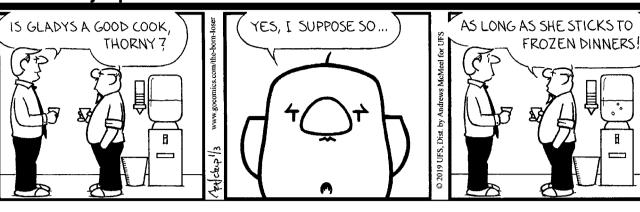


PISCES

Feb.19-Mar. 20

If you're currently watching what you eat, you can expect some rewarding news to come your way today. Your progress has been a bit more significant than you thought!

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY

EASY+

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WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	4	15	clear
Harbin	-3	7	clear
Tianjin	7	16	clear
Urumqi	0	7	cloudy
Xi'an	7	20	cloudy
Lhasa	-1	16	clear
Chengdu	16	20	overcast
Chongqing	13	25	clear
Kunming	6	21	clear
Nanjing	10	21	clear
Shanghai	15	20	clear
Wuhan	7	23	clear
Hangzhou	11	21	clear
Taipei	21	24	moderate rain
Guangzhou	16	27	clear
Hong Kong	21	25	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	2	4	drizzle
Frankfurt	2	12	overcast

13

13

13

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Feat; 5- Tender; 9- Thunder unit; 13- Burn soother; 14- Less common; 15-Prefix with - drome; 16-Aromatic herb; 17-Grammarian's concern; 18-Beaver creations; 18-Bea19- Relax; 21- Test site; 22- Scottish Gaelic; 23- Cpls.' superiors; 25- Soothe; 27- Dwarf; 31- Rarely; 35- High cards; 36- Enlist again; 38- Honkers; 39- Floor covering; 40- Beast of Borden; 42- Court fig.; 43- Overjoy; 46- Lecherous look; 47- Peter Fonda title role; 48- Low bow; 50- Rodin or Donatello; 52- Sheepish look; 54- Prepare a book or film for release; 55- Earth Daysubj.; 58- French nobleman; 60- Stupidity; 64- Species of antelope found in South Africa; 65- Legal right; 67- Adhesive; 68- Augury; 69- Parenthetical remark; 70- Mother of Ares; 71- Panamanian baby; 72- Longings; 73- Some digits;

DOWN 1- Title for Agatha Christie; 2- "East of Eden" director Kazan; 3- Seemingly forever; 4- Hates intensely; 5- Carrier to Copenhagen; 6- Unwritten; 7- Stately; 8- Volcano in Antarctica; 9- Small black beetle; 10- Cordelia's father; 11- Prepares for

battle; 12- Attitude; 14- Hernia; 20- That's awful!; 24- Sniff; 26- Human limb, section of a journey; 27- Gets under control; 28- Florida citrus center; 29- Dense element; 30- Public transports; 32- Distributed cards; 33- Bony prefix; 34- Unit just above a yard; 37- Portion; 41- Learned; 44- Catchword; 45- Musical aptitude; 47- Tense; 49- Noon; 51- It may be flipped; 53- Suckle; 55- Harrow rival; 56- Arrive; 57- Store sign; 59- Quarter, e.g.; 61 - Muffin topper: 62 - Preserve with salt: 63 -Votes for; 66-Bartender's requests;



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68					69						70			
71					72						73			

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

10

10

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993

PJ (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Paris

London

New York

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

drizzle

drizzle

drizzle

Telephone - Report 1000

Electricity - Report 28 339 922 Macau Daily Times 28 716 081

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DRIVE IN

WINSLET FINDS PASSION AMONG THE ROCKS IN 'AMMONITE'

LINDSEY BAHR, MDT/AP FILM WRITER

THE new film "Ammonite" unearths the stories of two women buried by history: paleontologist Mary Anning, who in the 19th century made significant prehistoric fossil discoveries along the coast in Southwest England, and geologist Charlotte Murchison, who worked in the area briefly alongside her geologist husband.

But instead of illuminating what we know about Mary and Charlotte and their work, in "Ammonite," writer-director Francis Lee ("God's Own Country") takes a footnote from their lives—that they worked together a bit and became friends — and turns it into a passionate affair. While that's an inspired idea for a piece of historical fiction, "Ammonite" is a mixed bag: exquisitely beautiful, with committed and lived-in performances and bursts of intense eroticism, but also a dreary and oddly empty experience.

Kate Winslet, stripped down and serious, plays Anning, who lives with her mother (Gemma Jones) and is struggling to get by. Life

AD 🖿



Kate Winslet, left, and Saoirse Ronan in a scene from "Ammonite"

(if you can call it that) in the coastal area of Lyme Regis is harsh, and you can see the toll it's taken in her eyes and hardened face. Although she's notable in her field, she doesn't get to socialize with the men in the Geological Society of London. Instead, she toils in silence in her hometown, searching for fossils in the cliffs and shilling her findings to curious tourists for meager sums.

Then geologist Roderick Mur-

chison (James McArdle) stops by her shop and asks her to take him out so he can see the world the way she sees it. It's admiration cloaked in unconscious condescension: He assumes Mary can and will hand over her lifetime of work and expertise in an afternoon on the beach. Behind him is his wife, Charlotte (Saoirse Ronan), cloaked in black and a figurative shadow of a person. Mary barely takes notice of her. The real Charlotte was a fellow woman of science a decade older than Mary. But in Lee's version, she's the young and fragile wife of a busy man. She has suffered a loss and is fading away into her own depression.

Roderick says he wants his "bright, funny, clever wife back," but he also treats her as a delicately wilting flower. You wonder if part of her mental state is due to the fact that he's the type of husband

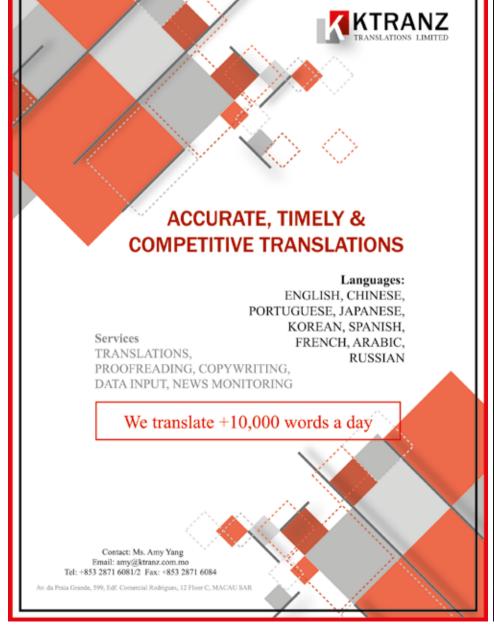
who orders a decadent meal for himself and then puts in for plain white fish, no sauce, for his wife.

He decides she shouldn't accompany him further on his travels, and pays Mary to take Charlotte out with her instead. Mary is insulted but grudgingly accepts. She needs the money. With their differences in age, social status and interests, Mary and Charlotte are an unlikely pair. But after a fever and convalescence, they have an intense affair that awakens both, briefly.

It's tempting to compare "Ammonite" to "Portrait of a Lady on Fire," another period piece about a lesbian relationship near the cliffs and sea. But "Portrait" was a sweeping, intoxicating release, and it'd be wrong to call "Ammonite" a love story or even a romance. The intimacy is fleeting and the revelations are few.

Perhaps that's because Lee's script is so spare, and there's only so much an actor can do to fill in the gaps. A film like this should give life to its characters and reveal essential truths beyond the book-report versions of their existence. But "Ammonite" keeps you at a distance on a rather vacant, but beautiful, journey.

"Ammonite," a Neon release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "some graphic nudity, graphic sexuality and brief language." Running time:







SOOTHING SENSATION

STAFF REPORTER

To keep skin hydrated and soothed during winter, there are numerous types of moisturiser one could purchase. However, for the discerning few who are searching for natural or organic ingredients that give immediate results on hydration level and luminosity, the quest for the perfect face cream could end in vain if one does not know where to look.

Sourcing ingredients such as goji berry and sea buckthorn straight from the Tibetan plateau, Akar is a unique skin care brand. The healing properties of the two fruits have long been known to man, recorded in ancient Tibetan medical texts from the 8th century. The efficacy of calming sensitivity, nourishing the dermis and softening the complexion is evident after the use of Akar's rosewater-based Soothe Moisturiser on the skin. After one application in the morning, the skin is hydrated and comforted throughout the day, with no signs of oiliness.

Packed with high molecular weight hyaluronic acid, vitamins C and B3, the light face cream enhances natural collagen synthesis, which could cause visibility of fine lines, enlarged pores, and uneven skin tone to eradicate. To strengthen cells, lotus flower extract and fatty acids from passionfruit seed

help with the skin's absorption of nutrients, while oat and geranium protect it from photo-aging.



FOOD REVIEW

Deluxe to-go sushi

PAULO COUTINHO, MDT

knows that high-quality sushi can be expensive.

There are supermarkets and shops selling extremely affordable machine-made sushi, yet the "texture of rice is off and cannot be compared to the handmade sushi that is carefully prepared with traditional cooking methods and just the right amount of flavors that complement various ingredients," told me Chef Lawrence Chen over a custom-made dish of sushi, sashimi and tempura worth a thousand patacas at his downtown cozy sushi bar.

NYONE who loves Japanese food

Well, it would cost that at a bar in a 5-star hotel.

Chen, the owner of Sushi Jiang (Rua de S. Lourenço, 21), sources premium ingredients like toro and French oysters from the same suppliers with whom 5-star hotels work.

A restaurateur who spent years in Taiwan, Lawrence has taken inspiration from the region's to-go establishments and came up with a sushi concept that enable diners to enjoy fresh, handmade sushi at an affordable price.

The price of toro stands at 2 patacas per gram, while numerous types of sashimi including hamachi and salmon are sold at reasonable prices.

The soy sauce is made "with an ancient Japanese secret recipe" and miso soup with fish bone stock is served with rice dishes daily. Another must-try dish is the sumptuous, creamy panna cotta that ends any meal with complete satisfaction.

Along comes the sake.













MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

OPINION World Views Ferdinando Giugliano, Bloomberg



LOCKDOWNS MAKE PERFECT SENSE NOW

The development of what looks like an effective vaccine against Covid-19 has ignited hopes that the worst of the pandemic will be over relatively soon. If successful, it will also vindicate a strategy that has proven controversial: Slowing down the spread of SARS-CoV-2 through draconian restrictions on people's activity.

The basic idea behind "lockdowns" was to flatten the curve of contagion so that it wouldn't overwhelm hospitals. This strategy had one major flaw: It didn't bring about a definitive end to the outbreak. The pandemic abated in the summer, thanks to the restrictions governments introduced in the spring. After politicians relaxed the rules, however, the virus regathered its strength. The same pattern appears to be emerging in the U.S., as New York City and other places battle with a rising second wave.

Buying time makes sense if you're trying to reduce the number of people who catch the most severe forms of COVID-19 at the same time, allowing doctors to take better care of them. But it's less effective if you've no good endgame to look forward to, other than the constant closing and reopening of your economy.

The proponents of "herd immunity" — and opponents of lockdowns — often start from the premise that there's no point trying to slow down the virus, since eventually we'll all have to catch it. Shutting schools, shops and restaurants only delays the inevitable. It's an idea that made Sweden famous in the first wave of the outbreak (even though the country denied it was ever a goal).

The announcement from Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE this week — if supported by further data — knocks down this line of thinking. It confirms that at least one vaccine will probably be available widely from early to mid-2021. If so, it makes sense for countries to continue to constrain the virus for another few months, in order to minimize deaths until there's widespread immunization. Assuming governments can distribute the first doses to the most vulnerable, and they're effective, only a few months of waiting could save many lives.

This doesn't mean governments have to opt for full lockdowns. Some countries such as Germany contained the first wave with fewer restrictions than states such as Italy and Spain. Effective tracing systems and strong hospital networks were important.

There are tentative signs, too, that the second wave might be stabilizing in parts of Europe, such as the U.K., even though lockdowns are looser now than in the spring — relying, for example, on regional restrictions and targeted closures of businesses. If cases and hospitalizations don't accelerate, and eventually fall, it may be possible to avoid draconian measures while "flattening the curve."

The discovery of an effective vaccine also has implications for economic policy. If countries only need wait a few more months before life slowly returns to normal, the case strengthens for very generous fiscal and monetary support. In a world without the prospect of widespread immunization, it made less sense to keep propping up businesses that would eventually become unviable. Why not just adapt to the "new normal" and accept more bankruptcies now, while retraining workers?

A working vaccine, by contrast, would suggest the current recession is temporary and that governments should provide a financial bridge for companies and employees.

There are, inevitably, plenty of reasons for caution. Pfizer and BioNTech are still waiting for data to ensure their vaccine is safe. We don't know how long immunization will last, nor how well it will do for subgroups such as the elderly. Or indeed if it can prevent the worst forms of Covid-19. A vaccine will take time to distribute and the need to have two doses will delay the immunization program. Governments can still cause unnecessary deaths if they don't get the logistics right.

However, the rapid discovery of a seemingly effective remedy does justify some of the tough choices made around the world. Restrictions have not been easy to cope with, but they may have been worth it.

NEW YORKER FIRES WRITER JEFFREY TOOBIN AFTER ZOOM INCIDENT

The New Yorker has fired longtime staff writer Jeffrey Toobin after he reportedly exposed himself during a Zoom conference last month. He had already been on suspension and is also on leave from CNN, where he is chief legal analyst.

"I was fired today by @NewYorker after 27 years as a Staff Writer. I will always love the magazine, will miss my colleagues, and will look forward to reading their work," Toobin tweeted yesterday [Macau time].

In a company memo, Conde Nast Chief People Officer Stan Dun-

can wrote that its "investigation regarding Jeffrey Toobin is complete, and as a result, he is no longer affiliated with our company."
"I want to assure everyone that we take workplace matters seriously," Duncan said.

Toobin, 60, is one of the country's most prominent legal authors and commentators. He is a former associate counsel in the Department of Justice who for the New Yorker has written about everything from the O.J. Simpson murder trial to the impeachment hearings of President Donald Trump.

CHINESE SHOPPERS SPEND OVER \$100 BILLION IN SHOPPING FEST



Workers monitor computers in a command center at the headquarters of online retailer JD.com in Beijing yesterday

CHINESE consumers spent over a hundred billion dollars during this year's Singles' Day shopping festival, signaling a rebound in consumption as China recovers from the coronavirus pandemic and a battering of the economy.

From Nov. 1 to Nov. 11, shoppers spent 498.2 billion yuan (\$75.1 billion) on Taobao and Tmall, the e-commerce platforms operated by Alibaba, China's largest e-commerce company.

The final sales figure exceeded last year's \$38.4 billion over 24 hours, after Alibaba extended its sales period this year for the first time

as it sought to help boost sales for merchants affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

On rival platform JD.com, consumers racked up 271.5 billion yuan (\$40.9 billion) in sales over the same period.

The annual Singles' Day shopping festival, the world's largest of its kind, offers shoppers generous discounts on a variety of products, from fresh produce to luxury items.

Merchants big and small, from small online stores to international brands like Apple, Nike and L'Oreal, participate in the festival by slashing prices on their products.

The annual shopping festival is closely watched as a barometer for consumption in China. Alibaba, which pioneered the shopping festival, held its first Singles' Day sale in 2009. Over the past decade, the shopping bonanza has become the world's largest, regularly dwarfing Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales in the U.S.

The Singles' Day festival is named as such because the main shopping day falls on Nov. 11, which when written numerically as 11.11 resembles "bare branches", a Chinese expression for the single and unattached. AP

AP Photo/Ajit Solanki

Russia Developers of Sputnik V, Russia's

experimental COVID-19 vaccine, announced that early data from a large trial suggests the shot appears to be 92% effective. The statement, which did not include detailed information about the trial, comes just two days after a similar one from Pfizer Inc., but is based on far fewer virus cases. Some experts suggest the data may have been rushed out in an effort to keep up with the worldwide race for a successful coronavirus vaccine.

Germany An appeals court has upheld the decision of the state of Brandenburg to expel a police academy cadet for using Nazi-related terminology during a class exercise on using the phonetic alphabet during radio calls, authorities said. According to the Berlin-Brandenburg Administrative Court, the cadet phonetically spelled the last name Jung with the German words "Jude," "untermensch," Nazi and "gaskammer" or "genozid": Jew, subhuman, Nazi and gas chamber or genocide.



Turkey's interior ministry has banned smoking in public places across the country to curb the spread of COVID-19. In a statement vesterday, the ministry said smoking would be banned in busy streets, bus stops and public squares when necessary. It said the nationwide mask mandate in public spaces, which has been in effect for several months, must be followed at all times and smokers were routinely violating the mask



UK A 26-year-old Libyan man pleaded guilty to murder for stabbing three friends to death as they sat in an English city park. Khairi Saadallah admitted to three counts of murder and three of attempted murder for the June 20 attack in Reading, 64 kilometers west of London.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Social crowding. Indians throng a market for shopping ahead of Hindu festival Diwali in Ahmedabad, India, yesterday.