



GOV'T SIGNS AN AGREEMENT WITH CHINA MEDIA GROUP TO AUTHORIZE THE BROADCAST OF OLYMPIC GAMES, CELEBRATORY PROGRAMS OF THE CCP

AL PASSES AMENDMENT ON PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SYMBOLS

THIS YEAR'S GRADUATING STUDENTS HAVE SHOWN GREATER RELUCTANCE TO GO ABROAD TO PURSUE FURTHER EDUCATION: DSEDJ

China Divers have been dispatched in the search for 14 workers missing since water flooded a tunnel under construction in southern China three days ago, authorities said yesterday. Zhang Yisheng, the vice mayor of Zhuhai city, told a news conference that the water level in the tunnel had dropped by 11.3 meters, according to an online report by state broadcaster CCTV. Underwater robots, unmanned ships and sonar detectors would also be deployed, Zhang said.



South Korea yesterday sent military aircraft to replace the entire 301-member crew of a navy destroyer on an anti-piracy mission off East Africa after nearly 70 of them tested positive for the coronavirus, officials said. Two multi-role aerial tankers are bringing the new crew and will then take home 301 sailors aboard the 4,400-ton-class destroyer *Munmu the Great*, Joint Chiefs of Staff and Health Ministry officials said.



Egyptian authorities released two activists and a journalist yesterday after months in pre-trial detention, officials and lawyers said, amid concern by President Joe Biden's administration over the arrest and harassment of government critics. State security prosecutors ordered the release of the three late Saturday pending ongoing investigations into charges against them, according to two judicial officials. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

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XINHUA

GROUP CALLS ON GOV'T TO ADDRESS TAIPA FALLING WINDOW PROBLEM

Nova Garden in Taipa has recorded two falling windows in the past week, posing significant risk to pedestrians in the area, a traditional residential neighborhood with regular foot traffic during peak hours. The problem of falling windows has become a recurring issue. Two community commentators expressed hope that the government will speed up its subsidy scheme for window inspection and improve education about regular maintenance. Meanwhile, real estate management committees should take measures to ensure pedestrian safety.

CCP CENTENNIAL PHOTO EXHIBITION RECORDS 42,000 VISITORS

A photo exhibition honoring the centenary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CCP) ended on July 15. More than 42,000 visitors visited the exhibition. Yan Zhichan, deputy director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Macau, spoke of the effectiveness of the event, saying that the exhibition has helped Macau's people to understand more about the history of the CCP from its hardships to its glory, and at the same time enabled them to strengthen their identification with socialism with Chinese characteristics and the CCP. The pictures in the exhibition will be transferred to the University of Macau for safekeeping. There will also be an online exhibition hall where the public can revisit it.

FERRY ROUTE BETWEEN OUTER HARBOUR AND JIUZHOU PORT OPENS

A ferry route between Outer Harbour Ferry Terminal and Zhuhai Jiuzhou Port started operation on Friday. The route is the second maritime traffic route between Macau SAR and Zhuhai Jiuzhou Port, the Marine and Water Bureau (DSAMA) announced on July 15. The bureau said that the route is operated by Shun Tak-China Travel Ship Management (Macau) Limited, and reminded the public to check the specific schedule of the route with the company.

ART MACAO

CHINESE CULTURE SHINES THROUGH AT MGM'S 'AWAKENING' ART EXHIBITION

HONEY TSANG

MGM has brought together artists from China in a thematic art exhibition titled "Awakening" — a kaleidoscopic art journey through a cornucopia of Chinese contemporary art — to highlight the riches of Chinese culture and call for "renewed faith, vitality and cultural enlightenment" in audiences during the pandemic.

The Awakening exhibition, in celebration of The Art Macao: Macao International Art Biennale 2021 (Art Macao 2021), kicked off at MGM Cotai on July 16.

The project is curated by Calvin Hui, a renowned gallerist in Hong Kong and an expert in contemporary Chinese art. Hui, also the co-founder of London and Hong Kong-based 3812 Gallery, is a long-time partner of MGM's with art projects.

The exhibition features modern artworks created by famed Chinese artists. The entire collection was inspired by MGM's "lion" brand image, with respect to the creature's intrinsic nature and symbolism in Lingnan culture.

A large-scale public art installation named "MGM Lion Party," perched at the Spectacle in the resort, was created by acclaimed Chinese sculptor Hung Yi. The installation is designed to raise public consciousness in harmonious coexistence with nature, rejuvenating audiences with its 14 animal sculptures adorned in bold and dynamic color tones.



Vivid traces of traditional culture, stories and totems can be found on every sculpture.

Another signature piece, "Awakening Lion," will draw viewers in with its bold lion image comprising a visual collage of China's cities. The work was conceived by Xue Song, a veteran college and contemporary pop artist.

Well-known Chinese artist Liu Guofu has created an oil painting masterpiece named "Awakening," featuring a subtle lion's body outline in blue hues, which is sure to entice art connoisseurs.

The exhibition is part of MGM's endeavors to foster the development of the "tourism and culture" sectors, in alignment with the nation's policy to shape Macau into an exchange and cooperation

base with Chinese culture as its mainstream and the co-existence of different cultures, according to Pansy Ho, co-chairperson and executive director of MGM.

"We will carry on and innovate in traditional culture, spreading its unique allure and injecting vitality into the cultural arts, making Macau a cultural tourism destination," Ho pledged in a videorecorded speech.

The exhibition, which is open now until October 31, is the inaugural event in the "MGM Lion IP Program," the group's long-term project aiming to showcase diverse artistic tourist offerings across multiple genres.

The opening ceremony was officiated by key officials and other guests, including director of the

Macao Government Tourism Office Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes and Director of the Cultural Affairs Bureau Mok Ian Ian.

Before the opening ceremony, MGM mounted the "Greater Bay Area Contemporary Art Symposium - Contemporary Dialogues of the Chinese Culture Awakening," at MGM Theater — with Calvin Hui, Xue Song, Liu Guofu and Wang Huangsheng, Chief Director of the Art Museum at Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, as guest speakers.

The art experts explored the intersections of Chinese arts and culture, and the prospects of the art industry in the Greater Bay Area. They called on young artists in the region to stick to and thrive on their originality.

AL passes amendment on protection of national symbols

RENATO MARQUES

THE Legislative Assembly (AL) has passed a bill amending laws on the use and protection of the national flag, emblem and anthem on the final reading.

The bill aims to enforce the amendments in Macau, approved October

last year by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

Among the amendments included are new penalties for those displaying or hoisting the national flag upside down or displaying a damaged, defiled, faded, or inferior quality national flag. Those in violation of the

laws face fines ranging between 2,000 and 10,000 patacas.

In other amendments passed concurrently, the national flag and emblem are to be included in both primary and secondary school education.

As previously reported, the new law also specifies several activities where

displaying the national flag may be considered improper, including at meals and other private events.

In general, the government and the first standing committee of the AL agreed that the national flag should not be abused.

The new amendments

also grant the Public Security Police Force and the Customs Service the power to inspect all situations where the national flag is displayed in public, so they can take action if the national flag is hoisted upside down or otherwise treated disrespectfully.

The amendment, which received unanimous approval from all legislators, comes into force on the day immediately after its publication in the government's Official Gazette.

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Implementation of national security law in HK reference for Macau: Security chief

RENATO MARQUES

THE implementation of the national security law in neighboring Hong Kong serves as a reference for Macau, according to Wong Sio Chak, Secretary for Security.

Wong spoke at a media briefing last Friday after a virtual seminar on the retrospective and prospective outcomes of the first year's implementation of the national security law in Hong Kong. Wong observed that "the first anniversary of the implementation [...] is of great importance since its application had a profound impact, enriched and perfected the principle of the 'One country, two systems' regime, [and is in that sense] an important reference for Macau."

The Secretary also quoted the vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and director of the Office for Hong Kong and Macao Affairs, Xia Baolong, who similarly recognized the value and relevance of implementing the same law during the video-conference.



According to Xia, the full application of the law in the neighboring region "helped Hong Kong to move from a situation of chaos to stability, demonstrating that the law came into force at the right time and that it had [positive] effects on the stability

and security of the Hong Kong."

Noting that Macau has had an established regime for the protection of State Security for many years, Wong added that, in the last few years, local authorities have been working to improve the local process, promo-

ting amendments and the inclusion of new areas such as cybersecurity law, among others.

In this work of improving local laws, Macau has been learning from and taking into account developments in the Hong Kong region, he remarked.

EDUCATION BUREAU SEES GRADUATING STUDENTS WARY ABOUT OVERSEAS STUDY

ANTHONY LAM

THIS year's graduating students have shown greater reluctance to go abroad in pursuing further education, Kong Chi Meng, deputy director of the Education and Youth Development Bureau (DSEDJ) has said on the sidelines of a public event.

Due to the pandemic, the education official said that this year's graduating secondary school students who intend to continue pursuing their studies have mainly applied for higher education institutions located in Macau or mainland China.

Furthermore, the education bureau was also told by local secondary schools that graduating students this year, in contrast to those in previous years, have become more cautious in their considerations about whether to pursue further education overseas.

The most popular places for Macau's secondary school graduates to consider studying outside of Macau include Taiwan, Australia, the U.S., Canada and the U.K.

For the time being, the epidemic conditions in these places are unstable, which is a concern for students and their parents when making decisions about where they should continue their studies.

Another factor is that air travel to certain places may not be as accessible as prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. For example, Taiwan has blocked all transit passengers as a disease control measure.

The education regulator has also opened and been moderating a number of instant messenger groups. These groups aim at providing information to Macau students who are studying abroad or planning to do so.

At the same time, the education regulator has so far received indications from more than 800 students currently studying outside of Macau of their intent to return.

"We have 17 instant messenger groups in which we can gather information, suggestions and comments," Kong announced. "For the time being, we can see that in the months of July, August and September, there are more than 800 students who would return to Macau."

Most of these students, the education official said, managed to book their flight tickets through normal ticketing channels. He stressed that the education regulator would remain in constant communication with these students through the instant messenger groups.

Gov't refutes criticism over Taipa pedestrian flyover defects

RENATO MARQUES

THE Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) has refuted criticism coming from several sectors of society regarding alleged construction defects in Taipa's recently opened pedestrian flyover.

In a statement, the bureau said, that in relation to the "failure of elevators and escalators, DSSOPT stresses that there was no damage in these situations." They went on to say that as the flyover is in an initial phase of use there are details still being finalized and adjustments being made by the contractor.

Responding to complaints about rust on the



fences of the pedestrian crossing, DSSOPT replied that "the material used is stainless steel, and we found that these marks are dirt stains. Since the premises has just been

opened, DSSOPT asked the contractor to improve their work and clean the premises [of] any stains left during the execution of the work."

The bureau reiterated

that an inspection by the staff of both the DSSOPT and the contractor found "no cracks in the connections, nor any problem concerning the safety of the structure."

The response comes after several members of the public and a member of the Islands District Community Service Consultative Council had publicly criticized the construction.

Council member Ng Hong Kei had expressed several concerns, especially over the malfunctioning of the elevators and escalators. "Since there are no longer zebra crossings on the road beneath the flyover, if the lifts continue to break down it will cause a lot of inconvenience to residents, especially those with physical disabilities," he said.

Lo Chung Yee, a member of the same council, also expressed concerns about the safety of road traffic in the crossroads located under the flyover. The structure of the flyover is said to block drivers' vision, creating blind spots.

COVID-19

BOOSTER SHOT 'NECESSARY,' SAYS HEALTH OFFICIAL

HONEY TSANG

EARLY data from global studies indicate that even being fully vaccinated with two doses is insufficient in preventing infection and transmission with Covid-19. In light of this data, the government asserts taking the third dose will be "necessary."

Dr Tai Wa Hou, coordinator of the Health Bureau's Covid-19 Vaccination Operation, unveiled the proposed three-shot regimen at a Covid-19 media briefing on July 16.

The government is now considering the practicability of the plan to determine when the third dose, also known as a booster dose, should be administered, and who should be given the third shots.

"[Global studies show that] having a second dose is sufficient to avoid severe illness and death, but it is not enough to prevent infection and contagion. As time goes by, the potency of the vaccine guarding against Covid-19 will gradually decrease," Tai explained.

Earlier this month, Pfizer-BioNTech revealed study results showing that people taking a third dose six months after their second dose showed antibody responses five to 10 times higher than levels after two doses.

Even though the Sinopharm vaccine is found to generate a relatively lower level of antibodies compared to the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, this does not mean that only people inoculated with Sinopharm should take booster doses, he added.



Whether to administer the booster doses or not will hinge on the city's supply of vaccines, Tai concluded.

Several countries and regions have already launched the three-shot regimen. On July 1, Russia was the first country to announce the launch of a booster vaccine campaign for people vaccinated more than six months ago. This move is aimed at controlling a rapid surge in cases related to Delta variants.

Early this month, U.K. health minister Matt Hancock announced that the U.K. government will purchase 60 million extra doses of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine in preparation for a possible booster program for people aged 50 or above, slated to launch from September this year.

However, the World Health Organization said in early July that

more data is needed to decide whether booster shots are necessary to maintain protection.

SINOPHARM RUNNING LOW

Macau is currently running low on the Sinopharm vaccine, with current stock expected to last only around two weeks.

Macau's stock of Sinopharm inactivated vaccines totaled 500,000 doses, with 420,000 already administered. This leaves only around 80,000 doses available for use.

"The city's current inoculating rate of Sinopharm vaccine stands at 5,000 doses daily. Given that, the remaining stock can only last for half a month. It will be out of stock afterward," Tai warned.

Authorities vow to work proactively on vaccine procurement, but cannot guarantee when the next shipment of Sinopharm vac-

cine will be delivered to Macau. Tai does not rule out the possibility that Sinopharm inoculation services will be suspended for a short period.

Meanwhile, the stock of Pfizer-

-BioNTech vaccines is considered "sufficient" and anticipated to last for 70 additional days, in light of the daily average administered dose rate of 1,000 per day.

The government is also studying the feasibility of administering a "Covid-19 vaccine cocktail," which involves taking different types of vaccine for the first and second shots.

ENCEPHALITIS CASE

A Sinopharm-related serious adverse event was reported July 15, in which a 63-year-old female was diagnosed with encephalitis, or inflammation of the brain.

The patient received the first dose of Sinopharm vaccine on July 3. She felt dizzy and fatigued July 12 and developed fever, confusion, and had difficulty expressing herself verbally the next day.

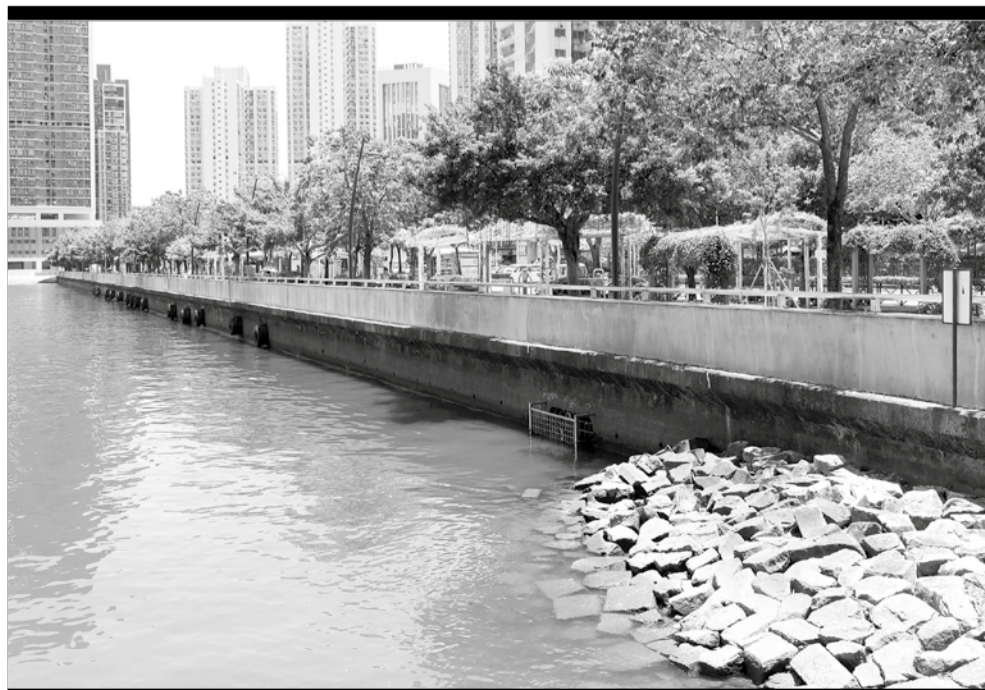
She was admitted to the Conde S. Januário Hospital and is in stable condition.

MACAU-CHINA TRAVEL BUBBLE CANNOT BE COMPROMISED

THE Macau government will prioritize its hard-won quarantine-free status with the mainland. Any proposed travel bubble schemes that may compromise the status quo — including the previously announced Hong Kong-Macau bubble — will not be implemented. Leong Iek Hou, coordinator at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, confirmed the decision last Friday when questioned by the media about the timeline for the

inter-city travel bubble scheme. She emphasized that Macau's anti-pandemic measures must be consistent with those implemented in the Mainland, because both areas are now classified as low-risk. Macau and Hong Kong governments have engaged in close communication to discuss details of the inter-city quarantine-free scheme. Should there be any updates, authorities will announce the details in due course.

Coastal flood prevention works wrapping up at Fai Chi Kei, Ilha Verde



RENATO MARQUES

THE Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) has announced that the construction works building a coastal flood prevention barrier in Fai Chi Kei and Ilha Verde are concluding, with the areas to be fully reopened to the public shortly.

In a statement to the media, the DSSOPT noted that the works, which have included increasing the height of some walls located along the coastline between the two zones, building a "rotary jet grouting pile water-resisting

curtain" and installing floodgates, are about to be completed. Some areas where works are already complete have been reopened to the public.

The walls which have been increased in height are located along the coastline between the leisure area of Avenida Marginal do Lam Mau and Rua da Ilha Verde, raising the concrete floodwalls to a height of at least 3.2 meters above sea level. The water-resistant curtain has the effect of blocking the entry of water into some areas. This work also includes the installation of one-way valves at the exits of the existing storm sewers on the coast which will prevent backflow of seawater.

The bureau said that the works will improve flood prevention capa-

city along the coastline between the Fai Chi Kei District and Ilha Verde, minimizing impacts on the lives of citizens due to rising seawater levels, such as during storms.

In relation to the rest of the work, the DSSOPT stated that "due to the reorganization and improvement of some drainage installations, there has to be coordination with the [relevant] services and the issue is being monitored as quickly as possible."

The last phase of construction is taking place in areas with a reduced circulation of people, and will therefore have a lower impact on the population.

Since works have concluded in the Fai Chi Kei area, the Fai Chi Kei North Bay Leisure Area has now reopened to the public.

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藝文薈澳

永利

GOV'T SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH CCTV PARENT COMPANY

ANTHONY LAM

THE China Media Group (CMG) has authorized the broadcast of two Olympic Games this year, as well as of celebratory programs of the Communist Party of China (CCP) in Macau.

CMG is the parent company of China Central Television (CCTV).

At the agreement signing ceremony yesterday, it was announced that the public broadcaster of Macau, the Teledifusão de Macau (TDM), will have the right to broadcast both the upcoming Tokyo Summer Olympics and the Beijing Winter Olympics.

The former will open in four days, with the latter taking place in six months' time.

Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng attended the ceremony yesterday and expressed his personal congratulations for CMG's latest three steps in the city.

Ho said that the government would step up collaboration with CMG in order to promote further Macau's



image and culture to the world, and to showcase the city's implementation of the "One country, two systems" principle with Macau characteristics.

These efforts were designed to advance the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area initiative, Ho added.

The government head recalled the agreement that the Macau government signed with CMG on December 26 last year. "These various activities are the embodiment of the effective implementation of the agreement," Ho said. "It marks the further deepening of cooperation between our

two sides and makes Macau residents more deeply aware of the care and support of the central government."

The CE said that Macau will work with CMG to tell the Chinese story well, spread the voice of China and show the true, three-dimensional and comprehensive China.

Meanwhile, CMG's president and editor-in-chief, Shen Haixiong, pointed out that the group is completely ready to broadcast the major events to audiences in Macau.

"[CMG] is fully prepared to use '5G+4K/8K+AI' and other cutting-edge technologies to show the charm of

the Olympic Games more clearly and vividly, and bring audiences an unprecedented on-site experience," Shen said at the ceremony. "[CMG] hopes that the majority of Macau compatriots can enjoy [...] the wonderful Olympics, while sharing the great glory of the prosperity and strength of the motherland."

The Macau broadcast of the two Olympic Games will be available in Cantonese, Portuguese and Putonghua.

Meanwhile, CMG's Asia-Pacific Headquarters yesterday signed a strategic cooperation agreement with the University of Macau, through which the latter will be able to use journalistic, audio-visual and other materials from CMG for education, research and thinktank purposes.

In addition to the sporting events, CMG yesterday also launched a broadcasting venture in which programs celebrating the centennial of the CCP's inauguration will be screened. The programs will be aired on the TDM.

MGTO TO PROMOTE WEDDING TOURISM

IN future Macao Week campaigns, the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) will place heavier emphasis on creative and wedding tourism, Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes has said.

Macao Week is a campaign led by the Macau government to promote the city in other places. Previously, the campaign reached several Chinese cities, including Beijing and Shanghai.

Senna Fernandes noted that the same content and set of strategies have been used for quite some time, hinting that they may have weakened effectiveness. In future, the MGTO will update the campaign to attract more tourists.

In the meantime, the tourism board is happy with turnout for the Macao Week campaign so far.

Senna Fernandes spoke to the industry's optimism about the Summer Holiday. After the seven-day Covid-19 test validity was reinstated, tourist arrivals rose to more than 20,000 per day, inspiring confidence to industry practitioners.

Additionally, the "Stay, Dine and See Macao" local tour scheme has so far attracted more than 60,000 registrations. Senna Fernandes hopes that the local industry will see some support in the summer because of the scheme. **AL**

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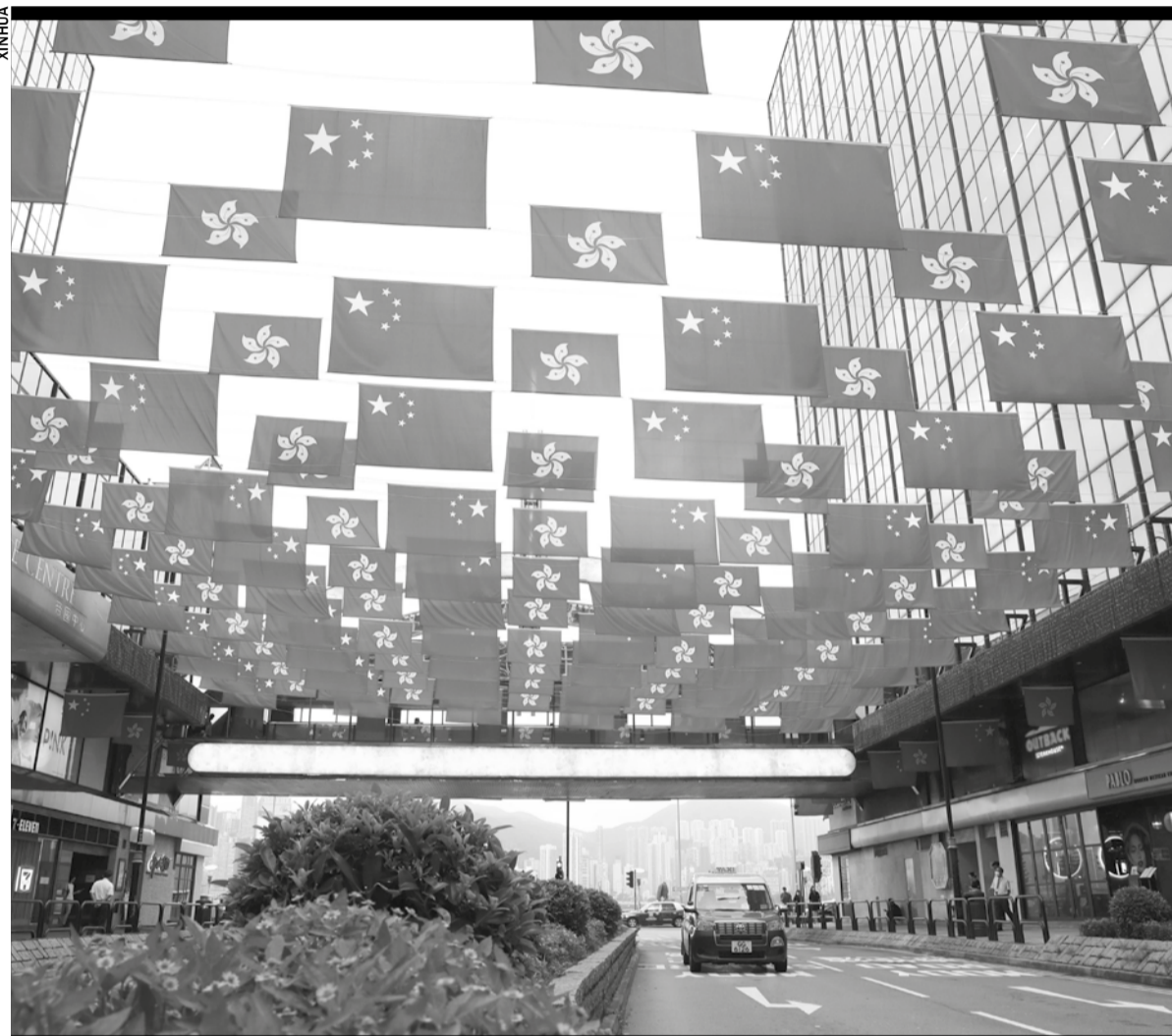
Commissioner in HK says US bullying act of sanction to backfire

THE office of the commissioner of the Chinese foreign ministry in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HK-SAR) has strongly disapproved and condemned the so-called "business advisory" issued by the U.S. government and the "sanctions" imposed on officials of China's central government in Hong Kong.

A spokesperson for the office said on Friday evening that the arbitrary and unreasonable bullying act of the U.S. side has smeared Hong Kong's business environment, seriously violated international law and basic norms governing international relations, and grossly interfered in Hong Kong affairs and China's internal affairs at large. All the Chinese people, including Hong Kong compatriots, will not accept it and will certainly counterattack.

The spokesperson said that under the national security law in Hong Kong, the public order of Hong Kong has been restored, the rule of law principle upheld, and its development back on track. Hong Kong residents enjoy lawful rights and freedoms, and foreign investors in Hong Kong have a more secure, stable and predictable business environment. Lawful rights and interests of international stakeholders, including U.S. enterprises stationed in Hong Kong, are better protected.

A report released by the In-



ternational Monetary Fund not long ago reaffirms Hong Kong's status as an international financial center. Moreover, media recently reported that the U.S. business community in Hong Kong opposed the U.S. government to issue a "business warning" for the financial hub, calling it a crazy and counter-

productive move.

However, ignoring China's opposition and the voice of the business community, the U.S. side insisted on concocting the so-called "advisory", talking down the prospects of Hong Kong and intimidating foreign investors in Hong Kong, with the intention to undermi-

ne Hong Kong's prosperity and stability, endanger China's national security, and contain China's development. The U.S. plot is despicable and contemptible, and it will never succeed, the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson pointed out that the U.S. side once again used tricks like sanctions

to pressure China, arbitrarily interfered in Hong Kong affairs and China's internal affairs at large, and grossly trampled on international law and basic norms governing international relations. This is another example of "American bullying" and "American double standards".

The U.S. side can neither undermine the steady and sustained implementation of "one country, two systems," nor stop the irreversible trend of the Chinese nation's rejuvenation, the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson stated that China has embarked on a new journey towards building a modern socialist country, and is gearing up to advance and implement the 14th Five-Year Plan and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Strategy. As the national security law is implemented and the electoral system improved, Hong Kong's status as an international financial, trade and shipping center has been more stable, the rule of law and its business environment have been more sound, and the society has been more harmonious.

The spokesperson stressed that Hong Kong belongs to China, Hong Kong affairs are purely China's internal affairs, and that Hong Kong's prosperity and stability must not be undermined.

The spokesperson urged the U.S. side to cease and desist, immediately stop its political plot to disrupt Hong Kong and China as a whole, stop its bullying act of arbitrary sanctions, and stop interfering in Hong Kong affairs and China's internal affairs at large in any form. The Chinese people will certainly fight back in response to the U.S. arbitrary move. **MDT/XINHUA**

China, moving cautiously, starts carbon trading market

CHINESE power companies bid for credits to emit carbon dioxide and other climate-changing gases as trading on the first national carbon exchange began Friday in a step meant to help curb worsening pollution.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the experimental first phase of carbon trading at the Shanghai Environment and Energy Exchange includes some 2,000 companies in the power industry that produce about 40% of China's emissions.

Over time, other major emitters will be added, such as airlines, the building materials industry and iron and steel makers.

China is the biggest



carbon emitter, but President Xi Jinping said last September that output should peak in 2030 and then decline. He said China should achieve "carbon neutrality," or zero total output after measures to

remove carbon or offset emissions are counted, by 2060.

The ruling Communist Party has resisted adopting any binding limits on carbon emissions, saying China has to focus first on

economic development.

At the Shanghai exchange, companies will be assigned emissions quotas and can sell the surplus if their output comes in under that level, Xinhua said. The goal is to

create financial incentives for companies to reduce emissions.

To start, the market should have "modest transaction volumes and prices" because companies have plenty of credits and there is no cap on emissions, Eurasia Group said in a June 26 report.

China has had regional carbon trading markets as pilot projects for several years.

Earlier, European power utilities and other companies paid for Chinese polluters to add wind, hydro and solar generating capacity in exchange for being allowed to increase their own emissions. The European Union ended that after it

failed to slow the rise of Chinese emissions.

The carbon market is unlikely to deliver immediate reductions, said Cory Combs, an analyst with consultancy Trivium China.

"This first year is about getting the process working," he said on a webinar this week. "The goal is to get this thing right, because if they get it right, then for the next 40, 50 [...] years to come, this can be a huge player."

The European Union unveiled a proposed revamp of its emissions trading program this week as part of sweeping legislation to cut emissions of gases that cause global warming. **MDT/AP**



FRANCE

Thousands protest against vaccination, COVID passes

CONSTANTIN GOUVY, PARIS

OVER 100,000 people protested across France on Saturday against the government's latest measures to push people to get vaccinated and curb rising infections by the delta variant of the coronavirus.

In Paris, separate protest marches by the far-right and the far-left wound through different parts of the city. Demonstrations were also held in Strasbourg in the east, Lille in the north, Montpellier in the south and elsewhere.

Thousands of people answered calls to take to the streets by Florian Philippot, a fringe far-right politician and former right hand of Marine Le Pen who announced earlier this month that he would run in the 2022 presidential election. Gathered a stone's throw away from the Louvre Museum, protesters chanted "Macron, clear off!", "Freedom," and banged metal spoons on saucepans.

While Philippot has organized small but regular protests against the government's handling of the coronavirus crisis, Saturday's demonstration drew a larger and more diverse

crowd of people broadly disaffected with politics: yellow vest activists angry over perceived economic injustice, far-right supporters, medical staff and royalists.

They denounced the government's decision on Monday to make vaccines compulsory for all health care workers, and to require a "health pass" proving people are fully vaccinated, have recently tested negative or recovered from the virus in order to access restaurants and other public venues. President Emmanuel Macron's government is presenting a draft law Monday to enshrine the measures.

"I will never get vaccinated," Bruno Auquier, a 53-year-old town councillor who lives on the outskirts of Paris. "People need to wake up," he said, questioning the safety of the vaccine.

While France already requires several vaccinations to enter public school, Auquier pledged to take his two children out of school if the coronavirus vaccine became mandatory. "These new measures are the last straw," Auquier said.

The government warned of the continued spread of the delta variant, which authorities fear

could again put pressure on hospitals if not enough people are vaccinated against the virus. The pandemic has cost France more than 111,000 lives and deeply damaged the economy.

During a visit to a pop-up vaccination center in the southwest, Prime Minister Jean Castex exhorted the French to stick together in order to overcome the crisis.

"There is only one solution: vaccination," he said, stressing it "protects us, and will make us freer."

At the Paris protest, a manual worker in his sixties expressed bitterness about jobs in his sector sent offshore. A 24-year-old royalist said he was there to demand "the return of God and the King."

Lucien, a 28-year-old retail shop manager, said he wasn't anti-vaccine, but thought that everyone should be able to do as they please with their own body. "The government is going too far," he said. His 26-year-old friend Elise said, "I am vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, and polio. But the COVID vaccine is just too experimental."

While a majority of French health care workers have had at least one vaccine dose, some

are resisting the government's decision to make vaccination compulsory for all staff in medical facilities.

At Saturday's Paris protest, a 39-year-old green party supporter and hospital laboratory worker said she might resort to buying a fake vaccination certificate to avoid losing her job. A health care worker dressed as the Statue of Liberty called it "act of violence" to force people to get vaccinated.

In Montpellier, more than 1,000 people marched to the train station, chanting "Liberty!" and carrying signs reading "Our kids aren't Guinea pigs." Security officials closed the main entrance to travelers and a dozen police officers took posts in front.

The Interior Ministry said 114,000 people took part in protests nationwide.

Overnight on Friday, vandals ransacked a vaccination center in the southeast. Interior Minister Gérald Darmanin asked prefects and police chiefs to reinforce security for elected officials, after several complained they had received threats in recent days over the latest anti-COVID measures.

Vaccine hesitancy is considered widespread in France, though appears to have faded somewhat as 36 million French people have gotten coronavirus vaccine doses in recent months. Millions more have gotten injected or signed up for vaccinations since Monday's announcement.

French health care workers have until Sept. 15 to get vaccinated. The requirement for COVID passes for all restaurants, bars, hospitals, shopping malls, trains, planes and other venues is being introduced in stages starting Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the French government announced tightened border controls, which started yesterday, but also said it would allow in travelers from anywhere in the world who have been fully vaccinated.

That now includes people who received AstraZeneca's Indian-manufactured vaccine. The move came after a global outcry over the fact that the European Union's COVID-19 certificate only recognizes AstraZeneca vaccines manufactured in Europe. **MDT/AP**

this day in history

1983 FLESH-EATING DINOSAUR RESURRECTED



Group leader and head of the Dinosaur Department at the Natural History Museum Dr Alan Charig explained: "It is a totally new species of dinosaur. Even more important, this is the first record of any meat-eating dinosaur being found in rock this age anywhere in the world."

He told a press conference at the museum the creature would have been about 15 feet tall - the same as a double-decker bus. It would have weighed half as much as an elephant, at about two tons, and could have run up to 20 miles an hour - faster than Sebastian Coe.

Nicknamed Claws, the dinosaur would have been slightly smaller than the Tyrannosaurus Rex - with teeth like steak knives - and was probably a subspecies of the Megalosaurus.

Mr Charig said the quarry where Mr Walker made the find was a well-known source of fossils and he had excavated an iguanodon skeleton there only last year.

But the experts are keeping the precise location of the site - known to be near Gatwick Airport - secret to keep away souvenir hunters.

The South Kensington museum hopes to have part of the skeleton on display for the public by the end of the year.

A huge new dinosaur skeleton has been unveiled to the media at the Natural History Museum in London.

Plumber and amateur fossil hunter Bill Walker, 55, found a foot-long claw belonging to the flesh-eating beast at a clay pit in Surrey in January.

When he found the rock containing the talon he tapped it and the whole thing cracked.

Palaeontologists reconstructed it and dated the remains at 125 million years old, describing them as the find of the century.

The scientists had to wait for the clay to dry out before they completed a two-week excavation in May when they filled three vans with bones.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Dinosaurs roamed the earth from 220 million years ago - the Triassic period - to 65 million years ago - the Late Cretaceous age.

The first dinosaur species to be identified and named was Iguanodon, discovered in 1822 by the English geologist Gideon Mantell.

Two years later the Rev William Buckland, professor of geology at Oxford University, became the first person to describe a dinosaur in a scientific journal.

Sir Richard Owen, a Victorian anatomist, was the first to coin the term dinosaur in 1842.

Bill Walker's find was from the Cretaceous period, when the age of the dinosaur was at its height.

It was a new species of fish-eating dinosaur, with skull and teeth similar to a crocodile, subsequently named Baryonyx Walkeri, meaning Mr Walker's heavy claw.

Scientists are still investigating why non-avian dinosaurs became extinct.

The main schools of thought are that they died out gradually because of climate change or that they were wiped out after a dramatic meteorite clash.

Most paleontologists hold the view that birds are directly descended from theropod dinosaurs.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Use your own ideas to further your interests. Use your added discipline to get what you want. Think twice before you pursue an unrealistic endeavor.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20
 You will feel the limitations if you have been overdoing it. Today will be rather hectic on the domestic scene. Your personal situation is fluctuating.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21
 You will be able to dazzle others with your obvious charm and your outgoing nature. Don't overlook that fact that someone you care about may be hiding something.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 You can have an enjoyable time if you socialize with friends. Get promises in writing or you will be disappointed. Get out and have some fun. Love could develop at social events that are work related.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 Do your own thing. You will be able to catch up on overdue paper work. Difficulties with your mate may lead to isolation. You may find a rare antique today.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 Sudden changes concerning coworkers may surprise you. A better diet, exercise, or a change to a relaxed atmosphere could be ways to soothe your nerves. Don't fall into the trap.

LIBRA
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 You may have difficulties with family members if you get involved in petty arguments. The great outdoors will allow you to teach youngsters some of the things you learned when growing up.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 You need to refrain from being the generous one in the group. Your ability to get the job done will result in added responsibility and possible promotion.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Be cautious handling tools, machinery, or dangerous objects. You can enjoy entertainment if you join in and follow the crowd for a change.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Travel for business or pleasure. Secret affairs may be tempting. You can do well on stage or behind the scenes, the choice is yours.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 Your unique contribution to the organization will enhance your reputation. Your high energy will enable you to enlist the help of those in a position to back you.

PISCES
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Don't let your emotional partner upset you today. Changes regarding your career direction will payoff handsomely. Lovers may prove unworthy of your affection.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	23	29	THUNDERSTORMS
Harbin	24	32	CLOUDY
Tianjin	25	30	RAIN
Urumqi	23	30	SHOWERS
Xi'an	24	33	RAIN
Lhasa	22	27	CLOUDY
Chengdu	26	33	CLOUDY
Chongqing	24	30	RAIN
Kunming	26	34	SHOWERS
Nanjing	20	28	SHOWERS
Shanghai	27	34	THUNDERSTORMS
Wuhan	26	34	CLOUDY
Hangzhou	24	31	THUNDERSTORMS
Taipei	24	31	THUNDERSTORMS
Guangzhou	20	32	FINE
Hong Kong	24	32	CLOUDY
WORLD			
Moscow	19	31	rain
Frankfurt	14	23	cloudy
Paris	16	24	cloudy
London	12	23	overcast
New York	24	32	overcast

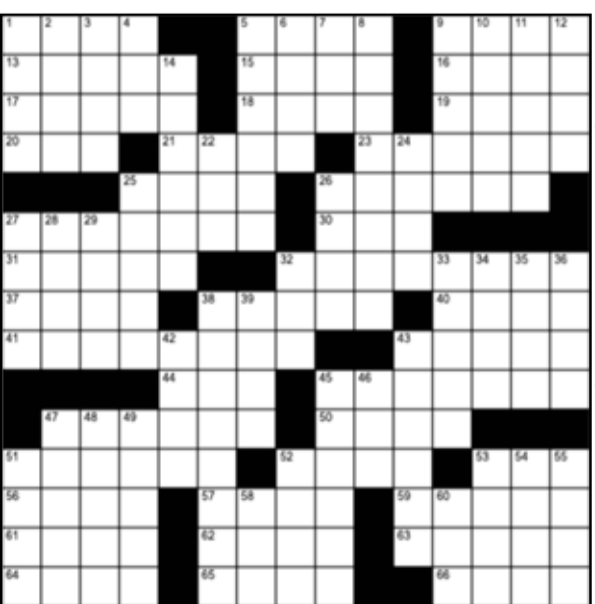
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Very bad; 5- Ethereal; Prefix; 9- Wine choice; 13- Hawaiian dances; 15- Apartment, e.g.; 16- Mandlikova of tennis; 17- ___ a customer; 18- Duds; 19- Squeezes (out); 20- PIN requester; 21- Musical composition; 23- Dress; 25- Molecular component; 26- Prepared for publication; 27- Culinary department; 30- Appomattox figure; 31- Conscious; 32- Scaremonger; 37- Ceremonial act; 38- Absorbent cloth; 40- Romain de Tiroff, familiarly; 41- Carousing; 43- Siouan speakers; 44- Maui memento; 45- Mother and father; 47- Annul; 50- Mild oath; 51- Vanquish; 52- OPEC member; 53- Arafat's org.; 56- Big do; 57- They're charged; 59- Ancient tongue; 61- High schooler; 62- Roman emperor; 63- Trimming tool; 64- Military force; 65- Sheepish look; 66- ___ silly question...

DOWN 1- Rider's command; 2- Polly, to Tom Sawyer; 3- Skelton's Kadiddlehopper; 4- Crazy ___; 5- Fall; 6- Grandson of Adam; 7- Semi; 8- You're on!; 9- Role for Clark; 10- Jack of "The Great Dictator"; 11- Bergen dummy; 12- Smooth sailing; 14- Assuage; 22- "The Bells" poet; 24- Stratum; 25- Green ___ is the place to be; 26- Vogue rival; 27- Syrup brand; 28- Victor's cry; 29- Ciao!; 32- Reverence plus fear; 33- Doled (out); 34- Wrinkle remover; 35- Editor's note; 36- Actress Harper; 38- Applying a remedy; 39- Trompe l'___; 42- This can be guilty or not guilty; 43- Citrus fruit; 45- Individual; 46- Ottoman official; 47- Allude; 48- Violinist Zimbalist; 49- Indiana state flower; 51- Group of individual facts; 52- Cross inscription; 53- Clothes-pins; 54- Vichysoise ingredient; 55- Gumbo veggie; 58- Done, to Donne; 60- Nutritional std.;

Friday's solution

ERAS	PASHA	OVER
TOFU	ADLIB	KARO
TARN	NAILS	INRE
TNOL	EMPLOYEES	
TEL	SRO	
MONTEITH	BROKE	
APE	OSIER	SRNST
NEED	TELIC	GATA
ANDIE	APPLE	VEG
SANAA	SEAMLESS	
SST	SUR	
EPHESIANS	ALAI	
MENU	ENLAIN	NESS
ARIL	SCARF	TIKI
OONA	STRAY	OAST



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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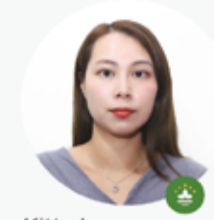
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Property of the Week



Heng Tai
HKD 3,980,000 950 ft² 1 1

Originally a three bedroom apartment the current owner has done a fabulous redesign job, making the property into a stunning one bedroom property. The redesign makes great use of the space with a modern well equipped fully fitted kitchen, great size double bedroom, well designed walk shower room, balcony and lovely working come entertaining area, with user friendly built in cabinets. Viewing can be arranged anytime.



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Ref: 2107 6002

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Property Hotlist



Lun Vo
HKD 5,700,000
770 ft²
2
1



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Ref: 2107 6001



Jardim Lamerias
HKD 11,200/mth
747 ft²
2
2



SCAN ME
Ref: 2106 1003



Tai Nin
HKD 8,600/mth
720 ft²
1
1



SCAN ME
Ref: 1909 1002

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For Sale

- [Taipa] Chun Fok 2 1 640 ft² **HKD 5,890,000** Ref: 2103 1001
- [Macau] Macau, ZAPE 2 1 720 ft² **HKD 7,450,000** Ref: 2101 6002
- [Macau] Lakeview Tower 3 2 1,344 ft² **HKD 11,000,000** Ref: 1912 6001
- [Taipa] Nova Taipa 1 3 2 1,880 ft² **HKD 15,000,000** Ref: 2103 6004
- [Taipa] Manhattan 4 2 2,305 ft² **HKD 17,980,000** Ref: 1807 5558

For Rent

- [Taipa] Nova Park 2 1 958 ft² **HKD 13,800/mth** Ref: 2105 1004
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F1 Verstappen wins historic sprint race to stretch title lead

MAX Verstappen out-dragged Lewis Hamilton at the start of Formula One's experimental first sprint qualifying race to take the pole for the British Grand Prix and spoil the homecoming of the seven-time champion.

Hamilton initially seemed fine with the defeat and showed enthusiasm for the format and the fan energy at packed Silverstone.

"I don't know how it looks to watch from the fans," Hamilton said from aboard an open-air trolley used for the "podium" drivers as they were taken for a lap past the grandstands.

Hamilton said in the trolley the inaugural sprint race format was "way more enjoyable. We should do more like that, or a version of it in the future."

But the Mercedes driver changed his tune by the post-race news conference as he sullenly accepted he'd lost again to



Verstappen and Red Bull. Hamilton said there he didn't like the format — which, also, cost him another point in the standings.

The Dutchman stretched his lead over Hamilton by winning the sprint, and takes a 33-point

advantage over the local driver into yesterday's grand prix.

"In my opinion there needs to be a Saturday and Sunday weekend," Hamilton said.

Verstappen and third-placed Valtteri Bottas — Hamilton's

teammate — said they preferred the traditional three-round qualifying, noting they'd rather have used the track time for practice.

The leaders of F1 have recognized the series needs a freshening as its audience starts reaching key younger demographics and so this weekend they tried something new. One practice session was cut and transitioned instead on Friday to the preferred knockout qualifying, which was won by Hamilton.

But that only set the starting grid for Saturday's sprint race — dicey because there's always the chance the drivers don't push hard out of fear of damaging their cars a day early when points aren't on the line.

That wasn't a problem because it was racy right from Verstappen's jump on Hamilton as flames shot from Verstappen's heated left front tire. Fernando Alonso jumped from 11th to fifth in the opening lap before finishing seventh, and Sergio Pe-

rez crashed.

Any chance of Hamilton finally topping the championship leader was lost when Verstappen simply drove away from Hamilton at the start.

"They've done a really great job with their engine, their starts are really great this year," Hamilton said. "We've lost a bit of performance on our starts, so we've got to work a bit harder to improve that."

Verstappen earned three points for the win, as well as the pole. It put Verstappen in position for a fourth consecutive win, all from pole.

Red Bull has won five straight, which includes a Perez victory. He was the biggest casualty of the experimental qualifying when he crashed on the fifth lap and finished last.

That is a reason Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff pointed to in favor of sticking with traditional qualifying.

"Overall it is a good add on," Wolff said. "I don't want to see it every race, I think there is too much randomness ... last is not the place Sergio Perez should be."

"It could really work against you if you're one of the frontrunners so there is too much randomness but I think if the next few ones go like this one, I think it has a place in the calendar in a limited form." MDT/AP

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Patrocinadora: Secretaria da Social Affairs and Culture of the Government of the Macau Special Administrative Region

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OPINION

China Daily

Michele Genovese, China Daily

MUTUAL RESPECT KEY TO UNDERSTANDING CHINA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

How and why have China's economy and national strength been growing at such a rapid pace over the past decades?

As evidenced in the writings of many travelers who had the opportunity to visit the country over the past millennium, China was at the global forefront for hundreds of years in terms of wealth creation and distribution, cultural and technological advancement, and infrastructure development.

The myth of a backward and miserable China spread throughout the world due to a relatively short period of crisis the country faced, which coincided with the Industrial Revolution that propelled several Western countries to the top of the world in terms of production and trade, followed by immense social, economic and unfortunately also military progress accompanied by colonial conquests and transcontinental wars.

The turnaround that projected a rising China began after the end of World War II, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, which is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its founding this year.

The achievements of the CPC are undeniable, even though it has made some wrong choices on way to leading the country to prosperity, a developing trend that has continued over the last 40-odd years. That China has lifted hundreds of millions of people out of extreme poverty in itself is a monumental achievement.

China's international image as a responsible global power has grown as it has been producing more goods and services for people in the country as well as the rest of the world. China has also made remarkable progress in the fields of education, culture, science and technology with repercussions on the complex nature of international relations.

China's achievements can be attributed to the deep cultural roots of an ingenious, disciplined and immensely productive people, but also to its leadership that guides the country's overall development with undeniable competence and ability.

Still, China cannot and should not ignore the frictions with other countries, especially those that claim to represent democracy, criticize the CPC's governance principle, and accuse China of human rights violations and strengthening its armed forces to subjugate other, weaker countries.

For the good of humanity it is crucial that high levels of understanding and respect for national concerns and mutual points of view be accorded due priority, for that would allow concrete action to be taken to maintain the international balance and meet the needs of people, and preserve the diverse cultures and traditions around the world.

The Chinese economy cannot be isolated from the world economy, and countries must learn to work together for the common benefit of the world. As for the international community, it should not ignore the importance of the principles of global governance.

A tradition that dates back thousands of years and a powerful political leadership continue to inspire and guide China, which deserves the prestigious place it holds in the assembly of nations.

Two athletes living in the Olympic Village have tested positive for COVID-19, the first to do so with the Tokyo Games opening on Friday.

Organizers confirmed the positive tests yesterday and both were listed as non-Japanese. No names or other details were provided.

Organizers also said another athlete had tested positive but this person was not residing in the Olympic Village. This athlete was also identified as "non-Japanese."

Also on Sunday, the first International Olympic Committee

member was reported as positive. He recorded a positive test on Saturday entering a Tokyo airport.

The International Olympic Committee confirmed the test and identified him as Ryu Seung-min of South Korea. He won an Olympic gold medal in table tennis in the 2004 Olympics.

He was reportedly being held in isolation. Reports said he was asymptomatic.

IOC President Thomas Bach said last week there was "zero" risk of athletes in the village passing on the virus to Japanese or other resident of the village.

EUROPE FLOODING TOLL OVER 180 AS RESCUERS DIG DEEPER

GEIR MOULSON, BERLIN

THE death toll from flooding in Western Europe climbed above 180 yesterday after rescue workers dug deeper into debris left by receding waters.

Police put the toll from the hard-hit Ahrweiler area of western Germany's Rhineland-Palatinate state at more than 110 and said they feared the number may still rise. In neighboring North Rhine-Westphalia state, Germany's most populous, 45 people were confirmed dead, including four firefighters. And Belgium has confirmed 27 casualties.

Chancellor Angela Merkel was due to visit Schuld, a village near Ahrweiler that was devastated by the flooding, yesterday. Her visit comes after Germany's president went to the area on Saturday and made clear that it will need long-term support.

Finance Minister Olaf Scholz said he will propose a package of immediate aid at a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday, telling the Bild am Sonntag newspaper that more than 300 million euros (\$354 million) will be needed. And he said that officials



AP PHOTO

must start setting up a rebuilding program which, from experience with previous flooding, will be in the billions of euros.

Although rain has stopped in the worst-affected areas of Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands, storms and downpours have persisted in other parts of western and central Europe. There was flooding Saturday night in the German-Czech border area, across the country from where last week's floods hit, and in Germany's southeastern corner and over the border in Austria.

Some 65 people were evacuated in Germany's Berchtesgaden area after the Ache River swelled. At

least one person was killed.

A flash flood swept through the nearby Austrian town of Hallein late Saturday, but there were no reports of casualties.

Heavy rain and storms caused serious damage in several parts of Austria.

Climate scientists say the link between extreme weather and global warming is unmistakable and the urgency to do something about climate change undeniable.

Scientists can't yet say for sure whether climate change caused the flooding, but they insist that it certainly exacerbates the extreme weather that has been on show around the world. MDT/AP

US A drone attack targeted a truck for an Iran-backed militia in eastern Syria yesterday, destroying the vehicle without causing any casualties, two Iraqi militia officials said. The attack came amid increasing tensions in the region between the U.S. military and Iran-backed Iraqi militias in recent weeks. The Americans have targeted militants who used drones and rockets to hit bases housing U.S. troops.



AP PHOTO

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's spokesman yesterday condemned a European Union court decision to allow employers to ban staff wearing Muslim headscarves as appeasing Islamophobia. "The decision by the European Court of Justice on headscarf in the workplace is another blow to the rights of Muslim women with headscarf and will play right into the hands of those warmongers against Islam in Europe," Ibrahim Kalin tweeted.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson will spend 10 days self-isolating after contact with a confirmed coronavirus case, his office said yesterday — reversing an earlier announcement that he would not have to quarantine. Johnson's 10 Downing St. office said yesterday that the prime minister and Treasury chief Rishi Sunak were both alerted overnight by England's test-and-trace phone app. He had a meeting on Friday with Health Secretary Sajid Javid, who tested positive for Covid-19 on Saturday. Javid, who has been fully vaccinated, says he is experiencing mild symptoms.



AP PHOTO

Portugal A strike by airport baggage handlers and ground crews in Portugal was expected to cause a second day of disruption yesterday, with most flights into and out of Lisbon canceled. The 48-hour walkout forced the cancellation of around 300 flights on Saturday, mostly in Lisbon. Long lines formed as stranded passengers sought to rearrange their travel plans.



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