

For your health and the health of others  
Get vaccinated against COVID-19

Vaccination booking system



Please scan QR code or visit website  
<https://eservice.ssm.gov.mo/covidvacbook>  
Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre

www.rcr-macau.com



FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Geldenhuys

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

N.º 3738 **TUESDAY** T. 10°/ 16° Air Quality Bad  
23 Mar 2021

“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

MOP 8.00  
HKD 10.00 2305 4271

**MAINLAND TOURIST HAS BEEN SEARCHED BY AUTHORITIES AND PLACED UNDER MEDICAL OBSERVATION AT THE CLINICAL CENTRE IN COLOANE**

P2

**PJ UNFOLDS CASE OF HIRING OF ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION WORKERS INVOLVING 17 PEOPLE**

P4

**AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR OF OVERHAUL, NÜWA AT CITY OF DREAMS WILL BE UNVEILING ITS NEWLY REFURBISHED GUESTROOMS ON MARCH 31**

P5



**China** Bad weather prompted more than 200 Chinese fishing vessels to anchor at a reef claimed by the Philippines, Beijing said yesterday, sidestepping accusations from Manila of a move by China's vast South China Sea maritime militia to assert control in the area. However, China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying pointedly told reporters at a briefing that Whitsun Reef was part of the Spratly Islands, one of the main archipelagoes in the South China Sea, which China claims virtually in its entirety. *More on p6*



**Myanmar** The BBC said yesterday that a journalist from its Burmese-language service was released by authorities in Myanmar but gave no details, as protesters in the Southeast Asian nation continued their broad civil disobedience movement against last month's military coup. The journalist, Aung Thura, was detained on March 19 by men who appeared to be plainclothes security agents while reporting outside a court in the capital of Naypyitaw.



**U.S.** Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, on his first visit to Afghanistan as Pentagon chief, said that the Biden administration wants to see "a responsible end" to America's longest war, but the level of violence must decrease for "fruitful" diplomacy to have a chance. With questions swirling about how long U.S. troops will remain in the country, Austin said that "in terms of an end date or setting a specific date for withdrawal, that's the domain of my boss."

More on backpage

# VISITORS PLUNGE

Tourist arrivals in February dropped to 427,122, a decline of 23.3% month-to-month

P5



BLOOMBERG

COVID-19

**LOCALS CALLED ON TO TAKE JOBS TO PAVE THE WAY FOR TRAVEL**

P3

MACAO CENTRAL LIBRARY

**PLAN TO REDIRECT TRAFFIC UNDERGROUND SCRAPPED**

P2

**HOUSEHOLD  
INTERNET  
USERS CLIMB  
TO 183,500**

The number of Macau households using the internet climbed by 1,200 year-on-year to 183,500 in 2020, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) - 91.9% of the total households in Macau. The tally of households using fiber optic broadband connection also increased by 6.5% year-on-year, accounting for 80.5% of the total household Internet connections. The share of households using mobile broadband grew by 0.1% point year-on-year to 98.0%.

**CPI DROPS DUE  
TO DECLINING  
HOTEL ROOM  
RATES**

The composite Consumer Price Index (CPI) for February dropped by 0.95% year-on-year to 102.6. The Statistics and Census Service indicated that the drop was mainly due to declining package tour charges and hotel room rates amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Other factors were the seasonal sale of clothing, reduced charges for telecommunications services and lower vegetable prices, and falling prices of gasoline, pork and vegetables from their elevated levels a year ago.

# NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY ABANDONS PLAN TO MOVE TRAFFIC UNDERGROUND

RENATO MARQUES

**T**HE new Macao Central Library, which will be built on the former site of Hotel Estoril in Tap Seac Square, will abandon its plan to re-direct traffic underground from the Avenida de Sidónio Pais, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) told the Times.

In a written reply to questions submitted to the bureau regarding the project, the IC confirmed that the plan to build a new section of the road tunnel at Tap Seac Square and consequently expand the Square up to the library is no longer being considered.

"In the early planning stage of the project of the Youth Centre of Tap Seac for Cultural, Recreational and Sporting Activities, the construction of a vehicle underpass on part of the Avenida de Sidónio Pais was considered so that the area of the Tap Seac Square could be expanded and connected with the land where the former Estoril Hotel is situated," the IC said.

"The Transport Bureau was asked to conduct a preliminary assessment. However, the road at the entry and exit of the [formerly considered] vehicle underpass would have to be quite steep or [call for] a very long tunnel. This would affect different roads accessing Avenida de Sidónio Pais, and create several complications for the transport network. Therefore, this [proposal] can hardly be achieved in the short term."

Addressing questions regarding the accessibility of the new building, the IC added that "The Cul-



tural Affairs Bureau attaches great importance to public concerns about the connection between the Tap Seac Square and the New Macao Central Library. Therefore, we will work with the relevant departments to explore the feasibility of building pedestrian facilities, such as a footbridge or an underground passage, in order to provide the public with a more convenient and safer environment."

The bureau also acknowledged that some of the accessibility and traffic-related concerns had also been expressed during the public

consultation period. "IC will incorporate the relevant opinions in the design requirements of the next phase of the project, including consideration of building an [extra level in the] underground car park."

The idea of creating a new traffic underpass was first raised during the presentation of the now scrapped Youth Activity Center, which would have taken up a far larger area. This included the use of land currently occupied by the Estoril Swimming pool, which would have been relocated to a different part of the building.

According to the IC president, Mok Ian Ian, the new central library building is expected to be completed late 2024 or early 2025 with a budgeted cost of around MOP500 million. The design of the library was recently contracted to the Dutch architecture firm Mecanoo.

In some of the four design proposals received by the IC from different architecture companies, the expansion of the square to the perimeter of the building was considered, transforming the road into a pedestrian and garden area.

# Mainland tourist apprehended and placed under medical observation in Coloane

RENATO MARQUES

**A** 52-year-old man from Xi'an was searched by the police authorities in Macau and placed under medical observation at the Public Health Clinical Centre in Coloane yesterday morning, the Novel Corona-

virus Response and Coordination Center reported.

The actions from local health authorities were taken after a report from Zhuhai's Municipal Health Department claiming that the man, who entered Macau last Saturday (March 20) has been previously admitted on Mar-

ch 9 to the Eighth Hospital in Xi'an for surveillance and monitoring, the health authorities informed, highlighting that he was not considered a close contact person of a Covid-19 patient.

After being located in the early hours of Monday, the man was taken

to the Special Emergency Service of the Conde de São Januário Hospital Center to undergo a nucleic acid test (NAT).

Results from the test were negative for Covid-19 but the man was still transported to the Public Health Clinical Centre in Coloane to un-

dergo mandatory medical observation in isolation.

The authorities also identified a friend of this man and the taxi driver who transported him from the border post to the MGM Cotai Hotel, where he was staying. Both were also adminis-

tered with a NAT which had negative results.

Health authorities also said that, so far, all NATs have been negative, meaning the risk of infection is not high and that the man from Xi'an represents a low risk for Macau.

The authorities also said they recorded information from guests staying on the same floor at MGM Cotai and hotel staff who might have been in contact with the man for follow-up, if necessary.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

**REACHING OUT!**

**+20,000**

Like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報  
**Times**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
ASSISTANT EDITOR Lynzy Valles SENIOR WRITER Honey Tsang  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Leanda Lee, Severo Portela, Sheyla Zandonai

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Anthony Lam, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Viviana Segui  
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES Associated Press, Bloomberg, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua  
SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

OFFICE MANAGER Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com  
ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

# Locals called on to take jabs to pave the way for expedited travel

HONEY TSANG

**C**ONSIDERING the willingness has remained low among Macau's residents to receive a coronavirus inoculation, locals should take the jabs as early as possible to help the city achieve herd immunity, which may lay the foundation for hassle-free travel in the future, Dr. Tai Wa Hou, coordinator of the Health Bureau's Covid-19 Vaccination Operation, said yesterday at the regular Covid-19 media briefing.

"Considering the pandemic situation in Macau has remained relatively stable, the locals have not had the urge or a high inclination to take the jabs at the moment," he explained.

As of yesterday, Macau saw a total of 77,587 people who registered for the vaccination program. Among this figure, 37,707 already received their doses.

On the positive side, the absence rate of the inoculation scheme over the past two weeks hovered between 7% to 9%, and has not shown any signs of spike after cases of adverse reactions following the vaccination were reported, Tai said.



The steady absence rate, he pointed out, is a testament to residents' confidence in the two currently available types of vaccine — the inactivated vaccine developed by China's state-owned pharmaceutical company Sinopharm Group and the mRNA-based vaccine developed by German drug manufacturer BioNTech and proxied by Fosun Pharma.

In the briefing, Tai also sta-

cked up Macau's absence rate against Hong Kong's, which had surged due to public concern following the emergence of some cases requiring hospital treatment after their jabs.

Since the kickoff of the vaccination scheme in Macau, a total of 110 adverse events have been reported, including one serious adverse event, although the 67-year-old male has been discharged after

treatment without any signs of long-term effects or complications.

When asked by the media whether the current insurance package offered by the government would cover the aforementioned serious adverse event, Tai said the particular case will not be regarded as an eligible insurer as the reason for hospitalization was confirmed to be unrelated to the

vaccination.

"Only those incidents directly related to the vaccine can be covered in the insurance," he stressed.

The authorities will capitalize on group vaccination to stimulate the city's overall vaccination rate, he pointed out

"We will allocate locations and time slots for herds of people who hail from the same alliances, organizations, departments and so on, to receive their jabs together at the time," he said.

The authorities are now considering rolling out vaccination outreach activities to extend the inoculation service beyond the government's health facilities to other venues like schools in due course.

The government is also studying the feasibility to exempt Covid-19 testing for travel after the vaccination rate reaches a certain level, Tai said, adding that the authorities have been proactively in discussion with other governments regarding expedited travel for vaccinated people.

However, he stressed the implementation of vaccine passports is still in its infancy. Hence, the government has not yet set a timeframe for that, despite hopes that it will be achieved.

The Covid-19 briefing was held yesterday, which also marked the first day for the first batch of locals to receive their second dose of inactivated vaccine.

## Residents to receive vaccination certificates after two injections

HONEY TSANG

**R**ESIDENTS will get a vaccination certificate and a record card upon receiving the two doses necessary for the Covid-19 vaccination, Dr Tai Wa Hou, coordinator of the Health Bureau's Covid-19 Vaccination Operation, confirmed yesterday.

Tai's remarks came on March 22 which marks the first day the first batch of residents took their second doses of vaccine.

Macau's Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng, along with other officials had already taken the second dose, Tai disclosed.

The vaccination certificate and portable record card will have the same information, including the receiver's identity, the type of vaccine taken, the



vaccination date and a QR code for authorities to access the details with ease.

"We are hoping that the vaccination certificate can be used as a travel passport for locals to travel with greater convenience in the future," Tai added.

The Health Bureau (SSM) has a reminder system in place to advise

residents to register and take their second jabs in time.

Medical staff also give an on-site reminder to those who had just received the first dose. In addition, the SSM will send a message to the individual on the 21st day after the first vaccination to remind them to make an appointment for the second dose of vaccination

by the 28th day.

If there is still no appointment registered on the 28th day, the SSM will send out another message to the individual after five days.

Macau has seen a total of 77,587 people who registered for the vaccination program. Of this figure, 37,707 have already received their doses and another 1,700, or 4% of the total, were deemed ineligible for vaccination after evaluation.

Most of these 1,700 people were found to have some chronic diseases, such as high blood pressure or diabetes.

Tai stressed that those who were rejected in the first vaccination attempt can still be inoculated after they return to healthy parameters.

## CONSULATE SETS UP NEW SERVICE TO CATER TO PORTUGUESE RESIDING IN HKSAR

**T**HE Portuguese Consulate General in Hong Kong launched a new remote service yesterday aiming to provide consulate services to the Portuguese community in Hong Kong.

This comes after it received complaints from the community in the neighboring region who faced problems in accessing basic consular services such as passport or citizen card renewals.

According to a statement it published on its social media page, the consulate noted, "This is a temporary solution to satisfy the most urgent needs and requests for renewal of passport and citizen card to na-

tional users resident in [Hong Kong], which will be in force until normal consular stays can be resumed by travelling employees of this Consulate General to the Honorary Consulate in Hong Kong, as soon as border restrictions between the two Special Administrative Regions are canceled."

Earlier in January, Portuguese nationals in Hong Kong were excluded from casting their votes for the presidential elections as a result of border restrictions that have been imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic which disallowed the installation of polling stations in Hong Kong. LV

### SALES OF RESTAURANTS IN JAN 'LESS SATISFACTORY'

The percentage of restaurants and similar establishments which reported a year-on-year rise in receipts, or a steady performance in January 2021 (25%) remained at the same level as in December 2020, according to data from the Statistics and Census Service. In terms of the Business Performance Index that reflects the trend of year-on-year changes in receipts of a business, the indices for restaurants & similar establishments (21.2) and retail trade (29.6) were both below 50, which implied that the business performance of these two industries in January was less satisfactory compared to the same month last year.

### SSM HOSTS THIRD CHINESE MEDICINE ONLINE TRAINING

The third round of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) training in 2021 was hosted online on March 21 by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine, a subsidiary of the Health Bureau (SSM). Some 95 local Chinese medicine doctors, Chinese medicine practitioners and Chinese medicine-related professionals were selected by lottery to attend the training, which revolved around TCM treatments on spleen, stomach and skin diseases.

### CRIME

## AT LEAST 17 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS ILLEGALLY HIRED

RENATO MARQUES

A local businessman is being charged over the hiring of illegal workers for civil construction as well as for the forgery of dozens of documents to support such an illegal job, the Judiciary Police (PJ) revealed yesterday in a specially organized press conference.

According to the force, a total of 17 illegal workers are currently confirmed as being involved in the case, but the PJ suspects that as the investigation continues, it will be determined that this figure is much higher.

The investigation started after a person from the mainland filed a complaint with the PJ claiming that the local man was illegally hiring workers from the mainland to perform construction work, and that the local man was forging documents for such a purpose.

The complainant told PJ that he was aware of the case because he knew this local man and had been asked to invest money into the business, and assist in recruiting workers in the mainland.

At that time, the complainant presented several documents to the PJ which included identification cards of non-resident workers (blue cards), a Macau ID card, several mainland China identification cards, and Construction Sector Occupational Safety Cards. The complainant said that all of the documents were forged, and he took them from some of the workers he helped to hire.

The complainant also told the PJ that he met the local businessman in June 2019 in Macau through a friend. At the time, the suspect said he had a company that had been assigned several construction projects in Macau and he



needed some funds for investment and help in hiring manpower in the mainland.

The victim agreed to invest in the business, handing over a total of RMB300,000. He also arranged for workers from the mainland to come to Macau to work for the company.

Just one month after these workers started their job in Macau, one of them reached out to him claiming that he had been stopped from working at the construction site after the site's security guard discovered that he was using forged documents.

Several other similar cases followed at which time the com-

plainant called off the deal with the local businessman and requested the return of his investment money.

Since the man only returned RMB100,000, the victim decided to expose the scheme by filing a case at the PJ.

In the course of the investigation, the PJ found that there were at least 17 workers involved, but they suspect that many more had already left Macau.

They also discovered several forged documents, including identification cards and even a forged certificate to prove the authenticity of a Macau ID card, which was also a forgery.

The PJ questioned the workers and learned that they entered Macau only with their passports and without any other work-related documents or authorizations.

The workers told the PJ that they did not know the Macau ID documents and work permits in their possession were fake and they were each asked to pay a fee of MOP2,000 for the handling of the working documents before starting the job.

They also revealed that they were paid on a daily basis, earning a salary of MOP600 per day. The PJ spokesperson did not reveal at this time where the construction site was located.

In a search conducted at the suspect's house, the PJ also found three computers. On one of them were approximately 90 document images for Macau ID cards, blue cards, and Construction Sector Occupational Safety Cards. This discovery is why the PJ suspects that the number of illegal workers might be larger than the 17 currently discovered.

Detained for questioning, the suspect refused to cooperate with the PJ and choose to remain silent.

The suspect was presented yesterday to the Public Prosecutions Office to be charged for the crimes of document forgery as well as employment of illegal workers according to Article 16 of the Law 6/2004 – Illegal Immigration Law, which states that "Anyone who constitutes an employment relationship with any individual who is not the holder of any of the documents required by law to be admitted as a worker, regardless of the nature and form of the contract, or the type of remuneration or consideration, is punishable with up to two years imprisonment."

In the case of recidivism, the sentence can be increased to eight years imprisonment.

The PJ will continue to investigate the case in an attempt to find more suspects and workers involved, the same spokesperson said.

## Macao Water to partially subsidize facilities maintenance in old buildings

HONEY TSANG

THE Macao Water Supply Company Limited has set aside MOP10 million for the water facilities maintenance project. Commencing on April 1, the project will provide subsidies to owners residing in buildings which are more than 20 years old to recondition timeworn water facilities.

The Company will sponsor 80% of the total cost,

with the remaining 20% to be subsidized by the flat owners or dwellers. The upper funding limit will be set for MOP50,000 in each case, broken down to an estimated fund of around MOP100 to MOP200 for each apartment.

The eligible recipients for the funding will be limited to flat owners on the lower floors —seventh or lower— of buildings older than 20 years, which have been enduring cracked structures,

leakage, or severe rusting in their water supply facilities.

During the first stage, the company will issue an advisory notice to eligible recipients to encourage flat owners and dwellers to sign up for the renovation project.

The notice will spell out the total estimated expenditure for the waterpipe project and the tally for each household in every concerned building, said Chu Wai Man, deputy general manager from Macao Water at an explanatory briefing.

The total renovation fee will be first paid by the company, which will later apply the respective charge into each household's water bill. "The households, therefore, do not need to face the headache for paying the upfront cost themselves in advance," he explained.

The Company will commission a third-party company to carry out the renovation.

Each case will be evaluated and vetted before being granted the funding.



He expects the scheme will benefit around 5,000 apartments across approximately 400 to 500 buildings in Macau within three years.

tation might be carried out, Chu added.

**TOURISM**

# Visitor arrivals plunge to just over 427,000 in Feb

LYNZY VALLES

**T**OURIST arrivals in the Macau SAR has dropped to 427,122 in February, registering a decline of 23.3% month-to-month, according to the latest data provided by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). The figure, however, represented an uplift of 173.1% year-on-year when the Covid-19 pandemic began to spread in February last year.

The source of visitors continues to be from the mainland, which surged by 426.4% year-on-year to 380,649, with those travelling under the Individual Visit Scheme (IVS) (163,157) escalating by 2,702.4%.

Tourism arrivals in January stood at 556,765 with the Chinese New Year holiday and the easing of visa restrictions. The Chinese holiday is another season in which the city generally expects an increased flow of tourist arrivals. However, this



year the mainland government discouraged its citizens from travel due to the new outbreaks that occurred during that time.

Currently, the central government is still not issuing group visas to its citizens despite calls from the city's tourism authorities. However, local officials have previously stressed that this request is still under negotiation. Despite the group visas not being issued, Macau's number-one source market has

gradually been able to apply for IVS since the SAR opened its borders in August to these residents in a bid to recuperate tourist arrivals.

The easing of entry in the city through measures such as the cancellation of quarantine from those arriving from the mainland has also contributed to the arrival numbers.

Visitors from the nine Pearl River Delta cities in the Greater Bay Area totaled 240,933 this

month, of which 106,452 (44.2% of total) came from Zhuhai. Meanwhile, there were 40,037 visitors from Hong Kong and 6,410 from Taiwan.

Prior to the pandemic, the SAR received nearly 40 million tourists in 2019 – nearly 35 million more than the 2020 visitor arrivals – crippling the economy due to its heavy reliance upon the sector. The visitor arrivals in 2020 plummeted to 5.92 million, representing an 85% year-on-year decline.

This year, the government is aiming for a target of six to 10 million tourist arrivals.

The expectation is a long shot for the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) as it has previously acknowledged that it is “hard” to forecast the yearly arrivals and MGTO has to be more prudent about this year's projection, given the fickle nature of Covid-19 — as reflected in daily arrivals climbing to peaks during Christmas and New Year holidays last year but dropping since January due to outbreaks in mainland China.

According to a recent report issued by Fitch Ratings, domestic tourism led by China is gaining traction, as the containment of the pandemic sets the stage for the gradual normalization of domestic activity in parts of the Asia Pacific region.

## NÜWA TO REOPEN ON MAR 31

**A**FTER more than a year of overhaul, Nüwa at City of Dreams will be unveiling its newly refurbished guestrooms, suites, and villas on March 31.

The hotel offers around 290 luxurious guest rooms accentuated with “touches of oriental elegance and Asian-inspired elements,” Melco Resorts & Entertainment announced in a statement.

The Nüwa hotel at City of Dreams Macau was originally slated to reopen on February 8, following refurbishment works. The renovation of the hotel kicked off in early 2020.

Nüwa will feature the three Michelin-starred and Black Pearl three-diamond restaurant Jade Dragon, which showcases Cantonese specialties.

Currently, Nüwa is offering a time-limited offer and hotel package, available from today and valid until June 30, 2021

In May last year, the gaming operator noted that the closure of the Michelin-starred restaurants at City of Dreams: the two-Michelin starred French contemporary restaurant The Tasting Room; and one-Michelin starred Japanese sushi restaurant Shinji by Kanesaka, was due to Nüwa's refurbishment. LV

AD

**合夥人 PARTNERS:**

- 官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha\*
- 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues\*
- 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata\*
- 趙魯 Zhao Lu\*
- 馬傑安 João Nogueira Marques

**大律師 ASSOCIATES:**

- 高文軒 Adelino Correia\*
- 羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues\*
- 白秀蘭 Susana Batalha
- 馬潔冰 Maria João Marques
- 陶義德 António Isóo de Azevedo
- 白穎怡 Iclília Berenguel
- 冼玲鳳 Mariana Afonso Esteves
- 薛明恩 Maria Antónia Giestas
- 飛嘉華 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira\*
- 杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
- 馬秀文 Sofia Mendes Martins
- 宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção
- 巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
- 莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura
- 安東尼 António Manuel dos Santos
- 歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
- 陳芷喬 Joana Chan
- 顏曉蓉 Teresa Xiaorong Yan
- 諾瑪莉 Maria Noras
- 康靜雅 Viviana Hong
- 梁淑嵐 Ana Leon

**實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:**

- 黃瀚賢 Frederico Vong
- 張偉鴻 Cheong Wai Hong
- 李莉 Lei Lei
- 陳健雄 Eurico Chan
- 吳霆鋒 Ng Teng Fong

**法律專家 JURISTS:**

- 羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
- 潘卡莉 Candice Pun
- 斐彥德 Gonçalo Figueiredo
- 羅嘉慧 Emily Lo
- 陳子健 Chan Chi Kin



To protect the health and safety of our Clients and Staff, we continue implementing prevention measures at the office entrance, as recommended by the local Authorities.

為了保護客戶和員工的健康和安全，我們將繼續按照本地政府的建議在辦公室入口處實施預防措施。

**A: Av. da Praia Grande 759, 3-5 Floors**    **Office hours:**  
**Macau SAR, China**    **Mon-Thu: 9:30-13:00, 14:30-18:30**  
**地址:澳門南灣大馬路759號3-5樓**    **Fri: 9:30-13:00, 14:30-18:00**  
**Tel: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623**    **Sat: 9:00-13:00**

WWW.CCADVOG.COM

律師事務所



**C&C**  
**LAWYERS & NOTARIES**  
SINCE 1996

# CHINA DENIES INCURSION AS 200 SHIPS DOCK AT PHILIPPINE REEF

**B**AD weather prompted more than 200 Chinese fishing vessels to anchor at a reef claimed by the Philippines, Beijing said yesterday, sidestepping accusations from Manila of a move by China's vast South China Sea maritime militia to assert control in the area.

However, China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying pointedly told reporters at a briefing that Whitsun Reef was part of the Spratly Islands, one of the main archipelagoes in the South China Sea, which China claims virtually in its entirety.

"Recently, due to the sea conditions, some Chinese fishing boats have taken shelter from the wind near the Whitsun Reef. I think it is very normal and hope all parties can look at it rationally," Hua said at the daily briefing.

Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana called on Sunday for China to "stop this incursion and immediately recall these boats violating our maritime rights and encroaching into our sovereign territory."

The presence of the vessels was a "provocative action of militarizing the area," Lorenzana said.

A Philippine government watchdog overseeing the disputed region released pictures from March 7 of the vessels moored side by side in one of the most hotly contested areas of the strategic waterway. Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin tweeted late Sunday that the Philippines has filed a diplomatic protest over the Chinese presence.

The reef, which Manila calls Julian Felipe, is a shallow, boomerang-shaped coral region about 175 nautical miles (324 kilometers) west of Bataraza town in the western Philippine province

of Palawan. It lies well within the country's exclusive economic zone, over which the Philippines "enjoys the exclusive right to exploit or conserve any resources," the government watchdog said.

For decades China, the Philippines and four other governments have been locked in a tense territorial standoff over the resource-rich South China Sea, through which an estimated \$5 trillion in international trade travels annually.

China's fishing fleets have long followed government orders to assist the coast guard and navy

in asserting the country's maritime claims. They have also been accused of massive overfishing and degrading coral reefs, backed up by a Chinese military that has built airfields and missile bases on manmade islands constructed by piling sand and concrete atop fragile marine ecosystems.

China has refused to recognize a 2016 ruling from a tribunal in The Hague that invalidated almost all of China's historical claims to the South China Sea, and routinely protests the presence of other countries' navies in what are overwhelmingly viewed as international waters. China says it doesn't restrict right of passage through the area, but has repeatedly sparred with other claimants over resource exploitation, military activities and even projects to explore ancient sea wrecks. **AP**

AP PHOTO



## NYU SHANGHAI SEEKING ANSWERS AFTER POLICE DETAIN NINE STUDENTS

**N**EW York University said yesterday it was seeking more information from Chinese authorities after nine students from its Shanghai campus were temporarily detained in what appeared to be police dragnet for drug suspects.

A statement from the university said two students were held as part of a police action outside a bar and the other seven were at a birthday party at an off-campus apartment on March 12 when police arrived and brought all present in for drug testing.

"None of the students were found to have used or been in possession of drugs and none were arrested," NYU Shanghai said in a statement. China hosts a large number of foreign students, a number increased by the opening of satellite campuses by British and American universities.

"Being brought in for testing as part of a drug sweep was understandably frightening for our students [...] Since then we have continued to provide support for the affected students," said a statement from the school sent to The Associated Press on Monday.

Police who arrived at the birthday party were apparently looking for a specific individual but it wasn't clear who that was and no one was arrested.

The students at the bar that same night told school authorities that, upon leaving the venue, they were approached by a person wearing plainclothes who showed a badge they did not recognize. One tried to leave, both were detained and suffered minor injuries, and all other bar patrons and staff, all of them Chinese citizens, were also detained and subjected to drug testing.

The students, who were not identified by name or nationality, were all released by the next morning after their drug tests came back negative, NYU said.

"We are currently seeking more information from city authorities to better understand last weekend's police actions," the university's statement said.

There was no immediate response to requests for comment from the Shanghai police. People caught using recreational drugs such as marijuana and cocaine can be locked up for months or longer in China, while dealers can receive the death sentence. **AP**

## Eight activists jailed in Shenzhen returned to Hong Kong

**E**IGHT activists detained at sea as they sought to flee Hong Kong by speedboat have finished serving jail sentences in China and were handed over yesterday to authorities in Hong Kong, where they may face further prosecution.

The group of eight activists aged 19 to 31 had been jailed in the southern city of Shenzhen, and returned to Hong Kong in batches, according to a police statement. Pro-democracy activist Andy Li was the first of the group to be returned to the city after serving a seven-month prison sentence, according

to local newspaper South China Morning Post, which cited an anonymous police source.

The eight men are part of a larger group of 12 Hong Kong pro-democracy activists and protesters who were detained at sea in August last year during an ill-fated attempt to reach self-ruled Taiwan. Many of the them were facing prosecution in Hong Kong due to their involvement in anti-government protests that began in mid-2019, and one had been arrested on suspicion of collusion with a foreign country to endanger national security.

They were convicted by

a Shenzhen court of illegally crossing the maritime border and sentenced to seven-month jail terms. While Hong Kong is part of China, travelers must still pass through immigration when going to and from the mainland, which surrounds Hong Kong by land and sea.

It is not clear if the eight activists will also be charged in Hong Kong upon their return. Hong Kong police said in a statement that the suspects were returned to the city after the completion of legal proceedings by mainland authorities.

Two of the defendants,

Quinn Moon and Tang Kai-yin, remain in prison serving two- and three-year sentences, respectively, for organizing an illegal border crossing.

Two detainees were not charged on the mainland because they were younger than 18 at the time of the arrest; they were handed over to Hong Kong authorities in December.

Beijing and Hong Kong authorities have taken a tougher stance on the city's pro-democracy movement over the past year, implementing a tough national security law aimed at cracking down on dissent. **MDT/AP**

# Second Canadian goes on trial in Beijing on spying charges

SAM MCNEIL

**A** second Canadian citizen held for more than two years on spying charges in apparent retaliation for Canada's arrest of a senior executive of the telecoms giant Huawei went on trial in Beijing yesterday.

The trial of analyst and former diplomat Michael Kovrig in Beijing follows an initial hearing in the case of entrepreneur Michael Spavor in the northeastern city of Dandong on Friday.

Canadian diplomats have been refused access to trials and been told hearings would be held behind closed doors because of alleged national security concerns. Diplomats and journalists have shown up nonetheless to seek information and show support.

Outside Beijing's No. 2 Intermediate Court, Jim Nickel, the Canadian Embassy's deputy chief of mission, told journalists he had been told the trial had begun, but was barred from entry in what he said was a violation of China's international and bilateral treaty obligations.

"Michael Kovrig has been detained for more than two years now. He's been arbitrarily detained and now we see that the court process itself is not transparent," Nickel told reporters. "We're very troubled by this but we thank those who have come out from the embassies here in Beijing and the international support that we've had for Michael, for Canada and the call that many of us are making for their immediate release."

Nickel said 26 countries had sent representatives to show their support, including the U.S., the U.K, Australia and many European nations. It wasn't clear how long the trial would last or when a verdict would be announced.

At a daily afternoon news briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said,



Jim Nickel (center) the deputy chief of Mission for the Canadian Embassy in China, with foreign diplomats is chased by cameramen as they arrive at No. 2 Intermediate People's Court in Beijing

"The Canadian side made irresponsible remarks on China's law-based handling of the cases of Canadian citizens with some other countries' diplomats in China, which is a gross interference in China's judicial sovereignty."

China's handling of the cases is "beyond reproach," Hua said, while calling Canada hypocritical because it also reserves the right to try cases involving state secrets behind closed doors.

The Chinese government has provided almost no information about the accusations against the two, but a newspaper run by the ruling Communist Party alleges they collaborated in stealing state secrets and sending them abroad. No verdict has been announced in Spavor's case and it wasn't clear if additional hearings would be held.

However, such cases are almost always predetermined in China, and Beijing is seen as using Kovrig and Spavor as leverage to obtain the release of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou, who was arrested at the request of the U.S. at the airport in Vancouver, British Columbia, in December 2019. The two Canadians were detained in China just days later.

Meng is sought by the U.S. on fraud charges related to the telecom giant's

dealings with Iran, which is under American financial sanctions.

The two Canadians have been held ever since, while Meng has been released on bail. They were charged in June 2020 under China's broadly defined national security laws.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau blasted Beijing for holding the trial "in secret" without access for consular officials.

"Their arbitrary detention is completely unacceptable, as is the lack of transparency around these court proceedings," Trudeau said in Ottawa.

"China needs to understand that it is not just about two Canadians. It's about respect for the rule of law and relationships with a broad range of Western countries that are at play with the arbitrary detention and the coercive diplomacy that they've engaged in."

Meng's case has deeply angered China's government, which has promoted Huawei as a global leader in mobile communications technology, and sees her detention as a deliberate attempt to malign Chinese companies and impede the nation's growing economic and political clout. Beijing has demanded her immediate and unconditional release and has also restricted various Canadian exports,

including canola oil seed, and handed death sentences to another four Canadians convicted of drug smuggling.

The U.S. and Canada have pledged to work together with China to seek the release of Kovrig and Spavor, but meetings between top U.S. and Chinese diplomats last week — the first since President Joe Biden took office — seemed to offer little hope.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Chinese human rights abuses "threaten the rules-based order that maintains global stability," while senior Chinese foreign policy adviser Yang Jiechi said China "will not accept unwarranted accusations from the U.S. side," and that relations had fallen "into a period of unprecedented difficulty."

President and head of the Chinese Communist Party Xi Jinping is driving the assertive approach to foreign relations, alongside bold domestic policies to eliminate poverty and restore rapid economic growth following the coronavirus pandemic, said Steve Tsang, director of the SOAS China Institute at the University of London.

"Xi is extremely ambitious, and he compares himself [...] to Mao Zedong and the first Emperor of China," Tsang wrote in an email to The Associated Press. AP

## ADVERTORIAL

# GREAT TIMES

Meet Sea Odyssey's New Friends at MGM

**SAY HELLO** to the new air swimming creatures at the Grande Praça at MGM MACAU! When you are all too familiar with the shiny silvery dolphins, we have three new members joining our Sea Odyssey family. Let's dive into the mysterious ocean at MGM!



Set sail and meet our new friends—the gigantic turtle and bloated pufferfish at MGM MACAU, where these cute ones will be swimming in the air around the breathtaking cylindrical aquarium with a 360-degree unobstructed view of the aquatic lives. Continue the chillax experience by gifting yourself a Spring Semi-Buffer Brunch every first weekend of every month at ABA while enjoying the beauty of the sea creatures. To add a few more indulgence, spring into action with the charming Portuguese afternoon tea at Rossio, featuring Sardine Tarlest, Pork Bifana, Serradura and more must-eat delicacies.



When the day is still bright, submerge in the subaquatic environment at MGM COTAI with the other new friend, Mr. Shark and also our cute flying dolphins. Don't let the exciting weekend stop here, gather your friends and family to relish a little sweetness in the joy of scrumptious at Anytime, located at the heart of MGM COTAI. Dig your fingers in the dazzling desserts of your choice at the "Sugar Crush" dessert buffet, indulge in the free flow of sweet delights. Let's sit back, enjoy a soothing afternoon and immerse ourselves in magnificence where the water meets the sky.

Down the water, the fish are happy! Come to MGM and start your Sea Odyssey adventure and have fun with friends and family! Every day at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, and 7pm, you will find the adorable air swimming sea creatures at the MGM MACAU Grande Praça and the MGM COTAI Spectacle, get ready and be the mysterious ocean! For more details, please visit [mgm.mo](http://mgm.mo)



EXCLUSIVE

# Cyber attack tied to China boosts development bank's chief

JOSHUA GOODMAN,  
MIAMI

**T**HE cyberattack crested just as finance officials from across Latin America were descending on Washington to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Inter-American Development Bank.

On Sept. 24, 2019, requests from more than 15,000 internet addresses throughout China flooded the bank's website, knocking part of it intermittently offline. To unclog the network, the bank took the drastic step of blocking all traffic from China.

But the attackers persisted, and as officials gathered for a day of conferences with athletes, academics and celebrity chefs the bombardment intensified.

Details of the attack, which has not been previously reported, are contained in an IDB internal document reviewed by The Associated Press.

News of the attacks is surfacing just as the bank's new president, Mauricio Claver-Carone, seeks to leverage his hawkish views on China from his time in the Trump administration to outmaneuver those in Washington and beyond still fuming over his politically charged election last year.

Claver-Carone, the former National Security Council's senior director for Western Hemisphere affairs, chaired last week in Colombia his first annual meeting of the IDB since he was elected last fall over the objections of Democrats and some regional governments who complained he was breaking the longstanding tradition of a Latin American being at the helm.

A geopolitical ideologue, Claver-Carone seems in no rush to abandon his disdain for Beijing's growing influence in Washington's backyard. In sharp contrast to his predecessor, Luis Alberto Moreno of Colombia, who eagerly promoted Chinese investment in the region, Claver-Carone recently floated the possibility of inviting Taiwan, the island democracy claimed by the communist Beijing government as part of its territory.



Mauricio Claver-Carone, deputy assistant to President Donald Trump and senior director for Western Hemisphere affairs arriving in La Paz, Bolivia (January 2020)

In curtailing China's influence, Claver-Carone is looking to curry favor with Democrats who question his leadership but share his mistrust of Beijing. If he succeeds, they can help him deliver on what was the main pledge of his unorthodox candidacy: U.S. support for a capital increase so the bank can help the region dig out from a pandemic-induced recession that's the worst in more than a century.

There are early signs he may be making some headway. This month, a bipartisan group of five lawmakers led by Sen. Bob Menendez, head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, proposed legislation authorizing an \$80 billion capital increase that would boost lending at the Washington-based bank by 60%.

"People need to accept that he won," said Dan Runde, a former official with the U.S. Agency for International Development in the George W. Bush administration and an expert on multilateral institutions at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Those who are not happy haven't gone through the five stages of grief yet. They're stuck somewhere between denial and anger."

But Sen. Patrick Leahy, the powerful chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has yet to sign on after warning last year that the choice of Claver-Carone, a "polarizing American," to lead the IDB would hurt — not help — the case for a funding boost. There's also an expectation that

some in the region who supported Claver-Carone when Trump was in office — such as Brazil and Colombia — might switch allegiances to appeal to the new sheriff in town: President Joe Biden.

"The argument that an underfunded bank is an opportunity for China is very compelling," said Dan Restrepo, who served in the same National Security Council role as Claver-Carone during the Obama administration. "But it doesn't answer how you adequately fund the bank and with what leadership."

As far as cyber-disruptions go, the attack against the IDB was too small to generate concern beyond the bank. Last year, more than 10 million similar distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks were observed throughout the world, according to digital security firm NETSCOUT.

But occurring amid the IDB's gala celebration it was fraught with symbolism.

The bash in Washington was hastily organized after the Trump administration six months earlier rallied allies to force the cancellation of the IDB gathering in the Chinese city of Chengdu, which was to be something of a breaking out party for China a decade after it joined the bank.

While the U.S. had been trying to derail the meeting for months, China's denial of a visa to a representative of Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó gave it the opportunity to act decisively. While the IDB and the bulk of nations in Latin

America recognize Guaidó as Venezuela's legitimate leader, China is a staunch ally of President Nicolás Maduro

Claver-Carone was the U.S. official driving the diplomatic standoff with China at the IDB. As the top White House official for Latin America, he was also the architect of "America Rising," a program that sought to curb the inroads being made by China in Latin America, where it has displaced the U.S. as a top trading partner in countries such as Argentina, Brazil, and Chile.

According to the IDB document, on Sept. 19, 2019, traffic to the IDB website surged to more than four times normal levels, forcing the main website and publications page offline. At first, the bank defended itself by blocking individual IP addresses.

But then "the attackers switched tactics and started to throw requests from more than 15,000 IP addresses spread throughout China," according to the internal document. "By Tuesday 24th evening all income traffic from China was blocked, a decision the allowed us to come back online."

Unthwarted, the attackers pivoted again, this time relying on 180,000 IP addresses from countries including Singapore and Japan. In all, the attack lasted for months but was effectively contained after three weeks when the bank turned to Amazon to build a more robust firewall.

While there is no indication the site was breached, "the downtime affected our digital presence and had a negative impact in different communication endeavors," the document says. "It also made our vulnerabilities explicit for third parties, which could potentially make us the target of new attacks and impact the reputation of the IDB brand."

Still, it's impossible to know who was behind the attack.

While China has some of the world's most skilled hackers, security experts say that doesn't necessarily mean it is behind the attacks. **MDT/AP**

## this day in history

### 1983 REAGAN LAUNCHES COLD WAR INTO SPACE



President Reagan has unveiled plans to combat nuclear war in space.

The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) proposes a defensive shield, using laser or particle beam technology to "intercept and destroy" incoming missiles as they travel through the stars.

Defense analysts have described it as the first major attempt to move away from the 30 year-old Cold War strategy of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) - where the threat of nuclear attack acts as a deterrent.

In a televised address from the White House the US leader said: "We seek neither military superiority nor political advantage. Our only purpose - one all people share - is to search for ways to avert the danger of nuclear war."

Speaking just half an hour after the House of Representatives (HOR) had rejected the Republican Party's demands for 10% increases in defence spending, President Reagan attempted to justify his \$2 trillion, five-year military spending plans.

In the first major congressional revolt against Mr Reagan's economic policies the HoR have voted in Democrat proposals to reduce the Republican budget by more than half.

The President said: "They're the same kind that led the democracies to neglect their defences in the 1930s and invited the tragedy of World War II."

Senior White House aide Michael Deaver reported a positive reaction to Mr Reagan's scheme: "He has had the most favorable response to any speech since he was elected President."

Critics argue SDI contravenes the Soviet-American Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty of 1972.

Article V of the treaty states: "Each party undertakes not to develop, test or deploy anti-ballistic missile systems or components."

President Reagan has stressed SDI does not entail the actual development of a defensive shield, but is a programme for research and development.

## IN CONTEXT

Reagan's SDI became known as "Star Wars" - after the George Lucas film.

President Andropov of the USSR was highly critical of the plan, saying it violated the 1972 ABM Treaty and there was little difference between building up weapons for purportedly defensive or offensive purposes.

The Democrats in the US - and even some Republicans - claimed Reagan's initiative was an expensive and unfeasible diversion from his administration's domestic failures.

SDI signalled a new round in the Arms Race and a worsening of the relationship between the US and the USSR.

The increasing financial strain it placed the Soviet Union under contributed to the break up of the regime.

SDI was abandoned in 1993 and the department was re-named the Ballistic Missile Defence organisation.



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**YOUR STARS**

**ARIES**  
**Mar. 21-Apr. 19**  
 It's an ideal day to focus on family ties and sprucing up your home environment. Save your productive efforts for another day; it's hard to get anything off the ground due to the moon's lack of connections.

**TAURUS**  
**Apr. 20-May. 20**  
 Monday's skies are a strange mix of busy and aimless, Taurus. The moon careens through connection-hungry Cancer, prompting you to tell your story and activate your need for self-expression.

**GEMINI**  
**May. 21-Jun. 21**  
 Mixed messages seem to permeate Monday's skies, Gemini. The moon cruises through initiating Cancer all day, pointing your awareness towards your finances, resources, and work routine.

**CANCER**  
**Jun. 22-Jul. 22**  
 Today's skies arrive with the message that it's time to turn that loving energy back towards yourself, physically and emotionally, as the moon floats through your sign.

**LEO**  
**Jul. 23-Aug. 22**  
 The moon cruises through sensitive Cancer all day but finds herself lacking initiative and energy due to her lack of connections with other planets.

**VIRGO**  
**Aug. 23-Sep. 22**  
 As a Virgo, you come equipped with a natural drive for expertise and efficiency. You can put those skills to good use today if you aim them towards your current long-term goals.

**LIBRA**  
**Sep. 23-Oct. 22**  
 The moon slides through connection-concerned Cancer all day, but her lack of connection makes it difficult to get new efforts up and running. Stick to projects you already have underway!

**SCORPIO**  
**Oct. 23-Nov. 21**  
 It's all too easy for you to get bogged down from time to time, Scorpio. Today's skies arrive with a simple intent: to help you refresh your perspective and revitalize your current philosophy on life.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
**Nov. 22-Dec. 21**  
 That grouchy person who tries to steal your parking space, the overbearing boss who spends more time breathing down your neck than doing their own job, the roommate who never cleans up their messes.

**CAPRICORN**  
**Dec. 22-Jan. 19**  
 This time of year always sends your focus towards the roots beneath your foundation, Capricorn. Today's skies try to briefly redirect your attention to your current relationship story.

**AQUARIUS**  
**Jan. 20-Feb. 18**  
 Today's cosmic landscape pushes you to exert yourself, Aquarius. The moon roams through initiative-taking Cancer all day, focusing your energy on any looming tasks on your to-do list.

**PISCES**  
**Feb. 19-Mar. 20**  
 You're not likely to be in the mood for any kind of labor today, Pisces. Your attention is more centered around creative efforts, a romantic rendezvous, or activities that promote fun over focus.

**The Born Loser by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

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

  

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	-19	-6	clear
Harbin	-28	-20	cloudy
Tianjin	-16	-8	clear
Urumqi	-24	-16	clear
Xi'an	-10	-3	overcast
Lhasa	-3	12	clear
Chengdu	0	3	overcast
Chongqing	5	8	drizzle
Kunming	7	19	overcast
Nanjing	-8	-4	cloudy
Shanghai	-6	3	overcast
Wuhan	-4	2	clear
Hangzhou	-4	4	overcast
Taipei	9	15	drizzle
Guangzhou	7	15	overcast
Hong Kong	13	18	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	-5	-4	flurry
Frankfurt	-1	4	sleet
Paris	0	3	sleet
London	0	5	sleet
New York	0	7	overcast

**CROSSWORDS**

ACROSS 1- \_\_\_ sapiens; 5- Slap; 10- \_\_\_ silly question...; 14- Perched on; 15- Hickory-nut; 16- Gola of Israel; 17- Poultry enclosure; 18- Poker Flat chronicler; 19- Leaf with Sanscrit writing?; 20- Liquid hydrocarbon; 22- Wide of the mark; 24- Rifle (through); 25- Notion; 26- Counsel; 29- Stuttering; 33- Swell; 34- "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" author; 35- Actress Arthur; 36- Record; 37- Get the better of; 38- Actor Connery; 39- "Hold On Tight" band; 40- Aggregate of qualities that make good character; 41- Author Calvino; 42- Strive; 44- Book of elementary principles; 45- Fishing vessel, perhaps; 46- Din; 47- Banner; 50- Unselfish; 54- Crescent-shaped figure; 55- Son of Abraham; 57- Concerning; 58- Let's just leave \_\_\_ that; 59- Nothing; 60- At hand; 61- Catch a view of; 62- Muse with a lyre; 63- Strong wind;

DOWN: 1- Cut ruthlessly; 2- Oklahoma Native; 3- Heath; 4- Adverse; 5- Globe; 6- Had in mind; 7- Farm measure; 8- Feline; 9- Submerged to the mid-leg; 10- Ethically neutral; 11- Actress Ward; 12- Potter's oven; 13- I smell \_\_\_; 21- Just okay; 23- Be dependent; 25- Point in question; 26- Pays to play; 27- Passed out; 28- Visible exhalation; 29- Golfer Calvin; 30- Girder; 31- Bobby of the Black Panthers; 32- Big house; 34- Prepared to pray; 37- Arrange; 38- Rousing; 40- Awestruck; 41- Dies \_\_\_; 43- State of existing; 44- Blanketlike cloak; 46- Hit back, perhaps; 47- Peace Nobel list Wiesel; 48- Kernels; 49- Lose one's cool; 50- Big bash; 51- Fit for service; 52- Russian river; 53- Withered; 56- Title of a knight;

**Yesterday's solution**

A	B	B	A	T	A	R	N	S	A	P	I	A
M	O	L	D	T	R	A	I	T	S	T	E	T
A	R	A	M	H	A	I	K	U	S	A	R	I
H	A	B	I	T	A	B	L	E	S	E	S	E
A	P	P	A	R	E	T						
C	A	U	L	K	T	E	R	O	S	E	M	I
C	N	N		H	A	N	O	I		A	I	R
R	I	C	H	A	S	E	A	T	I	S	T	L
A	C	H	I	E	V	E						
A	C	H	I	E	V	E	K	I	T	C	H	E
A	N	K	L	E								
A	N	K	L	E	S	W	E	E	T	E	N	E
M	E	A	T		A	N	I	T	A		W	E
A	E	R	O		R	E	L	A	X		U	R
S	T	O	P		S	E	L	L	E		P	O

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

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



<p><b>YOUR PROPERTY HERE</b></p> <p>Call us for more info</p>	<p><b>卓雅物業</b>                  jml property since 1994</p> <p><b>(853) 2835 2699</b>                  hello@jmlproperty.com                  www.jmlproperty.com</p> <p>f jmlmacau @ jmlproperty</p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>Duplex in Central Macau</b>                  HK\$4,680,000 1,100 ft<sup>2</sup> 2 1/2 1 1/2</p>	<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>One Central striking view</b>                  \$18,000/mth 1,301 ft<sup>2</sup> 2 1/2 2 1/2</p>	<p><b>Rain Dance Property</b>                  "We dance until it's RENTED!"</p> <p><b>Manhattan E Unit, Taipa</b>                  \$17,500/mth 1,626 ft<sup>2</sup> 3 1/2 2 1/2</p>
---	---	--	---	---

AP PHOTO



NISSAN SCANDAL

# JAPAN CHARGES AMERICANS WITH HELPING GHOSN FLEE, JUMP BAIL

YURI KAGEYAMA, TOKYO

**J**APANESE prosecutors charged two Americans, Michael Taylor and his son Peter, yesterday in the escape of former Nissan Chairman Carlos Ghosn to Lebanon, while he was out on bail.

Tokyo District Prosecutors have been questioning the Taylors since they were extradited from the United States earlier this month. They have been detained at a Tokyo detention center since March 2.

Prosecutors said the Taylors were formally charged with helping a criminal escape, although dates and other details of a trial were undecided. The prosecutors sought their extradition for months after they were arrested and detained in the U.S. last May.

Tokyo Deputy Chief Prosecutor Hiroshi Yamamoto said Monday was the last day the Taylors could have been detained without charges under Japanese law.

Now that they have been char-

ged they can continue to be detained. A court will decide whether they will be granted bail.

Yamamoto said prosecutors are requesting continued detention on the grounds the two might flee or conceal evidence. He declined to elaborate on the Taylors' health and other conditions, but said appropriate procedures were being taken.

"We continue to be grateful to the U.S. authorities for their cooperation and hope to proceed with the trial," he said, referring

to the Taylors' extradition.

The Taylors were not immediately available for comment, as is standard in Japan's criminal system, where more than 99% of those who go on trial are found guilty.

Ghosn, who led Nissan Motor Co. for nearly two decades, was arrested in November 2018 and later charged with under-reporting his compensation and breach of trust.

He jumped bail and escaped to Lebanon in December 2019.

Ghosn says he is innocent. Japan has put Ghosn on Interpol's wanted list, but Lebanon has no extradition treaty with Japan.

Yamamoto said Japan was still determined to see Ghosn put on trial.

Michael Taylor, 60, with the help of another man, George-Antoine Zayek, hid Ghosn in a large black box supposedly containing audio equipment, although they knew Ghosn was not allowed to leave the country while awaiting trial, according to the prosecutors.

The box passed through airport security in Osaka, central Japan, and was loaded onto a private jet that flew Ghosn to Turkey.

Peter Taylor, 28, is accused of meeting with Ghosn and helping his father carry out the escape. Authorities say the Taylors were paid at least \$1.3 million.

The Taylors' lawyers in the U.S. fought the extradition, saying they might be treated unfairly in Japan and subjected to "mental and physical torture."

They also argued that jumping bail is not a crime under Japanese law. That is technically accurate, but most people who escape are easily caught in Japan.

Zayek is not in custody. Yamamoto declined to comment on Zayek's whereabouts.

Japanese prosecutors say they have enough evidence to convict the Taylors.

If convicted, the Taylors face up to three years in prison and a fine of up to 300,000 yen (\$2,900).

MDT/AP

Separately, Greg Kelly, a former Nissan executive vice president, is on trial on charges of under-reporting Ghosn's compensation. Kelly, an American, says he is innocent as he did not know about such actions.

Nissan, as a company, is also standing trial. Nissan has acknowledged wrongdoing.

A verdict is not expected for months. MDT/AP

## CORPORATE BITS

### Sands Cares holds guided tour of The Londoner



A group of 20 Sands Cares Ambassadors recently hosted about 80 members of the Women's General Association of Macau at The Londoner Macao for a guided tour of the newly launched British-themed integrated resort.

During "The Londoner Discovery Journey," the 100 participants split into four groups to visit some of the hotel's famous locations such as the Tea Cups, Londoner Guards and Londoner Taxi, according to a statement

issued by the gaming operator. They completed missions throughout the journey in order to win the prize of one night of accommodation at The Londoner Macao, and enjoyed afternoon refreshments and entertainment at Portuguese restaurant Chiado.

"The outing is also the first activity of the new Sands Cares Family Health and Wellness Series, which aims to strengthen family bonding and parent-child communication, and to promote family health," Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd remarked.

### Wynn to host new edition of 'Wynn Guest Chef Series'



With the arrival of spring, Wynn is set to host a new edition of the "Wynn Guest Chef Series." China's leading chefs from all across

the country will descend upon Macao to take part in a series of 14 events for three consecutive months, Wynn announced

in a statement.

These experienced chefs will lead guests on a gastronomic journey to experience the flavors of China's North and South from April to June this year at Wynn Macao and Wynn Palace Cotai.

Throughout their Macau visit, the celebrity chefs will also devote time toward sharing their culinary expertise with local students at "The Eight Great Cuisines of China" master class sessions. These educational events will be held at the Wynn F&B Academy and at other Macau higher educational institutions such as the Macao Institute for Tourism Studies (IFTM) and the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST).

FOOTBALL

# Leicester ousts Man United to join Chelsea in cup semis

**W**HILE its neighbor is chasing a quadruple, Manchester United now has only one route to ending a four-year trophy drought.

Losing 3-1 at Leicester in the FA Cup quarterfinals yesterday [Macau time] realistically leaves Ole Gunnar Solskjaer with only the Europa League to produce his first trophy as United manager. United faces Granada in the quarterfinals of the Europa League.

"We didn't have the spark tonight and it's understandable," Solskjaer said. "They've been unbelievable, the last three or four months, playing every three or four days, and it's just caught up with us — all the games, all the traveling. Thursday night in Milan took a lot out of us, today we didn't have that extra zip. We just didn't have enough against a good team."

But with United second in the Premier League, albeit 14 points behind Manchester City, securing Champions League qualification could be the most significant

AP PHOTO



Chelsea's Hakim Ziyech (right) scores his side's second goal during the English FA Cup quarterfinal soccer match

achievement.

It will be lucrative, too, and for Leicester, which is only a point behind United in third.

But while Brendan Rodgers knows the value of steering Leicester back into the Champions League for the first time since Claudio Ranieri's side won the Premier League in 2016, the status of a trip to a first FA Cup semifinal since 1982 is also notable.

Kelechi Iheanacho's double and Yuri Tielemans' strike eliminated United, which had leveled through Mason Greenwood. Leicester has the easier route to the final after being drawn to play Southampton.

The other semifinal will pit Man City against Chelsea, which beat Sheffield United 2-0 in Sunday's other quarterfinal.

"There are lots of teams ahead

of us in terms of budget or whatever else, maybe history," Leicester manager Brendan Rodgers said. "But the ambition is there to win titles and be competitive."

The FA Cup semifinals next month take place a week before the League Cup final between City and Tottenham. That is Jose Mourinho's only way of delivering Tottenham's first trophy since 2008 after the north London club's eli-

mination from the Europa League last week.

But Tottenham helped its chances of qualifying for the Champions League by beating Aston Villa 2-0 in the Premier League yesterday [Macau time] to move within three points of fourth-place Chelsea.

Tottenham received some assistance from neighbor Arsenal recovering from 3-0 down to draw 3-3 with West Ham, which missed a chance to move level on points with Chelsea after conceding Alexandre Lacazette's equalizer.

The opener in the 29th minute came after Lucas Moura and Harry Kane played a one-two, resulting in Carlos Vinicius being teed up for a tap-in for his first league goal since joining on loan for the season from Benfica in October.

Tottenham doubled its lead midway through the second half when Kane clinically scored from the penalty spot, having been fouled by Matty Cash.

"The last couple of games have not been good enough in all areas," Kane said. "We knew we had to bounce back, especially before the international break, we didn't want to go away with three losses or two losses and a draw, but the boys put in a great shift and we deserved it."

"Our attitude, in the last couple of games that had dropped below our standards, but we are working hard together, all in the same direction." MDT/AP

AD

CASA DE PORTUGAL EM MACAU 澳門葡人之家協會

**Campus da Páscoa**  
復活節活動營  
Easter Campus 2021

29/03 – 02/04  
14:30 – 18:00

Jardim de Infância D. José da Costa Nunes 魯彌士主教幼稚園  
Escola Portuguesa de Macau 澳門葡文學校

Alunos do K1, K2 e K3 K1, K2 and K3 學生 K1, K2 & K3 students  
Alunos do 1º Ciclo 小學生 Primary School students

500 Mop sócio / 會員 / member  
700 Mop não sócio / 非會員 / non member

CASA DE PORTUGAL EM MACAU RUA PEDRO NOLASCO DA SILVA N. 28, MACAU TEL.: (853) 28 728 828 / FAX: (853) 28 728 818 portugal@macau.ctm.net

ESCOLA PORTUGUESA DE MACAU | 澳門葡文學校 ASSOCIAÇÃO PROMOTORA DA INSTRUÇÃO DOS MACAENSES | 澳門土生教育協會 FUNDAÇÃO MACAU | 澳門基金會

DUFFY'S IRISH PUB MACAU BROADWAY FOOD STREET AT GALAXY MACAU TEL.: 2875 2945 OR 63281245

**DUFFY'S IRISH PUB**  
where everyone gets lucky!

- A GREAT PLACE TO HANG OUT FOR FUN & HAVE GOOD TIMES WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS
- WITH OUTDOOR SEATING & A PRIVATE SNUG FOR INTIMATE GATHERINGS
- HAS A GREAT SELECTION OF WHISKEY, GIN, BEERS, ETC.

**OPINION**

**World Views**

David Fickling, MDT/Bloomberg



**BLACKSTONE PUTS TOO MANY CHIPS ON A \$6.2 BILLION CASINO BID**

It's not hard to see why Blackstone Group Inc. would see value in the stricken Australian casino operator Crown Resorts Ltd.

The private equity firm, which is offering to take over the operator of casinos in Melbourne, Perth and Sydney for A\$8.02 billion (\$6.2 billion), would inherit one of the best balance sheets in the industry and by default remove one of the main issues hanging over the stock.

By bringing in its own management to run the show — the normal course of business for most private equity takeovers — Blackstone would automatically be carrying out the wholesale management restructuring that Crown will likely need if it's to hold onto its gaming licenses following a damning money laundering inquiry.

Any gambler (or investor) knows not to put too much weight on a run of losses, since the future is still unwritten. Viewed that way, Crown is a more attractive stock than it's been in many years. The Sydney casino, a significant drain on cash in recent years, opened in December. Gambling activity is currently suspended following the inquiry, but cash is flowing in thanks to A\$870 million of apartment sales in its harborside tower amid a red-hot real estate market.

The worst of coronavirus appears to be in the past in Melbourne, too, with 1,000 people now allowed on Crown's main gaming floor and other restrictions being lifted progressively. With Australia expecting to open its international borders once vaccination of the local population is completed, expected in late October, there's even a chance that foreign tourists could return not long after a deal is finished.

The problem is that these benefits already look priced into the stock. On a forecast price-earnings ratio, Crown is currently trading at 48.3 times its blended forward 12-months earnings estimates, putting this trouble-plagued company on a marginally more generous multiple than the 47.8 times rating ascribed to tech darling Amazon.com Inc.

Even if you switch to an enterprise value model to strip out the effects of Crown's superior balance sheet and estimate earnings over the next 24 months to give a more post-Covid flavor to the exercise, the price looks steep. Crown's current valuation of 11.2 times earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization puts it in the company of Las Vegas Sands Corp., MGM Resorts International and Wynn Resorts Ltd. That seems excessive, though, since all of those businesses make a substantial slice of their money in Macau, a market from which Crown is absent that's now sputtering back to life after a Covid-induced shutdown.

Place it next to the more comparable casinos which can't depend on Macau's cash gusher, and Crown's valuation looks distinctly rich. That 11.2 times multiple is a larger number than its previous partner in the Chinese gambling resort, Melco Resorts & Entertainment Ltd., and well above what any gambling company without Macau exposure can boast.

That's pretty bold for a company that still can't quite guarantee it will be allowed to operate in its main markets at all, pending the outcome of two more government inquiries and license reviews.

Blackstone helped revive Crown from its Covid- and scandal-induced slump last April when it bought Melco's 10% stake for A\$8.15 a share, helping to set a floor under its price ever since. Now it's adding another 19% premium to the share price that's prevailed since first-half results a month ago.

Every gambler knows it's a bad idea to bid against yourself. The pile of chips Blackstone is pushing onto the table suggests it's forgotten that fact.

**ASTRAZENECA: US DATA SHOWS VACCINE EFFECTIVE FOR ALL AGES**

THE BUZZ

AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine provided strong protection against sickness and eliminated hospitalizations and deaths from the disease across all age groups in a late-stage study in the United States, the company announced yesterday.

AstraZeneca said its experts did not identify any safety concerns related to the vaccine, including finding no increased risk of rare blood clots identified in Europe.

Although AstraZeneca's vaccine has been authorized in more than 50 countries, it has not yet been given the green light in the U.S. — and has struggled to gain public trust amid a trou-

bled rollout. The study comprised more than 30,000 volunteers, of whom two-thirds were given the vaccine while the rest got dummy shots.

In a statement, AstraZeneca said its COVID-19 vaccine was 79% effective at preventing symptomatic COVID-19 and was 100% effective in stopping severe disease and hospitalization, though it has not yet published full data. Investigators said the vaccine worked across all ages, including older people — something experts wanted better data on. Two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine were given to people four weeks apart.

**TAIWAN GIVES HEALTH WORKERS ISLAND'S FIRST ASTRAZENECA DOSES**

HUIZHONG WU, TAIPEI

HEALTH care workers received the first shots in Taiwan's COVID-19 vaccination drive yesterday, beginning a campaign that won't use supplies from China amid uneven distribution of the vaccines globally.

Taiwan has on hand 117,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine, which it is distributing to healthcare workers across 57 hospitals.

Taiwanese premier Su Tseng-chang launched the drive by receiving the first shot at National Taiwan University Hospital in the capital Taipei. "After 30 minutes of rest, there's no signs of any discomfort," he said.

The rest period is for monitoring recipients for any adverse reactions.

Last week, more than a dozen nations suspended use of the AstraZeneca vaccine after a few dozen people among the millions who've received the vaccine developed blood clots. The European Union's drug regulatory agency concluded after a review it couldn't rule out a direct link but the benefits of using the vaccine outweigh the possible risks.

Taiwan has signed contracts securing 10 million doses of the AstraZeneca



Su Tseng-chang receives a shot of the AstraZeneca vaccine at National Taiwan University Hospital in Taipei yesterday

vaccine, 5.05 million doses of the Moderna vaccine, and 4.76 million doses of vaccines through COVAX.

Currently, Taiwan has recorded 1,006 confirmed cases of COVID-19, most of those from visitors coming from abroad. It has been one of the most successful places in the world in the battle against the pandemic, owing to strict public health and border control measures.

The island is planning to administer its full initial supply to 117,000 individuals to ensure the broadest protection. The first dose provides an efficacy rate of 71% and the second dose — meant to be given eight weeks later — boosts its effectiveness to 81%, authorities have said previously.

Taiwan has yet to announce a vaccination campaign for the public.

Countries around the world are scrambling for vaccines, which have been distributed unevenly with rich countries buying up a majority of the doses. China has stepped in to offer hundreds of millions of doses of its own vaccines across the developing world, but Taiwan has refrained from buying them.

Taiwanese law bans import of Chinese vaccines made for human use. The island's health minister had said in February there were no considerations to amending the law and no experts have made a special recommendation for Chinese vaccines. MDT/AP



The EU yesterday imposed sanctions on four Chinese officials accused of responsibility for abuses against Uyghur Muslims in a raft of measures targeting alleged human rights offenders around the world, despite warnings that Beijing could retaliate. The four are senior officials in the northwest region of Xinjiang. The sanctions involve a freeze on their assets in the EU and a ban on them traveling in the bloc.



UK A protest in the city of Bristol against new policing legislation turned into violent clashes that left at least 20 officers injured — two of them seriously — widespread damage to a police station and police vehicles torched, police said yesterday. Seven people were arrested during the protest.



Greece's health minister is requisitioning the services of private sector doctors from certain specialties in the wider Athens region to help fight a renewed surge in coronavirus infections that is straining hospitals to their limits. Vassilis Kikilias said Monday he was ordering those from the specialties of pathology, pneumonology and general medicine to help. The requisition order is for one month for 206 doctors, health authorities said.



France Ikea's French subsidiary and several of its executives were set to go on trial yesterday over accusations that they illegally spied on employees and customers. Trade unions reported the furniture and home goods company to French authorities in 2012, accusing it of collecting personal data by fraudulent means and the illicit disclosure of personal information.

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**

AP Photo/Oded Balilty



Laid bare. A statue by an unidentified artist depicting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu naked was set up in Habima Square, Tel Aviv, Israel, where it stood for a couple of hours before being removed by the municipality.