



MACAU'S GDP DROPPED BY 0.9% YEAR-ON-YEAR IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2021, A Milder CONTRACTION COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS QUARTER

VIETNAM DISCOVERS NEW CORONAVIRUS VARIANT THAT'S A HYBRID OF STRAINS FIRST FOUND IN INDIA AND THE UK



Philippines has demanded that China withdraw its ships and fishing vessels from the vicinity of a Philippine-occupied island in the South China Sea, where the Chinese military has asserted its sovereignty and vowed to “unswervingly safeguard” the disputed territory. The exchange of protests by the Asian neighbors over the island, internationally called Thitu, is the latest flareup in a long simmering territorial feud in the strategic waterway that has escalated in the last two months.



Indonesia A large ferry with nearly 200 people on board caught fire while traveling to a remote island in northeastern Indonesia, forcing passengers and crew to jump into the sea but causing no casualties, officials said. The KM Karya Indah was in the Molucca Sea heading for Sanana, a port on the island of Limafatola, when the fire broke out at around 7 a.m. yesterday, said Wisnu Wardana, a spokesperson for the sea transportation directorate general. The blaze began 15 minutes after the vessel had departed Ternate, the provincial capital of North Maluku province.



Indonesian authorities said Saturday that two oil tankers — the Iranian-flagged MT Horse and Panamanian-flagged MT Freya — were released after a four-month detention for illegally transferring oil in Indonesian waters. The two ships were freed on Friday, and their captains were allowed to leave despite being sentenced Tuesday to a year in prison for not complying with shipping channel regulations.

More on backpage

RETRIAL AGAINST CHANG

Former IPIM president Jackson Chang is slated to be tried again for the crimes of corruption, money laundering and abuse of power, the TSI ruled - following an appeal lodged by the Public Prosecutions Office six months ago

P2



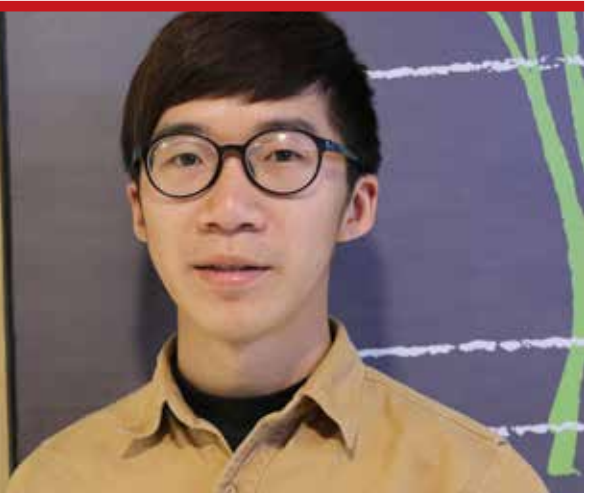
RENATO MARQUES

COVID-19
TIME TO DOUBLE DOWN ON PREVENTION MEASURES

P4

LOCAL BIOLOGIST ONE OF THIS YEAR'S 15 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EMERGING EXPLORERS

P2



LYNZY VALLES

FORMER IPIM CHIEF JACKSON CHANG TO BE TRIED AGAIN

LYNZY VALLES

FORMER president of the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute, Jackson Chang, will be tried again for the crimes of corruption, money laundering and abuse of power, according to TDM Radio.

This comes after the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) lodged an appeal in November against the sentence acquitting Chang of bribery charges.

Accordingly, the Court of Second Instance (TSI) has ruled that Chang would be tried again at the first instance.

In October, the Court of First Instance (TJB) sentenced Chang to two years behind bars.

He was officially charged for several crimes, including



Jackson Chang

corruption, money laundering and breach of secrecy in January last year— six months after he was placed in custody. The MP has filed charges against the former high-

-ranking public official, along with his wife and daughter.

However, in the October verdict, the former high-ranking official was not convicted of bribery, but was found guilty of leaking confidential information to third parties.

Chang was not indicted on four counts of receiving bribery, though he was convicted of leaking confidential information. Chang was also found guilty of inaccurately declaring his wealth.

Meanwhile, TSI fully upheld the appeal filed by Gloria Batalha Ung, acquitting the IPIM executive director of the three crimes of violation of secrecy and one of abuse of power, and cancelling the sentence of one year and nine months in jail – a sentence upheld by the first instance.

The TSI, meanwhile, rejected the appeal of IPIM's Residency Application and Legal Affairs Division chief, Miguel Ian Iat Chun – who had been found guilty of secrecy breaches and forging documents related to a residence application.

He was sentenced to four years in jail.

Also, in this case, eight defendants were found guilty. Other convicted felons were also given sentences of various years of imprisonment in October.

Last week, IPIM announced that it will conduct revisions to permanent residency approvals of several cases, following the graft buster's recent report that a businessman is suspected of forging documents to support applications for a Macau ID. The IPIM pledged that it will "strictly comply with the law in the performance of its own functions and, in addition, to continuously inspect and review [applications]."

DSSOPT promises Conditional Permit no longer operational

ISSUANCE of Conditional Permit to applicants for technical registration is no longer happening, Chan Pou Ha, Land, Transport and Public Works Bureau (DSSOPT), has said in response to the accusation made by the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC).

In the recent CCAC Annual Report, the counter-corruption entity lambasted the DSSOPT for issuing Conditional Permits, which should not have happened after the enactment of the Qualification System for the Urban Construction and Planning Aspects.

According to the system, holders of legally-recognized degrees who have registered with the DSSOPT or have practiced in the aspects by January 5, 2015 could enjoy a waiver of professional examinations under certain conditions.

Other workers in the aspects, meanwhile, would have to attend training courses hosted by the DSSOPT in order to



MACAU PHOTO AGENCY

process their registrations or get them renewed.

However, the CCAC discovered that the DSSOPT issued Conditional Permit to those who should have attended the special training course.

In defend, the DSSOPT has said that there were various conditions affecting whether an applicant can finish the special training course. Furthermore, some technicians said that they could not meet the registration deadline even if they were attending the special training course. As such, the DSSOPT considered that whether an applicant could finish a special training cour-

se does not solely rely on the applicant. Therefore, the Conditional Permit was issued.

The CCAC added that the DSSOPT has taken on the former's opinion, promising that there will be no more of this type of permit. All those who have been issued with the Conditional Permit are now fully trained and issued with a full Permit.

The CCAC has also questioned why only the latest six livestreams of the Urban Planning Committee Plenary were kept online. The DSSOPT director said keeping the videos take a significant amount of memory. AL

BIOLOGIST WHO DISCOVERED MACAU TINY ANT NAMED NAT GEO EMERGING EXPLORER

LOCALLY born and raised biologist Danny Leong Chi Man has recently been named one of this year's 15 National Geographic Emerging Explorers, and is also the only Asian person this year to attain the title.

His studies focus on the biodiversity that exists alongside human beings and the impact of urbanization on wildlife and ecosystems. One of his important achievements is the discovery of the Macau tiny ant in the city.

Apart from his role as a scientist, he is also an environmental educator and advocate. "He is passionate about fostering empathy for animals and promoting the importance of conservation through educational programs, public talks, and media interviews," The Natio-



LYNZY VALLES

Danny Leong

nal Geographic Society said on its website.

On his social media page, Leong described being "excited" when he came across the news about his title. "[I'm] thrilled to join the global community of National Geographic Explorers," he wrote.

The title is given to individuals not necessarily in the field of scien-

tific research. For instance, this year's awardees include a polar conservationist, a wildlife photographer and filmmaker, a culinary historian, and more.

"We identify, invest in, and uplift inspiring individuals who are changing the world one idea at a time," the group wrote on its website. AL

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ECONOMY

GPD records milder contraction in Q1

LYNZY VALLES

THE Macau SAR's gross domestic product (GDP) dropped by 0.9% year-on-year in real terms in the first quarter of 2021, a milder contraction compared to the previous quarter (-45.9%).

Exports of services rebounded by 4.1% year-on-year. Of these, exports of gaming services fell by 20.7% while exports of

other tourism services surged by 88.1%. Moreover, exports of goods soared by 137.7% year-on-year, according to data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Domestic demand reversed its downward trend, rising by 12.9% year-on-year. Imports of goods swelled by 81.7% while imports of services went down by 2.0%.

The implicit deflator of GDP, which measures the

overall changes in prices, dropped by 2.3% year-on-year in the first quarter.

Household final consumption expenditure abroad declined by 13.2% owing to the ongoing entry restrictions imposed in different places. Overall private consumption increased by 14.8% year-on-year.

The SAR government continued to allocate resources for Covid-19 pandemic prevention. Government final consumption

expenditure remained stable, up by 0.2% year-on-year.

The government's general account revenue has recorded a drop of 38.36% in the first quarter when compared year-on-year, according to official report.

The plunge was attributed to the lower revenue obtained from the gaming sector, as it only generated 9.17 billion patacas.

This figure is a 50.39% drop as the city recorded 18.40 billion patacas in first quarter of 2020.

Moody's Investors Service confirmed the Macau SAR's local and foreign currency issuer rating at Aa3, and maintained a stable outlook. In a statement released earlier, the rating agency noted that despite the collapse in tourist arrivals resulting in a precipitous fall in gaming revenues, Macau's fiscal and external buffers have allowed it to deploy significant stimulus measures over the course of the past year.

Number of visitor arrivals to Macau fell by 46.0% year-on-year in the first quarter.

In 2021, the SAR has budgeted a continued drawdown in reserves of 35.7 billion patacas, or 15.1% of GDP according to the Moody's estimate.

ASIAN SMES SEE ONLY HALF INCOME LAST YEAR

OVERALL income made by small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) across Asia has shrunk to 50%, Li Yong, director general of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has recently revealed.

Li and the UNIDO attributed the downward trend to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the preventive measures and travel restrictions that came with the disease.

He pointed out that although SMEs are the pillar supporting most developing countries and emerging economies, the pandemic has struck worldwide SMEs so hard that many of them have been or are now facing developmental difficulties.

According to the global entity, enabling these en-

terprises to acquire technologies and funds is the key to pacing up economic revivals. However, banks cannot take extra risks while public finance sees smaller spaces. The government should make way for innovative finances for SMEs.

Li stressed that technical resources have an important role in economic revivals and the future development of production units. This reality is even more obvious to developing countries.

He added that through sharing and strengthening of knowledges, improving completion and capacity to withstand risks, as well as introducing digital technologies in production, industry should provide chances for a better future. **AL**

GOV'T TO PLAN HOW TO HANDLE RETURNING STUDENTS

ANTHONY LAM

THE government has set up a special taskforce that meet today to discuss contingencies in handling returning students, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Elsie Ao Ieong, disclosed over the weekend.

In the last two weeks, 1,600 students have expressed their desire to come back to Macau during the summer holiday.

Unless they are returning from low-risk areas in mainland China, they will be quarantined once they arrive in Macau for a period of between 14 to 28 days, with the actual length depending on the place from which they have arrived.

The quarantine will be conducted in several local hotels.

The Secretary admitted that finding enough hotel rooms has become an increasingly difficult task. "Recently there have been more tourists visiting Macau, [so] finding hotel rooms [for quarantine purposes] – as far as I know – is indeed difficult," Ao Ieong said.

She stressed that com-

petent government departments will "maintain contacts and communications" with hotels to ensure there will be enough rooms for quarantine purposes.

She revealed that the government is making plans to handle returning students and residents. According to Ao Ieong, the potential outcomes that may result from the Covid-19 outbreak in Taiwan have further intensified, including Taiwan suspending transit being taken into consideration. Taiwan has already suspended transit and barred the arrivals of non-locals.

With scarce global flights departing Macau, local residents have often needed to transit to nearby cities when travelling to and from Macau and cities in other continents. Taiwan is in the pool of choices.

The new taskforce will discuss ways in which Macau residents now overseas can return to the city.

The senior official has also mentioned that negotiations with neighboring regions will be a possibility when paving avenues for Macau residents to return for summer.

Underemployment steady at 4.8%

LYNZY VALLES

MACAU'S underemployment rate held steady at 4.8%, while both the general unemployment rate (3.0%) and the unemployment rate of local residents (4.1%) for February to April 2021 increased by 0.1 percentage points from the previous period of January to March 2021.

According to data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the labor force living in town totalled 394,500, and the labor force participation rate was 69.6%.

Total employment was 382,500, a drop of 2,400 from the previous period; the number of employed residents totalled 281,600, up by 200.

Analysed by industry, employment in Wholesale & Retail Trade decreased, while rates in Gaming & Junket Activities increa-



sed. The number of the unemployed increased by 400 from the previous period to 12,000. Among the unemployed searching for a new job, most were previously engaged in Gaming & Junket Activities and in the Construction sector.

Meanwhile, the proportion of new labor market entrants seeking their first job decreased by 3.1 percentage points to 5.6% of

the total unemployed.

The number of underemployed fell by 300 from the previous period to 18,900, with the majority working in Gaming & Junket Activities and the Construction sector.

In comparison between February to April 2020, the underemployment rate and the unemployment rate increased by 2.7 and 0.8 percentage points respectively, while the labor

force participation rate dropped by 0.4 percentage points.

In a Legislative Assembly plenary session on Thursday, Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lei Wai Nong, was grilled by lawmakers regarding the lack of regulations and rule enforcement to guarantee that local residents continue to get priority access to jobs.

Currently, the city has no concrete data – nor does it plan to gather at the moment – on the number of total layoffs since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Meanwhile, according to official data, Macau residents and non-resident workers who worked in the SAR but lived outside the territory were estimated at 84,000; when including these individuals, total labor force was 478,500, a decrease of 1,400 from the previous period.

GOV'T CARD TO BE DIGITIZED, GATHERED ON UNIFIED APP

The government has plans to launch a card section in its central service app, which will include some of the most popular government-issued cards, featuring the healthcare "Gold Card", the Sports Bureau's Sport Easy Card, as well as 26 others. Although it hosts 180,000 individual accounts now, the app will be developed slowly to ensure stability. Secretary for Administration and Justice André Cheong has stressed. Cheong added that many government bureaus want to add their services to the app, but an upgrade is needed or the app may crash.

GONGBEI BORDER IMPLEMENTS FLOW CONTROL OVER WEEKEND

In response to new Covid-19 cases in Guangdong, over the past weekend, the Gongbei Border in Zhuhai levied physical flow control measures, such as barriers and social distancing guidance points. Extra workforce was deployed, reminding travelers to follow the measures. The Zhuhai authorities also chartered free-of-charge shuttle buses to move travelers to the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge in an attempt to lower density at Gongbei, but the service was not popular as some travelers thought it was time-consuming to move around.

SSM TO LIFT BOOKING REQUIREMENT FOR COVID VACCINE

Health Bureau director Alvis Lo said if conditions allow the requirement for booking prior to jab will be lifted this coming week. Then, jab takers can go directly to vaccination points and register on site. Pre-jab medical assessments will remain, although the prior booking shall no longer be needed, the bureau head stressed. Meanwhile, the bureau has decided to follow mainland guidelines to raise acceptable blood pressure for Covid jab takers to 160/100mmHg. The bureau head stressed once again that the decision was scientific.

COVID-19

HEALTH AUTHORITIES URGE CITIZENS TO BOOST PREVENTION MEASURES

RENATO MARQUES

Local health authorities are calling on the population to be vigilant and redouble their enforcement of all Covid-19 prevention measures.

The call comes after the report of new cases of the disease in the neighboring areas - namely the cities of Guangzhou and Foshan in Guangdong province, the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center has stated.

Authorities have expressed serious concerns over the possibility of a resurgence of the virus in areas where the "preventive measures are reduced," noting what they have learned from the "experiences around the world."

Urging the population to take extra care, the center also noted "as long as preventive measures are strictly followed, the [virus] transmission chain can be reduced or even interrupted."

"In many provinces and cities in mainland China, especially in the city of Guangzhou in the province of Guangdong, and other places have come to be considered medium risk areas. [Areas] from where a large number of people normally travel daily to and from Macau. In this sense, all citizens, tourists, various services, institutions, associations, and companies are urged to strengthen prevention and actively cooperate with the vaccination plan against the new type of coronavirus," the center stated.

"The situation in the Guangdong province deserves added attention as it has a very close relationship with Macau. There is a high daily flow of people between the two sides, which can have a great impact on Macau,"



ANTHONY LAM

they added.

To prevent the contagion, health authorities are urging the whole population to "strictly comply with the anti-epidemic guidelines issued by the Macau SAR government." These include: frequent temperature measurement, Health Code verification, wearing masks, maintaining social distance, and paying attention to personal and

environmental hygiene.

Additionally, the authorities are now also calling on residents to avoid traveling to regions where there are outbreaks reported, as well as to take the vaccine against Covid-19 as soon as possible.

The same authorities are also urging public services, institutions, associations, and companies to "actively adopt measures to encour-

age, cooperate and support their workers to get vaccinated as soon as possible."

The center also advises public and private entities alike to reconsider hosting "group activities that are not essential."

The same health authorities have amended on Saturday (May 29) evening, the restrictions to be imposed to people arriving in Macau and that had been in: Hailong Sub-District (including Zengjiao Community, Haibei Community, Longxi Community, Longwan Community, Dahe Community, Jiangbei Community), Liwan District, Guangzhou City or Huafu Yushui'an Small Community, Guicheng Sub-District, Nanhai District and Foshan City.

People arriving from such locations are now being subject to quarantine measures for a period of 14 days.

RESIDENT NEGATIVE FOR COVID-19 FOLLOWING CLOSE CONTACT WITH GUANGZHOU PATIENT

The results of the nucleic acid test (NAT) was negative for a Macau resident who was in Guangdong Province, where he made contact with an individual who was diagnosed with an asymptomatic infection.

Though no symptoms until now, considering the risk of infection, he is under observation at the Clinical Center of Public Health of Coloane.

According to the information available, the local authorities were informed of this early Saturday morning. They immediately traced the resident and put him under observation.

Mainland authorities claim that this man was in close contact (less than three meters away) with the diagnosed Covid-19 patient on May 23, while visiting the Gulong Gorge tourist area located in the Xin District of Qingyuan city.

According to the latest update available, the local resident is a 59-year-old man that works as a VIP car driver at the City of Dreams Casino.

He was at Qingyuan in a tour group organized by a Zhuhai travel agency that toured the area from May 22 to 23.

Records show that the man has been inoculated with the first dose of a Covid-19 vaccine on May 25 in Zhuhai and following that, he had been submitted to two NATs, both with negative results.

The man also claims to have worn a face mask when traveling and at work between May 27 and 29.

In a statement released last night, the center said that it is following up on 31 individuals who have also been in close contact with the infected person. **RM**

Guangzhou Covid-19 center orders lockdown in five streets in Liwan district

RENATO MARQUES

Guangzhou health authorities have ordered a mandatory lockdown for all residents in five streets located in the Liwan district, the local Command Center for Covid-19 Control and Prevention notified on Saturday (May 29).

According to the notification, the lockdown will be effective at the Hailong, Baihedong, Zhongnan, Dongnao, and Chongkou streets of the Liwan district.

All residents from these areas must "mainly stay at home, and all non-essential activities must be halted," the notification states, adding, that "only one person [per household] is allowed to exit the house to purchase daily necessities once per day."

All entertainment venues, indoor leisure, and sports facilities, wholesale markets, and student and child care institutions shall be closed, with the only exception for farm produce

markets.

Offline teaching at kindergartens and training institutions is also suspended, and dining-in is banned at all restaurants.

The only exception regarding the suspension of offline teaching is granted to students in the final years of both junior and senior high school, and only in cases where the schools operate with accommodation and fully enclosed management conditions.

For those that cannot

provide on-campus accommodation, students will take online classes from home.

The majority of these measures also extend to other areas of Liwan district, with the only difference being a modified lockdown at home. Instead, the authorities note that residents should refrain from going outdoors for any unnecessary activities and avoid all types of gatherings.

In other parts of the city,

the situation is also being monitored: "gatherings being reduced, large-scale events shall be strictly monitored, festival celebration events shall be strictly managed and simplified, and conferences shall be mainly conducted online."

Entertainment venues and other indoor public facilities are also conducting an entry ceiling of 75% of maximum capacity.

All transportation stations will be enforcing passenger flow management plans to avoid gatherings, and public transportation such as buses, taxis, and online car-hailing will need to circulate with windows open to ensure good ventilation.

Gov't never interferes with media operations: Inês Chan

RENATO MARQUES

THE director of the Government Information Bureau (GCS), Inês Chan, said that the government has "always respected the principles of press freedom and editorial autonomy [of all the media] and never participated in or interfered with the operations or decision-making of any media outlet."

The statement was made at the Legislative Assembly (AL) on Friday, during a reply to an inquiry from lawmaker Sulu Sou on public broadcaster TDM.

Chan added that the government "respects and safeguards press freedom as it always has according to the provision of the [Macau] basic law."

Sou was questioning the government on the recent situation at the public broadcaster which led to the alleged resignation of



several Portuguese channel journalists, namely from TDM Radio.

Chan remarked that TDM is only financially helped by the government to provide public service television and radio broadcasting, in accordance with the provision of the contract signed by the private entity and the government.

According to this pro-

vision, the only requirements stated are the "truth and impartiality of the information disclosed, not being able to disclose fake news, prejudicial reports, [as well as] unconfirmed news or with parts that can lead the public to misinterpretations or errors," Chan remarked.

Sou was not happy with the reply, noting that the

TDM's Executive Committee knows very well that, in a presentation back in March, journalists were forbidden from presenting news or stories with views or opinions opposed to local and central government policies or measures. This is a position that Sou claimed violates the purposes and goals of the company.

Sou also protested the fact that the government sent Chan to reply to his inquiry and did not request the presence at the plenary session of any representative from TDM's Executive Committee.

Contrastingly, other lawmakers, such as Song Pek Kei and Ip Sio Kai, called for greater intervention from the government in the process of overseeing media operations. This has been rebutted by the GCS director, who reaffirmed the policy of "non-interference" from the government.

JUNE 4 ORGANIZER FILES JUDICIAL APPEAL

WITH lawmaker and member Au Kam San as representative, the Macau Union for Democratic Development has filed an appeal with the top court against the police's ban of the June 4 vigil.

The Public Security Police Force issued a dispatch to the group last week announcing the ban, on the grounds of legal breach and epidemic control.

According to the law, the Court of Final Appeal must issue a judgement within five days. Au noted this means that the court must have a decision on or before June 3. Even if the appeal is not allowed, the group will move the vigil to an indoor venue.

In his appeal letter submitted to the court, Au recalled that the Tiananmen Incident in 1989 ended with the People's Liberation Army clearing the site. He stressed that people were aware of what had occurred during the event.

Furthermore, he said, "This cannot be covered merely by a resolution of the National People's Congress's Standing Committee or a report by the State Council." He added that the framing and meaning of the incident has often changed as political conditions did.

The change of the gauge, according to Au, was to a certain extent the result of the government addressing public opinions, as they did not align with its own opinions or views.

"So to speak, the demand of vindicating the [facts of the] incident should not be considered violating the law even if it goes against the resolution or decision of the government," Au said. He stressed that the "reputation, prestige and credibility" of the Central Government is embodied by the inclusion of various opinions. **AL**

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COVID-19

Pfizer's vaccine gets caught in the middle of C

TAIWAN'S government faces mounting pressure to work with China to obtain Covid-19 vaccines, a politically unpalatable option for officials in Taipei struggling with an outbreak that risks disrupting tech supply chains.

President Tsai Ing-wen's administration this week ruled out attempts by some local officials to directly obtain Pfizer Inc.-BioNTech SE vaccines from Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical Group Co. The China-based drugmaker, which has an agreement to develop and distribute them in the greater China region that includes Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, has repeatedly said it wants to supply the BioNTech vaccine to Taiwan.

Tsai and her party have blamed China for scuttling an earlier order of millions of BioNTech jabs, although Beijing has rejected that claim. She said this week vaccine procurement will be handled by central government as it involves emergency authorization process and distribution.

On Thursday, several Taiwanese officials defended the government's moves, with Health Minister Chen Shih-chung saying the deal with BioNTech fell apart after the

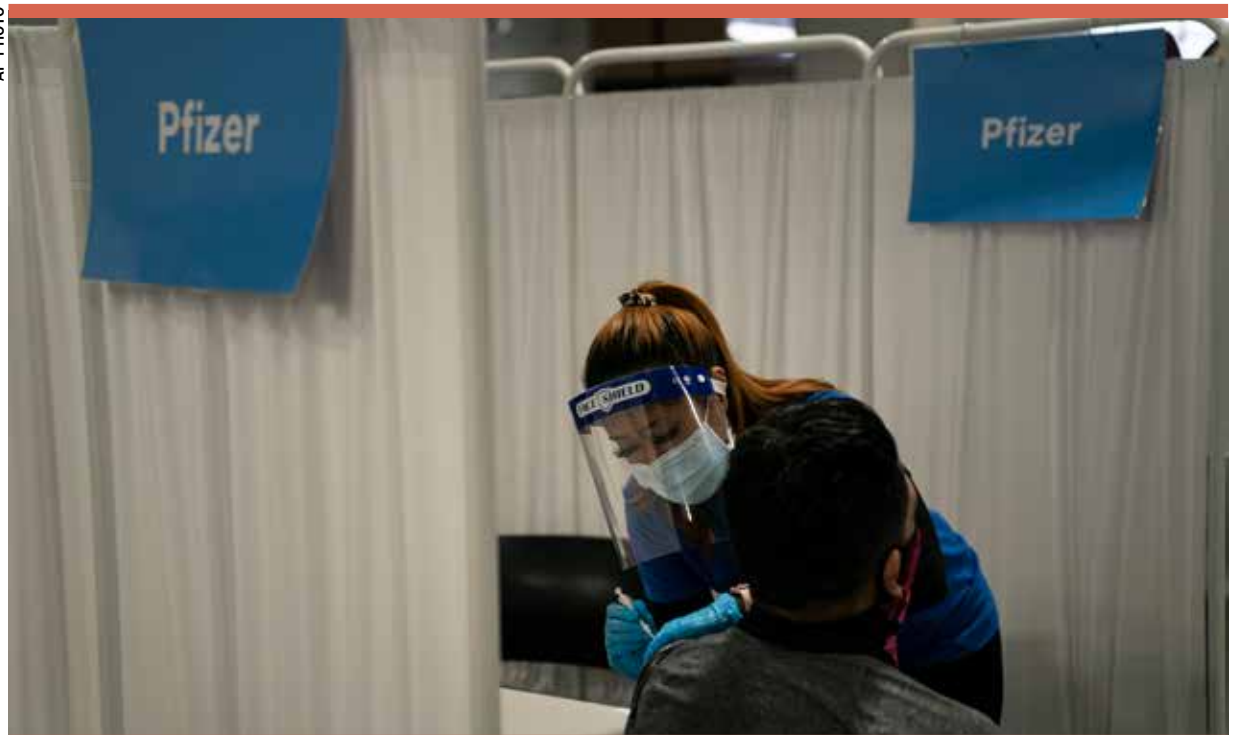
company "strongly suggested" the removal of the word "country" in the press release announcing the arrangement. While Taiwan agreed to the wording change, he said the deal collapsed "not because of something within the contract."

"Both sides had reached consensus and we had gotten the government's approval," Chen said. "We just needed to exchange the contract. So you can see there are many uncertainties, and we were blocked in the last minute. We still wanted to follow up afterwards, but there was no deal."

Chen added that Taiwan would only potentially speak with Fosun if they got authorization from BioNTech or Pfizer. Taiwanese cabinet spokesperson Lo Ping-cheng said separately the government was more interested in buying Western vaccines than Chinese shots, which have been shown in some studies to have lower efficacy rates.

"If we directly buy vaccines from China, there may be concerns about security, efficacy and legal issues," Lo said in a briefing. "Instead of asking China to provide vaccines, we should all ask China to let go and not to intervene with Taiwan buying vaccines directly from international pharma com-

AP PHOTO



panies so that it can meet expectations of Taiwan nationals and our national interests."

China's Taiwan Affairs office accused Tsai's political party of violating "business rules and trust" in bypassing Fosun Pharma in an attempt to buy vaccines directly from BioNTech, spokeswoman Zhu Fenglian said in a statement. It said allegations that China is blocking

sales of the BioNTech vaccine were "fabricated out of nothing."

PARTNERSHIP MULLED

Last year, Fosun Pharma reached out to Taipei-based TTY Biopharm Co. Ltd to discuss distributing the BioNTech vaccine in Taiwan, but the talks fell through at the last minute due to political concerns, according to a person fa-

miliar with the situation who asked not to be identified. Company officials had seen the partnership as a way to work around the political deadlock stopping Fosun from directly supplying the vaccine to Taiwan, the person said.

Representatives from Fosun and TTY Biopharm didn't immediately respond to requests for comment on Thursday.

Australia says citizen is in arbitrary detention in China

ROD MCGUIRK,
CANBERRA

AUSTRALIA considers the incarceration of a Chinese Australian writer who has been tried in Beijing for alleged espionage a case of arbitrary detention, the foreign minister said.

Yang Hengjun faced a closed trial on Thursday. The court deferred its verdict to a later date.

"Given our enduring concerns about this case, including the lack of detail as to the charges and the investigation made available to Dr. Yang and to Australia, we consider this to be an instance of arbitrary detention of an Australian citizen," Foreign Minister Marise Payne said in a statement Friday.

Australia first warned its citizens of the risk of arbitrary detention if they visited China in a travel advisory in July last year. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade advised that Chinese "authorities have detained foreigners because

AP PHOTO



they're 'endangering national security,' " adding that Australians may also be at risk.

The Chinese Embassy in Australia dismissed the warning as "ridiculous" and "disinformation."

Australian Embassy officials visited Yang in detention on Friday and gave assurances that Australia stood by him and his family "at this very difficult time,"

Payne said. It was the 20th consular visit since Yang was taken into custody on arrival in China in January 2019.

Ambassador Graham Fletcher was denied entry to the court on Thursday.

Payne said Australian officials' presence at the court entrance reinforced her government's support for Yang and "our deep concerns with what continues

to be a closed and opaque process."

Chinese authorities have not released any details of the charges against Yang, a novelist who reportedly formerly worked for China's Ministry of State Security as an intelligence agent.

Yang has denied the accusation against him, and while a conviction is virtually certain, it isn't clear when the verdict will be

handed down. The espionage charge carries penalties ranging from three years in prison to the death penalty.

China's Foreign Ministry said China was following international practice in barring observers from attending a case involving state secrets.

The trial comes at a time of deteriorating relations between the two countries, brought on by Chinese retaliation against Australian legislation against covert foreign interference in its domestic politics, the exclusion of telecommunications giant Huawei from Australia's 5G phone network, and calls for an independent investigation into the origins of the COVID-19 outbreak that was first detected in China in late 2019.

Beijing has essentially suspended all but the most routine contacts between the sides, while state media and the Foreign Ministry routinely attack Australia as adopting anti-Chinese policies at the behest of the United States, China's main

geopolitical rival.

Australian journalists Michael Smith of the Australian Financial Review and Bill Birtles of the Australian Broadcasting Corp. fled China in September after sheltering in Australian diplomatic compounds following demands for questioning by Chinese authorities. They were allowed to depart China under a deal brokered between the two governments, leaving Australian media without a physical presence in the country.

Before their departure, Chinese police questioned both journalists about Australian citizen Cheng Lei, a business news anchor for CGNT, China's English-language state media channel, who had been detained a month earlier.

China says Cheng has been lawfully detained on suspicion of violating Chinese national security laws.

China has blocked Australian exports, including beef, wine, coal, lobsters, wood and barley. **MDT/AP**

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

China-Taiwan Fight

Fosun Pharma has long said it hoped to provide Taiwan with vaccines. In an interview with Bloomberg News in March, Guo Guangchang, chairman of the Chinese drugmaker's parent company Fosun International Ltd., said the company "has the responsibility, duty and willingness to offer the best vaccine to the Greater China region, including Taiwan." Fosun Pharma's CEO Wu Yifang told China's official Xinhua News Agency this week that the company has actively pushed to provide the vaccine to Taiwan through multiple channels going back to last year.

Tsai, who was re-elected in a landslide last year after taking a strong stance against China's interference in Hong Kong, has seen her approval rating dip below 50% for the first time in a year in the wake of Taiwan's worst outbreak during the pandemic. After months with zero daily Covid cases, health authorities in Taipei are now grappling with more than 500 cases a day along with growing criticism for being complacent with a vaccination drive.

While the Biden administration has said it will donate tens of millions of spare vaccine doses following a successful vaccination drive at home, it's unclear how many

- if any - might be sent to Taiwan as more deadly outbreaks occur in places like India. A senior Taiwanese official in the U.S. last week called for the world to send vaccines to avoid more chip shortages from Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd. and other companies.

On Wednesday, a Chinese official criticized Tsai's ruling Democratic Progressive Party for blocking the entry of a mainland company's Covid shot.

"Covid-19 is rapidly spreading in Taiwan, but the DPP authorities are still turning a blind eye to the shortfall of vaccines and to the expectation of Taiwan people," said Zhu Fenglian, a spokeswoman for the Chinese State Council's Taiwan Affairs Office. "They not only block Taiwan people from using mainland-made vaccines with various excuses, but also obstruct vaccines represented by a mainland company from entering Taiwan."

The government in Taipei views Taiwan as a de-facto sovereign nation, even while it avoids a formal declaration of independence that could trigger a war. China, meanwhile, claims the set of islands as its own territory and hopes for "reunification" - a term disputed in Taiwan. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

AGENCY LAUNCHES CARGO ROCKET WITH SUPPLIES FOR SPACE STATION

A rocket carrying supplies for China's new space station blasted off Saturday from an island in the South China Sea.

A Long March 7 rocket carrying the automated Tianzhou-2 spacecraft took off at 8:55 p.m. from the Wenchang launch center on Hainan Island, the Chinese space agency announced. The agency said the craft entered orbit 10 minutes later and the launch was deemed a "perfect success."

The Tianzhou-2 carried fuel and supplies, according to earlier state media reports. The station's core module was launched into orbit April 29.

The Chinese space agency says 11 launches are planned through the end of next year to deliver two

more modules for the 70-ton station, supplies and a three-member crew.

China was criticized for allowing part of the rocket that launched the Tianhe to fall back to Earth uncontrolled. There was no indication about what Beijing planned to do with the rocket from Saturday's launch.

The Tianhe, or Heavenly Harmony, is the third and largest orbital station launched by China's increasingly ambitious space program.

Beijing doesn't participate in the International Space Station, largely due to U.S. objections. Washington is wary of the Chinese program's secrecy and its military connections. **MDT/AP**

ADVERTORIAL

SANDS CHINA NEWS

Sands Shopping Carnival Returning This Summer

After a highly successful event last year, **Sands China Ltd.** is bringing back the Sands Shopping Carnival July 23-25 at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Expo.

The largest sale event in Macao at over 560 booths, the three-day 2021 Sands Shopping Carnival provides a free business platform for local SMEs and retailers amid the pandemic period, while providing a fun weekend destination and summer hotspot for local residents and tourists.



The 2021 Sands Shopping Carnival is organised by Sands China Ltd. and co-organised by the Macao Chamber of Commerce, with the full support of the Economic and Technological Development Bureau, the Macao Government Tourism Office, and the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute. It supports the Macao SAR government's Consume for the Economy initiative and the e-consumption voucher scheme. Sands China made the announcement at a press conference May 11 at The Venetian Macao.

"After last year's event garnered positive feedback from all sectors of society, the company is very pleased to support the economic revival initiative of the Macao SAR government again this year with the 2021 Sands Shopping Carnival," said Dr. Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd. "Sands China remains dedicated to nurturing the development of local SMEs. This free platform provides more business opportunities, and with the combination of local and international brands, creates an effective synergy that benefits all. We are excited to bring it back in 2021 as a way to promote the domestic economic cycle of Macao, and are grateful to the Macao SAR government for continuing to keep the city safe for residents and tourists despite the pandemic."



As the largest shopping event of its kind in Macao, the carnival not only offers a retail experience with some of the best deals in town, but a fun-filled event that allows families to stay all day to enjoy different activities together, including an expanded international-cuisine food court area with additional choices this year, shows, lucky draws, and activities and exciting games for children. More details will be announced in due course.



AP PHOTO

COVID-19

Vietnam finds new virus variant, hybrid of India, UK strains

HAU DINH, HANOI

VIENTNAM has discovered a new coronavirus variant that's a hybrid of strains first found in India and the U.K., the Vietnamese health minister said Saturday.

Nguyen Thanh Long said scientists examined the genetic makeup of the virus that had infected some recent patients, and found the new version of the virus. He said lab tests suggested it might spread more easily than other versions of the virus.

Viruses often develop small genetic changes as they reproduce, and new variants of the coronavirus have been seen almost since it was first detected in China in late 2019. The World Health Organization has listed four global "variants of concern" – the two first found in the U.K. and India, plus ones identified in South Africa and Brazil.

Long says the new variant could be responsible for a recent surge in Viet-



nam, which has spread to 30 of the country's 63 municipalities and provinces.

Vietnam was initially a standout success in battling the virus — in early May, it had recorded just over 3,100 confirmed cases and 35 deaths since the start of the pandemic.

But in the last few weeks, Vietnam has confirmed more than 3,500 new cases and 12 deaths, increasing the country's total death toll to 47.

Most of the new transmissions were found in Bac Ninh and Bac Giang, two provinces dense with industrial zones where hundreds of thousands

of people work for major companies including Samsung, Canon and Luxshare, a partner in assembling Apple products. Despite strict health regulations, a company in Bac Giang discovered that one fifth of its 4,800 workers had tested positive for the virus.

In Ho Chi Minh City, the country's largest metropolis and home to 9 million, at least 85 people have tested positive as part of a cluster at a Protestant church, the Health Ministry said. Worshipers sang and chanted while sitting close together without wearing proper masks or taking other precautions.

Vietnam has since ordered a nationwide ban on all religious events. In major cities, authorities have banned large gatherings, closed public parks and non-essential business including in-person restaurants, bars, clubs and spas.

Vietnam so far has vaccinated 1 million people with AstraZeneca shots. Last week, it sealed a deal with Pfizer for 30 million doses, which are scheduled to be delivered in the third and fourth quarters of this year. It is also in talks with Moderna that would give it enough shots to fully vaccinate 80% of its 96 million people. **MDT/AP**

China taps support from Poland, Serbia after frozen EU deal

CHINA and the European Union are partners, not competitors, and cooperation will help both sides, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told his Polish counterpart as the Asian nation seeks support after an investment deal with the bloc was put on hold.

Poland's Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau said his country believes a China-EU investment deal is beneficial for both sides, and the two should deal with disagreements properly, according to a Chinese government statement on Saturday.

Rau and foreign ministers from Serbia, Hungary and Ireland are visiting China from May 29 to May 31 after an invitation from Wang. Rau and Serbia's

Nikola Selakovic met him in the southwestern Chinese city of Guiyang on Saturday in separate meetings.

European lawmakers overwhelmingly approved a resolution this month to withhold ratification of an investment agreement with China in response to sanctions against members of the bloc. China retaliated against the U.S., U.K. and EU over sanctions related to allegations of human rights abuses in the western region of Xinjiang.

The investment pact had been seen as proof of both Europe's independence from the U.S. and China's ability to collaborate with American allies who adopted a more moderate approach. Attitudes in several European capitals have

grown less favorable toward China since the coronavirus outbreak fueled a range of diplomatic disputes.

Much of global criticism toward China has focused on its treatment of Muslim Uyghurs and other minorities in Xinjiang. China has waged a vigorous international campaign against the claims, saying it's trying to fight terrorism and improve the livelihoods of minorities.

Poland understands and respects China's legitimate rights and interests and would like to make active efforts for the healthy development of EU-China relations, the statement from the Chinese government cited Rau as saying. Poland also welcomes Chinese investment and won't adopt

discriminatory measures against its companies, Rau said, adding the country is also willing to expand agricultural exports to China.

In the meeting with Selakovic, Wang said China supports plans by its Covid-19 vaccine manufacturers to talk to Serbia on joint production in the European nation. The two sides agreed to accelerate infrastructure and energy cooperation, including one involving the Serbian section of the Budapest-Belgrade railway. The rail project is mostly financed by loans from China.

China's cooperation with central and eastern European nations are focused on economy and trade, and will help balance the development of Europe, Wang said. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

this day in history

1973 US SENATE STOPS CAMBODIA BOMBING



The US Senate has voted to cut off funds for the bombing of Cambodia.

The move is a serious blow to President Richard Nixon's South-East Asia policy and follows a similar resolution voted in by the House of Representatives on 10 May.

The president's special adviser, Dr Henry Kissinger, had pleaded with the senate not to rebel against the government while he was still trying to negotiate a lasting settlement in Indo-China.

He said if the communists in Vietnam realised there were divisions in Congress, he would find it impossible to hold them to the terms of the 28 January ceasefire.

But it seems his argument held little sway with Congress.

The amendment to an appropriations bill was sponsored by Democrat Senator Thomas Eagleton and supported by many liberal Republicans.

Large sections of the American people are opposed to the bombing of Cambodia. Their views have been reflected today by senators who believe they can stop the war by holding back funds.

The Senate majority leader, Mike Mansfield, said: "The only way to face up to our responsibilities, the only way to do it effectively is to cut the purse strings."

There is also pressure to end the civil war in Cambodia from China - currently home to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, former leader of Cambodia deposed in a military coup three years ago.

The Cambodian army are fighting a battle on several fronts - against Prince Sihanouk's guerrilla groups, the Khmer Rouge under Pol Pot and the North Vietnamese communists, the Vietcong, who have been taking a battering from US fighter bombers.

The prince remains a personal as well as political enemy to Cambodia's President Lon Nol who has recently told William Sullivan, Dr Kissinger's assistant, that he was willing to start peace talks with the prince and his government in exile.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The carpet bombing that had started covertly in 1970 to stop America's enemies from Vietnam using Cambodia as a base outraged the American public and crippled Cambodia as a nation.

Under pressure from Congress, the Nixon administration finally ended the bombing in August 1973.

The Cambodian army gradually lost more territory to the Khmer Rouge who began a reign of terror in 1975.

Prince Sihanouk became head of state for a brief period before he was forced into political exile by Pol Pot.

For the next four years Pol Pot oversaw the deaths of an estimated 1.7 million people, by execution, forced labour and starvation.

The Vietnamese forced out Pol Pot in 1979 and withdrew from Cambodia 10 years later. In 1993 the monarchy was restored with Sihanouk as king.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

 ARIES Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Sentimental feelings may make it difficult to get much done at work. Do not borrow or lend money or belongings to friends or relatives if you wish to avoid any hassles.	 TAURUS Apr. 20-May. 20 Your input into their activities will help bring you closer together. Your partner may not understand your mood swings but if you are willing to communicate, a lot of grief can be avoided.
 GEMINI May. 21-Jun. 21 You can meet potential new mates, but make sure that they aren't already committed to someone else. You must get out and mingle. Talk to people who can give you important knowledge.	 CANCER Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You may be overreacting to personal problems. Do what you can to help them but don't neglect your own family. Move into a leadership position if you are determined to do so.
 LEO Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You need to spend some time reflecting on past experiences and involvements. You need an outlet that will not only stimulate you but also challenge your intelligence as well.	 VIRGO Aug. 23-Sep. 22 You should be able to tie up loose ends today. Unpleasant situations concerning family members will be unnerving. Equilibrium in your romantic life is likely if you treat your partner well.
 LIBRA Sep. 23-Oct. 22 Pursue outdoor activities or any physical exertion. Empty promises are evident. Your high energy should be spent pleasing your mate. You can gain distinction; however, it may be for the wrong reasons.	 SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Try to make arrangements with close friends or relatives to spend a few days away. Keep your cash in your pocket and offer them sound advice rather than your financial assistance.
 SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You must not make unnecessary changes today. Use some diplomacy to get your point across delicately. The danger of minor accidents will increase with the turmoil.	 CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your high energy, original ideas, and excellent memory will aid your accomplishments. Your involvement in organizational events could open doors to new and exciting opportunities.
 AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Don't hesitate to voice your opinions when it comes to matters pertaining to work. Outdoor sports events should entice you. You may have the energy to clear up that mound of paperwork facing you.	 PISCES Feb. 19-Mar. 20 Arguments with employers or colleagues will be to your detriment. Talking to those you trust and respect will help you sort out any problems. You can make money if you are wise in your choices.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	15	31	cloudy
Harbin	14	30	clear
Tianjin	15	21	rain
Urumqi	16	24	rain
Xi'an	20	26	cloudy
Lhasa	15	27	sunny
Chengdu	23	27	rain
Chongqing	25	31	rain
Kunming	18	23	rain
Nanjing	14	19	overcast
Shanghai	27	37	cloudy
Wuhan	17	23	rain
Hangzhou	13	30	cloudy
Taipei	14	23	overcast
Guangzhou	10	24	cloudy
Hong Kong	17	28	clear
WORLD			
Moscow	17	31	clear
Frankfurt	8	14	rain
Paris	8	15	rain
London	7	16	cloudy
New York	14	24	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Emblem; 6- Designer Geoffrey; 11- Reveal, in verse; 14- ___ Grows in Brooklyn; 15- Less common; 16- Guy's counterpart; 17- Tied; 18- Use a soapbox; 19- Dander; 20- Golf clubs; 22- Honda model; 24- Danced at Oktoberfest, perhaps; 28- Swear; 29- Capital of Greece; 30- Elected; 32- Hang around; 33- Fine-tune; 35- Hindu hero; 39- Dick Tracy's love; 40- Actor Linden; 41- Graceful horse; 42- Quod ___ demonstrandum; 43- Man of morals; 45- 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet; 46- Egg-shaped; 48- Deceives; 50- Rupture; 53- Mafioso; 54- ___ Majesty's Secret Service; 55- Lerner's partner; 57- UN agency; 58- Toothed wheels; 60- Drive back; 65- Melancholic; 66- Little bits; 67- Boiling; 68- Carrere of "Wayne's World"; 69- Wanting; 70- Marshal;


DOWN 1- Decorative flap on a garment; 2- Oklahoma First Nation; 3- Capote, to friends; 4- Poetic time; 5- Highway divider; 6- Young; 7- Acquire through merit; 8- Historical periods; 9- Can be used to catch fish or surf; 10- Establishes; 11- Pointed arch; 12- Seine spot; 13- Opt; 21- Breather; 23- Repeats; 24- Cut's partner; 25- Aquatic mammal; 26- Potala Palace site; 27- Foundation; 28- NASA affirmative; 30- Discontinue; 31- Nimbus; 34- Stimulate; 36- Give it ___; 37- Dull surface; 38- Loathe; 43- Car club; 44- Agricultural implement; 47- The ___ Mary; 49- Spain and Portugal; 50- Raise; 51- China's Zhou ___; 52- Role for Valerie; 53- Unordered; 55- Like the White Rabbit; 56- Toward the mouth; 59- Fair-hairing abbr.; 61- Be human?; 62- Acceptable score for a professional golfer; 63- Greek H; 64- "Conquest of Space" writer Willy;

Friday's solution

ROAM	ESPY	LENT
ODDER	CLUE	ERIE
NEATO	HOBO	ARTE
AAR	BLO	MISERS
OB	OE	LAREDO
TIGRESS	INA	
STAIR	PALENESS	
ATLE	EMERY	ERNO
ROLLOVER	OSTER	
TEER	UMPTEN	
ENTIRE	PEPS	
FAIRLY	OSLO	ABU
OGEE	OMNI	SEVER
CECE	NEED	EVEN
TRES	EASE	AREA

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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	
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IAM 28 387 333	
Tourism 28 333 000	
Airport 59 888 88	



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Property of the Week



FOR SALE

Hoi Wan Garden, Taipa
HKD 4,950,000 950 ft² 2 2



SCAN ME

Ref: 2105 6001

This contemporary two-bedroom apartment overlooking the Amizade bridge has been completely remodelled to a high standard.

The unit includes two double bedrooms with one en-suite, one guest bathroom and a full open kitchen with island counter, washing machine and new cupboards. The living room has a view of the Amizade bridge and is in an elevator building. All drainage and plumbing pipes were replaced in 2018.

The apartment is currently furnished and can be purchased with or without furniture. It is on a lower floor located in a quiet neighbourhood near the Macau Anglican College (MAC) and Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT), the area also has convenient access to public transport and a 24/7 gym just behind the building.

Viewings by appointment. Find out more on www.jmlproperty.com

Property Hotlist



FOR SALE

Traditional, Macau
HKD 2,750,000

788 ft²
2
1



SCAN ME

Ref: 2103 6001



FOR RENT

Central Macau
HKD 16,900/mth

1,508 ft²
2
2



SCAN ME

Ref: 2105 1001



FOR RENT

Studio, Old Taipa
HKD 7,900/mth

360 ft²
1



SCAN ME

Ref: 2103 1005

More Listings

For Sale

- [Macau] Macau duplex 2 1 1,100 ft² **HKD 4,680,000** Ref: 20116003
- [Taipa] Taipa Village 4 2 1,404 ft² **HKD 8,380,000** Ref: 19096006
- [Macau] Lakeview Tower 3 2 1,344 ft² **HKD 11,000,000** Ref: 19126001
- [Taipa] Nova Taipa 1 3 2 2,105 ft² **HKD 15,000,000** Ref: 21036004
- [Taipa] Manhattan 4 2 2,305 ft² **HKD 17,980,000** Ref: 18075558

For Rent

- [Macau] One bedroom 1 1 720 ft² **HKD 8,600/mth** Ref: 19091002
- [Taipa] Ocean Garden 2 2 1,030 ft² **HKD 13,800/mth** Ref: 20071003
- [Macau] Macau, ZAPE 2 1 720 ft² **HKD 14,000/mth** Ref: n/a
- [Macau] One Central 2 2 1,269 ft² **HKD 18,500/mth** Ref: n/a
- [Cotai] One Oasis 3 2 2,100 ft² **HKD 30,000/mth** Ref: 20111002

Rain Dance Property "WE DANCE UNTIL IT'S RENTED!"



FOR RENT

Manhattan, Taipa
HKD 17,500/mth

1,626 ft²
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SCAN ME

Ref: 2003 1001

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BOXING

Haney keeps WBC lightweight title, beats Linares by decision

W.G. RAMIREZ, LAS VEGAS

DEVIN Haney said he wanted Jorge Linares' best when the two met for the WBC world lightweight title, so there would be no excuses after a win.

As it turned out, Haney came close to needing an excuse of his own.

After dominating the first seven rounds, Haney weathered a late surge by Linares to unanimously outpoint the former three-weight champion on yesterday (Macau time) night and successfully defend his belt.

Haney, the first person to outpoint Linares, won 116-112, 116-112, 115-113 on the judges' scorecards.

But it was Linares staggering the 135-pound champion at the end of the 10th round in the 12-round bout.

"It was a good shot, but I wasn't hurt," Haney said. "Sometimes when you get hit by a good shot



Jorge Linares, right, punches Devin Haney during the WBC lightweight title boxing match, Saturday

you have to be smart, continue the game plan. I did that and got the win."

Haney (26-0) spent much of the final three rounds ducking under Linares' arms, hugging and

stalling the action.

"I just kept smart, used the jabs, feinted and landed shots in the 12th round," Haney said. "You are going to get hit with big shots in boxing. I didn't get dropped, I didn't get hurt. You see fighters get dropped and get up from big shots and people praise them, I didn't get dropped, I stayed on my feet, kept throwing shots and closed it out."

According to CompuBox, Haney landed 215 punches, and Linares landed 116. Haney also hit his mark with 79 jabs, while Linares landed 25.

Linares (47-6), the only person to put Vasilij Lomachenko on his back, survived an early onslaught by Haney, who used strong combinations to the head and body to hurt the opponent 13 years his elder.

Haney looked as if he was going to drop Linares in the sixth round. He landed an overhand right and subsequent punches that caused Linares' right eye to swell.

"I showed I can do it all," Haney said. "I can box, I can bang, I can take a shots and face adversity and get the job done. I knew he was going to come here and give it everything, it was a huge opportunity for him. He would be willing to get knocked out to go for the win, take my biggest shots to get this title."

Haney said he now wants Teofimo Lopez, who fights June 19 in Miami against George Kambosis. Lopez is the undisputed champion, so a bout between the two would be for supremacy of the lightweight division.

"I want to fight the best," Haney said. "If Teofimo wants to do it next, let's do it for all the belts, the real undisputed."

In the co-featured event, champion Chantelle Cameron (14-0), of Great Britain, defended her WBC world super-lightweight title with TKO of Miami's Melissa Hernandez (23-8), in a bout stopped at 1:38 of the fifth round.

On the undercard, Ireland's Jason Quigley (19-1) defeated Shane Mosley Jr. (17-5) by majority decision (97-93, 96-94, 95-95) to claim the vacant WBO middleweight title.

South Africa's Azinga Fuzile (15-1) defeated Great Britain's Martin J. Ward (24-2) with a seventh-round TKO in a final eliminator for the IBF world super featherweight title. **MDT/AP**

AD

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OPINION

World Views

Sam Fazeli & Max Nisen, MDT/Bloomberg

**HOW EUROPE CAN LEAD
 THE WAY OUT OF COVID
 TRAVEL CONFUSION**

Vaccines are a huge help in the Covid fight, paving the way for reopenings in towns, cities and countries around the world. But when it comes to cross-border commerce and travel, we need more than shots to get back to some kind of normal. Nowhere is that more evident than in the European Union, where varying standards and restrictions among member countries make travel confusing within the region, never mind between EU destinations and elsewhere.

Here are some real-world examples: U.K. citizens with proof of vaccination can travel to Portugal for a holiday without having to take a Covid-19 test before traveling, or quarantining when they return, because of both countries' relatively low infection rates. If they travel to Spain, however, they will need to quarantine when they get back. If they travel to France, British citizens are advised to quarantine for seven days and take a test and, if to the U.K. from France, are required to quarantine for 10 days and have at least two tests. Similar variations exist between a large number of EU member states, so much so that the EU has made a tool to navigate the different standards.

Does this sound completely random? At some level it is, and it represents a microcosm of the issues that the world is facing when it comes to restarting business and leisure travel. Aside from getting vaccines distributed more equitably, the world needs to work out a better plan on how it's going to get back to normal. Europe, with its close borders and intergovernmental relationships, can pave the way with testing and travel guidelines for its own region that could set a standard for the rest of the world. Here are four suggestions about where to start:

1. Standardized testing: European Union member nations could settle on testing protocols before, during and after travel, based on the world's growing understanding of how to test effectively. Several countries including Belgium and France continue to insist on the blunt use of "gold standard" PCR tests only. While such tests are highly accurate, they can be time-consuming and register as positive for weeks after a person is infectious, adding inconvenience and potentially derailing travel for no reason. Antigen tests are preferable. They're faster, easier to give at the point of care and are particularly adept at detecting people when they're infectious, the key point at which they should avoid travel. Beyond the type of tests used, member EU states differ over quarantine periods, mandatory testing intervals, the treatment of vaccinated individuals and the ability to test out of quarantine, adding confusion to a process that should be relatively easy to harmonize. Consistency is likely to improve compliance and lead to better results.

2. More sequencing. The EU could contribute more to international genomic-sequencing efforts to provide a better assessment of emerging variants. Currently there is too wide a gap between genomic surveillance even within developed nations. For instance, the U.K. has submitted a significant amount of data to GISAID, an initiative that shows genetic variation in viruses. It shows a significant rise of a concerning variant first detected in India. That information prompted Germany to block travel from the U.K. However, countries such as Portugal and Italy haven't reported nearly as much data recently, leaving travelers and policy makers without a reliable way to assess risk even as Germany leaves its borders more open to both nations. More comprehensive and timely sequencing data would ensure that travel guidelines reflect current risks and aid in limiting outbreaks.

3. Better risk assessment: Currently, infection rates are used as a key measure of risk in traveling to a given destination. But vaccination rates are also important. For example, an outbreak of mild Covid-19 in a country where most people are vaccinated is less dangerous because the risks of serious health effects or contagion are lower. To put it another way, do we care how many flu infections a country has? We need a better set of tools than recorded numbers of positive cases to decide which countries are at risk and which are not. The EU has attempted to create a standard "traffic light" gradation of travel risk.

[Abridged]

The remains of 215 children, some as young as 3 years old, have been found buried on the site of what was once Canada's largest Indigenous residential school — one of the institutions that held children taken from families across the nation.

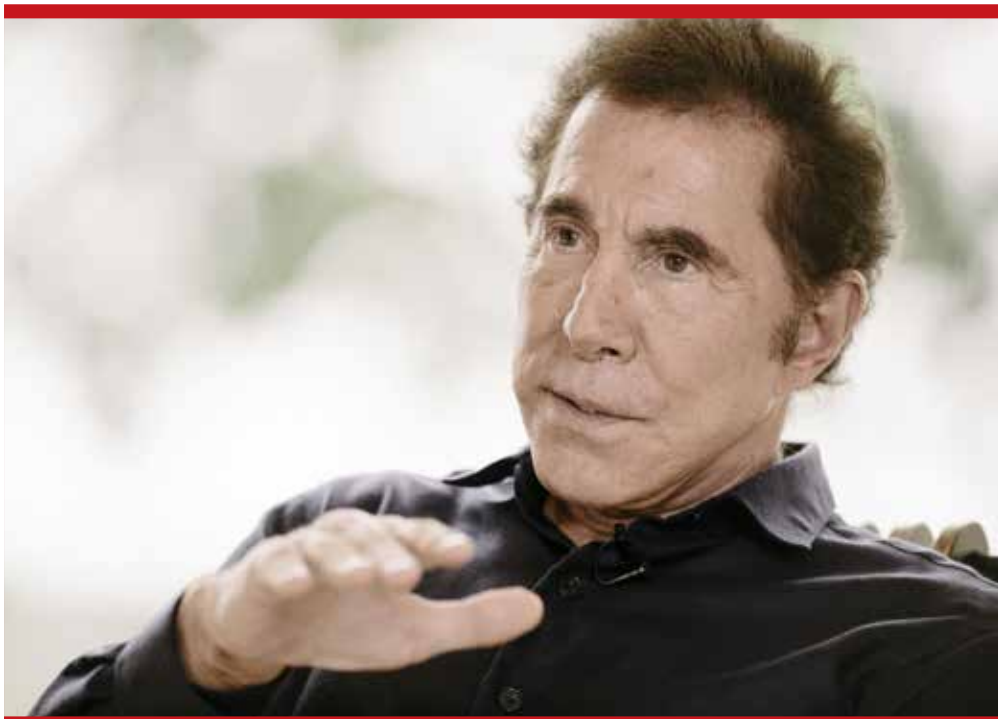
Chief Rosanne Casimir of the Tk'emlups te Secwépemc First Nation said in a news release that the remains were confirmed last weekend with the help of ground-penetrating radar.

More bodies may be found because there are more areas to search on the school grounds, Casimir said Friday.

In an earlier release, she called the discovery an "unthinkable loss that was spoken about but never documented at the Kamloops Indian Residential School."

From the 19th century until the 1970s, more than 150,000 First Nations children were required to attend state-funded Christian schools as part of a program to assimilate them into Canadian society. They were forced to convert to Christianity and not allowed to speak their native languages. Many were beaten and verbally abused, and up to 6,000 are said to have died.

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**CASINO MOGUL STEVE
 WYNN MUST FILE AS
 FOREIGN AGENT, US SAYS**

ILYA BANARES

THE U.S. Justice Department has told former casino magnate Steve Wynn to register as a foreign lobbyist for China and is ready to go to court if he doesn't comply, a person familiar with the matter said.

The order stems from allegations that Wynn tried to persuade American officials in the summer of 2017 to send Guo Wengui, a Chinese businessman with ties to former President Donald Trump, back to his home country, according to the person, who asked not to be identified discussing a pending inquiry.

Reid Weingarten, Wynn's attorney, didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

Guo, who fled China in late 2014, was charged there with corruption, bribery and fraud and is considered a fugitive by Chinese authorities. The Wall Street Journal, which reported earlier on the Justice Department inquiry on Wynn, quoted Guo as saying he was glad to hear the department is investigating Wynn and that "they should criminally indict him for serving as a greedy spy of

the Chinese Communist Party."

Gao is a member of Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida and has worked with former Trump adviser Stephen Bannon. Bannon was aboard Guo's yacht off the coast of Connecticut when he was arrested last year and charged with defrauding donors to a foundation that was privately funding construction of a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border. Trump pardoned him as he was about to leave office and a federal judge dismissed the indictment earlier this week.

Under the Foreign Agent Registration Act, passed in 1938, any person representing the interest of foreign entities in the U.S. -- including governments -- must disclose their relationship to the Justice Department. They also need to make public all of the activities they've done on their behalf and, if applicable, how much they were paid.

Wynn, 79, helped develop the modern Las Vegas into a destination for upscale travelers as well as hardcore gamblers. His resorts, such as the Mirage and Bellagio,

were famous for their outdoor spectacles, such as fountains and a faux volcano. Wynn Resorts Ltd., which he started after selling his first company, was one of just three U.S. operators to score licenses in Macau, a Chinese territory that would become the world's largest gambling market. A long-time Republican, he formerly spearheaded the party's fund-raising efforts and helped organize Trump's inauguration celebration.

Wynn ran into trouble after a number of former employees came public with stories of sexual harassment by him. He stepped down from the company that still bears his name and sold all of his shares in 2018 for a total of more than \$2 billion.

He currently has a net worth of about \$3.8 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. He remains a prolific political donor and in 2020 gave a total of \$708,500 to Trump Victory, a joint fundraising committee that raised money for Trump's campaign, the Republican National Committee and state parties. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

AP PHOTO



Egypt and Israel held high-level talks in both countries yesterday to shore up a fragile truce between Israel and the Hamas militant group and rebuild the Gaza Strip after a punishing 11-day war that left parts of the seaside enclave in ruins. Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shukry received his Israeli counterpart, Gabi Ashkenazi, in Cairo as part of Egypt's efforts to revive the Mideast peace process.

France Thousands of people, masked and tested for the coronavirus, packed inside a Paris arena for a concert yesterday as part of a public health experiment to prepare France to host big events again. The show at AccorHotels Arena in eastern Paris features 1980s French rock band Indochine and DJ Etienne de Crecy. But the attention was mostly on the concert-goers.

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has married his fiancée, Carrie Symonds, in a small private ceremony that came at the end of a tumultuous week during which a former top aide said he was unfit for office. The couple wed Saturday at the Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral in front of a small group of friends and family, Johnson's office said.

AP PHOTO



Mexico The notoriously violent Jalisco cartel has kidnapped several members of an elite police force in the state of Guanajuato, tortured them to obtain names and addresses of fellow officers and is now hunting down and killing police at their homes, on their days off, in front of their families.

Nigeria Fourteen university students and staff abducted from their school in northwestern Nigeria were released Saturday after spending more than a month in captivity. Gunmen abducted the students and staff from Greenfield University in Kaduna state on April 20. Authorities have said that one person was killed during the kidnappings.