



Japan queries medical schools on gender discrimination

TOKYO (AP) — The Japanese government is investigating whether other medical schools also discriminated against female applicants following revelations that one had done so for more than a decade. The Education Ministry sent a questionnaire to all of Japan's medical schools asking them for six years of data on the gender and age of those who applied, of those who passed the entrance exam, and of those who were admitted. It set a deadline of August 24 for responses. A Tokyo medical school released an internal investigation that confirmed media reports that it had altered entrance exam scores to limit the number of female students. Tokyo Medical University said it believed female doctors would shorten or halt their careers if they had children, affecting staffing at school-affiliated hospitals.

China sentences six in graduate exam cheating scheme

BEIJING (AP) — Six people have been imprisoned for up to four years for their part in a scheme to cheat on China's national graduate school exam, according to state media. Exam takers were provided with wireless transmitters and receivers and told to read the questions out loud, according to reports. Researchers off-site would then find the answers in textbooks and read them to the test takers through the receivers. Among those sentenced were two exam takers who helped recruit clients. It wasn't clear how much the cheaters paid for the service or what punishment they received, although permanent disqualification from the exams is the usual sanction in such cases. The six plaintiffs were sentenced to between 20 months and four years and fined up to 40,000 yuan (\$5,900). They could have faced as much as seven years in prison under a 2015 amendment to the law. Exam scores make up the overwhelming preponderance of criteria for acceptance in the Chinese education system from early education onward.

Boy is only survivor of light plane crash in east Indonesia

JAYAPURA, Indonesia (AP) — A 12-year-old boy is the only survivor from the crash of a light commercial plane in a mountainous region of Indonesia's easternmost province of Papua that left eight other passengers dead, according to rescuers. The Swiss-made Pilatus PC-6 Porter single-engine plane operated by Dimonin Air was reported missing during a 45-minute flight from Tanah Merah in Boven Digul district to Oksibil, the district capital of Pegunungan Bintang, bordering Papua New Guinea. The local army chief said the plane crashed near Oksibil airport. Col. Jonathan Binsar Sianipar said the boy, identified only as Jumaidi, was the only passenger found alive and was evacuated to the Oksibil hospital. A statement from the army said the boy was conscious but gave no other details. The plane with two pilots and seven passengers lost contact after communicating with the control tower in Oksibil just before it was due to land, said local police chief Lt. Col. Michael Mumbunan. The cause of the crash was not clear. Airplanes are the only practical way of accessing many areas in the mountainous and jungle-clad easternmost provinces of Papua and West Papua. Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago nation, with more than 260 million people, has been plagued by transportation accidents on land, sea, and air because of overcrowding on ferries, aging infrastructure, and poorly enforced safety standards.

China newspaper defends Xinjiang Muslim crackdown

BEIJING (AP) — An official Communist Party newspaper is defending China's campaign of pressure and internment against the country's Uighur Muslim minority, saying it had prevented the far-northwestern region of Xinjiang from "becoming 'China's Syria' or 'China's Libya.'" The *Global Times* editorial came after a U.N. anti-discrimination committee raised concerns over China's treatment of Uighurs, citing reports of mass detentions that it said "resembles a massive internment camp that is shrouded in secrecy." Following attacks by radical Muslim separatists, hundreds of thousands of members of the Uighur and Kazakh Muslim minorities in Xinjiang have been arbitrarily detained in indoctrination camps where they are forced to denounce Islam and profess loyalty to the party. The *Global Times* said that was merely "a phase that Xinjiang has to go through in rebuilding peace and prosperity."

South Korea bans driving BMWs under recall due to fires

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea has banned driving recalled BMWs that haven't received safety checks following dozens of fires the German automaker has blamed on a faulty exhaust gas component. South Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport said the ban affects about 20,000 vehicles. Drivers cannot use the cars except for taking them to safety checks. While violating the ban is punishable by up to one year in prison, the ministry said the focus is on persuading drivers to take their vehicles for safety checks as soon as possible. However, the government is "aggressively" pursuing charges against drivers if their vehicles catch fire after continuously defying the ban, ministry official Kim Gyeong-wook said. Nearly 40 fires of BMW vehicles this year are suspected to have been caused by engine problems. Images and videos of BMW sedans engulfed in smoke and gutted by fires caused alarm among drivers. Some parking lots reportedly refused to allow in BMW drivers and other drivers said they were trying to avoid BMWs on the road. In July, BMW recalled about 106,000 vehicles of 42 different models. The company identified the cause of the engine fires as leaks in their exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) coolers, which it said caused fires when the vehicles were driven at high speeds for long periods of time. The ministry said about 27,000 recalled cars hadn't received safety checks, but it expected a portion of them to be checked before the ban goes into effect.



RELIVING HISTORY. Namio Matsura, a 17-year-old member of the computation skill research club at Fukuyama Technical High School, watches the city of Hiroshima before an atomic bomb fell in a virtual reality (VR) experience at the high school in western Japan. Although it's impossible to relive a moment in history, a group of the students re-created the moment the atomic bomb dropped over the city through VR to portray the livelihood of people that was taken away as a result of the bombing. (AP Photo/Haruka Nuga)

Japanese students use VR to re-create Hiroshima bombing

By Haruka Nuga
The Associated Press

FUKUYAMA, Japan — It's a sunny summer morning in the city of Hiroshima, Japan. Cicadas chirp in the trees. A lone plane flies high overhead. Then a flash of light, followed by a loud blast. Buildings are flattened and smoke rises from crackling fires under a darkened sky.

Over two years, a group of Japanese high school students has been painstakingly producing a five-minute virtual reality (VR) experience that re-creates the sights and sounds of Hiroshima before, during, and after the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb on the city 73 years ago.

By transporting users back in time to the moment when a city was turned into a wasteland, the students and their teacher hope to ensure that something similar never happens again.

The August 6, 1945 bombing of Hiroshima killed 140,000 people. Three days later, a second U.S. atomic bomb killed 70,000 people in Nagasaki. Japan surrendered six days after that, ending World War II.

"Even without language, once you see the images, you understand," said Mei Okada, one of the students working on the project at a technical high school in Fukuyama, a city about 60 miles east of Hiroshima. "That is definitely one of the merits of this VR experience."

Wearing virtual reality headsets, users can take a walk along the Motoyasu River prior to the blast and see the businesses and buildings that once stood. They can enter the post office

and the Shima Hospital courtyard, where the skeletal remains of a building now known as the Atomic Bomb Dome stand on the river's banks, a testament to what happened.

The students, who belong to the computation skill research club at Fukuyama Technical High School, were born more than half a century after the bombing. Yuhi Nakagawa, 18, said he initially didn't have much interest in what happened when the bombs were dropped; if anything, it was a topic he avoided.

"When I was creating the buildings before the atomic bomb fell and after, I saw many photos of buildings that were gone. I really felt how scary atomic bombs can be," he said. "So while creating this scenery, I felt it was really important to share this with others."

To re-create Hiroshima, the students studied old photographs and postcards and interviewed survivors of the bombing to hear their experiences and obtain their feedback on the VR footage. They used computer graphics software to add further details such as lighting and the natural wear and tear on building surfaces.

"Those who knew the city very well tell us it's done very well. They say it's very nostalgic," said Katsushi Hasegawa, a computer teacher who supervises the club. "Sometimes they start to reminisce about their memories from that time, and it really makes me glad that we created this."

The students worked through summer vacation in a classroom without air conditioning, as temperatures reached 95° Fahrenheit. With the survivors aging, Hasegawa said, it's a race against time.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND SAVE MONEY



Kelaiah Erickson
(Key-lay or Mrs. Erickson)
Funeral & Cemetery
Arrangement Specialist
(971) 407-3243
Kelaiah.Erickson@DignityMemorial.com



Lincoln Memorial Park & Funeral Home
11801 S.E. Mt. Scott Blvd.
Portland, OR 97086

FREE HOME REPAIRS FOR PORTLAND SENIOR & DISABLED HOMEOWNERS

Plumbing • Electrical • Carpentry



Call (503) 501-5719 or
visit <https://reachcdc.org>

Interpretation services available

Asian Currency Exchange Rates

Units per U.S. dollar as of 8/17

Bangladesh Taka	84.354
Cambodian Riel	4069.9
China Renminbi	6.8741
Fijian Dollar	2.0958
Hong Kong Dollar	7.852
Indian Rupee	70.092
Indonesian Rupiah	14540
Iranian Rial	42005
Japanese Yen	110.46
Laos New Kip	8519.0
Malaysian Ringgit	4.0847
Nepal Rupee	112.2
Pakistani Rupee	123.1
Papua N.G. Kina	3.2626
Philippine Peso	53.331
Russian Ruble	67.477
Saudi Riyal	3.733
Singapore Dollar	1.3691
South Korean Won	1122.5
Sri Lankan Rupee	160.49
Taiwan Dollar	30.628
Thai Baht	33.045
Vietnam Dong	23359