

## WORLD

## Police toughen tactics in Portland

Tear gas used to push back protesters day after officers stayed out of street battles

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With a police station set on fire, police in Portland, Oregon, declared a riot and dispersed protesters with tear gas on Sunday night after having the day before stepped back as warring armed groups clashed in pitched battles on the streets of the city.

The fire burned an awning of the police building late on Sunday, news outlets reported. Police ordered demonstrators to clear the area, saying that rocks and glass bottles had been thrown at officers, as well as lasers pointed in their direction. An unlawful assembly had been declared before the gathering was deemed a riot.

Violent demonstrations have consumed the Pacific Northwest city following the May 25 death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police. Portland police said they have declared a riot at least 18 times since May 29.

On Saturday afternoon, more than 100 right-wing activists, including the Proud Boys and armed militia, went to Portland to hold a "Back the Blue" pro-police rally in front of the building that houses the downtown police precinct. Hundreds of Antifa (anti-fascist) and "Black Lives Matter" protesters showed up to oppose them.

Some in the right-wing crowd were armed with paintball guns, metal rods, bats, fireworks, pepper spray and guns. Those in the left-wing group met them with rocks,



Right-wing groups (left) and Portland anti-police protesters fire pepper spray and throw objects at each other as the two sides clashed in front of the Multnomah County Justice Center on Saturday in Portland, Oregon. NATHAN HOWARD / AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

fireworks and bottles with chemical solutions. Both groups also carried shields and wore helmets, The Washington Post reported.

They engaged for more than two hours, exchanging punches, lofting paintballs and dispersing chemicals into the melee. Portland police made several announcements over loudspeakers, encouraging the combatants to "self-monitor for criminal activity," the Post reported.

"Each skirmish appeared to involve willing participants and the events were not enduring in time, so officers were not deployed

to intervene," the Portland Police Bureau said.

"PPB members have been the focus of over 80 days of violent actions directed at the police, which is a major consideration for determining if police resources are necessary to interject between two groups with individuals who appear to be willingly engaging in physical confrontations for short durations," the bureau said.

#### Inadequate resources

"While the activity in the group met the definition of a riot, PPB did not declare one because there

were not adequate police resources available to address such a declaration."

The city's police have labored to control confrontations between the diametrically opposed groups for three years.

The right-wing crowd chanted "USA! USA!" and chants against Antifa, the Post reported. The opposing leftists countered with shouts of: "Go home, Nazis".

In response to the protests on Sunday night, the tear gas was deployed after the fire had been set at the police station, according to news outlets.

Shootings also are up in the city, as a man in Southeast Portland early on Sunday became the eighth person shot in five days, The Oregonian reported.

Portland police reported in July that except for March, the number of shootings each month has been higher this year than in 2019. The totals in June and July have doubled from the previous year. Fifteen people were killed in Portland last month, the highest number in one month in the city of 655,000 in more than three decades, and 10 of them were fatally shot.

Political tempers also flared when US Attorney General William Barr sent in federal officers early in July to protect a US courthouse there. The federal presence was largely opposed by Oregon politicians and Democrats in Washington, accusing Trump of looking to score political points.

But the violence has persisted after most of the federal forces have left.

The Republicans, who will hold their national convention this week, are expected to highlight the trouble in Portland and other US cities such as Chicago and New York and criticized the Democrats for not denouncing it at their convention last week.

The county prosecutor, Mike Schmidt, who took office on Aug 1, dismissed charges against more than half of about 600 people arrested in the protests, The New York Times reported.

The objective, Schmidt told the Times, is to balance "people's righteous anger and grief and fury over a system that has not really been responsive enough for decades and centuries" while trying to prevent property damage and violence.

Agencies contributed to this story.

## Briefly

## PERU

## 13 die in nightclub crush after raid

Thirteen people were crushed to death or asphyxiated as partygoers tried to flee a Lima nightclub after it was raided by police for hosting a party in violation of coronavirus restrictions. The public prosecutor's office said on Sunday that 11 of the 13 dead tested positive for COVID-19. Fifteen of the 23 people detained by police who broke up the clandestine event on Saturday night also tested positive, President Martin Vizcarra said. At least six others were injured. The interior ministry said in a statement that police did not use tear gas or firearms in the raid. Vizcarra condemned the club's owners and said similar clandestine events were common, and posed a serious threat to public health.

## MALI

## Mediators, coup chiefs move closer in talks

Mediators from the Economic Community of West African States, or ECOWAS, on Saturday night concluded a second round of meetings with members of the National Committee for the Salvation of the People, or CNSP, which overthrew Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita on Tuesday. The head of the ECOWAS delegation, former Nigerian president Goodluck Jonathan, told the media that they had "reached a number of agreements, but we have not agreed on all the issues". He noted that this is not the first time the military has intervened in Mali's politics, and that the delegation hopes the country will move on from that past. CNSP spokesperson Ismael Wague said that they had reached "some points of compromises on certain aspects" and the negotiations were due to continue on Monday. According to local media, the nature of the transitional government and the release of the ousted president from detention are key issues.

XINHUA—AGENCIES

## Decades of wise development transforms Zhuhai into coastal landmark

By SONG MENGXING

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One of China's first four special economic zones, the seaside city of Zhuhai in Guangdong province has developed from a remote, small town into a modern garden-style boomtown in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area over the past four decades.

Behind this were innovation and highlights on economic development and environmental protection.

According to the local statistics bureau, Zhuhai's GDP increased from 261 million yuan (\$37.74 million) in 1980 when the special economic zone was launched to nearly 343.59 billion yuan in 2019. The annual inflation-adjusted GDP growth rate is 17.4 percent on average.

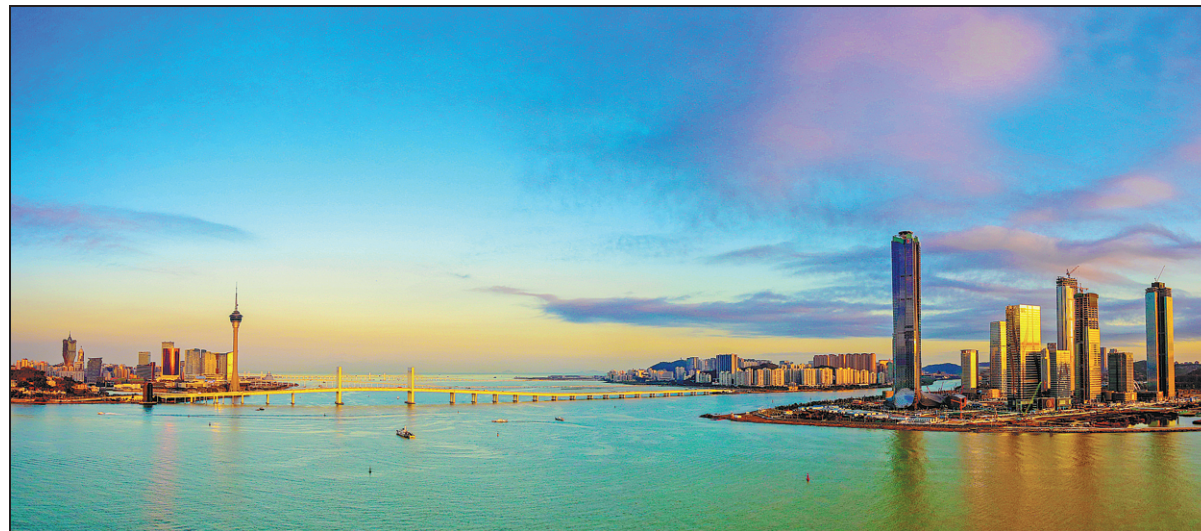
Zhuhai had been a town focused on agriculture and fishery industry. But when the central government announced it would become a SEZ on Aug 26, 1980, Zhuhai welcomed unprecedented opportunities.

Its transport system has developed rapidly over the four decades. High-speed railways connect Zhuhai to more than 50 cities nationwide. Meanwhile, Zhuhai Airport serves more than 10 million passengers. Zhuhai Port realizes annual throughput capacity of over 100 million tons with shipping routes to regions such as South Asia, the Middle East and South America.

The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, which became operational in 2018, has aided connectivity among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao and promoted the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Local officials said Zhuhai has made several pioneering moves in the past four decades. For instance, a hotel co-founded by Chinese mainland and overseas businesspeople, which opened in Zhuhai in 1980, was among the country's first hotels to be managed according to international practice.

In 1992, the city launched an unprecedentedly generous prize for scientific and technological professionals who had made outstanding contributions to the local growth. The move helped to draw many high-caliber professionals to Zhuhai for the



The Shizimen Central Business District of Zhuhai (right) stands opposite of Macao to the east. PHOTOS PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY



From left: Growing from a remote town, Zhuhai has developed into a garden-style coastal city in Guangdong province. A Gree Electric Appliances employee works on a component at the company's plant in Zhuhai.



development of its real economy in many years that followed.

Zhuo Jialun, 81, is a former director of the Zhuhai scientific and technological committee and began to participate in setting up the prize in 1988.

Zhuo said: "At that time, Zhuhai had been a special economic zone for eight years and its economy was during a high-speed growth period, yet the scientific and technological innovation capability was not strong."

The city's authorities suggested its priorities change from labor-intensive industries to technology-inten-

sive sectors in 1988, Zhu said. He added that more scientists and engineers contributed to this change but their incomes could not match their contributions.

Zhuhai held the first awarding conference on March 9, 1992. Three finalists were each given 1 million yuan worth of awards, which is roughly equal to 400 technicians' annual income in Zhuhai at that time.

After the event, Zhuhai became popular among the nation's scientific and technological professionals and entrepreneurs.

According to local statistics, Zhuhai drew 28 scientific and technological companies that year. This attracted a combined investment worth 600 million yuan in the field of sciences and technologies. Zhuhai also received more than 1,000 letters of intent to work in the city — more than 500 were from overseas.

Many enterprises, such as software giant Kingsoft and Gree Electric Appliances, a Fortune Global 500 company, began to burgeon in Zhuhai.

Guo Yonghang, Party secretary of

Zhuhai, said the city, as one of China's earliest special economic zones, persisted in prosperity driven by manufacturing and technologies.

It has formed an industrial system involving sectors including marine and aviation industries as well as smart manufacturing, Guo added.

The city is working on emerging industrial clusters, such as integrated circuit, biological medicine, new materials, new energy and high-end printing equipment.

Leveraging its unique geographical position of neighboring Hong

Kong and Macao and being the only city on the mainland with land links to both special administrative regions, Zhuhai has forged extensive cooperative ties with overseas partners.

It held the China-Israel Investment Summit in 2017 and 2018 and the China-Latin America and the Caribbean International Exposition in 2017 to set up opening-up and co-operative platforms.

In 1980, Zhuhai's value of imports and exports was only \$19 million. The amount in 2019 reached \$41.07 billion. By the end of 2019, 20,248 foreign-funded enterprises were operating in Zhuhai, official statistics indicate.

The ecological environment was also a highlight for Zhuhai's development. Among its trailblazing measures, the SEZ launched eight bans to protect the environment in 1992. One was that projects with big chimneys or heavy pollution potential were prohibited.

As it gained local legislative power in May 1998, the city approved its first legislative rule — one focused on environmental protection — in that month. In the same year, it was granted honors by the State as one of the nation's first environmental protection model cities.

In reports released by the Center for City and Competitiveness at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences between 2014-19, Zhuhai ranked first among Chinese cities for six consecutive years in terms of its livability.

Chen Hongyu, a professor from the provincial Party school of Guangdong, said Zhuhai's high-quality development boasts its own characteristics.

Its unique, environmentally friendly development is worthy of even more praise, Chen said. He added that the city valued the natural environment when it became a SEZ and persisted in the following decades.

"Zhuhai has developed a sustainable growth model based on good ecology, which helped it attract diverse investment and professionals," Chen said.



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