

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, cloudy, not as cold, high 42. **Tonight**, cloudy, a little rain and drizzle, low 38. **Tomorrow**, a morning shower, mostly cloudy, breezy, high 47. Weather map is on Page B10.

VOL. CLXXV No. 60,756

© 2026 The New York Times Company

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



Nicolás Maduro, the ousted leader of Venezuela, and his wife, Cilia Flores, before their arraignment Monday on federal drug charges.

Trump’s Goals On Flow of Oil Aren’t So Easy

By REBECCA F. ELLIOTT

President Trump painted a picture over the weekend of how U.S. oil companies would dive into Venezuela after the ouster of President Nicolás Maduro and “spend billions of dollars, fix the badly broken infrastructure” and “start making money for the country.”

But Mr. Trump’s oil goals face formidable challenges.

A handful of Western producers with operations or deals in place in Venezuela could ramp up relatively quickly if the political conditions were right. But a more substantial revitalization of the country’s flagging oil and gas industry most likely would take years and tens of billions of dollars in investment.

The potential prize is huge — Venezuela boasts the largest oil reserves in the world — but so are the risks, and U.S. energy companies like Exxon Mobil and ConocoPhillips have been burned in Venezuela before. Oil prices are also low, having fallen more than 20 percent in the past year, making it harder for companies to justify new spending.

Continued on Page A7

Emboldened, Trump Mulls More Spoils

By DAVID E. SANGER

WASHINGTON — Barely 48 hours after toppling the leader of Venezuela and asserting U.S. rights to the country’s oil, President Trump threatened Colombia with a similar fate, declared that Cuba was not worth invading because “it’s ready to fall,” and once again claimed that Greenland needed to come under American control as an issue of national security.

Mr. Trump’s claims, in interviews on Sunday and then a lengthy back-and-forth with reporters aboard Air Force One as it returned from his private club in Florida, offered a glimpse of how emboldened he felt after the quick capture of Nicolás Maduro, the strongman who was seized on narco-trafficking charges.

“We’re in charge” of Venezuela, Mr. Trump claimed, as he described his plans to breathe new life into the Monroe Doctrine, the 1823 foundational statement of U.S. claims over the Western Hemisphere.

Continued on Page A7



LOYALISTS Dely Rodríguez was sworn in as Venezuela’s interim president and legislators scorned U.S. demands. Page A8.

A Return Home No Longer Seems Out of Reach for Expatriates

By PATRICIA MAZZEI

DORAL, Fla. — Dailenys Herrera left Venezuela as a teenager, dissatisfied with her higher education and job prospects. Now 21, she yearns to return to help her country rebuild and grow.

Virginia Ponte, 75, dreams of being able to regularly visit family in her home country without worrying about crime and corruption.

Glover Ordosgoitti, 51, would like for Venezuelan consulates

and its embassy in the United States to reopen, and for U.S. airlines to be allowed to fly direct routes to Caracas once more, as they did before 2019.

The American government’s seizure and removal of Venezuela’s leader, Nicolás Maduro, has instilled hope in Venezuelans and Venezuelan Americans in South Florida that they might go home again. It is a dream shared by many who have fled to the United States from other countries led by

MADURO DECLARES INNOCENCE, SAYING U.S. KIDNAPPED HIM

In Manhattan, Venezuelan Autocrat Tells a Judge, ‘I Am Still the President’

This article is by Jonah E. Bromwich, Benjamin Weiser, Maia Coleman and Hurubie Meko.

Two days after being ripped from a Caracas compound, Nicolás Maduro, the captive president of Venezuela, appeared in a Manhattan courthouse and pleaded not guilty to federal charges, declaring himself a “prisoner of war.”

Mr. Maduro, who was seized by Army Delta Force commandos on Saturday and transported to the United States, wore a navy shirt over orange prison garb and headphones for translation. He blinked in the bright lights of the courtroom as he was asked for his plea.

“I’m innocent. I’m not guilty. I am a decent man. I am still the president of my country,” he said in Spanish, formally entering a plea of not guilty to narco-terrorism and cocaine importation.

When he tried to keep speaking, saying that he had been “kidnapped,” the judge, Alvin K. Hellerstein, interrupted.

“Only want to know one thing,” Judge Hellerstein said. “Are you Nicolás Maduro Moros?”

“I am Nicolás Maduro Moros,” the defendant responded.

It was a collision with a new reality for the ousted Venezuelan leader, an autocrat who was compelled to conform to the rules of the courtroom, where the judge is the highest authority. His expression remained neutral, but his hands were restless — sometimes holding rigid on his chair’s armrests, sometimes clasped prayer-like below his chin.

After his capture on Saturday along with his wife, Cilia Flores, who was also indicted, Mr. Maduro was brought to the United States to face charges, leaving the future of his country in question. Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said that Mr. Maduro, who was indicted in Manhattan five years ago before fresh charges were issued this weekend, was a fugitive from American justice and said that his rendition was “largely” a law enforcement operation.

But Mr. Maduro, who took office in 2013 after the death of Hugo Chávez, is expected to challenge the legality of his arrest and the Trump administration’s refusal to recognize him as a legitimate head of state.

A lawyer for Mr. Maduro, Barry Pollack, said at the Monday hearing that he might file motions concerning Maduro’s role as the head of a sovereign government, adding that there were also “questions about the legality of his military abduction.”

Leaders of foreign countries are typically granted immunity under international law, a norm that the United States has long observed. But Mr. Maduro has been accused by Venezuelans and many in the international community of having stolen the 2019 election that kept him in power. The United States refused to recognize him as

Continued on Page A5

LATIN AMERICA President Trump has started a new era of U.S. intervention that has regional leaders divided. News Analysis. PAGE A6

CHINA Out of the capture of Nicolás Maduro, some saw a playbook for seizing Taiwan. Others, however, feared ideological rigidity. PAGE B1

Cameroon Fought to Save Lives After U.S. Cut Malaria Program

By STEPHANIE NOLEN

MAROUA, Cameroon — Abdul Aziz Adamou carried his son Mohammadou urgently through the crowded hospital, and the child did not stir. A wisp of a 3-year-old, Mohammadou was so sick he barely flinched when a nurse pricked his finger and squeezed out a drop of blood for a malaria test. His mother, Nafisa, looked on, her long blue veil fluttering as she shifted nervously.

The day before, he was vomiting and soaked in the sweat of fever; in the night, convulsions pulled his small limbs rigid. At first light, his parents climbed on the family motorcycle and drove him 20 miles on pitted dirt tracks to a hospital in Maroua, a town in northern Cameroon.

The malaria test was positive. Within minutes, a health aide gave him an injection of artesunate, the World Health Organization’s recommended first-line treatment for the disease.

Continued on Page A10



Abdul Aziz Adamou holding his son, Mohammadou, 3, for an artesunate shot to treat malaria.

Jan. 6 Rioters, Still Seething, Grow Angry at Their Pardoner

By ALAN FEUER and DAN BARRY

In the first hours of his second administration, President Trump sought to wipe away all trace of the attack on the Capitol by granting amnesty to nearly 1,600 people implicated in the riot stoked by his lies about a stolen election.

They answered with a collective cry of gratitude. And why not?

The pardon proclamation saved them, opening prison doors and ending all of the criminal prosecutions related to the Capitol attack. Even more, it gave a presidential stamp of approval to their inverted vision of Jan. 6, 2021: that those who assaulted the police and vandalized the historic building that day were victims, and those who spent the next four years using the criminal justice system to hold them accountable were villains.

But nearly a year after Mr. Trump’s sweeping proclamation asserted that he had cleared the way for “a process of national reconciliation,” many recipients of his clemency remain consumed by conspiracy theories, angry at the Trump administration for not validating their insistence that the Capitol attack was a deep-state setup and haunted by problems from both before and after the riot.

“Being pardoned doesn’t make these families whole,” Cynthia Hughes, a prominent advocate for the Jan. 6 defendants, wrote on social media recently. “Many are barely holding on mentally, emotionally, and financially. To pretend otherwise is a lie.”

In the five years since the Capitol was stormed, no new facts have emerged to undermine the basic findings of congressional and Justice Department investigations.

Continued on Page A14

NATIONAL A11-17

Scaling Back Shots for Children
Federal health officials now recommend that children be routinely inoculated against 11 diseases, not 17. PAGE A17

The Doggy in the Backpack
Bryan Reisberg relies on his vast social media following to help find homes for shelter dogs. PAGE A11



INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Dual Challenges for Iran
Officials said that leaders were in survival mode amid antigovernment protests and the prospect of again dueling with Israel and the U.S. PAGE A4

Fear Among Nigerian Muslims
A small town is grappling with the aftermath of a Christmas bombing ordered by President Trump. PAGE A9

BUSINESS B1-5
New Car Sales Are Rising
More affluent Americans are buying as prices and interest rates for auto loans climb, analysts said. PAGE B1

SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

When the Choice Is Dying
More and more countries have decided to legalize medically assisted death. But there are difficult, unresolved questions about who should be eligible. PAGE D1

Misinformation in Nature
Researchers are looking into how fish, flies and even bacteria can suffer from a deluge of bad information. PAGE D3

OBITUARIES A20
A Master of Light and Glass
Janet Fish long refused to follow popular artistic trends, focusing on painting luminous still lifes. She was 87.

SPORTS B6-9

Returning to the Fold
It took years for the Minnesota Timberwolves to soothe the former star Kevin Garnett’s feelings of betrayal. PAGE B6

Fading Near the Top
Georgia is a talented team, but it hasn’t made the College Football Playoff semifinals the last three seasons. PAGE B8



ARTS C1-6

Looking Inside the Future
In plays like “Marjorie Prime,” Jordan Harrison explores what it means to be human in a high-tech world. PAGE C1

Devoted to Memorabilia
For megafans of stars like Madonna and Mariah Carey, obsessive collecting is an emotional endeavor. PAGE C1

OPINION A18-19
Jamie Raskin PAGE A19

