

DELICATE RESTART
HAS COME AT LAST
TO NEW YORK CITY

400,000 TO BEGIN WORK

After 100 Arduous Days,
a Hint of Normalcy
Amid the Unrest

By J. DAVID GOODMAN

Exactly 100 days after its first case of coronavirus was confirmed, New York City, which weathered extensive hardship as a center of the worldwide outbreak, was set to take the first tentative steps toward reopening its doors on Monday.

Getting here took the sacrifice of millions of New Yorkers who learned to live radically different lives. More than 205,000 have been infected, and nearly 22,000 have died.

As many as 400,000 workers could begin returning to construction jobs, manufacturing sites and retail stores in the city’s first phase of reopening — a surge of normalcy that seemed almost inconceivable several weeks ago, when the city’s hospitals were at a breaking point and as many as 800 people were dying from Covid-19 on a single day.

Many retail stores, battered by months of closure, are readying to do business again on Monday, starting with curbside and in-store pickup. Construction companies are adding safety features and stockpiling masks and gloves. Manufacturers, whose shop floors have idled since March, are testing machines.

State and city officials said that they were optimistic that the city would begin to spring back to life. Testing is robust, reaching 33,000 people on a recent day. And new infections are now down to around 500 a day — half as many as there were just a few weeks ago.

That is low enough for New York City’s corps of contract tracers, who began work last week, to try to track every close interaction and, officials hope, stop a re-

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States Scramble
As Hackers Eye
Remote Voting

This article is by David E. Sanger, Nicole Perlroth and Matthew Rosenberg.

With the general election less than 150 days away, there are rising concerns that the push for remote voting prompted by the pandemic could open new opportunities to hack the vote — for President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia, but also others hoping to disrupt, influence or profit from the election.

President Trump has repeatedly said that mail-in ballots invite voter fraud and would benefit Democrats. It is a baseless claim: Mail-in voting has resulted in little fraud in the five states that have used it for years, and a recent study at Stanford University found that voting by mail did not advantage either party and might increase voter turnout for both parties.

But there are different worries. The rush to accommodate remote voting is leading a small number of states to experiment with or expand online voting, an approach the Department of Homeland Security deemed “high risk” in a report last month. It has also put renewed focus on the assortment of online state voter registration systems, which were among the chief targets of Russian hackers in 2016. Their security is central to ensuring that, come November, voters

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Protesters at the Lincoln Memorial on Saturday, facing the National Mall. Two weeks have passed since the first demonstrations over the killing of George Floyd.

Other Movements Have Faded. This One ‘Feels Like Home.’

By JACK HEALY and KIM BARKER

DENVER — Ever since people across the country began pouring into the streets to protest police violence, Dakota Patton has driven two hours each day to rally on the steps of the Colorado State Capitol. He has given up his gig jobs delivering food and painting houses. He is exhausted. But he has no plans to leave.

“This is bigger,” Mr. Patton, 24, said. “I’m not worried about anything else I could be doing. I want to and need to be here. As long as I need.”

As Monday marks two full weeks since the first protest sparked by the killing of George Floyd, the massive gatherings for racial justice across the country and now the world have achieved a scale and level of momentum not seen in decades. And they appear unlikely to run out anytime soon.

Streets and public plazas are filled with people who have scrapped weekend plans, canceled meetings, taken time off from work and hastily called babysitters. Many say the economic devastation of the coronavirus had already cleared their schedules. With jobs lost and colleges shuttered, they have nothing but time.

“This feels like home to me,” said Rebecca Agwu, 19, who lost her campus job in the pandemic. She spent five days at the Denver protests, and spent a recent afternoon chatting in the shade of the boarded-up Capitol building with three other women who had been laid off from their mall jobs.

On Sunday, as protesters continued gathering around the country, their growing influence was apparent as local leaders vowed to curb the power of the police.

Mayor Bill de Blasio pledged to cut the budget for the New York Police Department and spend more on social services in the city. In Minneapolis, nine City Council members — a veto-proof majority — publicly promised to create a

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Calls for Racial Justice
Achieve Momentum
Not Seen in Years

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NATIONAL GUARD
LEAVING CAPITAL

Ex-Commanders Rebuke
Trump on Use of Force

By LARA JAKES and HELENE COOPER

WASHINGTON — President Trump said on Sunday that he had ordered National Guard troops to begin withdrawing from the nation’s capital, after a week of relentless criticism over his threat to militarize the government’s response to nationwide protests, including rebukes from inside the military establishment itself.

Mr. Trump announced his order on Twitter as three former chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff harshly condemned him for using force to drive protesters back from the White House and threatening to send troops to quell protests in other cities. They warned that the military risked losing credibility with the American people.

The president said the National Guard soldiers would withdraw “now that everything is under perfect control.”

“They will be going home, but can quickly return, if needed,” he wrote on Twitter. “Far fewer protesters showed up last night than anticipated!” (In fact, the daylong protest in Washington on Saturday appeared larger than earlier rallies over the past week.)

The withdrawal capped a tumultuous week that badly strained relations between Mr. Trump and the military, and tested the constraints on a president’s ability to deploy troops on American soil. Federal authorities used chemical irritants and flash-bang grenades to clear peaceful protesters outside the White House for a photo opportunity by Mr. Trump. National Guard helicopters flew low over demonstrators to scatter them and active-duty troops were summoned to just outside the capital.

On Sunday, Mayor Muriel E. Bowser of Washington called the Trump administration’s deployment of troops to the area “an invasion.” And the retired military commanders said the troops should never have been there in

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Bomb Charge
Shocks Friends
Of 2 Lawyers

By NICOLE HONG and WILLIAM K. RASHBAUM

The day before he went out to protest, Colinford Mattis, 32, an Ivy-educated corporate lawyer in Brooklyn, chatted for over an hour on the phone with a close high school friend. They discussed George Floyd’s death as just “another example of an unarmed black person being killed,” the friend said, but they talked about grocery shopping and YouTube videos as well.

The next afternoon, Urooj Rahman, 31, who is also a lawyer and Mr. Mattis’s close friend, attended a Zoom talk about building “solidarity movements” between people of color. Ms. Rahman had recently finished fasting for Ramadan and was caring for her mother at home, also in Brooklyn.

What happened next came as a surprise to many who know the two young lawyers.

The pair took to the streets on May 29 with thousands of New Yorkers who were voicing their outrage over Mr. Floyd’s death. But after midnight, police officers spotted them in a tan minivan driving through the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. At one point, Ms. Rahman climbed out, walked toward an empty police patrol car and threw a Molotov cocktail through its broken window.

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Sarah Lloyd’s farm is in Wisconsin, which has received more in farm aid than all but two states.

More Billions to Farms, This Time for Virus Aid

By SHARON LaFRANIERE

WASHINGTON — Cotton farmers were paid 33 times as much in federal subsidies in 2019 as the income they actually lost to trade disruptions, one study showed.

Farmers in Georgia, the home state of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, were paid more in federal aid per acre than anywhere else in the nation, another found.

Some farms collected millions of dollars in payments despite a limit of \$250,000 per farmer.

The Trump administration’s \$28 billion effort in 2018 and 2019 to compensate farmers for losses from its trade wars has been criticized as excessive, devised on the fly and tilted toward states politically important to Republicans.

Now the administration is starting to send farmers tens of billions more to offset losses from the coronavirus pandemic, raising questions about how the money will be allocated and whether there is sufficient oversight to guard against partisan abuse of the program.

Months before an election in which some farm states are major battlegrounds, Democrats and other critics of the administration’s agriculture policies are ex-fly and tilted toward states politi-

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Payouts Have Exceeded
Any Actual Losses

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TRACKING AN OUTBREAK A4-13

Berlin Exits Lockdown

Residents are social distancing in bars and pools, and handing out their phone numbers for contact tracing.

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Siege at a Nursing Home

For 64 days, The Times tracked an outbreak at the Burlington Health & Rehab Center in Vermont.

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INTERNATIONAL A14-15

Reviewing Bolivia’s Election

A closer look at data suggests an initial analysis that raised questions of vote-rigging — and helped force out a president — was flawed.

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No Spending Plan for Mexico

Mexico’s president is staunchly rejecting stimulus packages, even as millions risk falling into poverty.

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Barr Denies Racism in Policing

The attorney general’s remarks came as the president was scheduled to meet with law enforcement officials.

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SPORTSMONDAY D1-6

Betting on Bits and Bytes

With few athletic events going on now-days, wagering on video game competitions has surged for casinos.

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From 1992, Newly Resonant

A mysterious mural to cover up construction at Arsenal’s stadium offers an idea and a warning. On Soccer.

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BUSINESS B1-6

Times Opinion Editor Resigns

James Bennet stepped down on Sunday after a much-criticized Op-Ed by a United States senator calling for a military response to civic unrest in American cities.

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Big Bailouts, and Then Layoffs

Dozens of hospitals received federal aid to pay staff and buy protective gear during the pandemic. Yet they have laid off, furloughed or cut the pay of tens of thousands of workers.

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EDITORIAL, OP-ED A24-25

Charles M. Blow

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ARTS C1-8

10 Comics to Celebrate Pride

George Gene Gustines takes a look at comic books and graphic novels featuring L.G.B.T.Q. characters. Above, a panel from “Always Human.”

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