

## White House Coronavirus Task Force Briefing

**March 22, 2020**

### *President Trump:*

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. BEFORE WE BEGIN, I WANT TO MENTION WE ARE WORKING VERY HARD ON GETTING A YOUNG GROUP OF PEOPLE OUT OF PERU. WE HAVE REMOVED SOME AND THE REST ARE BEING REMOVED WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT. WE ARE ALSO DEALING WITH HONDURAS IN GETTING SOME PEOPLE OUT WHO GOT CAUGHT UP. AGAIN, WITH THE HONDURAN GOVERNMENT'S WORK. THEY ARE WORKING WITH US. WE HAVE A COUPLE OF OTHER LOCATIONS WE WILL REPORT TO YOU. WE WERE ABLE TO GET A YOUNG WOMAN RELEASED FROM A CERTAIN AREA, BEING HORRIBLY ACCOSTED, HORRIBLY TREATED.

WE SPOKE TO GENERAL MILLIE. GENERAL MILLIE TOOK CARE OF IT. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER ON THAT ONE. THAT WAS ROUGH STUFF. I WANT TO THANK GENERAL MILLIE, ALL OF THE PEOPLE THAT WERE INVOLVED THAT WENT INTO GET HER. AS WE CONTINUE TO MARSHALL EVERY RESOURCE, WE ARE PROBABLY -- WE ARE PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL TO OUR NATION'S DOCTORS, NURSES, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND FIRST RESPONDERS WAGING THIS BATTLE ON THE GROUND.

IT IS CRITICAL THAT PEOPLE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW GUIDELINES. SO IMPORTANT ABOUT SOCIAL DISTANCING, NONIMPORTANT TRAVEL, AND HANDWASHING. IT REQUIRES THE HELP AND COMMITMENT OF EVERY SINGLE AMERICAN. I JUST WANT TO SAY, SENATOR RAND PAUL, HE HAS BEEN A GREAT FRIEND OF MINE, ALWAYS THERE WHEN THE COUNTRY NEEDED HIM. AS YOU KNOW, HE JUST TESTED POSITIVE. JOSE DIAZ-BALART, HE TESTED POSITIVE. IT IS GETTING CLOSER TO HOME.

I CALL IT THE HATED ENEMY. I THINK THEY WILL ALL BE FINE -- I CALL IT THE HIDDEN ENEMY. I THINK THEY WILL BE FINE. I HOPE THEY WILL BE FINE. WE ARE WORKING URGENTLY WITH CONGRESS ON LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT THE MILLIONS OF WORKERS, SMALL BUSINESSES, AND INDUSTRIES HIT HARD BY THE VIRUS THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN. OUR GOAL IS TO GET RELIEF TO AMERICANS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT SMALL BUSINESSES CAN KEEP WORKERS ON THE PAYROLL. THIS WILL HELP OUR ECONOMY. YOU WILL SEE OUR ECONOMY SKYROCKET ONCE THIS IS OVER.

IT IS A PENT-UP DEMAND, BUILT-UP DEMAND. I GUESS YOU HAVE TO SAY, WHO KNOWS, BUT I THINK IT IS GOING TO BE A TREMENDOUS DAY WITH -- TREMENDOUS DAY WHEN WE WIN THIS WAR. WE WANT TO WIN THIS WAR WITH AS FEW DEATHS AS POSSIBLE.

TODAY, I AM ANNOUNCING ACTION TO HELP NEW YORK, CALIFORNIA, AND WASHINGTON, TO ENSURE THAT THE NATIONAL GUARD CAN EFFECTIVELY RESPOND. THE NATIONAL GUARD, THESE ARE TREMENDOUS PEOPLE. FULLY ON ALERT. IT HAS BEEN ACTIVATED. THESE

ESTATES HAVE BEEN HIT THE HARDEST -- THESE STATES HAVE BEEN HIT THE HARDEST. FEMA WILL BE FUNDING 100% OF THE COST FOR NATIONAL GUARD UNITS TO CARRY OUT MISSIONS TO STOP THE VIRUS WHILE THOSE GOVERNORS REMAIN IN COMMAND.

SO THE GOVERNORS, LOCALLY, ARE GOING TO BE IN COMMAND, AND WE'LL BE FOLLOWING THEM AND WE HOPE THEY CAN DO THE JOB AND I THINK THEY WILL. I SPOKE TO ALL THREE OF THE GOVERNORS TODAY JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO. THEY'RE VERY HAPPY WITH WHAT WE'RE DOING BECAUSE THEY'LL BE DOING THINGS WITH OTHER STATES HIT THE HARDEST. THIS WILL GIVE THEM MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY TO USE THE GUARD AGAINST THE VIRUS WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT COST OR LIABILITY, AND FREEING UP STATE RESOURCES TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE IN THEIR STATE.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS DEPLOYED HUNDREDS OF TONS OF SUPPLIES FROM OUR NATIONAL STOCK WHILE LOCATIONS WITH THE GREATEST NEED. IN ORDER TO ASSIST, I APPROVED THE MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION, SOMETHING GOVERNOR CUOMO'S BEEN ASKING FOR AND WHICH I AGREE WE HAVE DONE IN VERY RAPID FASHION. WE APPROVED THIS ON FRIDAY EVENING AND WE ARE WORKING VERY, VERY HARD TO GET ALL OF THESE NOT ONLY SIGNED UP, BUT COMPLETED AND FINISHED, AND WIN.

THE REQUEST FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR A MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION WAS APPROVED JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO. WENT THROUGH THE PROCESS AND WE MOVED IT VERY QUICKLY.

THE REQUEST FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA WAS JUST RECEIVED AND WE WILL HAVE IT APPROVED VERY QUICKLY. I TOLD THAT TO GAVIN NEWSOM. AND WE ARE, WE'RE WORKING ON GETTING THAT DONE VERY QUICKLY, MAYBE TONIGHT.

WE HAVE LARGE QUANTITIES OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES ON THE WAY, BASED ON ALL OF THIS, TO THE STATES, INCLUDING RESPIRATORS, SURGICAL MASKS AND GOWNS, COVERALLS, AND GLOVES ALREADY DELIVERED TO WASHINGTON AND TO NEW YORK.

IN ADDITION TO LARGE QUANTITIES OF SUPPLIES, I'VE DIRECTED FEMA TO SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING: FOUR LARGE MEDICAL STATIONS WITH 1000 BEDS FOR NEW YORK, EIGHT LARGE MEDICAL STATIONS WITH 2000 BEDS FOR CALIFORNIA, AND THREE LARGE FEDERAL MEDICAL STATIONS, AND FOUR SMALL MEDICAL STATIONS WITH 1000 BEDS FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

THE GOVERNORS KNOW. THE SUPPLY IS IN ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA AND NEW YORK WILL BE DELIVERED WITHIN THE NEXT 48 HOURS. IN ADDITION, THE NAVAL HOSPITAL SHIP, INCREDIBLE SHIPS, THESE TWO SHIPS ARE INCREDIBLE, WILL BE DEPLOYED TO LOS ANGELES TO ADD EMERGENCY SURGE MEDICAL CAPACITY. AND THEY HAVE TREMENDOUS CAPACITY. THEY ARE REALLY SOMETHING.

*\*This transcript was compiled from uncorrected Closed Captioning.*

I WILL SAY THAT IF YOU LOOK AT SOME OF THE THINGS WE'VE BEEN DOING, AND NOW THOSE NUMBERS HAVE GONE UP, AND JUST TO BE A LITTLE MORE EXACTING, WE'VE DONE A PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL FOR MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK. APPROVAL OF TITLE 32 NATIONAL GUARD ACTIVATION FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, WE'RE PROVIDING ALL OF THIS AT NO COST TO THE GOVERNOR. SPOKE WITH GOVERNOR CUOMO. HE'S WORKING HARD. WE'RE ALL WORKING HARD TOGETHER.

THE RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN AMAZING. BUT IT ALSO ENABLES A GOVERNOR TO PROVIDE ROBUST NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT TO THE STATE. AND THE 25% WE'RE GOING TO BE WAVING THAT 25% COST. WE'RE PICKING UP -- WE'LL BE COORDINATING AND DOING SOMETHING WITH SPECIAL PEOPLE. MISSION ASSIGNMENT WITH THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT, TO BUILD OUT ALTERNATE CARE SITES. THEY'RE DOING VARIOUS ALTERNATE CARE SITES, WHICH HAVE NOW BEEN DESIGNATED BY NEW YORK. FOUR LARGE FEDERAL MEDICAL STATIONS OF 1000 BEDS. THESE ARE VERY COMPLEX PLACES, ACTUALLY, GREAT EQUIPMENT. AND GREAT PEOPLE.

STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE ORDER. AND THIS IS AS OF A NUMBER OF DAYS AGO, SO FAR DELIVERED TO NEW YORK, AND THIS IS THE 19TH. WE HAD THE N95 RESPIRATORS, 186,000 DELIVERED. WE DELIVERED 444,078 SURGICAL MASKS. MANY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED SINCE THEN. FACE SHIELDS, WE DELIVERED 84,560 FACE SHIELDS. SURGICAL GOWNS, 63,944. COVERALLS, 352. GLOVES, 245,486. ALSO TO NEW YORK IN TERMS OF WHAT'S BEEN DELIVERED JUST SINCE THEN, THE NUMBERS ARE QUITE LARGE. AND WE HAVE TREMENDOUS NUMBERS OF COMPANIES ALSO MAKING EQUIPMENT.

FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON, WE'VE DELIVERED 369,095. SURGICAL MASKS. THIS IS AS OF ABOUT THREE DAYS AGO. FACE SHIELDS, 63,788. SURGICAL GOWNS, 107,850. GLOVES, 240,376. AND WE HAVE MANY, MANY THINGS PENDING. IT'S ACTUALLY NOT PENDING. IT'S BEING FABRICATED. IT'S BEING MADE. ANDY'RE MOVING -- AND THEY'RE MOVING. FOR WASHINGTON, STATE OF WASHINGTON, WE HAVE THREE LARGE MEDICAL STATIONS, 750 BEDS. AND THEN YOU HAVE THE APPROVAL OF THE TITLE 32 NATIONAL GUARD. STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AGAIN, TO BE VERY PRECISE, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE THE APPROVAL OF THE TITLE 3D TWO NATIONAL GUARD -- 32 NATIONAL GUARD.

WE'RE PROVIDING ALL THIS AGAIN, LIKE IN NEW YORK, AT NO COST TO THE GOVERNOR, MEANING GOVERNOR NEWSOM AND THE STATE. NO COST TO THE STATE. IT ENABLES THE GOVERNOR TO PROVIDE ROBUST NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT TO THE STATE. SO THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE CONTROL OF THE NATIONAL GUARD. THESE ARE INCREDIBLE PEOPLE BEING SENT. WE HAVE EIGHT LARGE FETA COAT -- FEDERAL MEDICAL STATIONS WITH OVER 2000 BEDS. AND THAT'S GOING TO CALIFORNIA. AND THEN STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE ORDER, WE'VE ORDERED, LIKEWISE, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DIFFERENT ITEMS. WON'T GO INTO THE EXACT NUMBERS, BUT THE NUMBERS ARE VERY SUBSTANTIAL. BUT WE'RE HAVING A TREMENDOUS ADDITIONAL NUMBER SENT. AND WHATEVER THE STATES COULD GET, WE SHOULD BE GETTING.

*\*This transcript was compiled from uncorrected Closed Captioning.*

WE'RE SORT OF A BACKUP FOR THE STATES. SOME OF THE STATES ARE DOING REALLY WELL AND SOME DON'T DO AS WELL. THE ONES THAT DON'T DO AS WELL NEED MORE HELP. BUT THESE ARE THREE STATES THAT REALLY DO NEED HELP BECAUSE THEY ARE HIT VERY HARD. AND THE OUTPOURING FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAS ALSO BEEN EXTRAORDINARY.

I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT HONEYWELL, GREAT COMPANY, HAS JUST ANNOUNCED IT WILL IMMEDIATELY EXPAND ITS PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURING IN RHODE ISLAND TO PRODUCE MILLIONS OF ADDITIONAL N95 MASKS. THEY'RE VERY HARD TO GET. THEY WILL BE IMMEDIATELY THEN DELIVERED TO THE VARIOUS STATES. THIS EXPANSION IS ALREADY UNDERWAY AND IS GOING TO PROVIDE A LOT OF JOBS FOR THAT STATE, PROBABLY AROUND 500.

THE MASKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE USE OF THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND EMERGENCY, AND FOR RESPONSE WORKERS, PRIMARILY FOR RESPONSE WORKERS. THESE ARE VERY HIGH-END. THIS EXPANSION IS IN ADDITION TO HONEYWELL'S ACTION TO MORE THAN DOUBLE PRODUCTION OF ITS EXISTING EQUIPMENT PLANS. THEY MAKE A LOT OF DIFFERENT THINGS AND THEY ARE DOUBLING AND TRIPLING THEIR PRODUCTION. THEY ARE GOING ROUND-THE-CLOCK.

TODAY, I'M ALSO ANNOUNCING THE LAUNCH OF A NEW CONSORTIUM ORGANIZED BY THE WHITE HOUSE. THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND IBM TO UNLEASH THE POWER OF AMERICAN SUPERCOMPUTING RESOURCES TO COMBAT THIS CHINESE VIRUS. TO COMBAT LEADERS, ACADEMIA, AND GOVERNMENT WILL BE CONTRIBUTING, AND THEY'RE GOING TO BE CONTRIBUTING A LOT OF DIFFERENT THINGS, THE COMPUTING RESOURCES TO HELP RESEARCHERS DISCOVER NEW TREATMENTS AND VACCINES. THEY'LL BE WORKING ALONG WITH NIH AND THE PEOPLE WORKING WITH THIS. BUT TREMENDOUS HELP FROM IBM, AMAZON, GOOGLE, MICROSOFT, M.I.T., POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGIES, NATIONAL LABOR LABORATORIES, THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, AND NASA. THEY'RE ALL CONTRIBUTE INTO THIS EFFORT AND THEY'RE FULLY IN GEAR.

I ALSO WANT TO UPDATE YOU ON THE STEPS WE'RE TAKING TO PROTECT AND SERVE OUR COUNTRIES. 18 MILLION VETERANS, THESE ARE GREAT PEOPLE, OUR AMAZING VETERANS HAVE SHOWN LOYALTY TO OUR GREAT NATION. THIS IS A TIME THEY ARE IN NEED AND WE'RE GOING TO BE SHOWING OUR LOYALTY TO THEM. WE ARE VERY PROTECTIVE OF OUR VETERANS. WE ARE WORKING ON CERTAIN HOSPITALS WHERE WE MAY BE DOING SOME WORK, IN LOUISIANA, IN PARTICULAR, AND SOME OTHER STATES, VETERANS HOSPITALS.

WE'RE VERY PROTECTIVE OF OUR VETERANS. SOME ARE OF THE VERY VULNERABLE AGE, AND SOME ARE NOT FEELING WELL. AND SOME OF THEM ARE STILL SUFFERING THE WOUNDS OF WAR FROM MANY YEARS AGO. YESTERDAY, I SIGNED VITAL LEGISLATION TO ENSURE THE

G.I. BILL WILL DISCOVER ASH COVERED DISTANCE-LEARNING DURING THIS EMERGENCY --  
COVER DISTANCE-LEARNING DURING THIS EMERGENCY.

IN FEBRUARY, THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ESTABLISHED 19  
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. ONE OF THE THINGS  
THEY'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET DONE FOR MANY YEARS, YOU WILL KNOW THIS  
FROM FOLLOWING ME OVER THE LAST NUMBER OF YEARS, BUT WE GOT IT DONE  
PRETTY QUICKLY. THEY'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET IT DONE, FOR MANY MANY DECADES, WITH  
CHOICE. AND ALSO VETERANS ACCOUNTABILITY.

NOW, IF IT'S CREDIT -- IF -- CROWDED -- IF THEY CAN'T GET TO A DOCTOR -- WE HAVE  
GREAT DOCTORS, AS GOOD AS THEY COME -- BUT IT'S HARD TO GET TO THEM BECAUSE OF  
WHAT WAS BUREAUCRACY, BUT NO LONGER BUREAUCRACY. WE'VE DONE A LOT OF THINGS,  
IN THAT CASE, BECAUSE OF ACCOUNTABILITY. IF PEOPLE AREN'T DOING THEIR JOBS OR IF  
THEY'RE THAT OR SADISTIC OR ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS, WE ARE NOW ALLOWED TO FIRE  
THEM. I SIGNED THAT A YEAR AND A HALF AGO. FOR MANY YEARS, YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO DO  
THIS.

I WAS JUST TOLD BY OUR GREAT LEADER AT THE V.A., ROBERT WILKIE, HE SAID FOR THE  
FIRST TIME, WE'VE GOT THE HIGHEST MARKS IN THE HIST -- HIGHEST POLL NUMBERS IN  
THE HISTORY OF THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION. CANNOT IT WEEK AGO -- CAME OUT A  
WEEK AGO. THEY'RE HAPPY. HIGHEST IN HISTORY. ONE OF THE REASONS THAT HAPPENED IS  
BECAUSE OF VETERANS CHOICE. THEY GO SEE A PRIVATE DOCTOR, WE PAY THE BILL. AND THEY  
GET BETTER. THERE HAVE TO WAIT TWO WEEKS OR THREE WEEKS OR TWO DAYS, BUT THEY  
GET BETTER. A LOT OF TIMES THEY WAITED SO LONG, THEY WOULD HAVE A PROBLEM AND IT  
WOULD END UP BEING TERMINAL BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T GET THE KIND OF TREATMENT  
THEY DESERVED. SO, HIGHEST POLL NUMBERS, HIGHEST APPROVAL NUMBERS IN THE  
HISTORY OF THE V.A. I WAS JUST GIVEN THAT INFORMATION YESTERDAY.

WE RESTRICTED VISITORS ACCESS TO 135 VETERAN COMMUNITY LIVING CENTERS, WHICH HAS  
IS NEARLY 8000 VETERANS WITH CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS, SO THAT WE LIMIT  
THEIR EXPOSURE TO THE VIRUS. WE WANT TO TOTALLY TAKE CARE OF OUR VETERANS AND  
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE DOING.

THE VA CANCELED MOST ELECTIVE PROCEDURES. THEY'RE DELAYING THEM UNTIL AFTER THIS  
IS GONE, AFTER WE'VE WON.

WE BEGAN PROVIDING LIFE-SAVING CARE TO PATIENTS WHO HAD SYMPTOMS  
ACROSS THE 171 V.A. MEDICAL CENTERS NATIONWIDE. THAT'S A BIG  
DEAL. UNDER MY ADMINISTRATION, THE V.A. HAS BEEN A LEADER IN  
TELEHEALTH. TELEHEALTH IS BECOMING A BIGGER AND BIGGER FACTOR IN MEDICINE. THIS  
MONTH, WE HAVE TAKEN BOLD ACTION TO CUT THROUGH THE RED TAPE AND MAKE  
TELEHEALTH AVAILABLE FOR MILLIONS MORE AMERICANS DURING THIS CRISIS.

*\*This transcript was compiled from uncorrected Closed Captioning.*

THEY CAN SPEAK TO A DOCTOR FROM THE SAFETY OF THEIR HOME RATHER THAN RISK BECOMING INFECTED OR MAKING A TREMENDOUSLY LONG TRIP, WHEN FRANKLY, YOU'LL SPEAK TO A GREAT DOCTOR RIGHT FROM YOUR HOME. IT'S HAPPENING, TELEHEALTH. WE'RE VERY MUCH AT THE FOREFRONT OF THAT. IT ALSO TAKES A BIG BURDEN OFF OUR SYSTEM.

WE CONTINUE TO ACCELERATE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE VACCINES. WE ARE ALSO AGGRESSIVELY INVESTIGATING A NUMBER OF ANTIVIRAL THERAPIES AND TREATMENTS TO DETERMINE THEIR POTENTIAL IN REDUCING THE SEVERITY AND DURATION OF THE SYMPTOMS. AND YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL BECAUSE HOW I FEEL IS ON TUESDAY, THEY'RE GOING TO BE STARTING ON TUESDAY MORNING, AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE SOME MEDICATIONS DELIVERED THAT WE'RE GOING TO SEE IF THEY WERE. THEY CERTAINLY ARE EFFECTIVE IN OTHER WAYS, AND THEY ARE SAFE FROM THE STANDPOINT THEY'RE NOT KILLING PEOPLE. WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE THAT.

SO, A LOT OF GREAT THINGS ARE GOING TO BE HAPPENING IN THAT REGARD. I JUST WANT TO FINISH AND THEN WE'RE GOING TO ASK A COUPLE OF PEOPLE TO SAY A FEW WORDS THAT HAVE BEEN VERY MUCH AT THE FOREFRONT OF THIS INCREDIBLE JOB WE'VE ALL BEEN GIVEN.

BUT I WANT TO SAY THAT I KNOW THIS IS A CHALLENGING TIME FOR ALL AMERICANS. WE'RE ENDURING A GREAT NATIONAL TRIAL. AND WE WILL PROVE THAT WE CAN MEET THE MOMENT.

I WANT TO ASSURE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN EACH DAY TO ULTIMATELY DEFEAT THIS HORRIBLE, INVISIBLE ENEMY. WE'RE AT WORK. IN A TRUE SENSE, WE'RE AT WAR AND WE'RE AN INVISIBLE ENEMY.

FOR THOSE OF YOU FEELING ALONE, I WANT YOU TO KNOW WE ARE ALL JOINED TOGETHER AS ONE PEOPLE, ETERNALLY LINKED BY OUR SHARED NATIONAL SPIRIT. WE LOVE OUR COUNTRY. A SPIRIT OF COURAGE AND LOVE AND PATRIOTISM. NO AMERICAN IS ALONE AS LONG AS WE ARE UNITED, AND WE ARE UNITED. WE'RE VERY UNITED. PEOPLE ARE SAYING THINGS NOW THAT THREE WEEKS AGO, THEY DIDN'T TALK THAT WAY. WE'RE VERY UNITED.

NO FORCE IS EQUAL TO THE STRENGTH OF A UNIFIED AMERICA, A UNITED AMERICA, AN AMERICA THAT WE HAVE RIGHT NOW. FOR THOSE WORRIED AND AFRAID, PLEASE KNOW THAT AS LONG AS I AM YOUR PRESIDENT, YOU CAN FEEL CONFIDENT THAT YOU HAVE A LEADER WHO WILL ALWAYS FIGHT FOR YOU, AND I WILL NOT STOP UNTIL WE WENT. THIS WILL BE -- WE IN. THIS WILL BE A GREAT VICTORY. AND IT'S GOING TO BE A VICTORY THAT, IN MY OPINION, WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH SOONER THAN ORIGINALLY EXPECTED -- HAPPEN MUCH SOONER THAN ORIGINALLY EXPECTED.

THE ENEMY IS ATTACKING 144 COUNTRIES AT THIS POINT. 144, THAT'S UNTHINKABLE. THERE'S NEVER BEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS. AND IT'S VICIOUS. IT IS VICIOUS. SOME PEOPLE RECOVER WELL. AND SOME PEOPLE HAVE A HARD TIME. WE ALL KNOW THAT. THOUGH WE WILL BE TOTALLY VICTORIOUS.

*\*This transcript was compiled from uncorrected Closed Captioning.*

WE WILL THEN GET OUR ECONOMY UP TO A LEVEL THAT IT WAS, AND IN MY OPINION, BEYOND, BECAUSE THERE WILL BE A PENT-UP DEMAND. THERE IS A PENT-UP DEMAND. AND A LOT OF GREAT THINGS WILL HAPPEN. THE AND VERY PROUD OF OUR COUNTRY. I'M VERY PROUD -- BUT I'M VERY PROUD OF OUR COUNTRY. I'M VERY PROUD. I'M VERY PROUD TO BE YOUR PRESIDENT. YOU'RE A VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE, SO THANK YOU VERY, VERY MUCH. I'M GOING TO ASK A COMBINATION OF PEOPLE.

PETE, WHY DON'T YOU START OFF?

*Peter Gaynor, FEMA Administrator*

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. JUST A LITTLE BIT ABOUT WHAT WE ARE DOING IN WASHINGTON, CALIFORNIA, AND NEW YORK. WINTER STANDARDS OF THE AREAS SEEING A STEADY INCREASE IN THE CORONA VIRUS CASES.

IN ORDER TO ASSIST WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS, IDENTIFY THOSE AREAS, THE STATE OF NEW YORK WAS DECLARED A MAJOR DISASTER THIS MORNING. WASHINGTON STATE WAS ALSO APPROVED TODAY. CALIFORNIA SUBMITTED THEIR REQUEST AND THE PRESIDENT WILL CONSIDER IT IMMEDIATELY.

WE HAVE MEDICAL SUPPLIES EN ROUTE TO THE STATES, INCLUDING RESPIRATORS, SURGICAL MASKS, GOWNS, FACE SHIELDS, GLOVES, WITH QUANTITIES ALSO -- ALREADY DELIVERED TO WASHINGTON, CALIFORNIA, NEW YORK. AND WE ANTICIPATE ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES TO BE DELIVERED OVER THE NEXT 42 HOURS TO ALL THESE STATES.

UNDER PRESIDENT TRUMP'S UNPRECEDENTED NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION, FEMA -- FEMA IS REIMBURSING ELIGIBLE MEASURES TAKEN AT THE DIRECTIONAL GUIDANCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS IN RESPONSE TO THIS EMERGENCY.

ALL 50 STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, FIVE TERRITORIES, AND TWO TRIBES ARE WORKING DIRECTLY WITH FEMA. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE FEMA REGIONAL MINISTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, WE ARE WORKING TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS EVERYWHERE.

STATES, TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS DO NOT NEED TO REQUEST SEPARATE ASSISTANCE. IT DOES NOT AUTHORIZE DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS, SUCH AS DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AT THIS TIME. JUST A NOTE ON THE U.S. AND HIS MERCY, BASED ON ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL NEEDS FOR HOSPITAL BEDS ON THE WEST COAST, A DECISION WAS MADE THE SHIP WOULD HAVE THE GREATEST IMPACT IN CALIFORNIA.

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS BEEN GIVEN DIRECTION TO DISPATCH IT TO LOS ANGELES IMMEDIATELY. THEY ADVISED THE MERCY CAN GET INTO POSITION WITHIN A WEEK OR LESS OF



TODAY'S ORDER. EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE MORE CASES RIGHT NOW IN WASHINGTON, THE PROJECTED NEED FOR BEDS IN CALIFORNIA IS FIVE TIMES MORE THAN THAT OF WASHINGTON. THE MERCY WILL BE USED TO TAKE PRESSURE OFF OF LOCAL HOSPITALS, OTHER MEDICAL NEEDS, AND NOT FOR TREATING COVID-19 CASES.

FINALLY ABOUT THE NATIONAL GUARD, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO TAKE AGGRESSIVE ACTION AND PROACTIVE STEPS TO ADDRESS THE COVID-19 THREAT AS WE ATTACKED THE HEALTH AND SAFETY, OR PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. THE NATIONAL GUARD IS EQUIPPED TO ASSIST FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AGENCIES WHILE SERVING THE PUBLIC.

IN RESPONSE TO THIS NATIONWIDE OPERATION, PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS APPROVED WASHINGTON, CALIFORNIA, AND NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD UNITS UNDER TITLE 32 -- EXCUSE ME, TITLE 32 STATUS UNDER THE COVID-19 RESPONSE. THEY PROVIDE THE NATION'S GOVERNORS CONTINUE COMMAND OF NATIONAL GUARD SPHERE FORCES -- NATIONAL GUARD'S FORCES. THE NATIONAL GUARD IS A VIABLE AND RESPONSIBLE AVENUE TO PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED ACCESS THE ESTATE MANAGED AND FAIRLY SUPPORTED.

AND I WANT TO BE CLEAR, THIS TITLE THROUGH 32 -- 32 ACTIVATION DOES NOT FEDERALIZE NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS. THEY'RE STILL UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF EACH GOVERNOR. THEY ARE WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

WE'VE HAD A LOT OF DISINFORMATION CIRCLING. I WANT TO MAKE SURE IT'S UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS IS NOT MARTIAL LAW. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE WILL LEAD THIS TASK. AND FINALLY, WE CONTINUE RESPOND TO HUNDREDS OF REQUESTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND FILLING CRITICAL NEEDS. THANK YOU.

*Peter Navarro, Ph.D., Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy*

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. GOOD EVENING. WHERE I WANT TO TALK BRIEFLY ABOUT IS THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT. AND TO GIVE YOU THE OVERVIEW HERE, USING THE FULL POWER PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND FULL FORCE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, MY JOB AT THE WHITE HOUSE IS TO MAKE SURE, TACTICALLY, WORKING WITH FEMA AND HHS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS GET THE GLOVES, MASKS, AND THE EQUIPMENT THEY NEED.

AND I CAN TELL YOU, SIR, SINCE YOU SIGNED THE ACT, MY JOB HAS GOTTEN EASIER. AND LET ME EXPAND WHY. THE DEFENSE REDUCTION ACT, IN THIS CONTEXT, HAS TWO PRIMARY FUNCTIONS. ONE IS MOBILIZATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL BASE. THE OTHER IS ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES, BOTH FROM THE SUPPLY TO THE MANUFACTURERS AND FROM THE MANUFACTURERS TO THE END-USERS, SUCH AS THAT HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL.



NOW, WHAT WE'RE SEEING ON A PURELY VOLUNTARY BASIS BASED ON THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS ADMINISTRATION, WE'RE SEEING THE GREATEST MOBILIZATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL BASE SINCE WORLD WAR II. AN EVERYDAY, -- AND EVERY DAY I'M WORKING WITH COMPANIES, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEXTILE ORGANIZATION AND SO ON, IN TERMS OF BUILDING UP, RAPIDLY, OUR CAPABILITY TO GET WHAT YOU NEED. WHAT THINK ABOUT WHAT MOBILIZATION MEANS. IT CAN MEAN, FOR EXAMPLE, REPURPOSING A FACTORY.

SO, PERNOD RICARD CALLED US LAST WEEK, AND THEY HAD THREE HURDLES THEY HAD TO DEAL WITH. THEY CALLED MY OFFICE, HAD TO MAKE A CALL TO THE TREASURY, FDA, AND HHS TO CLEAR THE PATH. WE GOT THAT DONE THAT DAY.

WE STARTED PRODUCTION THAT DAY, MOVING FROM ALCOHOL BEVERAGES TO HAND SANITIZERS. AND AS WE SPEAK, A TRUCK IS MOVING TOWARDS NEW YORK AND WILL ARRIVE THERE TUESDAY TO SHARE WITH THE HOSPITALS OVER A THOUSAND GALLONS OF SANITIZER. THAT WOULD BE A REPURPOSE.

A SECOND EXAMPLE WOULD BE ONE THE PRESIDENT OFFERED WITH HONEYWELL. HONEYWELL CALLED THE WHITE HOUSE ASKING FOR HELP FROM THE PRESIDENT, AND WHAT THEY SAID IS WE WANT TO DO THIS NEW FACTORY. THEY CALLED ME ON A FRIDAY MORNING. AND BY THAT NIGHT, WE HAD A CONTRACT IN TO HHS. HHS PUT THAT IMMEDIATELY, AND I HAD HONEYWELL MOVE PEOPLE AND EQUIPMENT FROM MASSACHUSETTS TO THAT FACILITY IN SMITHFIELD, RHODE ISLAND, AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE THIS MASKS PRODUCED WITHIN 30 DAYS MOVING ON THE ASSEMBLY CHAIN.

MY POINT IS MOBILIZATION IS REPURPOSING, BUILDING UP CAPABILITIES. AND THE OTHER PORTION IS, OF COURSE, THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCE. WHAT I CAN TELL YOU SO FAR IS THAT THE DEFENSE REDUCTION ACT HAVE GIVEN ME QUIET LEVERAGE. IF YOU HAVE A STRONG LEADER, YOU CAN TAKE A LIGHT HAND INITIALLY. WHAT WE'VE SEEN FROM THIS OUTPOURING FROM PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, WE'RE GETTING WHAT WE NEED WITHOUT PUTTING THE HEAVY HAND OF GOVERNMENT DOWN.

THERE WILL BE, POSSIBLY, CASES DOWN THE ROAD, AND THE MANUFACTURERS HAVE ACTUALLY ASKED ME AND ALERTED ME OF THIS, WHERE SOME PLACES IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN, THEY MAY HAVE PROBLEMS THAT THE WHITE HOUSE WILL HAVE TO BREAK THROUGH USING THE DEFENSE REDUCTION ACT. WE WON'T HESITATE TO DO THAT.

THE LAST THING I'LL TELL YOU IS THAT I ALSO GET A LOT OF CALLS THAT ARE VERY DISQUIETING. BROKERS ARE OFFERING MILLIONS OF ITEMS, WHETHER GOGGLES, MASKS, WHATEVER, AND YOU GO THROUGH THREE DIFFERENT BROKERS, TRACE THEM TO A WAREHOUSE IN LOS ANGELES AND THEY CHARGE YOU SEVEN TIMES WHAT THEY COST. THAT'S PRICE GOUGING. MESSAGE TO THE HOARDERS. IF YOU HAVE ANY LARGE QUANTITIES OF MATERIALS THIS COUNTRY NEEDS RIGHT NOW, GET THEM TO MARKET OR

GET THEM TO US. WE'LL PAY YOU A FAIR PRICE. IF YOU DON'T DO THAT, WE'RE GOING TO COME FOR YOU AND MAKE SURE THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN IN THIS COUNTRY.

SO I SALUTE YOU, SIR, YOU MADE MY JOB EASIER AND I APPRECIATE THAT.

*Vice President Michael R. Pence*

THANK YOU MR. PRESIDENT. TASK FORCE MET THIS AFTERNOON, AS WE DO EVERY DAY. AND LET ME BEGIN TODAY BY SIMPLY SAYING THANK YOU TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND THANK YOU FOR THE WAY THAT PEOPLE ACROSS THIS COUNTRY SEVEN DAYS INTO 15 DAYS TO SLOW THE SPREAD.

PEOPLE IN COMMITTED THESE LARGE AND SMALL ACROSS OUR COMMUNICATING, NOT JUST ON BEHALF OF THEIR OWN HEALTH AND THEIR FAMILY, BUT ON BEHALF OF THE MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US. SO, ON BEHALF OF YOUR PRESIDENT AND OUR ENTIRE TASK FORCE, JUST THANK YOU TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

I ALSO WANT TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO THE GOVERNORS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THE PRESIDENT TODAY JUST ANNOUNCED ACTION IN NEW YORK, CALIFORNIA, AND WASHINGTON STATE AS A LATEST DEMONSTRATION THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO SUPPORT THE LEADERSHIP AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL AS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CONFRONT THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS.

THE LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS UNDERWAY BEING NEGOTIATED ON CAPITOL HILL AS WE SPEAK. THE BIPARTISAN SPIRIT THAT'S TAKING PLACE THAT'S REFLECTED IN ALL OF OUR INTERACTION WITH STATE LEADERS AROUND THE COUNTRY, IS A GREAT CREDIT TO THE NATION. BUT IT SHOULD BE A GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL, AT THE STATE LEVEL, WORKING WITH COURAGEOUS HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS ALL ACROSS AMERICA, ARE COMING TOGETHER TO MEET THIS MOMENT. AND THAT IS THE WAY OUR SYSTEM WORKS.

IT'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE RECOGNIZE ONE OF THE THINGS THAT MAKES AMERICA DIFFERENT IS THAT WE HAVE A SYSTEM OF FEDERALISTS, AND THAT BY PUTTING FEMA IN THE LEAD, THE PRESIDENT HAS EMPHASIZED THAT OUR RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS IS, IN THE ANTHEM OF FEMA, IT IS LOCALLY EXECUTED, STATE MANAGED, AND FEDERALLY SUPPORTED.

WE WANT THE PEOPLE ON THE GROUND, THE DECISION-MAKERS, TO HAVE WHAT THEY NEED. WE WANT STATES TO MANAGE THEIR UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES IN THEIR STATE. AND WHETHER IT BE LEGISLATION MOVING THROUGH CONGRESS OR THE EFFORTS THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED TODAY, MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATIONS, TITLE 32 ON THE NATIONAL GUARD, RESOURCES FLOWING, HOSPITAL BED FLOWING, WE'RE GOING TO MAKE SURE OUR STATES HAVE WHAT THEY NEED TO MEET THIS MOMENT.

OUR TASK FORCE CONTINUES TO FOCUS ON THE PRIORITIES THE PRESIDENT'S GIVEN US. THEY ARE TESTING MITIGATION AND SUPPLIES. ON THE SUBJECT OF TESTING, AS IS EVIDENT TO PEOPLE ACROSS THE COUNTRY, TESTING IS MORE AND MORE AVAILABLE EVERY SINGLE DAY. WE'LL BE DETAILING TOMORROW FROM THIS PODIUM THE PROGRESS WE ARE MAKING ON TESTS. AT THIS DAY'S REPORTING, 254,000 AMERICANS HAVE BEEN TESTED AND RECEIVED RESULTS IN CORONAVIRUS TEST, WITH SLIGHTLY MORE THAN 30,000 ACTUALLY TESTING POSITIVE. THERE'S A BIT OF AN ENCOURAGING WORD.

FOR EVERY AMERICAN, EVERYBODY TESTED NOW, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF HEALTH CARE WORKERS, ARE PEOPLE THAT HAVE SINCE -- SYMPTOMS. AND AS OUR NUMBERS COME INCONSISTENTLY, BECAUSE THE 254,000 DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL THE LOCAL HOSPITALS OR ALL THE LOCAL LABS IN OUR STATE. IT'S WORKING OUT TO BE ONE IN 10 AMERICANS WHO HAVE BEEN TESTED AND THOUGHT THEY HAD CORONAVIRUS ACTUALLY HAD IT. NINE OUT OF 10 DID NOT.

BUT WE'LL CONTINUE TO ROLL OUT THE TESTING TO PROVIDE THAT RESOURCE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AND WE'RE WORKING TO MAKE TESTING HAPPEN FASTER. WE EXPECT WORDS FROM PROTECTIVE LABS WE SHOULD BE CAUGHT UP ON TESTING BY THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK, AND WE ARE URGING TODAY, ON THE PRESIDENT'S BEHALF, THAT ALL LABS WOULD PRIORITIZE INPATIENT TESTING. LET ME SAY AGAIN, TO ALL THE COMMERCIAL LABS IN THE COUNTRY, YOU WILL RECEIVE GUARDS FROM HHS TOMORROW.

ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE WHITE HOUSE CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE, WE ARE URGING ALL COMMERCIAL LABS TO PRIORITIZE INPATIENT TESTING. WE WANT PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN CHECKED INTO A HOSPITAL, THAT ARE BEING TREATED FOR WHAT THEY SUSPECT TO BE CORONAVIRUS, TO RECEIVE THOSE TESTS MORE QUICKLY.

ALSO, I'M PLEASED TO REPORT THAT YESTERDAY, THE FDA APPROVED EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION ON A NEW TEST THAT SHOULD BE IN PRODUCTION BY THE END OF MARCH. IT ACTUALLY WOULD BE A CORONAVIRUS TEST, THE RESULTS OF WHICH COME BACK IN 45 MINUTES. AND WE'RE ALSO WORKING, THE FDA IS WORKING ON FASTER AND MORE INNOVATIVE TESTS.

AS WE TOLD OUR GOVERNORS THIS WEEK, GOVERNORS AND STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS SHOULD CONTACT FEMA FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ON TESTING SOLUTIONS. LET ME ALSO SAY, TOMORROW, WHEN WE GATHER AT THIS PODIUM, WE WILL BE UNVEILING NEW GUIDANCE FOR PEOPLE THAT WORK IN LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRST RESPONDERS, PEOPLE THAT WORK IN CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE COUNTRY.

IT WAS IN EARLY MARCH CDC ISSUED GUIDANCE FOR PEOPLE THAT WERE A SYMPTOMATICALLY OR -- ASYMPTOMATIC. AND TOMORROW, AT THIS PODIUM, CDC WILL UNVEIL IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, NEW GUIDANCE, WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO RETURN TO WORK MORE QUICKLY BY WEARING A MASK FOR CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME.

*\*This transcript was compiled from uncorrected Closed Captioning.*

LET ME ALSO AMPLIFY A POINT ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT AND BEHALF OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT ABOUT AMERICANS ABROAD. ONE OF THE REASONS WHY THE UNITED STATES IS IN A DIFFERENT POSITION TODAY THAN PORTIONS OF EUROPE ARE AND CHINA AND ELSEWHERE, IS BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT SUSPENDED ALL TRAVEL FROM CHINA. HE SUSPENDED TRAVEL FROM EUROPE AND THE U.K. AND IRELAND. BUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS WORKING AROUND-THE-CLOCK TO ASSIST AMERICANS WHO MAY FIND THEMSELVES OVERSEAS. THEY'RE ABLE TO COME HOME. THERE'S NO BARRIER FOR AMERICANS COMING BACK TO AMERICAN SOIL.

THEY'RE SCREEN THROUGH A SERIES OF AIRPORTS. BOTH FLIGHTS BEING CANCELED, SOME AMERICANS HAVE FOUND THEMSELVES UNABLE TO FIND A WAY HOME. WE'VE BEEN WORKING VERY DILIGENTLY THROUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE. THERE ARE COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS THAT HAVE BEEN CHARTERED. WE'RE ALSO WORKING WITH THE MILITARY FOR A BACKUP ON FLIGHTS.

STATE DEPARTMENT HAS BROUGHT MORE THAN 300,000 AMERICANS BACK HOME -- 3000 AMERICANS BACK HOME. BUT SPEAKING TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, HE WANTED TO SHARE A WEBSITE OR PHONE NUMBER FROM ANY AMERICAN LOOKING ON FROM OVERSEAS. YOU CAN CALL THE SMART TRAVELER ENROLLMENT PROGRAM AT 1-888 -407-4747. OR YOU CAN GO ONLINE AT STEP.STATE.GOV. THIS WILL ALLOW OUR EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES TO GATHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SITUATION AND WORK TO FACILITATE TO BRING YOU HOME.

LET ME SAY, FINALLY, AS I BEGIN, LET ME CLOSE, AS THE CHAIRMAN, OR LEADER OF THIS WHITE HOUSE CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE. WE ARE SEVEN DAYS INTO 15 DAYS, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE RESPONDING. AS WE SPEAK ABOUT SUPPLIES, AS WE SPEAK ABOUT TESTING, THE MOST IMPORTANT THING EVERY AMERICAN CAN DO IS HEED THE GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION FROM YOUR STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS WHERE WE HAVE WIDESPREAD CORONAVIRUS INFECTIONS.

FOR EVERY AMERICAN PUTTING INTO PRACTICE THESE MEASURES THE PRESIDENT ALLUDED TO IS A WAY THAT WE CAN DO THIS, AMERICA. WE CAN LESSEN THE MAGNITUDE OF THE CORONAVIRUS IN OUR COUNTRY. WITH THE COOPERATION, COMPASSION, GENEROSITY, AND PRAYERS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WE CAN SLOW THE SPREAD. WE CAN PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE. AND WE CAN HEAL OUR LAND. SO LET'S DO IT, AMERICA.

#### *President Trump*

THANK YOU, MIKE, VERY MUCH. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MIKE. SO, JUST A COUPLE OF LITTLE THINGS AND THEN WE'LL TAKE SOME QUESTIONS. MAYBE YOU'LL HAVE SOME. MAYBE YOU WON'T. THAT WOULD BE A SHOCK, SHOCK THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

BUT I HAVE TO SAY ON THE TESTING, IF THIS WORKS OUT, THE NEW TEST WOULD BE A SIMPLE ONE, MUCH EASIER THAN THE EXISTING TEST, WHICH IS QUITE COMPLEX AND NOT A LOT OF FUN TO TAKE. AND THIS WOULD BE A GAME CHANGER. BUT REMEMBER, WE INHERIT A BROKEN, OBSOLETE SYSTEM. IT WAS GOOD FOR A SMALL NUMBER OF PEOPLE BUT NOT GOOD FOR THE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, AND WE'VE MADE THIS INTO A SYSTEM THAT NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO IN THE WORLD, THAT'S WHERE THEY'RE GOING. THAT'S HOW THEY'RE GOING TO BE DOING SHOULD SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPEN AGAIN. PEOPLE HAVE DONE A FANTASTIC JOB. AND I HOPE THE NEW TEST WORKS OUT. WE'LL KNOW FAIRLY SOON, I THINK. HOPEFULLY IT WILL CHECK OUT, OR TEST OUT, AND WE CERTAINLY ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT. IT WOULD BE A VERY SIMPLE TEST, BY COMPARISON. WON'T BE UNPLEASANT AT ALL.

AND ONE OTHER THING, THE SHIPS. SO, WE HAVE THE MERCY, AND THAT'S GOING TO CALIFORNIA, AS YOU KNOW. IT'S ON THE WEST COAST NOW. AND YOU HAVE A SISTER SHIP THAT'S ESSENTIALLY A TWIN. THEY'RE INCREDIBLE. THEY'RE INCREDIBLE SHIPS. I'VE SEEN IT. I'VE SEEN ONE OF THEM. AND THEY ARE UNBELIEVABLE, WHAT THEY CAN DO IN THE CAPACITY. MANY OPERATING ROOMS, THEY'RE WARTIME SHIPS. THEY'RE MADE FOR WAR. THERE AS GOOD IS ANYONE IN THE NATION.

I SPOKE WITH GOVERNOR CUOMO, HAD A GREAT CONVERSATION TODAY, A NUMBER OF CONVERSATIONS. HE'S WORKING VERY HARD. AND WE ARE GOING TO BE BRINGING THAT SHIP THAT'S CALLED THE COMFORT. SO YOU HAVE THE MERCY AND THE COMFORT.

THE COMFORT IS ON THE EAST COAST. THAT SHIP WILL BE COMING NEXT THREE OR FOUR WEEKS. IT WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF MAINTENANCE AND WE ARE MOVING THE MAINTENANCE VERY, VERY QUICKLY, AND WE'RE ALSO SUPPLYING THE SHIP SIMULTANEOUSLY. THAT SHIP WILL BE COMING UP HERE OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. AND WE'LL PROBABLY BE PUTTING IT IN NEW YORK HARBOR AND WE'RE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THAT ALSO AS TO WHERE IT'S GOING TO BE DOCKED.

SO YOU HAVE THE MERCY AND THE COMFORT. THEY'LL BE COMING UP. THE MERCY WILL START QUICKLY. THEY'LL BE ARRIVING IN LOS ANGELES VERY SOON. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THAT.

QUESTIONS?