#### Ear

The boxed area to the left of the nameplate. The slogan first appeared there on Feb. 10, 1897.

### Nameplate

The newspaper's designed title also called the logo — appears at the top of the page.

## **Weather Ear**

The box that gives regional weather. Just above the weather information, a boldface line identifies which edition you're reading. The Times produces regional editions with slightly different content: National edition, New England edition, Washington edition, New York edition (which may be a late or early edition on Sunday).

#### Folio

The type beneath the nameplate. that includes the volume and issue numbers, copyright line, date and price.

#### **Volume** and Issue Number

The Times published its first issue on Sept. 18, 1851. The Roman numerals CLIX denote the 159th year of publication. Volume number increases on each anniversary. The Arabic numerals indicate the number of issues published by The Times since its founding.

Each day's paper begins with four dots between the volume and issue numbers. Every time the editors change something on Page 1 of that issue (because of breaking news or a new development in an article), one dot is removed.

### **Bank or Deck**

Subheadings with other important facts in the article.

## **Body Type**

The text of the narrative, or body of the article. The Times's body type style is known as Imperial.

# Special **Feature**

There is almost always an article of special interest that begins on Page 1 — in addition to the main news of the day. It might be a human interest story, a report on a new trend, an in-depth look at a topic or just an article on something amusing or unusual.

# **Byline**

The writer or writers of an article.

#### Refers

Previews of selected articles that appear elsewhere in The Times and online.

# "All the News

That's Fit to Print"

# Late Edition Today, clouds and patchy fog, then some sun, warm, high 83. Tonight, mostly clear, mild, low 64. Tomor row, partly sunny, very warm, high 87. Weather map is on Page 88.

VOL. CLIX . . No. 55,051

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010



Dispersant being released off Louisiana. More than 700,000 gallons of chemicals have been used to break up the oil. Page A17.

# HARD TIMES SPUR

States' Leaders Imagine

Moves Big and Small

By MONICA DAVEY As states around the country gird for another grim budget vear, more leaders have begun to talk not of nipping, not of tucking, but, in essence, of turning government upside down and starting over. Ever growing is the list

of states, municipalities and agencies with blue ribbon committees aimed at reconsidering what government should be. A lawmaker in Nebraska this year proposed the unthinkable: Cut by half, or more, the 93 counties that have made up the state for generations. Senators in Indiana, aiming to thin the tangled layers there, want to eliminate the system of more than 1,000

township boards. And in Missouri, where lawmakers this spring took a day off for a brainstorming session on how to "reboot government," there is talk of merging the agencies that oversee secondary and higher education, providing incentives to counties for combining services, even turning to a four-day state workweek.

But despite the longest recession since the Great Depression and predictions already of new, gaping deficits in state budgets least the next two years, Continued on Page A3

city's transportation system, or a

general decline in urban civility.

Perhaps people are just in a col-

What else could explain why

New Yorkers — notoriously hard-

everyday life here — are spitting

Of all the assaults that prompt-

ed a bus operator to take paid leave in 2009, a third of them, 51

in total, "involved a spat upon,"

according to statistics the Metro-

politan Transportation Authority

No weapon was involved in

lective bad mood.

on bus drivers?

released on Monday

#### Climate Fears Turn to Doubts **IDEAS FOR CHANGE** Among Britons

By ELISABETH ROSENTHAL

LONDON - Last month hundreds of environmental activists crammed into an auditorium here to ponder an anguished question: If the scientific consensus on climate change has not changed, why have so many people turned array from the idea

Nowhere has this shift in public opinion been more striking than in Britain, where climate change was until this year such a popular priority that in 2008 Parliament enshrined targets for emissions cuts as national law. But since then, the country has evolved into a home base for a thriving group of climate skeptics who have dominated news reports in recent months, apparently convincing many that the threat of warming is vastly exag-

gerated. A survey in February by the BBC found that only 26 percent of Britons believed that "climate change is happening and is now established as largely manmade," down from 41 percent in November 2009. A poll conducted for the German magazine Der Spiegel found that 42 percent of Germans feared global warming, down from 62 percent four years

And London's Science Museum recently announced that a Continued on Page A8

ting," said Charles Seaton, a New

tressing, appeared to take a sur-

prisingly severe toll: the 51 driv-

ers who went on paid leave after

age, 64 days off work - the

equivalent of three months with

pay. One driver, who was not identified by the authority, spent

Transit officials, facing a budg-

et shortfall of \$400 million, called

the numbers troubling, "We have

Continued on Page A24

to see what we're going to do

191 days on paid leave.

York City Transit spokesman. And the encounters, while dis-

Spit Upon, Some Bus Drivers

It could be the cutbacks to the these episodes. "Strictly spit-

ened to the slings and arrows of a spitting incident took, on aver-

#### Tottering Rule in Madagascar Can't Save Falling Rosewoods

By BARRY BEARAK

MAROANSETRA, Madagascar — Exploiting a political crisis, trees in poorly protected national parks and exporting most of the aluable logs to China.

For a decade or more, this illicit trade existed on a small scale. But in the past year, it has increased at least 25-fold, according to environmental groups that have been tracking the outgoing shipments. They estimate the value of trees felled this past year at \$167 million or more

This accelerated plunder of the rainforest coincided with a military coup in March 2009. Andry Rajoelina, the mayor of Antananariyo, Madagascar's capital was installed as president, and he has since led a weakened and tottering government that is unable and perhaps unwilling — to stop the trafficking.

"The government does nothing because it shares in the money.' said Ndranto Razakamanarina

president of an association of Malagasy environmental groups Malagasy timber barons are rob- and a policy officer with the bing this island nation of its syl- World Wildlife Fun. "Many of the van heritage, illegally cutting ministers think they'll be in office

decide to make money while they

can. The timber mafia is corrupt,

the ministers are corrupt." Madagascar, the world's fourth largest island, is a place of extraordinary botanical abundance, with perhaps 14,000 species of plants, 90 percent of which exist nowhere else on earth. Saving the rosewood trees is now an international cause. Environmentalists check the manifests of outvessels, calculate the amount of timber in each container, and try to embarrass the owners of the wood and the partici-

pating shipping companies. Repeatedly, the government has announced new policies to halt the trade. "The exporters are strong, but so are we," Prime Minister Camille Vital said in a

**AGENCY FAULTED** A report says and let industry officials fill in their own reports. PAGE A16

recent interview. "Just last week, form to BP, fall as its dividend is Continued on Page A3 scrutinized. PAGE B1

#### Oil Hits Home, Spreading Arc Of Frustration

U.S. Concedes It Must Rely on BP for Help

This article is by Campbell Robertson, Clifford Krauss and

PORT FOURCHON, La. — for weeks, it was a disaster in abstraction, a threat floating some where out there.

Not anymore. In the last week the oil slick in the Gulf of Mexico has revealed itself to an angry and desperate public, smearing tourist beaches, washing onto the shorelines of sleepy coastal communities and oozing into marshy bays that fishermen have worked for generations. It has even announced its arrival on the Louisiana coast with a fittingly ugly symbol: brown pelicans, the state

bird, dyed with crude. More than a month has passed since the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig blew up, spewing immeasurable quantities of oil into the Gulf of Mexico and frustrating all efforts to contain it. The billowing plume of undersea oil and water has thwarted the industry's well-control efforts and

ing laxity of federal regulation of offshore operations and has shown the government to be almost wholly at the mercy of BP, the company leasing the rig, to provide the technology, personnel and equipment to stop the

Senators and administration lashed out again at BP on Monday, saying they were "beyond patience" with the company. The day before, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, who early in the crisis vowed to "keep the boot on the neck" of BP, threatened to push the company out of the way. But on Monday, Mr. Salazar backed off, conceding to the reality that BP and the oil companies ve access to the best technol-

drilling inspectors accepted gifts **INVESTIGATION SOUGHT** Shares of Transocean, which leased the plat-

Continued on Page A16

### U.S. SAID TO ORDER AN EXPANDED USE OF SECRET ACTION

FOR MIDDLE EAST REGION

Secret Military Directive Is Aimed at Militants,

and Possibly Iran By MARK MAZZETTI

WASHINGTON — The top American commander in the Middle East has ordered a broad expansion of clandestine military activity in an effort to disrupt militant groups or counter threats in Iran, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and other countries in the region, as cording to defense officials and military documents.

The secret directive, signed in September by Gen. David H. Petraeus, authorizes the sending of American Special Operations troops to both friendly and hostile nations in the Middle East. Central Asia and the Horn of Africa to gather intelligence and build ties with local forces. Officials said the order also permits reconnaissance that could pave the way for possible military strikes in Iran if tensions over its nuclear ambitions escalate.

While the Bush administration had approved some clandestine military activities far from designated war zones, the new order is intended to make such efforts more systematic and long term. officials said. Its goals are to build networks that could "penetrate, disrupt, defeat or destroy" fficials visiting the southern Al Qaeda and other militant groups, as well as to "prepare the environment" for future attacks by American or local military forces, the document said. The order, however, does not appear to authorize offensive strikes in

any specific countries. In broadening its secret activities, the United States military has also sought in recent years to break its dependence on the Central Intelligence Agency and other spy agencies for information in countries without a significan American troop presence

General Petraeus's order is meant for small teams of American troops to fill intelligence gaps bout terror organizations and other threats in the Middle East and beyond, especially emerging groups plotting attacks against the United States.

But some Pentagon officials Continued on Page A12





City Fixtures



John Burke, left, who pays \$288 a month for a studio on East 84th Street, is one of New York's dwindling number of occupants of rent-regulated apartments. Page A23. William Herz, right, has eaten at Sardi's for about 77 of his 93 years. Page A19.



NTERNATIONAL A4-12

Pressure on North Korea The United States, pressing North Korea, announce haval exercises with South Korea after the sinking of a warship. Above, South Korea's president, Lee Myung-bak.

NATIONAL A14-18

A Deal on Gays in the Military The White House and Congressional Democrats reached an agreement on legislative language repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. PAGE A14

Odd Perch for a Lame Duck Among departing senators, Christopher J. Dodd is in the uncommon position of ending his run with a triumph. PAGE A14

NEW YORK A19-24

**Budget Cuts Polarize County** As Suffolk County executive, Steve Levy, now a candidate for governor, has been a relentless cost cutter. PAGE A19 **BUSINESS DAY B1-9** 

SPORTSTUESDAY B10-14

N.F.L. Is Not a Single Entity The Supreme Court rejected a request from the N.F.L. that it be granted broad

League Doctors Criticized A House panel called head injury experts the "same old N.F.L."

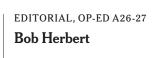
ARTS C1-8

'Lost' and '24' Bow Out Alessandra Stanley and Mike Hale follow two popular and long-lived television serials to their finish lines. PAGE C1



SCIENCE TIMES D1-7

Skipping In-Flight Meals In trying to figure out why bar-tailed godwits were so fat they looked like flying softballs, scientists using satellite transmitters learned a thing or two about nonstop flights by migrating



Pictures From the Popfest

PAGE A27

A slide show of pictures from the fourth annual NYC Popfest held last weekend at venues around the city. Many of the bands harked back to indie-rock sounds of the early 1990s, a style that is coming back into favor

# Lead Article

The most important news of the day. It is always in the upper right corner of the front page.

# Headline

A quick summary of the article's content. The larger the headline, the more important the news.

# Dateline

The place where the reporting for an article was done. If there is no dateline, the article was either written in New York or where it was written has no relation to the content of the story. It is called the dateline because it used to include the date the article was reported.

## Jump Line

A signpost that an article continues ("jumps") to another page. Sections of The Times are designated by letters. Some of these are:

A: Main news

B: Business Day C: The Arts

# **Credit Line**

The name of the photographer or news agency that supplied the picture.

# Caption

A sentence or two that gives a brief explanation of what's in a photograph.

#### **Bar Code**

The bar code identifies each edition and is used for verifying single-copy sales information.

**INSIDE: Page A2** Summary of major articles inside the paper and Corrections (to articles that appeared recently in the paper).

# GUIDE TO PAGE