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Coronavirus Arrives in Caribbean as Dominican Republic Confirms First Case

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The Dominican Republic has recorded its first case of the coronavirus, with health officials in the country on Sunday revealing the victim to be a 62-year-old Italian man who had arrived in D.R. on February 22. The man did not show any symptoms of the virus when he arrived, according to D.R. Health Minister Rafael Sanchez, speaking during a press conference. He is currently being treated in isolation at a military hospital and is said to be in stable condition.

Mr. Sanchez also revealed that a 56-year-old man from France is under observation in the military hospital awaiting results.

Dominican Republic officials on Friday canceled all flights from Milan, Italy for 30 days, as Italy has had the European Union's highest number of confirmed cases and deaths so far — 34 deaths

and 1,694 confirmed infections.

The cancellation of flights from Milan affected some 4,000 passengers who had reserved tickets to fly with Milan to La Romana, a low-cost airline, according to Reuters.

Dominican Republic officials said Friday that all travelers coming from Italy will receive epidemiological reviews at the country's airport upon arrival.

Here are the latest updates, according to the Wall Street Journal:

- Nearly 3,000 people globally have died, with 2,870 of them in China. The U.S., Australia, and Thailand reported their first coronavirus deaths.
- The U.S. said it would bar foreign nationals who have traveled to Iran in the past 14 days, and is advising against travel to affected areas in Italy and South Korea.
- A man became the second person to die in the U.S. after contracting the virus, while new cases were reported in New York, Florida and Rhode Island.
- Global investors are bracing for another hair-raising ride. U.S. Treasury yields neared 1% as Asian markets opened lower.
- The airline, travel, shipping and auto industries are all seeing big drops in business. Tech companies and drug makers face supply disruptions. Almost no company is safe.