

A photograph of Jacinda Ardern, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, smiling and speaking at a podium. She is wearing a mustard-colored blazer over a dark green top with a floral pattern. Two microphones are in front of her. The background is a blue and yellow banner with the words "COVID", "ert", and "ever" visible.

Today in History

June 8, 2020

▲ **New Zealand lifted almost all coronavirus restrictions as it reported no active cases. Premier Jacinda Ardern was widely praised for her swift response to the crisis**

1869: A “sweeping machine”, the earliest suction type vacuum cleaner, was patented in the U.S.

1887: Herman Hollerith patented a system of using punched cards to hold digital data

1949: George Orwell’s novel 1984 was published, warning of a world controlled by Big Brother and the Thought Police

1992: The first World Oceans Day was celebrated to foster public interest in sustainable development