



The News ©

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by Emma Phillips

16 départements have been placed on alert for drought. The warnings come as a consequence to the heatwave currently felt across the country. Mainly concerned is the South-East, where local prefects have had to issue decrees to restrict the use of water.

The country's new Prime Minister, Élisabeth Borne continues to consult with key members of the party En Marche today, as the deadline looms for announcing the new government cabinet. Yesterday, she met with former Prime Minister Édouard Philippe and today she is due to speak with social partners. The original deadline for announcing the members of the cabinet was this weekend.

Patrick Balkany continues to plead for his conditional release from prison. The former mayor of Levallois-Perret has been incarcerated since February 7 for tax evasion. Today Balkany is due to appear before 3 judges from the court in Evry that is responsible for enforcing sentences. The hearing will be held behind closed doors in the Fleury-Mérogis prison.

For the first time since the war in Ukraine began, a Russian combatant is standing trial for war crimes. The 21-year-old Russian is being tried in Kyiv. The hearing got underway yesterday, in which the court heard the 21-year-old admit to shooting and killing Ukrainian civilians. He pleaded guilty. The trial is set to resume today.

US President Joe Biden will be meeting with the Swedish Prime Minister and Finnish President today, in a show of support for their applications to become members of NATO. Washington has pledged its support in the event of any Russian "threats" and has been actively overcoming Turkish opposition.

To football now, and last night spelled victory for Frankfurt against Glasgow Rangers. The Europa league match went to penalties.

And finally, not only was Tom Cruise awarded a prize at the Cannes Film Festival yesterday, he also got the salute of the Patrouille de France. The fighter jets squadron flew over the Palais des Festivals streaming red, white and blue smoke just as Tom was on his way to collect an honorary Palme d'or. Then came the preview screening of Cruise's latest film, "Top Gun: Maverick" which got a five-minute standing ovation.