



The News ©

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by Emma Phillips

Grégoire de Fournasse has sent a letter to apologise for his remarks in the assemblée nationale yesterday, claiming that he had been misunderstood. The member of parliament for the right-wing party Le Rassemblement National shouted out “Back to Africa!” while the assemblée nationale was in session. The racist outburst came as Carlos Martens Bilongo was questioning the government on the migrant rescue boat Ocean Viking appealing to France for help. It was unclear whether the black MP or the migrants onboard were the target of de Fournasse’s remark. He addressed his letter to Bilongo. The assemblée nationale bureau is meeting this afternoon to decide on the appropriate disciplinary actions.

It has now been nearly two weeks that the Ocean Viking rescue ship has been stuck at sea with 234 migrants on board. The NGO has reached out to France for help as well as Spain and Greece for a port to dock in, due to fears of worsening weather conditions.

The funeral of Justine Vayrac will be taking place in Tauriac in the Lot. The township is where she lived with her two year old son. Justine Vayrac was killed last week after spending the evening in a nightclub in Corrèze. A white march will take place on Sunday afternoon in memory of the 20 year-old.

The candidates in the running for the job of chairing the party Les Republicains have been finalised ahead of next month’s vote. Eric Ciotti, Bruno Retailleau and Aurélien Pradié all managed to garner enough support from within the party to stand a chance at chairperson.

Nearly 4,000 staff at Twitter face losing their jobs in the next round of layoffs sparked by the takeover by billionaire Elon Musk. The job cuts will be announced from today.

And finally to tennis and Caroline Garcia proved to be no match against Iga Swiatek yesterday in her second match of the Paris Masters WTA. Garcia lost against the world no.1 in two sets, 6-3 6-2. Tomorrow Garcia is going to have to win against the Russian Kasatkina to stand a chance of seeing the semi-finals.

