



The News

August 21st, 4pm ©

by Emma Phillips

50 départements remain on orange alert for the heatwave today, with some, including the Rhône valley, likely to be bumped up to red alert tomorrow. The warning comes from the Minister of Health Aurélien Rousseau. Temperatures could exceed 40 degrees in places this afternoon, with it getting even hotter tomorrow and Wednesday.

The heat wave and drought combined has created a perfect storm for wildfires. A fire is still blazing in the Hautes Alpes near the town of Chanousse. More than 120 hectares have already been destroyed. 250 firefighters have been mobilised.

“He died defending our ideals”. These are the words of Emmanuel Macron following the death of a French soldier in Iraq. Officer Nicolas Latourte died during an operational exercise. The announcement comes just days after the death of another French soldier in Iraq in a road accident on Friday. Around 600 French soldiers are still deployed in Iraq, mainly for training missions and military air and sea support.

The Netherlands and Denmark have confirmed the delivery to Ukraine of around 60 F16 combat aircraft. The president of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky has greeted the news as a historic decision.

And finally to rugby, and the 33 players who have made the cut for the Rugby World Cup in just three weeks' time have been announced. Mevin Jaminet has been picked over Brice Dulin and Anthony Jelon is coming back from an injury.