



The News

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by Emma Phillips

The power is back on in the Savoie this morning where last night 160,000 homes were without electricity due to storms in the area. 14,000 residents in Isère should be getting their electricity back this morning, and twenty roads remain unusable as the alert for storms in the east of the country is lifted. The southwest is kept on alert for rain and flooding.

With the public holiday of August 15th tomorrow, Gérald Darmanin is calling on police to be “extremely vigilant” in regards to all gatherings of people in places of a religious nature. Tomorrow marks the Christian feast day of the Assumption. Darmanin, who is stepping down as Minister of the Interior, has also pointed to France’s current very high level of threat for terrorist attacks.

France, along with the US, the UN and several Arab states has denounced Israel’s far-right national security minister leading hundreds of Jewish Israelis into the al-Aqsa Mosque compound to pray as “provocative”. The site is known to Jews as Temple Mount, but for non-Muslims, access to this esplanade is limited to specific times with a ban on praying there.

And finally, a word on cycling and the fourth stage of the women’s Tour de France today, 122 kilometers of the first hilly course between Valkenburg in the Netherlands and Liège in Belgium is setting off at 12:40 p.m. Yesterday, Dutch rider Demi Vollering took the yellow jersey.