



The News

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by Emma Phillips

The Kremlin has reacted to Joe Biden allowing Ukraine to use US long-range missiles to strike targets inside Russia by accusing the US president of “throwing oil on the fire”. Russia says that Biden is escalating the war by lifting restrictions on the use of missiles on Russian and North Korean troops in the Kursk region. The Kremlin spokesman said that the decision “fundamentally changes the modality of Western engagement”.

Farmer protests will continue into the evening today and likely tomorrow. The roadblock on the N118 road in the Yvelines has been lifted, but action across the country continues as farmers protest the signing of the treaty between the EU and Mercosur. In Amiens this morning, farmers blocked routes into the city centre. There was also a protest on the Pont de l'Europe in Avignon. After arriving in Argentina last night, Emmanuel Macron stated again that France would not sign the treaty as it stands.

The defence takes the floor today in the trial concerning the alleged fake parliamentary assistants for the Rassemblement National party. The hearing resumes today, after the prosecutor's closing arguments a few days ago that requested party leader Marine Le Pen be barred from standing for election. The head of the RN claims that this would be a political death sentence. The final decision is expected in early January 2025.

The trial of Gisèle Pelicot's rapists in Mazan also continues today as the questioning of the 51 defendants comes to an end. Then, the plaintiffs will be heard and the recommended sentences and closing arguments will get underway. The verdict is expected the week of December 16th.

And finally, composer Charles Dumont has died at the age of 95. In his lifetime, Charles Dumont wrote forty songs for one of France's greatest popular singers, Edith Piaf, including her seminal hit, “Non, je ne regrette rien”.