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The News

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by Emma Phillips

The 32 member countries of the International Energy Agency have decided to release 400 million barrels of oil from their strategic reserves, in the largest scale release in the body's history. Releasing the barrels will increase the volume available on the global market in order to bring down prices, and consequently, prices at the pump. This morning, Sébastien Lecornu warned that fuel prices had to come down as quickly as they had risen. The Prime Minister has been in a meeting since 3pm this afternoon with political leaders at his offices in Matignon, to discuss the situation in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, the Revolutionary Guards are threatening Israel and the United States with a war of attrition. Israel has warned that the offensive could continue without any time limit, while Donald Trump says that there is virtually nothing left to strike in Iran. 20 states have now expressed their deep concern to the UN about the "escalation of hostilities in Lebanon." The Lebanese Ministry of Health has reported 570 deaths since the conflict began.

A mission dedicated to assessing infant formula will get underway at the end of March. The study will set out to determine where, if at all, the responsibility of multinationals and government strategy lies, following recalls of containers of formula potentially contaminated with cereulide toxin. Three infant deaths have been reported, although as yet, no link has been formally established.

And finally, to the Paralympic Games where today saw another gold medal for the French delegation. Karl Tabouret won the 10 km para cross-country skiing event. This is France's ninth medal in Milan Cortina.