

Beat: Politics

## MINISTER OF INTERIOR CASTANER RECEIVED TWO SUPOENAS TO TWO PARLIAMENTARY HEARING

### FOLLOWING THE FAILURES OF THE PREFECTURE

Paris, Washington DC, 10.10.2019, 01:07 Time

**USPA NEWS** - French Interior Minister , Christophe Castaner was auditioned at 5:30 pm and ended at 7:40 pm by the commission of laws of the National Assembly. the objective of this hearing is to clarify for public opinion, the parliamentary voice, the conditions that allowed such an attack to occur, the profile of the assailant, the issue of the detection of individuals to risks, and measures taken by the government since the attack of the police headquarters. The principle of separation of powers prohibits the commission from dealing with the fields of investigation conducted by the prosecutor's office. In addition, several aspects of national defense can not be addressed, knowing that the antiterrorist prosecutor has already started an investigation into the attack of the prefecture considered "terrorist" or "Islamist" according to the profile allegedly "radicalized". The same afternoon, during the session of the Government at the National Assembly, PM Edouard Philippe defended the Minister of the Interior Castaner, insisting on the fact that he "assumes his position" and declared in hemicycle: "We all have an interest, France has an interest in the truth of facts being known and assumed."

The minister responded to questions from members of the delegation regarding the security of the intelligence services, and more particularly the DRPP, about the possible risks of radicalization of some of their agents: the implementation of the authorization procedures for agents, the conditions of agents' access to sensitive information within the service, particularly digitized data and the compartmentalization procedures put in place to prevent intrusions by persons who would not have any vocation to know them, the rules applicable to access to the premises of the service and their implementation, the procedures put in place by this service to detect any signs of radicalization of its agents and procedures for the transfer of reports between services in cases where the detection of signs is carried out by another service, due to outside activities service or its territorial jurisdiction, and their implementation. The parliamentary intelligence delegation has taken note of the information and clarifications provided by the ministers and will decide collectively how to continue its work. In France, the parliamentary intelligence delegation exercises parliamentary control over the Government's intelligence activities and evaluates public policy in this area. It is composed of four deputies and four senators. It publishes each year a public report of activity. His work is covered by the secrecy of national defense. (Source Delegation on french Intelligence, French Parliament)

### HEARING OF MINISTER CASTANER AND SECRETARY STATE NUNEZ OF INTERIOR BEFORE COMMISSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY-----

From the beginning of the hearing of Christophe Castaner and his secretary of state Laurent Nunez of the Interior, before the commission of the laws, the good news was announced as for the survival of a bland colleague during the attack of prefecture: "The injured colleague [during the attack] has left the hospital, she is recovering but she is well", announces the Minister of the Interior. - Before the commission of the laws of the National Assembly, Christophe Castaner defended himself about his first polemical statements, in the minutes that followed the attack, on the profile of the killer. "What did I say? The truth of the elements that were known at the time I was speaking," he said, recalling that the radicalization of the individual had been confirmed only later.-----

- The Minister of the Interior acts a "serious failure" in the reporting process that should have been done to the police headquarters. "I have instructed that every alert be the subject of a report," he said.
- "My responsibility is to be in these moments of storm, at the head of these men and these women", also declared Christophe Castaner, also considering that its role was to "protect" the agents of the police prefecture.
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## THE OPPOSITION IN PARTICULAR THE REPUBLICANS POINT THE "LOSS OF CREDIBILITY" OF MR CASTANER AS MINISTER-----

The opposition and in particular Eric Ciotti Deputy of the Alpes Maritimes, which is happening on several TV platforms, since the attack of the prefecture, to decry the action of the Minister of the Interior Castaner had specified, in a statement, to have deposited , with the agreement of Christian Jacob (President Group LR, in Parliament), a motion for a resolution "on the creation of a parliamentary commission of inquiry to shed light on the malfunctions that led to the attacks committed at the prefecture of Paris Police on Thursday, October 3, 2019 ". He asks him directly the question, which is angry, about the haste of the Minister of the Interior when he spoke to the press and to have delivered erroneous information because too much hastily, according to the opposition: "Do you regret having spoken too fast?" asks MP LR (Republicans) Eric Ciotti Christophe Castaner, criticized for his remarks just after the attack of the police headquarters.-----

"What did I say? The truth of the elements that were known when I was speaking," responds Christophe Castaner. "Then, investigations can reveal different facts, this is the case here, I never said that the terrorist risk was removed. The problem is not what I say, but to know how the author of the act went through the cracks "-----

"My responsibility is to be at the head of these men and women in these stormy times," added the minister, who believes that his mission is "to spend a lot more time listening to the relatives of the victims. to listen to Eric Ciotti on TV sets".

In front of the commission of the laws of the National Assembly, Christophe Castaner defended himself about his first polemical statements, in the minutes which followed the attack, on the profile of the killer. "What did I say? The truth of the elements that were known at the time I was speaking," he said, recalling that the radicalization of the individual had been confirmed only later. In fact, Interior Minister Castaner immediately spoke to the press after the attack on the prefecture by the killer Michael Harpon, stating that "the assailant knife," had never presented behavioral difficulties ", on the French television leader, TF1 and that "no element on any radicalization appears in his administrative file". On the side of RN (Party of Marine Le Pen, Extreme Right) "Serious incompetence or lie of State? In both cases, Castaner must leave", estimates the vice-president of the RN Jordan Bardella, claiming also "the immediate radiation of policemen and gendarmes followed for radicalization ", while MP Sébastien Chenu said he" should have resigned for 1,000 times ».

## THE INVESTIGATION INCLUDES CLASSIFIED ELEMENTS NOT DISCLAIMABLE TO THE COMMITTEE OF ASSEMBLY NOR THE PRESS-----

About the investigation, "It is impossible for us to report classified information to you," warns Christophe Castaner.

"At the time of the events, we wanted to go there, I know that some of my comments were then commented on. I met the hierarchy of victims, all put forward the apparently normal behavior of the In the hours that followed, the investigation was able to advance, including exchanges between the assailant and his wife [...]" replied Minister Christophe Castaner.

Nevertheless, concerning the alleged "radicalization" of the assailant Michael Harpon, author of the knife attack at the prefecture and cost the lives of four of his police colleagues, Minister Castaner was questioned about the radicalized imam of Gonesse with whom Mickael Harpon would have been in contact, Christophe Castaner "does not confirm anything" information about him published in the press. On the other hand, it gives elements on the course of this imam. "He was admitted to France on December 11, 2014. In early 2015, he was subject to an obligation to leave the French territory (OQTF), which was not executed, I do not know why", indicates the Interior Minister.

"What I can say is that it was decided to give him a valid title because he has a child and that he married." This title is valid until April 2020. " Christophe Castaner adds that there is "no connection" between this imam and the case of the attack of the police headquarters. Christophe Castaner adds that: "According to the information we have, we are only aware of an informal report in 2015. At the time I am speaking to you, there is no written record of this report. If it is, it is a serious malfunction.

"I have instructed that every alert be the subject of a report" "It's a serious failure that must not happen again"

Then a question was asked about Michael Haro's secret housing defense, and despite his "radicalization", and working in the very heart of the French information directorate of the Prefecture de Poyice, Minister Castaner replied: "All officials are subject to an authorization procedure [...]" At the Prefecture of Police, the authorization is issued by the DRPP "(Directorate of intelligence of the police headquarters), says Christophe Castaner. A certain number of anomalies were found "and this conclusion resulted in a" protocol signed in February 2019 which integrated the protocols of the DGSI in terms of habilitation "In addition, the French media, pass the following information: There are one hundred and sixty investigators, (160) investigators who are currently working on the exploitation of computer data contained in the attacker's USB key. They put in place a sorting software to divide the tasks among all these officials, including about a hundred officers of the criminal brigade.

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