Beat: Politics

PRES. MACRON DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY IN NEW CALEDONIA AFTER 3 DAYS OF RIOTS

PRIME MINISTER G. ATTAL BANNED TIK TOK

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USPA NEWS - New Caledonia (French Territory in Pacific) wakes up after a third night of violence in Greater Nouméa.
Thursday morning, at 8:30 a.m., Paris time, PM Attal chairs an interministerial council, following up on what he announced today Wednesday, the deployment of the army in New Caledonia to secure the port and airport . He had also announced to ban the TikTok application, widely used by rioters. “Soldiers from the armed forces are deployed to secure the ports and airport of New Caledonia,” said the Prime Minister at the opening of an inter-ministerial crisis unit at the Ministry of the Interior and “announced a curfew and banned TikTok,” said Gabriel Attal.
The President of the Republic Emmanuel Macron, for his part canceled a trip to Flamanville, in Normandy, replaced by a Council of Security & Defense, as the situation is serious in New Caledonia, where the riots border on civil war.

PRIME MINISTER GABRIEL ATTAL BELIEVES THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO FIND THE WAY TO A CONSENSUS"
“No violence is ever justifiable, no violence can ever be accepted,” declares Prime Minister Gabriel Attal from the Senate. “I want to pay tribute to the exceptional commitment of the police who manage to keep their cool. They courageously assume and maintain their role to protect lives. Our urgency is the restoration of order and the return of calm."

“Four mobile gendarmerie squadrons” as well as the Raid and the GIGN are providing reinforcements in New Caledonia, specifies the head of government. “I want to salute the great responsibility of New Caledonian political leaders, pro-independence and non-independence, who have called for a return to calm. We have never stopped calling for dialogue. We are staying this course and seeking to create the conditions for a global political agreement. It is possible to find a path to consensus."

HEAD OF STATE MACRON CANCELS TRIP TO FLAMANVILLE TO CHAIR A CRISIS/SECURITY COUNCIL

French President Emmanuel Macron declared a state of emergency coming into force "from 8:00 p.m. Paris time", French Presidency, said and announced the cancellation of President Macron’s trip planned for Thursday morning to the EPR (Nuclear Plant) site in Flamanville (Manche) to chair a "follow-up meeting" on the situation in New Caledonia, which is in the grip of violent riots due to an electoral reform contested by the separatists, the Elysée announced on Wednesday.

“The Head of State will chair a follow-up meeting in Paris tomorrow morning after the establishment of the state of emergency in New Caledonia” on Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. Paris time, the Elysée said. “The trip of the President of the Republic to Flamanville tomorrow is therefore postponed,” added the French presidency.

CONTEXT
Some 70 arrests took place in the last 24 hours. According to Louis Le Franc, High Commissioner of the Republic, 64 gendarmes and police officers were injured and nearly 200 rioters have been arrested since Monday. According to our information, more than 130 people were arrested.

In total, around 1,800 police officers and gendarmes are on site. 500 others will leave in the coming hours, including three gendarmerie squadrons which are leaving this Wednesday or Thursday.

On Monday, the Ministry of the Interior sent men from RAID and GIGN to the site.

Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin announced that he had placed five radical separatists under house arrest. These are five people belonging to the Field Action Coordination Cell (CCAT), the most radical fringe of the Socialist Kanak Liberation Front (FLNKS), a source close to the matter said.

“I have just signed the first five house arrest orders for radical and violent leaders,” said the Minister of the Interior on X. “On my instructions, administrative searches will be carried out by the police immediately ", he added.
These are five people belonging to the Field Action Coordination Cell (CCAT), the most radical fringe of the Socialist Kanak Liberation Front (FLNKS), a source close to the matter said.The gendarme who was seriously injured by a gunshot to the head on Wednesday in New Caledonia has died. The young man signed up in 2020. He was 22 years old.

REASONS OF THE ANGER LEADING TO RIOTS
The origin of the riots can be explained by the announcement of an electoral reform contested by the separatists, i.e., enlargement of the electoral body. This vote in parliament for this reform did not please the separatists. This is not the first time that revolts have broken out in this territory, colonized by France in 1853.

These are two people belonging to the Field Action Coordination Cell (CCAT), the most radical fringe of the Socialist Kanak Liberation Front (FLNKS), the same source said.
The French radical left opponent Jean-Luc Melenchon saw Wednesday in the riots which left four dead in New Caledonia the manifestation of a return to a "neocolonialism", with no way out according to him.

“If I mention this episode of neocolonialism at this moment, it is because France, which initially thought it had escaped, is returning to it at this moment and at the time I am speaking to you we have to suffer "three deaths among young Kanaks and a French gendarme, killed in Nouméa in the events taking place there and which owe everything to the absence of political reflection on the results of our history", said Mr. Melenchon. Source: TF1, Outre Mer 1, France TV, French Presidency, French Prime Ministry.

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