

Funeral held for slain Lebanese official

by UPI

BEIRUT, Lebanon -- A memorial service was held Friday in Lebanon for assassinated military official Francoise Al-Hajj as official mourning was declared for the country. A casket holding the body of Hajj, a brigadier who was the commander of the Army Operations Room, was draped in the Lebanese flag and carried from the Military Hospital to the church for the funeral service, KUNA, the Kuwait News Agency, reported Friday. A coffin containing the body of Khair-Allah Hadwan, an associate of Al-Hajj who was killed alongside the military leader in Wednesday's explosion, was carried in the same procession. Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Elias Al-Mur, Army Cmdr. Gen. Michel Suleiman and Member of Parliament Michel Aoun were among the officials present at the funeral. A day of mourning was declared Friday for Hajj, causing all schools and public and private institutions to close for the day.

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