

Rallies held for Hariri, Mughniyah

by UPI

BEIRUT, Lebanon -- Lebanese turned out by the thousands Thursday to honor two men, one an assassinated former prime minister and the other for an slain terrorist mastermind. In the Martyrs Square in the center of Beirut, people gathered for a memorial marking the third anniversary of the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, Haaretz reported. Hezbollah, meanwhile, attended a mass funeral for Imad Mughniyah, the terrorist mastermind who was killed Tuesday night in a Damascus bombing. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, who eulogized Mughniyah, is expected to announce who will be replacing the slain terrorist on the group's Jihad council. Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora, considered an outcast by Hezbollah, issued a death notice, saying, "Let Allah welcome the shaheed in all his mercy and house him in heaven," Haaretz said. The Lebanese government said schools and public institutions were closed, traffic patterns changed and trucks barred from traveling.

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