



Hezbollah fighter's mysterious death raises questions

A cryptic Hezbollah announcement Tuesday about the death of one of its fighters raised questions over the circumstances of the incident.

Hezbollah's Al-Manar website simply said "the martyr leader Ali Hussein Nassif died while performing his jihad duties" and added that he had been buried in the Beqaa town of Baalbek.

Reuters cited unnamed sources as saying that Nassif and two other Hezbollah fighters had been killed in fighting against Syrian rebels in a border town.

"They said the three died when a rocket hit the room where they were staying. They did not say what happened to the bodies of the other two men," the news agency reported.

Meanwhile, a senior Lebanese security official told the Associated Press that "Nassif's body was returned to Lebanon through the Masnaa border crossing on Sunday."

"Several other Hezbollah fighters bodies have been brought back to Lebanon in the past few days," he added.

A Syrian activists told AP that Nassif "was killed Saturday when a roadside bomb hit the car he was riding in near the [Syrian] town of Qusayr."

"His job was to coordinate with Syrian security agencies," the activist added.

The US in August accused Hezbollah of supporting the Syrian regime military in its struggle against rebels and slapped sanctions against the party.

Hezbollah has denied military involvement in the conflict in Syria which has left at least 30,000 people dead.

-NOW Lebanon