

## Former Egyptian First Lady Jehan Sadat laid to rest at military funeral



Former Egyptian first lady, Jehan Sadat, is laid to rest during a military funeral on Friday at the Egyptian Sidi Barrani in the capital Cairo, to be buried next to her husband, Egypt's late President Anwar Sadat.

Sadat, who died earlier on Friday at the age of 89, spent a week as the country's first lady, before her husband's death. She was buried in a tomb in Cairo following her marriage to Anwar Sadat in 1978.

Following her husband's assassination in 1981, Sadat went on to teach as well as write, having earned a doctorate in comparative literature from Cairo University.

The presidency said in a statement that the funeral would be a "solemn ceremony" to honor the late first lady, who was a "pious and devoted wife" and a "pious and devoted mother".

## Biden vows US action over Russian cyber-attacks

President Joe Biden has said the US will take "any necessary action" to stop cyber-attacks from Russia, the White House said.

A reporter asked Mr Biden after the hour-long phone call if Russia would face consequences, and he said "Yes".

But Moscow denied US claims they had contacted the Russians, reportedly about the cyber-attacks in the past month.

Mr Biden's call to Mr Putin came after the US had accused Russia of cyber-attacks in the past month.

"I made it very clear to him that the United States expects when a transnational operation is coming from his soil, even though it's not sponsored by the state,

we expect them to act if we give them enough information to act on who that is," Mr Biden told media after the phone call.

When a journalist asked whether the US could attack the servers used by the hackers, the Democratic president said "Yes".

But after Friday's call, the Kremlin said the US had not contacted Moscow about the cyber-attacks.

"Despite statements from the White House and the US media, the Russian side is jointly clamping down on cyber activity in the information sphere, over the past month to requests have been received from the relevant US departments," said a statement from Mr Putin's office.

An unnamed senior US official denied Russia's claim, telling AFP news agency the Biden administration had made "multiple, specific requests for action".

al, from Russian security services.

Mr Biden said on Friday that the call came as part of a new "three-tiered means of communication".

The new connection, Mr Biden said, allows each side to communicate to one another where each of us thinks something is happening in the other country.

"I think the home country, and so we were well, I'm optimistic."

He had delivered on Friday the similar to the message that he brought when the two leaders held their first face-to-face meeting last month in Switzerland.

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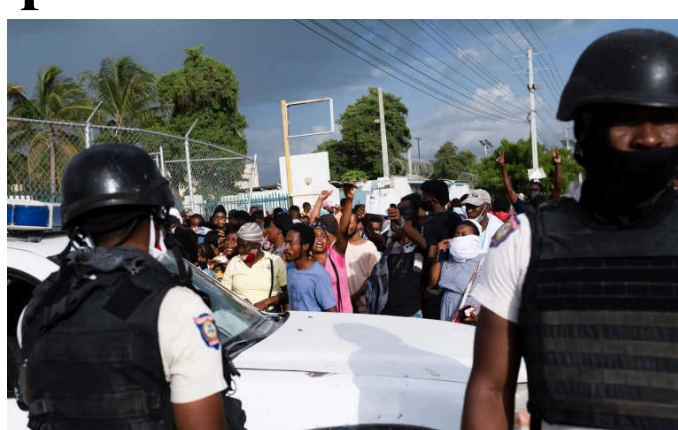
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## Haiti asks UN, US to send troops after president's assassination



## Lebanon struck by power cut as major plants shut down



Lebanon's two main power plants were struck off on Friday, plunging much of the country into a near total blackout. The shutdown - caused by the two plants running out of fuel - worsens a crisis that has seen people survive just two hours of electricity a day.

A lack of foreign currency has made it hard to pay overseas energy suppliers.

Pharmacies have also gone on strike over medicine shortages caused by the failure to pay foreign imports.

Lebanon's two biggest power stations, the Amer and Zahran - which together provide about 80% of the country's electricity - shut down on Friday, their owners Electricite Du Liban (EDL) said.

Shut-out of gas had led to a refusal to offload the fuel because money was transferred to their owners' accounts in dollars.

In the eastern city of Zahr, EDL asked residents to reduce their consumption to a minimum, saying the "power supply has been cut across Lebanon tomorrow indefinitely".

As the BBC's Sebastian Usher notes, shortages of the country are now facing water shortages as well. The pumping stations are powered by diesel, and lack the supplies they need to function.

Lebanon has suffered a severe economic crisis over the past 18 months, and its currency, the Lebanese Pound, has collapsed to record lows.

Some local healthcare companies have already run out of medicines needed to treat cancer and heart disease.

Pharmacies closed their doors on Friday in protest at the shortages.

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