



# **Stuart Robert MP**

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**Shadow Minister for Defence Science, Technology and Personnel**

## **\*\*MEDIA RELEASE\*\***

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### **LOSS OF SERGEANT BRETT WOOD**

Today we mourn the loss of Sergeant Brett Wood MG, who was tragically killed in Afghanistan overnight by an Improvised Explosive Device.

Sergeant Wood was a decorated soldier who was on his third rotation in Afghanistan. Having also served previously in Bougainville, East Timor and Iraq, he was a seasoned soldier and leader, who was highly regarded by his fellow soldiers.

His loss will be felt heavily by his wife, his family, his friends and his fellow soldiers. I would like to extend my sincere condolences to the family and friends of Sergeant Wood. Your loss is Australia's loss, and your burden, weighing heaviest in your hearts, will be shouldered by the entire nation.

As we lament Sergeant Wood's passing, we also pause to remember the 23 other Australians who have paid the supreme sacrifice in Afghanistan, and the 174 Australian soldiers who have been wounded in action.

Our thoughts are particularly with those five soldiers, some of whom are in a critical condition, who suffered wounds as the result of separate actions in Afghanistan over the past 24 hours.

Sergeant Wood's death serves as a sobering reminder of the continuing dangers that confront our soldiers on a daily basis as the fight continues in Afghanistan.

To those that stand strong in the face of adversity, I know I join all Australians in saying that our thoughts remain with you, particularly at the most trying of times.

Sergeant Wood lived his motto - 'Foras Admonitio (Without Warning), and a grateful nation will forever remember him and the sacrifice he made.

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