



Stuart Robert MP

Federal Member for Fadden

Shadow Minister for Defence Science, Technology and Personnel

****MEDIA RELEASE****

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DEATH OF AN AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER

I join with all Australians in expressing my deep sorrow for the loss of an Australian soldier in Afghanistan yesterday.

It is always a terrible thing when we learn of the death of a soldier and my sincere and heartfelt condolences go out to the family, friends and mates of the soldier who was tragically struck down by an IED while patrolling in the Khas Uruzgan region of Afghanistan.

The soldier, who had deployed to Afghanistan in June 2011 as part of the Mentoring Task Force – Three, was from the Townsville based 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment and had previously served in East Timor in 2009.

‘The soldier was described as a man who excelled at every task he undertook and someone who was proud to serve his country, like so many of his friends and those that went before him,’ Mr Robert said.

‘Though we do not as yet know his name, his family knows his name, those men who he fought alongside know his name and those who tried to save his life in the hospital know his name and will forever remember him for the deeds he did on behalf of a grateful nation.’

This soldier’s death marks the 29th Australian soldier to have lost his life in Afghanistan.

‘As we are now closer to the end than the beginning, as the light grows and the darkness fades, I urge all Australian’s to lend their support to our fighting men and women and resolve to see the job through to the end,’ Mr Robert said.

‘Their memory will be everlasting and their legacy unshakable so long as we maintain our nerve and ensure we complete our mission, just as those 29 Australians who we have lost would want us to do.’

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