

WCCR Release: Condolences to the Family, Friends & Canadians on the Death of Lebanese Canadian

Contributed by WCCR
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The WCCR extends its condolences today to the Diab Family of Lebanese Canadian, Military Trooper Marc Diab, 22, from the Royal Canadian Dragoons who was killed in an IED attack today in Afghanistan. Our thoughts and prayers go to his family, friends, Canadians and to the people of his heritage hometown in South Lebanese city of Ain Ebil.

The Lebanese in the Diaspora, and in Canada especially mourn the loss of this brave man. He and his family paid the ultimate price to those fighting for the freedom and security of others. May the Almighty God rest his soul in peace, may his memories serve as he served - unselfishly giving to those in need.

WCCR Leadership Council, Family and Friends.

One Canadian soldier died and four were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded Sunday near their armoured vehicle on patrol northeast of Kandahar city, the second deadly attack for troops in Afghanistan in less than a week.

The soldiers were conducting security operations in the mountainous region of Sha Wali Kot district — a known entry point for Taliban fighters — when the explosion occurred at about 1:15 p.m. local time on Sunday, the military said.

Trooper Marc Diab, 22, from the Royal Canadian Dragoons was killed in the attack. He was serving as a member of the 3rd Battalion, the Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group based in Petawawa, Ont., the military said.

"On behalf of all members of Task Force Kandahar, I would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Trooper Diab," said Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance, commander of Canadian troops in Kandahar. "We will stand with you in your grief, and we will help you through the difficult days ahead."

In a release, Prime Minister Stephen Harper extended his condolences to Diab's family and friends and hoped for a speedy recovery for the wounded soldiers.

"Trooper Marc Diab paid the ultimate price serving his country," Harper said. "His life and death serves as an example of the bravery and outstanding dedication of Canadian Forces members on this mission."

Soldier was dedicated, religious and loved sports

On Sunday, Vance described Diab as an energetic, enthusiastic and dedicated soldier who loved to joke around and make people laugh. He was extremely close to his mother Jihan and girlfriend Mary, he said.

"He never stopped giving," Vance said. "He brought joy and laughter to his friends and was deeply involved and committed to his church and youth group activities."

He was an avid soccer player who loved sports and outdoor activities and often spoke about how much he enjoyed taking his jeep and going cross-country driving, he said.

"His friends and comrades describe him as having a large heart for such a small guy," Vance said. "He would give you the world if he had it."