"I bow my head in deep mourning in memory of Allain Tikko, an Estonian soldier that has fallen in battle," President Ilves wrote to the family of Alain Tikko who was killed in Afghanistan "I bow my head in deep mourning in memory of Allain Tikko, an Estonian soldier that has fallen in battle," President Toomas Hendrik Ilves wrote to the family of Alain Tikko who was killed in Afghanistan. "Please accept my deepest sympathies for the loss of a son, grandson, a life partner and father."

"Warrant Officer Allain Tikko, who previously served on three foreign missions, was a professional and brave soldier, a reliable comrade-in-arms for his fellow soldiers. It is unfair and disconsolately painful that we now remember him – a 30-year-old man – with thoughts of bereavement," President Ilves wrote.

"Perhaps, along with words of consolation, you can find strength in the knowledge that although Allain Tikko died far from home, he was protecting the security of Estonia as a NATO ally. Allain Tikko died for Estonia," the Head of State wrote.

"Allain Tikko will remain forever in our memories. This memory includes an obligation not to stop half way or surrender in Afghanistan, where Estonia and the other NATO allies are fighting to make our world better and safer," President Ilves wrote.

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