Washington, D.C.—U.S. Congressman Mike Pence issued the following statement today expressing condolences to the families of four Indiana National Guard soldiers who were killed in Afghanistan last week. All four were members of the 713th Engineer Company, headquartered in Valparaiso.

"Karen and I extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to the families of the Indiana National Guardsmen who were killed last week while serving in Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. Jonathan M. Metzger of Indianapolis, Spc. Brian J. Leonhardt of Merrillville, Spc. Robert J. Tauteris Jr. of Hamlet and Spc. Christopher A. Patterson of Aurora, IL, died bringing hope to a people who have not known it before and protecting freedom for those of us here at home. These men are heroes and their sacrifice, though we will never be able to repay it, should never be forgotten."

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