



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-9999

3 March 2026

Lieutenant General Andrus Merilo
Commander of the Estonian Defence Forces
Juhkentali 58
15007 Tallinn
Republic of Estonia

Dear General Merilo,

ANDRUS

Congratulations to you and the members of the Estonian Defence Forces as you marked the 108th anniversary of your nation's independence on 24 February.

Our armed forces share a long history of sacrifice in pursuit of liberty and strong bonds forged in combat and recent deployments. Estonia's important investments in defense capabilities, infrastructure, and readiness are a model for others to follow in pursuit of a stronger, more capable NATO Alliance.

I am thankful for the opportunity to work with you and appreciate your continued care and hospitality for our Joint Forces. Best wishes on this special occasion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Daniel Caine".

J. DANIEL CAINE
General, U.S. Air Force