



CURRICULUM VITAE

Lieutenant General Michiel van der Laan

Commander 1 (German/Netherlands) Corps



Lieutenant General Michiel van der Laan began his military training in 1983 at the Royal Military Academy in Breda. His career as a soldier started in Germany with his first operational post at 103 Reconnaissance Battalion in Seedorf as a Lieutenant and Captain.

From January 1995 to July 1996, he attended and completed the Advanced Military Training course at the Army Staff College. He was subsequently promoted to Major and took up the position of a policy officer at the Operational Policy Branch of the Army Staff. During this period he worked as secretary of the Masterplan Army-2000 project.

From 1998 to 2000, Van der Laan attended the Advanced Military Studies course at the Command and General Staff College in Germany, which he completed successfully.

Upon his subsequent promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, he assumed the position of Training and Exercise Staff Officer and subsequently as the military assistant to the Chief of Staff at the Headquarters of 1 (GE/NL) Corps in Münster, Germany.

From October 2002 to August 2005, Van der Laan was commander of 11 Tank Battalion of the 'Sytzama' Hussars Regiment in Oirschot. During this period - from April to November 2003 - he was deployed to Bosnia where he commanded 11 Mechanised Battalion Task Force (1 (NL) Mechanised Battalion SFOR).

Following his battalion command, he returned to The Hague where he was assigned to the Plans Branch of the Defence Staff. In June 2006, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and assumed the position of Head of the Future Concepts Branch of the Defence Staff. From March 2008 to May 2009, Van der Laan was Head of the Personal Office of the Commander of the Royal Netherlands Army.

In May 2009, he was promoted to Brigadier General and deployed to Afghanistan as the Director Stability at the Headquarters of Regional Command South. In December 2009, he was appointed Commander of 13 Mechanised Brigade in Oirschot. During the first half of 2011 he was also Commander of the EU Battle Group. In January 2013, he became the Deputy Commander of 1 (German/Netherlands) Corps in Münster, Germany until October 2014. He subsequently became the Director at the Directorate of Operations in The Hague, the Netherlands.

In April 2016 Lieutenant General van der Laan returned to Münster as Commander of 1 (German/Netherlands) Corps.

Lieutenant General van der Laan is married and has a daughter and two sons.