

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (MILITARY)
TO FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICER**

2019 to 2024

Updated: 05 May 2024
Pages: 26
Prepared by: John Blatherwick, CM, CStJ, OBC, CD, BSc, MD, DPH, FRCP(C), LLD (Hon)

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Citations to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military Division) MSC

To FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICERS

O' SHAUGHNESSY, Terrence John	MSC	CG: 30 March 2024
General - United States Air Force	American Citizen	GH: 11 November 2020
Commander North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD)		DOI: 2018 to 2020

“For devotion to duty and selfless service to Canada and the United States as Commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command from 2018 to 2020.”

“As commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command from 2018 to 2020, General O’Shaughnessy’s devotion to duty and selfless service to Canada and the United States contributed to a robust, integrated bi-national defense of North America. His positive influence, exceptional strategic engagement and strong leadership have contributed significantly to the evolution of continental defence and security. General O’Shaughnessy undeniably enhanced the long-standing, unique and well-entrenched relationship between Canada and the United States.”

General Terrence John O’Shaughnessy, MSC, USAF



General Terrence J. O’Shaughnessy was Commander, United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command. USNORTHCOM partners to conduct homeland defense, civil support and security cooperation to defend and secure the United States and its interests. NORAD conducts aerospace warning, aerospace control and maritime warning in the defense of North America.

General O’Shaughnessy is a 1986 distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. He has commanded at the squadron, group, wing, Numbered Air Force and major command levels, including the 57th Wing, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, the 35th Fighter Wing as Misawa Air Base, Japan, and the 613th Air and Space Operations Center, Hickam AFB, Hawaii. General O’Shaughnessy has served as the U.S. Pacific Command Director of Operations responsible for joint operations in a region encompassing more than half the globe and 36 nations. General O’Shaughnessy’s joint experience also extends to his time as the Joint Staff J5 Deputy Director for

Politico-Military Affairs for Asia where he shaped regional planning and policy in the Asia-Pacific and Central Asia regions, supporting the commanders of USPACOM and U.S. Central Command.

Prior to his current assignment, General O’Shaughnessy was Deputy Commander, United Nations Command Korea; Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea; Commander, Air Component Command, Republic of Korea/U.S. Combined Forces Command; and Commander, Seventh Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, Osan Air Base, South Korea and Commander, PACAF and Air Component Commander for USPACOM, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

General O’Shaughnessy is a command pilot with more than 3,000 hours in the F-16 Fighting Falcon, including 168 combat hours.

He retired on 20 August 2020 after his Command time with NORAD.

EDUCATION

1986 Bachelor of Science, Aeronautical Engineering, Distinguished Graduate, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.
1992 Fighter Weapons Instructor Course, U.S. Air Force Fighter Weapons School, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.
1993 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
1996 Master of Aeronautical Science, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, Fla.
1998 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2003 Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
2003 Information Studies Concentration Program, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
2005 NATO Senior Officer Policy Course, NATO Defense College, Oberammergau, Germany
2007 Department of Defense Senior Managers Course in National Security, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
2007 Air Force Enterprise Leadership Course, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2009 Combined Air and Space Operations Senior Staff Course, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
2011 Joint Force Air Component Commander Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2012 Joint Flag Officer Warfighter Course
2013 Joint Force Maritime Component Commander Course, Newport, R.I.
2015 National Defense University PINNACLE Course, Suffolk, Va.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1986–September 1987, Student, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas
2. September 1987–August 1988, Student, T-38 Lead-In Fighter Training and F-16 Training, Holloman AFB, N.M., and Luke AFB, Ariz.
3. August 1988–December 1991, F-16 Aircraft Commander and Instructor Pilot, Shaw AFB, S.C.
4. January 1992–June 1992, Student, F-16 Fighter Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
5. July 1992–July 1993, Weapons Officer and Flight Commander, 35th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan Air Base, South Korea
6. July 1993–July 1997, Assistant Operations Officer and Air-to-Ground Flight Commander, F-16 Division, U.S. Air Force Fighter Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
7. July 1997–June 1998, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
8. June 1998–June 1999, Chief, Air Superiority Weapons Branch, Global Power Programs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
9. June 1999–June 2000, Chief, Fighter Programs, Office of Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
10. June 2000–April 2001, Operations Officer, 555th Fighter Squadron, Aviano Air Base, Italy
11. April 2001–July 2002, Commander, 510th Fighter Squadron, Aviano AB, Italy
12. August 2002–June 2003, Student, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
13. June 2003–August 2004, Chief, Joint Plans and Operations, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Mons, Belgium
14. August 2004–July 2005, Senior Special Assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe and Commander, U.S. European Command, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Mons, Belgium
15. July 2005–December 2006, Commander, 57th Adversary Tactics Group, Nellis AFB, Nev.
16. January 2007–August 2008, Commander, 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa AB, Japan
17. September 2008–August 2009, Commander, 613th Air and Space Operations Center, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
18. August 2009–July 2010, Vice Commander, Thirteenth Air Force, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
19. July 2010–April 2012, Commander, 57th Wing, Nellis AFB, Nev.
20. April 2012–August 2013, Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs for Asia, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
21. August 2013–October 2014, Director for Operations, Headquarters, U.S. Pacific Command, Camp

H.M. Smith, Hawaii

22. December 2014–July 2016, Deputy Commander, United Nations Command Korea; Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea; Commander, Air Component Command, Republic of Korea/U.S. Combined Forces Command; and Commander, Seventh Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, Osan Air Base, South Korea

23. July 2016–May 2018, Commander, PACAF; Air Component Commander for USPACOM; and Executive Director, Pacific Air Combat Operations Staff, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii

24. May 2018–August 2020, Commander North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command

25. October 2020, retired

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2003–August 2004, Chief, Joint Plans and Operations, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Mons, Belgium, as a colonel

2. August 2004–July 2005, Senior Special Assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe & Cdr, U.S. European Command, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Mons, Belgium, as a colonel.

3. April 2012–August 2013, Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs for Asia, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a brigadier and major general

4. August 2013–October 2014, Director for Operations, Headquarters, United States Pacific Command, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, as a major general

5. December 2014–July 2016, Deputy Commander, United Nations Command Korea; Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea; Commander, Air Component Command, Republic of Korea/U.S. Combined Forces Command; and Commander, Seventh Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, Osan Air Base, South Korea, as a lieutenant general.

6. May 2018–August 2020, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command Colorado Springs, Colo, as a general

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Distinguished Service Medal (Air Force)

Defense Superior Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Legion of Merit with three oak leaf clusters

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with oak leaf cluster

Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal with 'V' device & 2 oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal

National Defense Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Kosovo Campaign Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Korean Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal

Humanitarian Service Medal

Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal

NATO Medal

Order of National Security Gukseon Medal

Republic of Korea

Order of National Security Merit Tongil Medal

Republic of Korea

Order of the Rising Sun (1st Class, Grand Cordon)

Japan

Meritorious Service Cross

Canada



EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	28 May 1986
First Lieutenant	28 May 1988
Captain	28 May 1990
Major	01 Sept 1997
Lieutenant Colonel	01 May 2000
Colonel	01 Aug 2004
Brigadier General	02 Nov 2009
Major General	02 Aug 2013
Lieutenant General	19 Dec 2014
General	12 July 2016

(Current as of September 2020)

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command pilot
Flight hours: More than 3,000
Aircraft flown: F-16, AT/T-38 and T-37

Citations to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military Division) MSC

To FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICERS

MILLEY, Mark Alexander

General - United States Army

Chair of the United States Joint Chief of Staff

KBE MSC

American Citizen

CG: 30 March 2024

GH:

DOI: 2019 to 2023

“As chair of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2019 to 2023, General Milley has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the Canadian Armed Forces. A strong advocate of Canada-United States relations throughout his career and a voice of calm reason in the current world security situation, he has exemplified the spirit of collaboration by championing alliances and partnerships during the most challenging time in geo-strategic affairs in decades. General Milley’s strong leadership and vision have enhanced the defence relationship between both countries.”



Mark Alexander Milley (born June 20, 1958) is a retired United States Army general who last served as the 20th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from October 1, 2019, to September 30, 2023. He previously served as the 39th chief of staff of the Army from August 14, 2015, to August 9, 2019, and held multiple command and staff positions in eight divisions and special forces throughout his military career. An ROTC graduate from Princeton University, Milley earned his commission as an armor officer in 1980. Later he graduated from Columbia University. He was appointed chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff by US President Donald Trump, making Milley the tenth U.S. Army officer to be chairman. As chairman, Milley was the highest-ranking officer in the United States Armed Forces and the principal military advisor to the president of the United States, the secretary of defense, the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council.

Early life and education

Milley was born on June 20, 1958, in Winchester, Massachusetts. He is of Irish descent, and was raised Roman Catholic. His paternal grandfather, Peter (1897–1976), was from Newfoundland and served with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment during the Gallipoli campaign in World War I. His father, Alexander (1924–2015), enlisted in the U.S. Navy in March 1943 as a naval corpsman. He was assigned to the 4th Marine Division and landed at Kwajalein, Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima. After the war, he worked as a restaurateur and food-broker. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, whose membership is limited to practicing Catholic men. Milley's mother, Mary Elizabeth (née Murphy), was a nurse who served with the Navy's WAVES in World War II and is described by Milley as a "break-the-glass-ceiling" type of woman. Milley attended a Catholic grammar school where he played hockey. Good grades and athletic ability led to him being recruited to Belmont Hill School, and afterwards to Princeton University where he played varsity ice hockey. There, he joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) in 1976, and in 1980 graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in politics after completing a 185-page-long senior thesis titled "The Irish Republican Army: A Critical Analysis of Revolutionary Guerrilla Organization in Theory and Practice". Milley also holds a Master of International Affairs degree from the School of International & Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University and another Master of Arts degree in national security and strategic studies from the Naval War College. He is also an attendee of the MIT Center for International Studies Seminar XXI National Security Studies Program.

Military career

Milley earned his commission as an armor officer through Princeton's Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps program in 1980. Milley's career has included assignments with the 82nd Airborne Division, 5th Special Forces Group, 7th Infantry Division, 2nd Infantry Division, Joint Readiness Training Center, 25th Infantry Division, Operations Staff of the Joint Staff, and a posting as Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense. Milley has held multiple command and staff positions in eight divisions and special forces throughout his military career. He commanded 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division, in South Korea from 1996 to 1998. He served as commander of 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light) from December 2003 to July 2005; deputy commanding general for operations of the 101st Airborne

Division from July 2007 to April 2008, and as commanding general of the 10th Mountain Division from November 2011 to December 2012. Milley commanded III Corps, based at Fort Hood, Texas, from December 2012 to August 2014, and concurrently the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command from May 2013 to February 2014. He served as the commanding general of the United States Army Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, from August 2014 to August 2015.

Chief of Staff of the Army

Milley was appointed chief of staff of the Army on August 14, 2015. In his initial message to the U.S. Army, General Milley laid out his priorities on readiness, the future Army, and taking care of troops. "We must ensure the Army remains ready as the world's premier combat force. Readiness for ground combat is—and will remain—the U.S. Army's #1 priority. We will do what it takes to build an agile, adaptive Army of the future."

Modernization and reform

During his tenure, Milley focused heavily on modernization efforts for the Army, which included a new command designed to consolidate the methods that deliver Army capabilities, similar to the approach used by U.S. Special Operations Command. At the 2017 Association of the United States Army annual meeting, Milley described the areas targeted for modernization, including tanks, aircraft and weapons. Milley said: "Faster results will be obtained...as we shift to a SOCOM-like model of buy, try, decide and acquire rather than the current industrial-age linear model that takes years to establish requirements, decades to test, and it may take a long, long time to go from idea to delivery." He warned: "If we adapt to the changing character of war, and we embrace the institutional changes that we need to implement, then we will continue to be the most lethal fighting force in the world for the next seven decades and beyond. If we do not, we will lose the next war."

In February 2017, the Army announced the establishment of Security Force Assistance Brigades. Also known as SFABs, these permanent units were established in Fort Benning with a core mission to conduct security cooperation activities and serve as a quick response to combatant commander requirements.

While their training would be similar to that of Special Forces, soldiers in the SFABs would not be considered Special Forces, Milley said. "They will be trained in many ways similar to Special Forces, but they are not Special Forces." These SFABs will be structured using the non-commissioned and commissioned officers of infantry brigade combat teams to train foreign military units in conventional light infantry tactics, Milley said. In 2018, Secretary of the Army Mark Esper and Milley established Army Futures Command in Austin, Texas, to take advantage of nearby academic and industrial expertise. Coequal in status to the Army's three senior most commands: Army Forces Command, Army Material Command, and Army Training and Doctrine Command, it represented one of the largest reform initiatives undertaken in more than forty years. Beyond developing future warfighting concepts, eight cross-functional teams conducted research to further the Army's modernization priorities: long-range precision fires, next-generation combat vehicles, air and missile defenses, soldier lethality, synthetic training environments, future vehicle lift platforms, and assured positioning, navigation, and timing.

In 2018, Esper and Milley also led the roll out of a new Army Combat Fitness Test. The new fitness test was designed to improve overall combat readiness and mimic physical tasks and stresses associated with combat and was set to replace the 40-year-old Army fitness test by October 2020. Milley said: "We want to make sure that our soldiers are ... in top physical shape to withstand the rigors of ground combat. Combat is not for the faint of heart, it's not for the weak-kneed, it's not for those who are not psychologically resilient and tough and hardened to the brutality, to the viciousness of it."

Army Green Service Uniform

In early 2017, Milley and then-Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel A. Dailey began considering the possibility of bringing back an iconic two-tone uniform known as the "Pinks and Greens" to honor the "greatest generation" of soldiers who fought in World War II. The Army believed the reintroduction of the uniform would give soldiers a uniform for professional environments that honored the Army heritage, reconnect today's soldiers with their service history, strengthen pride, bolster recruiting and enhance readiness. According to an *Army Times* poll conducted in the fall of 2018, of the 32,000 respondents, 72 percent indicated they were ready to embrace a new uniform, while 28 percent said they were happy with the current blue Army Service Uniform. Soldiers did express concerns about the need for an additional uniform as well as the costs associated with acquiring the new uniform. The Army tried to address this concern in its official roll out announcement Nov. 11, 2018, indicating the uniform would be cost-neutral for enlisted soldiers, who would be able to purchase the new "everyday business-wear uniform" with their existing annual clothing allowance. The Army also indicated the new uniform would come "at no additional cost" to U.S. taxpayers and would be made in the U.S. Secretary of the Army Esper, who also championed the iconic "pinks and greens" uniform and worked with Milley and Dailey on the initiative, approved its return in November 2018.

Iraq War study

In 2018, Milley was involved in deciding whether the Army would publish a controversial study on the 2003–2006 Iraq War. Milley reportedly decided he wanted to read the two-volume, 1,300-page, 500,000-word document before making a decision. Milley also directed that an external panel of scholars review the work. After the panel returned glowing reviews on the study, including one that described it as "the gold standard in official history", Milley continued to delay publication so he could review it further. When confronted by a journalist from *The Wall Street Journal* in October 2018, Milley reversed these decisions, ordering the study published officially and with a foreword from himself. He said the team who wrote the study "did a damn good job", the study itself was "a solid work", and that he aimed to publish the study by the holidays (2018).

Within days of this revelation, two members of Congress who sit on the House Armed Services Committee (Reps. Jackie Speier, D-California, and Ruben Gallego, D-Arizona) sent a letter to Army leaders expressing their anger over the delay. In a press release accompanying the letter to Milley and Esper, Speier said, "This is simply the Army being unwilling to publicly air its mistakes. Our military, Congress, and the American people deserve nothing less than total transparency on the lessons the Army has identified so that we may use those lessons to avoid costly, and too often deadly, mistakes of the past." The two-volume study was published January 17, 2019.

Report on climate change

In May 2019, Milley commissioned a U.S. Army War College report on the impact of climate change on society as a whole and on the U.S. military. The report was written by U.S. government officials from agencies including the U.S. Army, Defense Intelligence Agency, and NASA and released in August 2019. It outlined the possibility of blackouts, disease, thirst, starvation and war due to collapses of the country's aging power grid, its food supply systems, and the U.S. military. The report also mentions the likelihood of increasing water scarcity and failure of global food systems in developing countries which would result in an increase of civil and military conflicts.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Milley was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from September 30, 2019, until September 30, 2023.

Trump administration

On December 8, 2018, President Donald Trump announced that he would nominate Milley to serve as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, although Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis and then-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Joseph Dunford favored Air Force Chief of Staff General David L. Goldfein for the appointment. Milley had initially been fielded as a candidate to succeed Curtis Scaparrotti as commander of the United States European Command and Supreme Allied Commander Europe but after the interview with Trump was nominated for the chairmanship instead. He was confirmed by the Senate 89–1 on July 25, 2019, and sworn in on September 30. After attending 75th anniversary commemorations of the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium on December 16, 2019, Milley met with the Russian military chief of staff Valery Gerasimov in Bern, Switzerland, on December 18. This continued a series of meetings between the American and Russian military chiefs reestablished by Milley's predecessor Joseph Dunford in 2017 to ensure open communication and reduce the risks in conflict areas.

During Trump's re-election campaign, a photograph featuring Vice President Mike Pence, Trump, Esper, and Milley, was used in one of Trump's political ads. Defense officials said that the image was used without Milley's knowledge and consent and that the ad was later removed "ahead of time."

St. John's Church incident

On June 1, 2020, during the protests in Washington, D.C., following the murder of George Floyd, Milley, in combat uniform, walked with the president from the White House across Lafayette Square to St. John's Episcopal Church about half an hour after federal officers and police had used tear gas and other riot control tactics to disperse protestors, drawing sharp criticism from former military officers and others.

According to *Peril*, Milley attended the walk in combat fatigues as he had been summoned away at short notice from a planned visit to an FBI operations center, and immediately departed once he and Esper realized the political implications of the walk, saying that he felt "sick" and was "fucking done with this shit" to Esper. As a result, Milley was not present for Trump's photo op at St. John's Church. The House Armed Services Committee subsequently requested that Esper and Milley testify before the committee about the military's role in the George Floyd protests, which they did on July 9.

Unsent resignation letter

Milley reportedly considered resigning over the incident in front of the St. John's Church, going so far as to draft a highly critical resignation letter to President Trump, but then deciding against handing the letter over to him. The resignation letter draft was later published in 2022. At the last minute before submitting the resignation letter to the president, Milley opted against resignation and instead apologized for his presence at the St. John's Church incident in a video recorded as his commencement address at the National Defense University on June 11. At the commencement speech he explained that he should not have been at the event because his presence created a perception of military involvement in domestic politics.

Following the 2020 elections

After losing his bid for reelection in November 2020, Trump and his allies made attempts to overturn the 2020 United States presidential election, presaging the January 6 attack. According to *I Alone Can Fix It*, a July 2021 book by *The Washington Post* reporters Philip Rucker and Carol Leonnig, Milley became concerned Trump was preparing to stage a coup, and held informal discussions with his deputies about possible ways to thwart it, telling associates: "They may try, but they're not going to fucking succeed. You can't do this without the military. You can't do this without the CIA and the FBI. We're the guys with the guns."

Rucker and Leonnig's book also quoted Milley as saying "this is a Reichstag moment", comparing Trump's attempts to overturn the election to the event used to cement Nazi Germany and referring to Trump's false statements about electoral fraud as "the gospel of the Führer". Milley reportedly told police and military officials preparing to secure Joe Biden's presidential inauguration: "Everyone in this room, whether you're a cop, whether you're a soldier, we're going to stop these guys to make sure we have a peaceful transfer of power. We're going to put a ring of steel around this city and the Nazis aren't getting in." Trump later said that he had not threatened or spoken about a coup and falsely claimed that Obama had fired Milley.

On January 12, 2021, Milley and the Joint Chiefs of Staff issued a statement condemning the storming of the U.S. Capitol by supporters of Trump and reminding all service members of their obligation to support and defend the Constitution and reject extremism. They said: "As we have done throughout our history, the U.S. military will obey lawful orders from civilian leadership, support civilian authorities to protect lives and property, ensure public safety in accordance with the law, and remain fully committed to protecting and defending the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

In an interview on April 2, Milley said that the military reaction and response were "sprint speed" and "super fast". Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi said from her personal experience that was not the case, and called for a commission to find the truth.

Calls with Chinese general

According to a September 2021 *Axios* report, in mid-2020 Pentagon officials were concerned about the Chinese having received bad intelligence from dubious sources that had them worried about a possible surprise U.S. strike against China. In a report released in November 2021, the Pentagon confirmed these Chinese worries and that Esper had directed Milley and the deputy assistant defense secretary for China Chad Sbragia in mid-October to reassure their Chinese counterparts that the U.S. "had no intention of instigating a military crisis against China." Milley called his Chinese counterpart on October 30.

In Woodward and Costa's book *Peril*, the authors wrote that on October 30, 2020, four days before the U.S. presidential election day, Milley called his counterpart in China, General Li Zuocheng, quoting Milley as saying: "I want to assure you that the American government is stable and everything is going to be okay ... We are not going to attack or conduct any kinetic operations against you ... If we're going to attack, I'm going to call you ahead of time. It's not going to be a surprise." The authors wrote that Milley again called Li in January 2021, two days after the 2021 United States Capitol attack, quoting Milley as saying: "Things may look unsteady... But that's the nature of democracy... We are 100 percent steady. Everything's fine. But democracy can be sloppy sometimes." Unnamed defense department officials said Sbragia had called his Chinese counterpart two days earlier, with the authorization of then-acting secretary of defense Christopher C. Miller. One briefed on Milley's call said that it was "implausible that (Milley's call) would have been done without" Sbragia's knowledge.

Both calls were by video conference where fifteen people were present, including a State Department representative and notetakers. CNN reported that Milley consulted with Esper in conducting the October call. *Politico* reported that a former senior defense official said Milley asked Miller for permission to make the January call, and that Miller said Milley "almost certainly" informed him about making the call, but he did not recall receiving a detailed readout afterwards. On the same day, Miller told Fox News that he did not authorize the call and called for Milley to resign or be fired, stating, "If the reporting in Woodward's book is accurate it represents a disgraceful and unprecedented act of insubordination by the Nation's top military officer."

Two days later he told CNN that "he likely would not have been informed of such routine engagements that either his office or Milley would have had with China" and that he was criticizing the call in October, not the one in January. At a congressional hearing on September 28, 2021, Milley testified that both calls were coordinated with the staffs of Esper and Miller both before and after they were made. *The Wall Street Journal* reported Pentagon officials said Miller had been apprised of the call. Milley's spokesman stated, "All calls from the Chairman to his counterparts, including those reported, are staffed, coordinated and communicated with the Department of Defense and the interagency."

Milley stated that the calls were "routine calls ... in order to ensure strategic stability" and "perfectly within the duties and responsibilities of the chairman." In hearings before the Senate and House Armed Services committees on September 28 and 29, respectively, Milley said he did not intend to undermine Trump with the calls, adding that he "was

communicating to my Chinese counterpart on instructions, by the way, to de-escalate the situation" and that Trump "has no intent to attack and I told [General Li] that repeatedly." After the January 6 storming of the U.S. Capitol, Milley also spoke to other military leaders around the world, including in the United Kingdom, to reassure them "that the U.S. government was strong and in control."

Meeting on nuclear launch procedure

Woodward and Costa also wrote that after the attack on the Capitol, Milley became concerned Trump might "go rogue," telling staff "You never know what a president's trigger point is." According to the book, he took extraordinary action to protect national security by insisting he be personally consulted about any military action orders by Trump, including the use of nuclear weapons, and instructed the directors of the CIA and NSA to be particularly attentive to developments. This was perceived by some former officials and outside analysts as "inserting himself inappropriately into the chain of command." On January 8, Milley assured House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) in a call that "the nuclear triggers are secure and we're not going to do — we're not going to allow anything crazy, illegal, immoral, or unethical to happen."

Additional actions

Milley's reported comments and actions drew criticism from multiple Republicans. Trump described Woodward and Costa's reporting as "fake news" and "fabricated," stating that he "never even thought of attacking China." Trump also said that if the reporting was true, then Trump believed Milley should be "tried for treason" for talking to Li "behind the President's back and telling China that he would be giving them notification" of an American attack.

Senate Intelligence Committee ranking member Marco Rubio called on Biden to fire Milley, stating that Milley had undermined "the sitting commander in chief" and "contemplated a treasonous leak of classified information to the Chinese Communist Party in advance of a potential armed conflict with the People's Republic of China." Many Republicans accused Milley of treason and called for his resignation, firing, or court-martial. Alexander Vindman said that Milley needed to resign if it was true that he broke the chain of command. Twenty-seven House Republicans, all members of the Freedom Caucus, wrote to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin demanding an Army Regulation 15-6 investigation into Milley's actions and for Milley's security clearance to be suspended.

Historian and Brookings Institution senior fellow Max Boot, a critic of Trump, wrote that "Milley had no choice but to do what he did." He also wrote that "Trump, Rubio and all the rest of the rabid partisans who accused a decorated combat veteran of treason based on a hasty misreading of a book excerpt" needed to retract their statements and apologize.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said that Biden had worked closely with Milley and considered him to be a patriot. Pentagon spokesperson John Kirby stated that Milley had the trust and confidence of Austin.

Senate Judiciary Committee chair Dick Durbin (D-Illinois) said that he had "no concerns that Milley might have exceeded his authority" and that Democratic lawmakers "were circumspect in our language but many of us made it clear that we were counting on him to avoid the disaster which we knew could happen at any moment." Biden later said he had "great confidence" in Milley. Senator Angus King stated that Milley had "rendered the country a significant service", and U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services chair Jack Reed told reporters that "de-escalating international tensions was part of Milley's job." Former United Nations ambassador and Trump national security advisor John Bolton defended Milley as a "staunch supporter of the Constitution and the rule of law."

Biden administration

Upon the inauguration of Joe Biden as president in January 2021 Milley was invited to remain in his position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and accepted the offer. He ceremonially relinquished office as chairman to General Charles Q. Brown Jr. on September 29, 2023, and his term officially ended on September 30.

In June 2021, a report from an Associated Press investigation found that at least 1,900 U.S. military firearms were recorded as lost or stolen in the last 10 years, most of them by the U.S. Army. Some of them were later used in violent crimes; in one case, stolen automatic rifles were sold to a California street gang. Reports say that when Milley learned of the scandal, he was shocked, and stated he would consider a more systematic fix on how the military keeps track of its firearms. However, some claim that Milley actually downplayed the report of 1,900 lost or stolen military firearms.

In November 2022, Milley urged Russia and Ukraine to find a "political solution" to the Russo-Ukrainian War, saying that the war in Ukraine is unwinnable by purely military means. In February 2023, Milley said that Russia had lost "strategically, operationally and tactically" and that it was "paying an enormous price on the battlefield" in Ukraine.

Evaluations of earlier performance

As with numerous other former Trump officials, after Trump's time in office, several articles and books were then written and published that evaluated the various merits and risks involved with Milley's relationship with, and work under former president Trump.]

Defense of non-partisan military

On June 30, 2021, Trump suggested that Milley should resign, implying that he was unwilling "to defend [the US military] from the Leftist Radicals who hate [the United States] and [its flag]." This came after Milley's defense of studying a broad range of ideas including "critical race theory" and news reports that Milley and Trump engaged in a shouting match over

military involvement in the 2020–2021 US race protests. Trump previously denied the incident and accused Milley of falsifying it.

On June 23, 2021, Milley attracted notice for telling Florida Republican Congressman Matt Gaetz that he found it "offensive" that the U.S. military was being characterized as "woke" for including "critical race theory" in its West Point curriculum and that he wanted "to understand white rage – and I'm white. What is it that caused thousands of people to assault this building and try to overturn the Constitution of the United States of America?"

In their September 2021 book, *Peril*, *Washington Post* reporters Bob Woodward and Robert Costa wrote that after the election Milley had become aware of a Trump military order to withdraw all troops from Afghanistan by January 15, 2021, which had been written by two Trump loyalists without consultation with national security officials. The authors reported that after Trump refused to concede his election loss, CIA director Gina Haspel told Milley, "We are on the way to a right-wing coup" and was worried Trump might attack Iran. In remarks before the Senate Armed Services Committee on September 28, Milley denied that he agreed in a call with Nancy Pelosi that Trump was "crazy" as stated in the book, stating that he was "not qualified to determine the mental health of the president of the United States."

Threats to life by Trump

In September 2023, in a post on Truth Social, Donald Trump stated Milley's authorized call to reassure Chinese authorities of the nation's stability following the January 6 United States Capitol attack was "an act so egregious that, in times gone by, the punishment would have been DEATH." In response to the threat, Milley stated, "I'll take appropriate measures to ensure my safety and the safety of my family."

Withdrawal from Afghanistan

In December 2020, Milley met with the Taliban in Doha in an effort to arrange peace talks between the Taliban and the Afghan government. Milley believed that U.S. troops should remain in Afghanistan to prevent another terrorist attack like the September 11 attacks. Nearly a year after the withdrawal of U.S. troops began, the Taliban launched an offensive against the Afghan government, quickly advancing in front of a collapsing Afghan Armed Forces. U.S. intelligence believed that the Afghan government would likely collapse within six months after the withdrawal of NATO troops from the country. On July 21, 2021, Milley reported that half of all districts in Afghanistan were under Taliban control and that momentum was "sort of" on the side of the Taliban. Kabul was captured by the Taliban on August 15, 2021, prompting an international airlift of civilians at Kabul International Airport, which remained under temporary U.S. and NATO control. On August 26, 2021, following the suicide bombing at Kabul Airport that led to the death of 183 people, including 13 U.S. service members, Republican Senators and members of the House called for the resignation of President Biden, Vice President Harris, Secretary of State Blinken, Defense Secretary Austin, and Milley. In late September 2021, Milley, at hearings before both the Senate and House Armed Services Committees said that the withdrawal from Afghanistan and evacuation from Kabul was "a logistical success but a strategic failure". He rejected demands from Republican committee members to resign.

Operational deployments

Milley has deployed for various military operations, including:

- Multinational Force and Observers, Sinai, Egypt
- Operation Just Cause, Panama
- Operation Uphold Democracy, Haiti
- Operation Joint Endeavor, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq
- Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan

Service summary

Promotions

Insignia	Rank	Date
	Second lieutenant	June 10, 1980
	First lieutenant	November 28, 1981
	Captain	March 1, 1984
	Major	May 1, 1992
	Lieutenant colonel	August 1, 1996
	Colonel	April 1, 2002
	Brigadier general	June 2, 2008
	Major general	March 2, 2011
	Lieutenant general	December 20, 2012
	General	August 15, 2014

Summary of assignments

Begin	End	Assignment	Duty station
1999	2000	Student, United States Naval War College	Newport, Rhode Island
2000	2002	Assistant Chief of Staff (G3), later Chief of Staff, 25th Infantry Division (Light)	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
2002	2002	Commander, US Provisional Brigade/Task Force Eagle, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Multinational Division (North)	Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina
2002	2003	Deputy Chief of Staff for Transformation (G-7), 25th Infantry Division (Light)	Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
2003	2005	Commander, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light)	Fort Drum, New York
2005	2006	Chief, Global Force Management Division, later Assistant Deputy Director for Joint Operations (J-3), Joint Staff	The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
2006	2007	Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Office of the Secretary of Defense	The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
July 2007	June 2009	Deputy Commanding General (Operations), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)	Fort Campbell, Kentucky
June 2009	November 2011	Deputy Director for Regional Operations (J-3), Joint Staff	The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
November 4, 2011 ^[171]	December 3, 2012	Commanding General, 10th Mountain Division (Light)	Fort Drum, New York
December 20, 2012	August 2014	Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood; concurrently Commander, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command and Deputy Commander, United States Forces-Afghanistan	Fort Hood, Texas
August 15, 2014	August 10, 2015	Commanding General, United States Army Forces Command	Fort Bragg, North Carolina
August 14, 2015	August 9, 2019	Chief of Staff of the United States Army	The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
October 1, 2019	September 30, 2023	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

Civilian career

Milley joined the faculties of Georgetown University] and Princeton University] in February 2024. At Georgetown, he will mentor students as a distinguished fellow in residence with the Security Studies Program in the School of Foreign Service. The Princeton School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) appointed him the Charles and Marie Robertson visiting professor and lecturer from February 2024 until June 2025. He also became a senior adviser to JPMorgan Chase bank and joined the Harry Walker Agency, a speakers' agency.

Personal life

Milley and Hollyanne Haas (born January 19, 1965) were married in May 1985. They have two children. Hollyanne is a nurse who worked in critical care for 18 years and then in cardiac nursing for 15, currently in Northern Virginia. At the 2020 Veterans Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, she administered CPR to a veteran who had collapsed, saving his life.



Awards and decorations

Defense Distinguished Service Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters



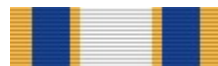
Army Distinguished Service Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters



Navy Distinguished Service Medal



Air Force Distinguished Service Medal



Defense superior Service Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters



Legion of Merit with 2 oak leaf clusters



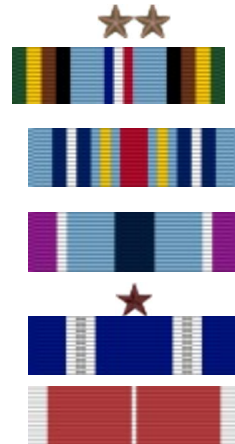
Bronze Star Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters



Meritorious service Medal with silver oak leaf cluster



Army Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster



Army Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

National Defense Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters

Afghanistan Campaign Medal With 3 oak leaf clusters

Iraq Campaign Medal with oak leaf cluster

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters

Korea Defense Medal

Humanitarian Defense Medal

Army Service Ribbon

Army Overseas Service Ribbon Numeral 6

NATO (Non-Article 5) Medal

Multinational Force Observers Medal

Commander French National Order of Merit

Honorary Knight Commander Order of the British Empire (KBE)

Citations to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military Division) MSC

To FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICERS

VANHERCK, Glen David

General - United States Air Force

Commander of the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD)

MSC

American Citizen

Honours book: 2023

GH:

DOI: 2019 to 2023



“As commander of North American Aerospace Defence Command from 2020 to 2023, General VanHerck demonstrated leadership and strategic understanding of the complex security environment for North America, which was critical to successfully advancing institutional priorities and NORAD capabilities. His global integration efforts to extend from regionally focused abilities to globally integrated approaches to deterrence have strengthened NORAD. General VanHerck’s vision resulted in major enhancements to the Command’s aerospace warning, control and maritime warning mission success, which are invaluable to Canada’s security and defence.”

Glen David VanHerck (born October 20, 1962) was a United States Air Force general who last served as the commander of United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command from 2020 to 2024. He previously served as Director of the Joint Staff from 2019 to 2020.

VanHerck is sworn in by chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark A. Milley, as commander of NORAD and USNORTHCOM in a change of command ceremony on August 20, 2020. VanHerck provides remarks at the 9/11 20th anniversary commemoration ceremony at Peterson Space Force Base on September 11, 2021. VanHerck with Canadian Defense

Minister Anita Anand, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin at U.S. Northern Command headquarters on June 7, 2022

VanHerck was born in Murray, Kentucky, and raised in Bismarck, Missouri. He graduated from the University of Missouri, where he was commissioned through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1987.

EDUCATION

1987 Bachelor of Science, General Studies, University of Missouri, Columbia

1995 Squadron Officers School, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

1999 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence

2000 Master of Science, Aviation Safety/Management, University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg

2005 Air War College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence

2008 Master of Arts, National Security and Strategy, Naval War College, Newport Naval Station, R.I.
2008 Naval War College, Newport, R.I.
2009 U.S. Air Force Executive Leadership Seminar, Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, Charlottesville
2014 Combined Force Air Component Commanders Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2015 Cyberspace Operations Executive Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2015 Joint Flag Officer Warfighting Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2016 Joint Senior Information Operations Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. January 1988–January 1989, Undergraduate Pilot Training, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.
2. February 1989–May 1989, Student, Lead-in-Fighter Training, Holloman AFB, N.M.
3. June 1989–November 1989, Student, F-15C Replacement Training, Tyndall AFB, Fla.
4. November 1989–December 1993, F-15C Aircraft Commander, Mission Commander, Instructor Pilot, Flight Examiner, 44th Fighter Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan
5. January 1994–June 1994, Student, U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
6. July 1994–May 1997, Chief, Weapons and Tactics, Flight Commander, Assistant Director of Operations, 94th Fighter Squadron, Langley AFB, Va.
7. May 1997–July 1998, F-15C Instructor Pilot, Chief of Safety, U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
8. August 1998–March 2001, Assistant Director of Operations, 393rd Bomb Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
9. April 2001–December 2001, Director of Operations, 325th Bomb Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
10. January 2002–July 2004, B-2 Program Element Monitor, Chief, Air Combat Command Senior Officer Management, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, Va.
11. July 2004–December 2004, B-2 Requalification Training, 394th Combat Training Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
12. January 2005–January 2007, Commander, 325th Weapons Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
13. January 2007–July 2007, Deputy Commander, 509th Operations Group, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
14. August 2007–June 2008, Student, U.S. Naval War College, Newport Naval Station, R.I.
15. July 2008–August 2008, Student, T-6A Pilot Instructor Training, 559th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas
16. September 2008–January 2010, Commander, 71st Operations Group, Vance AFB, Okla.
17. January 2010–June 2010, Vice Commander, 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance AFB, Okla.
18. June 2010–June 2012, Director, Plans and Integration, Joint Functional Component Command for Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.
19. July 2012–February 2014, Commander, 7th Bomb Wing, Dyess AFB, Texas
20. February 2014–June 2015, Commander, 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
21. June 2015–March 2016, Director, Operations, Headquarters Air Force Global Strike Command, Barksdale AFB, La.
22. March 2016–July 2017, Commander, U.S. Air Force Warfare Center, Nellis AFB, Nev.
23. July 2017–August 2018, Vice Director, Strategy Plans and Policy (J5), Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
24. August 2018–September 2019, Vice Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
25. September 2019–August 2020, Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
26. August 2020–February 2024, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, Colorado Springs, Colo.

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2010–June 2012, Director, Plans and Integration, Joint Functional Component Command for Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., as a colonel
2. July 2017–August 2018, Vice Director, Strategy, Plans, and Policy (J5), Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a major general
3. August 2018–September 2019, Vice Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a major general
4. September 2019–August 2020, Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a lieutenant general
5. August 2020–February 2024, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, Colorado Springs, Colo. as a general

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: command pilot

Flight hours: more than 3,200

Aircraft flown: T-1A, T-6A, T-37, T-38A, A/T-38B, T-38C, F-15A/B/C/D, F-35A, B-1B and B-2A

Awards and decorations



US Air Force Command Pilot Badge Northern Command Badge




























Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge United States



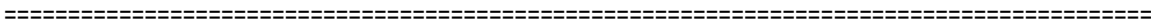
North American Aerospace Defense Command Badge

Honours and Medals awarded

-  Defense Distinguished Service Medal
-  Air Force Distinguished Service Medal
-  Defense Superior Service Medal
-  Legion of Merit with two bronze oak leaf clusters
-  Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters
-  Air Medal
-  Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
-  Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster
-  Joint Service Achievement Medal
-  Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
-  Joint Meritorious Unit Award with oak leaf cluster
-  Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters
-  Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with oak leaf cluster
-  Combat Readiness Medal
-  National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star
-  Southwest Asia Service Medal with service star
-  Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
-  Armed Forces Service Medal
-  Air and Space Campaign Medal
-  Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
-  Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon
-  Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon
-  Air Force Longevity Service Award with one silver and two bronze oak leaf clusters
-  Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon
-  Air Force Training Ribbon
-  Meritorious Service Cross (Canada)

Effective dates of promotion

Insignia	Rank	Date
	General	August 20, 2020
	Lieutenant General	September 27, 2019
	Major General	May 13, 2016
	Brigadier General	September 2, 2013
	Colonel	September 1, 2007
	Lieutenant Colonel	February 1, 2003
	Major	August 1, 1998
	Captain	September 16, 1991
	First Lieutenant	September 16, 1989
	Second Lieutenant	September 16, 1987



Citations to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military Division) MSC

To FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICERS

BERRIER, Scott David
Lieutenant-General - United States Army
Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency

AO MSC
American Citizen

CG: 30 March 2024
GH:
DOI: 2020 to 2024



Scott David Berrier was a lieutenant general in the United States Army who served as the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency from 2020 to 2024. Berrier was confirmed by the United States Senate as the 22nd Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency on July 30, 2020, replacing the retiring Lieutenant General Robert P. Ashley Jr. He previously served as the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army G-2 (intelligence). He received his officer's commission in 1983 through the ROTC program at the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point.

Education

Berrier holds a Bachelor of Science in History from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, a Master of Science in General Studies from Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, Michigan, and a Master of Science in Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.^[1]

Military career

Operational deployments



- Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, International Security Assistance Force (later Resolute Support) North Atlantic Treaty Organization; deputy director, J-2, United States Forces-Afghanistan, Operation Enduring Freedom and Freedom Sentinel.
- Intelligence Officer, CJ-2, United States Forces-Iraq, Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Director of Intelligence, CJ-2, Combined Task Force-76, Operation Enduring Freedom
- Commander, 110th Military Intelligence Battalion, 10th Mountain Division (Light); Director of Intelligence, CJ-2, Combined Joint TaskForce-180, Operation Enduring Freedom
- Director of Intelligence, J-2, Special Operations Command Central, Operation Enduring Freedom in Qatar.

Lieutenant General Scott D. Berrier






















Personal life

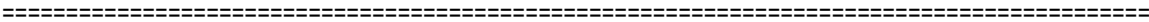
Scott David Berrier is divorced, and he has two sons by the names Cole and Connor.

Dates of rank

Rank	Date
 Second lieutenant	May 25, 1983
 First lieutenant	March 24, 1986
 Captain	February 1, 1989
 Major	February 1, 1996
 Lieutenant colonel	May 1, 2001
 Colonel	February 1, 2006
 Brigadier general	September 3, 2011
 Major general	March 2, 2014
 Lieutenant general	January 30, 2018

Awards and decorations

-  Army Distinguished Service Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster
-  Defense Superior Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
-  Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster
-  Bronze Star Medal with one oak leaf cluster
-  Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
-  Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters
-  Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster
-  Joint Service Achievement Medal
-  Army Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
-  National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star
-  Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
-  Afghanistan Campaign Medal with three service stars
-  Iraq Campaign Medal
-  Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
-  Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
-  Korea Defense Service Medal
-  Armed Forces Reserve Medal
-  Army Service Ribbon
-  Army Overseas Service Ribbon with bronze award numeral 6
-  NATO Medal for service with ISAF
-  Honorary Officer of the Order of Australia, Military Division



Citations to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military Division) MSC

To FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICERS

VanHERCK, Glen David MSC CG: 30 March 2024
General - United States Air Force American Citizen GH:
Commander, United States Northern Command and NORAD - USNORTHCOM DOI: August 2020 to February 2024

“As commander of North American Aerospace Defence Command from 2020 to 2023, General VanHerck demonstrated leadership and strategic understanding of the complex security environment for North America, which was critical to successfully advancing institutional priorities and NORAD capabilities. His global integration efforts to extend from regionally focused abilities to globally integrated approaches to deterrence have strengthened NORAD. General VanHerck’s vision resulted in major enhancements to the Command’s aerospace warning, control and maritime warning mission success, which are invaluable to Canada’s security and defence.”

General Glen David VANHERCK, MSC
Commander, United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command.
USNORTHCOM



Gen. Glen D. VanHerck is Commander, United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command. USNORTHCOM conducts homeland defense, civil support and security cooperation to defend and secure the United States and its interests. NORAD conducts aerospace warning, aerospace control and maritime warning in the defense of North America.

Gen. VanHerck is a graduate of the University of Missouri and commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He has a diverse background that includes operational and training assignments in the F-15C Eagle, F-35A Lighting II, B-2A Spirit and B-1B Lancer aircraft. He has served as an instructor pilot and flight examiner in the F-15C, B-2A and T-6A Texan II. Additionally, he served as a U.S. Air Force Weapons School instructor in the F-15C and the B-2A.

He has commanded at the squadron, group and twice at the wing level, including the 325th Weapons Squadron, the 71st Operations Group, the 7th Bomb Wing and the 509th Bomb Wing. As a major general, he commanded the U.S. Air Force Warfare Center. His staff assignments include tours as the B-2 Program Element

Monitor at Headquarters Air Combat Command, the Director of Operations at Headquarters Air Force Global Strike Command, the Director of Plans and Integration at U.S. Strategic Command, the Vice Director of Strategy, Plans and Policy (J5) at the Joint Staff, and the Vice Director of the Joint Staff.

Prior to his current assignment, Gen. VanHerck was the Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Virginia. In this role, he assisted the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in his role as advisor to the President and Secretary of Defense, coordinated and directed the activities of the Joint Staff in support of the Chairman and served as the Staff Inspector General.

EDUCATION

1987 Bachelor of Science, General Studies, University of Missouri, Columbia
1995 Squadron Officers School, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.
1999 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
2000 Master of Science, Aviation Safety/Management, University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg
2005 Air War College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
2008 Master of Arts, National Security and Strategy, Naval War College, Newport Naval Station, R.I.
2008 Naval War College, Newport, R.I.
2009 U.S. Air Force Executive Leadership Seminar, Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, Charlottesville
2014 Combined Force Air Component Commanders Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2015 Cyberspace Operations Executive Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2015 Joint Flag Officer Warfighting Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
2016 Joint Senior Information Operations Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

ASSIGNMENTS








1. January 1988–January 1989, Undergraduate Pilot Training, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.
2. February 1989–May 1989, Student, Lead-in-Fighter Training, Holloman AFB, N.M.
3. June 1989–November 1989, Student, F-15C Replacement Training, Tyndall AFB, Fla.
4. November 1989–December 1993, F-15C Aircraft Commander, Mission Commander, Instructor Pilot, Flight Examiner, 44th Fighter Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan
5. January 1994–June 1994, Student, U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
6. July 1994–May 1997, Chief, Weapons and Tactics, Flight Commander, Assistant Director of Operations, 94th Fighter Squadron, Langley AFB, Va.
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10. January 2002–July 2004, B-2 Program Element Monitor, Chief, Air Combat Command Senior Officer Management, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, Va.
11. July 2004–December 2004, B-2 Requalification Training, 394th Combat Training Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
12. January 2005–January 2007, Commander, 325th Weapons Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
13. January 2007–July 2007, Deputy Commander, 509th Operations Group, Whiteman AFB, Mo.
14. August 2007–June 2008, Student, U.S. Naval War College, Newport Naval Station, R.I.
15. July 2008–August 2008, Student, T-6A Pilot Instructor Training, 559th Flying Training Squadron, Randolph AFB, Texas
16. September 2008–January 2010, Commander, 71st Operations Group, Vance AFB, Okla.
17. January 2010–June 2010, Vice Commander, 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance AFB, Okla.
18. June 2010–June 2012, Director, Plans and Integration, Joint Functional Component Command for Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB, Neb.
19. July 2012–February 2014, Commander, 7th Bomb Wing, Dyess AFB, Texas
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22. March 2016–July 2017, Commander, U.S. Air Force Warfare Center, Nellis AFB, Nev.
23. July 2017–August 2018, Vice Director, Strategy Plans and Policy (J5), Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
24. August 2018–September 2019, Vice Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
25. September 2019–August 2020, Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.
26. August 2020–February 2024, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, Colorado Springs, Colo.

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 2010–June 2012, Director, Plans and Integration, Joint Functional Component Command for Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., as a colonel
2. July 2017–August 2018, Vice Director, Strategy, Plans, and Policy (J5), Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a major general
3. August 2018–September 2019, Vice Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a major general
4. September 2019–August 2020, Director, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va., as a lieutenant general
5. August 2020–February 2024, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, Colorado Springs, Colo. as a General.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command pilot
 Flight hours: More than 3,200
 Aircraft flown: T-1A, T-6A, T-37, T-38A, A/T-38B, T-38C, F-15A/B/C/D, F-35A, B-1B and B-2A

Insignia	Effective dates of promotion Rank	Date
	<u>General</u>	August 20, 2020
	<u>Lieutenant General</u>	September 27, 2019
	<u>Major General</u>	May 13, 2016
	<u>Brigadier General</u>	September 2, 2013
	<u>Colonel</u>	September 1, 2007
	<u>Lieutenant Colonel</u>	February 1, 2003
	<u>Major</u>	August 1, 1998
	<u>Captain</u>	September 16, 1991
	<u>First Lieutenant</u>	September 16, 1989
	<u>Second Lieutenant</u>	September 16, 1987

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
 Distinguished Service Medal (Air Force)
 Defense Superior Service Medal
 Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters
 Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters
 Air Medal
 Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
 Joint Service Commendation Medal
 Air and Space Commendation Medal
 Air and Space Achievement Medal
 Military Distinction Award (Government of Mexico Award)
 Meritorious Service Cross (Government of Canada Award)



	Defense Distinguished Service Medal
	Air Force Distinguished Service Medal
	Defense Superior Service Medal
	Legion of Merit with two bronze oak leaf clusters
	Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters
	Air Medal
	Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
	Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster
	Joint Service Achievement Medal
	Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
	Joint Meritorious Unit Award with oak leaf cluster
	Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters
	Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with oak leaf cluster
	Combat Readiness Medal
	National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star
	Southwest Asia Service Medal with service star
	Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
	Armed Forces Service Medal
	Air and Space Campaign Medal
	Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with oak leaf cluster
	Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon
	Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon
	Air Force Longevity Service Award with one silver and two bronze oak leaf clusters
	Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon
	Air Force Training Ribbon

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Citations to the MERITORIOUS SERVICE CROSS (Military Division) MSC

To FOREIGN MILITARY OFFICERS

GAUGERS, Sandris

Colonel – Latvian National Army
Commander Latvian Land Forces Mechanized Infantry Brigade

MSC
Latvian Citizen

CG: 30 March 2024
GH:
DOI: December 2018 to 2024

**Colonel Sandris GAUGERS, MSC
Commander Latvian Land Forces Mechanized Infantry Brigade**



Colonel Sandris Gaugers was born in 1973 in Aloja a town in Northern Latvia. He joined the Latvian Armed Forces as an NCO in 1992, and served in various NCO positions at the squad and platoon level. In 1998 he completed his Infantry Officer training in the United States of America, and upon his return commanded a rifle platoon and then an anti-tank platoon in the Baltic Peace Keeping Battalion. In 2000 he moved to the position of Training Officer in the Latvian Land Forces 1st Infantry battalion, and then in 2003 became a company commander in that same unit. In 2005, following his company command, he was tasked as the Exercise Planning Officer in the Training and Exercise Branch of the Armed Forces Joint Headquarters.

In 2007 he was selected to command the Latvian NCO Academy in Cesis, Latvia. In 2013, Colonel Gaugers and his family moved to the Netherlands, where he was employed as a staff officer in the J7 Training and Exercise Branch of the Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum where he was Co-OPR for the Trident Juncture 2015 LIVEX In 2016 he returned to Latvia and was employed as the Mobilization and Recruitment Branch head in Armed Forces Joint Headquarters, before being selected to command the Zemessardze

(National Guard) 1st Brigade Riga in November of 2017. That command was short lived however, as he was selected for his current position, the Commander of the Latvian Land Forces Mechanized Infantry Brigade in December of 2018.

Colonel Gaugers deployed to Bosnia in 1997 as a Rifle Platoon sergeant, and to Iraq in 2004 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a Rifle Company Commander. He holds a Degree in Political Science from the University of Latvia and has completed the Joint Command and General Staff Course at the Baltic Defense College in Tartu, Estonia.

Colonel Sandris Gaugers is a Bearer of the Order of Viesturs and has been awarded various Minister of Defence and Armed forces awards.

He is married to his wife Kristine and has two sons Edvards and Arturs. He enjoys playing tennis and a good long walk.

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