



EUROCORPS

A Force for the European Union and NATO



Major General Josef Blotz was born in Hadamar (Hessen) on 22 November 1956. In 1975, he joined the 42nd Infantry Battalion as an officer candidate. After officer training, he earned a masters degree in educational science at the University of German Armed Forces in Munich. Once graduated, he held several assignments in the 152nd Mechanized Infantry Battalion. Following his enrollment in the Army General Staff Officers Course at the Bundeswehr Command and Staff College in Hamburg, in 1989 he was posted to the Armed Forces Staff, Federal Ministry of Defense in Bonn. As a Lieutenant Colonel, he was named G3 Branch Chief in the 37th Mechanized Infantry Brigade and, following this assignment, desk officer Intelligence Division at SHAPE. From 1995 to 1997, he commanded the 581st Infantry Battalion in Berlin. Following further assignments in the Federal Ministry of Defense, he served as desk officer Operations at the Army Command of the German MOD. After spending 6 months as military assistant to the Chief of Staff SFOR Mission in Bosnia, he became Branch Chief Training and Exercise within the Joint HQ Southwest in Madrid, Spain. From 2000 to 2002, he was Branch Chief Operations with the German Army Forces Command, followed by a two-year assignment as Branch Chief, Planning and Capability Development in the German MOD. In 2004 and 2005, he took up an opportunity to study at the National Defense University in Washington DC, earning a Master's of Science in National Security Strategy. Blotz subsequently commanded the 30th Mechanized Infantry Brigade "Alb-Brigade" in Ellwangen and was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. Following an assignment as Commander Regional Command North in Afghanistan, he took over command of the German Infantry School in Hammelburg. He served throughout 2010 and 2011 as spokesperson for the ISAF Mission in Afghanistan and in 2011 assumed leadership of the Politico-Military Affairs Division at NATO HQ in Brussels. In 2013, he, promoted to Major General, became Director Operations at NATO HQ before transferring in 2016 to the German Joint Service Support Command, where he was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff Operations. Prior to his engagement to Eurocorps, Major General Blotz held the post of Senior Military Advisor, United Nations Support Mission in Libya.

Since 5 September 2019, Blotz is the Deputy Commander of Headquarters Eurocorps.

During his military career he participated in UN missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Libya, as well as several NATO-led missions in Afghanistan (Commander RC North, Mazar-i-Sharif, ISAF spokesperson, Kabul).

Major General Blotz has been awarded both national and international decorations. He is married and has two children.

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