



Special Operations Command Europe

Colonel Marc V. LaRoche, USA Deputy Commander

Colonel Marc LaRoche graduated from the U.S. Military Academy and received a Regular Army commission as an Armor officer in 1996. During his first assignment he served as a platoon leader and troop executive officer with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, where he deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of the NATO Stabilization Force mission.

After completing the Special Forces Qualification Course, he served three years with 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Böblingen, Germany where he deployed to several countries in Europe and Africa.

During a subsequent assignment with 10th Group he served as Group Plans Officer, Special Forces Company Commander and Group Operations Officer. In 2011, he assumed duties as Aide-de-Camp to the Commander and, later, as Deputy Operations Officer of the NATO Special Operations Headquarters in Mons, Belgium. COL LaRoche returned to 10th Group to command the 3rd Battalion; during this tour he also commanded a Multinational SOF Task Force in Afghanistan. Following command, he deployed as Deputy Operations Officer of the NATO Special Operations Component Command and Special Operations Joint Task Force – Afghanistan. His latest assignment was as the Commander of Special Operations Command (Forward) – Jordan.

COL LaRoche has completed deployments in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM, FREEDOM'S SENTINEL and INHERENT RESOLVE. While a Major, he served in the Headquarters, U.S. Army Staff at the Pentagon and completed a staff internship with a Subcommittee of the 109th U.S. Congress.

His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star, and Defense Meritorious Service Medal, among others. His decorations correspond to operations mentioned above. He has earned the Combat Infantryman Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Special Forces and Ranger Tabs, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Army Staff Badge.

As a U.S. Army War College Fellow, he attended the French Institute of Advanced National Defense Studies. He holds a Bachelor's degree in History from the U.S. Military Academy and a Master's degree in Public Policy Management from Georgetown University.

