

New Chief of Staff

Major General Luigi Pellegrino, took over the post on March 20, 2003.

He was born in Rome on 10th February 1949. He attended the 150th Military Academy Course and the "Scuola di Applicazione" in Turin from 1968 to 1972.

He later attended the 53rd NBC Officers course at the Joint NBC School, the 12th Orientation Course on International Organization by SIOI (Italian Society for International Organization), the 6th Basic Electronic Warfare Course at the Army Centre for Information and Electronic Defense, the Army War College courses (both basic and advanced), and the course on "Methodology and Techniques of Negotiation for Military Attaché to Diplomatic Missions" at the University of Trieste.

From 1973 to 1983 he served in the 4th Signal Battalion at the Corps level, in the "Centauro" Signal Battalion, in the "Acqui" Motorized Brigade, in the 11th "Leonessa" Signal Battalion and in the 10th "Lanciano" Signal Battalion. During this time he served successively as Platoon Commander, Operations Officer, Company Commander, Chief of Operations and Training section and Regiment Adjutant.

Following the earthquake of November 23, 1980 in Campania and Basilicata, he was the Detachment Commander in charge of Rescue Operations for seven months.

From 1989 to 1990 he commanded the 4th "Gardena" Signal Battalion and from 1993 to 1995 the 11th Signal Regiment.

Having completed the General Staff Officer Courses, from 1987 to 1989 he was Staff Officer in the Research and Study Office at the Army General Staff, from 1990 to 1993 Section Chief in the Co-ordination Office of the Defense Chief of Staff's General Office and from 1995 to 1998 Military, Naval and Air Attaché to the

Italian Embassy in Jordan.

He held the post of Deputy Commander and Chief of Training at the Signal School from 1998 to 1999 and

thereafter on October 8th 1999 he was appointed Deputy Inspector for the Signal Service and Commander of the Signal and Information School in Rome. While performing this appointment he also assumed duties as Assistant Chief Of Staff, Support in KFOR-4 HQ in Pristina, Kosovo, from October 2000 to April 2001. Afterwards, he returned to Rome to resume his primary assignment until 19th March 2003.

On 20th March 2003 he was appointed Chief of Staff of NATO Rapid Deployable Corps - Italy.

Maj. Gen. Pellegrino's decorations include: Knight's Cross of the Italian Republic Order of Merit, Mauriziana medal, Medal for Long Command Service, Long Service Gold Cross, Campania Rescue Operation Medal and NATO Kosovo Medal.



Maj. Gen. Pellegrino is married to Patrizia and they have two daughters, Alessia and Nadia.

