



Royal Netherlands Navy

Major General RNLMC F.V. van Sprang Deputy Commander Royal Netherlands Navy

Major General (Marine Corps) Frank van Sprang was born in Tilburg in 1962. He started his military career at the Royal Netherlands Naval College in 1982. After completing the International Security Studies course at the College, he followed the Officer Frogman course. He later attended the US Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico, United States and the Advanced Strategic Studies course at the Netherlands Defence College.

He fulfilled a number of postings with infantry battalions, alternating with postings as a specialist frogman with reconnaissance units in the Caribbean and with the Special Boat Service (SBS) within the UK/NL Landing Force. During his posting as Amphibious Operations Officer on board HNLMS Rotterdam, he took part in Operation Allied Harbour in Albania. He also took part in the UN mission in Cambodia (UNTAC) and was deployed to Afghanistan, where he was posted to ISAF Headquarters.

Outside operational postings, Van Sprang has worked as a lecturer in amphibious operations at the Royal Netherlands Naval College and held a number of administrative posts in the Royal Netherlands Navy Staff and the Defence Staff at the Ministry of Defence in The Hague. During his spell in these staffs, he was involved in the 2004 Helicopter Study, the 2004 Special Forces Study and the 2005 Navy Study.

In 2007, he assumed command of the First Marine Battalion. During his time in command, the unit took part in operations in Chad and Afghanistan. In 2009, he was first ap-



pointed Head of Management Control and later Head of the Integration Division at Navy Command. From May 2014 until March 2016 Brigadier General Van Sprang worked as Deputy Director of Operational Readiness.

On the 18th of March 2016 he was appointed as the Director of Naval Operations and Commandant General Netherlands Marine Corps. Since September 11, 2017 he holds the position of Deputy Commander of the Royal Netherlands Navy in the rank of Major General.