

**Afscheid en uitreiking gouverneurspenning generaal Miglietta,
Chateau St. Gerlach te Valkenburg, 10 juni 2025**

General (Guglielmo Luigi) Miglietta
Esteemed guests,
Ladies and gentleman,

It is my great honor and a true privilege to stand before you today
—not only to mark the conclusion of a distinguished military career,
but also to celebrate a special bond.

The bond between Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum and our beloved region of Limburg.

Over the past decades, JFC Brunssum has been a key pillar of international security;
But it has also come to represent much more than a military institution.

It has become a part of the colorful fabric of Limburg,
deeply entangled with our region's identity, heritage, people, and values.

Under your steadfast leadership, General, this headquarters has continued to thrive
— not only as a vital part of defense,
but also as a genuine partner and neighbor to our community.

You are committed to international cooperation and dedicated to fostering unity.
Thereby managing to impress everyone who has had the pleasure of working with you.
Both within your organization and far beyond.

At the same time, your efforts have further strengthened the base's connection to Limburg – helping it remain a reliable partner and an undeniable, welcome presence.

In our province as a whole, and in the Parkstad region in particular.

General, when you started this endeavor back in 2022, none of us could have foreseen the challenges that we face today —challenges that have the potential to undermine NATO's unity and effectiveness.

NATO's core—collective defense—proves to be more relevant than ever before
And yet we nevertheless find ourselves confronted by ongoing internal divisions.
Rising differences in defense spending,
Political polarization in key member states,
Different views on how to respond to external threats — all put real pressure on our
cohesion.

I am by no means trying to persuade you to stay on.
But as you step away from your outstanding military career, I must say:
the world needs men like you more than ever before.
Even so, your time outside of the limelight is more than well-deserved.
May this new chapter in your life bring you as much fulfilment and adventure as your
career surely has.

On behalf of the people of Limburg, I wish to express my immense gratitude
for your service, for your fortitude, vision, and for your authentic presence among us.

It is therefore my great pleasure to present you with the *Gouverneurspenning*, the
Governor's Insignia.

This insignia is my EXCEPTIONAL personal distinction as Governor of Limburg. I award it
to you in deep appreciation of your involvement with the community of Limburg as
Commander of Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum.

May it always remind you of your special connection to our beautiful province.

Would you please step forward to receive this distinction.