General Paratrooper Jacques de Montgros is the New Chief of Staff of the French Army

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General Jacques Langlade de Montgros is the new Chief of Staff of the French Army: a high-profile appointment that places at the helm of the transalpine land forces an officer known for his vast field experience and, in particular, for his solid background in paratrooper units.

Born in June 1969, General de Montgros officially assumed office on July 26, 2026, succeeding General Pierre Schill during the traditional change of command ceremony at the Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan schools.

A deeply dynamic imprint

The new chief of staff's connection to the paratrooper tradition and elite infantry represents the cornerstone of his operational career. Throughout his military career, de Montgros has inextricably linked his name to airborne troops, eventually commanding the prestigious **11th**

Parachute Brigade (*11e Brigade Parachutist*).

His training is reflected in his aptitude for rapid action and force projection, essential characteristics for French paratroop infantry units, historically engaged in the most complex operational theaters. His career also includes leading roles in the intelligence sector: prior to his appointment to the top of the army, he successfully led the Military Intelligence Directorate (DRM) starting in 2022, consolidating a comprehensive strategic vision that combines tactical field experience with the technological challenges of modern warfare.

Future challenges for the French Army

With Jacques de Montgros's rise to command, the land army aims to maintain a “vanguard pace” in the face of rapid changes in contemporary conflicts. His background in the paratrooper ranks ensures pragmatic leadership, oriented toward operational readiness and rapid adaptation capacity, elements considered crucial in the current European and international geopolitical scenario.