



Record-breaking Amaranto Berets, 5 Paratroopers Promoted to Major General: Mongillo, Bernacca, Vicari, Mandolesi, and Dello Monaco. Incursor Yuri Grossi Also Promoted. Paduano (Folgore) and Isoni (Col Moschin) New Brigadier Generals.

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The recent advancement of Major Generals and Brigadier Generals in the Italian Army marks a historic moment for the **Paratroopers of the Folgore** and, more generally, for the entire elite troops sector. A result that speaks clearly: **the Amaranto Berets are today one of the pillars of Italian military leadership.**

For the 174th course, among the **first five officers promoted to the rank of Major General**, there are **as many as five Paratroopers:**

- **Massimiliano Mongillo** (Commander 183rd Rgt. Nembo and Paratroopers Brigade Folgore 2023-2024)
- **Federico Bernacca** (Commander 186th Rgt. Folgore 2019-2021 and Paratroopers Brigade Folgore 2024-2025)
- **Andrea Vicari** (Commander 185th RAO Folgore 2018-2019 and COMFOSE 2023-2024)
- **Nicola Mandolesi** (Commander 187th Folgore 2019-2020 and **Brigade Pozzuolo del Fiuli** 2023-2025)
- **Gianluca Dello Monaco** (Commander 8th Sappers Folgore 2019-2021 and **Engineering Brigade** 2023-2025)

An unprecedented fact, certifying not only individual excellence but the solidity of a command school built on training, operational experience, and a culture of responsibility.

The Folgore at the Top of the Army

The presence of five Paratroopers in the top positions of the ranking **captures a specific outcome of this advancement**, matured within different and articulated professional paths. Promotions, as always, are the culmination of careers built on command assignments, increasing responsibilities, operational deployments, and multi-year evaluations, in a framework where **all components of the Army contribute** to the formation of leadership.

In this context, the Folgore, like other specialties and units, continues to provide the Institution with **officers with experience and profiles suitable** for higher-level functions, where planning, coordination, and management of complex organizations matter most, in addition to the operational dimension.

Incursores: Promotion for Yuri Grossi

For the Special Forces, in addition to Paratrooper Acquirer Andrea Vicari, there is another significant recognition: **Major General** has also been promoted to **Incursor Yuri Grossi**, former Commander of the 9th Col Moschin (2018-2021) of the Pinerolo Brigade (2024-2025).

An important signal that confirms how the experience gained in elite units is now considered central even in top roles.

New Brigadier Generals: Paduano and Isoni

The promotion framework is completed with the advancement to the rank of **Brigadier General** of two officers of absolute stature in the airborne troops and special forces:

- **Dario Paduano**, current **Commander of the Paratroopers Brigade Folgore** and former Commander of the 187th Rgt. Folgore (2022-2024)
- **Luigi Isoni**, Commander of the **9th Assault Paratroopers Regiment “Col Moschin”** (2021-2024)

A Strong Signal for the Future

These promotions represent much more than a simple career advancement.

For the Amaranto Berets and the Incursori, it is confirmation that **sacrifice, competence, and esprit de corps** are not just words, but become selection criteria at the highest levels.

A record that enters history and strengthens the strategic weight of the Folgore and Special Forces in the present and future of Italian Defense.