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Lieutenant General Michael V. Hayden, USAF

1999 - 2005

Lieutenant General Michael V. Hayden, USAF, became the Agency's 15th Director on 26 March 1999. Lieutenant Gen Hayden's previous assignment was Deputy Chief of Staff at the United Nations Command (UNC) and U.S. Forces Korea (USFK), both located at Yongsan Army Garrison, Republic of Korea. He served as the U.S. member of the UNC Military Armistice Commission, and helped direct, coordinate, and integrate the actions of the USFK joint and component commands.

Lieutenant Gen Hayden was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, where he earned both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in history. As a distinguished graduate of Duquesne's Reserve Officer Training Corps Program, he entered active duty in the Air Force in 1969. He began his career as an analyst and briefer at the Strategic Air Command Headquarters at Offutt AFB, Nebraska.

Later duty assignments included air attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Sofia, People's Republic of Bulgaria; Director for Defense Policy and Arms Control at the National Security Council in Washington, DC; Director of the Intelligence Directorate at the U.S. European Command Headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany; and Commander of the Air Intelligence Agency, and Director of the Joint Command and Control Warfare Center, at Kelly AFB, Texas.

Lieutenant Gen Hayden is a graduate of the Academic Instructor School, Defense Intelligence School, Air Command and Staff College, and the Air War College. His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Achievement Medal.

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After leaving NSA, he was appointed Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence (PDDNI) by President George W. Bush (on 21 April 2005). He is the first person to ever serve in this position. As the PDDNI, General Hayden became responsible for overseeing the day-to-day activities of the national intelligence program. With this appointment, General Hayden received his fourth star, making him the highest-ranking military intelligence officer in the Armed Forces.

In May 2006, General Hayden became the eighteenth Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and served in that position until January 2009. He retired from the Air Force in July 2008.

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