

Rear Admiral (lower half) Thomas Erhard Paul JUGEL – German Navy Force Commander EU Naval Force

was born on 28th November 1957 in Nuremberg. He joined the German Navy in 1977. Since 1982, he holds a Master of Science degree in civil engineering.

His early duties include assignments as executive and operations officer. Subsequently, he commanded minesweeper "Pluto" and minehunter "Cuxhaven". He was promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 1987. His mine warfare experience includes multiple deployments with NATO's Standing Naval Force Channel.

He also held a variety of important staff positions. For instance, in 1994, he was posted at the Ministry of Defence (MOD Naval Staff), where he became Desk Officer "Naval Operations". He was promoted to Commander (senior grade) in 1995.

In 1996, he joined the 5th Minesweeping Squadron as Deputy Commander. Chosen for Commander, MCM Operation "OPEN SPIRIT 1997", he contributed in building cooperative relationships with Partnership for Peace partner navies. Following an assignment as Section Head "Training", he took command of the 1st Minesweeping Squadron from 1998 to 2000.

In 2000, he rejoined the Ministry of Defence as Desk Officer "Conceptual Affairs" (MOD Armed Forces Staff) before, promoted to Captain, he served as Deputy Director, Naval Operations School in Bremerhaven.

From 2004 to 2006, he served as Division Head "Training, Exercises and Evaluation" at NATO's Allied Joint Command in Lisbon/ Portugal. Amongst other tasks, he assumed full responsibility as Evaluation Director for major NATO joint exercises at the operational level.

From 2007 until 2008, he served as a Branch Head inside the Operational Planning Division, MOD Armed Forces Staff, and subsequently as Branch Head in the MOD Joint Operations Staff in Berlin. During this tour of duty, he was responsible for the conduct of Bundeswehr operations, including for German contributions to European Union operations.

Since 2010, he is Commander of the German Flotilla 1 and, in parallel, Director of the Centre of Excellence for Operations in Confined and Shallow Waters. In November 2010, he was promoted to flag officer.

Rear Admiral (I.h.) Jugel has attended the 34th Admiral Staff Course in Hamburg, the Centre for Higher Military Studies (CHEM) and the Institute for Higher National Defence Studies (IHEDN) in Paris/France.

His awards include the Bundeswehr Cross of Honour. He is married to Cornelia and lives in Kiel. They have three children.