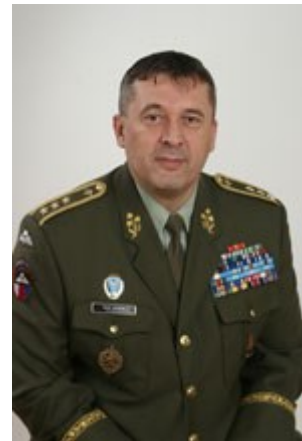


Chief of the General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces

Biography

Lieutenant General Ales Opata

- **Marital Status:** married
- **Date of Birth:** 9 September 1964
- **Place of Birth:** Hranice, Czech Republic



Education:

- **1983 – 1987**
Army College in Vyskov, Control and use of combat forces
- **1998 – 1999**
Command and Staff College of Marine Corps University, Virginia, USA
- **2004**
Royal College of Defence Studies, London, UK
- **2012**
Generals, Flag Officers Course, NATO Defence College, Rome, Italy

Service career:

- **1987 – 1990**
4th Armoured Division in Jihlava, from tank platoon leader through to armoured battalion commander
- **1990 – 1992**
Commander of Reserve Training Battalion Group, 13th Tank Material Depot
- **1994 – 1997**
4th Rapid Deployment Brigade in Havlickuv Brod – positions: training officer of mechanised troops group, training officer of parachute and airborne group, airborne training officer
- **1998**
Deputy Commander, 43rd Airborne Battalion in Chrudim
- **1999 – 2003**
Commander, 43rd Airborne Mechanised Battalion in Chrudim
- **2004 – 2008**
Commander, 4th Rapid Deployment Brigade in Zatec
- **2008**
Deputy Director, MoD Force Development Division, Director of Operations Department
- **28 October 2008**
Promoted Brigadier General
- **2009 – 2010**
Director, MoD Force Development Division – Operations Division
- **2010 – 2014**
Deputy Chief of General Staff – Director of the MoD Joint Operations Centre
- **28 October 2011**
Promoted Major General
- **2014 – 2017**
National Military Representative of the Czech Republic to the NATO SHAPE, Mons, Belgium

- **1 August 2017**
Deputy Chief of General Staff – Chief of Staff
- **28 October 2017**
Promoted Lieutenant General
- **1 May 2018**
Appointed Chief of the General Staff

Operational deployments:

- **1992 – 1993**
UNPROFOR, former Yugoslavia
- **1995**
UNPROFOR, former Yugoslavia
- **1996**
NATO IFOR, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **1999 – 2000**
Commander, 43rd Airborne Battalion in SFOR, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **2002 – 2003**
Chief of the Joint Implementation Commission at British-led Multinational Brigade – Centre, and Commander of the CZE Contingent, KFOR, Kosovo
- **2007**
Commander of the CZE Contingent – Chief of Staff, Provincial Reconstruction Team Feyzabad, ISAF, Afghanistan

Selected decorations:

- Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur – grade d'officier, France
- French War Cross with a Bronze Star, France
- State Defence Cross of Czech Minister of Defence
- Cross of Merit of Czech Minister of Defence, Class I
- Czech Armed Forces Honorary Badge of Merit
- Medal of Czech Minister of Defence for Service Abroad
- UNPROFOR Operation Medal, Class I
- NATO IFOR Operation Medal (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- NATO SFOR Operation Medal (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- NATO KFOR Operation Medal (Kosovo)
- NATO ISAF Operation Medal (Afghanistan)

Training Courses:

- Instructor of self-defence and MUSADO man-to-man fighting, Grade II
- Airborne training instructor
- Airborne specialist badge, Grade I

Language skills:

- English

Hobbies:

- Fishing, literature, motorcycling