

MAJOR GENERAL ANDREW JAMES (JIM) MOLAN, AO



Major General Molan joined the Australian Regular Army in 1968 following completion of his schooling in Victoria. On graduating from the Royal Military College, Duntroon, in 1971 he was allocated to the Royal Australian Infantry Corps.

His regimental postings since that time include: service with the First Battalion, Pacific Island Regiment (Papua New Guinea) as a rifle platoon commander; the Ninth Battalion, Royal Queensland Regiment, as Adjutant; rifle company second-in-command and rifle company commander in the Third Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment; Commanding Officer of the Sixth Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, as a consequence of which he was appointed a member of the Order of Australia; and Commander of the Army's mechanized First Brigade. In addition, Major General Molan has served at the Infantry Centre as Senior Instructor (Tactics), and with 1 Aviation Regiment as a helicopter pilot. Major General Molan commanded the 1st Division and the Deployable Joint Force Headquarters from November 1999 until mid-2002.

Major General Molan has served in staff postings in: Army Headquarters and Headquarters Australian Defence Force in the fields of Combat Development and in Industrial Relations, and is a graduate of the Army Command and Staff College, Queenscliff, the Joint Services Staff College and the Australian College of Defence and Strategic Studies. He also served as the Army Attache in Jakarta between 1992 and 1994 and for this service he was awarded the Indonesian decoration Bintang Dharma Yudha Nararya in 1995. In 1998 and 1999 Major General Molan was Head of the Australian Defence Staff (Defence Attache) - Jakarta. On the 25th March 2000 he was promoted to Officer of the Order of Australia for his service as the Head, Australian Defence Staff, Jakarta, during the Indonesia and East Timor crisis.

Major General Molan has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of New South Wales and a Bachelor of Economics degree from the University of Queensland. He is a graduate of the ADF School of Languages where he studied Indonesian. He maintains an interest in aviation and holds civil commercial licences and instrument ratings.

In August 2002, Major General Molan assumed command of the Australian Defence College in Canberra.