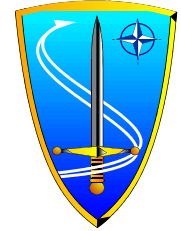


# CC-Air Ramstein

Allied Air Component Command Headquarters Ramstein

Public Information Office



## Biography

### Major General Jon Abma, NLD AF

#### Chief of Staff



Major General Jon Abma started his military career as an officer cadet at the Royal Military Academy in Breda in 1975, where he studied aerodynamics. He subsequently attended military flying training in Canada, earning his wings on the CF-5 in 1980. He was then posted to Twenthe Air Base where he flew the NF-5, and in 1983 converted to the F-16 at Leeuwarden Air Base. Until 1992 he held assignments as unit commander, operations officer and weapons instructor. He has flown over 3,000 hours including 2,200 on the F-16.

After attending the Advanced Staff Course at the Air Force Staff College in The Hague in 1992, Maj Gen Abma was posted to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, USA, as the national operational representative in the F-16 System Programme Office overseeing the F-16 Mid-Life Update programme development. In 1996 he was recalled to the Dutch Air Staff as head of Operational F-16 Requirements branch.

In 1998 Maj Gen Abma was appointed squadron commander of 322 Tactical Fighter Squadron flying the modified all-weather fighter F-16AM. During this period, he was deployed to Amendola Air Base, Italy, as the Dutch detachment commander for Operation Allied Force and flew combat sorties over Kosovo and Serbia. In 2000 he returned to Twenthe Air Base where he became base commander.

Following attendance at the NATO Defence College, Maj Gen Abma was assigned as head of the Fighter Operations Division of the Royal Netherlands Air Force. In 2004 he became head of the Joint Plans Division (J5) for crisis and security operations of the Ministry of Defence. After a tour with ISAF in Afghanistan and two short tours as head of Air Transport & Air Refuelling Operations and Director of the Operations Centre, he was assigned as Director of Operations of the Royal Netherlands Air Force in June 2006.

In May 2008 Maj Gen Abma assumed his current position of Chief of Staff at Allied Air Component Command Headquarters Ramstein.

Maj Gen Abma is married to Justine, and they have a daughter at university. His hobbies include outdoor activities.

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