

Lieutenant-General Thierry GARRETA

Chief of Joint Operations (SCOPS)



Lieutenant-General GARRETA entered service at the French Air Force Academy (*Ecole de l'Air*) in September 1991. Upon completing his officer and fighter pilot training, he joined Fighter Squadron 2/4 *LA FAYETTE* in 1995 as a MIRAGE-2000N pilot.

In 2001, he was assigned to the French Air Force Academy as a class commander.

Promoted to major in 2002, he was posted deputy chief of operations in 2003 to the Fighter Squadron 1/4 *DAUPHINÉ* (MIRAGE 2000N). He deployed to CHAD as CJ3 deputy of the Joint operations staff in N'Djamena (Operation *EPERVIER*).

In 2005, he attended the War College Course (*Ecole de Guerre*) in Paris. After completion of course, promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, he joined the Recce Squadron 1/33 *BELFORT* as deputy commander and then officer in command. He deployed to CHAD as Air Battle Group commanding officer (operation *EPERVIER*), to QATAR as Airborne Recce Group commanding officer (Operation *HERACLES*), and to UAE as Joint recce detachment officer in command (Operation *HERACLES*).

From 2009 to 2011, he was assigned to the Air Command staff in Paris as a Deterrence staff officer. He deployed to AFGHANISTAN within the Task Force *LA FAYETTE* in Nijrab.

Promoted to Colonel in 2011, he assumed the responsibility of the Deterrence and combat division of the Air Command staff. In 2012, he was appointed Military Assistant to the Air Force Chief of staff.

In 2014, he took command of the Air Force Base 125 in Istres and attended in 2016 the Centre for Higher Military Studies course (*Centre des hautes études militaires - CHEM*) and the National Defence Institute course (*Institut des hautes études de la défense nationale - IHEDN*).

He was posted to the Air Force staff in Paris on a chief of plans position in 2017, and deployed to SAHEL as the Operation *BARKHANE* chief of staff. In 2018, he became chief of the personal staff attached to the Air Force Chief of staff.

He was promoted to Brigadier General in 2020 and took on the responsibilities of deputy and then chief in 2022 of the Joint operations Center (*Centre de planification et conduite des opérations – CPCO*) as a Major General.

On August 2023, he was promoted to Lieutenant-General and appointed Chief of Operations of the Joint staff.

Lieutenant-General GARRETA is married and father of three.

He is an Officer of the *Légion d'Honneur*, a Commander of the *Ordre national du Mérite* and holds the *Croix de la Valeur Militaire* (Military Valor Cross) and the *Médaille de l'aéronautique* (Medal of the Aeronautic).