



Patrick Mollet

**Brigadier General
Belgium Air Force**

**Deputy Commander
European Air Transport Command**


Brigadier General Patrick MOLLET was born in Nieuwpoort (Belgium) on 27 September 1964. He attended the Royal Military Academy in 1982 as member of the 137th promotion of the polytechnic division. In 1987 he obtained his degree in aeronautical engineering. After this scientific education he left for the USA and continued his pilot training at Sheppard Air Force Base (Texas) where he obtained his wings in 1989 through the Euro NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Programme (ENJJPT).

His first assignment was to the 10th Tactical Wing at Kleine Brogel Air Base, where he joined the 31st Tiger Squadron as an F-16 pilot. He stayed there almost nonstop till 1996, obtaining the different flying qualifications and becoming the Ops Officer. In August 1996 he left Klein Brogel for the Air Staff where he joined the Electronic Warfare Branch of the Operations Division. He was responsible for the entry into service of the CARAPACE electronic warfare suite, developed by Dassault Electronique, specific for the Belgian F-16's. In 1997 he gets promoted to Major. In 2000 he returns to the 10th Tactical Wing at Kleine Brogel Air Base to become the Operations Officer of the Wing and subsequently the Commander of the Operational Conversion Unit responsible for the conversions of all Belgian F-16 pilots. During that period he transitions to the F-16 Mid Life Update (MLU) and becomes an instructor pilot.

From September 2003 till June 2004 he attends the Royal Higher Institute for Defense studies. After this course, his career is oriented towards air transport. He becomes for three years the National Programme Coordinator (NPC) in the A400M project as a member of the Directorate General for Material Resources (DGMR). He gets promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel in 2005.

In 2007, he joins the 15th Wing Air Transport for three years where he starts as Deputy Commander of the Flying Group and subsequently becomes the Commander of the Flying Group. In that period he converts onto the Embraer 145 aircraft after a short passage through the French Transport Pilot School in Avord (France).

In October 2010 he returns for the third time to the Defense Staff to become Commander of the Movement & Transport Coordination Center (MTCC). This section plans and coordinates all strategic transports for the Belgian Defense. In this function he assures the integration of Belgium into the European Air Transport Command (EATC) and assures also the redeployment of the Belgian contingent from KABUL International Airfield. He gets promoted to Colonel in 2011.



In October 2013 he takes command of the 15th Wing Air Transport, the sole Belgian Air Force transport unit. During that period, the complete Belgian Air Transport fleet is put under operational command of the EATC, including the newly arrived Airbus A321. Under his command the C-130 capacity participates in the Operations "Sangaris" and successfully passes the first Tactical Air Transport NATEVAL.

In July 2016 he joins the EATC to become the Head of the Functional Division. In April 2018 he leaves the Functional Division to become Head of the Operational Division till September 2020. He stays in the EATC to become the Head of the Policy and Support Division till December 2022. On 09 January 2023 he is appointed Brigadier General to become the Deputy Commander of the EATC.

Brigadier General MOLLET flew as a Captain on Embraer 145 till end 2020 and totals over 4500 flying hours, mainly on F-16 and Embraer 145.

He is married to Karlien and has a daughter Annelies and a son Ruben.

He lives in Attenrode, close to Tienen (BELGIUM).