



Maj. Gen. Jim Hecker **Vice Director of Operations, J3**

Maj. Gen. Jim Hecker is the Vice Director, Operations, Joint Staff, the Pentagon, Arlington, Virginia. The Vice Director for Operations serves as the principle assistant to the Director for Operations in assisting the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in fulfilling his responsibilities as the principle military advisor to the President and Secretary of Defense, in developing and providing operational guidance, and in fostering clear communication between the President, Secretary of Defense, unified commands, and services.

General Hecker was commissioned in the Air Force in 1989 after graduating from the U.S.

Air Force Academy. He was both a graduate and instructor at the U.S. Air Force Weapons Instructor Course. In response to the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, General Hecker was responsible for coordinating both civilian and military disaster relief and humanitarian assistance during Operation Tomodachi, while working with U.S. Forces Japan at Yokota Air Base. He has also worked as a military legislative assistant for the Senate majority leader in Washington, D.C. and has commanded at the squadron, group, wing and numbered Air Force levels. Additionally, he has served as the Director of Plans, Programs and Requirements at Headquarters Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. General Hecker last served as Commander, 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force-Afghanistan; Commander, NATO Air Command-Afghanistan; Director, AFCENT's Air Component Coordination Element for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan and NATO's Operation Resolute Support and Deputy Commander-Air for U.S. Forces Afghanistan.

General Hecker is a command pilot with more than 3,500 hours flying various aircraft including the F-15C, F-22, MQ-1B, HH-60, C-208 and the T-38C.