



NATO UNCLASSIFIED

Allied Air Component Command Headquarters Ramstein

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
Ramstein Air Base, Germany



FACT SHEET

Combined Air Operations Centre (CAOC) FINDERUP

Short History



The CAOC FINDERUP bunker was built in the late Cold War era as a War Headquarters for NATO's Baltic Approaches (BALTAP) Headquarters. Finished in 1983, it became the home of Interim CAOC1, which later became CAOC FINDERUP.

In the Cold War era, control of the airspace within Europe in times of crisis was aligned to the disposition of military forces in continental Europe. In Germany, the 2nd and 4th Allied Tactical Air Forces controlled the military use of German airspace while Headquarters Air BALTAP controlled the military air activities within the Danish airspace. With the end of the Cold War it was decided that the control of military activity should become a specific NATO function. Hence the birth of ten CAOCs spread over Europe, each with its own area of responsibility, ready to direct air operations in times of crisis. In the new Millennium, the international situation changed and it was assessed unlikely that a major military attack on mainland Europe would occur within the foreseeable future and the establishment and maintenance of International Security should be the main military focus. In supporting International Security it is critical that the airspace over Europe is not readily accessible for terrorist activities. Consequently the peacetime mission of the CAOC is to provide robust air policing within its area of responsibility whilst having trained personnel ready to deploy and support the coordination and tasking of expeditionary air operations anywhere in the world. In the future, four CAOCs will provide air policing capabilities over Europe whilst two of these CAOCs will have the capability to deploy and support expeditionary air operations. CAOC FINDERUP will augment the deployable CAOCs if required.

CAOC FINDERUP Mission Statement

The mission of CAOC FINDERUP is to plan, direct, task, coordinate, supervise, assess and report on air operations of all allocated assets in peace, crisis and conflict.

Area

CAOC FINDERUP is located at Operations Centre FINDERUP (OC FINDERUP), just outside the small village of Ravnstrup, 10km west of Viborg.

OC FINDERUP also includes FINDERUP CIS Squadron (FCS) and Joint Host Nation Support Group (JHNSG), which are supporting units to CAOC FINDERUP.

CAOC FINDERUP has two work locations, the Pavilion and the Bunker.

Peacetime Manning

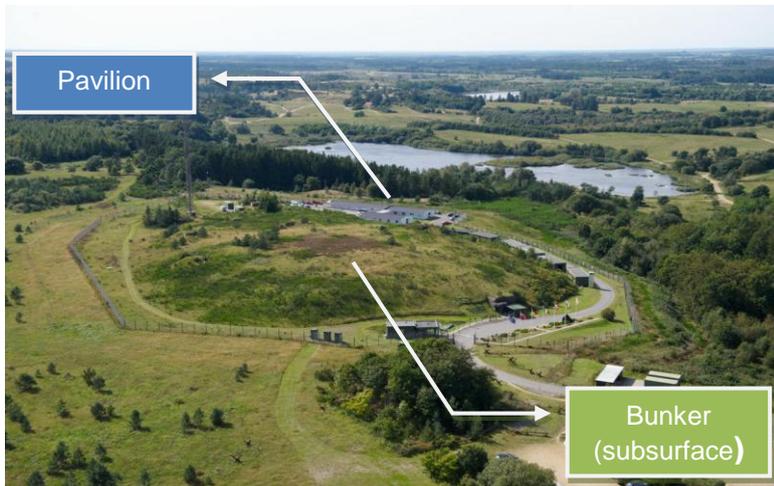
CAOC FINDERUP has a peacetime establishment of 125 posts of which Host Nation Denmark provides the majority similar to other CAOCs. Currently still under MOU arrangements five other NATO nations - Denmark, Norway, United Kingdom, Germany, Poland and Italy - contribute to the international community at FINDERUP. The commander's and deputy commander's positions are filled by Denmark and Poland, respectively.

In the future CAOC FINDERUP will be part of the NATO Command Structure. The manning process is ongoing and in the future nine nations will man CAOC FINDERUP posts. Turkey, Greece and France will contribute to the future manning of the CAOC in addition to the currently six NATO nations.

The position of commander will be manned on a rotational basis by Denmark and Norway and the deputy commander will be British.

The Pavilion

The Command Group (CG), Administration & Logistics (A1/4), Budget & Finance (A8) and some national support elements are located in the Pavilion.



The Bunker

Intelligence (A2), Current Operations (A3), Operations Plans (A5), Communication & Information Systems (A6) and Exercise & Training (A7) are located in the Bunker.