



Headquarters Allied Air Command Ramstein



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Ramstein Air Base, Germany

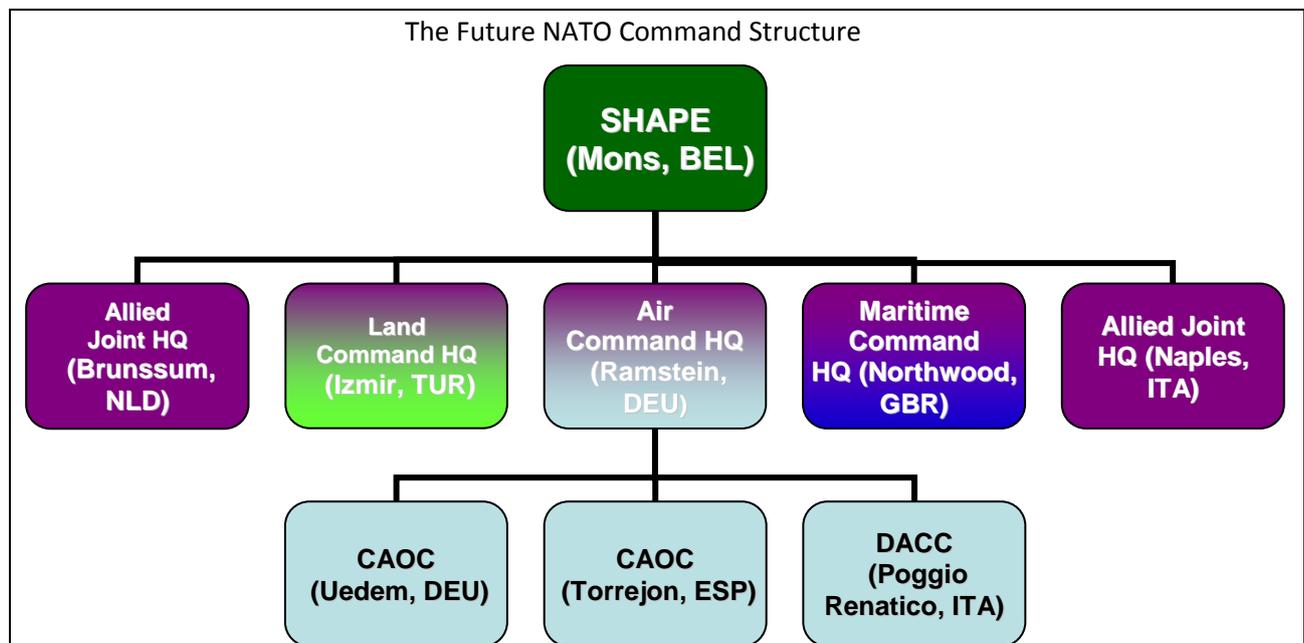
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Key elements of missile defence command and control capability under development at HQ Allied Air Command Ramstein

Ramstein, 2 February - There have been media reports today saying that NATO's missile defence command will be located at Ramstein, Germany.

In general, the NATO command structure is responsible for carrying out NATO operations and standing missions. This will include command and control of Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) for the protection of populations, territories, and forces. A new Command and Control structure was agreed by the Heads of State and Government at the 2010 Lisbon Summit, and the forthcoming reorganization will reduce the number of operational headquarters. Headquarters Allied Air Command Ramstein (HQ AC Ramstein) will remain as the operational level Air command and control entity for NATO.

One of NATO's key tasks out of the Lisbon Summit was the decision to develop a capability to defend against ballistic missiles. At their meeting in Brussels on 2 and 3 February 2012, NATO Defence Ministers will look at the Alliance's progress on this mission area with the goal of declaring an Interim BMD Capability at the Chicago Summit in May 2012. NATO's Ballistic Missile Defence capability will rest on nationally contributed weapon systems and sensors employed by a coherent, effective NATO command and control system. Key elements of this command and control capability are under development at HQ Allied Air Command Ramstein.



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Building of HQ AC Ramstein, Germany



A view of the Air Operations Centre of HQ AC Ramstein

Note to editors:

Further information about NATO's air headquarters at Ramstein Air Base can be found at www.airn.nato.int.