



# CC-Air Ramstein

Allied Air Component Command Headquarters Ramstein

Public Information Office



## Press Release

### CAOC Commanders' Conference in Ramstein



Twice a year NATO's commanders subordinate to Air Commander Ramstein meet for their regular CAOC Commanders' Conference. The CAOCs, short for Combined Air Operation Centres, ensure air surveillance 24/7 within the NATO Integrated Air Defence System. They are the first tool used to accomplish one of the major tasks of Allied Air Component Command Headquarters Ramstein, i.e. conducting Air Policing in the northern part of Europe.

Usually the conference is designed for the exchange of information and the discussion of the ever-continuing development of NATO's air defence. However, the conference that took place on 12 and 13 December was for the first time chaired by new AIR COM Ramstein, General William T. Hobbins. Therefore CAOC Commanders from Norway, Denmark, the United Kingdom and Germany took the opportunity to present their specific CAOC including particularities and future main efforts.

Though not directly in the chain of command, Lieutenant General Stéphane Abrial, Director Air Operations of the French Air Defence and Air Operations Command at Taverny, was also invited to attend. He briefed his colleagues on the French lessons identified during NRF 5 when forces were activated because of hurricane "Katrina" and subsequently to help earthquake victims in Pakistan.

The picture shows the CAOC Commanders Conference participants.

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