



# CC-Air Ramstein

Allied Air Component Command Headquarters Ramstein

Public Information Office



## Exercise Steadfast Jaguar 06 - Press Release

### STEADFAST JAGUAR Air Element ready for the Exercise



Since several days the first Air Force officers and airmen are at SAL International Airport. They are preparing to run the Air Base for the Air Element within the DJTF, the Deployed Joint Task Force. The aim of the exercise STEADFAST JAGUAR is to prove the viability of the NATO Response Force (NRF) concept. It will become a demonstration of NRF's ability to command, control and sustain. More and more logistic supply material, more and more units dropped in. Some transport aircraft from Germany, Poland and Portugal still have arrived. Also some Italian helicopter and their crews already came in. With their AB 212 helicopter they are responsible for Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR). The STEADFAST JAGUAR air element at the island is increasing its capabilities day by day. More units and aircraft are foreseen to deploy within the next days. A camp is set up at the military barracks of Cape Verde's National Armed Forces near the airport. It is a mix of an "APOD", an "Airport of Debarkation" and a "DOB", a "Deployed Operation Base", which is growing up here in the northeast part of the Cape Verde islands. This means the International Airport at SAL is used for both, the logistic transfer and the tactical military operations.

The tents in the camp provide space for the different Air Base functions like the Logistics and Movements Section, the Planning cell and the Operations Section. CIS-guys, responsible for the "Communication and Information Systems", are busy to provide computer and telephone access to every required desk in the tents.



The Commander of the Air Element is located at an US-Navy command ship during the exercise, somewhere in the Atlantic. His means, the fighter and logistic aircraft, are at SAL. Connecting the Air Base with the Commander of the Air Component Element is one of the most important challenges. The signal unit get valuable experience while doing their job in an austere environment outside NATO's historical area of operations.

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The commander at SAL Air Base/SAL Ops is Lieutenant Colonel Jelle Bode. He created the name "Camp Miracle" for the camp, used during the exercise. The Dutch Air Force officer is an experienced pilot. Like about 20 more officers and NCOs here at SAL, he is originally based at Allied Air Component Command Headquarters in Ramstein, Germany. During the main phase of the exercise more than 500 NATO personnel will be at SAL.



The STEADFAST JAGUAR exercise is an NATO Response Force (NRF) training exercise. In the present complex security environment NATO's capability to react to crises swiftly and flexibly is of particular importance. The NRF provides NATO with the necessary capacities. The requirement is to stand up and deploy contingents across the entire spectrum of military missions. The concept envisages the deployment of an initial entry force to any crisis area worldwide within five days. Especially the alliance's Air Forces, both the operational air components and air force operational logistics are faced with extraordinary challenges. As a flexible means of first priority Air Forces have a unique importance for the NRF. Depending on the respective mission, the daily tactical sorties can cover the whole spectrum of air operations. Whatever the mission, an overall logistic support must always be provided in-theatre.

Exercise STEADFAST JAGUAR will last from 14 June until 28 June 06.