



Headquarters Allied Air Command Ramstein

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NEWS RELEASE

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New Allied Air Commander Arrives at his NATO Headquarters in Ramstein

Ramstein, 3 August 2012 – After receiving the flag of Allied Air Command Ramstein (AC Ramstein) from NATO's Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General Sir Richard Shirreff during a change of command ceremony on 31 July, General Philip M. Breedlove, arrived at the NATO compound on Ramstein Air Base early this Friday morning.

After meeting his deputy commander, German three-star Friedrich Wilhelm Ploeger, General Breedlove proceeded to the HQ main briefing room to be welcomed by the NATO headquarters staff during a commander's call.

"I am excited about being back out here in Germany," said General Breedlove for whom this assignment is the fifth tour to the country, "and I am looking forward to meeting the representatives of all Allies. It is just great to be back to the operational level and to be part of NATO again."

Later in the day, General Breedlove had office calls with his fellow senior leaders. During a walk around of the NATO command building 313 he had a chance to meet some of his staff and to get first impressions of his new Allied work environment. After a lunch at the International Dining Facility he wrapped up his first day at NATO and by meeting with all Senior National Representatives at Headquarters AC Ramstein.

Since entering the Air Force in 1977 as a distinguished graduate of Georgia Tech's ROTC program, General Breedlove has been assigned to numerous operational, command and staff positions, and has completed nine overseas tours, including two remote tours. Prior to his current assignment, he was the Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force at Washington, D.C.

In addition to his NATO "hat" General Breedlove also serves as Commander United States Air Forces in Europe at Ramstein Air Base and Director of the multinational Joint Air Power Competence Centre at Kalkar, Germany. General Breedlove took the helm from General Mark A. Welsh, who will be the new Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force.



General Philip M. Breedlove, accepting the Allied Air Command Ramstein flag from Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General Sir Richard Shirreff on 31 July 2012 with General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff of the Air Force (left), and outgoing Commander Allied Air Command Ramstein, General Mark A. Welsh (right), looking on. Photo USAFE PA



At his NATO desk – General Philip M. Breedlove arrives at Allied Air Command Ramstein, Germany.
Photo: AOO Boer, PAO HQ AC Ramstein

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Note to editors:

For high-resolution pictures please contact the HQ AC Ramstein PAO at airn.pao@nato.int .