



International Air Operations Coordination Centre Conference chaired by the Air Operations Coordination Centre personnel from the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) took place in Ramstein, Germany, from 24 to 28 August 2009.

During International Air Operations Coordination Centre Conference essential information are exchanged between all NATO AOCCs, Combined Air Operations Centres (CAOCs), Component Command (CC) Air Headquarters and National Organisations. It is a crucial forum to share views and ideas how to optimize the AOCC's contribution to the cooperation between the Services (Army, Air Force, and Navy) in order to achieve effects desired by the Joint Commander. Since the Services use different equipment and procedures, it is of utmost importance for them to know how the others operate, what the strengths and weaknesses are and how the planning processes can be synchronised to achieve the synergy of actions. The AOCC is the "interface" between the Air Commander and his/her fellow Army and Navy Commander making sure that the right information reaches the right people at the right time in the right place.

The AOCC of Multinational Corps Northeast has held the presidency of the International AOCC Conference throughout the years 2008/2009.

This year the International Air Operations Coordination Centre (AOCC) Conference was hosted

Air Conference in Ramstein

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by the Component Command - Air in Ramstein (Germany). The participation of almost all Air Operations Coordination Centres through European part of NATO, including both Component Commands-Air (Izmir and Ramstein) as well as the CAOCs, underlined the importance and necessity of this forum. The Conference members have been welcomed by Major General Jon Abma, Chief of Staff CC-Air Ramstein.

During the Conference the AOCC's gave their updates on their relations with their respective Corps stressing the importance of the proper training, equipment and personnel necessary to fulfill their duties. Both Air Component Commands briefed about current operations and upcoming events within their Areas of Operations.

During syndicate work the new proposed structure and tasks of the Air Liaison Offices have been discussed. The Air Liaison Offices will be the CC-Air representatives to the Land Component Commands, dealing with the operational level issues, whereas the AOCC will be dealing strictly with tactical level tasks.

At the end of the Conference Colonel Peter Hauser from the MNC NE AOCC handed over the presidency of the International AOCC Conference to Colonel Oliver Schmelzer from AOCC Turkey.