



## Commander

### Lieutenant General Fernando De La Cruz Caravaca

Lieutenant General Fernando De La Cruz Caravaca is the Commander of NATO's Combined Air Operation Centre at Torrejón Air Base, Spain.

#### RECORDS OF SERVICE

- Jul 1983 - Dec 1993: 14th Wing (Albacete) 141 Squadron (Lieutenant/Captain) – Fighter Pilot (Mirage F-1) - Instructor & Test Pilot - SQN Commander
- Dec 1993 - Apr 1998: Air Central Command (Madrid) Operations Section (Major) Staff Officer Training & Exercise Planner
- Aug 1995 - Feb 1996: Air South (Naples, Italy) Deny Flight Cell (Major) Staff Officer Direct Assessment for COMAIRSOUTH In “Deny Flight” & “Deliberate Force” Operations
- Apr 1998 - Jul 2000: 12th Wing (Torrejón) 122 Squadron (Major) Squadron Commander (F18) Head 12th Wing Staff
- Jul 2000 - Aug 2001: 11th Wing (Moron) 11 Group (Lieutenant Colonel) Flying Group Commander (F-18)
- Aug 2001 - Aug 2004: Joint Staff (Madrid) Cabinet of Chief of Defence Spain (Lieutenant Colonel) Personal Advisor for Chief of Defence Spain
- Aug 2004 - Aug 2008: NATO Eurofighter & Tornado Management Agency (Munich, Germany) Head Of Executive Secretariat (A-5) Personal Advisor For General Manager
- Aug 2008 - Feb 2009: Air Staff (Madrid) Plans Division (Lieutenant Colonel) Staff Officer



Allied Air Command

Ramstein, Germany



Spanish Representative for NATO Weapons Groups

- Feb 2009 - Jul 2009 ISAF/HERAT (Afganistan) Forward Support Base (Lieutenant Colonel) Deputy Forward Support Base Commander
- Jul 2009 - Jul 2012 15th Wing (Zaragoza) 15th Wing (Colonel) Wing Commander
- Jul 2012 - May 2013 Air Staff (Madrid) Operations Division (Colonel) Chief Air Operations Section
- May 2013 - Nov 2013 ISAF / HERAT (Afganistan) Forward Support Base (Colonel) Forward Support Base Commander
- Nov 2013 - Apr 2017 Air Staff (Madrid) Operations Division (Brigadier General) Chief Operations Division
- April 2017 - Jun 2020 Canary Island Air Command (Gran Canaria) Air Command (Major General) Commander In Chief Canary Island Air Command
- Jun 2020 - Up to date Commander Combined Air Operations Centre Torrejón (Lieutenant General)

## **COURSES**

- National Defence War College, 12 Sep 2016 - 30 Nov 2016
- NATO Defence College, 25 Aug 2002 - 07 Feb 2003
- High International Studies, Strategic & Geopolitical, 01 Feb - 01 Jul 1994
- Staff College, 01 Sep 1992 to 13 Dec 1993
- NATO Electronic Warfare Operations Staff Officers Course (USA), 29 Mar - 15 Aug 1989

## **ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

Master Degree in Security And Defence (Complutense University) (Nov 1996 - Apr 1998)

## **LANGUAGES**

English: SLP 4344

French: PLS 3333



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Participating in planning and executing different national and international exercises (Dragon Hammer, TRAMONTANA, Trial Mace, NAVIPAR, Linked Seas, DAPEX, Trident Jaguar & Trident Junture)
- Participating and briefing numerous Board of Directors of a NATO Agency
- Participating in Steering Committees with NATO Nations representatives
- Participating as Squadron Commander in Flying Operations over Kosovo (Joint Forge/Joint Guardian)
- As Forward Support Base Commander in Herat (Afghanistan) participate in ISAF planning for "Resolute Support Mission" and future definition of Afghan airspace and airport requirements
- Responsible for military management of National airspace and coordinator with civilian exploitation of Spanish and European airspace (participation in EUROCONTROL and other multinational meetings on behalf of Spanish National Military Authority, including Remotely Piloted Aircraft requirements, for Single European Skies Air Traffic Management Research (SESAR) implementation)
- Responsible of Force Protection training and exercises within the Air Force
- Responsible of Spanish Joint Terminal Attack Controller Training Program (Spanish Joint Terminal Attack Controller Program Manager) and management of Air Force assets in support of other services (Army and Navy)
- Coordinator of Spanish Air Force participation in military operations (together with Joint Operational Command and Combat Command) (Ongoing operations: Resolute Support Mission Herat, Afghanistan, Active Endeavor, Atalanta, Djibouti, Central African Republic, Mali and Baltic Air Policing)
- Coordinator of Spanish Air Force requirements for operational intelligence.
- Spanish representation in NATO Air Operations Working Group
- Responsible for Air doctrine implementation in Spanish Air Force units
- Participation in Operational Planning process (Joint and specific)
- Control and Coordination of Flying Safety in Spanish Air Force
- NATO Secret Security Clearance
- Knowledge of standard automated data processing, including Integrated Command and Control System and Crisis Response Operations in NATO Operating System CRONOS

(Current as of June 2020)