



Air Operations Centre Director

Brigadier General Sergio Pereira

Brigadier General Sergio Pereira is the Air Operations Centre Director at NATO's Combined Air Operation Centre at Torrejón Air Base, Spain.

Born in 1965 in Braga, Portugal, Brigadier General Sérgio Pereira joined Air Force Academy in 1984. After graduating in Military Aeronautical Sciences in 1988 and gaining his pilot wings, he has served in a variety of flying assignments as a helicopter operational pilot and also as an Instructor Pilot (Chipmunk, T-37C, Alouette III, Epsilon).

In 2001, in the rank of Major, he was posted to East-Timor in command of a UN Helicopter Detachment (Portugal, Australia, New Zealand, Chile) at the Interposition Force and subsequently at the UN Transitional Administration in East-Timor mission. During this appointment, he flew more than 250 hours in non-permissive and hostile environments. For the period 2002 to 2005 he returned to Portugal and assumed command of 552 Helicopter Squadron and, was also appointed as Deputy Commander at F16 Fighter Squadron for the NATO Operational Evaluation and Operational Assessment.

From 2005 to 2009, after graduating from the Spanish Joint Staff College, he served as a professor at National Joint and Services Staff Colleges, at civilian universities and, at the Angola Joint-Staff College. Simultaneously, he was also appointed as the Military Adviser to the Portuguese Head of Government and Ministry of Defence, for renegade issues. Whilst in the academy, his areas of expertise included Air & Space Power, Operational Planning and Air Operations. Brigadier General Sérgio Pereira has written and published several papers on these subjects.

From 2009 to 2012, he was assigned to NATO's Supreme Allied Command Transformation in the USA in the rank of Colonel, as the Deputy Branch-Head of Concept Development and Experimentation Branch in the Capability Development Division.

During the period 2012 to 2017, he led J5, Plans Division at the Portuguese Joint Headquarters; he was appointed as the Deputy Director of Portuguese Air Force Education and Training



Allied Air Command

Ramstein, Germany



Directorate; from 2015 to 2017 he also assumed the Command of Air Base 1 until being nominated for the National Flag Officers Course.

Prior to assuming the appointment as Air Operations Centre Director at NATO's Combined Air Operation Centre Torrejón, he served as Division Head of Plans at Portuguese Air Force.

He has been awarded the National Military Order of Aviz – Commander degree; 4 Distinguish-Services medals – Silver degree; Grand Cross and Medal of Military Meritorious Services; Air Force Meritorious Services Color; Exemplary Service Medals (gold and silver degree); 5 Service-in-Operations Medals; and the UN “In the Service of Peace” Medal.

Brigadier General Sérgio Pereira is a military pilot with more than 3,600 flying hours.

He is married and has 2 daughters.

(Current as of November 2019)