



NATO ISR Force

Sigonella, Italy



Chief of Staff

Colonel (GS) Oliver Eckstein

Colonel (GS) Oliver Eckstein has been the Chief of Staff NATO Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Force since January 2025.

Military Career

- 1983: Entry into the Bundeswehr, basic training in Leipzig
- 1984: Professional training as radar noncommissioned officer at 4th Coy/SAM Battalion 32
- 1985: Student pilot at security squadron in Fürstenfeldbruck
- 1987: Commissioning training at the German Air Force Officer School at Fürstenfeldbruck
- From 09/1988: Training as Tornado weapons system officer at Mather Air Force Base, California, USA
- From 06/1989: Tornado basic training with the Alpha Jet weapon system at Fighter Bomber Wing 49 in Fürstenfeldbruck
- From 02/1990: Tornado weapon system transition training in Cottesmore, Great Britain
- From 10/1990: Weapon system officer/Tornado IDS operations officer at Fighter Bomber Wing 32 in Klosterlechfeld
- 1997: Weapon system field-grade officer, operations field-grade officer/Tornado ECR at Fighter Bomber Wing 32 in Klosterlechfeld
- From 09/1999: Participant in the 44th General Staff Officer Course (German Air Force) at the Bundeswehr Command and Staff College
- From 10/2001: Intelligence general staff officer and section chief at the Bundeswehr Intelligence Office/Bundeswehr Intelligence Center
- From 10/2004: Assistant branch chief for joint reconnaissance capability development, Armed Forces Staff (FüS) II 1 (later: FüS II 2) at the German Federal Ministry of Defense
- From 10/2006: Commander Flying Group, Fighter Bomber Wing 32 in Klosterlechfeld
- From 10/2009: Chief of Operations Division A3 at the Headquarters, 1st Air Division in Fürstenfeldbruck
- From 07/2012: Section Chief of Independent Central Affairs Section at Bundeswehr Joint

Forces Operations Command in Potsdam

- From 07/2014: Branch head of German Air Force Headquarters Liaison Element to the Bundeswehr Joint Forces Operations Command
- From 07/2016: Senior National Representative German Detachment CAOC Al Udeid
- From 02/2017: Commander 1st Training Wing, German Air Force Officer School in Fürstenfeldbruck
- From 04/2019: Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff German Air Force Officer School in Fürstenfeldbruck
- From 01/2025: Chief of Staff NATO Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Force (NISRF) in Sigonella, Italy

Deployments

- From 09/1995: Missions with the Tornado weapon system over Bosnia and Herzegovina in support of the Rapid Reaction Force, the NATO Implementation Force (IFOR) and the NATO Stabilisation Force (SFOR).
- From 03/1999: Missions with the Tornado weapon system over Kosovo for the NATO Operation Allied Force.
- 06-09/2009: Deployment as Military Assistant to the Commander European Force (EUFOR) in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 07/2016 – 01/2017: Deployment as Senior National Representative German Detachment CAOC Al Udeid

Career Advancement

- 10/1989 Second Lieutenant
- 10/1991 First Lieutenant
- 10/1994 Captain
- 10/1998 Major
- 02/2002 Lieutenant Colonel
- 01/2013 Colonel

Decorations

- Gold Cross of Honor of the Bundeswehr
- Silver Cross of Honor of the Bundeswehr
- Bronze Medal of Honor of the Bundeswehr
- IFOR Bundeswehr Foreign Duty Medal
- SFOR Bundeswehr Foreign Duty Medal
- Allied Force Bundeswehr Foreign Duty Medal
- EUFOR Bundeswehr Foreign Duty Medal
- COUNTER DAESH Bundeswehr Foreign Duty Medal
- NATO Former Yugoslavia Foreign Duty Medal
- NATO KOSOVO Foreign Duty Medal
- European Security Defence Policy Service Medal ALTHEA
- Bundeswehr Combat Medal