



Biography



NATO AEW&C Programme Management Agency, GM Office
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Mr. George E. Riebling

Deputy General Manager NATO Airborne Early Warning & Control Programme Management Agency (NAPMA)

George Riebling is the Deputy General Manager and Chief of Staff of the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Programme Management Agency (NAPMA) located in Brunssum, The Netherlands. The Agency is responsible for the Acquisition Management of the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control (NAEW&C) Programme.

Mr Riebling is a retired USAF Colonel with extensive operational experience in five major Command and Control systems: AWACS, Joint STARS, Air Operations Center, Air Defense and Ground Theater Air Control System (GTACS). As an operator, he commanded flying units at the squadron and group levels. Mr Riebling also served five staff tours in acquisition management, lessons learned compilation and operational and strategic planning.

In his last military assignment, Mr Riebling served as the Vice Commander of the 116th Air Control Wing (ACW) at Robins AFB, Georgia, the USAF's only E-8C Joint STARS Wing. During this period, Mr Riebling helped lead the Wing during the highest operations tempo in its history, simultaneously supporting combat operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya. He also played an instrumental role in the Wing receiving an overall "Excellent" rating during its Operational Readiness Inspection. At the end of the inspection, the team chief called the 116 ACW the best heavy wing he'd ever inspected.

Mr Riebling received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1985 from Officer Training School. He holds a Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Missouri and a Master of Aviation Science from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

As a junior officer, Mr Riebling honed his operational skills as an Air Battle Manager in Air Defense, GTACS and AWACS. He graduated from the prestigious USAF Fighter Weapons School in 1990 as the top academic student in his class.

In his first staff tour, Mr Riebling was hand-selected to be part of the four-member E-767 AWACS Integration Team under 5th Air Force at Yokota Air Base, Japan, where he assisted the Japan Air Self Defense Force in the development of operational plans prior to the delivery of its four AWACS aircraft. Upon leaving Japan, Mr Riebling continued to support the E-767 Foreign Military Sales program at the USAF's Electronic Systems Center. In his three years at the Center, Mr Riebling also served as the AWACS Program Office's Chief of Weapon System Integration and, in his last year, led the ESC Commander's Action Office.

After selection for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, Mr Riebling returned to operations at Robins AFB, Georgia, as a Mission Crew Commander aboard the E-8C Joint STARS aircraft. During the initial phases of Operation Enduring Freedom, Mr Riebling served as the lead E-8C Liaison Officer at the Combined Air Operations Center where he developed and implemented the Concept of Operations for Joint STARS employment in the Afghan theater. In 2003, Mr Riebling assumed command of the 128th Airborne Command and Control Squadron and twice led his unit on combat deployments to the CENTCOM Area of Responsibility.

In 2005, Mr Riebling moved to the Air Staff in Washington, DC, where he led the Tracking and Exploitation Division in the Air Force Office of Lessons Learned.

Following his graduation from NATO Defense College in 2006, Mr Riebling moved to the Allied Air Component Headquarters at Ramstein AB, Germany, where he served as the lead C2 planner. After his promotion to Colonel, Mr Riebling became the NATO Interim Deployable CAOC's Director of Operations and capped off his tour at Ramstein as the Headquarters' Director of Staff and Commander of the US Element.

Upon leaving Germany, Mr Riebling returned to the Pentagon as the USAF's Chief of Warfighter Networking. In this role, he led the development of the USAF's strategic roadmap for the fielding of advanced networking technologies in the space, airborne and ground domains. In 2009, he returned to Joint STARS as the active duty element Group Commander and, one year later, the Vice Wing Commander.

Mr Riebling was born in Ruislip, United Kingdom. He and his wife Debbie have four children – two boys and two girls. In his free time, he enjoys playing softball, composing music and photography.

Education:

Bachelor of Journalism, University of Missouri

Master of Aviation Science in Management, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University

Professional Military Education:

USAF Squadron Officers School

USAF Air Command and Staff College

USAF Air War College

NATO Defense College

Major Awards and Decorations:

Defense Superior Service Medal

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters

Air Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal

Promotions:

Second Lieutenant 1985

First Lieutenant 1987

Captain 1989

Major 1997

Lieutenant Colonel 2002

Colonel 2007 (Retired 1 July 2011)