



# Biography



## **Mark A. Welsh III**

*General, USA AF*

Commander, Allied Air Command Ramstein

Commander, United States Air Forces in Europe  
at Ramstein AB, Germany

Director, Joint Air Power Competence Centre  
at Kalkar, Germany

General Mark A. Welsh is Commander, Allied Air Command Ramstein; Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe; Air Component Commander, U.S. European Command, Ramstein Air Base, Germany; and Director, Joint Air Power Competence Centre, Kalkar, Germany. He is responsible for Air Force activities, conducted through 3rd Air Force, in an area of operations covering almost one-fifth of the globe. This area includes 51 countries in Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans with a total population reaching nearly one billion people speaking more than 80 languages. He also has administrative control of 17th Air Force, providing support, logistics and resources to U.S. Africa Command.

General Welsh was born in San Antonio, Texas. He entered the Air Force in June 1976 as a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. He has been assigned to numerous operational, command and staff positions. Prior to his current assignment, he was the Associate Director of the Central Intelligence Agency for Military Support/Associate Director for Military Affairs, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C., serving as the principal advisor to the Director of the CIA on military matters and is the primary bridge between the CIA and the Department of Defense.