



# Headquarters Allied Air Command

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
Ramstein Air Base, Germany

## BIOGRAPHY



### Major General Claudio Gabellini Chief of Staff

Major General Claudio Gabellini, Italian Air Force, assumed his position as Chief of Staff at NATO's Headquarters Allied Air Command (HQ AIRCOM) at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, on October 1, 2016.

In his last national assignment, Major General Gabellini was the Commander, Italian Air Force's Combat Forces Command at Milano, Italy. In this capacity, he has been responsible for ensuring the operational readiness of assigned units, to include the update of plans and procedures, standardization of the entire training activity, and efficiency of weapon systems, equipment and infrastructures.

Major General Gabellini attended the Air Force Academy from 1980 to 1984. After earning his wings on the G.91T jet, he served first as instructor on the MB339 trainer aircraft. He then served as an operational pilot on F-104 Starfighter and, subsequently, on PA200 Tornado, completing his operational tour in Ghedi Air Base at Brescia, Italy.

During his career, Major General Gabellini served in various command assignments as squadron and wing commander before assuming senior staff positions at the Air Operations Command at Poggio Renatico near Ferrara, Italy, and, subsequently to the Headquarters Air Force Command in Rome.

His operational assignments include the Balkans (operations Joint Guard, Joint Forge, Decisive Endeavour, Allied Force) and Libya, where in 2011 he served aboard the USS Mount Whitney within the framework of the Coalition Operation Odyssey Dawn, and, subsequently, as Targeting Directorate Chief, Combined Joint Task Force Unified Protector Headquarters in Napoli, Italy, during NATO's Operation Unified Protector.

Major General Gabellini is a command pilot with more than 2,700 flying hours on SF-260, S208, MB339, G.91T, F-104S/ASA, PA200 Tornado IDS and ECR.

#### EDUCATION

1982 - Graduate of Air Force Academy, Pozzuoli, Italy

1984 – Master's degree of Aeronautical Science, University of Napoli, Italy

1991 - Air War College 1, Firenze, Italy

1993 - Instructor Pilots Course (Tornado), Cottesmore, United Kingdom

1996 - Air War College 2, Firenze, Italy

2010 – Master's degree in International Security Advanced Studies

2012 – Q3 Course for Joint Force Air Component Command at the Centre for Analysis and Simulation for the Preparation of Air Operations, Taverny, France

2012 – Combined Force Air Component Command Course, Maxwell, United States of America



## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1986 – Instructor pilot, 61<sup>st</sup> Air Brigade, Galatina, Italy  
1989 – Pilot, 102<sup>nd</sup> Group, 5<sup>th</sup> Wing, Rimini, Italy  
1993 – Pilot, element leader and formation leader, 6<sup>th</sup> Wing, Ghedi, Italy  
1998 – Officer Commanding Operations, 6<sup>th</sup> Wing, Ghedi, Italy  
1999 – Squadron Commander, 102<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group, Ghedi, Italy  
1999 – Officer in charge of Operations, Fighter Bombers and Reconnaissance Division, Milano, Italy  
2003 – Commander, 50<sup>th</sup> Wing, San Damiano, Italy  
2005 – A3 Chief, Air Operations Command, Poggio Renatico, Italy  
2006-2009 – Operations Director and Italian Air Force Air Operations Centre Chief, Poggio Renatico, Italy  
2010 – Chief, Resource Management Branch, Air Force Command, Roma, Italy  
2011 – Chief, Operational Planning and Generation Forces Branch, Air Force Command, Rome, Italy  
2013 – Chief of Staff, Air Force Command, Rome, Italy  
2015 – Commander, Italian Air Force's Combat Forces Command, Milano, Italy

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Rating: Command pilot

Flight hours: more than 2,700

Aircraft flown: SF-260, S208, MB339, G.91T, F104S/ASA, PA200 Tornado IDS, PA200 Tornado ECR

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

- Officer of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic
- Knight of the Military Order of Merit of the Italian Republic
- Bronze Medal Aeronautical Merit
- Mauritian Medal for 50 years of Military Career
- Medal of Merit of Long Command
- Aeronautics Long Air Navigation Medal (Gold)
- Golden Cross for Military Service
- Cross of Merit (Bosnia)
- NATO Meritorious Service Medal
- NATO Medal (former Yugoslavia, Kosovo and Libya)

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant	March 1984	Colonel	January 2000
Captain	March 1986	Brigadier General	January 2010
Major	January 1992	Major General	July 2016
Lieutenant Colonel	January 1995		

(Current as of October 2016)