

# The Future of the Royal Norwegian Air Force

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### **Brief Outline**

Status and plans
Capabilities
Base structure

New Defence Review
Security policy changing
Consequences for the Military,
and Air Force especially

**Summary** 





## **Capabilities**

### - Largely been able to uphold a balanced Air Force...

Fighter aircraft F-16 Fighting Falcon



Bodø and Ørland

Tactical transport aircraft C-130J Hercules



Gardermoen

Electronic Warfare/ISR: DA-20 Jet Falcon



Gardermoen

SAR Helicopter Sea King MK43

Maritime Helicopter Lynx / NH-90

**Maritime Patrol Aircraft** P3 C/N Orion

Tactical transport Helicopter Bell 412 SP



Banak, Bodø, Ørland, Sola, Rygge and Florø

**Bardufoss** + detachment Haakonsvern

Andøya

Bardufoss and Rygge

Force Protection/ **Base Defence** 



Ørland

**GBAD: NASAMS II** 



Ørland

Air C2



Reitan (NAOC), Mågerø (CRC) and Sørreisa (CRC)

#### (Multinational cooperation)

Strategic Airlift C-17 Globemaster III



Papa, Hungary

Airborne Early Warning



Ørland (FOL)/ Geilenkirchen, Germany (MOB)

**Alliance Ground Surveillance** Global Hawk



Sigonella, Italy

### NORWEGIAN ARMED FORCES Royal Norwegian Air Force

#### **Procurement**

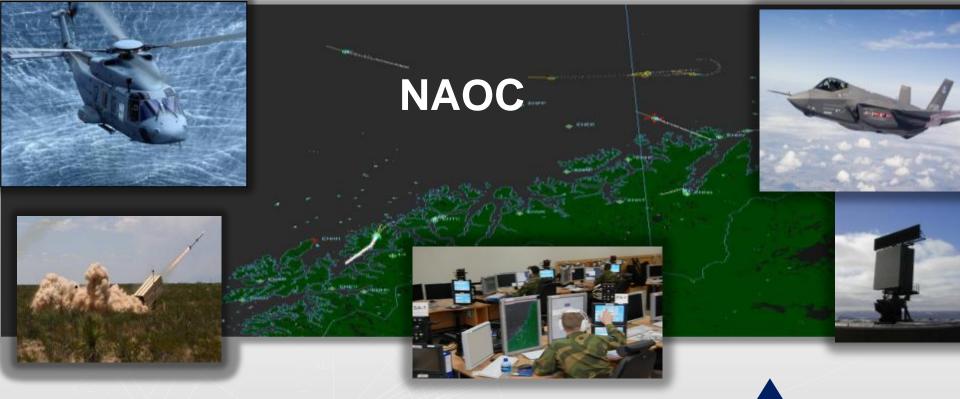
- C-130J Tactical Transport
- F-35 Lightning II
- New Long Range AD Radars
- · New SAR Helicopters
- NH-90 Maritime Helicopters
- Air C2-system (NATO ACCS)







Air power at the right place, at the right time, and with the right effect



### **NAOC** main features:

- Will plan, execute and conduct tactical air operations as directed by the National Joint HQ (FOHK)
- Part of the Air Force organisation

«interim» NAOC 2014



• NAOC «IOC» 2016

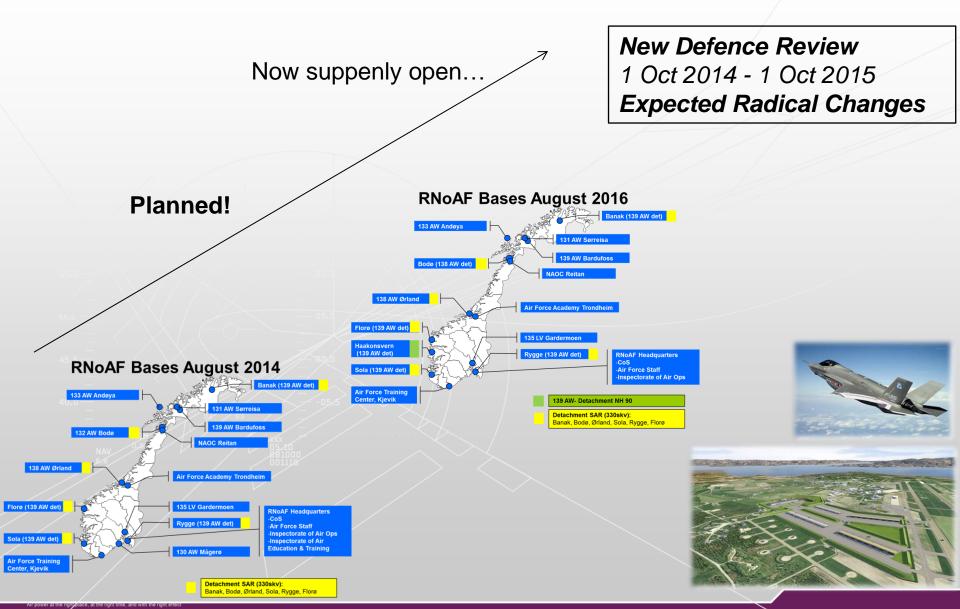


Operational
effect
by
improved
Command & Control

 NAOC «FOC» 2018/20



### Planned new base structure





# Developments driving the new Defence Review

### 1. The Arctic Developments

Russian Arctic Strategy

- Focus on a comprehensive development; economy and interest driven
- Energy resources
  - Ambitious; multinational, but with a Russian lead
- Sailing routes
  - Including environmental security, command and control, icebreakers etc.
- Argue international law (but what is internationally accepted law...?)
- Military force to support and secure the national interests
- Long term interests



Russia to build military Arctic environmental center BarentsObserver

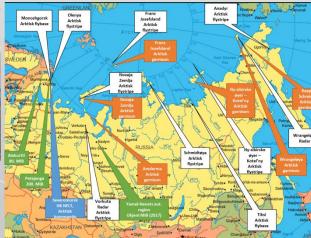


Six vessels with personnel and equipment have set off for the New Siberian Islands in Russia's Extreme North from the North fleet base in the port of Severomorsk in the Barents Sea.

RioNovost









# Developments driving the new Defence Review (2)

### 2. The High North: Geopolitics and Russian Military potentials

- A «Polycentric World Order»
- NATO-Russia developments
- Geopolitics matter, we do not know the future...

# Bear, Luftforsvaret

### We do know:

- The Northern Fleet will remain the dominating Russian naval base
- The strategic submarines will stay central to Russian deterrent
- Strategic Air Power and Rocket Forces will continue to have its shortest route over the Barents Sea region
- The Barents Sea will remain the "testbed" for new and improved national and export main weapon systems.



First Borey sub gets Bulava missiles Barents Observer 2014







## Summary

- The Norwegian Air Force is in the midst of a planned period of great change, including both a modernization of capabilities and changes to the Air Base structure. Norway has recently bought new C-135J aircraft and will soon receive new Joint Strike Fighter aircraft and new helicopters.
  - Norway is yet to decided on replacement aircraft, or other capabilities, for maritime surveillance and intelligence functions, nor has it chosen replacement systems for the aging control and reporting center (CRC) structure.
- The future strategic environment in which these military forces will operate is uncertain

   and a new Defence Review is ongoing. It is expected to be radical!
  - How will this affect NATO and the character and demands of air power in the Alliance?
  - What will the effect be on Norwegian national requirements for air power?
  - These are important questions for the ongoing Defence Review.
- Given its enduring and solid national economy, *Norway has largely been able to uphold a balanced force and many new capabilities* are on their way. This puts Norway in an advantageous situation compared to many other countries.
  - However, challenges remain. *Planned force structure is clearly under-financed*.
  - Will Norwegian politicians increase funding for the Armed Forces, or will large parts of the structure become non-operational?
  - We do have some interesting times ahead…









# Thank you for your attention

