

Fact Sheet

Headquarters, United States Army Europe

Office of the Chief of Public Affairs (OCA)

Tel: 0611-143-537-0005/0006, DSN: (314) 537-0005/0006, email: usarmyeurope.contact@mail.mil



Deputy Public Affairs Director



As the Deputy Director for U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs, John V. Tomassi advises command leadership on public affairs actions and implications of U.S. Army Europe operations and ensures the overall effective operations of the Public Affairs Office.

Additionally he oversees the development, coordination, planning, management, supervision, and evaluation of all programs and activities of the Public Affairs Office to include print, web, social media and broadcast products. He supervises the development of communication strategies involving a wide range of communication methods; reviews press releases, fact sheets, radio and television news spots and other materials that effectively communicate command goals to the media and a variety of international audiences throughout the command's 51-country area of operations.

John has served at every level of public affairs – from tactical to strategic – and maintains extensive knowledge in the European region having spent more than 16 years serving in Germany and Italy in both military and civilian capacities.

He began his public affairs career in 1996, as the editor of an award-winning newspaper at Aviano Air Base, Italy. He moved to the 16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla., as the Chief of Internal Information in 1998 and led the newspaper staff there to two annual awards.

John was reassigned to U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany, in 2000 where he served as the Superintendent of Public Affairs. While there he planned and executed numerous missions, exercises and humanitarian actions and served as the lead Department of Defense public affairs officer at every major air and trade show in the theater.

He moved to the North American Aerospace Defense Command, Colorado Springs, Colo., in 2004 as the only American service member on the NORAD Public Affairs staff. He was responsible for responding to queries resulting from incursions into North American restricted flying zones in support of Operation Noble Eagle. He also led the NORAD Tracks Santa program to its most popular success ever – nearly 1 billion hits were recorded on the website and more than 55,000 phone calls were answered in a 24-hour period.

After retiring from the U.S. Air Force in 2006, John returned to U.S. European Command as the Chief of Community Engagement and later served as the Deputy Director for the Public Affairs Directorate. He planned, developed and coordinated, on a strategic level, engagement initiatives relevant to enhanced understanding and communication between selective national public segments of the European theater and the U.S. military.