

Department of Defense Key Officials

September 1947–May 2025



Historical Office Office of the Secretary of Defense

Contents

Introduction	1
I. Current Department of Defense Key Officials	2
II. Secretaries of Defense	5
III. Deputy Secretaries of Defense	11
IV. Secretaries of the Military Departments	18
V. Under Secretaries and Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense	31
Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)	31
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)	33
Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment)	34
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment)	36
Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)	
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)	
Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer)	
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)	44
Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)	
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)	47
Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security)	48
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security)	
VI. Specified Officials	51
Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation	51
General Counsel of the Department of Defense	52
Inspector General of the Department of Defense	54
VII. Assistant Secretaries of Defense	55
Acquisition	55
Cyber Policy	55
Critical Technologies	56

Energy, Installations, and Environment	56
Health Affairs	56
Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs	58
Indo-Pacific Security Affairs	59
Industrial Base Policy	60
International Security Affairs	61
Legislative Affairs	63
Manpower and Reserve Affairs	65
Mission Capabilities	68
Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs	68
Readiness	69
Science and Technology	70
Space Policy	70
Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities	70
Sustainment	71
VIII. Principal Staff Assistants	73
Administration	73
Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer	74
Chief Information Officer	75
Defense Innovation Unit	75
Operational Test and Evaluation	76
Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency	76
Public Affairs	77
Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict	79
Strategic Capabilities Office	81
IX. Former and Disestablished Positions	82
Civil Defense	82
Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence	82
Management	84
Net Assessment	
Policy and Plans	85

Research and Engineering	85
Security Policy	86
Strategy and Threat Reduction	86
Supply, Logistics, and Installations	87
X. Joint Chiefs of Staff	89
XI. Combatant Commands	96
Current Commands	96
Disestablished Commands	97
XII. Defense Agencies	98
Current Defense Agencies	98
Disestablished Defense Agencies	101
XIII. Department of Defense Field Activities	103

Introduction

This compilation, prepared by the Office of the Secretary of Defense Historical Office, presents information about senior leaders, the positions they held, and the organization of the Department of Defense (DoD) since unification of the United States armed forces in 1947. It does not purport to be comprehensive. "Key officials" is not official terminology, nor is this a top-down listing of officials in order of precedence or reporting authority. It lists both presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS) officials as well as certain non-PAS officials. It includes civilian officials in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the military departments as well as the top leadership of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), the combatant commands, and DoD agencies and field activities.

This compilation includes titles of some official positions that have been superseded by new titles or organizational changes. The text indicates all instances where this has occurred. Where an official position has a direct lineal predecessor with a similar scope of functions, the prior position is either included with the current position or the text indicates where the prior position can be found elsewhere in the publication.

In most entries the effective date of incumbency is either the swearing-in date or initial appointment date. Officials assume office after being appointed to the positions, usually followed by a ceremonial swearing in days or weeks later. Dates of DoD directives establishing the responsibilities of positions and prescribing functions may appear months or sometimes years later.

Offices are sometimes without a permanent appointee for periods ranging from days to years. During many of these periods, other officials, most often a deputy or first assistant, serve in an "acting" or a "performing the duties of " capacity, and are listed as such in this publication. Chronological gaps in listings of officials may be due to a vacancy or may be due to a lack of records on the appointment of a temporary officeholder.

Since the enactment of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, as amended, designation of acting officials and the statutory limitations on how long they are authorized to use the designation of acting are more closely managed. According to the act, a deputy or first assistant, or other senior agency employee designated by the President, may temporarily perform the functions and duties of a PAS official in an acting capacity for no more than 210 days. If the Senate returns or rejects the President's nominee for a vacancy, or if the President withdraws the nominee from consideration, the period of performance for the official serving in an acting capacity begins anew. A PAS official serving simultaneously in an acting capacity for a position for which they were not confirmed will be listed in this publication under both their Senate-confirmed position and the acting, nonconfirmed position.

When a first assistant or other executive office is vacant, or when a first assistant or deputy temporarily steps away from a position to serve in an acting capacity in another position, the vacancy may be handled by a PAS official or senior agency employee "performing the duties of" the position. Such an employee may be delegated nonstatutory duties and functions of the position and does not face a time constraint on how long they may perform such duties.

This edition corrects errors that appeared in earlier editions and brings the information up to date (as of May 2025). Please call any errors that appear in this publication to the attention of the Office of the Secretary of Defense Historical Office. Updates to this compilation are available at history.defense.gov.

I. Current Department of Defense Key Officials

Last updated on May 23, 2025. Not in order of succession or precedence.

Secretary of Defense	Pete Hegseth
Deputy Secretary of Defense	Stephen A. Feinberg
Secretary of the Army	Daniel P. Driscoll
Secretary of the Navy	John C. Phelan
Secretary of the Air Force	Troy E. Meink
Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)	Emil Michael
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)	James G. Mazol (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Critical Technologies)	Peter Highnam (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Mission Capabilities)	Marcia Holmes (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Science and Technology)	Michael J. Holthe (Acting)
Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment)	Steven J. Morani (Performing the Duties Of)
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment)	Brent G. Ingraham (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition)	James A. Ruocco (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Sustainment)	Steven J. Morani (Acting)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, and Environment)	Robert E. Thompson (Acting)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Industrial Base Policy)	Vic S. Ramdass (Acting)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Defense Programs)	Brandi Vann (Performing the Duties Of)
Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)	Elbridge A. Colby
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)	Austin J. Dahmer (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Cyber Policy)	Ashley Manning (Acting)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Indo-Pacific Security Affa	irs) John Noh (Performing the Duties Of)

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs)	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)	Katherine E. Thompson (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities)	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Space Policy)	John Hill (Performing the Duties Of)
Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/CFO)Bry	n Woollacott MacDonnell (Performing the Duties Of)
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/CFO)	Anne McAndrew (Performing the Duties Of)
Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness	s)Jules W. Hurst III (Performing the Duties Of)
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)	Timothy D. Dill (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)	Stephen L. Ferrara (Acting)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)	Timothy D. Dill (Performing the Duties Of)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness)	Jules W. Hurst III (Performing the Duties Of)
Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security)	Dustin Gard-Weiss (Performing the Duties Of)
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security)	Dustin Gard-Weiss (Performing the Duties Of)
Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation	
Director, Defense Innovation Unit	Douglas Beck
Director, Strategic Capabilities Office	Jay Dryer
General Counsel	Charles L. Young III (Acting)
Inspector General	Steven Stebbins (Acting)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs)	
Director of Administration and Management	Jennifer C. Walsh
Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer	Douglas Matty
Chief Information Officer	
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency)	Joo Y. Chung

Director of Operational Test and EvaluationRaymond O'Toole (Acting)
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) Sean Parnell
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict) Colby C. Jenkins (Performing the Duties Of)
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of StaffGeneral John D. Caine, USAF
Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Christopher W. Grady, USN
Chief of Staff of the ArmyGeneral Randy George, USA
Chief of Naval OperationsAdmiral James W. Kilby, USN (Acting)
Chief of Staff of the Air Force General David W. Allvin, USAF
Commandant of the Marine CorpsGeneral Eric Smith, USMC
Chief of Space Operations General B. Chance Saltzman, USAF
Chief of the National Guard BureauGeneral Steven S. Nordhaus, USAF
Director of the Joint Staff Lt. Gen. Douglas A. Sims II, USA

II. Secretaries of Defense

The National Security Act of 1947, Public Law (PL) 80-253, 26 July 1947, which provided for a National Military Establishment, created the position of Secretary of Defense. The National Security Act Amendments of 1949, PL 81-216, 10 August 1949, made the Secretary of Defense the head of the Department of Defense. The Secretary of Defense is the principal defense policy adviser to the President and exercises authority over the formulation of defense policy and all activities of the Department of Defense.

Congress passed PL 81-788 on 18 September 1950, waiving the restriction against nominating an active-duty commissioned officer in order for General George C. Marshall to serve as Secretary of Defense. This law was only effective for the duration of General Marshall's term as Secretary. General James N. Mattis received a similar waiver through PL 115-2, the Secretary of Defense Appointment Restriction Waiver, on 20 January 2017 as did General Lloyd J. Austin through PL 117-1 on 22 January 2021.

Secretary of Defense

5	
James V. Forrestal	17 September 1947–28 March 1949
• Born 15 February 1892; died 22 May 1949	
• Served in the U.S. Navy during World War I	
• Dillon, Read & Company, 1916–1940	
• Under Secretary of the Navy, 1940–1944	
• Secretary of the Navy, 1944–1947	
Louis A. Johnson	28 March 1949–19 September 1950
• Born 10 January 1891; died 24 April 1966	
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1917–1919	
 Founding partner, Steptoe & Johnson, 1912 	
 Cofounder and national commander, American 	n Legion, 1932–1933
 Assistant Secretary of War, 1937–1940 	
• Returned to law practice 1940–1949	
George C. Marshall2	21 September 1950–12 September 1951
• Born 31 December 1880; died 16 October 19	59
• Commissioned in the U.S. Army in 1902	
• U.S. Army Chief of Staff, 1939–1945	
• Secretary of State, 1947–1949	
 President, American Red Cross, 1949–1950 	
Robert A. Lovett	17 September 1951–20 January 1953
• Born 14 September 1895; died 7 May 1986	
• Served in the U.S. Navy as a pilot, 1917–1919	
• Brown Brothers Harriman & Company, 1926	-1940; 1946-1947; 1949-1950
• Special Assistant to the Secretary of War, 1940)—1941
• Assistant to the Secretary of War for Air, 1941	-1945
• Under Secretary of State, 1947–1949	
• Deputy Secretary of Defense, 4 October 1950	-16 September 1951
Charles E. Wilson	

 Born 18 July 1890; died 26 September 1961
Engineer, Westinghouse Electric Company, 1909–1919
 General Motors Corporation, 1919–1952 (president, 1941–1952)
Neil H. McElroy9 October 1957–1 December 1959
• Born 30 October 1904; died 30 November 1972
• Procter & Gamble Company, 1925–1957 (president, 1948–1975)
Thomas S. Gates Jr
• Born 10 April 1906; died 25 March 1983
• Served in the U.S. Naval Reserve, 1942–1945
• Drexel & Company, 1928–1953
• Under Secretary of the Navy, 1953–1957
• Secretary of the Navy, 1957–1959
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 8 June 1959–1 December 1959
Robert S. McNamara
• Born 9 June 1916; died 6 July 2009
• Served in the U.S. Army Air Forces, 1943–1946
• Ford Motor Company, 1946-1961 (president, 1960–1961)
President, World Bank, 1968–1981
Clark M. Clifford 1 March 1968–20 January 1969
Born 25 December 1906; died 10 October 1998
• Served in the U.S. Naval Reserve, 1943–1946
 Assistant Naval Aide to the President, 1945–1946
• Naval Aide to the President, 1946
 Special Counsel to the President, 1946–1950
 Senior partner, Clifford & Miller, 1950–1968
 Senior partner, Clifford & Warnke, 1969–1991
Melvin R. Laird
Born 1 September 1922; died 16 November 2016
• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1942–1946
• U.S. Representative (R-WI), 1953–1969
Elliot L. Richardson
• Born 20 July 1920; died 31 December 1999
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1942–1945
 Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1957–1959
 Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, 1965–1967
• Under Secretary of State, 1969–1970
• Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1970–1973
• U.S. Attorney General, 1973–1973
James R. Schlesinger
 Born 15 February 1929; died 27 March 2014

• Director of Strategic Studies, RAND Corporation, 1967–1969

- Assistant Director, Bureau of the Budget, 1969
- Assistant Director, Office of Management and Budget, 1970–1971
- Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, 1971–1973
- Director of Central Intelligence, 1973
- Secretary of the Department of Energy, 1977–1979

- Born 9 July 1932; died 29 June 2021
- Served in the U.S. Navy, 1954–1957
- U.S. Representative (R-IL), 1963–1969
- Director, Office of Economic Opportunity, 1969–1970
- Counselor to the President, 1970–1973
- Director, Cost of Living Council, 1971–1973
- Ambassador to NATO, 1973–1974
- White House Chief of Staff, 1974–1975
- Chief executive officer, G. D. Searle & Company, 1977–1985
- Chairman and chief executive officer, General Instrument Corporation, 1990– 1993
- Secretary of Defense, 20 January 2001–18 December 2006

- Born 19 September 1927; died 4 January 2019
- Staff member, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, 1952–1960
- President, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, 1960–1961
- Director, Defense Research and Engineering, 1961–1965
- Secretary of the Air Force, 1965–1969
- President, California Institute of Technology, 1969–1977

- Born 18 August 1917; died 28 March 2006
- Served in the U.S. Army, 1941–1945
- Director, Office of Management and Budget, 1972–1973
- Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1973–1975
- General counsel, vice president, and director, Bechtel Corporation, 1975–1981

- Born 18 October 1930; died 3 June 2018
- Served in the U.S. Navy, 1952–1954
- Director, Office of Economic Opportunity, 1970–1972
- Under Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1972–1974
- Ambassador to Portugal, 1975–1978
- Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, 1978–1981
- Deputy Secretary of Defense, 4 February 1981–31 December 1982
- National Security Advisor, 1986–1987

William H. Taft IV (Acting)......20 January 1989–21 March 1989

 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 3 February 1984–22 April 1989; see bio in Section III
Richard B. "Dick" Cheney
Born 30 January 1941
• Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Economic Opportunity, 1969–1970
 Deputy to the Presidential Counselor, 1970–1971
Assistant Director of Operations, Cost of Living Council, 1971–1973
 Assistant to the President, 1975–1977 U.S. Representative (R-WY), 1978–1989
Leslie "Les" Aspin
• Born 21 July 1938; died 21 May 1995
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1966–1968
 Assistant professor of economics, Marquette University, 1968–1970
• U.S. Representative (D-WI), 1971–1993
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee, 1985–1993
William J. Perry
• Born 11 October 1927
Served in the U.S. Army, 1946–1947
 Laboratory director, General Telephone (General Telephone and Electric after 1959), 1954–1964
 President, Electromagnetic Systems Laboratory Inc., 1964–1977
• Director, Defense Research and Engineering, 1977
 Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering), 1977–1981
Director, Stanford University Center for International Security and Arms General, 1989, 1992
 Control, 1989–1993 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 5 March 1993– 3 February 1994
William S. Cohen
 Born 28 August 1940
 Assistant County Attorney, Penobscot County, Maine, 1968–1970
 Mayor of Bangor, Maine, 1971–1972
• U.S. Representative (R-ME), 1973–1979
• U.S. Senator (R-ME), 1979–1997
Donald H. Rumsfeld 20 January 2001–18 December 2006
 Secretary of Defense, 20 November 1975–20 January 1977; see bio in this section
Robert M. Gates
Born 25 September 1943
• Served in U.S. Air Force intelligence, 1967–1969
Central Intelligence Agency, 1966–1974
National Security Council staff, 1974–1979
 Central Intelligence Agency, 1979–1986 Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, 1986, 1989
 Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, 1986–1989

- Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs and Deputy National Security Advisor, 1989–1991
- Director of Central Intelligence, 1991–1993
- Interim dean, George Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University, 1999–2001
- President, Texas A&M University, 2002–2006

Leon E. Panetta..... 1 July 2011–26 February 2013

- Born 28 June 1938
- Served in U.S. Army intelligence, 1964–1966
- U.S. Representative (D-CA), 1977–1993
- Director, Office of Management and Budget, 1993–1994
- White House Chief of Staff, 1994–1997
- Director of Central Intelligence, 2009–2011
- Charles T. "Chuck" Hagel 27 February 2013–17 February 2015
 - Born 4 October 1946
 - Served in the U.S. Army, 1967–1968
 - Deputy Administrator, U.S. Veterans Administration, 1981–1982
 - President and chief executive officer, Private Sector Council, 1990–1992
 - President, McCarthy & Company, 1992–1996
 - U.S. Senator (R-NE), 1996–2009

Ashton B. "Ash" Carter 17 February 2015–20 January 2017

- Born 24 September 1954; died 24 October 2022
- Assistant Secretary of Defense (Nuclear Security and Counterproliferation), 1993–1994
- Chair, international and global affairs faculty and professor of science and international affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2000–2009
- Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), 2009–2011
- Deputy Secretary of Defense, 6 October 2011–3 December 2013
- Senior executive, Markle Foundation, 2014–2015
- Distinguished visiting fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 2014– 2015

- Born 8 September 1950
- Commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps, 1971
- NATO Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation, 2007–2010
- Commander, U.S. Central Command, 2010–2013
- Davies Family Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution, 2014–2017
- Patrick M. Shanahan (Acting).....1 January 2019–23 June 2019
 - Deputy Secretary of Defense, 19 June 2017–23 June 2019; see bio in section III

Richard V. Spencer (Acting)	15 July 2019–23 July 2019
• Secretary of the Navy, 3 August 2017–15 July 20	019; see bio in section IV
Mark T. Esper	23 July 2019–9 November 2020
 Born 26 April 1964 Served in the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, 19 Executive vice president, Global Intellectual Pro Commerce, 2008–2010 	
 Vice president for government relations, Raythe Secretary of the Army, 2017–2019 Acting Secretary of Defense, 24 June 2019–15 J 	
Christopher C. Miller (Acting)	
 Performing the duties of Assistant Secretary of I Low-Intensity Conflict), June–August 2020 Director, National Counterterrorism Center, Aug 	Defense (Special Operations and
David L. Norquist (Acting)	20 January 2021–22 January 2021
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 31 July 2019–9 Fe III 	
Lloyd J. Austin III	22 January 2021–20 January 2025
Born 8 August 1953	
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1975–2016	
• Chief of Staff, U.S. Central Command, 2005–20	
Commander, XVIII Airborne Corps, U.S. Army, Director, Leint Staff, 2000, 2010	, 2006–2009
Director, Joint Staff, 2009–2010Commander, U.S. Forces-Iraq, 2010–2011	
 Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, 2012–2013 	
• Commander, U.S. Central Command, 2013–201	6
• Director, Board of Directors, Raytheon Technology	
Robert G. Salesses (Acting)	20 January 2025–25 January 2025
Deputy Director, Washington Headquarters Server	vices, 2022–Present
Pete Hegseth	25 January 2025–Present
• Born 6 June 1980	
• Served in the Army National Guard, 2003–2014	; 2019–2021
Senior Fellow, Center of the American Experim	ent, 2011–2015
• Chief Executive Officer, Concerned Veterans fo	r America, 2012–2015
• Co-host Fox & Friends 2016-2025	

• Co-host, Fox & Friends, 2016-2025

III. Deputy Secretaries of Defense

Public Law 81-36, 2 April 1949, originally established this position as Under Secretary of Defense. PL 81-216, 10 August 1949, the 1949 amendments to the National Security Act of 1947, changed the title to Deputy Secretary of Defense.

PL 92-596, 27 October 1972, established a second Deputy position, with both Deputies performing duties as prescribed by the Secretary of Defense. The second Deputy position was not filled until December 1975. PL 95-140, 21 October 1977, the law establishing two Under Secretaries of Defense, abolished the second Deputy position.

By delegation, the Deputy Secretary of Defense has full power and authority to act for the Secretary of Defense and to exercise the powers of the Secretary on any and all matters for which the Secretary is authorized to act pursuant to the law.

Under Secretary of Defense

Deputy Secretary of Defense

Stephen T. Early......10 August 1949–30 September 1950

- Born 27 August 1889; died 11 August 1951
- Served in the U.S. Army, 1917–1919
- Journalist, United Press, 1908–1913
- Journalist, Associated Press, 1913–1917 and 1920–1927
- Assistant to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1933–1945
- Under Secretary of Defense, 2 May 1949–9 August 1949, when the position title changed

Robert A. Lovett 4 October 1950–16 September 1951

- Secretary of Defense, 17 September 1951–20 January 1953; see bio in section II
- - Born 27 April 1897; died 16 October 1984
 - Served in the U.S. Army, 1917
 - Under Secretary of Commerce, 1946–1948
 - Administrator, Economic Cooperation Administration, 1948–1951

- Born 6 March 1906; died 13 February 1971
- Vice president, Empire Plow Company, 1932-1941
- Harry Ferguson, Inc., 1941-1947 (president, 1943-1947)
- General Motors Corporation, 1948-1953 and 1959-1970

- Born 4 June 1910; died 14 August 1989
- General counsel and manager, W. T. Waggoner Estate, 1937–1952
- Secretary of the Navy, 1953–1954
- Secretary of the Treasury, 1957–1961

Reuben B. Robertson Jr	5 August 1955–25 April 1957
• Born 27 June 1908; died 13 March 196	0
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1942–1945	
• Champion Paper and Fibre Company, 1	930–1955 and 1957–1960 (president,
1950–1955 and 1957–1960)Vice chairman, Hoover Commission C	committee on Business Organization of
the Department of Defense, 1955	oninitiee on Dusiness organization of
Donald A. Quarles	1 May 1957–8 May 1959
• Born 30 July 1894; died 8 May 1959	
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1917–1919	
• Engineer, Western Electric Company, 1	
Bell Telephone Laboratories 1925-1952	
 President, Sandia Corporation; vice pre 1952–1953 	sident, Western Electric Company
 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Researching) 	ch and Development), 1953–1955
• Secretary of the Air Force, 15 August 1	955–30 April 1957
Thomas S. Gates Jr	8 June 1959–1 December 1959
• Secretary of Defense, 2 December 1959	9–20 January 1961; see bio in section II
James H. Douglas Jr	11 December 1959–24 January 1961
 Born 11 March 1899; died 24 February 	1988
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1918, and U.S.	•
• Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1953-	
• Secretary of the Air Force, 1 May 1957	
Roswell L. Gilpatric	
• Born 4 November 1906; died 15 March	
• Partner, Cravath, Swain & Moore, 1940	
 Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, 19 Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1951- 	
Cyrus R. Vance	-
 Born 27 March 1917; died 12 January 2 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1942–1946 	2002
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1942–1946 Associate General Counsel, Senate Arm 	ned Services Prenaredness Investigating
Subcommittee, 1958	lea Services i repareaness investiganing
Consulting Counsel, Senate Committee	on Space and Aeronautics, 1958–1961
General Counsel, Department of Defense	se, 1961–1962
• Secretary of the Army, 1962–1964	
Paul H. Nitze	1 July 1967–20 January 1969
Born 27 March 1917; died 19 October 2	2004
• Dillon, Read & Company, 1929–1937	
Chief, Metals and Minerals Branch, Bo	-
• Director, then Vice Chairman, U.S. Stra	alegic Bomoing Survey, 1944–1946

 Deputy Director, Office of International Trade Policy, U.S. Department of State, 1946-1948
 Policy Planning Staff, U.S. Department of State, 1949–1953 (Director, 1950– 1953)
 Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs), 1961–1963 Secretary of the Navy, 29 November 1963–30 June 1967
David Packard
 Born 7 September 1912; died 26 March 1996 Hewlett-Packard Company, 1939–1969 (president, 1947–1964, and chief executive officer, 1964–1969)
Kenneth Rush 23 February 1972–29 January 1973
 Born 17 January 1910; died 11 December 1994 Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, 1969–1972 Deputy Secretary of State, 1973–1974
William P. Clements Jr
 Born 13 April 1917; died 29 May 2011 Member, Department of Defense Blue Ribbon Defense Panel, 1969–1970 Governor of Texas, 1979–1983, 1987–1991
Robert F. Ellsworth
 Born 11 June 1926; died 9 May 2011 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1944–1946 and 1950–1953 U.S. Representative (R-KS), 1961–1967 Ambassador to NATO, 1969–1974 Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs), 1974–1975 Filled position of "second" Deputy Secretary of Defense (see introductory note)
Charles W. Duncan Jr
 Born 9 September 1926; died 18 October 2022 Served in the U.S. Army Air Forces, 1944–1946 Coca-Cola Company, 1964–1974 (president, 1971–1974) Secretary of Energy, 1979–1981
W. Graham Claytor Jr
 Born 14 March 1912; died 14 May 1994 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1941–1946 Associate; Partner, Covington & Burling, 1938–1967 President and chairman, Southern Railway Company, 1967–1977 Secretary of the Navy, 1977–1979 Acting Secretary of Transportation, 1979
Frank C. Carlucci
• Secretary of Defense, 23 November 1987–20 January 1989; see bio in section II
 W. Paul Thayer

• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1941–1945 • President, Chance Vought Aircraft, 1961–1965 • President, LTV Aerospace Corporation, 1965–1970 • Chairman and chief executive officer, LTV Corporation, 1970-1982 • Born 13 September 1945 • Executive Assistant to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1973-1977 • General Counsel, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1973–1976 • General Counsel, Department of Defense, 1981–1984 • Acting Secretary of Defense, 20 January 1989–21 March 1989 • U.S. Permanent Representative to NATO, 1989–1992 • Born 25 May 1924; died 24 April 1994 • Served in the U.S. Army, 1943–1945 • Vice president and treasurer, Dynatrol Corporation, 1952–1959 • General Motors Corporation, 1959–1989 (executive vice president, 1984–1989; vice chairman of the board, 1987–1989) • Secretary of Defense, 3 February 1994–24 January 1997; see bio in section II • Born 27 July 1938 • Systems Analyst, Office of the Secretary of Defense, 1961–1965 • Assistant professor of chemistry, Princeton University, 1967–1970 • Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1970–1980 • Under Secretary of Energy, 1977–1980 • Provost, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1980–1993 • Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), 1993–1994 • Born 27 February 1937; died 3 September 2017 • Senior vice president and member, board of trustees, RAND Corporation, 1968–1977 • Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics), 1977-1978 • Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget, 1978–1981 • Chairman, Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces, 1994– 1995 • Born 3 July 1950 • Congressional Budget Office, 1978–1984 • Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee, 1984–1993

• Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 1993–1997

Rudy deLeon
• Born 28 August 1952
 Legislative Assistant, U.S. Senate, 1974–1977
 Professional Staff Member, House Armed Services Committee, 1985–1989
Staff Director, House Armed Services Committee, 1989–1993
• Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, 1993–1994
• Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1994–1997
• Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), 1997–2000
Paul D. Wolfowitz
• Born 22 December 1943
• U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, 1973–1977
• Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Regional Programs), 1977–1980
 Director, Policy Planning, Department of State, 1981–1982 Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, 1982–1986
 Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Facine Analis, 1982–1980 Ambassador to Indonesia, 1986–1989
 Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 1989–1993
 Dean, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, 1993–2001
Gordon R. England (Acting)
Gordon R. England
Born 15 September 1937
 Bolh 15 September 1957 Engineer, General Electric Company, 1961–1962
 Engineer, Honeywell Corporation, 1962–1966
 Program manager, Litton Industries, 1972–1973
• General Dynamics, 1966–1972; 1973–1995; 1997–2001 (executive vice
• president 1997–2001)
 Secretary of the Navy, 24 May 2001–24 January 2003; 1 October 2003–29
December 2005
 Deputy Secretary of Department of Homeland Security, 2003
William J. Lynn III 12 February 2009–5 October 2011
Born 1 January 1954
 Legislative counsel to Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA), 1987–1993
Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation, 1993–1997
• Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 1997–2001
 Senior vice president, government operations and strategy, Raytheon Company, 2002–2009
Ashton B. "Ash" Carter
• Secretary of Defense, 17 February 2015–19 January 2017; see bio in section II
Christine H. Fox (Acting)5 December 2013–30 April 2014
• Born 26 May 1955
President, Center for Naval Analyses, 2004–2009
 Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, 2009–2013

 Assistant director, policy and analysis, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 2014–
Robert O. Work
 Born 17 January 1953 Served in the U.S. Marine Corps, 1974–2001 Vice president, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, 2002–2009 Under Secretary of the Navy, 2009–2013 President, Center for a New American Security, 2013–2014
Patrick M. Shanahan19 June 2017–23 June 2019
 Born 27 June 1962 The Boeing Company, 1986–2017 (Senior vice president, supply chain and operations, 2016–2017) Acting Secretary of Defense, 1 January 2019–23 June 2019
David L. Norquist (Performing the Duties Of)1 January 2019–23 July 2019
Richard V. Spencer (Performing the Duties Of)
• Secretary of the Navy, 3 August 2017–15 July 2019; see bio in section IV
David L. Norquist
 Born 24 November 1966 Presidential Management Fellow, Department of the Army, 1989–1995 Director, Resource Management, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, 1995–1997 Professional Staff Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, 1997–2002 Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 2002–2006 Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, 2006–2008 Partner, Kearney & Company, 2008–2017 Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 2017–2019 Performed the duties of the Deputy Secretary of Defense, 1 January 2019–23 July 2019
Kathleen H. Hicks 9 February 2021–20 January 2025
 Born 25 September 1970 Senior fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2006–2009 Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Forces, 2009–2012 Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, 2012–2013 Senior vice president; Henry A. Kissinger Chair; Director, International Security Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2013–2021 Donald Marron Scholar, Kissinger Center for Global Affairs, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, 2013–2021 Robert G. Salesses (Performing the Duties Of)
 Deputy Director, Washington Headquarters Services, 2022–Present Acting Secretary of Defense, 2025

- Born 29 March 1960
- Co-founder, co-Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer, Cerberus Capital Management, 1992–2025
- Chair, Intelligence Oversight Board, 2018–2021
- Chair, President's Intelligence Advisory Board, 2018–2021

IV. Secretaries of the Military Departments

The National Security Act of 1947 established three military departments—the Department of the Army (a renaming of the War Department), the Department of the Navy (comprised of the Navy and Marine Corps), and the newly created Department of the Air Force. All three were executive departments headed by a Secretary. The National Security Act Amendments of 1949, PL 81-216, 10 August 1949, changed the status of each department from "executive" to "military," with each Secretary giving up their seats in the cabinet and the National Security Council. DoD Directive 5100.1, 31 December 1958, established two command lines: one for operational direction of the armed forces through the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the unified and specified commands, and the second for the direction of support activities through the Secretaries of the military departments.

Secretary of the Army

• Served in the U.S. Army, 1918–1919 • Senior partner, Ehringhaus, Royall, Gosney & Smith, 1937 • Senior partner, Royall, Gosney & Smith, 1938–1942 • Under Secretary of War, 1945–1947 • Secretary of War, 19 July 1947–17 September 1947 • Served in the U.S. Army, 1942–1945 • President, Piedmont Publishing Company, 1937–1947 • Assistant Secretary of the Army, 1947–1949 • Under Secretary of the Army, 1949 • Special Assistant to the President, 1950 • President, University of North Carolina, 1950–1955 • Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs), 1955–1957 • Director, Office of Defense Mobilization, 1957–1958 • National Security Advisor, 1958–1961 • Served in the U.S. Army Air Forces, 1942–1946 • Assistant Director, Bureau of the Budget, 1948 • Director, Bureau of the Budget, 1949–1950 Robert T. Stevens...... 4 February 1953–20 July 1955 • Served in the U.S. Army, 1918; 1942–1945 • President, J. P. Stevens & Company, Inc., 1929–1942 • Chairman of the board, J. P. Stevens & Company, 1945–1953 • Served with the National Guard, 1916; and with the U.S. Army, 1917–1918 • Attorney, Saginaw County, Michigan, 1919–1927 • Governor of Michigan, 1930–1932 • General Counsel, Department of Defense, 1954–1955

• Served in the U.S. Army 1941–1945
Associate, Mudge, Stern, Williams & Tucker, 1939
• Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army, 1951–1952
 President, University of West Virginia, 1959–1961
Cyrus R. Vance
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 28 January 1964–30 June 1967; see bio in section III
Stephen Ailes
 Assistant professor of law, West Virginia University, 1937–1940 Counsel to U.S. Economic Mission to Greece, 1947 Under Secretary of the Army, 1961–1964
Stanley R. Resor
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1942–1945 Associate; partner, Deveboise, Plimpton, Lyons & Gates, 1946–1965 Under Secretary of the Army, 1965 Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 1978–1979
Robert F. Froehlke1 July 1971–14 May 1973
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1943–1946 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration), 1969–1971
Howard H. Callaway15 May 1973–3 July 1975
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1949–1952 U.S. Representative (R-GA), 1965–1967
Martin R. Hoffmann
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1954–1956 General Counsel, Department of Defense, 1974–1975
Clifford L. Alexander 14 February 1977–20 January 1981
 Assistant district attorney for New York County, 1959–1961 Special Assistant to the President, 1964–1965 Chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1967–1969
Percy A. Pierre (Acting)
 Deputy to the Assistant to the President for Urban Affairs from 1969–1970 Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development and Acquisition), 1977–1981
John O. Marsh
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1944–1947 U.S. Representative (D-VA), 1963–1971 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), 1973–1974 Assistant to the Vice President, 1974 Counselor to the President, 1974–1977
Michael P. W. Stone

President, Sterling Vineyards, 1968–1982
 Director, U.S. Mission, Agency for International Development, Cairo, Egypt, 1982–1984
 Under Secretary of the Army, 1988–1989
John W. Shannon (Acting)
• Under Secretary of the Army, 14 August 1989–23 November 1993
Gordon R. Sullivan (Acting)
• Chief of Staff of the Army, 21 June 1991–20 June 1995
Togo D. West Jr
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1969–1973
Associate Deputy Attorney, Department of Justice, 1975–1976
General Counsel, Department of the Navy, 1977–1979
 Special Assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense, 1979–1980 General Counsel, Department of Defense, 1980–1981
Robert M. Walker (Acting)
• Under Secretary of the Army, 13 November 1997–15 October 1998
Louis Caldera2 July 1998–20 January 2001
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1978–1983 Attorney, O'Melveny & Myers, 1987–1990
 California State Assemblyman, 1992–1997 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1007–1008
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)
 Managing director and chief operating officer, Corporation for National Service, 1997–1998 Gregory R. Dahlberg (Acting)

• U.S. Representative (D-TX), 1989–1997
• Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, 2001–2005
 Acting Secretary of the Air Force, 29 July 2005–4 November 2005
• Under Secretary of the Army, 2006–2007
 Acting Secretary of the Army, 9 March 2007–16 July 2007
John M. McHugh
• U.S. Representative (R-NY), 1992–2009
Eric K. Fanning
• Special Assistant, Office of the Secretary of Defense, 1993–1996
 Senior vice president, strategic development, Business Executives for National Security, 2001–2007
 Deputy Director, Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction
 Proliferation and Terrorism, 2008–2009
 Deputy Under Secretary and Deputy Chief Management Officer, Department the Navy, 2009–2013
• Under Secretary of the Air Force, 2013–2015
• Acting Secretary of the Air Force, 21 June –20 December 2013
Robert M. Speer
• Executive vice president, Global Intellectual Property Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 2008–2010
Vice President, Raytheon Company, 2010–2017
Ryan McCarthy (Acting)
Mark T. Esper 15 November 2017–23 July 2019
• Secretary of Defense, 23 July 2019–9 November 2020; see bio in section II
Ryan McCarthy (Performing the Duties Of)
Ryan McCarthy (Acting)
Ryan McCarthy
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1997–2002
 Vice president, global security policy, Lockheed Martin Corporation, 2013– 2017
 Under Secretary of the Army and Chief Management Officer, U.S. Department of the Army, 2017–2019
 Acting Secretary of the Army, 3 August 2017–20 November 2017
 Acting Secretary of the Army, 24 June–15 July 2019; 23 July–30 September 2019
John E. Whitley (Acting)20 January 2021–27 May 2021
Acting Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, 2019–2020
 Performed the duties of Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, 2020
Christine Wormuth

 Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Americas Security Affairs), 2009–2010
 Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Defense, 2010–2012
 Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Force Development), 2012–2013
• Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 2014–2016
• Director, International Security and Defense Policy Center, RAND
Corporation, 2018–2021
Mark F. Averill (Acting)
 Administrative Assistant, Secretary of the Army, 2022–2025
Daniel P. Driscoll 25 February 2025–Preser
 Served in the U.S. Army, 2007–2011 Associate, BlackArch Partners, 2014–2016 Partner, 100watt, 2017–2021 Chief Operating Officer, Flex Capital, 2021–2023
Secretary of the Navy
John L. Sullivan
• Served in the U.S. Naval Reserve, 1918
 Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, 1940–1944
 Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air, 1945–1946
• Under Secretary of the Navy, 1946–1947
Francis P. Matthews25 May 1949–30 July 195
 Counsel for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, 1933–1949 Ambassador to Ireland, 1951–1952
Dan A. Kimball
• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1969–1975
 Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, 1985–1986 Assistant to the President, 1986–1988
Robert B. Anderson 4 February 1953–2 May 1954
• Deputy Secretary of Defense, 3 May 1954–4 August 1955; see bio in section III
Charles S. Thomas
• Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, 1942–1945
• Under Secretary of the Navy 1953–1953
• Assistant Secretary of Defense (Supply and Logistics), 1953–1954
Thomas S. Gates Jr 1 April 1957–7 June 195
• Secretary of Defense, 2 December 1959–20 January 1961; see bio in section II
William B. Franke8 June 1959–20 January 196
 Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, 1951–1952 Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management), 1954–1957 Under Secretary of the Navy, 1957–1959

John B. Connally	25 January 1961–20 December 1961
Served in the U.S. Navy, 1942–1946Governor of Texas, 1963–1969	
Fred H. Korth	4 January 1962–1 November 1963
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1942–1946 Assistant Secretary of the Army, 1952–1953 Consultant to the Secretary of the Army, 1953- 	-1960
Paul H. Nitze	
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 1 July 1967–20.3 III 	January 1969; see bio in section
Charles F. Baird (Acting)	1 July 1967–31 August 1967
 Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Mat 1966–1967 	nagement and Comptroller),
• Under Secretary of the Navy, 1 August 1967–2	20 January 1969
Paul R. Ignatius	1 September 1967–24 January 1969
• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1943–1946	
 Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations) Under Secretary of the Army, 1964 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Secretary) 	
John H. Chafee	
 Served in the U.S. Marine Corps, 1942–1945, Governor of Rhode Island, 1963–1969 	• •
John W. Warner	
Served in the U.S. Navy, 1944–1946, and U.S.Under Secretary of the Navy, 1969–1972	
 Administrator of the American Revolution Bic 1976 	entennial Administration, 1974–
J. William Middendorf II	10 June 1974–20 January 1977
• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1945–1946	
 Ambassador to the Netherlands, 1969–1973 	
W. Graham Claytor Jr	14 February 1977–26 July 1979
• Deputy Secretary of Defense, 24 August 1979- section III	-16 January 1981; see bio in
Edward Hidalgo	
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1942–1946 Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower, R 1977–1979 	
John F. Lehman Jr	5 February 1981–10 April 1987

 National Security Council staff, 1969–1975 Deputy Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, 1975–1977
James H. Webb Jr 10 April 1987–23 February 1988
 Served in the U.S. Marine Corps, 1968–1972 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), 1984–1987
William L. Ball III
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1969–1975 Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, 1985–1986 Assistant to the President, 1986–1988
H. Lawrence Garrett III 15 May 1989–26 June 1992
 Enlisted in the U.S. Navy, 1961; retired as Commander, 1981 Assistant Counsel to the President, 1981 Executive Assistant to the President and Chief Operating Officer, U.S. Synthetic Fuels Corporation, 1982 Associate Counsel to the President of the United States, 1983–1986 General Counsel, Department of Defense, 1986–1987 Under Secretary of the Navy, 1987–1989
Sean O'Keefe (Acting)
Sean O'Keefe 16 December 1992–20 January 1993
 Department of Defense Comptroller, 1989–1992 Acting Secretary of the Navy, 7 July 1992–16 December 1992
John H. Dalton
Served in the U.S. Navy, 1964–969Federal Home Loan Bank Board, 1979–1981
Richard Danzig16 November 1998–20 January 2001
 Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics), 1978–1979
 Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics), 1979–1981 Under Secretary of the Navy, 1993–1997
Gordon R. England
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 4 January 2006–11 February 2009; see bio in section III
Hansford T. Johnson (Acting)
 Served in the U.S. Air Force, 1959–1992 Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment), 2001–2005
Gordon R. England
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 4 January 2006–11 February 2009; see bio in section III
Dionel M. Aviles (Acting)

Donald (C. Winter	3 January 2006–13 March 200
	Defense Advanced Research Project	
	• President and chief executive off	-
B. J. Pen	· /	
	• Assistant Secretary of the Navy (2009	Energy, Installations, and Environment), 2005–
Raymon	d E. Mabus	
	 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1970–1 Governor of Mississippi, 1998–2 Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, 1998–2 	2002
Richard		3 August 2017–15 July 201
	 Served in the U.S. Marine Corps Governor of Mississippi, 1998–2 Managing director, Fall Creek M Performed the duties of Deputy S Acting Secretary of Defense, 15 	, 1976–1981 2002 Ianagement, LLC, 2007–2017 Secretary of Defense, July 2019
Thomas	B. Modly (Performing the Duties	Of) 15 July 2019–30 July 201
	Executive Director, Defense BusUnder Secretary of the Navy, 20	
Richard	V. Spencer	
Thomas	B. Modly (Acting)	
James M	IcPherson (Acting)	
	General Counsel, Department ofUnder Secretary of the Navy, 20	•
Kenneth	J. Braithwaite	
		tive Officer, VHA Pennsylvania, 2006–2011 e of the Secretary of the Navy, 2008–2011 nc., 2011–2018
Thomas	W. Harker (Acting)	
	2018–2021	(Financial Management and Comptroller),
	• Performed the Duties Of Under S 2020–2021	Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/CFO),
Carlos d	el Toro	9 August 2021–20 January 202
	• President and CEO, SBG Techno	plagy Solutions 2004_2021

 Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Management and Budget, 1998– 1999
Terence G. Emmert (Acting) 20 January 2025–25 March 2025
 Director, Adaptive Capabilities Office, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, 2023–Present
John C. Phelan
 Co-founder, co-managing partner, MSD Capital, L.P., 1998–2022 Founder, chairman, Rugger Management, LLC, 2022–2025
Secretary of the Air Force
W. Stuart Symington
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1918 Chairman; Administrator, Surplus Property Board, 1945–1946 Assistant Secretary of War for Air, 1946–1947
Thomas K. Finletter
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1917–1919 Special Assistant to the Secretary of State, 1941–1944 Consultant to the U.S. delegation at the United Nations Conference in 1945 Chairman, President's Air Policy Commission, 1947–1948 Ambassador to NATO, 1961–1965
Harold E. Talbott
Served in the U.S. Army, 1918Aviation industry executive, 1911–1942
Donald A. Quarles
• Deputy Secretary of Defense, 1 May 1957–8 May 1959; see bio in section III
James H. Douglas Jr1 May 1957–11 December 1959
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 11 December 1959–24 January 1961; see bio in section III
Dudley C. Sharp 1959–20 January 1961
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1942–1945 Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, 1955–1959 Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1959–1959
Eugene M. Zuckert
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1944–1946 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of War for Air, 1946–1947 Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, 1947–1952 Member of the Atomic Energy Commission, 1952–1954
Harold Brown 1 October 1965–15 February 1969
• Secretary of Defense, 21 January 1977–20 January 1981; see bio in section II
Robert C. Seamans Jr 15 February 1969–14 May 1973

 Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1941–1955 		
 Engineer, Radio Corporation of America, 1955–1958 		
 Associate and Deputy Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1969 		
John L. McLucas		
• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1943–1946		
 Deputy Director, Defense Research and Engineering, 1962–1964 		
 Assistant Secretary General for Scientific Affairs, NATO, 1964–1966 Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1969–1973 		
Thomas C. Reed		
• Served in the U.S. Air Force, 1956–1959		
 Director, Telecommunications and Command and Control Systems, 1974–1975 		
John C. Stetson		
• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1945–1946		
 Project manager, Foote Brothers Gear and Machine Company, 1949–1951 		
• President, Publishing Division, Houston Post Company, 1963–1970		
 President, A. B. Dick Company, 1970–1977 		
Hans M. Mark		
 Research associate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1954–1955 		
 Head, Experimental Physics Division, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, 1960– 1964 		
 Chair, Department of Nuclear Engineering, University of California at Berkeley, 1964–1969 		
 Director, Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1969–1977 		
• Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1977–1979		
 Deputy Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1981– 1984 		
 Director, Defense Research and Engineering, 1998–2001 		
Verne Orr9 February 1981–30 November 1985		
 Director of the California Department of Finance, 1970–1975 Instructor, University of California, 1975–1980 		
Russell A. Rourke		
• Served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, 1953–1985		
• Administrative Assistant to Representative John R. Pillion (R-NY), 1960–1965		
 Administrative Assistant to Representative Harry P. Smith III (R-NY), 1965– 1974 		
• Deputy to the Presidential Counselor, 1974–1976		
 Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs, 1976–1977 		
 Administrative Assistant to Representative Harold S. Sawyer (R-MI), 1977– 1981 		
 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), 1981–1985 		

Edward C. Aldridge Jr. (Acting)	
Edward C. Aldridge Jr	9 June 1986–15 December 1988
 Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technolo 2001–23 May 2003; see bio in section V 	gy, and Logistics), 10 May
Donald B. Rice	22 May 1989–20 January 1993
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1965–1967 Assistant Director, Office of Management and Budg President and chief executive officer, RAND Corpo Member, Defense Science Board, 1977–1983 	
Michael B. Donley (Acting)	January 1993–July 1993
• Secretary of the Air Force, 2 October 2008–21 June	e 2013; see bio in section IV
Sheila E. Widnall	6 August 1993–31 October 1997
 Professor of aerospace and astronautics, Massachuse 1970–1981 	etts Institute of Technology,
 Associate provost, Massachusetts Institute of Techn 	ology, 1992
F. Whitten Peters (Acting)	_
F. Whitten Peters	2 August 1999–20 January 2001
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1969–1972 Principal Deputy General Counsel, Department of I Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1997–1999 	Defense, 1995–1997
James G. Roche	1 June 2001–20 January 2005
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1960–1983 Democratic Staff Director, Senate Armed Services (AF bio] Northrup Grumman Corporation, 1984-2001 (corporation, 1984-2001) 	prate vice president and
Peter B. Teets (Acting)	20 January 2005–25 March 2005
• Director, National Reconnaissance Office, 2001–20	05
Michael Montelongo (Acting)	25 March 2005–28 March 2005
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1977–1996 Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Mar 2001–2005 	nagement and Comptroller),
Michael L. Dominguez (Acting)	28 March 2005–29 July 2005
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1975–1980 Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower and 2006) 	d Reserve Affairs), 2001–
Preston M. Geren (Acting)	29 July 2005–4 November 2005
• Secretary of the Army, 16 July 2007–21 September	2009; see bio in section IV
Michael W. Wynne	4 November 2005–5 June 2008

- General manager, space launch systems, Lockheed Martin Astronautics, 1994– 1997
- Senior vice president, General Dynamics, 1997–1999
- Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), 2001–2005
- Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), 2003–2005

Michael B. Donley..... 2 October 2008–21 June 2013

- Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee, 1981–1984
- National Security Council staff, 1984–1989
- Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Management and Comptroller), 1989–1993
- Acting Secretary of the Air Force, 1993
- Director of Administration and Management, 2005–2008, 2021–
- - Secretary of the Army, 18 May 2016–20 January 2017; see bio in section IV
- - Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), 1993–1998
 - Vice president, international operations and marketing, United Technologies, 1999–2000
 - Executive vice president and chief operating officer, Business Executives for National Security, 2000–2001
 - Science Applications International Corporation, 2002–2013 (president, Technical and Engineering Sector, 2013)
- Lisa Disbrow (Acting)......20 January 2017–16 May 2017
 - Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Management) and Comptroller, 2014–2015
 - Under Secretary of the Air Force, 24 February 2016–30 June 2017
- - Defense Planning Officer, Office of Defense Plans, U.S. Mission to NATO, 1987–1989
 - National Security Council staff, 1989–1991
 - U.S. Representative (R-NM), 1998–2009
 - President, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, 2013–2017

Matthew P. Donovan (Acting)...... 1 June 2019–2 November 2019

- Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), 26 March 2020–19 January 2021; see bio in section V
- - Senior Adviser, U.S. Mission to the United Nations, 2006

Ambassador to Finland, 2008–2009		
Chairman of the board, The Aerospace Corporation, 2013–2018		
John P. Roth (Acting)		
 Deputy Comptroller (Program/Budget), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 2001–2017 Performed the duties of Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/CFO), 2014–2015 		
 Performed the Duties of Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/CFO), 2017 		
Frank Kendall III		
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1967–1982, and Army Reserve, 1982–1999 Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Strategic Defense Systems), 1986–1989 Director of Tactical Warfare Programs, Office of the Secretary of Defense, 1989–1994 Vice president of engineering, Raytheon Company, 1994-1996 Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), 2010–2012 Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), 2012–2017 		
Gary A. Ashworth (Acting)20 January 2025–16 May 2025		
 Performed the Duties Of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition), 2024– 2025 		
Troy E. Meink16 May 2025–Present		
 Director, Communications Directorate, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Networks and Information Integration), 2006–2008 Director, Signals Intelligence Systems Acquisition, National Reconnaissance Office, 2008–2013 Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force and Director, Executive Agent for 		

 Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force and Director, Executive Age Space Staff, 2013–2025

V. Under Secretaries and Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense

Public Law 95-140, 21 October 1977, disestablished the second Deputy Secretary of Defense position and created the position of Under Secretary of Defense at a level immediately below the Deputy Secretary of Defense. The Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) and the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) were the two initial appointees to this rank, with the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) replacing the Director of Defense Research and Engineering.

The National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2017, PL 114-328, 23 December 2016, reestablished an Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and created an Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment. A 13 July 2018 memorandum from the Deputy Secretary of Defense finalized the organizational structures, roles, and responsibilities of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

Section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017, renamed the Principal Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense to Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense.

Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)

The Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering serves as the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense on all research and engineering matters, and as the chief technical officer of the Department with the mission of advancing technology and innovation.

Chairman, Research and Development Board

The National Security Act of 1947, PL 80-253, 26 July 1947, established the board. Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, dissolved it and divided its functions between the newly established Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Development) and Assistant Secretary of Defense (Applications Engineering).

Vannevar Bush	30 September 1947–14 October 1948	
Karl T. Compton		
William Webster	15 March 1950–31 July 1951	
Walter G. Whitman	1 August 1951–29 June 1953	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Development)		
Donald A. Quarles	1 September 1953–14 August 1955	
Clifford C. Furnas	1 December 1955–15 February 1957	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Applications Engineering)		
Frank D. Newbury	18 August 1953–17 March 1957	

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)

DoD Directive 5129.1, 18 March 1957, established the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) to replace and combine the functions of the Assistant Secretary positions for Research and Development and Applications Engineering.

Paul D. Foote 10 September 1957–31 October 1958

Director of Defense Research and Engineering

The Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1958, PL 85-599, 6 August 1958, retitled the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) as the Director of Defense Research and Engineering. The redesignated position came with increased authorities and represented an upgrade in rank above all assistant secretaries of defense.

Herbert F. York		
Harold Brown8 May 1961–30 September 1965		
John S. Foster Jr 1 October 1965–21 June 1973		
Malcolm R. Currie		
William J. Perry 11 April 1977–21 October 1977		
Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)		
Public Law 95-140, 21 October 1977, created the position of Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering). In 1986, the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition) succeeded the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering).		
William J. Perry		
• Secretary of Defense, 3 February 1994–24 January 1997; see bio in section II		
Walter B. Laberge (Acting)		
• Served in the U.S. Navy, 1943–1947		
• Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Research and Development), 1973–1975		
 Under Secretary of the Army, 1977–1980 Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering), 1980–1984 		
James P. Wade Jr. (Acting)11 March 1981–6 May 1981		
See bio below		
Richard D. DeLauer		
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1943–1958 Thompson Ramo Wooldridge Incorporated (TRW Inc., since 1965), 1958–1981 (executive vice president, 1970–1981) 		
James P. Wade Jr. (Acting) 1 December 1984–5 July 1985		
 Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Atomic Energy), 1978–1981 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Development and Support), 1984–1985 		

- Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Logistics), 1985–1986
- - Physicist, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, 1954–1956
 - Head, Applied Physics Section, Aerospace Group, The Boeing Company, 1956– 1961
 - Northrop Corporation, 1961–1985 (senior vice president, marketing and technology (1979–1985)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, PL 114-328, 23 December 2016, amended chapter 4 of United States Code Title 10 by codifying as section 133(a) the position of Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

Michael D. Griffin		
 President and chief operating officer, In-Q-Tel, Inc., 2002–2004 Director, Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, 2004–2005 Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2005–2009 Chairman and chief executive officer, Shafer Corporation, 2012–2018 		
Michael Kratsios (Acting)		
Chief Technology Officer of the United States, 2017–2021		
Terence G. Emmert (Performing the Duties Of)		
• Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Materiel Readiness), 2013–2016		
Barbara K. McQuiston (Performing the Duties Of) 21 March 2021–26 July 2021		
 Special Assistant to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, 2009–2010 		
Heidi Shyu		
 Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, 2012–2016 		
Trustee, The Aerospace Corporation, 2016–2021		
James G. Mazol (Performing the Duties Of)22 January 2025–20 May 2025		
 Policy Director, United States Senate Committee on Armed Services, 2023– 2025 		
Emil Michael		
• Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, 2009–2011		
Chief Operating Officer, Klout, 2012–2013		
 President, Technology Advisory and Consulting Services, 2011–2017 		

• Chief Business Officer, Uber, 2013–2017

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017, redesignated the position of Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. Effective 1 February 2018, section 137(a) of United States Code Title 10 was amended by designating one of six Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)

Lisa Porter	
Mark Lewis (Acting)	
JihFen Lei (Performing the Duties Of)	
Terence G. Emmert (Performing the Duties Of)	21 March 2021–17 May 2021

Maynard Holliday (Performing the Duties Of)	17 May 2021–27 July 2021
Barbara K. McQuiston (Performing the Duties Of)	
David Honey	22 February 2022–20 January 2025
Patrick J. Witt (Performing the Duties Of)	
James G. Mazol (Performing the Duties Of)	20 May 2025–Present

Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment)

The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment serves as the principal adviser to the Secretary on acquisition and sustainment matters in the Department of Defense.

Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition)

The Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986, PL 99-348, 1 July 1986, established the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition).

- Served in the U.S. Navy, 1943–1946
- Atomic Energy Commission, 1947–1959 (Assistant Director, Division of Reactor Development, 1959)
- United States Maritime Administration, 1959–1961
- Bechtel, Inc., 1961–1986 (president, Bechtel Civil and Minerals, Inc., 1980– 1986)

- Served in the U.S. Naval Reserve, 1944–1978
- General Motors Corporation, 1960–1986
- Assistant Secretary of Defense (Production and Logistics), 1987
- - Chrysler Corporation, 1952–1962
 - Ford Motor Company, 1962–1989 (executive vice president, diversified products operations, 1988–1989)

Donald J. Yockey (Acting).....1 January 1991–20 June 1991

- - Served in the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, 1944–1966
 - Rockwell International Corporation, 1966–1988 (corporate senior vice president, 1986–1988)
 - Principal Deputy Under Secretary (Acquisition), 1990
 - Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition), 1 January 1991–20 June 1991
- - Deputy Secretary of Defense, 11 March 1994–10 May 1995; see bio in section III

Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, PL 103-160, 30 November 1993, changed the title to Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology).

John M. Deutch) 4
Paul G. Kaminski	97
 Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering), 1977–1981 	
Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics)	
The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, PL 106-65, 5 October 1999, redesignate the position as the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics).	ed.
Jacques S. Gansler)1
Engineer, Raytheon Corporation, 1952–1962	
Singer Corporation, 1962–1970	
• Vice president, business development, International Telephone and Telegraph	
 Corporation, 1970–1972 Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Materiel Acquisition), 1975–1977 	
 Executive vice president and director, The Analytical Sciences Corporation, 	
1977–1997	
Edward C. Aldridge Jr)3
 Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategic Programs), 1974–1976 Director, Planning and Evaluation, 1976–1977 Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1981–1986 Secretary of the Air Force, 1986–1988 	
Michael W. Wynne (Acting))5
 Secretary of the Air Force, 4 November 2005–5 June 2008; see bio in section IV 	
Kenneth J. Krieg6 June 2005–20 July 200)7
 Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, 2001–2003 Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation, 2003–2005 	
John J. Young Jr. (Acting))7
John J. Young Jr	
Technical staff, Sandia National Laboratory, 1988–1993	
 Professional Staff Member, Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee, 1993–2001 	
 Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development, and Acquisition), 2001–2005 	
 Director, Defense Research and Engineering, 2005–2007 	
Ashton B. "Ash" Carter	1
• Secretary of Defense, 17 February 2015–19 January 2017; see bio in section II	
Frank Kendall III (Acting) 6 October 2011–24 May 201	2
Frank Kendall III24 May 2012–20 January 201	.7
• Secretary of the Air Force, 28 July 2021– ; please see bio in section IV	

• Secretary of the Air Force, 28 July 2021-; please see bio in section IV

Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, PL 114-328, 23 December 2016, disestablished the position of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, and amended chapter 4 of United States Code Title 10 by codifying as section 133(b) the position of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

Ellen M. Lord......1 August 2017–20 January 2021

- Textron Systems Corporation, 1984–2017 (president and chief executive officer, 2012–2017)
- Stacy A. Cummings (Performing the Duties Of).....20 January 2021–3 August 2021
 - Program executive officer, Defense Healthcare Management Systems, 2016– 2019

Gregory M. Kausner (Performing the Duties Of)3 August 2021–7 February 2022

- Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, 2017–2020
- Andrew Hunter (Performing the Duties Of)......7 February 2022–15 April 2022
 - Chief of Staff, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, 2011–2012

William A. LaPlante 15 April 2022–20 January 2025

- Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, 2013–2014
- Senior vice president and general manager, national security, The MITRE Corporation, 2017–2020
- President and CEO, Charles Stark Draper Laboratories, Inc., 2020–2022

Steven J. Morani (Performing the Duties Of)...... 22 January 2025–Present

• Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Sustainment), 2024-Present

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment)

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987, PL 99-661, 14 November 1986, established a statutory position called Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition).

Milton Lohr		
Donald J. Yockey	12 March 1990–29 January 1991	
Donald C. Fraser		
Noel Longuemare Jr		
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology)		

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, PL 103-160, 30 November 1993, changed the title to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology).

Noel Longuemare Jr 30 November 1993–8 June 1994

Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology)

DoD Directive 5134.6, 8 June 1994, established the position of Principal Deputy Under Secretary of

Defense (Acquisition and Technology)

Noel Longuemare Jr	
David Oliver	1 June 1998–25 May 2001
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisitie	on and Technology)
DoD Directive 5134.13, 25 May 2000, reestablished Acquisition and Technology.	the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for
David Oliver	25 May 2000–14 July 2001
Michael W. Wynne	
James I. Finley	1 March 2006–20 January 2009
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and
Logistics)	
The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 10 USC 133(a) by striking Deputy Under Secretary of I place it appeared and replaced it with Principal Depu Technology, and Logistics). DoD Directive 5134.14, 29 functions.	Defense for Acquisition and Technology each ty Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition,
Frank Kendall III	
Alan F. Estevez (Acting)	
Alan F. Estevez	
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisitie	on and Sustainment)
The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal X redesignated the position of Principal Deputy Under Sec of Defense. Effective 1 February 2018, this law amended by designating one of six Deputy Under Secretaries o Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.	cretary of Defense to Deputy Under Secretary d section 137(c) of United States Code Title 10
Alan R. Shaffer	
Gregory M. Kausner (Performing the Duties Of)	
Paul D. Cramer (Performing the Duties Of)	
Radha Plumb	
Deborah Rosenblum (Acting)	
Deborah Rosenblum (Performing the Duties Of)	
Brent G. Ingraham (Performing the Duties Of)	22 January 2025–Present
Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)	
Established by PL 95-140, 21 October 1977, DoD Dire	ective 5111.1.27 October 1978 described the

Established by PL 95-140, 21 October 1977. DoD Directive 5111.1, 27 October 1978, described the position's responsibilities and mission. The Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) is the principal adviser to the Secretary of Defense for all matters pertaining to the formulation of national security and defense policy and the integration and oversight of DoD policy and plans to achieve national security objectives.

Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)

Stanley R. Resor 1	4 August 1978–1 April 1979
• Secretary of the Army, 5 July 1965–30 June 1971; see bid	o in section IV
Robert W. Komer	tober 1979–20 January 1981
• Served in the U.S. Army, 1943–1946	
• Intelligence analyst, Central Intelligence Agency, 1947–1	961
National Security Council staff, 1961–1965	
• Ambassador to Turkey, 1968–1969	
Fred C. Iklé	April 1981–19 February 1988
• Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1964–1	
 Social Science Department head, RAND Corporation, 19 Director, U.S. Arma Control and Disarmament Acapace, 1 	
• Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, 1	
Paul D. Wolfowitz	•
• Deputy Secretary of Defense, 2 March 2001–13 May 200	
Frank T. Wisner	6 July 1993–9 June 1994
• Foreign Service Officer, 1961–1997	1002 1002
• Under Secretary of State for International Security Affairs	
Walter B. Slocombe15 Septe	•
 Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Internat Affairs), 1977–1979 	tional Security
• Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy Planning), 19	
• Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 19	
Douglas J. Feith	16 July 2001–8 August 2005
• National Security Council staff, 1981–1982	
 Special Counsel to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (In Affairs), 1982–1984 	
 Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Negotiations Poli Managing attorney, Feith & Zell, PC, 1986–2001 	cy), 1984–1986
Eric S. Edelman9 Feb	oruary 2006–20 January 2009
• Foreign Service Officer, 1992–2001; 2003–2005	
Ambassador to Finland, 1998–2001	
 Principal Deputy Assistant to the Vice President for Natio 2001–2003 	onal Security Affairs,
• Ambassador to Turkey, 2003–2005	
Michèle Flournoy9 Feb	ruary 2009–30 January 2012
 Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy 	
Reduction) and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (S	
 Research professor, Institute for National Strategic Studie University, 1998–2000 	s, National Defense
 Senior advisor, Center for Strategic and International Stud 	lies, 2000–2006

• President and cofounder, Center for a New American Security, 2007–2009
James N. Miller Jr. (Acting)1 February 2012–23 May 2012
James N. Miller Jr
Professional Staff Member, House Armed Services Committee, 1988–1992
 Professor of Public Policy, Duke University, 1992–1997
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Requirements, Plans, and
Counterproliferation Policy), 1997–2000
 Senior vice president, Center for a New American Security, 2007–2009 Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 2009–2012
Christine Wormuth
 Secretary of the Army, 27 May 2021–2025; please see bio in section IV
Brian McKeon (Acting)
 Chief counsel, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, 1997–2009 Deputy National Security Advisor to Vice President Joseph R. Biden, 2009–2012
 Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff for the National Security Council, 2012– 2014
Theresa Whelan (Performing the Duties Of)20 January 2017–5 June 2017
 Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict), 2015–2017
Robert Story Karem (Acting)
 Middle East policy adviser, Vice President's National Security Council staff, 2005–2009
 National security adviser to House Majority Leaders, 2011–2015
Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs), 2017–2018
David J. Trachtenberg (Acting) 17 October 2017–3 January 2018
 Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy), 2001–2003
 Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 2017–2019
John C. Rood3 January 2018–28 February 2020
 Senior vice president, Lockheed Martin International Assistant Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, 2006–2007 Acting Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security,
2007–2009
James H. Anderson (Performing the Duties Of)29 February 2020–8 June 2020
 Dean of Academics; Deputy Director, Marine Corps War College, 2012–2015 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities), 2018–2019 Performing the Duties of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 2019–2020

 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Pla Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) 	, 23 July 2019–24 April 2020
James H. Anderson (Acting)	
Anthony J. Tata (Performing the Duties Of)	10 November 2020–20 January 2021
 Served in U.S. Army, 1981–2009 Chief growth officer, Air Data Solutions, 201 Performed the duties of Deputy Under Secre 	
Amanda J. Dory (Performing the Duties Of)	
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strat	tegy), 2008–2011
Colin Kahl	
National Security Advisor to the Vice PresidDeputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Mide	
Alexandra N. Baker (Acting)	
• Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)	, 14 February 2022–Present
Amanda J. Dory (Acting)	
 Director, Africa Center for Strategic Studies 2022–2024 	, National Defense University,
Alexander J. Velez-Green (Performing the Duties Of)
 Senior Policy Adviser, Center for National E 2023–2025 	Defense, The Heritage Foundation,
Elbridge A. Colby	
Co-founder, Marathon Initiative, 2019–2025	5
 Director, Defense Program, Center for a New Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for St 2017–2018 	-
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy))
Director of Policy Review	

DoD Directive 5130.2, 16 June 1977, created the position of Director of Policy Review. A Defense Department press release announced the appointment of the first Director of Policy Review in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, effective 10 June 1977.

Daniel J. Murphy...... 10 June 1977–1 October 1978

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)

A 28 October 1978 memorandum from the Deputy Secretary of Defense redesignated the Director of Policy Review as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy Review)

A 6 November 1978 memorandum from the Deputy Secretary of Defense redesignated the position as

the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy Review) and transferred the Directorate for Security Plans and Programs, the Directorate for Information Security, and the Defense Investigative Program Office from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration)/Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to the redesignated position, effective 11 December 1978.

Daniel J. Murphy..... 11 December 1978–20 January 1981

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)

The position's title reverted back to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) in January 1981.

- Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Security Policy)

By October 1989, the position had been renamed to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Security Policy).

Craig Alderman Jr..... October 1989–12 August 1992

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993, PL 102-190, 5 December 1991, established the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, which replaced the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Security Policy) as the first assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy).

- Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)

Established by DoD Directive 5111.3, 6 July 1993 as the primary assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy).

Walter B. Slocombe	
Jan M. Lodal	•
James M. Bodner	*
Stephen A. Cambone	
Christopher Ryan Henry	7 February 2003–1 August 2008
James N. Miller Jr	
Kathleen H. Hicks	
Brian McKeon	
David J. Trachtenberg	18 October 2017–12 December 2017
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)	

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy)

Section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017, and codified at section 137(a) of United States Code title 10, retitled the position as Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy). DoD Directive 5111.03, 25 January 2017, updated the responsibilities and functions of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) and acknowledged the title change.

David J. Trachtenberg 12 December 2017–23 July 2020

James H. Anderson (Performing the Duties Of)23 July 2019–24 April 202	20
Daniel Green (Performing the Duties Of)	20
James H. Anderson	20
Anthony J. Tata (Performing the Duties Of)3 August 2020–10 November 202	20
Thomas Williams (Performing the Duties Of) 10 November 2020–20 January 202	21
Jennifer C. Walsh (Performing the Duties Of)20 January 2021–28 April 202	21
Amanda J. Dory (Performing the Duties Of)	21
Mara Karlin (Performing the Duties Of)	22
Alexandra N. Baker 14 February 2022–26 April 202	24
Mara Karlin (Performing the Duties Of)	23
Mara Karlin (Performing the Duties Of) 18 July 2023–20 December 202	23
Melissa G. Dalton (Performing the Duties Of) 21 December 2023-29 May 202	24
Cara L. Abercrombie (Acting)	24
Cara L. Abercrombie (Performing the Duties Of)23 November 2024–20 January 202	25
Amanda J. Dory (Performing the Duties Of) 22 January 2025–15 March 202	25
Austin Dahmer (Performing the Duties Of) 15 March 2025–Prese	ent

Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer)

The Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer) is the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for budgetary and fiscal matters, including financial management, audit administration, accounting policy, and budget formulation and execution.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)

The first Secretary of Defense, James Forrestal, assigned the comptroller function to one of three special assistants created by the National Security Act of 1947. The 1949 amendments to the National Security Act of 1947 established the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

Wilfred J. McNeil	12 September 1949–1 November 1959
Franklin B. Lincoln	
Charles J. Hitch	17 February 1961–31 July 1965
Robert N. Anthony	10 September 1965–31 July 1968
Robert C. Moot	1 August 1968–9 January 1973
Don R. Brazier (Acting)	10 January 1973–20 January 1973
Terence E. McClary	
Fred P. Wacker	1 September 1976–29 February 1980
Jack R. Borsting	12 August 1980–31 December 1982
John R. Quetsch (Acting)	1 January 1983–23 February 1983
Vincent Puritano	
John R. Quetsch (Acting)	
Robert W. Helm	16 August 1984–1 October 1986

Department of Defense Comptroller

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) was designated Department of Defense Comptroller in 1986 by the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act with the same status as an Assistant Secretary, although not so titled.

Robert W. Helm	1 October 1986–1 September 1988
Clyde O. Glaister	17 October 1988–22 May 1989
Sean O'Keefe	
Donald B. Shycoff (Acting)	8 July 1992–2 April 1993
Alice Maroni (Acting)	6 May 1993–26 October 1993
John J. Hamre	

Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller/CFO)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1995, PL 103-337, 5 October 1994, raised the status of the Department of Defense Comptroller from the level of Assistant Secretary to that of Under Secretary. DoD Directive 5118.03, 20 April 2012, updated the responsibilities, functions, and authorities for this position.

 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 29 July 1997–31 March 2000; see bio in section III

- Deputy Secretary of Defense, 12 February 2009–5 October 2011; see bio in section III
- - Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Planning and Resources), 1985–1987
 - Vice president, System Planning Corporation, 1987–2001
- Lawrence J. Lanzillotta (Acting)15 April 2004–27 July 2004
 - Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Management Reform), 2002–2004
- - Senior Budget Examiner, Office of Management and Budget, 1991–1995
 - Professional Staff Member, House Committee on Appropriations, 1995–2001
 - Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Financial Management), 2001–2002
 - Assistant Director and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2002–2004
- - Served in the U.S. Navy, 1969–1972
 - Director, National Security Division, Congressional Budget Office, 1982–1994
 - Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Management and Comptroller), 1994–2001
 - Executive director, American Society of Military Comptrollers, 2005–2009

 Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee, 1987–2003 Budget Analyst, House Committee on the Budget, 2003–2004 Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee, 2004–2009 Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 2009–2014
John P. Roth (Performing the Duties Of)
 Acting Secretrary of the Air Force, 20 January 2021–28 July 2021; see bio in section IV
David L. Norquist2 June 2017–30 July 2019
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 31 July 2019–9 February 2021; see bio in section III
Elaine A. McCusker (Acting)
• Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 2017–2020
Thomas W. Harker (Performing the Duties Of)
• Acting Scretary of the Navy, 2021; see bio in section IV
Douglas Glenn (Performing the Duties Of)
Deputy Chief Financial Officer, 2020–2021
Anne McAndrew (Performing the Duties Of)
Deputy Comptroller for Program Budget, 2018–
Michael J. McCord
 Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), 2014–2017; bio appears with earlier listing
Bryn Woollacott MacDonnell (Performing the Duties Of) 22 January 2025–Present
• National Security Advisor for Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA), 2023–2025

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)

Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)

Position established by law as one of five Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense positions in NDAA for FY 2010, PL 111-84 (28 October 2009).

Michael J. McCord	
John P. Roth (Performing the Duties Of)	
John C. Conger	22 December 2015–20 January 2017
Elaine A. McCusker	2 August 2017–12 December 2017
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)	

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017, redesignated the position of Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Elaine A. McCusker	12 December 2017–6 June 2020
Vacant	27 June 2020–11 August 2021

Kathleen Miller	11 August 2021–20 January 2025
Anne McAndrew (Performing the Duties Of)	

Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)

The Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) is the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary of Defense for total force management; National Guard and reserve component affairs; health affairs; readiness and training; military and civilian personnel requirements; language training; dependent education; equal opportunity; morale, welfare, and recreation; and quality-of-life matters.

Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, PL 103-160, 20 November 1993, created the position. DoD Directive 5124.02, 17 March 1994, described the position's responsibilities and mission, which included the functions of the now-abolished Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel), and established authority over the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs) and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) (See Part VIII, Assistant Secretaries of Defense).

Edwin Dorn	16 March 1994–7 July 1997
 Deputy director for research, Joint Center for Politic 1981–1990 	al and Economic Studies,
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management a	and Personnel), 1993–1994
Rudy deLeon	5 August 1997–31 March 2000
 Deputy Secretary of Defense, 31 March 2000–1 Mar III 	rch 2001; see bio in section
Charles L. Cragin (Acting)	31 March 2000–23 May 2000
 Served in the U.S. Navy, 1951–1964 Associate, Verrill & Dana, 1970–1974 Partner, Verrill & Dana, 1974–1990 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), 19 	98–2001
Bernard D. Rostker	23 May 2000–19 January 2001
 Director, Selective Service System, 1979–1981 Assistant Secretary of the Navy, 1994–1998 Under Secretary of the Army, 1998–2000 	
Charles L. Cragin (Acting)	20 January 2001–31 May 2001
David S. C. Chu	1 June 2001–20 January 2009
 Served in the U.S. Army, 1968–1970 Director of Program Analysis and Evaluation, 1981– Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis an Director, RAND Washington Office, 1994–1998 	
Gail McGinn (Performing the Duties Of)2	21 January 2009–8 February 2010
• Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Plans), 2002–20	010
Clifford L. Stanley	
• Served in the U.S. Marine Corps, 1969–2002	-

President, Scholarship America, 2004–2009
Jo Ann Rooney (Acting)
 Chief counsel, The Lyons Companies, 1996–2002 President, Spalding University, 2002–2010 Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), 2011–2012
Erin C. Conaton
 Professional Staff Member, House Armed Services Committee, 2001–2010 Under Secretary of the Air Force, 2010–2012
Jessica L. Wright
 Served in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, 1975–2010 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), 2012–2013
Brad R. Carson (Acting) 2 April 2015–8 April 2016
 U.S. Representative (D-OK), 2001–2005 Under Secretary of the Army, 2014–2015
Peter Levine (Acting) 11 April 2016–7 November 2016
 Associate, Crowell & Moring, 1983–1987 Counsel to Senator Carl Levin (D-MI), 1995–1996 Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee, 1996–2015 Deputy Chief Management Officer, Department of Defense, 2015–2016
Peter Levine (Performing the Duties Of)7 November 2016–20 January 2017
Anthony Kurta (Performing the Duties Of)20 January 2017–21 November 2017
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Military Personnel Policy), 2014–2019
Robert L. Wilkie
 Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), 2006–2009 Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), 2006–2009 Vice president, CH2M Hill Companies Ltd., 2010–2015 Senior Advisor, Senator Thom Tillis, 2015–2017
Stephanie Barna (Performing the Duties Of)
 Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness and Force Management), 2014–2015 Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), 2015–2016
James Stewart (Performing the Duties Of)
• Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), 2018–2019
Matthew P. Donovan (Performing the Duties Of)
Alexis L. Ross (Performing the Duties Of)
 Deputy Assistant Secretary (Strategy and Acquisition Reform), Department of the Army, 2018–2019

 Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary of Defense, 2019–2020 	
Matthew P. Donovan	
 Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed Services Committee, 2015–2017 Majority Policy Director, Senate Armed Services Committee, 2017 Under Secretary of the Air Force, 2017–2019 Acting Secretary of the Air Force, 1 June 2019–2 November 2019 	
Virginia Penrod (Acting)20 January 2021–24 August 2021	
 Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), 2018; 2019–2020 	
Gilbert R. Cisneros Jr	
• U.S. Representative (D-CA), 2019–2021	
Ashish S. Vazirani (Acting)	
 Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), 13 July 2022– 20 January 2025 	
Ashish S. Vazirani (Performing the Duties Of)10 September 2023–20 January 2025	
Darin S. Selnick (Performing the Duties Of) 22 January 2025–15 March 2025	
• Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, 2018–2019	
Jules W. Hurst III (Performing the Duties Of) 15 March 2025–Present	
 Performing the Duties of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness, 2025 	

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002, PL 107-107, 25 December 2001, established the position.

Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)

DoD Directive 5124.08, 16 July 2003, added the word "Principal" to the official title.

Charles S. Abell	16 July 2003–January 2006
Michael L. Dominguez	
William J. Carr (Acting)	January 2009–December 2010
Jo Ann Rooney	
Laura Junor	

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)

Section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017, and codified at section 137(a) of United States Code Title 10, retitled the position to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness). DoD Directive 5124.08, 3 April 2020, updated the responsibilities, relationships, and authorities of the position and documented the name change to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness).

William G. Bushman (Performing the Duties Of)......29 June 2019–20 January 2021

Julie Blanks (Performing the Duties Of)	
Ashish S. Vazirani	13 July 2022–20 January 2025
Shawn Skelly (Performing the Duties Of)	
Jules W. Hurst III (Performing the Duties Of)	
Timothy D. Dill (Performing the Duties Of)	15 March 2025–Present

Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security)

The Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security) is the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for intelligence, counterintelligence, security, sensitive activities, and related matters.

Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence)

The Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003, P.L. 107-314, 2 December 2002, established this position. DoD Directive 5143.01, 24 October 2014, detailed the position's responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities.

Stephen A. Cambone 10 March 2003–31 December 2006

- Director, Strategic Defense Policy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 1990–1993
- Senior fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies, 1993–1998
- Director of research, Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University, 1998–2000
- Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), 2001–2002
- - Served in the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Air Force, 1963–1995
 - Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, 1991–1995
 - Director, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, 2001–2006
 - Director of National Intelligence, 2010–2017

- Michael G. Vickers...... 17 March 2011–30 April 2015
 - Served in the U.S. Army, 1973–1986
 - Senior vice president, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, 1996– 2007
 - Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities), 2007–2011

Marcel Lettre (Acting).....1 May 2015–16 December 2015

Marcel Lettre5 February 2016–20 January 2017

- Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, 2011–2013
- Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence), 2013–2015
- Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence), 1 May 2015–16 December 2015

Todd Lowery (Performing the Duties Of)20 January 2017–1 June 2017

- Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence) 2011–2014
- Performed the Duties of Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence), 2015–2017

- Policy Director, House Armed Services Committee, 2013–2017
- Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence), 2 June 2017–20 December 2019

- Served in the U.S. Navy, 1981–2013
- Deputy Commander, U.S. Southern Command, 2011–2013
- Vice president, SAP National Security Services Inc., 2013–2017

Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security)

Section 1621(a)(1) of PL 116-92, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, 20 December 2019, redesignated the position as the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security). DoD Directive 5143.01, incorporating Change 2, 6 April 2020, updated the position's description and acknowledged the name change to Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security). On 23 April 2023 the Deputy Secretary of Defense issued a memorandum designating the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security as the principal staff assistant for law enforcement, although with duties that do not encroach on the statutory duties and responsibilities of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense.

Ezra Cohen (Acting)...... 10 November 2020–20 January 2021

• Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict), 2020

David M. Taylor (Performing the Duties Of)20 January 2021–3 June 2021

• Director for Defense Intelligence (Intelligence and Security Programs and Resources)

Ronald Moultrie......3 June 2021–1 March 2024

- President and founder, Oceanus Security Strategies, LLC, 2015–2021
- Signals Intelligence Director, National Security Agency/Central Security Service, 2014–2015

Milancy Harris (Acting).....1 March 2024–20 January 2025

• Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security), 3 January 2023–20 January 2025

Dustin Gard-Weiss (Performing the Duties Of)...... 22 January 2025–Present

• Performing the Duties of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security), 2024–Present

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security)

Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, PL 111-84, 28 October 2009, established this position as one of five Principal Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense.

Thomas A. Ferguson	April 2007–September 2013
Marcel Lettre	1 November 2013–5 February 2016
Todd Lowery (Performing the Duties Of)	5 February 2016–2 June 2017
Kari A. Bingen	
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence)	

Section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017, and codified at section 137(a) of United States Code Title 10, retitled the position to Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Section 1621(b)(1) of PL 116-92, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, 20 December 2019, redesignated the position as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence and Security).

Kari A. Bingen	20 December 2019–10 January 2020
Ralph Cacci (Performing the Duties Of)	10 January 2020–20 January 2021
David M. Taylor (Performing the Duties Of)	
Milancy Harris	
Dustin Gard-Weiss (Performing the Duties Of)	1 March 2024–Present

VI. Specified Officials

Congress has created several positions over time that today fall in rank between the Under Secretaries of Defense and Assistant Secretaries of Defense. These positions are all presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS) and report directly to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation

The Weapons Systems Acquisition Reform Act (WSARA) of 2009 established the Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (CAPE). The origins of the office date to 1961 with the establishment of the Office of Systems Analysis, which became the Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation in 1973. The Director is the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary of Defense and other senior Defense officials for independent cost assessment and program evaluation, including review of cost estimates and analysis of alternatives to support military acquisition decisions.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Systems Analysis)

DoD Directive 5141.1, 17 September 1965, established the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Systems Analysis).

Alain C. Enthoven	
Ivan Selin (Acting)	
Gardiner L. Tucker	

Director of Defense Program Analysis and Evaluation

By administrative action, on 11 April 1973, Secretary of Defense Elliot Richardson announced the position title changed to Director of Defense Program and Evaluation.

Position title changed to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation) on 11 February 1974. The responsibilities and mission were described in DoD Directive 5141.1, 29 March 1974.

On 18 May 1976 Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld eliminated the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation) and in its place established a Director for Planning and Evaluation.

Edward C. Aldridge Jr 18 May 1976–11 March 1977

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation)

On 28 April 1977, the position of Director for Planning and Evaluation became Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation). DoD Directive 5141.1, 29 November 1978, detailed the position's responsibilities and mission.

Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger downgraded the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation) to Director of Program Analysis and Evaluation in May 1981.

David S. C. Chu 19 May 1981–13 July 1988

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, PL 100-180, 4 December 1987, increased the number of Assistant Secretaries of Defense to 12 until 20 January 1989. Position redesignated Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation) on 13 July 1989.

David S. C. Chu 13 July 1988–20 January 1993

Director of Program Analysis and Evaluation

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin downgraded the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Analysis and Evaluation) to Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation in 1993.

William J. Lynn III	
Robert R. Soule	1 July 1998–27 April 2001
Barry D. Watts	1 May 2001–1 July 2002
Stephen A. Cambone	1 July 2002–7 March 2003
Kenneth J. Krieg	
Bradley M. Berkson	

Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation

The Weapons Systems Acquisition Reform Act (WSARA), P.L. 111-23, 22 May 2009, established the Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (CAPE) and transferred the staff of the former Program Analysis and Evaluation office to CAPE. The Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) issued Directive-Type Memorandum 09-027 on 4 December 2009 to further implement those select requirements of WSARA applicable to the Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation.

Christine H. Fox		
Jamie Morin	25 June 2014–20 January 2017	
Robert Daigle		
E. Y. (Yisroel) Brumer (Acting)	18 May 2019–16 August 2019	
John E. Whitley (Acting)		
John E. Whitley (Performing the Duties Of)	13 March 2020–4 May 2020	
Joseph Nogueira (Acting)		
Susanna Blume		
Michael Payne (Acting)	22 January 2025–Present	
Converse Councel of the Donartment of Defense		

General Counsel of the Department of Defense

Position originated as the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legal and Legislative Affairs), one of three

Special Assistants to the Secretary of Defense authorized by the National Security Act of 1947, PL 80-253, 26 July 1947. Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, established the position by title. DoD Directive 5145.01, 24 August 1953, established positional responsibilities and mission. The General Counsel serves as the chief legal officer of the Department of Defense, advising both the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense on all legal matters and services. The General Counsel also develops the Department's legislative program, establishes policy on specific legal problems, maintains the repository for all international agreements of the Department, and serves as Director of the Defense Legal Services Agency.

General Counsel

H. Struve Hensel	17 August 1953–4 March 1954
Wilber M. Brucker	
Mansfield D. Sprague	
Robert Dechert	
J. Vincent Burke Jr	
Cyrus R. Vance	
John T. McNaughton	
Paul C. Warnke	
Leonard Niederlehner (Acting)	1 August 1967–19 August 1970
J. Fred Buzhardt Jr	
Martin R. Hoffmann	
Leonard Niederlehner (Acting)	
Richard A. Wiley	
Deanne C. Siemer	
Togo D. West Jr	1 February 1980–20 January 1981
William H. Taft IV	
Chapman B. Cox	
H. Lawrence Garrett III	
Kathleen A. Buck	
Terrence O'Donnell	
David S. Addington	
Jamie S. Gorelick	
Judith A. Miller	
Douglas A. Dworkin	
William J. Haynes II	
Jeh C. Johnson	
Robert Taylor (Acting)	
Stephen W. Preston	
Jennifer M. O'Connor	

Paul S. Koffsky (Performing the Duties Of)	20 January 2017–August 2017
William S. Castle (Acting)	August 2017–13 July 2018
Paul C. Ney Jr	13 July 2018–20 January 2021
Beth George (Acting)	20 January 2021–31 July 2021
Caroline Krass	31 July 2021–20 January 2025
Charles L. Young III (Acting)	22 January 2025–Present

Inspector General of the Department of Defense

The Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1983, PL 97-252, 8 September 1982, and DoD Directive 5106.1, 14 March 1983, established the Office of the Department of Defense Inspector General. The Inspector General's office replaced the office of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Review and Oversight, established in April 1981 to check fraud, waste, and abuse in procurement. That position and the Defense Audit Service, created in 1976, were dissolved when the Office of the Inspector General began operations in May 1983.

The Inspector General is an independent official who coordinates policies and makes recommendations to further economy and efficiency in administration. The Inspector General keeps the Secretary of Defense and Congress informed about problems relating to the administration of programs and the possibility of corrective action following investigation.

Inspector General

Joseph H. Sherick	
Derek Vander Schaaf (Acting)	
June Gibbs Brown	
Derek Vander Schaaf (Acting)	
Susan J. Crawford	
Derek Vander Schaaf (Acting)	
Eleanor J. Hill	1 March 1995–30 April 1999
Donald Mancuso (Acting)	1 May 1999–26 January 2000
Joseph E. Schmitz	
Claude M. Kicklighter	
Gordon S. Heddell (Acting)	
Gordon S. Heddell	
Lynne M. Halbrooks (Acting)	
Jon T. Rymer	
Glenn A. Fine (Acting)	
Glenn A. Fine (Performing the Duties Of)	October 2019–7 April 2020
Sean W. O'Donnell (Acting)	
Robert Storch	
Steven Stebbins (Acting)	

VII. Assistant Secretaries of Defense

The number, titles, and duties of the Assistant Secretaries, with or without specific statutory designation, have changed over time in accordance with both congressional legislation and Department of Defense directives. The current Assistant Secretary positions are listed alphabetically by title, with their direct lineal predecessor positions (if any) listed chronologically. Former Assistant Secretary positions in a direct lineage leading to an Under Secretary position are listed with those Under Secretaries (see section VI).

Acquisition

Section 906(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, PL 111-84, 28 October 2009, established this position to serve as the principal adviser to the Secretary of Defense and Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) on matters relating to acquisition.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition)

Katrina G. McFarland (Acting)	1 October 2011–24 May 2012
Katrina G. McFarland	
Dyke Weatherington (Performing the Duties Of)	20 January 2017–14 December 2017
James A. MacStravic (Acting)	14 December 2017–18 February 2018
Kevin M. Fahey	18 February 2018–20 January 2021
Dyke Weatherington (Performing the Duties Of)	
Christopher C. O'Donnell (Performing the Duties Of)	
Tanya Skeen (Acting)	28 February 2022–20 December 2022
Tanya Skeen (Performing the Duties Of)	20 December 2022–15 August 2023
Gary A. Ashworth (Performing the Duties Of)	15 August 2023–5 March 2024
Cara L. Abercrombie	5 March 2024–20 January 2025
Gary A. Ashworth (Performing the Duties Of)	
James A. Ruocco (Performing the Duties Of)	

Cyber Policy

Section 901 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, PL 117-263, 23 December 2022, increased the number of assistant secretaries of defense to 19 and mandated the creation of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Cyber Policy. The position and the office were established on 20 March 2024. The Assistant Secretary is under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense on all matters related to cyber activities that support or enable Department of Defense missions in, through, and from cyberspace.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Cyber Policy)

Ashley Manning (Performing the Duties Of)	
Michael Sulmeyer	1 August 2024–20 January 2025
Ashley Manning (Acting)	

Critical Technologies

Section 901(b) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 increased the authorized number of Assistant Secretaries to 19. The Deputy Secretary of Defense established the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Critical Technologies in a memorandum of 12 July 2023. The Assistant Secretary is under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) as the principal adviser for science and technologies critical to national security. In addition, the Assistant Secretary is responsible for advising the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) on science and technology matters to ensure technological dominance against adversaries; assessing the development and utilization of critical technologies; supporting Department of Defense technology areas that warrant focused attention by the Department.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Critical Technologies)

Maynard Holliday (Performing the Duties Of)	
Peter Highnam (Performing the Duties Of)	

Energy, Installations, and Environment

Section 902 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, PL 110-417, 14 October 2008, established the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Operational Energy Plans and Programs). The Assistant Secretary's duties included leading, overseeing, and providing accountability for operational energy plans and programs within the Department of Defense and the military services, as well as establishing, coordinating, and implementing the Department's operational energy strategy and advising the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense on operational energy plans, programs, and policy. Section 903 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, PL 111-84, 28 October 2009, further elaborated on the activities of this office.

On 19 December 2014, the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 merged this position with the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment). In addition to its previously established functions, the position gained responsibility for creating policies to improve facility energy efficiency, increasing renewable energy use on U.S. installations, promoting energy security, and managing environmental compliance, conservation, and clean-up programs.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Operational Energy Plans and Programs)

Sharon E. Burke		
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, and Environment)		
John C. Conger (Performing the Duties Of)		
Lucian L. Niemeyer	20 January 2017–20 January 2021	
Vacant		
Paul D. Cramer (Performing the Duties Of)	10 February 2022–26 January 2023	
Brendan Owens		
Robert E. Thompson (Acting)		
TToolula Accoura		

Health Affairs

Chairman, Armed Forces Medical Advisory Committee

In November 1948, Secretary of Defense James Forrestal established the Armed Forces Medical

Advisory Committee, to be headed by a Chairman.

Dr. Charles P. Cooper.....December 1948–January 1951

Chairman, Armed Forces Medical Policy Council

On 2 January 1951, Secretary of Defense George Marshall issued a directive creating the Armed Forces Medical Policy Council, to be headed by a Chairman. This directive abolished the Armed Forces Medical Advisory Committee.

Dr. Richard L. Meiling	5 January 1951–30 June 1951
Dr. William R. Lovelace	1 July 1951–1 April 1952
Dr. Melvin A. Casberg	1 April 1952–1 April 1953
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Health and	d Medical)

DoD Directive 5136.4, 1 April 1953, created this position and also abolished the Armed Forces Medical Policy Council.

Dr. Melvin A. Casberg..... 1 April 1953–2 August 1953

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health and Medical)

DoD Directive 5105.1, 30 June 1953, created the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health and Medical). Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, through the Secretary's authority under the Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1958, PL 85-599, 6 August 1958, abolished the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health and Medical) on 31 January 1961, and transferred functions to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health and Environment)

Position established on 23 June 1970 by DoD Directive 5136.1 after PL 91-121, 19 November 1969, designated an Assistant Secretary position for health affairs. On 22 January 1976 the position title changed to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs).

Dr. Louis M. Rousselot	
Dr. Richard S. Wilbur	
Dr. James R. Cowan	19 February 1974–1 March 1976
Vernon McKenzie (Acting)	2 March 1976–8 March 1976

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary is responsible for overall supervision of the health and medical affairs of DoD. Serves as the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary of Defense for all DoD health policies, programs, and activities, exercising oversight of all DoD health resources. Reports to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Dr. Robert N. Smith	
Vernon McKenzie (Acting)	8 January 1978–14 August 1979
Dr. John Moxley III	14 September 1979–9 August 1981
Dr. John Beary (Acting)	10 August 1981–24 September 1983

Vernon McKenzie (Acting)	
Dr. William Mayer	
Dr. Enrique Mendez	
Dr. Edward D. Martin (Acting)	20 January 1993–23 March 1994
Dr. Stephen C. Joseph	
Dr. Edward D. Martin (Acting)	1 April 1997–26 May 1998
Dr. Sue Bailey	
Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr	
Dr. S. Ward Casscells	
Dr. Charles Rice (Performing the Duties Of)	
Dr. Jonathan Woodson	10 January 2011–1 May 2016
Dr. David J. Smith (Performing the Duties Of)	
Thomas P. McCaffery (Acting)	
Thomas P. McCaffery	
Dr. Terry Adirim (Acting)	
Dr. David J. Smith (Performing the Duties Of)	
Seileen Mullen (Acting)	
Dr. Lester Martinez-Lopez	
Seileen Mullen (Acting)	
Dr. Stephen L. Ferrara (Acting)	

Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense)

The Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003, PL 107-314, 2 December 2002, created the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense), reporting to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy). The Assistant Secretary oversees Department of Defense homeland defense activities.

The Marine Corps called Paul F. McHale to active duty during his tenure and deployed him to Afghanistan from December 2006 until July 2007. In his absence, the Secretary of Defense never formally named an Acting Assistant Secretary in his position.

Paul F. McHale7 February 2003–20 January 2009

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs)

The September 2006 reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) made the Assistant Secretary for Homeland Security the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs), connoting its responsibilities for North and South American security issues. DoD Directive 5111.13, 16 January 2009, defined the responsibilities of the position. DoD Directive 5111.13, 23 March 2018, canceled the 2009 directive and transferred responsibilities to the ASD (Homeland Defense and Global Security).

Paul N. Stockton1 June 2009–22 January 2013

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Global Strategic Affairs)

A reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), announced in September 2006 and implemented by August 2007, created the new position of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Global Security Affairs). Although a directive never stated the responsibilities and mission of the position, the new Assistant Secretary focused on building the defense capabilities of partners and allies, coalition affairs, technology security policy, security cooperation, counternarcotics, counterproliferation, detainee affairs, and prisoner of war/missing in action issues. DoD Directive 2060.02, 19 April 2007, described the Assistant Secretary's responsibilities for responses to weapons of mass destruction incidents. By administrative action in 2009, the position became Assistant Secretary of Defense (Global Strategic Affairs). In 2014, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel disestablished this position to comply with section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2010. He transferred the functions of the position on 9 January 2015 to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Global Security).

Joseph A. Benkert	
Michael Nacht	7 May 2009–20 May 2010
Kenneth Handelman (Acting)	
Madelyn R. Creedon	2 August 2011–23 July 2014
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Global Security)	

In order to comply with section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, PL 111-84, 28 October 2009, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel eliminated the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Global Strategic Affairs) and transferred responsibility for cyberspace, space, and countering weapons of mass destruction policies to the new Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Global Security).

Eric Rosenbach	
Thomas F. Atkin	5 November 2014–20 January 2017
Kenneth Rapuano	
Robert Salesses (Performing the Duties Of)	
Jennifer C. Walsh (Acting)	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs)	

As part of a reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), the position's name changed from Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Global Security) to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs).

Melissa G. Dalton	4 March 2022–29 May 2024
Sarah R. Zimmerman (Performing the Duties Of)	21 December 2023–29 May 2024
Sarah R. Zimmerman (Acting)	
Leigh Nolan (Performing the Duties Of)	22 January 2025–28 January 2025
Rafael Leonardo (Performing the Duties Of)	

Indo-Pacific Security Affairs

The reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), announced in September 2006, resulted in the creation of the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Asian and Pacific

Security Affairs). A Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense under the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs) had performed the functions of the position prior to the reorganization. On 21 February 2019, the name of the position changed to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Indo-Pacific Security Affairs).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Asian and Pacific Security Affairs)

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates established this position under the authority provided to him by United States Code, Title 10, section 138.

James J. Shinn	
Mitchell Shivers (Acting)	
Wallace Gregson	
Peter R. Lavoy (Acting)	
Mark W. Lippert	
Peter R. Lavoy (Acting)	1 May 2013–10 January 2014
David Shear	17 July 2014–20 January 2017
David Helvey (Acting)	
Randall G. Schriver	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Indo-Pacific Security Affairs)	

On 21 February 2019, David Norquist, Performing the Duties of the Deputy Secretary of Defense, approved a request from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) to rename the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Asian and Pacific Security Affairs) to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Indo-Pacific Security Affairs).

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Indo-Pacific Security Affairs) serves as the principal adviser to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) and the Secretary of Defense on international security strategy and policy issues involving the nations and international organizations of the Asia-Pacific region. It oversees security cooperation programs and foreign military sales programs in the regions under its supervision in close cooperation with U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Central Command. The Assistant Secretary represents the Department of Defense in internagency policy deliberations and international negotiations related to the Asia-Pacific region.

Randall G. Schriver	21 February 2019–31 December 2019
David Helvey (Acting)	1 January 2020–29 July 2020
David Helvey (Performing the Duties Of)	
David Helvey (Acting)	
Kenneth Handelman (Performing the Duties Of)	
Ely Ratner	
John Noh (Performing the Duties Of)	

Industrial Base Policy

The National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2011, PL 111-383, 7 January 2011, created the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manufacturing and Industrial Base Policy, appointed by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, to provide input on industrial base matters. This position was a noncareer appointment and did not require Senate

confirmation.

As part of the 2018 reorganization of the Defense Department's acquisition offices, the manufacturing program fell under the responsibilities of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manufacturing and Industrial Base Policy became the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Policy.

Section 903 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, PL 116-283, 1 January 2021, elevated the position of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy to that of an Assistant Secretary of Defense to advise the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment on industrial base policies. With the elevation in stature, the position now requires Senate confirmation. Section 903 also amended 10 USC 138 by increasing the number of Assistant Secretaries of Defense to 15.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Industrial Base Policy)

Deborah Rosenblum (Performing the Duties Of)	
Laura Taylor-Kale	11 April 2023–20 January 2025
Vic S. Ramdass (Acting)	

International Security Affairs

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

Between 1947 and 1949, one of the three Special Assistants to the Secretary of Defense established by the National Security Act of 1947, PL 80-253, 26 July 1947, handled international security affairs. In 1949, the Secretary of Defense created the position of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs).

John H. Ohly	
Maj. Gen. James H. Burns, USA	6 December 1949–27 August 1951
Frank C. Nash	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)	

Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, authorized six new Assistant Secretaries of Defense. The position of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs) became Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs). The Assistant Secretary reported to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) when that office came into existence in 1977. The scope of the Assistant Secretary's responsibilities narrowed and changed over the years as other Assistant Secretary positions were established in the office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), beginning with the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy) in 1981.

Frank C. Nash	11 February 1953–28 February 1954
H. Struve Hensel	5 March 1954–30 June 1955
Gordon Gray	14 July 1955–27 February 1957
Mansfield D. Sprague	
John N. Irwin II	
Paul H. Nitze	29 January 1961–29 November 1963
William P. Bundy	29 November 1963–14 March 1964
John T. McNaughton	1 July 1964–19 July 1967

Paul C. Warnke	1 August 1967–15 February 1969
G. Warren Nutter	
Lawrence Eagleburger (Acting)	
Robert C. Hill	
Ray Peet (Acting)	6 January 1974–1 April 1974
Amos A. Jordan (Acting)	
Robert F. Ellsworth	5 June 1974–22 December 1975
Amos A. Jordan (Acting)	
Eugene V. McAuliffe	
David E. McGiffert	
Francis J. West Jr	
Richard L. Armitage (Acting)	
Richard L. Armitage	
Henry S. Rowen	
James R. Lilley	12 December 1991–20 January 1993
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Regional Security	Affairs)

DoD Directive 5111.7, 6 July 1993, established the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Regional Security Affairs), which received some functions from the abolished position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs). The title of this position reverted to Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs) on 11 April 1994.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

	•
Charles Freeman	11 April 1994–14 September 1994
Joseph S. Nye Jr	15 September 1994–16 December 1995
Franklin D. Kramer	
Peter W. Rodman	
Mary Beth Long (Acting)	
Mary Beth Long	
Alexander R. Vershbow	
Joseph McMillan (Acting)	
Derek H. Chollet	
Elissa S. Slotkin (Acting)	
Robert Story Karem	
Kathryn Wheelbarger (Acting)	
Kathryn Wheelbarger (Performing the Duties Of)	
Michael C. Ryan (Performing the Duties Of)	
Michael Cutrone (Performing the Duties Of)	

Laura Cooper (Performing the Duties Of)	
Mara Karlin (Acting)	
Laura Cooper (Performing the Duties Of)	17 August 2021–13 December 2021
Ilan Goldenberg (Acting)	13 December 2021–18 February 2022
Celeste Wallander	
Katherine E. Thompson (Performing the Duties Of)	
Г ¹ -1-1 ¹ - АСС- ¹	

Legislative Affairs

Special Assistant (Legal and Legislative Affairs)

One of the three Special Assistants to the Secretary of Defense established by the National Security Act of 1947, PL 80-253, 26 July 1947. Handled legal and legislative affairs between 1947 and 1949.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legal and Legislative Affairs)

Position assigned to one of three Assistant Secretaries authorized by the 1949 amendments to the National Security Act, PL 81-216, 10 August 1949, and retitled Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legal and Legislative Affairs).

Position abolished by Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, and functions divided and transferred to the General Counsel and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative and Public Affairs). See section IX, Principal Staff Assistants, Public Affairs.

Marx Leva	
Daniel K. Edwards	
Charles A. Coolidge	20 November 1951–31 December 1952

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs)

Position created by Deputy Secretary of Defense Reuben B. Robertson Jr. with a memorandum on 21 February 1957.

Clarence J. Hauck Jr	1 April 1957–1 April 1959
George W. Vaughan	1 April 1959–1 March 1960
James D. Hittle	1 March 1960–1 November 1960
Norman S. Paul	
David E. McGiffert	8 August 1962–30 June 1965
Jack L. Stempler	. 13 December 1965–4 January 1970
Richard G. Capen Jr	5 January 1970–1 May 1971
Rady A. Johnson	
George L. J. Dalferes (Acting)	17 March 1973–17 April 1973
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs)	

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Elliot Richardson elevated the position of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) on 11 April 1973.

John O. Marsh	
John M. Maury	
William K. Brehm	19 March 1976–20 January 1977

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs)

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown redesignated the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) as Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) on 23 March 1977.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs)

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger reestablished the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs). The Department of Defense issued Directive 5142.1 on 2 July 1982 describing the responsibilities and mission.

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs)

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin downgraded the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) to an Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, PL 103-160, 30 November 1993, gave statutory standing to the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs). This is the principal staff assistant to the Secretary of Defense for DoD relations with members of Congress, the liaison for testimony at congressional hearings, and the coordinator of the Department's legislative program.

Sandra K. Stuart	15 September 1994–27 February 1999
John K. Veroneau (Acting)	
John K. Veroneau	10 November 1999–16 February 2001
Powell A. Moore	4 May 2001–1 December 2004
Daniel B. Stanley (Acting)	1 December 2004–30 June 2005
Daniel B. Stanley	
Robert L. Wilkie (Acting)	
Robert L. Wilkie	
Elizabeth L. King	7 May 2009–31 December 2014
Michael J. Stella (Acting)	2 January 2015–1 April 2015
Stephen Hedger	1 April 2015–1 July 2016
Tressa Guenov (Acting)	1 July 2016–20 January 2017

Pete Giambastiani (Acting)	20 January 2017–31 July 2017
Robert R. Hood	1 August 2017–24 July 2020
Ann T. Johnson (Acting)	
Ryan Reilly (Performing the Duties Of)	
Louis I. Lauter (Acting)	9 February 2021–7 September 2021
Louis I. Lauter (Performing the Duties Of)	7 September 2021–21 February 2022
Matthew Williams (Performing the Duties Of)	
Thomas J. Mancinelli (Acting)	5 April 2022–28 November 2022
Rheanne Wirkkala	28 November 2022–20 January 2025
Macon D. Hughes (Acting)	22 January 2025–Present

Manpower and Reserve Affairs

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration and Public Affairs)

Position established as one of the three Assistant Secretary posts authorized by the National Security Act Amendments of 1949, PL 81-216, 10 August 1949.

Secretary of Defense George C. Marshall established this position in late 1950 when he abolished the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration and Public Affairs).

Anna M. Rosenberg	15 November 1950–20 January 1953
John A. Hannah	
Carter L. Burgess	24 September 1954–September 1955

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Personnel and Reserve)

On 22 September 1955, Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson redesignated the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Personnel) as Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Personnel, and Reserve).

Carter L. Burgess	September 1955–22 January 1957
William H. Francis	
Charles O. Finucane	· · ·
	5

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower)

DoD Directive 5120.27, 31 January 1961, redesignated the position as Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower).

Carlisle P. Runge	
Norman S. Paul	
Thomas D. Morris	
Alfred B. Fitt	

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)

The Reserve Forces Bill of Rights and Vitalization Act, PL 90-168, 1 January 1968, changed the title to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs).

Alfred B. Fitt	1 January 1968–20 February 1969
Roger T. Kelley	
Carl W. Clewlow (Acting)	1 June 1973–1 September 1973
William K. Brehm	1 September 1973–18 March 1976
David P. Taylor	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs and Logistics)	

DoD Directive 5124.1, 20 April 1977, mandated that the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) assume all functions of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) and Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Logistics). See section X, Former and Disestablished Positions; Supply, Logistics, and Installations.

John P. White	12 May 1977–31 October 1978
Robert B. Pirie Jr	17 June 1979–20 January 1981
Lawrence J. Korb	4 May 1981–12 January 1984
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Installations and Logistics)	

The Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1984, PL 98-94, 24 September 1983, changed the title of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Installations, and Logistics). The reserve affairs functions transferred to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs) on 1 October 1983, and installations and logistics functions transferred to the new Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Logistics), which was established 5 July 1985.

Lawrence J. Korb.....12 January 1984–5 July 1985

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel)

DoD Directive 5124.2, 13 March 1985, established the position with a new title, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel). The position assumed manpower duties only on 5 July 1985.

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, PL 103-160, 30 November 1993, abolished the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel) and created the position of Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness). DoD Directive 5124.2, 17 March 1994, spelled out the Under Secretary's duties, including authority over the Assistant Secretaries for Health Affairs and Reserve Affairs.

Lawrence J. Korb	5 July 1985–31 August 1985
Chapman B. Cox	7 December 1985–8 July 1987
Grant S. Green	3 February 1988–5 March 1989
Christopher Jehn	20 November 1989–20 January 1993
Edwin Dorn	2 July 1993–16 March 1994

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy)

By administrative authority, Secretary of Defense William Perry established the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management) on 7 July 1994. DoD Directive 5124.5, 31 October 1994, changed the title to Force Management Policy. The new Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) took office in November 2002, abolishing this position.

Frederick F.Y. Pang	
Francis M. Rush Jr. (Acting)	
Alphonso Maldon Jr	
Charles S. Abell	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve A	Affairs)

Position mandated by the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1984, PL 98-94, 24 September 1983, with functions transferred from the disestablished Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) on 1 October 1983. DoD Directive 5125.1, 12 January 1984, established this position's responsibilities and mission.

James H. Webb Jr	
Stephen M. Duncan	
Deborah R. Lee	1 June 1993–11 April 1998
Charles L. Cragin (Acting)	
Thomas F. Hall	9 October 2002–8 April 2009
Dennis M. McCarthy	
David L. McGinnis (Acting)	1 June 2011–24 May 2012
Jessica L. Wright	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs)	

The Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, PL 113-291, 19 December 2014, redesignated the position as the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs).

Todd A. Weiler	15 May 2016–20 January 2017
Stephanie Barna (Acting)	20 January 2017–31 July 2018
Virginia Penrod (Acting)	
James Stewart	12 October 2018–28 December 2019
Virginia Penrod (Acting)	
Virginia Penrod (Performing the Duties Of)	
Virginia Penrod (Acting)	20 January 2021–2 May 2022
Thomas A. Constable (Performing the Duties Of)	
Grier Martin (Performing the Duties Of)	1 April 2023–13 March 2024
Ronald T. Keohane	13 March 2024–20 January 2025
Timothy D. Dill (Performing the Duties Of)	22 January 2025–Present

Mission Capabilities

Section 901(b) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 increased the authorized number of Assistant Secretaries to 19. The Deputy Secretary of Defense established the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Science and Technology in a memorandum of 12 July 2023. The Assistant Secretary is under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) as the principal adviser for science and technology matters, including overseeing Department of Defense technical infrastructure, engineering, and scientific capabilities, and science and technology defense investments; developing the Department's annual strategic science and technology investment strategy; conducting periodic reviews of science and technology investments to ensure progress of departmental goals; and serving as the senior official and advocate for laboratory infrastructure and the Department's science and technology workforce.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Mission Capabilities)

Marcia Holmes (Performing the Duties Of)...... 22 January 2025–Present

Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs

Chairman, Military Liaison Committee

The Atomic Energy Act of 1946, PL 79-585, 1 August 1946, established the Military Liaison Committee. The Secretaries of War and the Navy designated a Chairman until Congress amended the Atomic Energy Act in 1949, PL 81-347, 11 October 1949, and mandated that the President appoint a Chairman, with the advice and consent of the Senate, as well as committee members.

Lt. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton, USAF	17 July 1947–30 March 1948
Donald F. Carpenter	
William Webster	22 September 1948–30 September 1949
Robert LeBaron	1 October 1949–1 August 1954

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Atomic Energy)

From 13 April 1953, the Chairman of the Military Liaison Committee also served as Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Atomic Energy). The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987, PL 99-661, 14 November 1986, abolished the Military Liaison Committee and established the Nuclear Weapons Council, but the position of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Atomic Energy) continued. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, PL 100-180, 4 December 1987, formally established the position.

Herbert B. Loper	9 August 1954–14 July 1961
Gerald W. Johnson	11 August 1961–15 September 1963
William J. Howard	2 January 1964–15 June 1966
Carl Walske	3 October 1966–15 April 1973
Donald R. Cotter	16 October 1973–17 March 1978
James P. Wade Jr	8 August 1978–14 June 1981
James P. Wade Jr. (Acting)	15 June 1981–5 June 1982
Richard Wagner	6 June 1982–1 April 1986
Robert B. Barker	18 October 1986–29 May 1992

John Birely (Acting)	
Harold P. Smith Jr	1 June 1993–10 March 1996
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Nuclear, Chen	nical and Biological Defense
Programs)	
The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 19 redesignated the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Atomic I Defense (Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs	Energy) as Assistant to the Secretary of
Harold P. Smith Jr	11 March 1996–31 January 1998
Dale E. Klein	15 November 2001–30 June 2006
Arthur T. Hopkins (Acting)	
Frederick S. Celec	8 July 2008–19 May 2009
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Nuclear, Chemical a	nd Biological Defense
Programs)	

Section 905 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, PL 110-417, 14 October 2008, modified the status of this position to be the equivalent to that of an Assistant Secretary of Defense. Section 901 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, PL 111-383, 4 January 2011, changed the title to Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Andrew C. Weber	
Arthur T. Hopkins (Acting)	1 January 2015–21 November 2017
Guy B. Roberts	
Alan R. Shaffer (Performing the Duties Of)	
Brandi Vann (Acting)	
Deborah Rosenblum	
Brandi Vann (Performing the Duties Of)	8 April 2024– Present

Readiness

The Deputy Secretary of Defense established the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness in a memorandum of 23 May 2011. The Assistant Secretary is responsible for developing policies, providing advice, and making recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) and the Secretary of Defense in the areas of civilian and military personnel policy, readiness, and military community and family policy. Additionally, the Assistant Secretary oversees subordinate activities, including the Department of Defense Education Activity and the Defense Commissary Agency.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness)

Peter Belk (Performing the Duties Of)	1 April 2010–1 April 2011
Lynn C. Simpson (Performing the Duties Of)	1 April 2010–1 April 2011
Frederick E. Vollrath	
Elizabeth Van Winkle (Performing the Duties Of)	13 November 2016–29 October 2017
Veronica B. Daigle (Acting)	
Veronica B. Daigle	

Thomas A. Constable (Acting)	1 February 2020–29 July 2021
Shawn Skelly	
Peter Belk (Performing the Duties Of)	11 September 2023–20 January 2025
Jules W. Hurst III (Performing the Duties Of)	22 January 2025–Present

Science and Technology

Section 901(b) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 increased the authorized number of Assistant Secretaries to 19. The Deputy Secretary of Defense established the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Mission Capabilities in a memorandum of 12 July 2023. The Assistant Secretary is under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) as the principal adviser for mission engineering analysis of disruptive technologies and concepts that improve U.S. warfighting capabilities. The Assistant Secretary oversees and advocates for joint mission engineering; analyzes recommended technologies that eliminate or disrupt adversary kill chains; and oversees and advocates for new methods, policies, and alternate acquisition pathways to move innovative technologies and prototypes from the laboratory to the field.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Science and Technology)

Steven Wax (Performing the Duties Of)	
Aprille J. Ericsson	12 March 2024–20 January 2025
Michael J. Holthe (Acting)	

Space Policy

Position established by the United States Space Force Act (Subtitle D of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2020, PL 116-92) and implemented by the 29 October 2020 Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum. Reporting through the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Space Policy) represents the Secretary of Defense in interagency deliberations and international discussions on space-related matters and develops, coordinates, and oversees implementation of U.S. government and Department of Defense policy on space and space warfighting.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Space Policy)

Justin Johnson (Performing the Duties Of)	
John Hill (Performing the Duties Of)	
John Plumb	
Vipin Narang (Acting)	
John Hill (Acting)	
John Hill (Performing the Duties Of)	

Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities

A 9 January 2015 Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum established the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities) in accordance with section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, as amended, PL 111-84, which eliminated all non-presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed Deputy Under Secretaries of Defense. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities) replaced and assumed the responsibilities of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Forces). The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Forces).

Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities) gained responsibility for advising the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) on the development of national security and defense strategy, military planning, budgeting, and various force development, force management, and corporate processes. This position also assumed responsibility for security cooperation and nuclear and missile defense policy missions that were previously managed by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations/ Low-Intensity Conflict) and Assistant Secretary of Defense (Global Strategic Affairs).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities)

Robert Scher	January 2015–January 2017
Thomas Harvey (Acting)	20 January 2017–30 August 2018
James H. Anderson	
Victorino Mercado (Performing the Duties Of)	
James H. Anderson	
Victorino Mercado	
Melissa G. Dalton (Acting)	20 January 2021–17 August 2021
Mara Karlin	17 August 2021–20 December 2023
Melissa G. Dalton (Performing the Duties Of)	23 August 2021–14 February 2022
Madeline Mortelmans (Performing the Duties Of)	
Madeline Mortelmans (Performing the Duties Of)	18 July 2023–20 December 2023
Madeline Mortelmans (Acting)	21 December 2023–19 July 2024
Madeline Mortelmans (Performing the Duties Of)	19 July 2024–20 January 2025
Austin J. Dahmer (Performing the Duties Of)	22 January 2025–15 March 2025
Madeline Mortelmans (Acting)	15 March 2025–Present

Sustainment

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, PL 106-65, 5 October 1999, created the position of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness as a second Deputy Under Secretary reporting to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics). Congress intended to emphasize the importance of these functions by making this position the top adviser to the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) and Logistics) on logistics and materiel readiness issues.

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics and Materiel Readiness)

Roger W. Kallock	
Diane Morales	
Phillip Jackson Bell	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Logistics and Materiel Readiness)	

Position retitled from Deputy Under Secretary of Defense to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Logistics and Materiel Readiness) by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, PL 111-84, 28 October 2009, as part of an overall effort to limit the number of Deputy Under Secretary positions.

David J. Berteau	
Kristin French (Acting)	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Sustainment)	

As part of the restructuring of the acquisition, technology, and logistics functions as mandated by section 901 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, PL 114-328, 23 December 2016, the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness was replaced with the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment.

Robert H. McMahon	17 October 2018–22 November 2019
Peter Potochney (Acting)	23 November 2019–30 March 2020
William Jordan Gillis	
Paul D. Cramer (Performing the Duties Of)	
Steven J. Morani (Acting)	2 August 2021–25 May 2022
Christopher Lowman	
Steven J. Morani (Acting)	

VIII. Principal Staff Assistants

The following positions report directly to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense and include Office of the Secretary of Defense Directors or equivalents. The position descriptions note whether the post is presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS), or a Secretary of Defense appointment that does not require Senate confirmation.

Administration

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration)

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara established the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration) on 1 July 1964. DoD Directive 5110.1, 11 July 1964, outlined the new Assistant Secretary's responsibilities as the principal staff assistant for administration, management, and organization.

Solis Horwitz	1 July 1964–29 January 1969
Robert F. Froehlke	
David O. Cooke (Acting)	

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration)

By administration action, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird redesignated the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration) as the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence) on 3 November 1971. The administrative functions of the former assistant secretary position were transferred to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) and placed under a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Administration.

David O. Cooke 4 November 1971–23 May 1988

Director of Administration and Management

DoD Directive 5105.53, 24 May 1988, established the office of the Director of Administration and Management to coordinate Department-wide administrative and organizational matters. This position also functioned as the Director of Washington Headquarters Services, established by DoD Directive 5110.4, 1 October 1977. The dual roles lasted until January 2004 when the Director of Washington Headquarters Services became a separate position.

David O. Cooke	
Raymond F. DuBois (Assumed Duties)	1 October 2002–18 June 2003
Raymond F. DuBois	
Michael B. Donley	
Michael L. Rhodes (Acting)	
Michael L. Rhodes	
Director of Administration	

After an Office of the Secretary of Defense organizational review, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, in an 11 July 2014 memorandum, consolidated the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Intelligence Oversight) and the Director of Administration and Management into the Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer. The Director for Administration and Management became Director of Administration, a career-reserved Senior Executive Service position reporting to the Deputy Chief Management Officer. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, signed into law

on 23 December 2016, disestablished the Deputy Chief Management Officer and created the Chief Management Officer.

Michael L. Rhodes	
Sajeel Ahmed (Acting)	
Thomas Muir (Acting)	19 December 2019–11 January 2021

Director of Administration and Management

The William M. "Mac" Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, PL 116-283, 1 January 2021, disestablished the Chief Management Officer. As part of the redistribution of the Chief Management Officer's duties, the Deputy Secretary of Defense issued an 11 January 2021 memo reestablishing the Office of the Director of Administration and Management. The Director of Administration and Organizational Policy, which had been part of the Office of the Chief Management Officer. The Director of Administration and Management regained direction and control over the Washington Headquarters Services and the Pentagon Force Protection Agency. The Deputy Secretary of Defense's memo also stated that DoD Directive 5105.53, published in February 2008 and outlining the Director of Administration and Management's roles and responsibilities, remained in effect as the chartering directive.

Thomas Muir (Interim)	11 January 2021–3 May 2021
Michael B. Donley	
Sajeel Ahmed (Acting)	1 September 2023–14 September 2023
Jennifer C. Walsh	15 September 2023–Present

Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer

Section 238(b) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2018, PL 115-232, 13 August 2018, mandated that the Secretary of Defense designate a senior official with principal responsibility for coordinating activities relating to the development and demonstration of artificial intelligence and machine learning for the department. An 8 December 2021 memorandum from the Deputy Secretary of Defense directed that the new position of Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer be established effective 1 February 2022. The position and the Office of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer became fully operational on 1 June 2022. The Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer serves as the principal staff assistant for accelerating the Department of Defense's adoption of data, analytics, and artificial intelligence, and as the intervening supervisor between the Defense Digital Service and the Offices of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense consistent with DoD Directive 5105.87, 5 January 2017.

Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer

John Sherman (Acting)	
Craig Martell	
Radha Plumb	9 April 2024–20 January 2025
Margaret Palmieri (Acting)	
Douglas Matty	

Chief Information Officer

Chief Information Officer

The Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 (passed as part of the NDAA for FY 1996, PL 104-106) created the position of Chief Information Officer. In 2003 the newly designated Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration (see entry in part X; Former and Disestablished Positions; Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence) assumed the duties of the Defense Department's chief information officer. An 11 January 2012 memorandum signed by the Deputy Secretary of Defense abolished the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Networks and Information Integration). Its authorities, responsibilities, personnel, and resources were transferred to the now-reinstituted position of Chief Information Officer, which initially did not require Senate confirmation. DoD Directive 5144.02, issued 22 April 2013, authorized the Chief Information Officer as a principal staff assistant to the Secretary of Defense, and gave the Secretary appointment authority. Section 909 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2018, PL 115-91, amended United States Code Title 10, section 142(a) by requiring the Chief Information Officer to be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Terry Halvorsen	
John Zangardi (Acting)	1 March 2017–9 December 2017
Essye B. Miller (Acting)	10 December 2017–6 May 2018
Dana Deasy	7 May 2018–20 January 2021
John Sherman (Acting)	
Kelly Fletcher (Performing the Duties Of)	16 September 2021–17 December 2021
John Sherman	17 December 2021–1 July 2024
Leslie Beavers (Acting)	1 July 2024–3 March 2025
Katie Arrington (Performing the Duties Of)	

Defense Innovation Unit

Director of Defense Innovation Unit Experimental

Secretary of Defense Ashton B. Carter established the position in August 2015 to lead the Defense Innovation Unit Experimental (DIUx) in its mission to improve DoD access to cutting-edge commercial technologies and technical talent. The Director reported to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) through the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering).

Managing Partner

DoD Directive 5105.85, 5 July 2016, placed the DIUx under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense and redesignated the Director as Managing Partner appointed by the Secretary of Defense. A Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum dated 3 August 2018 renamed DIUx as the Defense Innovation Unit. DoD Directive 5105.85, 23 November 2018, placed the agency and the Managing Partner under the authority, direction, and control of the newly established Under Secretary of Defense (Research & Engineering), who gained authority to appoint the Managing Partner.

Raj Shah	11 May 2016–22 February 2018
Sean Heritage (Acting)	

Michael Brown	
Mike Madsen (Acting)	2 September 2022–4 April 2023

Director

A Secretary of Defense memorandum dated 4 April 2023 reverted the DIU and the Managing Partner, renamed Director, to report directly to the Secretary of Defense. The Under Secretary of Defense (Research & Engineering) retained all organizational and management responsibilities assigned to that office by the 2018 Directive. Section 913 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, Public Law 118-31, 22 December 2023, codified the Defense Innovation Unit and mandated the appointment of a Director by the Secretary of Defense to serve as a principal staff assistant to the Secretary of Defense on all matters related to the responsibilities of the agency.

Douglas Beck......4 April 2023–Present

Operational Test and Evaluation

Position established by the Department of Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1984, PL 98-94, 24 September 1983, and by DoD Directive 5141.2, 2 April 1984. The Director is the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary of Defense on operational and live fire test and evaluation matters. The Director is responsible for issuing test and evaluation policies and procedures, providing independent assessments and budgetary recommendations to the Secretary of Defense, and reviewing and analyzing the results of tests and evaluations conducted for each major DoD acquisition program.

Director of Operational Test and Evaluation

John E. Krings	
Robert C. Duncan	
Lee Frame (Acting)	
Philip E. Coyle III	
Thomas P. Christie	
David W. Duma (Acting)	1 February 2005–26 July 2006
Charles E. McQueary	
David W. Duma (Acting)	1 June 2009–22 September 2009
J. Michael Gilmore	
David W. Duma (Acting)	
Robert F. Behler	
Raymond D. O'Toole (Acting)	
Nikolas H. Guertin	
Raymond D. O'Toole (Acting)	
Douglas C. Schmidt	8 April 2024–20 January 205
Raymond D. O'Toole (Acting)	

Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency

Established by DoD Directive 5148.11, 1 December 1982, to replace the position of Inspector General for Intelligence, the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight reported directly to the Deputy Secretary of Defense and exercised oversight of all intelligence activities in the

Department of Defense. DoD Directive 5148.11, 21 May 2004, designated this position a principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense.

In August 2014, as part of the Secretary of Defense's reorganization efforts, the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight's functions and responsibilities transferred to the Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer, and in February 2018, to the Office of the Chief Management Officer, as the Department of Defense senior intelligence oversight official.

After section 901 of the William M. "Mac" Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, PL 116-283, 2 January 2021, abolished the position of Chief Management Officer, the Deputy Secretary of Defense reestablished the position of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight in an 11 January 2021 memorandum. DoD Directive 5148.11, 24 April 2013, still in effect according to the 11 January 2021 memorandum, designated the Assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for intelligence oversight as the principal staff sssistant and adviser to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for intelligence oversight in the Defense Department, inspecting all intelligence or intelligence-related activities conducted by any Defense Department components to ensure these activities comply with federal law, executive orders, presidential directives, intelligence community directives, and Defense Department issuances.

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Intelligence Oversight)

Walter Jajko	
George B. Lotz II	
William Dugan (Acting)	September 2005–26 September 2009
Michael H. Decker	
Michael Goodroe	March 2014–August 2014
Mark Dupont (Interim)	

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency)

The Deputy Secretary of Defense's 1 September 2021 memorandum redesignated the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight as the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency. All personnel, functions, and resources of the former Chief Management Officer related to privacy, civil liberties, and transparency, and regulatory matters previously transferred to the Director for Administration and Management realigned to the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight and shifted to the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency with the redesignation. The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency is the Principal Staff Assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense on privacy, civil liberties, and transparency matters.

Joo Y. Chung.....1 September 2021–Present

Public Affairs

Assistant to the Secretary (Director, Office of Public Information)

Position established by the Secretary of Defense on 14 July 1948.

Harold B. Hinton	19 July 1948–12 March 1949
William Frye	12 March 1949–19 February 1950
Osgood Roberts (Acting)	20 February 1950–24 January 1951
Clayton Fritchey	25 January 1951–1 June 1952

Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, increased the number of Assistant Secretaries of Defense. The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Director, Office of Public Information) became Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative and Public Affairs). Position abolished as per DoD Directive 5105.13, 10 August 1957, and functions divided and transferred to the new Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) and Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

DoD Directive 5105.13, 10 August 1957, detailed the responsibilities of the position.

Murray Snyder	
Arthur Sylvester	
Daniel Z. Henkin (Acting)	
Daniel Z. Henkin	
Jerry W. Friedheim (Acting)	
Jerry W. Friedheim	
William Beecher (Acting)	
Joseph Laitin	12 February 1975–19 December 1975
William I. Greener Jr	
M. Alan Woods	
Thomas B. Ross	7 March 1977–20 January 1981
Henry E. Catto Jr	
Benjamin Welles (Acting)	17 September 1983–1 November 1983
Mary Lou Sheils (Acting)	
Michael I. Burch	
Fred Hoffman (Acting)	
Robert B. Sims	
Fred Hoffman (Acting)	
J. Daniel Howard	3 February 1988–21 March 1989
Louis A. Williams	
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Pu	ublic Affairs)

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin changed the title of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) to the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) on 22 January 1993. DoD Directive 5122.5, 2 December 1993, described the responsibilities and mission.

Vernon A. Guidry Jr...... 22 January 1993–18 July 1993

Kathleen deLaski	
Kenneth H. Bacon	20 September 1994–29 March 1996
	I

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1995, PL 103-337, 5 October 1994, increased the number of Assistant Secretaries from 10 to 11. The position subsequently reverted to the title Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) on 29 March 1996 through DoD Directive 5122.5.

Kenneth H. Bacon	
Victoria Clarke	
Lawrence Di Rita (Acting)	10 August 2003–22 September 2005
J. Dorrance Smith	5 January 2006–20 January 2009
Price Floyd (Performing the Duties Of)	January 2009–February 2010
Douglas B. Wilson	11 February 2010–31 March 2012
George Little (Acting)	1 April 2012–8 October 2012

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

A 9 October 2012 memorandum from the Secretary of Defense retitled the position to Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs). Appointed by the Secretary of Defense, the officeholder serves as the Secretary's principal adviser for strategic communications, community engagement, media relations, and visual information.

George Little	9 October 2012–15 November 2013
Brent Colburn	18 December 2014–20 January 2017
Dana W. White	
Charles E. Summers Jr. (Acting)	1 January 2019–April 2019
Jonathan Hoffman	April 2019–20 January 2021
Rear Adm. John Kirby, USN	
Gordon Trowbridge (Acting)	
Christopher Meagher	9 September 2022–20 January 2025
Jonathan L. Ullyot (Acting)	
Sean Parnell	3 February 2025–Present

Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict

The creation of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict) was mandated by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987, PL 99-661, 14 November 1986, and officially established by DoD Directive 5138.3 on 4 January 1988. The Assistant Secretary of Defense originally reported to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict)

Charles S. Whitehouse	13 July 1988–12 July 1989
Seth Cropsey (Acting)	13 July 1989–18 October 1989
James R. Locher	. 19 October 1989–19 June 1993

H. Allen Holmes		
Brian E. Sheridan	7 May 1999–12 January 2001	
Thomas W. O'Connell		
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict and		
Interdependent Capabilities)	· · ·	

Position renamed Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities) as part of the reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) announced in September 2006. Major responsibilities of the office were realigned to include strategic capabilities, force transformation, and major budget programs, in addition to special operations and low-intensity conflict.

Michael G. Vickers	
Michael Lumpkin (Acting)	

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict)

The title reverted to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict) with Change 2 to DoD Directive 5110.10, dated 21 October 2011. Assisted the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) in developing policy and plans for low-intensity conflict activities and special operations, including civil affairs and psychological operations.

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, PL 114-328, 23 December 2016, mandated that the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict report directly to the Secretary of Defense. An 18 November 2020 memorandum by the Acting Secretary of Defense implemented the law, and designated the ASD as the principal staff assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for special operations policy and administration. This memorandum also removed the ASD from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) and enhanced the ASD's roles and responsibilities. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict exercises authority, direction, and control over administrative matters relating to the organization, training, and equipping of special operations forces, and has a budgetary role and responsibility similar to those of the Secretaries of the Military Departments.

Michael Lumpkin (Acting)	21 October 2011–19 December 2011
Michael G. Sheehan	20 December 2011–25 August 2013
Michael Lumpkin	
Theresa Whelan (Acting)	March 2016–January 2017
Caryn Hollis (Performing the Duties Of)	
Mark E. Mitchell (Acting)	2 August 2017–20 December 2017
Owen O. West	
Mark E. Mitchell (Acting)	
Thomas Alexander (Acting)	2 November 2019–20 January 2020
Thomas Alexander (Performing the Duties Of)	
Christopher C. Miller (Performing the Duties Of)	
Ezra Cohen (Acting)	10 August 2020–4 December 2020
Joseph Tonon (Acting)	4 December 2020–20 January 2021
Joseph McMenamin (Performing the Duties Of)	

Christopher Maier	12 August 2021–20 January 2025
Colby C. Jenkins (Performing the Duties Of)	22 January 2025–Present

Strategic Capabilities Office

Director, Strategic Capabilities Office

Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton B. Carter established the Strategic Capabilities Office in August 2012 with a Director designated to report directly to the Secretary of Defense. DoD Directive 5105.86, 14 November 2016, codified the Director as the Principal Staff Assistant and adviser to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense. It assigned the Director responsibility for identifying, analyzing, and testing new and unconventional uses of existing technologies to augment efforts within the Defense Department to expedite the fielding of systems designed to counter emerging threats. The Director was under the authority, direction and control of the Secretary of Defense and reported directly to the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

A 13 July 2018 Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum reorganized the Defense Department's acquisition structure as mandated by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, PL 114-328, 23 December 2016, as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017. The 13 July memorandum placed SCO and its Director under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, effective 25 June 2018.

An 18 December 2019 Secretary of Defense memorandum and section 233 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, PL 116-92, 20 December 2019, realigned the SCO Director's reporting authority to the Deputy Secretary of Defense, although for administrative purposes it remained in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

A 6 January 2025 Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum removed SCO from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and designated the SCO Director as a Principal Staff Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, under the authority, direction, and control of the Deputy Secretary of Defense. SCO gained independent responsibility for its own administration and management within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The Director's responsibilities assigned by DoD Directive 5105.86, 14 November 2016, remain in effect.

William B. Roper	August 2012–1 February 2018
Vacant	1 February 2018–2 August 2018
Christopher Shank	2 August 2018–14 June 2019
David Honey (Acting)	14 June 2019–21 January 2020
Jay Dryer	21 January 2020–Present

IX. Former and Disestablished Positions

This section includes positions that have been abolished and those that were once ranked at an Assistant Secretary or Director level, but have since had their rank reduced.

Civil Defense

Reorganization Plan Number 1 of 1958, 1 July 1958, transferred to the President the civil defense functions formerly assigned to the Federal Civil Defense Administration. The President delegated these functions to the Secretary of Defense by Executive Order 10952, 20 July 1961. Position created 31 August 1961, and abolished 1 April 1964. The Office of Civil Defense moved to the Secretary of the Army in 1964. The Defense Civil Preparedness Agency then assumed responsibility for civil defense. When Reorganization Plan Number 3, 19 June 1978, led to the dissolution of this agency on 15 July 1979, the director of the new Federal Emergency Management Agency assumed responsibility for civil defense.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Civil Defense)

Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Telecommunications)

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird established the position of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Telecommunications) on 21 May 1970.

Louis A. deRosa..... 1 August 1970–1 May 1971

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Telecommunications)

Position established on 11 January 1972 by DoD Directive 5135.1 after PL 92-215, 22 December 1971, authorized an increase in the number of Assistant Secretaries of Defense from eight to nine. This position replaced the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Telecommunications). DoD Directive 5135.1, 17 January 1974, abolished this position and transferred functions to the Director, Telecommunications and Command and Control Systems.

Eberhardt Rechtin (Acting)	
Eberhardt Rechtin	

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence)

By administrative action on 3 November 1971, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird redesignated the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration) as the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence). On 20 July 1976, the position received an additional designation of Director of Defense Intelligence. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown abolished the position on 11 March 1977.

Director, Telecommunications and Command and Control Systems

Position created by DoD Directive 5135.1, 17 January 1974.

David L. Solomon (Acting)..... 17 January 1974–18 February 1974

Thomas C. Reed	19 February 1974–2 January 1976
Richard Shriver	10 February 1976–20 January 1977

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence)

DoD Directive 5137.1, 11 March 1977, replaced both the Director, Telecommunications and Command and Control Systems and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence)/Director of Defense Intelligence with the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence), or ASD(C3I). Effective 21 October 1977, the ASD(C3I) also served as the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering. The position became the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence in March 1981.

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence)

Officially reestablished as an Assistant Secretary of Defense by DoD Directive 5137.1, 2 April 1985.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence)

The Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1984, PL 98-94, 24 September 1983, mandated the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence), as the principal staff officer to the Secretary of Defense for the National Communications System. DoD Directive 5137.1, 12 February 1992, set responsibilities for establishing and implementing information management policies. The ASD(C3I) directed the Defense Information Systems Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Defense Security Service.

Donald C. Latham	16 August 1984–6 July 1987
Thomas P. Quinn (Acting)	
Gordon A. Smith	
Thomas P. Quinn (Acting)	
Duane Andrews	
Emmett Paige Jr	10 June 1993–23 May 1997
Arthur L. Money (Sr. Civilian Official)	
Arthur L. Money	5 October 1999–7 April 2001
John P. Stenbit	7 August 2001–8 May 2003
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Networks and Information Integration)	

On 8 May 2003, the title of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence) changed to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Networks and Information Integration). An 11 January 2012 memorandum signed by the Deputy Secretary of Defense abolished the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Networks and Information Integration) and transferred its authorities, responsibilities, personnel, and resources to the Chief Information Officer.

John P. Stenbit	
Linton Wells II (Acting)	

John Grimes	14 November 2005–30 April 2009
Cheryl Roby (Acting)	
Teresa M. Takai	26 October 2010–11 January 2012

Management

Deputy Chief Management Officer

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, PL 110-81, 28 January 2008, established the position as the principal staff assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for management and improvement of DoD business operations. DoD Directive 5105.82, 17 October 2008, officially established the positional responsibilities and functions.

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, PL 114-328, 26 December 2016, disestablished the position of Deputy Chief Management Officer, creating the position of Chief Management Officer in its place. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 21 December 2017, allowed the individual serving as the Deputy Chief Management Officer to become the Chief Management Officer as of 1 February 2018.

Elizabeth A. McGrath	
Kevin Scheid (Acting)	1 December 2013–23 May 2014
David Tillotson III (Acting)	
John H. Gibson II	
Lisa W. Hershman	
hist Managament Officer	

Chief Management Officer

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, PL 114-328, 23 December 2016, established the position as the third-highest ranking civilian in the Department of Defense and the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense on all business operations of the Department. The Chief Management Office had the authority to direct the Secretaries of the military departments and the heads of all other elements of the Department on matters for which it had responsibility, including business transformation, business planning and processes, performance management, and business information technology management and improvement activities.

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, PL 116-283, 1 January 2021, disestablished the position of Chief Management Officer. The Deputy Secretary of Defense's 11 January 2021 memorandum realigned the Office of the Chief Management Officer's responsibilities, functions, and resources of the Directorate for Oversight and Compliance and the Directorate for Administration and Organizational Policy to the reestablished position of Director of Administration and Management.

John H. Gibson II	1 February 2018–30 November 2018
Lisa W. Hershman (Acting)	1 December 2018–5 July 2019
Lisa W. Hershman (Performing the Duties Of)	6 July 2019–30 December 2019
Lisa W. Hershman	30 December 2019–19 January 2021

Net Assessment

Director of Net Assessment

Position established in 1973 to serve as the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense on net assessment matters. According to Defense Directive 5111.11, the

Director shall develop and coordinate net assessments of the standing, trends, and future prospects of U.S. military capabilities and military potential in comparison with those of other countries or groups of countries so as to identify emerging or future threats or opportunities for the United States. By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth disestablished the Office of Net Assessment and the position of Director on 13 March 2025.

Andrew Marshall	16 November 1973–5 January 2015
Andrew May (Acting)	
James H. Baker	13 May 2015–13 March 2025

Policy and Plans

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Policy and Plans)

Position established by DoD Directive 5111.6, 15 July 1993, and disestablished on 15 March 1994 when the incumbent left office.

Research and Engineering

Deputy Director of Defense Research and Engineering

The Deputy Director of Defense Research and Engineering was designated an Assistant Secretary of Defense from 19 May 1961 to 15 July 1965 and reported to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (see Research and Engineering lineage in section VI).

John H. Rubel	
Eugene G. Fubini	
Aggistant Sagratany of Defense (Desearch and Te	ahnalaar

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Technology)

DoD Directive 5129.3, 25 January 1984, established the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Technology), reporting to the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) and then, beginning in 1986, to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition).

Robert S. Cooper	6 August 1984–6 July 1985
Robert C. Duncan	5 August 1986–21 December 1987

Director, Defense Research and Engineering

The Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986, PL 99-348, 1 July 1986, reestablished the position of Director of Defense Research and Engineering (previous establishment ran from 1958 to 1977 and appears in section VI as part of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering lineage). In December 1987 the position was filled after the abolishment of the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Technology). The Director of Defense Research and Engineering reported to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics).

Robert C. Duncan	21 December 1987–20 November 1989
Charles M. Herzfeld	12 March 1990–8 May 1991
Victor Reis	3 December 1991–30 May 1993
Anita Jones	1 June 1993–23 May 1997
Hans M. Mark	1 July 1998–10 May 2001
Ronald M. Sega	

John J. Young Jr..... 2 November 2005–1 June 2008

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)

The Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, PL 111-383, 7 January 2011, redesignated the Director of Defense Research and Engineering as the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering), with responsibility for providing strategic guidance and coordination for science and technology investment across the Department.

Alan R. Shaffer (Acting)	1 December 2012–26 June 2015
Stephen P. Welby	
Mary Miller (Acting)	20 January 2017–February 2018

Security Policy

Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy)

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger created the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy) in April 1981. The Assistant Secretary, reporting to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), assumed responsibility for disarmament, arms control, and all political-military activity involving NATO, non-NATO European countries, and the Soviet Union from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs). In 1993 Secretary of Defense Les Aspin abolished this position and transferred some functions to the new Assistant Secretary of Defense (Nuclear Security and Counterproliferation). In 1994 Secretary of Defense William Perry reestablished the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy).

Richard N. Perle	5 August 1981–8 May 1987
Ronald F. Lehman	18 February 1988–11 May 1989
Stephen J. Hadley	23 June 1989–20 January 1993

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Nuclear Security and Counterproliferation)

Position established by DoD Directive 5111.5 on 6 July 1993 to replace the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy). On 13 June 1994, the title of this position reverted to Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy), reporting to the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy)

Position abolished in 2006 with responsibilities reassigned to other Assistant Secretaries of Defense.

Ashton B. "Ash" Carter	
Franklin C. Miller (Acting)	
Jack D. Crouch II	
Peter C. W. Flory	2 August 2005–1 December 2006

Strategy and Threat Reduction

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin established the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Requirements, and Resources) on 6 July 1993. The title subsequently changed to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy and Requirements) per DoD Directive 5111.8 on 22 March 1995, and then to Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy and Threat Reduction) per DoD Directive 5111.8 on 3 February 2000. The positions were responsible for defense strategy and ensuring that the

Department's resource allocation, force structure development, weapons acquisition planning, and budgeting process supported the strategy. Position abolished in August 2001 with the reinstatement of the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strategy, Requirements, and Resources)

Edward L. Warner	
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strateg	y and Requirements)
Edward L. Warner	March 1995–February 2000
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Strateg	y and Threat Reduction)
Edward L. Warner	February 2000–29 September 2000
Supply, Logistics, and Installations	

Chairman, Munitions Board

The National Security Act of 1947, PL 80-253, 26 July 1947, established this position. Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, abolished the Munitions Board. The Secretary of Defense transferred the Munitions Board's functions to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Applications Engineering) and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Supply and Logistics).

Thomas J. Hargrave	
Donald J. Carpenter	
Hubert E. Howard	
John D. Small	

Director of Installations

Position created by PL 82-534, which authorized military and naval construction, 14 July 1952. Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, abolished the position and transferred its functions to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Properties and Installations).

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Properties and Installations)

Franklin G. Floete	3 August 1953–4 March 1956
Floyd S. Bryant	2 May 1956–20 January 1961
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Supply and Logistics)	

Position established after Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, abolished the Munitions Board.

Charles S. Thomas	
Thomas P. Pike	
E. Perkins McGuire	28 December 1956–20 January 1961

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Logistics)

DoD Directive 5126.22 established this position on 30 January 1961 by combining the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Supply and Logistics) and the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Properties and Installations). DoD Directive 5124.1, 20 April 1977, abolished this position, transferring acquisition functions to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (see section VI, Research and

Engineering) and the installations and logistics functions to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics).

Thomas D. Morris	29 January 1961–11 December 1964
Paul R. Ignatius	23 December 1964–31 August 1967
Thomas D. Morris	1 September 1967–1 February 1969
Barry J. Shillito	1 February 1969–1 February 1973
Arthur I. Mendolia	
John J. Bennett (Acting)	1 April 1975–9 February 1976
Frank A. Shrontz	10 February 1976–19 January 1977
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Development an	nd Support)

Established by DoD Directive 5129.4, 25 November 1984, and abolished after the establishment of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Logistics) in 1985.

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Logistics)

Position announced on 29 January 1985 and authorized by DoD Directive 5128.1, 19 November 1985.

James P	P. Wade Jr	•••••	 •••••	 	 ••••	•••••	5 July 1985–3 November	1986
Robert	B. Costello		 	 	 		March 1987–15 April	1987
	-	-	<i>.</i>				1	

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Production and Logistics)

This position replaced the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Logistics) in April 1987. This position served as the principal staff assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology). It also coordinated with the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) on agreements with foreign countries. As a result of the reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), an Assistant Secretary of Defense (Economic Security) replaced the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Production and Logistics) as per a 19 May 1993 memorandum.

Robert B. Costello	15 April 1987–17 December 1987
Jack Katzen	
Colin McMillan	5 March 1990–11 December 1992
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Economic Security))

Position established on 7 September 1993, replacing the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Production and Logistics), and reporting to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology). DoD Directive 5134.7, 5 April 1996, cancelled this position.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff, in existence since 1942, gained statutory sanction in the National Security Act of 1947, PL 80-253, 26 July 1947.

The 1949 amendments to the National Security Act of 1947, PL 81-216, 10 August 1949, established the position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to be appointed from the regular officers of the Armed Services for a term of two years with eligibility for a second two-year term.

In 1952, PL 82-416 authorized the Commandant of the Marine Corps to meet with the JCS as a coequal whenever any matter of concern to the Marine Corps was under consideration. Subsequently, PL 95-485, the Department of Defense Appropriation Authorization Act, 1979, 20 October 1978, made the Commandant a permanent and fully participating member of the JCS.

Reorganization Plan Number 6, 30 June 1953, made the selection and tenure of members of the Joint Staff subject to the approval of the Chairman and gave him management control of the Joint Staff.

Public Law 90-22, the Armed Forces Appropriation Authorization, 1968, 5 June 1967, set the terms of the Chiefs of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps at four years, with provision for possible reappointment for four years in time of war or emergency.

The Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986, PL 99-433, 1 October 1986, prescribed the most important changes in the JCS organization since 1947.

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, PL 116-92, 20 December 2019, created the U.S. Space Force under the direction of a Chief of Space Operations within the Department of the Air Force.

The Chief of Space Operations, a four-star General and full member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serves as the principal uniformed adviser to the Secretary of the Air Force on Space Force activities, presides over the Office of the Chief of Space Operations, and transmits plans and recommendations to the Secretary of the Air Force.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

General Omar N. Bradley, USA	
Admiral Arthur W. Radford, USN	
General Nathan F. Twining, USAF	
General Lyman L. Lemnitzer, USA	1 October 1960–30 September 1962
General Maxwell D. Taylor, USA	1 October 1962–1 July 1964
General Earle G. Wheeler, USA	3 July 1964–2 July 1970
Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN	
General George S. Brown, USAF	2 July 1974–20 June 1978
General David C. Jones, USAF	
General John W. Vessey Jr., USA	
Admiral William J. Crowe Jr., USN	1 October 1985–30 September 1989
General Colin L. Powell, USA	1 October 1989–30 September 1993
Admiral David E. Jeremiah, USN (Acting)	1 October 1993–24 October 1993
General John M.D. Shalikashvili, USA	

General Henry H. Shelton, USA	1 October 1997–30 September 2001
Richard B. Myers, USAF	
General Peter Pace, USMC	
Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN	
General Martin E. Dempsey, USA	1 October 2011–25 September 2015
General Joseph F. Dunford Jr., USMC	26 September 2015–30 September 2019
General Mark Milley, USA	30 September 2019–29 September 2023
General Charles Q. Brown, USAF	
Admiral Christopher W. Grady, USN (Acting)	
General John D. Caine, USAF	
Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	
General Robert T. Herres, USAF	
Admiral David E. Jeremiah, USN	1 March 1990–28 February 1994
Admiral William A. Owens, USN	1 March 1994–29 February 1996
General Joseph W. Ralston, USAF	1 March 1996–1 March 2000
General Richard B. Myers, USAF	
General Peter Pace, USMC	
Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, USN	13 August 2005–27 July 2007
General James E. Cartwright, USMC	
Admiral James A. Winnefeld Jr., USN	4 August 2011–31 July 2015
General Paul J. Selva, USAF	
General John E. Hyten, USAF	21 November 2019–20 November 2021
Vacant	
Admiral Christopher W. Grady, USN	
Chief of Staff of the Army	
General Dwight D. Eisenhower, USA	
General Omar N. Bradley, USA	
General J. Lawton Collins, USA	
General Matthew B. Ridgway, USA	
General Maxwell D. Taylor, USA	
General Lyman L. Lemnitzer, USA	1 July 1959–30 September 1960
General George H. Decker, USA	1 October 1960–30 September 1962
General Earle G. Wheeler, USA	1 October 1962–2 July 1964
General Harold K. Johnson, USA	
General William C. Westmoreland, USA	3 July 1968–30 June 1972
General Bruce Palmer Jr., USA (Acting)	1 July 1972–11 October 1972

General Creighton W. Abrams, USA	12 October 1972–4 September 1974
General Fred C. Weyand, USA	
General Bernard W. Rogers, USA	1 October 1976–21 June 1979
General Edward C. Meyer, USA	
General John A. Wickham Jr., USA	
General Carl E. Vuono, USA	
Gordon R. Sullivan	
General Dennis J. Reimer, USA	
General Eric K. Shinseki, USA	
General Peter J. Schoomaker, USA	1 August 2003–10 April 2007
General George W. Casey Jr., USA	
General Raymond T. Odierno, USA	
General Mark Milley, USA	
General James C. McConville, USA	
General Randy George, USA (Acting)	
General Randy George, USA	
Chief of Naval Operations	
Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, USN	
Admiral Louis Denfeld, USN	
Admiral Louis Denfeld, USN Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN	
Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN	
 Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN 	
 Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, USN 	
 Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, USN Admiral James D. Watkins, USN 	
 Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, USN Admiral James D. Watkins, USN Admiral Carlisle A.H. Trost, USN 	
 Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, USN Admiral James D. Watkins, USN Admiral Carlisle A.H. Trost, USN 	
 Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, USN Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN Admiral George W. Anderson Jr., USN Admiral David L. McDonald, USN Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, USN Admiral James D. Watkins, USN Admiral Carlisle A.H. Trost, USN Admiral Frank B. Kelso II, USN Admiral Jeremy M. Boorda, USN 	

Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN	
Admiral Gary Roughead, USN	
Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert, USN	
Admiral John M. Richardson, USN	
Admiral Michael M. Gilday, USN	
Admiral Lisa Franchetti, USN (Acting)	
Admiral Lisa Franchetti, USN	
Admiral James W. Kilby, USN (Acting)	
Chief of Staff of the Air Force	
General Carl Spaatz, USAF	
General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, USAF	
General Nathan F. Twining, USAF	
General Thomas D. White, USAF	1 July 1957–30 June 1961
General Curtis E. LeMay, USAF	
General John P. McConnell, USAF	1 February 1965–31 July 1969
General John D. Ryan, USA	1 August 1969–31 July 1973
General George S. Brown, USAF	1 August 1973–30 June 1974
General David C. Jones, USAF	1 July 1974–20 June 1978
General Lew Allen Jr., USAF	1 July 1978–30 June 1982
General Charles A. Gabriel, USAF	1 July 1982–30 June 1986
General Larry D. Welch, USAF	1 July 1986–30 June 1990
General Michael J. Dugan, USAF	1 July 1990–17 September 1990
General John M. Loh, USAF (Acting)	
General Merrill A. McPeak, USAF	
General Ronald R. Fogleman, USAF	
General Michael E. Ryan, USAF	
General John J. Jumper, USAF	
General T. Michael Moseley, USAF	2 September 2005–1 August 2008
General Norton A. Schwartz, USAF	12 August 2008–10 August 2012
General Mark A. Welsh III, USAF	10 August 2012–24 June 2016
General David Goldfein, USAF	1 July 2016–4 August 2020
General Charles Q. Brown, USAF	
General David W. Allvin, USAF (Acting)	
General David W. Allvin, USAF	2 November 2023–Present
Commandant of the Marine Corps	

General Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr. was the first Commandant to sit with the Joint Chiefs of Staff

(beginning in 1952) on matters of concern to the Marine Corps. General Louis H. Wilson, per PL 95-485, 20 October 1978, was the first Commandant to serve as a full member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

General Alexander A. Vandegrift, USMC 1 January 1944–31 December 1947	
General Clifton B. Cates, USMC 1 January 1948–31 December 1951	
General Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr., USMC 1 January 1952–31 December 1955	
General Randolph McCall Pate, USMC 1 January 1956–31 December 1959	
General David M. Shoup, USMC 1 January 1960–31 December 1963	
General Wallace M. Greene Jr., USMC 1 January 1964–31 December 1967	
General Leonard F. Chapman Jr., USMC 1 January 1968–31 December 1971	
General Robert E. Cushman Jr., USMC 1 January 1972–30 June 1975	
General Louis H. Wilson, USMC 1 July 1975–30 June 1979	
General Robert H. Barrow, USMC 1 July 1979–30 June 1983	
General Paul X. Kelley, USMC 1 July 1983–30 June 1987	
General Alfred M. Gray Jr., USMC 1 July 1987–1 July 1991	
General Carl E. Mundy Jr., USMC1 July 1991–30 June 1995	
General C.C. Krulak, USMC 1 July 1995–30 June 1999	
General James L. Jones Jr., USMC1 July 1999–13 January 2003	
General Michael W. Hagee, USMC13 January 2003–13 November 2006	
General James T. Conway, USMC14 November 2006–22 October 2010	
General James F. Amos, USMC	
General Joseph F. Dunford Jr., USMC 17 October 2014–24 September 2015	
General Robert Neller, USMC	
General David Berger, USMC 11 July 2019–10 July 2023	
General Eric Smith, USMC (Acting)10 July 2023–21 September 2023	
General Eric Smith, USMC	
Lieutenant General Karsten S. Heckl, USMC (Acting) 30 October 2023–3 November 2023	
General Christopher J. Mahoney, USMC (Acting) 3 November 2023–5 March 2024	
Chief of Space Operations	

Chief of Space Operations

The Chief of Space Operations, a four-star General and full member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serves as the principal uniformed adviser to the Secretary of the Air Force on Space Force activities, presides over the Office of the Chief of Space Operations, and transmits plans and recommendations to the Secretary of the Air Force.

General John W. Raymond, USAF	
General B. Chance Saltzman, USAF	2 November 2022–Present
Chief of the National Guard Bureau	

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, PL 112-81, 31 December 2011, made the Chief of the National Guard Bureau a member of the Joint Chiefs. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, PL 110-181, 28 January 2008, made the National Guard

Bureau a DoD joint activity.

Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, USA	11 April 2003–17 November 2008
General Craig R. McKinley, USAF	
General Frank J. Grass, USA	
General Joseph L. Lengyel, USAF	3 August 2016–3 August 2020
General Daniel Hokanson, USA	3 August 2020–3 August 2024
Lt. Gen. Jonathan Stubbs, USA (Acting)	
General Steven S. Nordhaus, USAF	
Director of the Joint Staff	

The 1947 National Security Act, PL 80-253, 26 July 1947, established the position of Director of the Joint Staff. Although not a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Director was appointed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to perform such duties as directed by the Joint Chiefs. With the passage of the 1949 National Security Act Amendments, PL 81-216, 10 August 1949, and the creation of the position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chairman, after consultation with the other members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, appoints the Director of the Joint Staff.

Maj. Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, USA	17 September 1947–19 September 1949
Vice Adm. Arthur C. Davis, USN	20 September 1949–1 November 1951
Lt. Gen. Charles P. Cabell, USAF	
Lt. Gen. Frank F. Everest, USAF	
Lt. Gen. Lemuel Mathewson, USA	
Vice Adm. Bernard L. Austin, USN	
Lt. Gen. Oliver S. Picher, USAF	1 April 1958–31 March 1960
Lt. Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, USA	
Vice Adm. Herbert D. Riley, USN	
Lt. Gen. David A. Burchinal, USAF	
Lt. Gen. Andrew J. Goodpaster, USA	
Lt. Gen. Berton E. Spivy Jr., USA	1 April 1967–31 July 1968
Vice Adm. Nels C. Johnson, USN	1 August 1968–19 July 1970
Lt. Gen. John W. Vogt, USAF	
Rear Adm. Mason B. Freeman, USN (Acting)	
Lt. Gen. George M. Seignious II, USA	
Vice Adm. Harry D. Train II, USN	1 June 1974–30 June 1976
Lt. Gen. Ray B. Sitton, USAF	1 July 1976–30 June 1977
Vice Adm. Patrick J. Hannifin, USN	1 July 1977–20 June 1978
Maj. Gen. John A. Wickham Jr., USA (Acting)	1 July 1978–21 August 1978
Lt. Gen. John A. Wickham Jr., USA	
Vice Adm. Carl Thor Hanson, USN	

Lt. Gen. James E. Dalton, USAF	1 July 1981–30 June 1983
Lt. Gen. Jack N. Merritt, USA	1 July 1983–30 June 1985
Vice Adm. Powell F. Carter Jr., USN	1 July 1985–14 August 1987
Lt. Gen. Robert W. RisCassi, USA	15 August 1987–30 November 1988
Lt. Gen. Hansford T. Johnson, USAF	1 December 1988–20 September 1989
Maj. Gen. Gene A. Deegan, USMC (Acting)	21 September 1989–26 September 1989
Lt. Gen. Michael P. C. Carns, USAF	
Lt. Gen. Henry Viccellio Jr., USAF	
Vice Adm. Richard C. Macke, USN	1 December 1992–18 July 1994
Maj. Gen. Charles T. Robertson Jr., USAF (Acting)	19 July 1994–24 July 1994
Lt. Gen. Walter Kross, USAF	
Maj. Gen. Stephen T. Rippe, USA (Acting)	13 July 1996–13 September 1996
Vice Adm. Dennis C. Blair, USN	14 September 1996–12 December 1998
Vice Adm. Vernon E. Clark, USN	12 December 1998–26 July 1999
Lt. Gen. Carlton W. Fulford, USMC	
Lt. Gen. John P. Abizaid, USA	
Vice Adm. Timothy J. Keating, USN	13 October 2003–15 October 2004
Lt. Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, USAF	October 2004–August 2005
Lt. Gen. Walter Sharp, USA	August 2005–1 May 2008
Lt. Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, USA	August 2008–10 June 2009
Lt. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, USA	1 August 2009–30 June 2010
Vice Adm. William E. Gortney, USN	1 July 2010–1 August 2012
Lt. Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti, USA	9 August 2012–11 August 2013
Lt. Gen. David Goldfein, USAF	12 August 2013–31 July 2015
Lt. Gen. William C. Mayville Jr., USA	1 August 2015–30 July 2017
Lt. Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie, USMC	
Vice Adm. Michael M. Gilday, USN	1 March 2019–17 July 2019
Lt. Gen. Glen D. VanHerck, USAF (Acting)	
Lt. Gen. Glen D. VanHerck, USAF	
Rear Adm. William D. Byrne Jr., USN (Acting)	
Lt. Gen. Andrew P. Poppas, USA	1 October 2020–2 June 2022
Lt. Gen. James J. Mingus, USA	2 June 2022–3 January 2024
Lt. Gen. Douglas A. Sims II, USA	3 January 2024–Present

XI. Combatant Commands

Current Commands
U.S. Africa Command (Kelley Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany)
Established 1 October 2008
General Michael E. Langley, USMC9 August 2022–Present
U.S. Central Command (MacDill AFB, Tampa, FL)
Established 1 January 1983
General Michael E. Kurilla, USA
U.S. European Command (Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany)
Established 1 August 1952
General Christopher G. Cavoli, USA 1 July 2022–Present
U.S. Northern Command (Peterson AFB, CO)
Established 1 October 2002
General Gregory M. Guillot, USAF 5 February 2024–Present
U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (Camp H. M. Smith, HI)
Established as U.S. Pacific Command, 1 January 1947. Name changed in May 2018.
Admiral Samuel J. Paparo, USN
U.S. Southern Command (Miami, FL)
Established 6 June 1963
Admiral Alvin Holsey, USN7 November 2024–Present
U.S. Space Command (Peterson AFB, CO)
Established 29 August 2019
General Stephen N. Whiting, Space Force 10 January 2024–Present
U.S. Special Operations Command (MacDill AFB, Tampa, FL)
Established 16 April 1987
General Bryan P. Fenton, USA
U.S. Strategic Command (Offutt AFB, NE)
Established 1 June 1992
General Anthony J. Cotton, USAF
U.S. Transportation Command (Scott AFB, IL)
Established 1 July 1987
General Randall Reed, USAF 4 October 2024–Present

U.S. Cyber Command (Fort Meade, MD)

Established 4 May 2018. Commander of USCYBERCOM also serves as Director, National Security Agency, and Chief, Central Security Service.

Lieutenant General William Hartman, USAF (Acting)......3 April 2025-Present

Disestablished Commands

U.S. Aerospace Defense Command

Disestablished 19 December 1986.

U.S. Alaskan Command

Disestablished 30 June 1975.

U.S. Atlantic Command

Redesignated U.S. Joint Forces Command 1 October 1999.

U.S. Continental Air Defense Command

Disestablished 30 June 1975.

U.S. Far East Command

Disestablished 1 July 1957.

U.S. Joint Forces Command

Disestablished 4 August 2011.

U.S. Forces Command

Disestablished as a Specified Command 1 October 1993; became an Army Command.

U.S. Military Airlift Command

Terminated as a Specified Command 1 October 1988.

U.S. Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean

Disestablished 1 December 1963.

U.S. Northeast Command

Disestablished 1 September 1956.

U.S. Readiness Command

Disestablished 30 September 1987.

U.S. Strategic Air Command

Disestablished 1 June 1992.

U.S. Strike Command

Disestablished 31 December 1971.

Current Defense Agencies

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

Public Law 85-325, 12 February 1958, authorized the Secretary of Defense or his designee to perform advanced research of a military nature. DoD Directive 5105.15, 7 February 1958, established the Advanced Research Projects Agency. DoD Directive 5105.41, 23 March 1972, changed the name to Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. On 15 March 1993, the name reverted to Advanced Research Projects Agency per a memorandum from Deputy Secretary of Defense William Perry. Section 908 of PL 104-106, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, 10 February 1996, restored the agency's name to Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. A Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 13 July 2018, placed it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering).

Defense Commissary Agency

Established 9 November 1990 by DoD Directive 5105.55.

Director John E. Hall

Defense Contract Audit Agency

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara created the agency on 8 January 1965, placing it under the authority of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller). DoD Directive 5105.36, 8 June 1978, formally established responsibilities and mission. DoD Directive 5105.36, 28 February 2002, updated the agency's responsibilities, functions, authorities, and relationships under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer.

Director Jennifer Desautel

Defense Contract Management Agency

Originally known as the Defense Contract Management Command within the Defense Logistics Agency. Renamed and established independently on 27 March 2000. DoD Directive 5105.64, 27 September 2000, established the purpose and mission. A Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 13 July 2018, placed the agency under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment).

Director Lt. Gen. Gregory L. Masiello, USMC

Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency

Established as the Defense Investigative Service by DoD Directive 5105.42, 18 April 1972, and operational as of 1 October 1972. In November 1997 the Secretary of Defense issued a Defense Reform Initiative, which changed the name to Defense Security Service. DoD Directive 5105.42, 13 May 1999, assigned responsibilities and mission and placed it under the authority of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (C3I). DoD Directive 5105.42, 3 August 2010, assigned authority, direction and control to the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence). Executive Order 13869, 24 April 2019, changed the name to Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency and transferred responsibility for conducting background investigations from the Office of Personnel Management's National Background Investigations Bureau to this agency.

DirectorDavid M. Cattler

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

Established by DoD Directive 5118.5, 26 November 1990, and placed under the direction, authority, and control of the Department of Defense Comptroller. DoD Directive 5118.05, 20 April 2012, updated the mission, responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities of the agency, and placed it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer.

Director Audrey Y. Davis

Defense Health Agency

Established 1 October 2013 by DoD Directive 5136.13. Assumed the responsibilities of the previous Tricare Management Activity, which had been in operation pursuant to DoD Directive 5136.12, May 31, 2001.

DirectorDr. David J. Smith (Acting)

Defense Information Systems Agency

Established as the Defense Communications Agency on 12 May 1960 by DoD Directive 5105.19. DoD Directive 5105.19, 25 June 1991, renamed the agency the Defense Information Systems Agency. DoD Directive 5105.19, 25 July 2006, updated the mission, responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities of DISA under the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Networks and Information Integration)/ DoD Chief Information Officer. DoD Directive 5144.02, 21 November 2014, assigned the Chief Information Officer authority, direction, and control over the Director, Defense Information Systems Agency.

DirectorLt. Gen. Paul T. Stanton, USA

Defense Intelligence Agency

Established by DoD Directive 5105.21, 1 August 1961, and began operations on 1 October 1961. DoD Directive 5105.21, 18 March 2008, revised the agency's responsibilities and mission, and placed it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence).

DirectorLt. Gen. Jeffrey A Kruse, USAF

Defense Legal Services Agency

Established by DoD Directive 5145.4, 12 August 1981, under the direction authority, and control of the General Counsel, who also served as Director of the agency. DoD Directive 5145.04, 16 April 2012, revised the agency's responsibilities and mission.

DirectorPaul C. Ney, Jr.

Defense Logistics Agency

By administrative action, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara established the Defense Supply Agency. DoD Directive 5105.22, 6 November 1961, defined the agency's responsibilities and mission. By administrative action, the agency's name changed to Defense Logistics Agency, effective 1 January 1977. A Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 13 July 2018, placed it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment).

Director Lt. Gen. Mark T. Simerly, USA

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

Established by DoD Directive 5110.10, 16 July 1993, as the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Office. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, PL 104-106, 10 February 1996,

mandated that DoD establish an office for missing persons. On 15 August 1996, the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) redesignated the office as the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office. On 30 January 2015, the Defense POW/Missing Personnel office merged with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command to form the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

Defense Security Cooperation Agency

Established as the Defense Security Assistance Agency by DoD Directive 5105.38, 11 August 1971. A Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 20 May 1998, directed that the agency's name change to Defense Security Cooperation Agency effective 1 October 1998. DoD Directive 5105.65, 31 October 2000, described the agency's responsibilities and mission. The Director is under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy).

DirectorMichael F. Miller

Defense Threat Reduction Agency

The November 1997 Defense Reform Initiative mandated merging several Defense organizations and programs into one entity. The Secretary of Defense consolidated the Defense Technology Security Administration, the Defense Special Weapons Agency, the On-Site Inspection Agency, and elements in the Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs to form the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, effective 1 October 1998. The new agency's director reported to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology) until a Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 13 July 2018, placed it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment).

Missile Defense Agency

Chartered as the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization on 24 April 1984 but designated as a Defense agency by DoD Directive 5141.5, 21 February 1986. On 13 May 1993 Secretary of Defense Les Aspin changed the organization's name to the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. DoD Directive 5134.9, 14 June 1994, defined the responsibilities and mission. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld renamed the organization the Missile Defense Agency in January 2002. Section 205 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, PL 115-91, 12 December 2017, and a Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 13 July 2018, placed it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering).

Director Lt. Gen. Heath A. Collins, USAF

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Began operations on 1 October 1996 as the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA). Established by DoD Directive 5105.60, 11 October 1996, and the National Imagery and Mapping Agency Act of 1996. Succeeded the Defense Mapping Agency, the Central Imagery Office, the Defense Dissemination Program Office, and the National Photographic Interpretation Center. NIMA was redesignated the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in NDAA FY04, PL 108-136, 24 November 2003. The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence exercises authority, direction, and control on behalf of the Secretary of Defense over the Director, NGA. DoD Directive 5105.60, 29 July 2009.

DirectorVice Adm. Frank Whitworth, USN

National Reconnaissance Office

Established on 6 September 1961 as a covert organization by DoD and the Central Intelligence Agency to manage the National Reconnaissance Program. Declassified DoD Directive TS 5105.23, 27 September 1964, defined the organization's responsibilities and mission. The Defense Department acknowledged the agency's existence on 18 September 1992. DoD Directive 5105.23, 28 June 2011, mandated that the office's Director report to the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence).

DirectorChristopher Scolese

National Security Agency

Established on 5 December 1952. DoD Directive 5100.20, 23 December 1971, consolidated the service cryptologic agencies as the Central Security Service within the National Security Agency. The National Security Agency director also served as the Chief of the Central Security Service. DoD Directive 5100.20, 26 January 2010, stated that the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence) would exercise authority, direction, and control over the Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service. With the establishment of the U.S. Cyber Command as a subordinate unified command in June 2009 and its elevation to a combatant command in May 2018, the National Security Agency director now serves as the Chief of the Central Security Service and U.S. Cyber Command commander.

DirectorLieutenant General William Hartman, USAF (Acting)

Pentagon Force Protection Agency

Established on 3 May 2002 to succeed the Defense Protective Service. DoD Directive 5105.68, 5 December 2013, updated on 22 May 2019, placed the agency under the authority, direction, and control of the Director of Administration and Management.

DirectorChris Bargery

Space Development Agency

Established by a memorandum signed by the Acting Secretary of Defense on 12 March 2019. The agency unifies and integrates the Defense Department's space development efforts, monitors the Department's threat-driven future space architecture, and accelerates new military space capabilities necessary to ensure U.S. technological and military advantages in space.

DirectorDerek Tournear

Disestablished Defense Agencies

Ballistic Missile Defense Organization

Succeeded by the Missile Defense Agency, January 2002.

Central Imagery Office

Duties assumed by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, 1 October 1999.

Defense Audiovisual Agency

Disestablished 30 September 1985.

Defense Audit Service

Dissolved in September 1982 when role assumed by Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Review and Oversight).

XII. Defense Agencies

Defense Business Transformation Agency

Disestablished in 2011 with duties assigned to different organizations.

Defense Civil Preparedness Agency

Transferred to Federal Emergency Management Agency by Reorganization Plan Number 3 of 1978.

Defense Communications Agency

Succeeded by the Defense Information Systems Agency, 25 June 1991.

Defense Investigative Service

Duties assumed by the Defense Security Service, May 1999.

Defense Mapping Agency

Disestablished 1 October 1996, with its functions transferred to the National Imagery and Mapping Agency.

Defense Nuclear Agency

Name changed to Defense Special Weapons Agency, June 1996; functions assumed by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, 1 October 1998.

Defense Security Assistance Agency

Succeeded by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, 1 October 1998.

Defense Special Weapons Agency

Succeeded by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, 1 October 1998.

XIII. Department of Defense Field Activities

Defense Media Activity

Established on 1 January 2008 by DoD Directive 5105.74 to consolidate several military departments' media organizations, including the Soldiers Media Center, Naval Media Center, Marine Corps News, Air Force News Service, and American Forces Information Service into a single field activity. It also includes the Stars and Stripes newspaper and the Defense Information School. The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) exercises authority, direction, and control over the agency.

Director Max Lederer

Defense Technical Information Center

Originally established in 1945 as the Air Documents Research Center to collect German technical documents on aeronautical subjects, the center evolved into the Defense Technical Information Center in 1979. It became a Department of Defense Field Activity in 2004 under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), reporting to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering. A Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 13 July 2018, placed the agency under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering), reporting through the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (Research and Technology).

Administrator.....Christopher E. Thomas

Defense Technology Security Administration

Established by the Deputy Secretary of Defense on 10 May 1985 as a field activity. In 1998 the Defense Threat Reduction Agency absorbed its functions. On 31 August 2001, the Deputy Secretary of Defense signed a memorandum reestablishing the agency under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy).

Director Michael Laychak

Department of Defense Education Activity

Established by DoD Directive 1342.20, 19 October 2007, under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness).

Director Beth Schiavino-Narvaez

Department of Defense Human Resources Activity

Established by DoD Directive 5100.87, 29 June 1998, merging the Department of Defense Civilian Personnel Management Service and the Defense Manpower Data Center. Operates under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness).

DirectorJeffrey Register

Department of Defense Test Resource Management Center

Established by DoD Directive 5105.71, 8 March 2004, under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics). A Deputy Secretary of Defense memorandum, 13 July 2018, placed it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering).

Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation

Established by DoD Directive 3030.1, 29 November 1978. The Director of the Office of Economic Adjustment also serves as the executive director of the Economic Adjustment Committee. DoD Directive 3030.01, 5 March 2006, placed the office under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), reporting through the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, and Environment). A memorandum from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, 13 July 2018, revised the office's reporting structure, placing it under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), and under the purview of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Sustainment). Section 905 of the William M. "Mac" Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, PL 116-283, 1 January 2021, changed the name to Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation.

Washington Headquarters Services (WHS)

Established by DoD Directive 5110.4, 1 October 1977. The Director of the Washington Headquarters Services oversees a broad range of administrative, management, and common support services, including human resources, facilities and facility operations, financial management, acquisition and contracting, and executive services for the Secretary of Defense. The Director also provides oversight of designated DoD-wide statutory and regulatory programs, supporting DoD components and other federal entities as directed and assigned. DoD Directive 5110.04, 27 March 2013, updated the mission, responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities of the organization. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, PL 116-283, 1 January 2021, placed the Washington Headquarters Services under the authority, direction, and control of the Director of Administration and Management.

