

United States Military Chain of Command



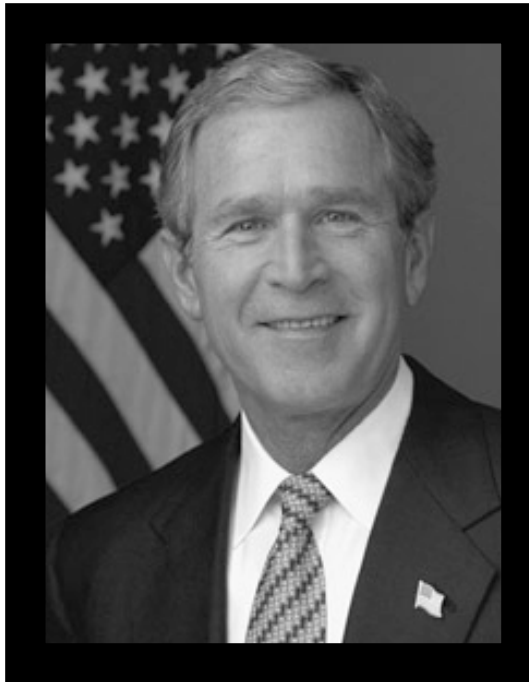
Chain of Command

“All decisions are to be made at the lowest level possible, but if required, can be taken all the way up the chain to the Commander in Chief. Once decisions are made, orders are given, and the duties are carried out by those lower in the chain.”

Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986

Top of the Chain of Command

Commander in Chief President of the United States



Second in Line Chain of Command

Secretary of Defense



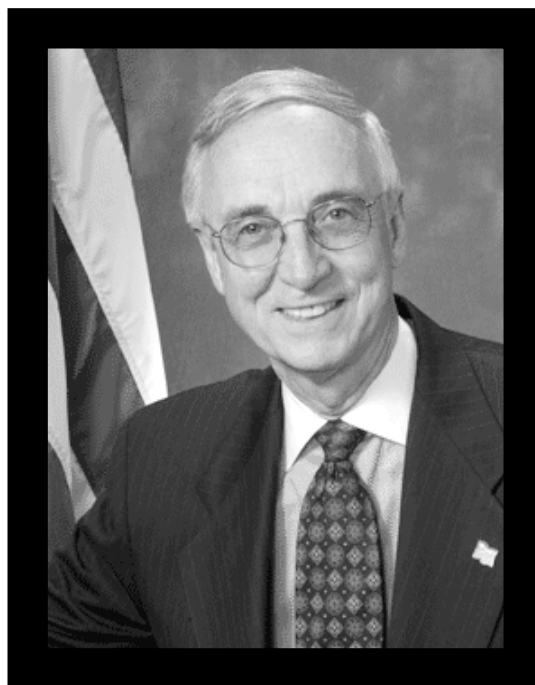
Third in Line Chain of Command Secretaries of the Military Departments

Army



Francis J. Harvey

Navy



Gordon R. England

Air Force



Michael L. Dominguez

Chairman



Vice Chairman



Forth in Line Chain of Command

Joint Chiefs of Staff

**Chief of Staff
Army**



**Chief of Staff
Navy**



**Chief of Staff
Air Force**



**Chief of Staff
Marine Corps**



Chain of Command

United States Military Branches



Army



Navy



**Air
Force**



**Marine
Corps**



**Coast
Guard**

