

## Secretary Carter's Message to All Department of Defense Personnel (February 17, 2015)

I am honored to become your secretary of defense. I am proud to lead men and women who devote their lives to the highest calling—the defense of our nation. And I am grateful to follow in the footsteps of Secretary Hagel, one of our nation's most honorable and conscientious public servants.

We live in challenging times—times that demand leadership and focus. And starting today, I will be calling on each and every one of you to help carry out three top priorities.

Our first priority is helping the president make the best possible national security decisions for protecting our country—and then implementing those decisions with our department's long-admired excellence.

We confront a turbulent and dangerous world: continuing turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa, and the malignant and savage terrorism emanating from it; an ongoing conflict in Afghanistan; a reversion to archaic security thinking in parts of Europe; tensions in the Asia-Pacific; the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and intensifying threats in cyberspace.

In addressing these challenges, I have pledged to provide the president my most candid strategic advice. I will count on your experience and expertise as I formulate that advice. I will also ensure the president receives candid professional military advice.

But as we tackle the many threats to our national security, we must never lose sight of our nation's enduring strengths—or of the opportunities to make a brighter future and better world for our children. The United States remains the strongest and most resilient nation on earth. Because of you, we have the finest fighting force the world has ever known. We have friends and allies in every corner of the world, while our adversaries have few. We have long possessed the world's most dynamic and innovative economy. And our values, principles, and leadership continue to inspire hope and progress around the world.

Safeguarding America's security and global leadership will depend on another of my main priorities: ensuring the strength and health of you who make up the greatest fighting force the world has ever known—our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, civilians, and contractors all around the world.

I will do that by focusing on the well-being, safety, and dignity of each of you and your families. I will ensure your training and equipment are as superb as you are. And I pledge to make decisions about sending you into harm's way with the greatest reflection and utmost care—because this is my highest responsibility as secretary of defense.

Honoring all these commitments also requires us to focus on building the force of the future, which is my third priority.

We must steer through the turmoil of sequestration, which imposes wasteful uncertainty and risk to our nation's defense. We must balance all parts of our defense budget so that we continue to attract the best people—people like you; so that there are enough of you to defend our interests around the world; and so that you are always well-equipped and well-trained to execute your critical mission.

To win support from our fellow citizens for the resources we need, we must show that we can make better use of every taxpayer dollar. That means a leaner organization, less overhead, and reforming our business and acquisition practices. It also means embracing the future—and embracing change.

We must be open to change in order to operate effectively in an increasingly dynamic world; to keep pace with advances in technology; and to attract new generations of talented and dedicated Americans to our calling.

I first arrived at the Pentagon more than three decades ago, and have had the privilege of serving 11 secretaries of defense in Democratic and Republican administrations. I took the oath of office this morning because I love our country and am devoted to you who defend it. And I am committed to our fundamental mission: the defense of our nation.

I look forward to leading and serving alongside you at this extraordinary moment in our nation's history.

May God bless you and your families, and may God bless America.

### General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 2, 2015)

The chief of staff, Air Force announced today the following assignments:

- Maj. Gen. Warren D. Berry, director, Logistics, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, to director, Logistics, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.
- Brig. Gen. (select) Stacey T. Hawkins, commander, Tenth Air Base Wing, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado, to director, Logistics, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

### General Officer Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 9, 2015)

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Air Force Brig. Gen. Kathryn J. Johnson has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general. Johnson is currently serving as the director of logistics, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia.

### Flag Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 11, 2015)

The Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignment: Rear Adm. (lower half) Paul J. Verrastro will be assigned as commander, Naval Supply Systems Command Weapon Systems Support, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Verrastro is currently serving as director, Logistics Programs and Operations Division, N41, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, District of Columbia.

### General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 13, 2015)

The chief of staff, Army announced today the following assignments:

- Brig. Gen. Anthony C. Funkhouser, commandant, U.S. Army Engineer School, U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, to deputy commanding general for Initial Military Training, U.S. Army Center for Initial Military Training, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.
- Brig. Gen. William E. King IV, assistant deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7 (Readiness), U.S. Army Forces Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to commanding general, 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.
- Brig. Gen. Scott A. Spellmon, commanding general, U.S. Army Operational Test Command, Fort Hood, Texas, to

commanding general, U.S. Army Engineer Division, North-western, Portland, Oregon.

### General Officer Announcements

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 18, 2015)

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced today that the president has made the following nominations:

- Air Force Lt. Gen. Ellen M. Pawlikowski has been nominated for appointment to the rank of general and for assignment as commander, Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Pawlikowski is currently serving as military deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Air Force Maj. Gen. John B. Cooper has been nominated for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and for assignment as deputy chief of staff for logistics, engineering, and force protection, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia. Cooper is currently serving as director, logistics, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.
- Air Force Maj. Gen. Lee K. Levy II has been nominated for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and for assignment as commander, Air Force Sustainment Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. Levy is currently serving as vice director for logistics, J-4, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Air Force Col. William M. Knight has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Knight is currently serving as the deputy director, operations, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

### Acting Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy

Navy Rear Admiral Althea H. "Allie" Coetzee became the acting director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy (DPAP), March 2015, after reporting to DPAP in September 2013 as the deputy director for Contingency Contracting. Prior to that she served as the executive director, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Acquisition and Procurement) for two years. As deputy director for Contingency Contracting, she was responsible for DoD contract policy issues affecting deployed forces, humanitarian and peace-keeping operations, and disaster relief.

Her active duty sea assignments include USS Jason (AR 8) as disbursing/sales/stock control/repair supply officer; USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) as food service officer during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm; and USS Mount Hood (AE 29) as department head. Her active duty shore assign-

ments include Navy Regional Contracting Center, San Diego, as a Navy acquisition contracting officer; and Naval Hospital, Oakland, California, as assistant director for Logistics.

Coetzee graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1985 and earned her Master of Business Administration (Law) from National University.

Coetzee left active duty and joined the Navy Reserve in 1993. Her reserve assignments include five command tours at Fleet Industrial Supply Center West 319; Commander, Naval Air Forces Pacific Supply 0189; Defense Contract Management Agency-Crisis Action Team West; Commander, Naval Air Forces Supply 0294; and Operational Logistics Readiness 106. Other reserve assignments include Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Pacific; Construction Battalion Center August, Port Hueneme, California; Logistics Task Force, Pacific Headquarters; and Military Sealift Command Headquarters. She mobilized in support of the Global War on Terrorism from September 2001 to February 2002, and again as deputy J4/chief contingency contracting officer for Combined Joint Task Force—Horn of Africa from December 2005 to February 2007. Other assignments include Exercise Talisman Saber in 2007, where she served as director, Combined Exercise Support Group; and Operation Unified Response in 2010, where she served as N4 in Commander Task Force 41.

Her awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (7), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3).

### General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 3, 2015)

The chief of staff, Army announced today the following assignments:

- Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley, commanding general, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, to chief, U.S. Military Training Mission Saudi Arabia, U.S. Central Command, Saudi Arabia.
- Brig. Gen. Daniel L. Karbler, director, joint and integration, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8, U.S. Army, Washington, District of Columbia, to commanding general, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

### General Officer Announcements

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 9, 2015)

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced today that the president has made the following nominations:

- Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Craig C. Crenshaw has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general.

Crenshaw is currently serving as the assistant deputy commandant for Installations and Logistics, Headquarters, Marine Corps, Washington, District of Columbia.

- Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Neil E. Nelson has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general. Nelson is currently serving as the chief, combined joint logistics, Headquarters, International Security Assistance Force, Afghanistan.

### Flag Officer Announcements

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 11, 2015)

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced today that the president has made the following nominations:

- Navy Reserve Rear Adm. (lower half) Ron J. MacLaren has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. MacLaren is currently serving as director, Joint Contingency Acquisition Support Office, Defense Logistics Agency, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Brian K. Antonio has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Antonio is currently serving as program executive officer for Littoral Combat Ships, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Michael E. Jabaley Jr., has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Jabaley is currently serving as deputy commander for undersea warfare, SEA-07, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Bret J. Muilenburg has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Muilenburg is currently serving as commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) John P. Neagley has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Neagley is currently serving as deputy commander, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, San Diego, California.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Paul A. Sohl has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Sohl is currently serving as commander, Fleet Readiness Centers, and assistant commander for logistics and industrial operations (AIR-6.0), Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Maryland.
- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Mark R. Whitney has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Whitney is currently serving as deputy commander, logistics, maintenance, and industrial operations, SEA-04, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, District of Columbia.

### General Officer Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 17, 2015)

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Air Force Maj. Gen. Arnold W. Bunch Jr., for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and for assignment as military deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia. Bunch is currently serving as commander, Air Force Test Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Edwards Air Force Base, California.

### Senior Executive Service Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 17, 2015)

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter has announced the following Department of Defense Senior Executive Service appointment: Rene' K. Thomas-Rizzo has been appointed to the Senior Executive Service and is assigned as the director, human capital initiatives, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Washington, District of Columbia. Thomas-Rizzo previously served as a program manager, Department of the Navy, Arlington, Virginia.

### General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 17, 2015)

The chief of staff, Army announced today the following assignments:

- Brig. Gen. Stephen E. Farnen, commanding general, 19th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), Eighth U.S. Army, Republic of Korea, to commanding general, Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command and Joint Munitions Command, and deputy commanding general, Army Sustainment Command, Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois.
- Brig. Gen. Daniel G. Mitchell, deputy commanding general (support), 1st Theater Sustainment Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to deputy commanding general for support, Installation Management Command, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

### General Officer Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 20, 2015)

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Air Force Maj. Gen. Jack Weinstein for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and for assignment as deputy chief of staff, strategic deterrence and nuclear integration, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia. Weinstein is currently serving as commander, 20th Air Force, Air Force Global Strike Command, and commander, Task Force 214, U.S. Strategic Command, Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming.

### General Officer Assignment

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 20, 2015)

The chief of staff, Air Force announced the following assignment: Col. Darren V. James, who has been selected for the grade of brigadier general, deputy director, operations and plans, Headquarters U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, to commander, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, Air Combat Command, Southwest Asia.

### General Officer Assignments

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 27, 2015)

The chief of staff, Air Force announced the following assignments:

- Col. Andrew J. Gebara, who has been selected for the grade of brigadier general, senior military assistant to the under secretary of the Air Force, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia, to deputy director, nuclear operations, Headquarters U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.
- Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets IV, deputy director, nuclear operations, Headquarters U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, to commander, 509th Bomb Wing, Air Force Global Strike Command, Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri.