One Chain-of-Command
With
Two Very Distinct Branches
CHAIN OF COMMAND AND CONTROL

PRESIDENT

MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

CJCS

UNIFIED COMMANDS

FORCES
(Not assigned to Combatant Commands)

MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

COCOM

OPCON/TACON

Joint Task force

OPCON

Functional Component Commands

Forces/ Capabilities Made available

Service Component Commands

Subordinate Unified Command

OPCON/TACON

Forces/ Capabilities Made available

Service Components

Service Components

OPCON/TACON

Joint Task force

Service Components
Organization for National Security

NSA
DCI

Chairman, JCS
Vice Chairman, JCS

JCS

Commander
Joint Task Force

Commander
Subunified Command

Commander
Component Command

Combatant Commander

COCOM

JCS

Secretary of Army
CSA
USA

Secretary of Navy
USN

Secretary of Marine Corps
USMC

Secretary of Air Force

CSAF

USAF

Secretary of Defense

President
Secretary of State
Vice President

NSC

NSC Advisors

Operational Responsibilities

- Combatant Command
- Directive Authority
- Operation Planning
- Strategic Direction
- Military Advice

Support Responsibilities

- Organize
- Train
- Equip
- Maintain
- Assign
- Support

ADCON
Regional Responsibilities

- U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM)
- U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM)
- U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM)

Functional Responsibilities

- U.S. European Command (EUCOM)
- U.S. Northern Command (NORTHCOM)
- U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM)
- U.S. Joint Forces Command (JFCOM)
- U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM)
- U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM)

Chairman of the JCS

Communications

President

Secretary of Defense
UNIFIED COMMAND PLAN (UCP)

Guidance to Unified Combatant Commanders

• Establishes missions, responsibilities, and force structure

• Delineates geographic area of responsibility (AOR) and/or functional responsibility for Unified Commanders
FORCES FOR UNIFIED COMMANDS
Memorandum

- Assigns forces to combatant commanders
- May identify constraints
Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan (JSCP)

- Provides task and missions
- Apportions major combat forces
- Provides requirement (OPLAN, CONPLAN, TSCP)
- Apportions strategic lift
- Provides additional guidance
  - Assumptions
  - JSCP supplemental instructions
Combatant Command (command authority) (Unique to Combatant Commander)

- Budget and Planning, Programming and Budgeting System Input
- Assignment of subordinate commanders
- Relations with Department of Defense Agencies
- Convene courts-martial
- Directive authority for logistics
- Authoritative direction for all military operations and joint training
- Organize and employ commands and forces
- Assign command functions to subordinates
- Establish plans and requirements for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance activities
- Suspend subordinate commanders from duty

When Operational Control is delegated:

- Local direction and control of movements or maneuvers to accomplish mission

When Tactical Control is delegated:

- Aid, assist, protect, or sustain another organization

When Support relationship is delegated:

- Local direction and control of movements or maneuvers to accomplish mission
General Functions of a Combatant Commander

• Giving authoritative direction to subordinate commands and forces necessary to carry out missions assigned to the command, including authoritative direction over all aspects of military operations, joint training and logistics.

• Prescribing the chain of command to the commands and forces within the command.

• Organizing commands and forces within that command as necessary to carry out missions assigned to the command.

• Employing forces within that command as necessary to carry out missions assigned to the command.

• Assigning command functions to subordinate commanders.

• Coordinating and approving those aspects of administration, support (including control of resources and equipment, internal organization, and training,) and discipline necessary to carry out missions assigned to the command.

• Exercising the authority with respect to selecting subordinate commanders, selecting combatant command staff, suspending subordinates, and convening courts-martial as delineated in Title 10, US Code, Section 164.
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Secretary of State
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JCS
Joint Staff

Combatant Commander

Commander Joint Task Force
Commander Subunified Command
Commander Component Command

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- To recruit, organize, train, and equip interoperable forces for assignment to combatant commands.

- To prepare and submit programs and budgets for their respective departments; justify before Congress budget requests as approved by the President; and administer the funds made available for maintaining, equipping, and training the forces of their respective departments, including those assigned to combatant commands. The budget submissions to the Secretary of Defense by the Military Departments will be prepared on the basis, among other things, of recommendations of combatant commanders and of Service component commanders of forces assigned to combatant commands.

- To conduct research; develop tactics, techniques, and organization; and develop and procure weapons, equipment, and supplies essential to the fulfillment of the functions assigned by Chapter 6, title 10, United States Code and by Department of Defense Directive 5100.1, Functions of the Department of Defense and Its Major Components.

- To develop, garrison, supply, equip, and maintain bases and other installations, including lines of communications, and to provide administrative and logistic support for all forces and bases unless otherwise directed by the Secretary of Defense.

- To provide, as directed, such forces, military missions, and detachments for service in foreign countries as may be required to support the national interest of the United States.

- To assist in training and equipping the military forces of foreign nations.

- To provide, as directed, administrative and logistic support to the headquarters of combatant commands, to include direct support of the development and acquisition of the command and control system of such headquarters.

- To assist each other in the accomplishment of their respective functions, including the provisions of personnel, intelligence, training, facilities, equipment, supplies, and services.

- To prepare and submit, in coordination with other Military Departments, mobilization information to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
1. Make recommendations to the JFC on the proper employment of the forces of the Service component.

2. Accomplish such operational missions as may be assigned.

3. Select and nominate specific units of the parent Service component for assignment to other subordinate forces.

4. Conduct joint training, including the training, as directed, of components of other Services in joint operations for which the Service component commander has or may be assigned primary responsibility, or for which the Service component’s facilities and capabilities are suitable.
5. **Inform their JFC** (and their combatant commander, if affected) **of planning for changes in logistic support** that would significantly affect operational capability or sustainability sufficiently early in the planning process for the JFC to evaluate the proposals prior to final decision or implementation. If the combatant commander does not approve the proposal and discrepancies cannot be resolved between the combatant commander and the Service component commander, the combatant commander will forward the issue through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Secretary of Defense for resolution.

6. **Develop program and budget requests** that comply with combatant commander guidance on warfighting requirements and priorities. The Service component commander will provide to the combatant commander a copy of the program submission prior to forwarding it to the Service headquarters. The Service component commander will keep the combatant commander informed of the status of combatant commander requirements while Service programs are under development.
7. Inform the combatant commander of program and budget decisions that may affect joint operation planning.

8. Service component or force commanders in joint forces at any level within a combatant command are responsible to the combatant command level Service component commander for the following:
   - Internal administration and discipline.
   - Training in own Service doctrine, tactical methods, and techniques.
   - Logistic functions normal to the command, except as otherwise directed by higher authority.
   - Service intelligence matters and oversight of intelligence activities to ensure compliance with the laws, policies, and directives.
9. **Communication with a Service Chief.** Unless otherwise directed by the combatant commander, the Service component commander will communicate through the combatant command on those matters over which the combatant commander exercises COCOM. On Service-specific matters such as personnel, administration, and unit training, the Service component commander will normally communicate directly with the Service Chief, informing the combatant commander as the combatant commander directs.
- Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
- Resource link between CINC and service.
- Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
- Usually a MACOM(*)

**Army Component Commands**

- USASOC*
- USAREUR*
- USARCENT
- USARSO*
- USARPAC*
- USARSPACE
- FORSCOM*
- MTMC*
Army Component Commands

- Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
- Resource link between CINC and service.
- Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
- Usually a MACOM(*)

U.S. Army Special Operations Command
Army Component Commands

- Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
- Resource link between CINC and service.
- Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
- Usually a MACOM(*)

U.S. Army Europe
- Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
- Resource link between CINC and service.
- Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
- Usually a MACOM(*)

**Army Component Commands**

- USASOC*
- USAREUR*
- USARPAC*
- USARSPACE
- USARCENT
- USARSO*
- FORSCOM*
- MTMC*

**U.S. Army Central Command**
Army Component Commands

- Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
- Resource link between CINC and service.
- Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
- Usually a MACOM(*)

U.S. Army South
Army Component Commands

- Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
- Resource link between CINC and service.
- Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
- Usually a MACOM(*)

U.S. Army Pacific

USASOC*
USAREUR*
USARCENT
USARSO*
USAPAC*
USARSPACE
FORSCOM*
MTMC*
• Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
• Resource link between CINC and service.
• Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
• Usually a MACOM(*)
Army Component Commands

- Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
- Resource link between CINC and service.
- Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
- Usually a MACOM(*)

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Forces Command

- USASOC*
- USAREUR*
- USARCENT
- USARSO*
- USARPAC*
- USARSPACE
- FORSCOM*
- MTMC*
Responsible for employing forces; operational tasks.
Resource link between CINC and service.
Executes budget in support of CINC IPLs.
Usually a MACOM(*)

Army Component Commands

USASOC*
USAREUR*
USARCENT
USARSO*
USARPAC*
USARSPACE
FORSCOM*
MTMC*

Military Traffic Management Command