



Flag Officers 4 America

December 9, 2024

An Open Letter of Support for Peter Hegseth's Nomination for
U.S. Secretary of Defense

The undersigned retired Generals and Admirals are offering our strong support for Pete Hegseth's nomination to be the next Secretary of Defense (SECDEF).

There is no doubt that Pete Hegseth is passionate about our country, our military, and the men and women who serve in our armed forces. He is a warrior who volunteered to join the military and he served tours in Iraq and Afghanistan as an infantry officer. He understands combat from the grass roots level and will take that much needed perspective with him as the next SECDEF. He has studied and experienced the disastrous effects Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) has on our military and he is committed to expunging it from our armed forces. His focus is solely on warfighting readiness so that our military is prepared to fulfill its mission—to fight and win our Nation's wars.

Former President Trump had many talented people to consider in selecting his SECDEF nominee in order to implement his plans for the Department of Defense. From those many people, he selected Pete Hegseth as the best qualified person he trusts to succeed as SECDEF. President Trump has the right and responsibility to select key people who are capable of fulfilling his promises to the American people. Prominent in that mandate was making our military strong and lethal, to include removing what is called "wokeness" in the form of (DEI) from our armed forces.

He has selected Pete Hegseth to carry out that mandate and he stands behind him in the face of those opposing Pete's confirmation. We, the undersigned retired generals and admirals, stand with President Trump in endorsing Pete Hegseth for Secretary of Defense.

Signed:

RADM Philip Anselmo, USN (ret)
MG Joseph Arbuckle USA (ret)
BGen John C Arick, USMC (ret)
BG Ernest Audino, USA (ret)
Gen BB Bell, USA (ret)
Lt Gen Rod Bishop, USAF (ret)
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RADM John T Byrd, USN (ret)
RADM James J Carey, USN (ret)
BrigGen Jim Cash, USAF (ret)
LTG Dennis D Cavin, USA (ret)
LtGen James E Chambers, USAF (ret)
BrigGen Lawrence Christensen, USAF (ret)
RADM Arthur Clark, USN (ret)
MajGen Jay Closner, USAF (ret)
MG David C Coburn, USA (ret)
BrigGen Michael J Cole, USAF (ret)
BGen Peter B Collins, USMC (ret)
MG Richard Colt, USA (ret)
MajGen Richard Comer, USAF (ret)
BrigGen Keith B Connolly, USAF (ret)
VADM John G Cotton, USN (ret)
RDML David J Cronk, USN (ret)
BrigGen Howard G DeWolf, USAF (ret)
MG John Deyermond, USA (ret)
BrigGen Philip M Drew, USAF (ret)
RADM Ernest Elliot, USN (ret)
VADM George Emery, USN (ret)
BG Steven J Feldmann, USA (ret)
LTG Michael Flynn, USA (ret)
BrigGen Rufus L Forrest, Jr., USAF (ret)
BG Jimmy E Fowler, USA (ret)
BG C William Fox, Jr., USA (ret)
MG John T Furlow, USA (ret)
MajGen David C Garza, USMC (ret)
MG Brian I Geehan, USA (ret)
MG Francis C Gideon, Jr., USAF (ret)
LtGen Thomas B Goslin, Jr., USAF (ret)
MajGen Lee V Greer, USAF (ret)
RDML Michael R Groothousen, USN (ret)
MajGen Ken Hagemann, USAF (ret)
RDML Dale Hagen USN (ret)
BrigGen Norman Ham, USAF (ret)
Gen Alfred G Hansen, USAF (ret)
BrigGen Murray Hansen, USAF (ret)
BrigGen James W Hart Jr., USAF (ret)
MajGen Harald Hermes, USAF (ret)

MG Kent H Hillhouse, USA (ret)
MG William B Hobgood, USA (ret)
ADM James R Hogg, USN (ret)
MajGen Bob Hollingsworth, USMC (ret)
MajGen Jerry Holmes, USAF (ret)
BrigGen Blaine D Holt, USAF (ret)
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BG Phillip Jolly, USA (ret)
BG Gary L Jones, USA (ret)
RDML Herbert C Kaler, USN (ret)
BG Jack Kotter, USA (ret)
RADM Charles Kubic, USN (ret)
RADM Richard Landolt, USN (ret)
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BG Jerry L Laws, USA (ret)
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VADM William Dean Lee, USCG (ret)
MG Jack Leide, USA (ret)
MG Vernon B Lewis, Jr., USA (ret)
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BrigGen John M Lotz, USAF (ret)
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Lt Gen Thomas McInerney, USAF (ret)
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RADM Mark Milliken, USN (ret)
BrigGen Michael W Miller, USAF (ret)
MajGen John F Miller, Jr., USAF (ret)
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VADM Charles Moore, Jr., USN (ret)
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MG Joe S Owens, USA (ret)
RADM Russ Penniman, USN (ret)
MajGen Richard Perraut, USAF (ret)
RADM Leonard Picotte, USN (ret)
BG Guido J Portante, USA (ret)
MajGen David S Post, USAF (ret)
RDML James Quinn, USN (ret)
LtGen Clifford H Rees, Jr., USAF (ret)
RDML Edward Reidy, USN (ret)
MG Douglas Robertson, USA (ret)
RADM William D Rodriguez, USN (ret)

RADM Michael S Roesner, USN (ret)
MajGen Edward A Sauley, III USAF (ret)
MajGen John Schoepner, USAF (ret)
BrigGen Terry Schwalier, USAF (ret)
MajGen Paul M Van Sickle, USAF (ret)
MajGen James Sluder, USAF (ret)
LTG Hubert G Smith, USA (ret)
Gen Lance L Smith, USAF (ret)
BG Danny K Speigner, USA (ret)
MajGen James N Stewart, USAF (ret)
LtGen David J Teal, USAF (ret)
LtGen William E Thurman, USAF (ret)
MG Paul Vallely, USA (ret)
BrigGen Christopher Walker, USAF (ret)
MajGen Kenneth W Weir, USMCR (ret)
BrigGen Bill Welch, USAF (ret)
BrigGen William L Welsh, USAF (ret)
MajGen Michael Wiedemer, USAF (ret)
MG Richard O Wightman, Jr., USA (ret)
MajGen Michael Wilson, USAF (ret)
RADM H Denny Wisely, USN (ret)
BrigGen Brent Wright, USAF (ret)
BG Mitchell Zais, USA (ret)