Chapter 17 Foreign Policy and National Defense

Foreign Affairs and National Security

Section 1

Isolationism to Internationalism

 For more than 150 years, the American people were chiefly interested in domestic affairs, or what was happening at home.

 Foreign affairs, or the nation's relationships with other countries, were of little or no concern.

- Isolationism, the purposeful refusal to become generally involved in the affairs of the rest of the world, was American policy during this time
- Since World War II, however, U.S. policy has featured a broadening of American involvement in global affairs.

Foreign Policy Defined

- A nation's **foreign policy** is made up of all the stands and actions that a nation takes in every aspect of its relationships with other countries.
- The President, the nation's chief diplomat and commander in chief of its armed forces, has traditionally carried the major responsibility for both the making and conduct of foreign policy.

The State Department

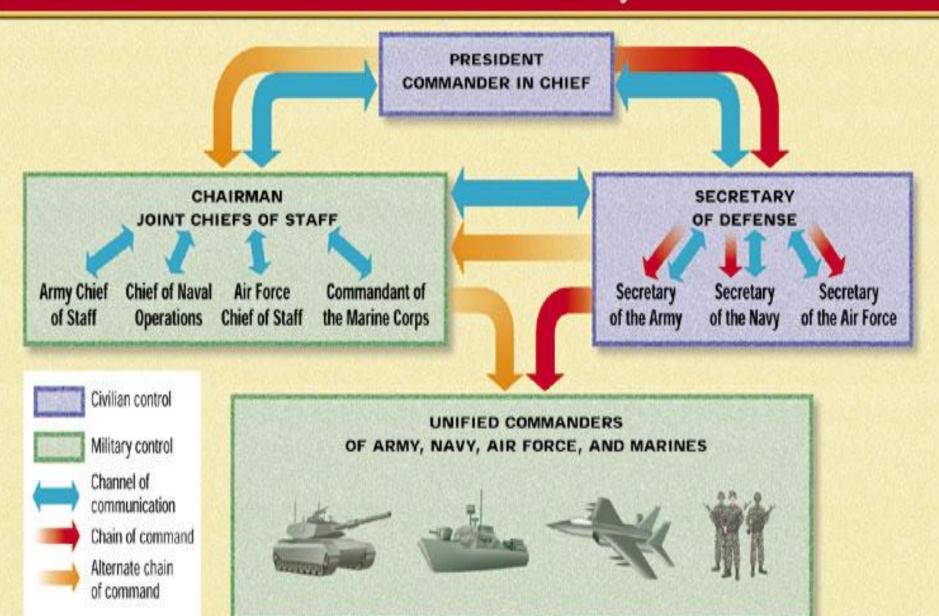
- The State Department is headed by the secretary of state, who ranks first among the members of the President's Cabinet.
- An ambassador represents the nation in matters of diplomacy.
- The State Department issues passports, certificates issued to citizens who travel or live abroad.
- Diplomatic immunity is usually applied to ambassadors

The Joint Chiefs of Staff Established in 1947

Statute prohibits the Joint Staff from operating or organizing as an overall armed forces general staff; therefore, the Joint Staff has no executive authority over combatant forces.

Military advisors

Civilian Control of the Military





Secretary of Defense:

Adviser to President

Formulates general defense policy and execution of approved policy

appointed by the President needs approval of the Senate, and is a member of the Cabinet.

By statute, must be a civilian who has not served in the armed force for at least 10 years

sixth in the US presidential line of succession

The Secretary of Defense and the President of the United States together constitute the National Command Authority (NCA), which has sole authority to launch strategic nuclear weapons.

Presidential Line of Succession

- 1. Vice President (Joseph Biden)
- 2. Speaker of the House of Representatives (John Boehner)
- 3. President pro tempore of the Senate (Daniel Inouye)
- 4. Secretary of State (Hillary Clinton)
- 5. Secretary of the Treasury (Timothy Geithner)
- 6. Secretary of Defense (Robert Gates)
- 7. Attorney General (Eric Holder)
- 8. Secretary of the Interior (Kenneth Salazar)
- 9. Secretary of Agriculture (Thomas Vilsack)
- 10. Secretary of Commerce (Gary Locke)
- 11. Secretary of Labor (Hilda Solis)
- 12. Secretary of Health and Human Service (Kathleen Sebelius)
- 13. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (Shaun Donovan)
- 14. Secretary of Transportation (Raymond LaHood)
- 15. Secretary of Energy (Steven Chu)
- 16. Secretary of Education (Arne Duncan)
- 17. Secretary of Veteran Affairs (Eric Shinseki)
- 18. Secretary of Homeland Security (Janet Napolitano)

The Military Departments The Department of the Army

- largest and the oldest of the armed services.
- consists of standing troops, or the Regular Army, and its reserve units—the Army National Guard and Army Reserve.

The Department of the Navy

- major responsibilities are for sea warfare and defense.
- The U.S. Marine Corps, a combat-ready land force, are under the auspices of navy command.

The Department of the Air Force

- •the youngest branch of the armed services.
- •main responsibility is the nation's first line of defense.