

Atomic Energy

Chairman, Military Liaison Committee

Committee established by the Atomic Energy Act of 1946, PL 79-585, 1 August 1946. Amendments to the Atomic Energy Act of 1949, PL 81-347, 11 October 1949, provided that the president appoint the chairman, with advice and consent of the Senate, and that the secretary of defense designate committee members.

From 13 April 1953, the chairman served also as assistant to the secretary of defense for atomic energy.

Lt. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton, USAF	17 July 1947-30 March 1948
Donald F. Carpenter	8 April 1948-21 September 1948
William Webster	22 September 1948-30 September 1949
Robert LeBaron	1 October 1949-1 August 1954
Herbert B. Loper	9 August 1954-14 July 1961
Gerald W. Johnson	11 August 1961-15 September 1963
William J. Howard	2 January 1964-15 June 1966
Carl Walske	3 October 1966-15 April 1973
Donald R. Cotter	16 October 1973-17 March 1978
James P. Wade, Jr.	8 August 1978-14 June 1981
James P. Wade, Jr. (Acting)	15 June 1981-5 June 1982
Richard Wagner	6 June 1982-1 April 1986
Robert B. Barker	18 October 1986-14 November 1986

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987, PL 99-661, 14 November 1986, abolished the Military Liaison Committee and established the Nuclear Weapons Council. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1988-1989, PL 100-180, 4 December 1987, established the statutory position of assistant to the secretary of defense (atomic energy).

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Atomic Energy)

Robert B. Barker (non-statutory)	14 November 1986-3 March 1988
Robert B. Barker (statutory)	4 March 1988-29 May 1992
John Birely (Acting)	29 May 1992-6 May 1993
Harold P. Smith, Jr.	1 June 1993-10 March 1996

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs)

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, PL 104-106, 10 February 1996, redesignated the assistant to the secretary of defense (atomic energy) as assistant to the secretary of defense (nuclear and chemical and biological defense programs), effective 22 February 1996. See change 1 to DoD Directive 5134.8, 11 March 1996.

Harold P. Smith, Jr. (Position vacant)	11 March 1996-31 January 1998
Dale Klein	1998-2001
	15 November 2001-