

QUESTIONS ABOUT MILITARY AND JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PARTICIPATION

Q1. Why is the military involved in the state funeral of a former president?

A1. The military, directed by DoD, provides ceremonial support for a state funeral to honor and pay tribute to a former commander-in-chief. A state funeral, as defined in regulation Army Pamphlet 1-1, is the highest category of military funeral honors. The men and women of the Department of Defense are proud to be a part of this historic event.

Q2. What military regulations dictate who is entitled to a state funeral?

A2. The primary regulation that provides direction on state, official and special military funerals is Department of the Army Pamphlet 1-1/Office of the Chief of Naval Operations Instruction (OPNAVINST) 5360.1/Air Force Manual (AFM) 143-2/CG 390 dated December 30, 1965. Although not indicated in the regulation title, this regulation is considered to be a Department of Defense document as DoD regulations and instructions were not published until after 1965.

Q3. How many military and DoD civilian personnel will participate in a state funeral?

A3. As many as 4,000 military and DoD civilian personnel may participate in some capacity to include ceremonial, security or logistical support.

Q4. What is Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region and Joint Task Force National Capital Region and what is the command's mission?

A4. The JFHQ-NCR is the single coordinating headquarters for military support in the national capital region. Joint Force Headquarters National-Capital Region plans, coordinates, maintains situational awareness and when directed, employs forces for land-based homeland defense and defense support to civil authorities in the national capital region joint operations area to safeguard the nation's capital.

The joint operations area includes approximately 2,500 square miles encompassing six counties, eleven cities and the District of Columbia. When activated by U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), JFHQ-NCR becomes Joint Task Force National-Capital Region (JTF-NCR).

In the case of a state funeral, U.S. NORTHCOM would direct JFHQ-NCR to conduct the state funeral as a Joint Task Force, providing ceremonial and response support under a single, unified command structure.

Q5. What kind of support does Joint Task Force National Capital Region provide for a state funeral?

A5. JTF-NCR provides all ceremonial support for state funerals, this includes joint participation from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard (active duty, U.S. armed forces reserve units, National Guard, and the federal service academies). In combination, these services provide the necessary support to include providing ceremonial units, airlift support, and logistics to conduct a state funeral.

Q6. What units support the Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region during a state funeral?

A6. Elements that routinely support the JFHQ-NCR include: the U.S. Army Military District of Washington (MDW), Navy District Washington (NDW), Marine Corps National Capital Region Command (MCNCR), and the Air Force District of Washington (AFDW). During state funerals, additional forces, both in the national capital region and in the areas of demise and interment, are assigned to Joint Task Force National Capital Region.

MDW is the Army headquarters component for JFHQ-NCR and provides the Army forces when JFHQ-NCR is activated as Joint Task Force National Capital Region (JTF-NCR). In addition, the commanding general for MDW is also the commander for JFHQ-NCR.