

OPERA – fiche sociographique - défense

Prénom, Nom:



Richard Lee Armitage

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Catégorie : Exécutif

Républicain

Dates de naissance / décès :

26 avril 1945

Lieu de naissance :

Boston, Mass.

Genre : Male

Lieu de résidence (si DC avant l'accession à un poste retenu, avec si possible l'année de l'emménagement à DC):

Formation :

BA/BS	BS, US Naval Academy
MA/MS	
PhD	
Law degree (JD...)	
Autre	

Profession initiale :

Carrière :

1967 – 73 : US Navy, finit lieutenant.
1973 – 75 : Naval operations coordinator, Def. Attache Office, Saigon, Vietnam
1975- 76 : Cons., US Dept def. Wash DC ; Cons., US Dept def., Iran
1976 – 78 : ptrn., Agt.-Export, Bangkok ; ptrn., Agt.-Export, Washington DC
1978- 79 : administrative assistant to Senator Robert Dole, US Senate, Wash DC
1980 : foreign policy advisor, Reagan for presi. Campaign, Wash DC
1980 – 81 : trans. Advisor, US Gov., Wash DC.
1981 – 83 : assistant secretary for East Asia, US DoD
1983 – 89 : *assistant Sec for International security affairs*, US DoD, Wash DC
1989 – 1992 : presidential spl. Negotiator for Philippines mil. Bases, The White House, Wash DC
1992 – 1993 : US amb. to the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, US DoD
1993 – 2001 : president, Armitage Assoc.
2001 – 2005 : deputy secretary of State, US Dept. Of State, Washington DC
2005 - : president, armitage international L.C., Arlington VA.
2005 - : mem. Strategy group Aspen Inst. ; board of dir. ManTech Internat ; 2006 - : ConocoPhillips.

Sources biblio/bio, articles, divers.

Early life and military career

Armitage was born in Boston and graduated in 1967 from the [United States Naval Academy](#) and was commissioned an [ensign](#) in the [United States Navy](#). He served on a [destroyer](#) stationed off the coast of [Vietnam](#) during the [Vietnam War](#) before volunteering to serve what would eventually become three combat tours with the riverine/advisory forces for the [Republic of Vietnam Navy](#).^[1]

According to Captain [Kiem Do](#), a [Republic of Vietnam Navy](#) officer who served with him in Vietnam, Armitage "seemed drawn like a 'moth to flame' to the hotspots of the naval war: bedding down on the ground with Vietnamese [commandos](#), sharing their [rations](#) and [hot sauce](#), telling jokes in flawless Vietnamese."^[2] Instead of a [uniform](#), Armitage often dressed in native garb, and was nicknamed "Tran Van Phu" by the Vietnamese.^[2]

Several associates who fought alongside Armitage and other politicians (including [Ted Shackley](#))^[3] have since said publicly that Armitage was associated with the [Central Intelligence Agency](#)'s (CIA) highly controversial and clandestine [Phoenix Program](#).^[3] Armitage has denied a role in Phoenix and has stated that - at most - CIA officers would occasionally ask him for intelligence reports.^[4]

In 1973, Armitage left active duty and joined the office of the U.S. Defense Attache in [Saigon](#). Immediately prior to the [fall of Saigon](#), he organized and led the removal of South Vietnamese naval assets and personnel from the country and out of the hands of the approaching North Vietnamese. Armitage told South Vietnamese naval officers to take their ships to a designated place in the ocean where they would be rescued by U.S. forces and the ships destroyed. When Armitage arrived at the designated location he found over 30,000 South Vietnamese clinging to less than three dozen naval boats without food or water.^{[5][6]} With transportation options limited for removing the floating city, Armitage, aboard the destroyer [USS Kirk](#), personally decided to lead the [flotilla](#) of ships over 1000 miles to [Subic Bay](#), [Philippines](#) in 1975 against the wishes of both the Philippine and

American governments. Armitage personally arranged for food and water to be delivered by the U.S. Defense Department before negotiating with both governments for permission to dock in Subic Bay.^{[11][5]}

Public service career

After the end of the Vietnam War Armitage moved to [Washington, D.C.](#) to serve as a [consultant](#) for the [United States Department of Defense](#). He was almost immediately sent to serve in [Tehran, Iran](#) until November 1976. Following that posting, he moved to [Bangkok](#) and operated an import/export business in the private sector for the next two years. In 1978, he returned to the U.S. and started working as an aide to [Senator Bob Dole](#).^[citation needed]

In late 1980, Armitage became a foreign policy advisor to [President-elect Ronald Reagan](#). Following that role, he was made a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for [East Asia](#) and Pacific Affairs, a high-ranking post in [the Pentagon](#). He served in this position from 1981 to 1983.

In June 1983, he was promoted to [Assistant Secretary of Defense](#) for International Security Policy where he represented the [Department of Defense](#) in developing political-military relationships and initiatives throughout the world. He helped to spearhead U.S. Pacific security policy including the USA-Japan and [U.S.-China security relationships](#), managed all Defense security assistance programs, and provided oversight of policies related to the [law of the sea](#), U.S. [special operations](#), and [counter-terrorism](#). Armitage earned the Secretary of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service and the [Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service](#).^[7] He played a leading role in [Middle East](#) security policies.^[citation needed] Armitage left that post in 1989 to serve as a special negotiator for the [President](#) on military bases in the [Philippines](#), and as a mediator on water issues in the [Middle East](#).

In 1991, he was appointed a special emissary to [King Hussein](#) of [Jordan](#). Following that, he was sent to [Europe](#) with the title of [ambassador](#); his assignment was to direct U.S. foreign aid to the states that had been formed out of the fallen [Soviet Union](#). He occupied that post until 1993, at which point he entered the private sector. His roles in the private sector included a directorship of US data aggregation company [ChoicePoint](#).^[8]

In 1998, Armitage signed "The [Project for the New American Century](#)" letter ([PNAC Letter](#)) to [President Bill Clinton](#). The letter urged Clinton to target the removal of [Saddam Hussein](#)'s regime from power in [Iraq](#) due to erosion of the Gulf War Coalition's containment policy and the resulting possibility that Iraq might develop [weapons of mass destruction](#).

During the [2000 Presidential election](#) campaign, he served as a foreign policy advisor to [George W. Bush](#) as part of a group led by [Condoleezza Rice](#) that called itself [The Vulcans](#).^[citation needed]

The [United States Senate](#) confirmed him as Deputy Secretary of State on March 23, 2001; he was sworn in three days later. A close associate of Secretary of State [Colin Powell](#), Armitage was regarded, along with Powell, as a moderate within the presidential administration of George W. Bush. According to President Musharraf, of Pakistan, shortly after 9/11, Armitage presented Pakistan with demands for assistance in the campaign against [Al-Qaeda](#) and the Taliban. The demands were non-negotiable. Should Pakistan accept, it would be considered a United States ally. Should it decline, Pakistan would be considered an enemy. According to Musharraf, Armitage further averred that, should Pakistan decline, the United States would bomb it 'back to the Stone Age.' Armitage denies having used those words. Armitage tendered his resignation on November 16, 2004, the day after Powell announced his resignation as Secretary of State. He left the post on February 22, 2005, when [Robert Zoellick](#) succeeded to the office.

Life after public service

There was some media speculation that President Bush would appoint him to a key security position such as [Director of the Central Intelligence Agency](#), [Director of National Intelligence](#) or [Defense Secretary](#). As of the start of July 2007, Armitage had not re-entered public service. On May 10, 2006, he was elected to the board of directors of the [ConocoPhillips](#) oil company.

In October 2006, Armitage lobbied – on behalf of the [L-3 Communications Corporation](#), a company providing intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance products – some key people in Taiwanese political circles regarding the possible sale of [P-3C](#) marine patrol aircraft to the [ROC military](#). Those who received his personal letter included Premier [Su Tseng-chang](#), President of the [Legislative Yuan Wang Jin-pyng](#), and opposition [People First Party](#) leader [James Soong](#).

Armitage stated in the letter that he wished the [Taiwan](#) government would reconsider the purchase from [Lockheed Martin](#), the dealer the United States government had designated. Instead, he hoped that the right to negotiate the purchase should be made through an open and fair bidding process.^[9] The letter was made public by PFP Legislators on October 24, 2006 in a Legislative Yuan session discussing the military purchases.^[10]

Since January 1, 2010, Armitage has been a Member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the [American-Turkish Council](#), a Washington based, corporate membership NGO dedicated to the promotion of the strongest possible business, military and foreign policy relationship between Turkey and the United States.^[11]

On 1 July 2010, Armitage was appointed an Honorary Companion of the [Order of Australia](#), Australia's highest civilian honor, "for eminent service to strengthening the Australia-United States bilateral relationship".^[12] He was invested with the award at a ceremony at the Australian Ambassador's residence on October 13, 2010.^[citation needed]

Role in Plame affair

Main article: [Plame affair](#)

- On November 15, 2005, journalist [Bob Woodward](#) of *The Washington Post* revealed that "a government official with no axe to grind" leaked to him the identity of ousted CIA officer [Valerie Plame](#) in mid-June 2003. According to an April 2006 *Vanity Fair* article (published March 14, 2006), former *Washington Post* executive editor [Ben Bradlee](#) said in an interview "that Armitage is the likely source is a fair assumption," though Bradlee later told the *Post* that he "[did] not recall making that precise statement" in the interview.^[13]
- On March 2, 2006, [bloggers](#) discovered that "Richard Armitage" fit the spacing on a [redacted](#) court document, suggesting he was a source for the Plame leak.^[14]
- On August 21, 2006, the [Associated Press](#) published a story that revealed Armitage met with Bob Woodward in mid-June 2003. The information came from official [State Department](#) calendars, provided to *The Associated Press* under the [Freedom of Information Act](#).^[15]
- In the September 4, 2006 issue of *Newsweek* magazine, in an article titled "The Man Who Said Too Much", journalist [Michael Isikoff](#), quoting a "source directly familiar with the conversation who asked not to be identified because of legal sensitivities", reported that Armitage was the "primary" source for [Robert Novak](#)'s piece outing Plame. Armitage allegedly mentioned Ms. Wilson's CIA role to Novak in a July 8, 2003 interview after learning about her status from a State Department memo which made no reference to her undercover status.^[16] Isikoff also reported that Armitage had also told Bob Woodward of Plame's identity in June 2003, and that special counsel [Patrick Fitzgerald](#) investigated Armitage's role "aggressively", but did not charge Armitage with a crime because he "found no evidence that Armitage knew of Plame's covert CIA status when he talked to Novak and Woodward".
- Novak, in an August 27, 2006 appearance on *Meet the Press*, stated that although he still would not release the name of his source, he felt it was long overdue that the source reveal himself.^[17] Armitage has also reportedly been a cooperative and key witness in the investigation.^[18] According to *The Washington Note*, Armitage has testified before the grand jury three times.^[19]

- On August 29, 2006 [Neil A. Lewis](#) of *The New York Times* reported that Armitage was the "initial and primary source" for columnist Robert Novak's July 14, 2003 article, which named Valerie Plame as a CIA "operative" and which triggered the CIA leak investigation.^[20]
- On August 30, 2006, CNN reported that Armitage had been confirmed "by sources" as leaking Ms. Wilson's CIA role in a "casual conversation" with [Robert Novak](#).^[21] *The New York Times*, quoting people "familiar with his actions", reported that Armitage was unaware of Ms. Wilson's undercover status when he spoke to Novak.^[22]
- The *Times* claims that White House counsel [Alberto Gonzales](#) was informed that Armitage was involved on October 2, 2003, but asked not to be told details. Patrick Fitzgerald began his grand jury investigation three months later knowing Armitage was a leaker (as did Attorney General [John Ashcroft](#) before turning over the investigation).
- On March 6, 2007 a jury convicted [Lewis "Scooter" Libby](#), [Chief of Staff to Vice President Dick Cheney](#), of "obstruction of justice, giving false statements to the *FBI* and perjury himself, charges embodied in four of the five counts of the indictment".^[23]
- On July 2, 2007, President Bush issued a Grant of Executive Clemency that commuted the prison terms imposed on Lewis Libby.^[24]
- On September 7, 2006, Armitage admitted to being the source in the CIA leak.^[25] Armitage claims that Fitzgerald had originally asked him not to discuss publicly his role in the matter, but that on September 5 Armitage asked Fitzgerald if he could reveal his role to the public, and Fitzgerald consented.^[25]
- In a review of *Hubris: The Inside Story of Spin, Scandal, and the Selling of the Iraq War*, by Michael Isikoff and David Corn, which hit book stores in early September 2006, Novak wrote: "I don't know precisely how Isikoff flushed out Armitage [as Novak's original source], but *Hubris* clearly points to two sources: Washington lobbyist [Kenneth Duberstein](#), Armitage's political adviser, and [William Taft IV](#), who was the State Department legal adviser when Armitage was deputy secretary."^[26]

Pakistan and the fight against terrorism

[Pakistani](#) President [Pervez Musharraf](#), in an interview with [CBS News 60 Minutes](#) on September 21, 2006, alleged that Armitage called an ISI general immediately after the [September 11, 2001 attacks](#) and threatened to "bomb the country (Pakistan) back to the [stone age](#)" unless they supported the US-led fight against Islamic terrorism. Presently, Musharraf has refused to provide details, commenting that he is unable to provide details due to restrictions by the publisher ([Simon & Schuster](#)) of his book *In the Line of Fire: A Memoir*.^[citation needed] [President Bush](#) on the other hand has mentioned that he only became aware of these comments as late as September 2006, when he read them in the newspapers. Armitage confirmed he had held a conversation with the Pakistani general to whom Musharraf had sourced the comments, but denied using a threat of military action couched in such terms on the claimed basis that he was not authorized to do so.^[27]

Personal life

Armitage and his wife Laura have eight children. He is fluent in Vietnamese and versed in many other languages. He is an avid powerlifter.^[28] He loves to play basketball and was a football linebacker at the United States Naval Academy and teammate of [Roger Staubach](#).

References

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Source : http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Armitage_%28politician%29
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Sources additionnelles :

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