

# [***Fears grow that Trump will use the military in 'dictatorial ways' if he returns to the White House***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6B3T-C181-F027-X016-00000-00&context=1516831)

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Brendan Smialowski

Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, left, President Donald Trump, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Mark A. Milley, right, wait for a meeting with senior military leaders in the Cabinet Room of the White House on Oct. 7, 2019.

Defense Secretary Mark Esper, President Donald Trump and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army Gen. Mark Milley, waited in the Cabinet Room of the White House in 2019.

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Andrew Harnik

Donald Trump West Point

Surrounded by Army cadets, then-President Donald Trump watched the first half of the 121st Army-Navy football game in West Point, N.Y., in 2020.

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donald trump military profile

From left, Gen. Mark Milley, then the incoming chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Vice President Mike Pence, President Donald Trump, Defense Secretary Mark Esper and Gen. Joseph Dunford, then the outgoing chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, at Summerall Field, Joint Base Myer-Henderson, Va., in 2019.

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Carlos BarrÃ­a

military exercise smoke demonstration

President Donald Trump observed a demonstration of Army 10th Mountain Division troops, an attack helicopter and artillery as he visited Fort Drum, N.Y., in 2018.

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