

United States Military Personnel Code of Conduct

The United States Armed Forces Code of Conduct was promulgated by President Eisenhower on August 17, 1955. It applies to all U.S. military personnel. President Carter amended Article V of the Code on November 3, 1977. President Reagan amended Articles I, II and VI of the Code on March 28, 1988. The Code is based on concepts and traditions dating from the American Revolution.

The Code of Conduct:

I am an American fighting in the forces that guard my country and our way of life, I am prepared to give my life in their defense.

I will never surrender of my own free will. If in command, I will never surrender the members of my command while they still have the means to resist.

If I am captured I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy.

If I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information or take part in any action which might be harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way.

Should I become a prisoner of war, I am required to give name, rank, service number, and date of birth. I will evade answering further questions to the utmost of my ability. I will make no oral or written statements disloyal to my country and its allies.

I will never forget that I am an American fighting for freedom, responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of

America.