**Command Center**

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*"War room" redirects here. For the film, see* [*The War Room*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_War_Room)*. For the fictional location in the Power Rangers series, see* [*Power Chamber*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Power_Chamber)*.*

A **command center** (often called a **war room**) is any place that is used to provide centralised command for some purpose.

While frequently considered to be a military facility, these can be used in many other cases by governments or businesses. The term "war room" is also often used in politics to refer to teams of communications people who monitor and listen to the media and the public, respond to inquiries, and synthesize opinions to determine the best course of action.

**Military and government**

A **command center** is a central place for carrying out orders and for supervising tasks, also known as a [headquarters](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Headquarters), or HQ.

Common to every command center is three general activities: inputs, processes and outputs. The inbound aspect is [communications](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommunication) (usually [intelligence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intelligence_(information_gathering)) and other field reports). Inbound elements are "sitreps" (situation reports of what is happening) and "progreps" (progress reports relative to a goal which has been set) from the field back to the command element.

The process aspect involves a [command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command) element that makes decisions about what should be done about the input data. In the US military the command consists of a field- (Major to Colonel) or flag- (General) grade [commissioned officer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commissioned_officer) with one or more advisers. The outbound communications then delivers command decisions (i.e. operating orders) to the field elements.

Command centers should not be confused with the high-level military formation of a [Command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command_(military_formation)). However, Commands may be controlled from a command center.

**Examples**

**Canada**

Main article: [Diefenbunker](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diefenbunker)

During the [Cold War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_War), the Government of Canada undertook the construction of "Emergency Government Headquarters", to be used in the event of [nuclear warfare](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_warfare) or other large-scale disaster. Canada was generally allied with the United States for the duration of the war, was a founding member of [NATO](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NATO), allowed American cruise missiles to be tested in the [far north](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Arctic), and flew sovereignty missions in the Arctic.

For these reasons, the country was often seen as being a potential target of the Soviets at the height of nuclear tensions in the 1960s. Extensive post-attack plans were drawn up for use in emergencies, and fallout shelters were built all across the country for use as command centres for governments of all levels, the [Canadian Forces](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Forces), and rescue personnel, such as fire services.

Different levels of command centres included:

* **CEGF**, *Central Emergency Government Facility*, located in [Carp, Ontario](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carp,_Ontario), near the [National Capital Region](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Capital_Region_(Canada)). Designed for use by senior federal politicians and civil servants.
* **REGHQ**, *Regional Emergency Government Headquarters*, of which there were seven, spread out across the country.
* **MEGHQ**, *Municipal Emergency Government Headquarters*
* **ZEGHQ**, *Zone Emergency Government Headquarters*, built within the basements of existing buildings, generally designed to hold around 70 staff.
* **RU**, *Relocation Unit*, or **CRU**, *Central Relocation Unit*. Often bunkers built as redundant backups to REGHQs and MEGHQs were given the RU designation.

**United Kingdom**

Constructed in 1938, the [Cabinet War Rooms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Churchill_Museum_and_Cabinet_War_Rooms) were used extensively by Sir [Winston Churchill](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winston_Churchill) during the [Second World War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_World_War).

**United States**

A **Command and Control Center** is a specialized type of command center operated by a government or municipal agency 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Various branches of the U.S Military such as the U.S Coast Guard and Navy have command and control centers.

They are also common in many large correctional facilities. A Command and Control Center operates as the agency's dispatch center, surveillance monitoring center, coordination office and alarm monitoring center all in one.

Command and control centers are not staffed by high level officials but rather by highly skilled technical staff. When a serious incident occurs the staff will notify the agency's higher level officials.

**In Service Businesses**

A command center enables the real-time visibility and management of an entire service operation. Similar to an air traffic control center, a command center allows organizations to view the status of global service calls, service technicians, and service parts on a single screen. In addition, customer commitments or [Service Level Agreements](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Service_Level_Agreements&action=edit&redlink=1) (SLAs) which have been made can also be programmed into the command center and monitored to ensure all are met and customers are satisfied.

A command Center is well suited for industries where coordinating field service (people, equipment, parts, and tools) is critical.

**See also**

* [Air traffic control](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_traffic_control)
* [Air Defense Control Center](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_Defense_Control_Center)
* [Combat Information Center](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Combat_Information_Center)
* [Command center (mobile)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command_center_(mobile))
* [Control center solutions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Control_center_solutions)
* [C4ISTAR](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C4ISTAR)
* [Dispatch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dispatch_(logistics))
* [Mission Control Center](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission_Control_Center)
* [Network Operations Center](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_Operations_Center)