

A. Ernest Fitzgerald

Arthur Ernest "Ernie" Fitzgerald (July 31, 1926 – January 31, 2019) was an American engineer, a member of the Senior Executive Service in the United States Air Force, and a prominent U.S. government whistleblower. ^{[1][2]}

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Born	Arthur Ernest Fitzgerald July 31, 1926 Birmingham, Alabama, U.S.
Died	January 31, 2019 (aged 92) Falls Church, Virginia, U.S.
Education	University of Alabama (BS)
Occupation	Engineer
Employer	United States Air Force
Known for	Pentagon whistleblower
	Military career
Allegiance	United States of America
Service/ branch	United States Navy

Biography

Fitzgerald was a member of the Senior Executive Service, a management systems deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. He was responsible for the development of improved management controls generally, specifically including management information control systems, economic cost effectiveness analysis, statistical programs and analysis, cost estimating and analysis, and productivity enhancement and measurement. The latter responsibility includes supervising Air Force performance measurement activities.

Following service in the U.S. Navy, Fitzgerald earned a bachelor of science degree in industrial engineering from the University of Alabama. He is a registered professional engineer and has worked on several successful patents, including one issued in his name. He is the author of "The High Priests of Waste" and "The Pentagonists." Fitzgerald died in Falls Church, Virginia on

January 31, 2019 at the age of 92.

Career

After working for a number of years as an engineer and in management, Fitzgerald was employed by the U.S. Air Force as Deputy for Management Systems in 1965. While employed at the Pentagon Fitzgerald testified to Congress in 1968 and 1969 about the concealed cost overruns and the technical problems of the Lockheed C-5A transport plane. He was accused of revealing classified information and was fired on order of President Richard M. Nixon.

He successfully appealed his case to the United States Civil Service Commission (USCSC) and won that case only because our Forefathers had the foresight to place the USCSC outside of the president's control and not under the executive branch. **In other words, our Forefather's 1883 Pendleton Act's USCSC had survived its first test from its first rogue President Richard M. Nixon, and Congress had no legitimate reason for passing its later 1978 Civil Service Reform Act (see below explanation).**

Whistleblower

In 1968, Fitzgerald reported a \$2.3 billion cost overrun in the Lockheed C-5 aircraft program. As a congressional witness before the Joint Economic Committee, he rejected the advice of Air Force officials and testified with candor and transparency about billions of dollars in avionics program cost overruns and other technical problems.

In response to Fitzgerald's testimony, President Richard M. Nixon directed that he be fired. "It was reported that Nixon told aides to 'get rid of that son of a bitch.'" In executing the president's order, Fitzgerald was ultimately terminated by Defense Secretary Melvin Laird.

Because of his candor and commitment to the truth, Fitzgerald was a driving force for whistleblower protections. Fitzgerald continued to fight a four-decade-long campaign against fraud, waste, and abuse within the department. Consequently, he was instrumental in the enactment of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, a precursor to the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989.



Congress' sole purpose for passing the 1978 CSRA was to divide the USCSC's duties between 4 executive branch entities to now place them under each president's direct control and then decimate them, to: (1) permanently eliminate whistleblowers, and (2) gradually transition the executive branch from non-political/technically qualified to politically loyal (political/unqualified) to now have each U.S. president unconstitutionally control the executive branch. Those 4 executive branch entities include the following: Office of Personnel Management, Office of Special Counsel, Merit Systems Protection Board, and Federal Labor Relations Authority.