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## **AUSTIN WELCOMES ARMENIA'S DEFENSE MINISTER TO PENTAGON**

-	06.12.2024

U.S. Department of Defense (5 December 2024)

Joseph Clark

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III hosted Armenian Defense Minister Suren Papikyan at the Pentagon today.

The two leaders met to discuss the strategic relationship between the U.S. and Armenia, which includes a longstanding partnership between Armenia's Defense Ministry and the Kansas National Guard.

"Your visit is historic," Austin said as he welcomed his counterpart. "Armenia extended its hand to the United States and I'm proud to host you here today."

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