

1           “(f)(1) Subject to guidelines established by the Secretary  
2 of Defense, each officer serving as a chief of service or as the  
3 commander of a unified or specified command may have an  
4 opportunity to provide formal comments on any report or rec-  
5 ommendation of the Joint Staff prepared for submittal to the  
6 Joint Chiefs of Staff before such report or recommendation is  
7 submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. A copy of any such  
8 comment shall, at the discretion of the officer submitting the  
9 comment, be included as an appendix in the submittal of such  
10 report or recommendation to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

11           “(2) For purposes of this subsection, the chiefs of service  
12 are the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Oper-  
13 ations, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and the Comman-  
14 dant of the Marine Corps.

15           “(g) The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the  
16 Joint Staff is independently organized and operated so that  
17 the Joint Staff, and the members of the Joint Staff, support  
18 the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint  
19 Chiefs of Staff in meeting the congressional purpose set forth  
20 in the last clause of section 2 of the National Security Act of  
21 1947 (50 U.S.C. 401) to provide for the unified strategic  
22 direction of the combatant forces, for their operation under  
23 unified command, and for their integration into an efficient  
24 team of land, naval, and air forces.”.