

RECENT INITIATIVES
of the
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
and
NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY

Deficiencies endemic to the U.S. defense planning system, identified in my introductory statement, are deep-seated and of long duration. Corrective actions likely will be evolutionary, rather than revolutionary, over extensive time.

Senator William V. Roth, Jr., Chairman of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, asked for answers to four questions concerning current status:

- What are the Joint Chiefs of Staff doing to improve the planning process within that organization?
- Can the Joint Chiefs of Staff do more to limit interservice squabbling and ensure that the services cooperate effectively?
- Is there too much duplication between the work of many of the agencies in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff?
- What is the National Defense University doing to improve joint education and research?

This exposition, with oral permission from Senator Roth's office, consolidates questions 1, 2, and 3 to avoid redundant answers, since they are inseparable parts of a single package.

All initiatives noted are tentative steps to implement improvements. It is too early to tell whether results will equal expectations.