

1           “(b) One of the Deputy Chiefs of Staff shall be designat-  
2 ed by the Chief of Staff, with the approval of the Secretary of  
3 Defense, to act as Chief of Staff in the absence or disability of  
4 the Chief of Staff. When there is a vacancy in the office of  
5 Chief of Staff the Deputy Chief of Staff so designated, unless  
6 otherwise directed by the President or Secretary of Defense,  
7 shall perform the duties of the Chief of Staff until a successor  
8 is appointed.

9           “(c) The Deputy Chiefs of Staff shall perform such  
10 duties and exercise such powers as the Chief of Staff pre-  
11 scribes.

12           “(d) Each Deputy Chief of Staff, while so serving, holds  
13 the rank of general or, in the case of an officer of the Navy,  
14 admiral without vacating his permanent grade.

15 **“§ 143. Joint Military Staff**

16           “(a)(1) There is under the Chief of Staff of the National  
17 Command Authorities a Joint Military Staff of the National  
18 Command Authorities. The members of the Joint Military  
19 Staff shall be selected (as provided in paragraph (2)) by the  
20 Chief of Staff in approximately equal numbers from—

21           “(A) the Army;

22           “(B) the Navy and the Marine Corps; and

23           “(C) the Air Force.

24           “(2) Selection of officers of an armed force to serve on  
25 the Joint Military Staff shall be made by the Chief of Staff