

Authorities and second, independent assessments of the way in which national security policies are carried out.

The Council will consist of five distinguished military leaders either recalled from retirement or on their last duty assignment. At the discretion of the President it will have one civilian. Each of these will have the equivalent to a four-star rank.

Mr. Chairman, I wish that I could say that all of this is original with me. It is not. It came about as a result of listening to those who have served in the halls of the Pentagon, not just in an officer capacity, but in the capacity of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

I refer to Maxwell Taylor, and to David Jones. Recently, Chairman Jones retired, and before he retired he gave us some advice. I would like to bring you up to date on the advice and refresh your recollection of the advice given by General Jones.

He says that the military advice given by the Joint Chiefs of Staff is not timely, it is not crisp, it is not very useful or very influential. He said, therefore, the national leadership often must look elsewhere for advice. He also said why it was not useful. That is because the service interests dominate the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommendations at the expense of broad national military interests. This results in no meaningful Joint Chiefs of Staff advice on resource allocation, on budget levels, on force structures, on new weapons, on joint doctrine, on joint training, and on unified command plans.

He cited the reasons as the contradictory roles of the Chiefs.

First, they are Chiefs of the services that they head. They uphold the traditions and the capabilities and the esprit de corps of that particular service. Second, they are members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. As such they are supposed to subordinate their service interest to broader considerations. He points out that this is impossible.

There is also a time conflict, as he points out. Service chiefs do not have the time to perform both roles. Each one is a full-time job.

There is also a conflict between the service and the joint responsibilities reflected in the Joint Staff. Officers come from the services and they go back to their services, retaining close ties to those services.

I think that we should, Mr. Chairman, listen to the thoughts and advice of General Jones and the thoughts and recommendations of General Taylor. I hope that the legislation that I offer is the very best of Maxwell Taylor and David Jones.

The question comes, Mr. Chairman, will this be better for our defense? We all know that the train is coming down the track, that the American people are going to want the defense dollar to be spent much more wisely and much better in the days and years ahead. You will recall, Mr. Chairman, in the testimony of former Secretary of Defense McNamara just a few days ago, and you put the question to him, he said that this proposal, the proposal that we have before us today, could save up to 5 percent of the defense budget. It is my considered opinion after a great deal of discussion with various military leaders, both active and retired, that we could save up to 10 percent of the military budget if it is enacted into law and carried out correctly.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to quote from an article, if I may, at this time: