

bers are to be military advisers, "as specified in this section [section 151]".

Section 151 would specify only two ways in which members of the JCS other than the JCS Chairman may provide advice to the President, the NSC, or the Secretary of Defense. First, subsection (f) would authorize any JCS member to submit advice in disagreement or in addition to the advice provided by the Chairman to senior civilian officials. Second, subsection (h) would direct members of the JCS other than the Chairman to provide advice to the President, the NSC, or the Secretary of Defense whenever those civilian officials request it.

JCS as Military Staff to Secretary of Defense

Subsection (d) of section 151 is a new provision that would designate the Joint Chiefs of Staff, assisted by the Joint Staff, as the immediate military staff of the Secretary of Defense. This same designation is already made in Department of Defense Directive 5100.1 (May 1, 1985).

The Committee recommends that this administrative designation be placed in statute in order to emphasize the Committee's strong interest in having the Secretary of Defense rely upon the JCS for staff support on military matters. All too often, Secretaries of Defense have turned to the mostly civilian staff in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) for the kind of military advice that they should have received from the Joint Chiefs of Staff. With the revitalization of professional military advice that should take place as a result of this bill, the Committee believes that it is now appropriate to formalize in law the role of the JCS as the Secretary of Defense's military staff.

Consultative Duties of the Chairman

Subsection (e) of section 151 is a new provision that would require the JCS Chairman to take certain actions in the course of performing his duties. First, he is to convene regular meetings of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Second, the Chairman must, unless impracticable, consult with and seek the advice of the other JCS members. Third, when appropriate, he is to consult with and seek the advice of the unified and specified combatant commanders.

The purpose of this new provision is to ensure that the Chairman has the benefit of the views of other senior military officers in carrying out his important duties. The Committee expects the Chairman to consult with the other JCS members and the combatant commanders, under the specified conditions, in performing all his duties, including those for which such consultation is not explicitly required by statute. However, the Committee also recognizes that the circumstances of certain situations may prevent the Chairman from consulting with the other JCS members and the unified and specified combatant commanders.

Dissenting Views of JCS Members

Subsection (f) of section 151 is a new provision that would authorize any member of the JCS to submit advice in disagreement or in addition to the advice provided by the Chairman to the President, the National Security Council, or the Secretary of Defense. If