

war, exercise *command* (as opposed to "full *operational* command", as at present) of assigned forces. The legislation defines command as authoritative direction over subordinate forces necessary to accomplish assigned missions.

In line with the broadened command authority, the legislation would provide each unified and specified commander the authority to select the commanders of principal subordinate units and to remove them; to exercise courts-martial jurisdiction over his command; to organize the command; to prescribe the chain of command within his command; to train assigned forces; and to employ his forces to accomplish assigned missions.

The legislation would also establish an avenue through the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the unified and specified commanders to advise the Secretary of Defense on the composition of the overall national defense budget. The bill would require the chairman to submit recommendations to the Secretary of Defense each year for the overall allocation of the defense budget. The bill would require that the chairman's recommendations be based on recommendations submitted to him by the unified and specified commanders as well as the military departments. In addition, the chairman would be required to review the program objectives and budget proposals of the military departments.

The legislation would require the Secretary of Defense to include budget proposals in the annual defense budget for such activities of the unified and specified commanders as the Secretary determined to be appropriate. The bill specifies that the budget for the unified and specified commanders could include requests for such activities as joint exercises, force training, contingencies, and selected operations.

The bill would make several changes to the way unified and specified commands are to be established and manned. The unified and specified commands would be established by the President through the Secretary of Defense with the advice and assistance of the chairman, a provision that has already been approved by the House of Representatives in the Joint Chiefs of Staff Reorganization Act—H.R. 3622. All military forces, except those required by the services for recruiting, organizing, training, and supplying of the Armed Forces, would be assigned to the unified and specified commands.

The bill would also authorize the President to establish special combatant commands if the President determined that the situation warranted such a force to perform a specific military mission. The President would be required to prescribe the shortest practicable chain of command for each force deployed consistent with proper supervision and support.

The legislation would further require periodic review of the overall structure of the unified and specified commands to ensure that the U.S. military command organization can respond to changing worldwide conditions. A major initial review would be required to evaluate the worldwide combatant command structure, including such issues as creating a strategic command (combining the Strategic Air Command and the strategic forces of the Navy), revising the missions, functions and responsibilities of the U.S. Readiness Command and the U.S. Central Command, establishing a unified