

The committee agrees with these recommendations. Consequently, the requirement for periodic review of the overall structure of the unified commands has been included in new section 161(b) to ensure that the theater and functional command arrangements remain capable of responding to changing worldwide conditions. In addition, section 104 of this bill would require that the first review comprehensively reassess the entire unified and specified command structure. The review would be required to examine a number of issues listed in section 104 that were suggested during the committee hearings and past studies of the national military command structure.

Finally, section 105 of this legislation repeals two provisions in present law that prohibit changes in the military command structure. The law presently prohibits the establishment of a Unified Transportation Command. The prohibition was enacted in 1983 to defeat a Department of Defense proposal to consolidate current land (Army) and sea (Navy) transportation commands into a unified joint command. (The Military Airlift Command is already a joint command.) In light of the Packard Commission recommendation to combine all three commands into one unified command, the committee has included the provision to repeal the prohibition. For similar reasons the committee has included a repeal of a provision in present law that prohibits alteration of the command structure for military forces in Alaska. The committee believes that the prohibitions on changes in the national military command structure constitute unnecessary infringements on the President's authority as Commander-in-Chief.

FORCES ASSIGNED TO COMBATANT COMMANDS

Section 162(a) specifies that *all* forces under the jurisdiction of the service Secretaries shall be assigned to the unified and specified combatant commands except for those assigned to recruiting, organizing, training, or supplying the armed forces. These provisions would replace a sentence in section 124(b) of title 10 that provides that "the military departments shall assign forces to [unified and specified] combatant commands established under this section to perform the missions of those commands." In other parts of title 10, each military service is made responsible for "the preparation of forces [land, sea, or air, as the case may be] for the effective prosecution of war except as otherwise assigned. . . ." This new wording is intended to make clear that all personnel, units, and other military entities that have received the preparation necessary to equip them to perform the missions or functions that they are assigned shall be placed under the unified and specified commands.

The committee has worded the new provision to ensure that the services have the personnel necessary to accomplish their missions—that is, that the services have the "forces assigned to recruiting, organizing, training, and supplying of the armed forces" unless the Secretary of Defense directs otherwise. But the committee intends that all other forces, in the absence of compelling reasons to the contrary, shall be assigned to the unified and specified commands. Also the committee intends that, with certain excep-