

**§ 192. Defense agencies: oversight by the Secretary of Defense**

(a) *PERIODIC REVIEW.*—Periodically (and not less often than every two years), the Secretary of Defense shall review the services and supplies provided by the defense agencies to ensure that the provision of those services and supplies by those agencies, rather than by the military departments, is a more effective, economical, or efficient manner of providing those services and supplies consistent with the requirements for combat readiness of the armed forces.

(b) *INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR REVIEW.*—(1) In performing the review required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall obtain, as appropriate, the views of—

(A) the directors of the defense agencies;

(B) the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff;

(C) the Secretaries of the military departments;

(D) the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps; and

(E) the commanders of the unified and specified combatant commands.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall apply to the National Security Agency as determined appropriate by the Secretary. The Secretary shall establish procedures under which information required for review of the National Security Agency shall be obtained.

**§ 193. Combat support agencies: duties of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**

(a) *COMBAT READINESS.*—(1) Periodically (and not less often than every two years), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall submit to the Secretary of Defense a report on the combat support agencies. Each such report shall include—

(A) a determination with respect to the responsiveness and readiness of each such agency to support operating forces in the event of a war or threat to national security; and

(B) any recommendations that the Chairman considers appropriate.

(2) In preparing each such report, the Chairman shall review the plans of each such agency with respect to its support of operating forces in the event of a war or threat to national security. After consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments and the commanders of the unified and specified combatant commands, as appropriate, the Chairman may, in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary of Defense, take steps to provide for any revision of those plans that the Chairman considers appropriate.

(b) *PARTICIPATION IN JOINT TRAINING EXERCISES.*—The Chairman shall—

(1) provide for the participation of the combat support agencies in joint training exercises to the extent necessary to ensure that those agencies are capable of performing their support missions with respect to a war or threat to national security; and

(2) assess the performance in joint training exercises of each such agency and, in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary of Defense, take steps to provide for any change