

ment, internal organization, and training) and discipline necessary to carry out assigned missions; and

(7) exercising the authority with respect to selecting subordinate commanders, selecting combatant command staff, suspending subordinates, and convening courts-martial, provided, respectively, in subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 164 of title 10 (as added by section 211 of this conference substitute amendment) and in section 822(a) of title 10 (as amended by section 211 of the conference substitute amendment).

The House amendment contained a provision (section 101) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that combatant commanders have sufficient authority over assigned forces to exercise effective command over those forces.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes with two amendments. First, the Secretary of Defense is to ensure, after consultation with the JCS Chairman, that the combatant commander has sufficient authority, direction, and control over both assigned commands and forces. The second amendment would require the Secretary of Defense to review periodically and, after consultation with the Secretaries of the Military Departments, the JCS Chairman, and the combatant commander, assign authority to the combatant commander for those aspects of administration and support that the Secretary considers necessary to carry out assigned missions.

The House amendment contained a provision (section 101) that would require a combatant commander to inform the Secretary of Defense promptly if at any time he considers his authority to be insufficient.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes.

Authority over Subordinate Commanders

The Senate amendment contained a provision (section 112) that would provide, unless directed otherwise by the President or the Secretary of Defense, that commanders of commands and forces assigned to a combatant command are under the authority, direction, and control of, and are responsible to, the combatant commander on all matters for which he has been assigned full operational command or other authority.

The House amendment contained no similar provision.

The House recedes with an amendment to delete "full operational command or other authority" and substitute "authority under subsection (c)" of section 164 of title 10 (as added by section 211 of the conference substitute amendment).

The Senate amendment contained a provision (section 112) that would authorize, unless directed otherwise by the President or the Secretary of Defense, a combatant commander (1) to establish procedures for the communications of his subordinate commanders with other elements of the Department of Defense on any matter for which he has been assigned full operational command or other authority, and (2) to direct that he be advised of all other communications by his subordinate commanders.

The House amendment contained no similar provision.