

## THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF (JCS)

The JCS play a key role in the US security assistance effort. The JCS assist the Secretary of Defense by means of joint plans such as the Joint Strategic Planning Document with its supporting analysis, Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan, Joint Security Assistance Memorandum, and the Joint Intelligence Estimate for Planning. In addition, the JCS continually review current and ongoing programs for specific countries and geographic areas to insure compatibility with US global security interests and to determine that military assistance resources are being used in a manner that promotes US strategic concepts.

All military-related security assistance guidance, plans, and programs promulgated at the national level are referred to the JCS for review and concurrence. Directives and communications pertaining to military assistance affairs are coordinated initially with the JCS to insure that force objectives, strategic concepts, and military plans are not being inadvertently circumvented or ignored. Program recommendations coming from the MAAGs and unified commands are also fully coordinated through JCS to insure consistency with US global security plans. Planning and policy matters coming from the MAAGs are coordinated through the unified commands and JCS to insure consistency with US global security plans "and interests."

## MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

The military departments participate in developing, negotiating, and executing agreements pertaining to military security assistance programs. They provide advice on such matters as costs, availability, and lead time on military equipment and training to insure delivery of material and services. They also provide resources and administrative support necessary to move assets to recipient countries.

## UNIFIED COMMANDS

The unified commands are vitally concerned with military security assistance activities and serve as the center around which the whole process revolves. Serving as an intermediate level for policy guidance and review between DOD and the MAAGs within the host countries, the unified command commander is responsible for insuring that all military security assistance plans and activities are coordinated, integrated, and in consonance with regional US defense plans.

Unified commands supervise the activities of MAAGs within their geographical area of responsibility to include providing MAAGs with guidance in preparing the military assistance grant aid and FMS portions of security assistance programs. The unified command must insure that US security assistance programs are correlated with military plans.

The channel of communication on approved security assistance programs is between the DSAA and the unified command. However, the DSAA is also authorized to communicate directly with the MAAGs. The normal flow of military security assistance planning matters is from the field through the unified commands to the ASD/ISA(SA) where the planning is coordinated and finalized. Upon approval, the programs are implemented through the DSAA.