§ 3063. Basic branches

(a) The Secretary of the Army may assign members of the Army to its basic branches. The basic branches are—

1. Infantry;
2. Armor;
3. Artillery;
4. Corps of Engineers;
5. Signal Corps;
6. Adjutant General’s Corps;
7. Quartermaster Corps;
8. Finance Corps;
9. Ordnance Corps;
10. Chemical Corps;
11. Transportation Corps;
12. Military Police Corps; and
13. such other basic branches as the Secretary considers necessary.

(b) The Secretary may discontinue or consolidate basic branches of the Army for the duration of any war, or of any national emergency declared by Congress.

(c) The Secretary may not assign to a basic branch any commissioned officer appointed in a special branch.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 166.)

In subsection (a), the words “The basic branches” are substituted for the words “There shall be in the Army certain branches, which shall be known as basic branches of the Army.”

In subsection (b), the words “enumerated in this subsection” are omitted as surplusage. The word “hereafter” is omitted, since all wars and emergencies declared by Congress before June 29, 1950, have been terminated.

In subsection (c), the words “and commissioned” are omitted as covered by the word “appointed”. The words “specified in subsection (b) of this section” are omitted as surplusage. The word “commissioned” is inserted before the word “officer”, for clarity.

§ 3064. Special branches

(a) The special branches of the Army consist of commissioned officers of the Regular Army appointed therein, other members of the Army assigned thereto by the Secretary of the Army, and the sections prescribed in this chapter. The special branches are—

1. each corps of the Army Medical Department;
2. the Judge Advocate General’s Corps;
3. the Chaplains; and
4. such other special branches as may be established by the Secretary of the Army under subsection (b).

(b) The Secretary of the Army may establish special branches for the Army and may assign commissioned officers (other than officers of the Regular Army) and members to such branches.

(c) Commissioned officers of the Regular Army may be appointed in a special branch, but the Secretary may not assign any officer of the Regular Army to a special branch.


In subsection (a), the words “The special branches of the Army” are substituted for the words “There shall be in the Army certain branches, which shall be known as special branches of the Army.”

In subsection (b), the words “enumerated in this subsection” are omitted as surplusage. The word “hereafter” is omitted, since all wars and emergencies declared by Congress before June 29, 1950, have been terminated.

In subsection (c), the words “and commissioned” are omitted as covered by the word “appointed”. The words “specified in subsection (b) of this section” are omitted as surplusage. The word “commissioned” is inserted before the word “officer”, for clarity.