

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4016, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. TONY GONZALES OF TEXAS**

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert
the following:

**1 SEC. ____ . REPORT ON PROPOSED WESTERN HEMISPHERE
2 COMMAND.**

3 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days
4 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
5 Defense shall submit to the congressional defense commit-
6 tees a report on the proposed establishment of a Western
7 Hemisphere Command through the consolidation of
8 United States Army North and United States Army
9 South.

10 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under sub-
11 section (a) shall include—

12 (1) a detailed description of the proposed mis-
13 sion and command structure of the Western Hemi-
14 sphere Command;

15 (2) an explanation of how the proposed com-
16 mand would support or enhance homeland defense,
17 civil support, disaster response, and regional security
18 cooperation operations currently conducted by

1 United States Army North and United States Army
2 South;

3 (3) an assessment of the anticipated relation-
4 ship between the Western Hemisphere Command
5 and United States Northern Command and United
6 States Southern Command;

7 (4) an evaluation of how the proposed structure
8 would improve coordination with interagency, inter-
9 national, and State partners; and

10 (5) an assessment of potential headquarters lo-
11 cations for the Western Hemisphere Command, in-
12 cluding an analysis of the operational, strategic, and
13 fiscal benefits of retaining the headquarters at Joint
14 Base San Antonio–Fort Sam Houston, Texas, tak-
15 ing into account—

16 (A) San Antonio’s central location in the
17 Western Hemisphere, including its proximity to
18 the United States–Mexico border, which en-
19 hances border security operations and regional
20 defense cooperation;

21 (B) the City of San Antonio’s longstanding
22 investments in military infrastructure, including
23 more than \$158 million toward Joint Base San
24 Antonio infrastructure priorities;

1 (C) co-located intelligence, communica-
2 tions, logistics, and national security infrastruc-
3 ture, including NSA Texas and one of the Na-
4 tion's largest concentrations of cybersecurity
5 professionals;

6 (D) the presence of the 16th Air Force
7 (Air Forces Cyber) which is the Air Force's
8 operational headquarters for integrated cyber,
9 electronic warfare, and information operations
10 and is recognized as one of the preeminent
11 cyber defense entities in the United States;

12 (E) premier Department of Defense health
13 infrastructure at Brooke Army Medical Center
14 and a pipeline for future medical professionals
15 at the University of Texas Health Science Cen-
16 ter at San Antonio; and

17 (F) any other matters the Secretary of De-
18 fense considers relevant.

