f.   Figure 10.2 shows the allocation of several areas and the special
      backbone Area ID of 0.0.0.0.
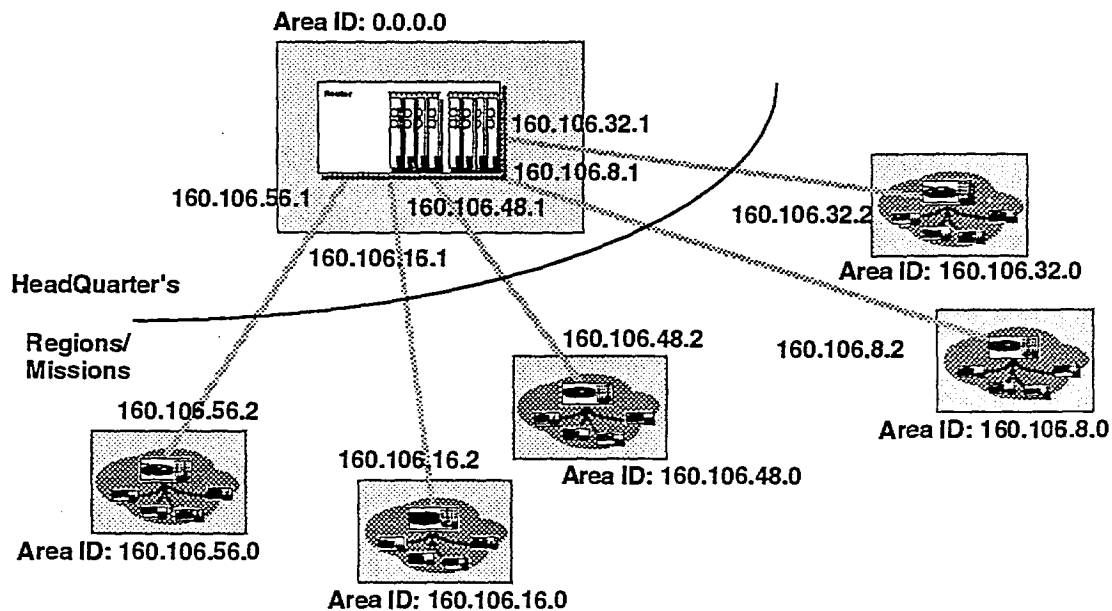

Figure 10.2: OSPF Backbone Area and Regional Area

10.3 OSPF Link Metric

a.   The WAN facilities between the region and the mission will be strictly point-to-
      point and therefore only one path is available. However between regions and
      headquarters several alternate paths, for redundancy purposes, are available for
      traffic flow and therefore a least cost metric is useful in determining the proper
      path.

b.   The OSPF routing protocol provides network administrators the facility to
      associate costs with each router LAN/WAN link. The OSPF routes are
      determined via a least cost method. Several factors can be used for a costing
      metric including delay, bandwidth, volume of traffic, or a dollar cost for the
      leased line. With MITNET provided links the cost metric can be determined as a
      function of bandwidth to ensure that the higher bandwidth facilities are utilized.