(b) Obtain delivery prior to the time required to fill a rated order;
(c) Gain competitive advantage;
(d) Disrupt an industry apportionment program in a manner designed to provide a person with an unwarranted share of scarce items; or
(e) Overcome a supplier’s regularly established terms of sale or conditions of doing business.


§ 700.55 Assistance programs with Canada and other nations.

(a) To promote military assistance to foreign nations, this section provides for authorizing priority ratings to persons in Canada and in other foreign nations to obtain items in the United States in support of approved programs. Although priority ratings have no legal authority outside of the United States, this section also provides information on how persons in the United States may obtain informal assistance in Canada, Italy, The Netherlands, Sweden, and the United Kingdom in support of approved programs.

(b) Canada. (1) The joint U.S.-Canadian military arrangements for the defense of North America and the integrated nature of their defense industries as set forth in the U.S.-Canadian Statement of Principles for Economic Cooperation (October 26, 1950) require close coordination and the establishment of a means to provide mutual assistance to the defense industries located in both countries.

(2) The Department of Commerce coordinates with the Canadian Public Works and Government Services Canada on all matters of mutual concern relating to the administration of this regulation.

(3) Any person in the United States ordering defense items in Canada in support of an approved program should inform the Canadian supplier that the items being ordered are to be used to fill a rated order. The Canadian supplier should be informed that if production materials are needed from the United States by the supplier or the supplier’s vendor to fill the order, the supplier or vendor should contact the Canadian Public Works and Government Services Canada, for authority to place rated orders in the United States: Public Works and Government Services Canada, Acquisitions Branch, Business Management Directorate, Phase 3, Place du Portage, Level 0A1, 11 Laurier Street, Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0S5, Canada; telephone: (819) 956-6825; Fax: (819) 956-7827.

(4) Any person in Canada producing defense items for the Canadian government may also obtain priority rating authority for items to be purchased in the United States by applying to the Canadian Public Works and Government Services Canada, Acquisitions Branch, Business Management Directorate, in accordance with its procedures.

(5) Persons in Canada needing special priorities assistance in obtaining defense items in the United States may apply to the Canadian Public Works and Government Services Canada, Acquisitions Branch, Business Management Directorate, for such assistance. Public Works and Government Services Canada will forward appropriate requests to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

(6) Any person in the United States requiring assistance in obtaining items in Canada must submit a request through the Delegate Agency to Commerce on Form BIS–999. Commerce will forward appropriate requests to the Canadian Public Works and Government Services Canada.

(c) Foreign nations. (1) Any person in a foreign nation other than Canada requiring assistance in obtaining defense items in the United States or priority rating authority for defense items to be purchased in the United States, should submit a request for such assistance or rating authority to the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Industrial Policy): Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Industrial Policy), 3330 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301; telephone: (703) 697-0051; Fax: (703) 695-4277.

(i) If the end product is being acquired by a U.S. government agency, the request should be submitted to the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Industrial Policy) through the U.S. contract administration representative.
(ii) If the end product is being acquired by a foreign nation, the request must be sponsored prior to its submission to the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Industrial Policy) by the government of the foreign nation that will use the end product.

(2) If the Department of Defense endorses the request, it will be forwarded to Commerce for appropriate action.

(d) Requesting assistance in Italy, The Netherlands, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. (1) The U.S. Department of Defense has entered into bilateral security of supply arrangements with Italy, The Netherlands, Sweden, and the United Kingdom that allow the U.S. Department of Defense to request the priority delivery for U.S. Department of Defense contracts, subcontracts, and orders from companies in these countries.

(2) Any person in the United States requiring assistance in obtaining the priority delivery of a contract, subcontract, or order in Italy, The Netherlands, Sweden, or the United Kingdom should contact the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Industrial Policy) for assistance. Persons in Italy, The Netherlands, Sweden, and the United Kingdom should request assistance in accordance with §700.55(c)(1).

§ 700.61 Rating Authorizations.
(a) A Rating Authorization is an official action granting specific priority rating authority that:
(1) Permits a person to place a priority rating on an order for an item not normally ratable under this regulation; or
(2) Authorizes a person to modify a priority rating on a specific order or series of contracts or orders.
(b) To request priority rating authority, see §700.51.

§ 700.62 Directives.
(a) A Directive is an official action which requires a person to take or refrain from taking certain actions in accordance with its provisions.
(b) A person must comply with each Directive issued. However, a person may not use or extend a Directive to obtain any items from a supplier, unless expressly authorized to do so in the Directive.
(c) Directives take precedence over all DX rated orders, DO rated orders, and unrated orders previously or subsequently received, unless a contrary instruction appears in the Directive.

§ 700.63 Letters of Understanding.
(a) A Letter of Understanding is an official action which may be issued in resolving special priorities assistance cases to reflect an agreement reached by all parties (Commerce, the Delegate Agency, the supplier, and the customer).
(b) A Letter of Understanding is not used to alter scheduling between rated orders, to authorize the use of priority ratings, to impose restrictions under this regulation, or to take other official actions. Rather, Letters of Understanding are used to confirm production or shipping schedules which do not require modifications to other rated orders.

Subpart I—Official Actions
§ 700.60 General provisions.
(a) Commerce may, from time-to-time, take specific official actions to implement or enforce the provisions of this regulation.
(b) Several of those official actions (Rating Authorizations, Directives, and Letters of Understanding) are discussed in this subpart. Other official actions which pertain to compliance (Administrative Subpoenas, Demands for Information, and Inspection Authorizations) are discussed in §700.71(c).

Subpart J—Compliance
§ 700.70 General provisions.
(a) Compliance actions may be taken for any reason necessary or appropriate to the enforcement or the administration of the Defense Production Act, the