

§211.5

(d) Communications common carriers will not interrupt conversations having priority classification except insofar as necessary to restore services of higher priority.

(e) It is recognized that as a practical matter in providing for the maintenance or restoration of a priority service or services operating within a multiple circuit-type facility (such as a carrier band, cable, or multiplex system), lower priority, lower subpriority, or nonpriority services on paralleled channels within a band or system may be restored concurrently with higher priority services. Such reactivation shall not, however, interfere with the expedited restoration of other priority services.

(f) The Executive Agent is authorized to instruct the carriers on the percentage of government-switched network intermachine trunks to be restored to provide capacity for priority access line traffic.

(g) The carriers are authorized to honor NCS-certified priorities from other authorized carriers for leased facilities.

(h) The carriers are authorized to honor restoration priorities certified by the Executive Agent.

(i) To ensure the effectiveness of the system of restoration priorities established by this part it is essential that rigorous standards be applied. Users are requested and directed to examine their private line service requirements in light of the criteria specified in this part and with regard to the availability of alternate communications facilities such as public correspondence message services, and Government-owned emergency communications systems.

§211.5 Priorities.

There are hereby established four levels of restoration priority. Within each level, subpriorities may be established by the Executive Agent, with the concurrence of the National Security Council, for both government and nongovernment services. The subpriority categories currently in use, which have been established by the Executive Agent will remain in effect until modified. Compatibility of subcategories applicable to government and nongovernment users is essential to achieve the

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objective of a single restoration priority system.

(a) *Priority 1.* Priority 1 shall be the highest level of restoration priority, and shall be afforded only to Federal and Foreign Government private line services, and to Industrial/Commercial services which are designated for prearranged voluntary participation with the Federal Government in a national emergency. Circuit requirements in this level of priority shall be limited to those essential to national survival if nuclear attack occurs for:

(1) Obtaining or disseminating critical intelligence concerning the attack, or immediately necessary to maintain the internal security of the United States;

(2) Conducting diplomatic negotiations critical to the arresting or limiting of hostilities;

(3) Executing military command and control functions essential to defense and retaliation;

(4) Giving warning to the U.S. population;

(5) Maintaining federal Government functions essential to national survival under nuclear attack conditions.

(b) *Priority 2.* Priority 2 shall be the second highest level of restoration priority, and shall be afforded only to Federal and Foreign Government private line services, and to Industrial/Commercial services which are designated for prearranged voluntary participation with the Federal Government in a national emergency. Circuit requirements in this level shall be limited to those essential, at a time when nuclear attack threatens, to maintain an optimum defense posture and to give civil alert to the U.S. population. These are circuit requirements whose unavailability would present serious dangers:

(1) Reducing significantly the preparedness of U.S. defense and retaliatory forces;

(2) Affecting adversely the ability of the United States to conduct critical preattack diplomatic negotiations to reduce or limit the threat of war;

(3) Interfering with the effectual direction of the U.S. population in the interest of civil defense and survival;

(4) Weakening U.S. capability to accomplish critical national internal security functions;

(5) Inhibiting the provision of essential Federal Government functions necessary to meet a preattack situation.

(c) *Priority 3.* Priority 3 shall be the third highest level of restoration priority and shall be afforded to government, quasi-government, and Industrial/Commercial private line services: *Provided, however,* That Priority 3 will be afforded circuits serving Industrial/Commercial, State, county, municipal, and quasi-state and local government agencies only where, during an emergency, at least one station in the circuit (or in connected circuits if switched service is involved) will be manned continually, or where such circuits are automated and will be under constant surveillance from a remote location. Circuit requirements in this level shall be limited to those necessary for U.S. military defense and diplomacy, for law and order, and for national health and safety in a national emergency involving heightened possibility of hostilities. These are circuit requirements needed to:

(1) Insure performance of critical logistic functions, public utility services, and administrative-military support functions;

(2) Inform key diplomatic posts of the situation and of U.S. intentions;

(3) Secure and disseminate urgent intelligence;

(4) Distribute essential food and other supplies critical to health;

(5) Provide for critical damage control functions;

(6) Provide for hospitalization;

(7) Continue critical Government functions;

(8) Provide transportation for the foregoing activities.

(d) *Priority 4.* Priority shall be the fourth highest restoration priority and shall be afforded to government, quasi-government, and Industrial/Commercial private line services: *Provided, however,* That Priority 4 will be afforded circuits serving Industrial/Commercial, State, county, municipal, and quasi-state and local government agencies only where, during an emergency, at least one station in the circuit (or in connected circuits if switched service

is involved) will be manned continually, or where such circuits are automated and will be under constant surveillance from a remote location. Circuit requirements in this level shall be limited to those necessary for the maintenance of the public welfare and the national economy in a situation short of nuclear attack, or during reconstitution after attack. These include circuit requirements needed to continue the more important financial, economic, health, and safety activities of the Nation.

§211.6 Submission and processing of restoration priority requests.

(a) Except as otherwise provided below, all requests for restoration priority assignments will be submitted to the Executive Agent in the format prescribed by him for processing and certification.

(b) Priority 3 and 4 applications from county and municipal governments, quasi-state and local government agencies and private entites shall be forwarded to the Federal Communications Commission for its approval and for certification to the carriers. These submissions will be in the form prescribed by the Commission.

(c) Industrial/Commercial entities designated for prearranged voluntary participation with the Federal Government in a national emergency should submit separate applications to the Commission when requesting the assignment of priorities in category 1 or 2. Such assignments will require the approval of the National Security Council in order to continue to be effective during a war emergency. In all cases the justification for restoration priorities will contain a validation statement from the Government agency with whom participation is prearranged.

(d) Requests for restoration priority assignments made by Foreign Government agencies, except for NATO, NATO national military authority, and such other requests as the Executive Agent may be designated, will be submitted to the Department of State for initial evaluation and review. The Department will forward to the Executive Agent for processing and approval such of these requests as it finds acceptable.