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PRODUCTION INFORMATION

TERRITORIAL REGULATIONS & ASSISTANCE



U.S. NATIONAL INFORMATION

1. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



The following are the pertinent Department of Defense policies covering assistance to non-government motion picture producers on the production of dramatic and fictional presentations and industrial films presented by DoD (Department of Defense) contractors while filming on military bases, installations, etc.

All the services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Overseas Commands are bound by these instructions.

Producers of news shows and news investigative documentaries generally are not required to comply with all the provisions of the policies. However, it is desirable that they submit a written request outlining all their requirements for assistance and when feasible, a print or video tape prior to release.

Productions related to news and for information about Defense Newsfilm, write to:

Directorate, Defense Information

Office of Public Affairs (OASD/PA)

Information Support Services Division . . . (703) 697-1252; 428-0711

Armed Forces Newsfilm releases (703) 697-5131

Website: www.defenselink.mil

A. Initiation of Project: The producer will advise the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs), in writing, of his proposal to produce a specific motion picture or television program, stating the story objectives of the project and the identifiable benefits for the DoD and agreeing to abide by its provisions.

B. Submission of Literary Property: The producer shall certify that he owns such literary property or has authority from the owners or their representatives to submit the material to the DoD for production assistance consideration. 4 copies of the literary material available shall be submitted to the ASD(PA) along with a list of envisioned DoD assistance required for production.

C. Comments on Literary Property: ASD(PA) will coordinate the review of literary property submitted for production assistance consideration and may furnish a DoD reaction when requested by the producer. Although no commitment for assisting in the production is implied, ASD(PA) may provide or authorize components to give guidance, suggestions, and access for technical research in the producer's endeavor to prepare a script which might qualify the project ultimately for assistance.

D. Submission of Scripts: Copies of the script shall be submitted to ASD(PA) for review and evaluation.

E. Itemization of Desired DoD Assistance: A detailed list of requirements (see enclosure) must be forwarded in quadruplicate to the ASD(PA).

F. Commitments For Assistance: DoD commitments will be made by the ASD(PA) only

- (1) after the approval of script and list of requirements
- (2) when the project is found to qualify under the general principles; and
- (3) when the producer has indicated a distribution arrangement or capability to complete the production.

G. Project Officer Assignment: When considered to be in the best interests of the DoD, a project officer may be assigned to work with the producing company, as outlined in section (17).

H. Principles Governing Assistance To Non-Government Audio-Visual Media:

(1) The production, project, or assistance will benefit the DoD or otherwise be in the national interest based on consideration of the following factors:

- (a) Authenticity of the portrayal of military operations, or historical incidents, persons or places depicting a true interpretation of military life.
- (b) Compliance with accepted standards of dignity and propriety in the industry.

(2) There can be no deviation from established DoD safety standards.

(3) Operational readiness of the Armed Forces shall not be impaired.

(4) Official activities of military personnel in assisting the production must be within the scope of normal military activities, with exceptions being made only in unusual circumstances.

(5) Diversion of equipment, personnel and material resources from normal military locations or military operations may be authorized only when circumstances preclude the filming without it, and such diversions shall be held to a minimum and without interference with military operations, and will be on the basis that the production company will reimburse the Government for expenses incurred in the diversion.

(6) DoD material and personnel services will not be employed in such a manner as to compete with commercial and private enterprises. The requester will furnish a non-competitive certification.

I. Television Series: Proposals for television series must include objectives and format of the series and story treatment, or other evidence of overall series content. The ASD(PA) will comment on the acceptability of material submitted; however, each episode must qualify individually under provisions of the basic policy. A specific plan to expedite review of scripts and film will be arranged for each television series.

J. Documentary Productions: When scripts of documentary productions are not prepared until all footage is assembled, the producer will submit