

# U. S. MODIFIES BAN ON COLOR TV SETS

But Production Agency Sets  
Up Curbs, and Little Effect  
on Output Is Expected

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Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, June 24—The National Production Authority today modified its ban on the production of home-type color television sets. The agency warned, however, that defense requirements were still too heavy to allow more than a trickle of color sets.

Henry B. Fowler, head of the agency, said that he expected few producers to be able to meet the tests that would qualify them for color set production.

He said the new order would provide an opportunity for manufacturers whose defense contracts were on schedule and those having no defense contracts to demonstrate to the agency that their production of color equipment would not impair the defense effort.

Color set manufacture has been suspended since Oct. 19.

## Agency Will Investigate

"The previous order was criticized, and I think justifiably," Mr. Fowler said, "on the grounds that it discriminated against companies devoted exclusively to the development of color television, and also interfered with the entry of new firms and new developments in the television industry."

In any applications for permission to produce color sets, the production authority will investigate to determine that there will be no interference with defense activities before approving production for a limited period of time.

Approval to produce home color television equipment will be given only in the exceptional cases where a manufacturer can show the agency that:

¶He previously has made a substantial investment in research and development or in other preparations to make color television products.

¶He will not divert from defense activities electronic technicians, design engineers, draftsmen, professional engineers, physicists or tool and die makers.

¶His Government contracts are on schedule; if the contracts are behind schedule, the delay must not be the result of a shortage of technicians or engineers.

¶He will refuse no Government contract or subcontract because of his proposed manufacture of color television receivers.

¶He will need no additional allotments of controlled materials to produce color television products.

## No Commercial Restrictions

Because the manufacture of color television equipment for theatres or other commercial use would not require a great amount of materials, permission to produce this equipment was granted without the restrictions applying to sets for home use. The new order continues to exempt color television equipment for experimental, defense, industrial and hospital or educational use.

When the original order was issued, its aim was conservation of scarce materials and prevention of diversion of engineers and technicians from defense work to television.

## No Practical Effect Seen

Leaders of the television manufacturing industry were agreed yesterday that the modification would have no practical effect on the present dormant state of color video.

The Columbia Broadcasting System said that it was preoccupied with defense work. Further, the network said it would not go ahead with color television unless other "substantial segments" of the industry were prepared to cooperate.

Virtually all other major manufacturers have objected to the C. B. S. color system on both technical and economic grounds.

The General Electric Company said that it could not tool up for color receivers without "irreparable harm" to military production, and most other set concerns spoke in the same vein.